

Skirling Community Development Trust
Annual General Meeting
Saturday 25 April 2026 12.00pm – 2.30pm

25th April 2026 at Skirling Village Hall saw SCDT's inaugural AGM. At the AGM:

- **The Annual Report and Accounts** (for 1.10.24 – 31.03.26) were approved. A brief overview of the Trust's main projects was provided. Special thanks were offered to the SSE Clyde Community Fund for funding the appointment of the SCDT coordinator and the various projects the Trust had taken forward over 2025/2026.
- **The amended Trust constitution** was proposed and unanimously adopted. The new Constitution ensures the Trust is able to operate effectively going forward.
- **Presentation from Newlands:** A talk was given by Joe Fernand about the Newlands Community Development Trust (NCDT) Joe was involved with. NCDT saved Newlands Primary School from closure and has since gone on to deliver Newlands Activity Centre and a range of initiatives including the purchase and operation of an electric minibus.
- **Presentation on the Skirling Land Project Report:** Jon Hollingdale, the Consultant who has been contracted by SCDT focused on the different parcels of land which have been proposed to be gifted or potentially sold to SCDT and other potential parcels of land which may provide options for the community should, and only if, the owners at any point wish to discuss land transfer with SCDT. Jon stressed that the report provided a whole range of possible development options, and it was now really important to hear back from the community on their views about the project ideas and possibilities, by completing a short community consultation has gone out to each household with the summary report for return by 11 May. This would then allow SCDT to better understand the projects the community most wanted to see happen and discuss how best this could be achieved for Jon to create a final report and recommendations which showed how the projects put forward by the community could be taken forward and financed.
- **The audience had a number of questions for Jon:**
 - Where did the different development ideas come from in the report? It was made clear that these were just developments and ideas other communities had taken forward and Jon had included in the report as examples of what might be possible based on his own experience.
 - Concern about the liabilities that may come with some of the parcels of land that have been offered to SCDT – as this requires expertise, part the reason for bringing in external expertise was to fully assess the land parcels being offered to SCDT.
 - The main rationale for SCDT to take on any land parcels is to ensure they are protected for the community rather than at some point potentially being put on the open market.
 - Parking for the hall: there were suggestions that the green could be reduced in circumference to allow a wider road around the green.
 - Once the main consultation is complete by 11 May, SCDT Jon would finalize the report and recommendations based on the consultation responses. It was confirmed the Trust would then come back out to the community with the recommended way forward.
 - A final point was made that there may be different views among a household, and could additional consultation forms be provided – these will be provided online and in hard copy at the hall as required.
- **Trustees Elected for 2026/2027:** Mark Bambridge, Dorota Donigiewicz, Andrew Fraser, David Gass, Mike Thompson, Derek Jardine (nominated on behalf of the Village Hall), Isobel Hunter (nominated on behalf of the Community Council)