ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

18th May 2015

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Brockbank) and Councillors Baxandall, Clark, Dawson, English, Mrs Fairbank, Foster, Green, Harbron, Heseltine, Ireton, Jaquin, Kerwin-Davey, Lis, Madeley, Mason, Moorby, Morell, Mulligan, Place, A. Quinn, G. Quinn, Solloway, Staveley, Sutcliffe and Thompson.

Officers – Chief Executive, Corporate Legal Advisor, Director of Services, Strategic Manager Financial Services, Strategic Manager - Planning and Regeneration and Member Services Manager.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barrett, Hull, Myers and Welch.

Start: 7pm          Finish: 9.00pm

CL.834        ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS 2015

The Returning Officer reported on the results of the Council Elections held on 7th May 2015. All elected and re-elected Members present had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Resolved – That the report is noted.

CL.835        NEW MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed new Members Councillors Baxandall, Clark, Dawson, Morrell, Gillian Quinn and Thompson to their first meeting of the Council.

The Chairman also expressed the thanks of the Council to former councillors Lin Barrington, Graham Beck, Ken Hart and Marcia Turner.

Councillor Heseltine and Councillor Solloway spoke in praise of the work of former Councillor Graham Beck.

CL.836        OUTGOING CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS

Councillor Brockbank, the outgoing Chairman of the Council, thanked Members for the honour of serving as Chairman. The year had however been tinged with sadness by the passing of Donny Whaites and John Roberts. There were so many highlights to the year that it was difficult to pick out highlights. The Chairman was particularly pleased to have established close links with the military. A plaque had been presented by Menwith Hill as a symbol of friendship. £3000 had been raised for the Chairman’s charity, and she thanked all of those who had taken part in fundraising and events. The Chairman thanked her consort, William Gardner and to others who had accompanied her to events. The Chairman also thanked all those officers who had assisted her throughout the year, in particular Elaine Brittain, the Chairman’s Secretary.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Foster, presented a bouquet of flowers to the Chairman and a Past-Consort’s badge to the Chairman’s Consort on behalf of the Council.
OUTGOING CHAIRMAN – THANKS

On behalf of all Members, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Foster, thanked Councillor Brockbank on behalf of the Council.

Councillor Heseltine and Councillor English also congratulated Councillor Brockbank on her successful year of office and in particular her skilful chairing of some difficult Council meetings.

CHAIRMAN – ELECTION

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Robert Mason be elected at Chairman for the 2015-2016 municipal year.

Resolved – That Councillor Mason is elected Chairman of Craven District Council for the 2015/16 municipal year.

CHAIRMAN’S INSIGNIA OF OFFICE AND PAST-CHAIRMAN’S BADGE

At this point the outgoing Chairman, Councillor Brockbank, and the new Chairman, Councillor Mason, left the meeting room, so that Councillor Mason could be invested with the Chairman’s Chain of Office.

On returning to the meeting room, Councillor Mason presented a Past-Chairman’s Badge to Councillor Brockbank, who then retired to the body of the meeting.

CHAIRMAN – ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The new Chairman, Councillor Mason accepted the Office by reading out and signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Mason in the Chair

CHAIRMAN’S CONSORT

Mrs Margaret Mason, would be the Chairman’s Consort for the coming year.

Mr Gardner, the outgoing Chairman’s Consort, invested Mrs Mason with the Consort’s Chain.

CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS

The Chairman thanked Councillor Brockbank and her consort for all of the work that they had done for Craven in the past year and for allowing him as Vice Chairman to undertake a number of events. Thanked members and officers for their good wishes during his recent illness. The Chairman thanked Margaret for agreeing to be his Consort. He had grown up at Coniston Cold and went to school at Gargrave and Ermysteds. He had farmed at Carla Beck Farm from 1971 to 1999 and been a Councillor for ten years. Craven is the only place he has lived and the only place he would want to live. Margaret is also a Craven lass from North Craven. The Chairman welcomed new members and spoke about his early experience as a councillor. He was very proud to be a Craven member. The Chairman looked forward to a good year and asked that members should
respect each other whatever their party. The Chairman’s charities would be Cancer Research and the British Heart Foundation.

CL.843 **VICE-CHAIRMAN – APPOINTMENT**

It was proposed, seconded and

Resolved – That Councillor Moorby is elected Vice-Chairman of Craven District Council for the 2015/16 municipal year.

CL.844 **VICE-CHAIRMAN – INSIGNIA OF OFFICE**

The Chairman invested the newly appointed Vice-Chairman with the Insignia of Office.

CL.845 **VICE-CHAIRMAN – ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

The new Vice-Chairman, Councillor Moorby, accepted the Office by reading out and signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

CL.846 **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Resolved – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th April 2015 are confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CL.847 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES**

Recommendations of the Selection Committee held on 14th May 2015 were submitted:

(Note: For each minute, the motion was proposed and seconded “That the recommendations in the Minute are confirmed”).

i. Minute SEL.76 – Committees Etc. – Allocation of Places 2015/16

Amendments were proposed and seconded That Councillor Lis replaces Councillor Mulligan as a member of the Audit and Governance Committee, and that Councillor Welch replaces Councillor Dawson and Councillor Mulligan replaces Councillor Lis as a member of the Licensing Committee.”

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute SEL.76, as now amended, are confirmed.

ii. Minute SEL.77 – Appointment of Member Office Holders and Champions

Amendments were proposed and seconded as follows

“That Councillor Brockbank be appointed Member Champion for Armed Forces”.

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute SEL.77, as now amended, are confirmed.

iii. Minute SEL.78 – Representatives on Outside Bodies

Resolved – That the recommendations at Minute SEL.78 are confirmed.
LEADER’S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council welcomed the appointments of Councillors Mason and Moorby as Chairman of Council and Vice-Chairman of Council respectively. He welcomed new members to the Council and thanked former members. The Leader noted that recently there had been a good and constructive working relationship between members of opposing groups and he hoped that this would continue. The Government had indicated that there were likely to be further cuts in local government expenditure and the Council would be faced with some difficult decisions over the next few years.

GENERAL QUESTION / STATEMENT TIME

Councillor Solloway made a statement noting that devolution to City Regions could be at the expense of districts like Craven. He urged the leader to lobby ministers whenever possible on behalf of Craven and for the fair treatment of small rural communities.

MEETINGS – START TIME

Resolved – That for the current municipal year meetings of Council will continue to start at 7pm.

Close of Council Meeting – At this point the new Chairman of the Council invited Members and officers to take refreshments with the Chairman’s Lady and himself.

Chairman.