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

**Held in Darnhall Village Hall on Tuesday 16th May 2017 at 7.30pm**

Members of the public present: None

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Davenport & Cllr Strachan.

1. **Disclosure of declaration of interest**

None

1. **Chairman’s opening remarks**

The year ahead will be very important for the parish council with various decisions to be made. On the 11th July a decision should be made regarding the proposed housing for Mr James Verdin. A similar case was due to be decided upon in Newmarket last week but ended up going back to appeal again. This could happen with Mr Verdin and the case go on again. We wait to see what happens.

The Neighbourhood plan is now well under way on moving forward. This will hopefully have ideas for the future of Darnhall.

Swanlow Lane was recently closed on two occasions to repair potholes and resurfacing work and white lines.

The proposed new 50mph speed limit – letters have now been given to the residents in the area and we await the results of that.

Village Hall – we still have issues with the floor and are looking at either further repairs or complete new floor. But, we also need to look at the roof repairs that need doing and the various other jobs. Again the question is asked do we look at building a new hall and look for funding, as we believe it is available or do we continue with the repairs.

Darnhall show. The first year saw a very good turnout. Numbers dropped slightly in the second year. So this year will be a test to see what happens and plans for the future.

1. **Minutes**

**To approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2017. 64/17 resolved that the council approved the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2017.**

1. **Matters arising from the minutes of the ordinary meeting on Tuesday 28th March 2017.**

No matters arising.

1. **Clerks report and correspondence received**

Vat claim has been done on line but no refund has been received yet.

Wages and tax also all completed on line and P60 printed. No tax form received from HMRC so the clerk sent a covering letter with the cheque to pay the tax due.

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The clerk has made enquiries regarding the keeping of old planning applications. As all planning applications are now on line there is no need to keep or down load plans. Also with the Data Protection Act we should not keep unnecessary paperwork on file. However, the councillors agreed **65/17 that Darnhall Parish Council should keep planning applications/information in a safe place for 7 years and then destroy it. All agreed.**

The clerk has written to various local groups to invite them to the Parish Assembly. Guides, Brownies & WI have agreed to attend so far.

* 1. The clerk has received a letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission. The letter stated that there will be an open consultation inviting proposals for a new pattern of electoral wards for Cheshire West and Chester. 69 councillors should be elected to CWAC in future. The Commission now invites proposals from the council, interested parties and members of the public on a pattern of electoral wards to accommodate those councillors.

This consultation will end on 5th June 2017.

1. **Planning, Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**
	1. Neighbourhood plan update. The minutes from the steering groups meeting have been received by the council. Cllr Bostock informed the councillors where the group are up to now and moving forward.

The Questionnaire is due out shortly and a draft copy has been put together.

Presentation to be given at the Parish Assembly by Richard Strachan & Tony Bostock.

Stand at Darnhall Show to answer questions and let people know what’s happening.

* 1. Planning application for Weaver Wood Farm 17/0074/FUL. Our comments have already gone in for this as the closing date was 10th April. To note that we have received an email from a local resident who wished to express their concerns regarding, what waste, wildlife, trees, possible contamination of the stream and extra vehicles on Swanlow Lane. They have also sent their comments in on line.
	2. Planning application for outbuildings at School Green Farm, Darnhall for change of use of outbuilding to single dwelling, with associated access, car parking and amenity space. 17/00775/FUL. This application had to be in before this meeting. The clerk sent the details to all councillors and it was **66/17 agreed that the parish council has no objections to this application.**

The clerk has today received a letter from CWAC to say the application has now been approved.

1. **Finances**
	1. The bank balance at the end of March was £8887.46. We have now received the precept for £4101 and the Groundwork funding for the Neighbourhood Plan for £3979. Four cheques made out this month totalling £631.26 as listed below. This leaves a new balance in the account of £16,336.20.
	2. Pension Regulator update – the clerk has filled in the information on line. As the clerk is the only paid member and she does not earn enough there is no need to apply to a pension provider.
	3. Received the money for the precept off CWAC £4101.00
	4. Received the money off Groundwork UK for the Neighbourhood Plan £3979.00
	5. Paid Neuromuscular for the printing of the Newsletter & flyers £46.00
	6. Pay Aon for the insurance £493.26
	7. Pay Cheshire Community Action, membership fee £20.00
	8. Pay Cllr Langley for Weebly website running cost £72.00

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1. **Speed limit in the parish**

Ian Lovatt from Localities Directorate for the Highways department have issued the letter and map regarding the proposal for the reduction in the speed limit.

In order to demonstrate the need for a change in speed limit within a community there needs to be more than 50% support form household who have responded to the consultation. Comments need to be in by 30th May 2017.

Note – the highways will be unable to consider any requests to reduce the speed limits any lower than 50 mph as it would be very difficult to achieve compliance from drivers and would not be supported by Cheshire Police.

1. **Knobbs junction**

This has been added to the agenda at the request of Cllr Langley.

He recently was witness to two near misses at this junction as have many people.

After a short discussion it was **67/17 agreed that there was nothing that could be done to improve how the junction works. But, the councillors request the clerk writes to highways to ask for the road markings to be improved and see it that helps. And to see if they can suggest any ways of improving this junction. All agreed that the finger post sign must stay.**

1. **Annual Parish Assembly**

The date as we all know is set for 30th May.

Refreshments will be available on the night and Cllr Sherry will organise the teas.

1. **Website update**

Cllr Langley is still working on the website but more information, photos, etc is needed. He has created various pages and added a new email address and comments forms for people to fill in on line.

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

No other meetings attended.

1. **Cllr Langley to update on Village Hall Fundraising**

Nothing to report at the moment as no fund raising events have taken place. Summer BBQ and disco in June. Darnhall Show – working on this at the moment, show meeting to be held in June.

Cllr Langley also looked into the possibility of having broadband at the Village Hall but the cost was £130 to install it and then £28 plus vat per month thereafter. This would cost too much for the village hall to fund at the moment.

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

Nothing to discuss.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

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

Dated ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

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