

HELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 3 April 2019 at 7.00pm in the Helsington and Brigsteer Village Hall

Present: Parish Cllrs S Carman (Chairman), K Ritchie, A Davies, M Cheesbrough , S Savasi , R Caddick, E Templeton; County Cllr J Bland, District Cllr K Holmes, Ms J Saunders (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1. No **apologies** were received.
2. **Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 4 April 2018 were approved and subsequently signed by Cllr S Carman.
3. Cllr S Carman presented the **Chairman's Report** on Helsington Parish Council activities and parish matters 2018/19.

4. **Public Participation**

The Chairman was thanked for his leadership of the Parish Council.

5. **Community Led Plan**

Parish Cllrs S Savasi and M Cheesbrough reported on the withdrawal of planning application 7/2017/5483 for 8 new houses in Brigsteer and support for the de-selection of the site in the draft Lake District National Park Local Plan Land Allocations. It was further reported that the Housing Working Group is liaising with SLDC re its prototype tool for assessing need for housing and infrastructure in rural areas. Helsington Parish has offered to be a guinea-pig for the roll out if required and shown interest in using the tool to establish need in the parish. Cllrs Savasi and Cheesbrough noted that they are currently the only members of the Housing Working Group (both are parish councillors and Brigsteer residents) and issued an open invitation to residents from across the parish to join. It was agreed to publish this invitation on the website. The need for transparency and communication with parishioners at every stage was stressed and the Group intended to propose that, post the publication of a local housing and infrastructure needs survey, a public meeting would be held, ideally involving representation from all parts of the parish and all relevant stakeholders.

6. **Community Governance Review:**

Cllr S Carman gave a presentation on SLDC's Community Governance Review and the current consultation phase. SLDC's draft recommendations re Helsington parish were outlined and it was noted that the changes proposed by Helsington Parish Council in October 2018 had not been recommended. It was suggested that although the Parish Council's proposed changes (for the parish boundary to be wholly within the Lake District National Park, the areas east of the A591 to be re-allocated to other parishes and properties on the Moss and Barrowfield to be re-allocated to Helsington) met with the stated aims of improving community engagement and cohesion and the efficient delivery of local services, there was a disinclination to make parishes smaller. There was discussion about the current 'Brigsteer-centric council' and the areas of the parish which it was felt are not currently represented. It was noted that the Parish Council would be considering making a further submission during the current consultation phase and members of the public were also encouraged to submit their own representations.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm and was followed by the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: 1 April 2020