

## **Comments made by Windermere Town Council during stage three of the Community Governance Review**

### **Julie Hartley, Clerk to Windermere Town Council**

Many thanks for providing us with the opportunity to consider the draft proposals under the Community Governance Review for Windermere Town Council.

Town Council and our community considered your proposals at our Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th April 2019 and wish to make the following response:

Town Council and its residents appreciate the logic of the proposals to reduce the size of the Town Council from 20 councillors to between 9 and 13 and share the concerns of SLDC about the democratic deficit that could arise if the current situation of unfilled vacancies continues.

However, reducing the size of the Town Council ignores the real contribution that it makes to our community and reduces the scope for the potential number of volunteers (i.e. town councillors) that will work free of charge in our community and take on services and work under the localism agenda that is increasingly left vacant by the larger Councils and their cutbacks. The Town Council therefore concludes that its potential size should be left at 20 councillors and that there should and will be a renewed focus on recruitment of new councillors.