

Hawthorn Parish Council

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The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Hawthorn Parish Council Monday May 18th 2026

Present

Cllr Sheila Irving – Chair

Cllr George Vest – Vice Chair

Cllrs Robert Adcock-Forster, Alan Askew, Barry Curran, Sheila Wilson

Durham County Councillor Julie Griffiths

Parish Clerk – Lesley Wilkinson

Member of the Public – 1

1 Election of Chair

Cllr George Vest proposed Cllr Sheila Irving be re-elected as Chair, this was seconded by Cllr Alan Askew

Resolved – to elect Cllr Sheila Irving as Chair

2 Acceptance of Office of Chair

Cllr Sheila Irving accepted the Office of Chair

3 Apologies

Apologies had been received for Cllr Carolyn Winter

4 Election of Vice Chairman

Resolved – to re-elect Cllr George Vest

5 Election of a Grievance Committee

Resolved – to elect Cllrs George Vest, Alan Askew and Carolyn Winter

6 Election of an Appeals committee

Resolved – to elect Cllrs Sheila Irving, Barry Curran and Sheila Wilson

7 Approval of the following which are available on the Parish Council website

Resolved to approve the following;

7.1 Standing Orders

7.2 Financial Regulations

7.3 Delegation Scheme

7.4 Code of Conduct

7.5 Effectiveness of the Internal Auditor

7.6 Financial Risk Assessment

8 Election of representatives to outside bodies

8.1 County Durham Association AGM

Resolved – to elect Cllrs Sheila Irving and George Vest

8.2 Smaller Local Councils Committee

Resolved – to elect Cllrs Sheila Irving and George Vest

8.3 East Durham Local Council Committee

Resolved – to elect Cllrs Sheila Irving and George Vest

8.4 Other organisations

None

9 To re - affirm Hawthorn Parish Council meets the criteria to adopt the General Power of Competence

(Localism Act 2011 sections 1 -8, specifically s1(1)) as set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012.

Resolved – to re-affirm Hawthorn Parish Council meets the criteria to adopt the General Power of Competence

10 To re-affirm the Council's Code of Conduct

Resolved – to re-affirm Hawthorn Parish Council's Code of Conduct

11 To re-affirm the Council's commitment to its Civility and Respect Policy

Resolved – to re-affirm Hawthorn Parish Council's commitment to its Civility and Respect Policy

12 Appointment of the Internal Auditor

Resolved – to re-appoint Mr Gordon Fletcher

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 7.15pm