



Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council

Notes of the Parish Meeting

Wednesday 22 May 2019 at Skelsmergh Community Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: John Chapman - *Chair*, Tim Maggs, Claire Maclaine, Freyja Burrill (*arrived during item 4*) and Danny Seddon-Roberts

OClerk: Karen Little

SLDC Councillor Anne Hutton (*arrived during item 4*)

Other: Three residents were present

Apologies: Parish Councillor Hermann Moisl
County Councillor Stan Collins
SLDC Councillor Pat Bell
SLDC Councillor Hazel Hodgson

1. Welcome and apologies

Councillor John Chapman, as the Chair of the Parish Council for 2018-2019, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 19.07. He confirmed that the Parish Council was duly re-formed following the election process on 02.05.2019 with six elected (uncontested) Councillors in post.

2. Notes of previous annual parish meeting on 23 May 2018, attached

The notes of previous Parish meeting held on 22 May 2018 were read out and the the Chair was asked to sign the notes as a record of the meeting.

3. Updates, issues and questions to Parish Councillors from registered electors in the Parish

Mr Ian Kell (ex-Chair of the Skelsmergh Hall Management Committee) raised the proposal previously discussed for the PC to reconsider developing formal closer working arrangements between the PC and the Hall Management. No new volunteers have been recruited to the Hall Management Committee and the current position for the Hall, although operating as a viable business, is non-compliant with the terms of the Trust. The proposal offers mutual benefits: a paid administrator to manage the day to day running of the Hall business, and the PC would have a direct role/

responsibility for a community asset. The duties for the post-holder would be to manage the online bookings and website, and caretaking of/cleaning the building pre and post hire events. Initially a small increase to the precept would be necessary to finance the post - in time it is expected that the increased business revenue will cover the post's salary.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that the PC would consider the proposal as an agenda item at the July meeting. Further legal advice from CALC will be sought in preparation for this discussion. Part of the work plan for the newly constituted Parish Council is to conduct a consultation with residents to identify matters that will improve their quality of life. It would be appropriate to ask how residents view the best use/future plans for Skelsmergh Hall, as the current operational challenges are expected to continue even though there is potential for business growth.

Action: For discussion at the July PC meeting.

Signed:

Date:

The Chair formally thanked Mr Kell and all members of the Skelsmergh Hall Management Committee for their sterling work over the years to develop the Hall into a valuable community asset. This was fully endorsed by all Councillors.

4. Community engagement report

There was no community engagement report from the Police Community Support Officers due to stretched capacity in preparing for the Appleby Horse Fair. Cumbria Constabulary news bulletins for this area (South Cumbria) are available at this website:

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKCUMBRIA_POLICE/bulletins/2458f41.

With no further business to discuss, the Chair formally closed the meeting at 19.35 pm.

Signed:

Date: