



Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting Minutes
29.01.2026 at Skelsmergh Community Hall

Present
Councillors
Clerk
Minute no:

66/25

John Chapman, Chair, (JC)
Angela Brand-Barker, (ABB), Tim Maggs, (TM), Chris Loynes, (CL)
Ron Anderson

67/25

Welcome and apologies. The chair welcomed five parishioners to the meeting. Mick Crozier sent his apologies which were accepted.

68/25

Declarations of Interest Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Declarations of Interest

69/25

Minutes of last Meeting. The minutes of the meeting on 27 November 2025 were read and approved. Moved ABB, seconded CL

70/25

Matters arising from the minutes. The presentation by the Environment agency will go ahead on 30 January

71/25

Formal announcements by Chair. The chair opened the discussion concerning planning applications within the parish. Written objections from parishioners were shared and discussed and parishioners present were able to voice their opinions. The chair deferred the final decision until the end of the meeting

72/25

Finance. The clerk presented the monthly finance statement which was approved by the council. Moved TM, seconded ABB. Westmorland and Furness Council have notified the clerk of the formula calculation for this year's precept and, given the healthy carry forward, the council agreed to accept the allocation with no rise. Moved TM, seconded ABB

73/25

Grant Applications. None received, but the chair has suggested groups using the Community Hall might apply.

74/25

Standing Items
Community: The Work Party on Judith's Wood was postponed due to bad weather and will now take place 10th February. John Chapman and Chris Loynes met with the agent on site to arrange remedial tree work advised by the recent survey. It is expected this work will be done by end of February. Tree planning is scheduled for 10th March. A budget of £50 was proposed for equipment and refreshments. Moved TM, seconded CL

75/25

External Meetings. Chris Loynes attended the Westmorland and Furness Resilience Workshop which focussed on the impact of climate change. He will make a full report and recommendations at the next meeting.

Planning Applications. The council considered their response to the two planning applications discussed earlier. After considering the objections and concerns from parishioners the council raised no formal objection to the change of use of the presbytery at Dodding Holme but did so with the suggestion that the approval cites conditions obligating better and responsible communication and liaison between 'The Well' and the local community.

The council lodged their objection to the development of the business park at Meadowbank.

1. The development breaches Westmorland and Furness Council's own development boundary and encroaches onto this parish which was never part of future business/industrial building.
2. The environmental impact will affect local plans, biodiversity, light pollution, flood risk, traffic management.
3. This development is not in keeping with the rural nature of this parish.

76/25

The full responses can be found on the parish website.

The chair thanked everyone for their contributions and the meeting closed at 8.55pm

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Thursday 26 March 2026, 7pm in Skelsmergh Community Hall

Ron Anderson, clerk. clerk@skelsmerghandscalthwaiterigg-pc.gov.uk

Signed

Chair..... Date.....