



Darnhall Parish Council



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DARNHALL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT DARNHALL VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 26TH MAY 2026 AT 5.30PM

PRESENT: Cllrs M Sherry (Chair)
C Williams, G Higgs, R Strachan,
Dr M Bailey (Clerk)

PART 1 – ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

The Chair asked for nominations for Chair up until the annual council meeting in May 2027. Members nominated and **ELECTED** Cllr Marjorie Sherry as Chair.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chair asked for nominations for Vice-Chair up until the annual council meeting in May 2027. Members nominated and **ELECTED** Cllr Richard Strachan as Vice-Chair

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lee and Johnson.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Williams declared an interest in the planning applications appearing on the agenda and agreed to leave the meeting when these items were discussed.

5. MINUTES – 14TH APRIL 2026 (PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)

To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th April 2026 be signed as a correct record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were raised by those present.

- Village Hall – it was reported that Mellor Speakman had been contacted and will be invited to a meeting.
- Utilities – it was reported that Utility Aid had been commissioned to explore better offers for utilities
- Website – it was reported that there have been issues with booking and that progress had been made with closing the old site.
- Work on the Village Hall –
- Caretaker – the actions agreed at the last meeting had been passed on.
- Alarm – a copy of the contract will be sent to the Clerk.
- Speed Limits – no updates
- Heating Systems – it was noted that a remote system would cost

around £400.

- Village Hall – it was agreed to contact an electrician about the men's toilets.

7. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/OUTSIDE BODIES

The following appointments were made: -

Finance Committee – Cllrs Strachan, Sherry, and Lee

Outside Bodies

The following appointments were made: -

ChALC – Cllrs Sherry and Strachan

Police Cluster – Cllr Strachan

8. STANDING ORDERS/FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members **APPROVED** the Standing Orders/Financial Regulations for the 2026/27 financial year. It was agreed to review the NALC Model Standing Orders at the next meeting.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1.4.25-31.03.26)

The ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1st April 2025-31st March 2026 was presented to Members for note. Members noted that the Council has been cautious in relation to budget for the Village Hall due to issues with road closures.

9.2 Budget Monitoring Report and Receipts and Payments Summary (Quarter 4 – 2025/26) (Apr 2025-March 2026)

The budget monitoring report/receipts and payments summary for the fourth quarter of the 2025/26 financial year was noted by Members. Members noted that the overspend was down to the cost of the new website and that the Hall remains an excellent facility for the area.

9.3 Asset Register 2025/26

The Asset Register up to 31st March 2026 was **APPROVED** by Members. Members noted

9.4 Risk Assessment 2026/27

The Risk Assessment for the 2026/27 financial year was **APPROVED** by Members.

9.5 Responsible Financial Officer

Members **RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk assumes the role of Responsible Financial Officer for the 2026/27 financial year.

9.6 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Members **RESOLVED** that JDH Business Services be appointed as the Parish Council's internal auditor for the 2026/27 financial year.

9.7 External Audit 2023/24

Members **APPROVED** the 2025/26 Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

9.8 Authorisation of Payments

Members approved the following payments.

£408.42	Clerk Pay (Dr M Bailey) (April-May 2026)
£1,670.50	Caretaker Pay (DVH – April-September 2026)
£612.21	Clear Councils (Insurance 2026/27)
£251.19	Shires Accountants (M1-M6 2026/27 Payroll Costs)
£96.00	Brazendale Heating and Maintenance (Village Hall)
£96.00	PFK Littlejohn (External Audit Costs – 2024/25)
£203.84	CWAC (Business Rates – VH)
£1,147.92	– Calor (VH – Heating Costs 2026/27)

RESOLVED: Members **APPROVED** the above payments. The items in red were approved as online payments.

10. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2026-27

The Parish Council **APPROVED** the following dates for meetings (usually on the third Tues day of every other month). It was agreed that the meetings will start at 6.30pm.

21st July 2026
15th September
17th November
19th January 2027
16th March
18th May (Annual Meeting)

PART TWO – ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

12. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair presented the following report.

- Verdin Estate – some forestry work being done in the area
- Residents – new residents moved into the parish.
- Fundraising Committee – it was requested that more people volunteer – last event was very successful.

13. PLANNING MATTERS

The Parish Council considered planning matters affecting the parish.

- Peak Cluster – Cllrs Sherry and Strachan attended a meeting organised by ChALC. It was reported that the parish is not directly affected. No final decision on the full route – this is the early stage of the consultation.

14. DARNHALL VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council considered matters relating to the Village Hall.

- Drains – it was confirmed that the drains were blocked and this has been addressed.

15. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk did not provide a report.

16. SHARED INFORMATION

No items were shared by Members.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members agreed that the date of Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 6.30pm (Darnhall Village Hall).

Meeting closed at 7.30pm