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**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held Monday 12 May 2025 at 7pm in West Cornforth Community Centre, Station Road, Cornforth, DL17 9LA.**

**Present: Councillors P Metcalfe, J Beetham-Yelland, P Crathorne, N Coombs, M Cunningham, P Drew, H Gibson, J Grafton, S Metcalfe, V Parnaby, J Snowball & R Vaughan.**

**In attendance: Mr R Ormerod (Parish Clerk) and three members of the public.**

1	<p><b>Election of Chair for the municipal year 2025-26</b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Drew and seconded by Cllr P Metcalfe, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllr J Snowball be elected Chair of the council for the municipal year 2025-26 (11 votes for, one vote against).</i></b></p> <p>Councillor J Snowball signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the chair. Cllr J Snowball thanked the outgoing Chair of the Council, Cllr P Metcalfe, for his service.</p>
2	<p><b>Election of Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2025-26</b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr J Snowball and seconded by Cllr V Parnaby, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllr P Metcalfe be elected Vice-Chair of the council for the municipal year 2025-26 (unanimous).</i></b></p>
3	<p><b>Apologies.</b> There were none.</p>
4	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b></p> <p>The Chair invited members who wished to do so to make declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.</p> <p><b><i>It was noted that Cllrs J Beetham-Yelland and P Metcalfe declared an interest in item 7 as allotment tenants (or close family thereof).</i></b></p> <p><b><i>It was noted that Cllrs J Beetham-Yelland and R Vaughan declared an interest in item 8 as participants in the Cornforth Village Show.</i></b></p>
5	<p><b>Public participation:</b> The three new representatives of Cornforth on Durham County Council introduced themselves to members.</p> <p>Cllr Jan Blakey said she was looking forward to working with the parish council. Cllr Gary Hutchinson said he was keen to make contacts in the parish. Cllr Kyle Genner said he was keen to learn and thanked the council for inviting him.</p>
6	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 14 April 2025</b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr P Drew, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14 April 2025 be</i></b></p>

	<b><i>agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair at this meeting.</i></b>
7	<p><b>To agree membership of the parish council's committees and working groups</b></p> <p><b><i>Planning Committee</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr P Drew, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs J Snowball, P Metcalfe, J Beetham-Yelland, P Crathorne, H Gibson &amp; J Grafton be elected to the Planning Committee.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Allotments Committee</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr P Drew, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs J Snowball, P Metcalfe, J Beetham-Yelland, J Grafton, S Metcalfe &amp; R Vaughan be elected to the Allotments Committee.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Recreation &amp; Amenities Committee</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr P Drew, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs J Snowball, P Metcalfe, P Crathorne, P Drew, J Grafton &amp; V Parnaby be elected to the Recreation &amp; Amenities Committee.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Cornforth Community Improvement Working Group</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr P Drew, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs P Crathorne, N Coombs, J Grafton, V Parnaby &amp; R Vaughan be elected to the Cornforth Community Improvement Working Group.</i></b></p>
8	<p><b>To agree nominations for parish council representatives to outside bodies</b></p> <p><b><i>Police &amp; Communities Together (PACT)</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr J Beetham-Yelland, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllr N Coombs be nominated as the council's representative on Police &amp; Communities Together (Cllrs J Grafton &amp; J Snowball as reserves).</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Thrislington Liaison</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr J Beetham-Yelland, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllr P Crathorne be nominated as the council's representative on Thrislington Liaison (Cllr J Snowball as reserve).</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Cornforth Village Show</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr J Beetham-Yelland, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs J Beetham-Yelland, J Grafton &amp; R Vaughan be nominated as the council's representatives on Cornforth Village Show.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) Smaller Councils' Forum</i></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr J Beetham-Yelland, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That Cllrs J Snowball &amp; N Coombs be nominated as the council's representative on the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) Smaller Councils' Forum.</i></b></p>
9	<p><b>Schedule of meetings for 2025-26</b></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr P Metcalfe and seconded by Cllr J Beetham-Yelland, and it was</p> <p><b><i>Resolved: That the proposed schedule of meetings be agreed.</i></b></p>

Signed

Date