**MINUTES OF CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**

**JULY 2020**

Minutes of the Remote Meeting of Cornforth Parish Council held at 7.00pm Monday 10th July 2020.

Present: Councillor Mr. A. Hodgson and

Councillors: Mrs. P. Crathorne, Mrs. J. Grafton, Mr. J. Grafton, Mr. P. Metcalfe, Mrs. M. Poole and Mr. R. Poole.

Apologies were recorded for all other Councillors who had chosen not to take part in a remote meeting or who could not take part for technical reasons.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Clerk recorded that the meeting was quorate in recording apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest recorded in relation to any item on the agenda.

1. ALTERATIONS TO THE STANDING ORDERS TO ALLOW REMOTE ATTENDANCE.

Members were asked to approve amendments to the Standing Orders to allow remote meetings to take place. The required amendments had been attached to the agenda and were approved.

1. DISPENSATION FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk reported that the Government had made no allowance for the likely absence of Councillors from meetings as a result of the Coronavirus Emergency, which prevents meetings being held in person. Each Council had been advised to grant dispensation for all of its Councillors from the date of its last meeting, in our case 9th March 2020. This Council approved the grant of such a dispensation and agreed that it remain in force until meetings in person could be held.

 3. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2019/20

Members were asked to consider the results of the internal audit and to approve the Annual Return for the financial year ending 31st March 2020, prior to submission to the external auditor. The Clerk had included a copy of the internal auditor’s report for 2019/20 and the external auditor’s report for 2019/20 with the agenda for use at the meeting, along with a copy of the external audit documents for 2018/19. In accordance with the regulations, the Council approved Sections 1 and 2 of the statement in that order.

 4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ACCOUNTS.

The Council having approved Sections 1 and 2 of the statements before 31st August 2020, in accordance with the Coronavirus Emergency Regulations 2020, the Responsible Financial Officer must set the period for the exercise of public rights to examine the documents underlying the audit. Members were advised that the period must be for a single period of 30 consecutive working days from 13th July 2020. Accordingly, the period will run until 21st August 2020. The period must be publicised along with the name and address of the external auditor. The required documents will be made available for inspection in Cornforth House for this period.

To all Members of the Parish Council.

Yours Sincerely, Ray Sunman, Parish Clerk: 20th July 2020.

**Signed: …………………………………. Dated: …………………………………**