



Skelsmergh and Scalthwaiterigg Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting Minutes
26.09.2025 At Skelsmergh Community Hall

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

Minute no:

- 35/25 **Welcome and apologies.** Cllr Chapman opened the meeting at 7pm. Apologies were received from Mick Crozier and were accepted.
- 36/25 **Declarations of Interest** . Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Declarations of Interest
- 37/25 Chris Fawcett of Rural Housing Enabler Service and Beki Winter of Church of England Affordable Housing gave presentations outlining how they can work with PC and communities to meet local housing needs. Chris was able to give examples of community led schemes in Cumbria that will provide affordable social housing. Beki has identified a site within the parish that could be used for affordable housing and is willing to work with the PC. However Chair does not feel the PC is in a position to lead on any such development. CL made point that bringing new residents into the parish would strengthen PC and that adjoining parishes, Selside and Longsleddle have no PC. The PC will continue to monitor housing needs where possible and will always be available to consider future approaches.
- 38/25 **Minutes of last Meeting.** The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by Chair. Proposed , seconded ABB
- 39/25 **Matters arising from the minutes.** The Community Hall Car park has been improved with stone chippings which were funded by the Hall management. CL and JC have held a site meeting re Judith's Wood and are making plans for planting along with Kendal Conservation Volunteers.
- 40/25 **Formal announcements by Chair.** None
- 41/25 **Finance Report.** Clerk presented Monthly Finance report which was accepted. Proposed ABB, seconded CL.
- 42/25 Clerk's proposal to open additional bank account to manage tree-planting grant from Westmorland and Furness was approved. Moved, TM, Seconded, CL
- 43/25 Chair proposed authorisation for payments from the W&F grant be delegated to Chair and Clerk for immediate approval so that items can be ordered in a timely manner to progress Judith's Wood Development. Moved, ABB, seconded. CL
- 44/25 A budget of £50 was requested by Chair for refreshments during the Annual Litter Pick. Moved, TM, seconded CL
- 45/25 A tender for a professional Tree Survey for Judith's Wood has been received from Treescapes. With VAT and extras this will be in the region of £1000. The tender was accepted and clerk instructed to confirm with company. Moved, TM, seconded CL
- 46/25 National Joint Council for Local Government Services has agreed a pay award for Clerks, backdated to April 2025. CALC recommend this is implemented. Chair recommended the advice. Moved ABB, seconded CL
- 47/25 **Planning Applications.** None received. However the proposed industrial development on A6 is still pending.
- 48/25 **Grant Applications.** None. Clerk will contact church-warden for any maintenance needs of churchyard. CL informed council that Keep River Kent Clean organisation may request a grant for a testing kit next year.
- 49/25 **Standing Items**
Community: Litter Pick will take place on 26 October.
Highways: Chair has notified W&F about trees growing out of stonework on Gurnal Bridge.

- 51/25

Date and Time of next Meeting: The next meeting of the council will take place on Thursday 27th November 2025, venue Skelsmergh Community Hall, 7pm
- 52/25

The chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Ron Anderson, clerk.
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Signed

Chair.....

Date.....