



Darnhall Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DARNHALL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT DARNHALL VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 18th MAY AT 7:30PM

PRESENT: Cllr L Jinks (Chairman)
Cllrs M Davenport, R Langley, M Sherry, R Strachan, and C Williams
Dr M Bailey (Interim Clerk)
Cllr M Gaskill (Cheshire West and Chester Council)

PART ONE – ANNUAL BUSINESS

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The current Chairman took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chairman for the 2021-22 year.

Members nominated Cllr L Jinks for Chairman and this was **APPROVED** by the Council.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Members nominated Cllr R Langley for Vice-Chairman and this was **APPROVED** by the Council.

3. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were noted.

5. MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING – 16TH MARCH 2021

The Chairman signed the minutes as a true and accurate record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

The following items were raised by Members: -

- *Defibrillator* – it was agreed to action this.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman raised the following points: -

- Neighbourhood Plan – this was a fantastic result, having been overwhelmingly approved by residents in a referendum. Thanks to Cllr Strachan for all his hard work and thanks were passed on to all those involved

- Cllr Langley – condolences on the passing of his mother on behalf of the Parish Council

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

9. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council made the following appointments to committees/outside bodies.

Committees

- Finance Committee (three Members)
Cllrs Strachan, Lee, Sherry
- Village Hall Committee (three Members)
Cllrs Lee, Williams, Sherry

Outside Bodies

- Cheshire Association of Local Councils (two Members)
Cllrs Jinks and Lee
- Police Cluster (one Member)
Cllr Strachan

10. STANDING ORDERS/FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Council **APPROVED** the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for the 2021-22 year.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Members considered the following financial items.

11.1 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.20-31.03.21)

The ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1st April 2020-31st March 2021 was presented to Members for note.

11.2 Budget Monitoring Report and Receipts and Payments Summary (Quarter 4 – 2020/21) (Apr 2020-March 2021)

The budget monitoring report/receipts and payment summary to the end of quarter four (2020/21) (Apr 2020-March 2021) was presented to Members for note.

11.3 Asset Register 2020/21

The Asset Register for the Parish Council up to 31st March 2021 was attached for note.

11.4 Risk Assessment 2021-22

The annual risk assessment for the Parish Council for 2021-22 was approved.

11.5 Responsible Financial Officer

The Parish Council **APPROVED** the Parish Clerk as the Council's Responsible Financial Officer for the 2021/22 financial year.

11.6 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Members **APPROVED** the appointment of JDH Business Services as the Council's internal auditor for the 2021-22 financial year.

11.7 External Audit 2020/21

The 2020-21 Annual Governance and Accounting Return (AGAR) was presented to Members.

Members approved the following: -

- The Annual Governance Statement
- The Accounting Statement
- The Certificate of Exemption

11.8 Authorisation of Payments

Members approved the following payments.

£307.40	Clerk Pay (Interim – Dr M Bailey) (April-May 2021)
£1,250.00	Caretaker Pay (DVH – April-September 2021)
£63.36	ChALC (Annual Membership 2021-22)
£533.40	Neil Hopley Electrical (CCTV – DVH)
£48.00	Neil Hopley Electrical (Light Repair – DVH)
£139.72	CWAC (Business Rates DVH 2021-22)
£16.80	Shires Pay Services (M12 2021/22)
£29.00	NMC (Newsletter)
£139.00	NMC (Neighbourhood Plan)
£48.00	NMC (Darnhall Show Flyers)

The following payments are being paid on monthly direct debit and all cover the Village Hall.

£90.01	Scottish Power (Electricity – DVH – monthly amount)
£65.49	NFU Mutual (Insurance – DVH – monthly amount)
£29.94	BT Group (Broadband/Telephone – DVH – monthly amount)
£25.85	WaterPlus (Water – DVH – monthly amount)

12. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2021-22

The Parish Council approved the following dates for meetings (usually third Tuesday of every other month).

20th July 2021
21st September
23rd November
18th January 2022
22nd March
17th May (Annual Meeting)

The next dates for Committee meetings are: -

Finance Committee

10th June 2021

Village Hall Committee

8th June 2021

PART TWO – ORDINARY BUSINESS (PART A)

13. PLANNING MATTERS

The Parish Council considered planning matters affecting the parish.

13.1 Darnhall Neighbourhood Plan

It was confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan was approved by over 90% of those voting. Cllr Strachan said that he had 60 copies of the Plan and will provide each Councillor with a copy.

13.2 Planning Applications

An update was provided on the Darnhall Bridge works. Cllr Lee asked that the Council ask CWAC for dates on the development.

14. COVID-19 UPDATES/GUIDANCE

The Parish Council considered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the parish.

14.1 Darnhall Village Hall – Updates

Cllr Lee said that we have had new updates from ACRE and trying to make sure everything is up to date. The Hall is now open although there are still limited numbers for some groups. The cleaning is going well. The Brownies are also using the Hall and thanked the Parish Council for its donation.

14.2 Updates on COVID-19 in the Parish

It was agreed to pass on details of anyone in the parish who needs help.

15. DARNHALL VILLAGE HALL

Members considered items in relation to the Village Hall

- The Parish Council approved the new Hiring Agreement for the Hall
- Need to review the fire regulations and arrangements
- Will negotiate use of the container

16. CLERK'S REPORT

The interim Clerk's report was noted. The following items were raised: -

- A meeting will take place on the future of the Raven public house over the next few weeks
- Remote meetings cannot take place at present, although will continue to hold committee meetings via Zoom
- ChALC offering Code of Conduct training with CWAC

17. SHARED INFORMATION

The following items were shared by Members: -

- Cllr Jinks – need to keep contact details up to date
- Cllr Jinks – defibrillator needs to be cleaned up (will ask Caretaker)
- Cllr Strachan – following NP work, there is a list of people interested in getting involved in a DPC email group
- Cllr Langley – no Darnhall Show this year, but will take place on 2nd July 2022. Will hold committee meeting at the end of August 2021
- Cllr Sherry – mentioned that discussions need to take place on celebrating the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022
- Cllr Strachan – proposed to set up a Fundraising Committee and this was **AGREED**
- Cllr Gaskill – CWAC has agreed to a litter bin and will be placed within the curtilage of the Hall. MG said he would pay for this from his Members budget. It was also requested that DPC contact CWAC giving permission for this.
- Cllr Gaskill – boundary sign for Winsford/Darnhall in a poor state (on Swanlow Lane). MG has asked for it to be fixed, but this has not been done.
- Cllr Gaskill – another sign not working is the SID and looking at a replacement for this sign

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members agreed that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 20th July 2021 at 7.30pm (Darnhall Village Hall).

19. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Due to their confidential nature, Members decided to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following matters in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. Reports relating to these items have been withheld from public circulation and deposit.

PART 2 – ORDINARY BUSINESS (PART B)

20. APPOINTMENT OF THE PARISH CLERK

The Parish Council **APPROVED** the appointment of Dr Mark Bailey as the Parish Clerk.

21. DARNHALL VILLAGE HALL

It was agreed that parts of the Hall need to be replaced and will check the lease in the first instance.

Meeting closed at 9.18pm