

Darnhall Parish Council

To: **The Members of Darnhall Parish Council Finance
Committee (Councillors Strachan, Lee, and Sherry)**

All other Members of the Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the Darnhall Parish Council Finance Committee to be held **remotely** on **Tuesday 9th January 2024** at 5.30pm.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Mark Bailey
Parish Clerk

AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Members to elect a chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence should be notified to the Clerk before 6.00 pm on the day of the meeting, if possible.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item. If declarations are not made at this point in the proceedings, they should be made as soon as the Member becomes aware of an interest. Whilst the Clerk can advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare (or not) is the responsibility of the Parish Councillor, based on the circumstances of the matter in hand.

4. MINUTES – 25TH JULY 2023

To approve the attached minutes from the meeting of the Finance Committee of 25th July 2023.

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Minutes-FC-25.7.23.pdf>

5. MATTERS ARISING

To consider any matters arising from the above minutes.

6. ISSUES

The following issues will be considered at the meeting.

- Ledger (1.4.23-31.12.23)
Members asked to note the ledger up to the end of third quarter 2023-24 (31.12.23).

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Darnhall-Parish-Council-Ledger-01.04.23-31.12.23.pdf>

- Budget Monitoring Report (April-December 2023) and Receipts and Payments Summary (April-December 2023)
Members are asked to note these reports.

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Budget-Mon-Dec-2023-07.1.24.pdf> (Budget Monitoring Report)

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Receipts-and-Payments-Summary-April-Dec-2023.pdf> (Receipts and Payments Summary)

- Budget Setting 2024-25 (documents attached)
To consider ideas and issues relating to the 2024-25 budget.

These include: -

- Level/Use of Reserves
- Areas for budget increase
- Areas for budget reductions
- New areas of expenditure/income
- Level of precept

Members are asked to develop proposals to feed into the final budget precept/decision by the Parish Council in January 2024.

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Budget-Report-2024-25-9.1.24.pdf> (Budget Report)

<https://darnhallparish.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Budget-2023-24.pdf> (Budget 2023/24 – for reference purposes)

Key areas to note from the 2023/24 budget outturn are: -

- Healthy levels of income from the VH (well above budget) and other sources.
- Projected overspend on payments made – due to rising costs associated with the Village Hall.
- Wages generally on track.
- May need to transfer some reserves into miscellaneous.

Overall, the 2023/24 budget is projected to be underspent, due to income outstripping the projected overspend.

Key considerations for the 2024/25 budget process include: -

- The amount likely to be in the bank account at the end of the 2023-24 year.
- The areas the Council wishes to focus on.
- The areas the Council wishes to spend less on.

Some of the above areas could include: -

- Energy and other VH related costs (will need an increased budget to reflect rising costs in terms of utilities and maintenance).
- Impact of further bridge closures (which may impact on VH income).
- Budget for miscellaneous income/expenditure
- Other key factors include previous levels of precept; the size of the taxbase and other areas of funding/income.

Options for the Parish Council to consider include: -

- Increase expenditure budget for the VH to reflect increasing costs.
- Explore outside funding sources for the VH.
- To increase the level of the precept for 2024/25

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBD