



Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council  
 Ordinary Meeting Minutes  
 30.01.2025 At Skelsmergh Community Hall

Present	John Chapman, Chair, (JC)
Councillors	Tim Maggs, (TM), Angela Brand-Barker, (ABB), Mick Crozier, (MC), Chris Loynes, (CL)
Clerk	Ron Anderson
Minute no:	
64/24	<b>Welcome and apologies.</b> Cllr Chapman opened the meeting at 7pm. No apologies
65/24	<b>Cllr Peter Thornton</b> joined the meeting and gave a presentation on W&F Council Highways policy, highlighting the responsibilities and issues facing the Highways Department. He explained how repairs are prioritised and pointed the way for parish councillors and members of the public to report issues. He then went on to address questions from parish councillors as listed in the agenda. Cllr Thornton will look into issues and report on progress. He will investigate possibility of extending 40mph limit past Kilncroft and also look into a possible 20mph limit at Dodding Holme, although it may not be possible to reduce the speed limit there from 60mph to 20mph.
66/24	<b>Minutes of previous meeting.</b> It was noted that there may be funding available for improvements to the land at Gurnal Bridge. The minutes were accepted and signed by chair. Moved MC, seconded CL
67/24	<b>Finance Report.</b> New laptop has been purchased and website and domain names are being set up. ABB reported items in Defibrillator Box, wipes, gloves, etc. need to be replaced. Agreed she would buy them and be reimbursed from petty cash. Report was accepted, moved ABB, seconded TM
68/24	<b>Community and Woodland.</b> Community Plan updates. CL has received replies from 25% of parishioners. The survey will close at end of January. Facebook page has stimulated activity with some parishioners logging in and contributing. JC agreed to host informal session to discuss survey and proposals and CL will draft report for next meeting. CL has also produced Memo of Understanding with Natural Kendal and other partners regarding Gurnal Bridge land. JC has drafted and sent to Stephenson Trust agents a Licence setting out responsibilities of volunteer groups and management of land. Parish woodlands have been cleared allowing spring flowers to flourish, shed has been treated with preservative and a patch of hazel has been coppiced. Use by Skelsmergh School will not start until gate is fixed.
69/24	<b>External Meetings.</b> CL attended Natural Kendal AGM and spoke re Gurnal Bridge. Natural Kendal have 5 year plan and are interested in extending their remit beyond Kendal into the local catchment. They have appealed for more volunteers and have planned guided walks around the area. There is also a plan to establish a long distance trail
70/24	<b>Planning applications.</b> None
71/24	<b>Correspondence.</b> Councillors have received copy of W&F Lighting policy. It was noted this does not currently affect the parish
72/24	<b>Date for next Meeting.</b> Due to unavailability of clerk and council members at varying times the next meeting will take place on <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025</b> . This will be the Annual Parish Meeting, the AGM and Ordinary Parish Meeting
73/24	The chair thanked attendees for their contributions and closed meeting at 9.10 pm