

DRAFT**Cornhill Parish Council****Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday, 14th May 2026,
at 6.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs. Stephanie Carrington (Chair), David Richmond, Mark Crouch,
Paul Smith, and Clerk Angela Hallam-Baker

In attendance: County Cllr. Patrick Lambert, Martin and Elizabeth Devon

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr. Anne Legge, Rev'd Rob Kelsey, PC Dan Perry

2. Chair's welcome and report on last year's activities:

The Chair read her report (attached) on the year to 31st March 2026 which covered the Parish Council's activities, and registered her thanks for support and input to her fellow councillors, the clerk, and to Cllr. Patrick Lambert for his help and advice. Thanks also to the Reverend Rob Kelsey for his continuing attendance and input at the meetings.

Stephanie was heartedly thanked for her input, hard work and commitment during the year which helped to ensure the Parish Council was running smoothly and attending to the Parish's problems as the arose.

3/4. Election of Chair and Deputy Chair:

It was proposed that Stephanie should continue as Chair for the coming year and agreed unanimously by the meeting. She kindly agreed to do this, and signed her Declaration of Acceptance.

It was proposed and agreed that Mark take the office of Deputy Chair, and he kindly agreed to do this.

5. Confirmation of existing Parish Council members and co-option of new member(s) if applicable:

The standing parish councillors agreed to continue. A possible new recruit from Donaldsons Lodge, Daniel Wood, had shown an interest in putting his name forward. The clerk would write to him, and it is hoped he would be prepared to join the Parish Council.

6. Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation – none.

7. Appointment of Clerk:

Angela was asked to continue, and agreed.

8. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2025 were agreed and signed, and there were no matters arising.

9. Presentation of Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026:

The year's accounts, compiled by the clerk, had been audited by Susan McCall of Tweed Meadows. These were found to be in order and signed off by Susan. Since the annual turnover was less than £25,000, the Certificate of Exemption was completed and signed for remittance to the External Auditors.

10. Cornhill Community Action Status Report:

This would be submitted following the CCA AGM on 27th May 2026.

11. Programme for meetings for the year to 31/03/2027:

It was suggested by the Chair that meetings could be held quarterly. However, the other councillors preferred to keep to the bi-monthly meetings, and this was agreed. The meetings would continue to be held on the second Thursday of alternate months, the next one being due on Thursday, 9th July 2026.

12. Questions submitted by parishioners: none.

13. Any other business:

- **Change of bank signatories** - the signatories required to be updated. The clerk would obtain a form from the bank. It was noted that the Bank of Scotland in Kelso is due to close on 16th June – date to be confirmed. The CPC account would then presumably be transferred to Berwick.

Signed..... Date.....