

MINUTES OF THE FIRE ENGINE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Held on the 11rd June 2026 @ 7.30 in the Dorothy Granger Room, Community Hall, Silverton

Present: Cllr Ruth Harrison (Chair) & Cllrs Olivia Kennard and Gavin Donovan

The Clerk attended to take the Minutes of the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Simon Hedges

2. Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins

No members of the public were present

3. To discuss feasibility of the request from a resident for the Fire Engine House to become a café

General discussion regarding the Business Plan provided by the Applicant took place. The Chair explained that normally a 36 month business plan would need to be prepared and she explained the costings she had inputted in the Comments document prepared for the meeting and which had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

It was acknowledged that a Facebook Poll carried out historically had indicated residents in the village were in favour of the Fire Engine House being used as a café.

A discussion took place regarding the content of the draft “Committee Charter” and observations were noted to the “Terms of Office” to reflect the Committee’s thoughts on its content.

With regard to the question of storage facilities for the Street Market Committee and also any storage facility needed for the Road Warden Scheme, Cllr Kennard confirmed she had obtained costings from Silverton Storage Solutions at Roosters and she would circulate the size of containers available and the costings.

The Committee’s Chair suggested that the findings of the Parish Council be fed back to the Applicant for her consideration. It was AGREED that this should be in person with at least two Councillors being present and perhaps also suggest to her that she tests the market with a coffee van before developing the Fire Engine House.

With regard to the funding of the proposed venture, it was AGREED that it should be made clear that the Applicant understands she has full funding to upgrade the building and to cover the lease for at least 12 months.

Meeting closed at 20.30