**Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darnhall Parish Council**

**Held in Darnhall Village Hall on Tuesday 24th May 2016 at 7.30pm**

**This meeting carried on after the AGM**

Members of the public present: Robin Wood

Members of the council present: Cllr Jinks (chair), Cllr Bostock, Cllr Bownes, Cllr Davenport, Cllr Langley, Cllr Sherry

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Strachan – away on holiday

1. **Disclosure of declaration of interest**

None

1. **Chairman’s opening remarks**

The Chairman expressed his concern about the safety of the old Raven Inn and requested that the clerk contact the owner about making the site secure. The clerk has been in touch with the owner of the Raven and he had explained that it was not viable to put the Raven back to a working pub again. He is looking at doing something in the future with the site and will come and speak to the Parish Council before putting in any plans to CWAC. The plans would be for mixed housing.

In the coming year the Chairman suggested that we look into making more out of the ‘Centre of Cheshire’. Possibly look into restoring the old mill, the waterfall, mill pool, walled gardens etc. Clerk to see if a site visit can be arranged for councillors.

Clerk to also write to Mr J Verdin (owner of the Darnhall Estate) to see about the possibility of the Darnhall Parish Council taking on all the above under a very long term lease so funding can be looked into.

At this point the Chairman welcomes Robin Wood to the meeting and invites him to speak to the councillors.

Robin thanked the chairman for allowing him to come to the meeting and he would like to update the council about the planning application to build 184 houses in Darnhall.

Robin went on to say, as you may have noticed in the Queens Speech last week, the government are planning to introduce a “Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill”

***T****he main elements of the Bill are****:***

*Neighbourhood Planning*

 *To further strengthen neighbourhood planning and give even more power to local people.*

 *The new legislation would also strengthen neighbourhood planning by making the local government duty to support groups more transparent and by improving the process for reviewing and updating plans.*

Robin also thanked our MP Antoinette Sandbach who has been excellent.

Queens speech calling for a review of planning and to strengthen Neighbourhood

plans and she has met with the Secretary of State to outline the sheer volume of

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cases where developers are seeking to go behind those plans.  Yesterday she met with the Housing Minister to call for “punitive costs” against developers who apply for planning against the principles of a neighbourhood plan, particularly where the developer has been turned down by the local council on the grounds the application breaches a neighbourhood plan.

1. **Minutes**

**To approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Tuesday 26th April 2016. 31/16 resolved that the council approved the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 26th April 2016.**

1. **Matters arising from the minutes of the ordinary meeting on Tuesday 26th April 2016.**

There were no matters arising.

1. **Clerks report and correspondence received.**
	1. The clerk has sent letters out to all hall users to invite them to the Parish Assembly next week. To date there has been no replies.
	2. Insurance renewal. The clerk received another letter from AON adding the new laptop to the insurance policy for which there is an additional charge and administration fee. They also sent out a new policy for the coming year at a slightly increased premium due to the new computer equipment section being added. No further quotes were received from any other insurance companies.
	3. Queens birthday party celebrations and the gift. The clerk has had an email from Angela to say she can’t open or lock the hall now for the Queens party on the 11th June. This now means we need to find someone else to do this. Robin Wood said he would do it. Clerk will also contact two other people to see if they are attending the party and see if they can open the hall.
	4. All gifts for retiring councillors have now been sorted and will be presented at the parish assembly.
	5. The clerk has a training course in June and Cllr Bostock has one booked as well.
2. **Planning, Neighbourhood plan or Parish Plan**

7.1 Cllr Strachan was not at this meeting so no updates at the moment. However, there will be information at the Parish Assembly next week.

The clerk had spoken to the Winsford Town Clerk and our application for the designated of a Neighbourhood Area, Location The Parish area of Darnhall was going to be discussed at the Town Council meeting on Monday 16th May 2016.

7.2 Cllr P Robinson from Little Budworth had passed some information onto the clerk regarding their Parish Plan. It contained the questionnaires for both businesses and residents, flyers, plan of action, etc. and a copy of the final Parish Plan. This information is to go back when we have finished with it.

7.3 Planning application 16/01523/LDC School Green Farm. The clerk has received an email from CWAC to say that this application has been approved.

1. **Finances.**
	1. We finally have the bank statements. The balance at the end of last month was £13,984.14. This month the cheque from the Darnhall Dancers that was wrong has come back £50, HMRC have refunded us the vat £23.40 and we have two cheques to make out totalling £741.68. This makes a new balance in the bank of £13,315.86.
	2. To receive the receipt for the vat from HMRC for £23.40

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* 1. Pay the insurance to Aon for £546.18 as discussed
	2. Pay RC Designs for the mugs for the Queen’s Birthday £195.50 for 60 mugs
1. **Parish Assembly – 31st May 2016**

Invites have been sent out.

Not heard back from the PSCO yet, Cllr Bostock will chase this.

Refreshments have all been sorted; Cllr Sherry will serve them on the night.

Display tables will be positioned around the hall.

Clerk to invite retired councillors to the meeting.

1. **Update on Website**

Cllr Langley has been working on the website and has requested information, photos etc, from people who use the hall but not one of them have come back to him with any details.

Last month Cllr Langley mentioned he had paid for the Domain name at £22.40 and should have been reimbursed for his costs but since then there have been some more costs. **32/16 agreed that Cllr Langley gets all the cost together for the next meeting to be reimbursed.**

The agendas and minutes for the Parish Council meetings are all on the website. To conform to transparency rules, we also need to publish the accounts on the website – this will be done in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Langley has also spoken with Cheshire East Council about the old site being linked with the new one. Once he has all the information transferred the link will be made.

1. **Update on Queen birthday celebrations in the hall on June 11th.**

The clerk has been in touch with Angela Hancock about opening the hall for this event. Angela was going to sort this but now can’t due to other commitments. So we now need to find someone else. Robin Wood has offer to do this for us if needs be. The clerk will check with Cllr Strachan and someone else who is attending.

on the day and may be able to open up for us.

WI to be asked if they can help with making the tea.

Regarding the mugs, it was agreed that these would not be given out or sold on the day, as we are not sure who is going to be doing this. Instead people can place an order for the mugs and they will be handed out at a later date. Anyone wishing to purchase one will cost them £5.00 each.

Mention at Parish Assembly

1. **Update on any other meetings attended by Councillors.**

Cllr Davenport and Cllr Sherry went to see a film called ‘Divide’ organised by CWAC.

Cllr Jinks and Cllr Langley attended another rural parish meeting, held at Jessie Hughes Institute on 27th April. Eaton have done a 1st aid course and taken on the picnic area by Mill Pool.

Utkinton have put in flashing warning lights to help with speeding traffic.

Little Budworth Village Day is on Saturday 9th July.

Regarding us doing a Neighbourhood Plan they advised that we do a Parish Plan instead.

The next rural parish meeting will be at Little Budworth

Cllr Jinks also mentioned the idea of having a defibrillator installed in our phone box, they cost £800 and a further £400 for the security box to put it in. This is something we can look into for another meeting.

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1. **Items for information and discussion only.**

Cllr Jinks mentioned that he had not seen any mention for the Darnhall and Wettenhall WI in the Winsford Guardian recently and requested could this be rectified. Cllr Sherry said she would look into it.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed by the Chairman …………………………………………………………………………………..

Dated ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

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