



## Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on  
 Wednesday 11 September 2019, 7.30pm at Skelsmergh Community Hall

**Present:**

**Parish Councillors:**

John Chapman (JC) – Chair  
 Hermann Moisl (HM)  
 Claire MacLaine (CM)  
 Tim Maggs (TM)  
 Freyja Burrill (FB)  
 Danny Seddon-Roberts (DS-R)

**South Lakeland District Councillors:**

Hazel Hodgson (HH) and Pat Bell (PB)

**Clerk:**

Karen Little (KL)

**Parish Residents:**

Seven parish residents were present

Minute Number	Business Item	Lead Person
40/19	<p><b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b>            Apologies were received from Cllr Angela Brand-Barkers (AB-B); consent was given. The meeting was quorate.</p>	
41/19	<p><b><u>Declaration of Interests</u></b>            None declared.</p>	
42/19	<p><b><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></b>, <i>circulated in advance</i>  <b>RESOLVED:</b> The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 17.07.2019 were confirmed as a true and complete record, and signed as such by the Chair.</p>	
43/19	<p><b><u>Open Forum</u></b>            Issues raised:            1. Footpath, A6 - Kiln Croft.            Residents of Kiln Croft and Skelsmergh Hall presented a petition for a pedestrian link to be established alongside the A6 from the Kiln Croft junction to where the existing footpath ceases below Skelsmergh Church. The difficulties experienced by pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchair and pushchair users were explained in detail - this has been a long-standing matter, now escalated by the increased population/recent housing development and compounded by the County Council's decision (cost-savings) to withdraw mowing of the grass verges. The PC's previous effort to progress a permanent footpath (unsuccessful due to the project cost) and the lack in applying section 106 were also discussed. Residents are concerned that there is now an increase in need to access local schools, shops, the Community Hall and/or the Church by foot from Kiln Croft on a regular basis, but in doing-so individuals face an unacceptable risk from fast-moving traffic (the national speed limit applies).  <b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors resolved to support the petition and will recommend that Cumbria County Council finds and implements an affordable solution as soon as possible.  <b>Action 1:</b> Clerk to send petition and supporting letter to the CE, CCC, with a copy to SC.  <b>Action 2:</b> HH to ask for Cllr Peter Thornton's support - he is currently promoting cycling initiatives in Kendal.</p> <p>2. Bridge repairs - diverted vehicular access to Mealbank Industrial Estate            Concerns were also raised by Mealbank residents that bridge repair work might be delayed or suspended due to the Environment Agency applying regulatory controls to protect the riverbed fauna and flora. This would mean the only access to the Mealbank Industrial Estate</p>	<p>KL            HH</p>

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Date:

6<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

	<p>would continue to be via the bridle path until April 2020. Residents would then have to endure a host of potential risks (including access restrictions for the emergency services) arising from the current situation, in addition to the deterioration in their living conditions caused by the diverted commercial traffic.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> The Council resolved to endorse residents' very real concerns and will urge the Environment Agency to grant a derogation should an extension for working in the river be needed to enable the bridge to be repaired and functional again as soon as possible.</p> <p><b>Action 3:</b> JC and Clerk to liase with the Environment Agency (have a meeting, if this will be helpful).</p> <p>3. Blocked gully change of water course - outlet is via a culvert at Laverock Bridge. A resident requested that the cause of the change is investigated and a solution applied, as the situation is deteriorating.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> The resident was encouraged to report the matter to Highways - they could offer help if the problem had/was likely to have an adverse impact on a public road. The PC has no power to act on privately owned land.</p> <p>Most of the residents left the meeting now - one remained with the two District Councillors.</p>	JC KL
44/19	<p><b><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes</u></b></p> <p>a. <b>Highway's management of ragwort - A6, attached</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> The PC made representations following concern received from a resident - correspondence noted. No further action is planned.</p> <p>b. <b>Website training - Clerk</b> Phase one has been completed; phase two to follow in the autumn. Cllr DS-R also expressed an interest in undertaking website training.</p> <p>c. <b>Bridge repairs at Mealbank, residents' correspondence with Mealbank Estates attached</b> Discussed and reported under the Public Forum, item 41/192.</p> <p>d. <b>Authority for PC notice board on exterior wall of Skelsmergh Hall, email attached</b> Mr Ian Kell (Secretary to Skelsmergh Community Hall Management Committee) confirmed (29.07.2019) that <i>the 'Community Hall has no objection to the PC replacing the PC noticeboard on the external wall of the Hall and grants permission in perpetuity.'</i></p>	
45/19	<p><b><u>Formal Announcements by the Chair</u></b></p> <p>There were no formal announcements made by the Chair.</p>	
46/19	<p><b><u>Grant applications</u></b></p> <p>a. <b>B4MS, attached</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> To defer the application until more details are received on the intended investment plans and confirmation that other grant funding applications are also being pursued. <b>Action 4:</b> KL/JC to liase with Dan Robinson, for further details on the investment plans and other funding sources being pursued.</p> <p>b. <b>Others, if any (e.g. roadside mirror at Hayfell Lane junction - query received)</b> No formal application had been received for a roadside mirror on the exit from Hayfell Lane onto the A684 (by the railway bridge, very poor visibility). This may have been considered due to increased traffic on the back roads when Victoria Bridge in Kendal was closed. The PC could grant funds for road safety items that would significantly benefit residents if a grant application detailing the project (and with the landowner's permission) was approved. All safety improvement initiatives for public roads need to be referred to Highways.</p>	KL JC
47/19	<p><b><u>Proposals to develop a new Community Plan 2019, outcomes of the meeting on 31.07.2019</u></b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Following the ideas and enthusiasm Councillors shared at their meeting in July, it was agreed that it was important to review/refresh the Community Plan (CP) in line with the legal powers and duties available to a Parish Council, but not necessarily to produce a <i>new</i> plan.</p> <p><b>Action 5:</b> Cllrs DS-R and FB will give an update at the next meeting on whether the items in the</p>	DS-R

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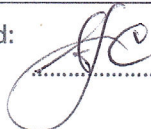
	current CP are completed or ongoing/still relevant, and recommendations for the next step(s) of the review. KL to send relevant paperwork to DS-R and FB.	FB KL
48/19	<p><b>Parish Council systems</b>, attached x2</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To approve, implement with immediate effect, and publish on the PC website:</p> <p>a. <b>Standing orders</b> Deferred from the last meeting, this version defines the timescales previously left blank.</p> <p>b. <b>Process to review/respond to planning applications</b> The Planning Advisory Group will call all Councillors to a formal adhoc meeting to consider planning applications that have the potential to significantly impact on the parish.</p>	
49/19	<p><b>Community Action Plan 2016</b>, update reports on:</p> <p>a. <b>Environment and Community Woodlands:</b></p> <p>1. Meeting of the Environment Group <b>RESOLVED:</b> Meetings of the Environment Group are on hold until the outcomes of the Community Plan review identifies their work remit. <b>Action 6:</b> JC to send HM notification of the litter pick event for the website. Note - there will be no post-pick refreshments.</p> <p>2. Skelsmergh woodland upkeep, quote from Scott Elbourne (SE), Tree Skills Ltd attached <b>RESOLVED:</b> To commit £180 for a day's work by SE to thin the ash trees and undertake a tree safety assessment - required for the PC's insurance. The subsequent sale of ash trimmings is expected to offset some of this cost.</p> <p>b. <b>Highways and Transport:</b></p> <p>1. Update on drain issues Helm Lane, Otterbank, Joiner's Lane <b>RESOLVED:</b> Deferred to next meeting, for an update from Cllr Collins. <b>Action 7:</b> KL to report residents' concern re the ongoing potholes, broken surface and drainage on Laverock Bridge Lane, and request urgent resolution before winter - due to the potential danger from the steep drop from the road edge down to the river.</p> <p>2. Progress with the highway reinstatement at Gurnal Bridge and plans for tree planting No communication has been received re the road reinstatement work; the trees on offer by SLDC are not suitable for the intended plot of land adjacent to Gurnal Bridge</p> <p>3. Kiln Croft - uncut verge, A6, correspondence from JC attached Covered under item 43/19.1.</p> <p>4. Verge cutting - Garth Row, correspondence received from Highways attached Highway's response to residents' concerns was noted; there has been no action in response to date. <b>Action 8:</b> TM to seek a follow-on update from David Kirby (Highways).</p> <p>c. <b>Communication</b></p> <p>1. Parish Council contacts list <b>RESOLVED:</b> Ongoing work, no longer required as a standing agenda item. A thank you was given to Cllr Moisl for his continuing commitment.</p> <p>2. Update on local B4MS connection The current traffic situation has interrupted Mealbank's connection plans; Oakbank is expected to be connected within a few weeks.</p> <p>d. <b>Community</b></p> <p>1. Community Hall Committee meeting - September 2019 Date to be confirmed; Cllr Seddon-Roberts will attend.</p>	JC  KL  TM
50/19	<p><b>Upper Kent Local Area Partnership (LAP) meeting, 21.08.2019</b>, minutes attached</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> Councillors agreed to continue membership of the Upper Kent Lap to benefit from the partnership working shared items of interest. JC and DS-R will represent the PC - involves two meetings per year.</p>	
51/19	<b>District Association meeting</b>	

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Date: 6.11.19

	<p>a. <b>Minutes of meeting on 06.06.2019</b> Noted.</p> <p>b. <b>Agenda for meeting on 19.09.2019</b> JC to attend. No items were raised by the PC for discussion at the meeting.</p>																			
52/19	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>a. <b>To consider payments to be made as per Clerk's report, circulated in advance</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> To make the following payments:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Expenses/Services</th> <th>Amount (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Karen Little</td> <td>Clerk's salary 01.08.2019 to 30.09.2019</td> <td>312.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cumbria Payroll Services</td> <td>Payroll - Clerk's wages (includes VAT)</td> <td>14.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>326.83</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income received</td> <td>None</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Future Commitment</td> <td>Replacement electrode pads for the Mediana A15 Outdoor Community Package defibrillator due 15.05.2021</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b. <b>Replacement of PC notice board at Skelsmergh Hall</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> To approve the quote from Neil Hawes (as per minute 36/19b) and allocate funds of £500 to commission Mr Hawes to make and erect a new notice board similar in design to the one he provided at Kiln Croft. <b>Action 9:</b> KL to inform Mr Hawes to proceed as quoted, payment will be after sign-off by JC. <b>KL</b></p> <p>c. <b>To receive and note the bank reconciliation and 2019-2020 current statement, circulated in advance in a separate email.</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Noted; with the previously agreed commitments, ~£1.4k is available to fund new projects or support new in-year grant applications.</p> <p>d. <b>To receive an update on the Transparency funding float</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> Information noted - no change to that reported at the last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total remaining transparency funds: £827.28</li> <li>Total left in the Clerk's float funds: £90.88</li> </ul> <b>Action 10:</b> KL to purchase back-up data storage facilities and a scanner from the funds. <b>KL</b></p>	Payee	Expenses/Services	Amount (£)	Karen Little	Clerk's salary 01.08.2019 to 30.09.2019	312.43	Cumbria Payroll Services	Payroll - Clerk's wages (includes VAT)	14.40		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>326.83</b>	Income received	None		Future Commitment	Replacement electrode pads for the Mediana A15 Outdoor Community Package defibrillator due 15.05.2021		
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53/19	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>a. <b>SL/2019/0027, Benson Hall Caravan Park, Benson Hall Scalthwaiterigg Kendal LA9 6PL.</b> Siting of additional single caravan unit to be used as manager accommodation and extension to opening season to 12 months per annum. PC: object to extending the opening season to 12 months per annum – there would be no impediment to this site becoming a full-time housing site over time. The manager's caravan should be also be subject to seasonal restrictions. <b>SLDC: Granted with five conditions, including: 'The occupation of the dwelling/caravan shall be limited to a person solely or mainly employed or last employed in the business known as "Benson Hall Caravan Park", or a widow or widower of such a person, or any resident dependants.'</b></p> <p>b. <b>SL/2019/0552, Discharge of conditions 3 (Bat Survey),4 (Surface water &amp; Sewage disposal scheme) &amp; 5 (Access Details) attached to prior approval CU/2019/0004, Building South of Strawberry Bank, Skelsmergh, Kendal.</b> <b>SLDC: Information provided for all three conditions is acceptable and all are partially discharged - subject to relevant agreed development plans.</b></p> <p>c. <b>SL/2019/0480, Buildings North West of Skelsmergh Hall, Skelsmergh Kendal LA9 6NU.</b> Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) attached to planning permission SL/2018/0244 (External alterations to buildings and change of use of land for siting of fuel storage tanks and drainage system). <b>SLDC approved with three conditions.</b></p>																			
54/19	<p><b>Correspondence highlighted by the Clerk</b></p> <p>a. <b>Councillor training events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Becoming an Effective Member, SLDC - 18.09.2019, Kendal Town Hall - JC to attend.</li> </ul>																			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective Councillors, CALC - Module 1: 14.10.2019 - AB-B to attend; Module 2: 28.10.2019, Helsington - JC to attend.</li> </ul> <p><b>b. Lancaster University - placements for Environment Centre students, attached</b> Opportunities noted, no scope identified within parish.</p> <p><b>c. United Utilities - future local work plans for the Haweswater Aqueduct, attached</b> JC met Mr Tighe from United Utilities (UU); there are no concerns to report although, in nearby parishes, there will be a lot of ongoing surface activities as UU prepare to reinforce sections of underground pipe. There will be minor associated works in two areas of the Parish - near to Watchgate and Paddy's Lane. The advance notice is to keep the public informed about, and prepared for, the planned work.</p>	
<b>55/19</b>	<p><b><u>Dates for Next Meetings</u></b> (venue: Skelsmergh Community Hall, commencing 7.30pm):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 6 November 2019</li> <li>• Wednesday 15 January 2020</li> <li>• Wednesday 18 March 2020</li> </ul>	
	The Chair thanked Councillors for their contributions and closed the meeting at 21.15.	

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Date:

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