



**Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Thursday 30 May 2024 at Skelsmergh Community Hall**

Present: John Chapman(JC) Chair
Parish Councillors: Chris Loynes (CL), Angela Brand-Barker (ABB), Tim Maggs (TM)
Clerk: Ron Anderson (RA)

Minute No:

12/24 Welcome.

Councillor Chapman opened meeting at 7pm
Cllr Mick Crozier sent his apologies which were accepted

13/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chapman declared an interest in purchasing firewood from the parish woodland. He recused himself from the decision which will be taken at the next meeting

14/24 Open Forum

Residents had already taken the opportunity to raise issues with the council at the Annual Parish Meeting

15/24 Minutes of the meeting held 28 March 2024

Resolved: to accept the minutes as presented. Proposed CL, seconded ABB

16/24 Matters arising from the minutes

None

17/24 Formal announcements by Chair

A. Bus routes on A6. Cllr Brand-Barker attended webinar on W&F proposals re bus routes on A6 to and from Kendal. It is their intention to increase frequency and return to 2014 levels of service This project is of particular interest to parishioners. Council will continue to engage with W&F. Council will also write to chair of Longsleddale and Selside council re their stance as the proposal also affects them.

B. The council are also seeking to implement a 20mph speed limit in the Dodding Green area. This has been an integral part of previous Community Plans dating back to 2014, and is an element of the current plan under development. W&F will consider application in next round.

18/24 Year End Financial report

The clerk presented the results of the internal audit and year end accounting statements.

Resolved: the statements were accepted as correct, proposed ABB, seconded TM

The clerk presented the Annual Governance Statement, the Exercise of Public Rights and the Certificate of exemption

Resolved: The Annual Governance Statement, the Exercise of Public Rights and the

Certificate of Exemption were accepted and approved. The Chair and clerk were authorised to sign the documents. The date for the exercise of Public Rights was set as 1 July 2024.
Proposed ABB, seconded TM.

19/24 Plans for 2024-2025 budget

Council had previously agreed funding for Community Hall refurbishment and a preliminary budget for development and implementation of the new Community Plan. The council has a healthy carry forward which will provide contingency funding and possible further grants for community improvement. Payments as per the clerk's monthly report were approved.
Proposed ABB, seconded TM.

20/24 Community Plan

Cllr Loynes presented the survey he has been developing. It will be an online survey with an option for hard copies for any parishioners who would want one. Links to the survey will be published on website, facebook page, parish magazine and notice boards. There will also be a leaflet delivered to every dwelling in the parish, approximately 170. The survey is hosted by Survey Monkey which will analyse the results. The one off cost will be £228 which will be provided from the initial budget allocated for the project. Cllr Loynes will pay this fee online and reclaim from clerk.

Resolved: to accept Cllr Loynes proposals and approve the survey fee. Proposed ABB, seconded TM

21/24 External Meetings

Cllr Brand-Barker's attendance at Bus Route webinar is recorded above.

Cllr Loynes attended a workshop on 'Natural Kendal'. The aim of this project is to improve and reclaim the natural environment. Proposals include a river corridor through Kendal, improvements to Serpentine Wood and farmers market. There are also plans to create an activity centre at Mintsfeet. Town Council are considering these proposals over the summer. The PC felt that areas just outside of the town centre, i.e. this parish, were being overlooked. The council will write to local councillors and those involved in the project to express this view.

22/24 Planning Applications

Plans for a barn conversion on Benson Knott were considered. Council will write to planning department with concerns over lack of clarity in the application.

23/24 Correspondence

The Notice of Casual Vacancy triggered by Cllr Burrill's resignation failed to bring about a need for an election or any potential candidates. The council can now co-opt two new members for the vacancies. The vacancies will be published on website, facebook, notice boards and parish magazine.

GCS Greys have taken over legal aspects of the Stephenson Trust from Carter Jonas. The trust administers some land within the parish. They may be in touch with the council over certain portions.

A formal letter to Cllr Jama, who is our representative on W&F council elicited no response. The PC are very disappointed in this as there are several issues we would wish to discuss with him. Chair will write to leader of Liberal Democrats expressing concerns.

24/24 The chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution and closed meeting at 9.15pm

Signed

Chair

Date.....

