

**AMinutes of a meeting of Plenmeller with Whitfield Parish Council held at
Plenmeller on Monday 20th August 2018 at 7.30pm**

Present

J H Blackett-Ord
Mrs J Cousin
Mrs A Johnston
J Johnston
Mrs O Norris
Mrs M Sowler

Apologies for absence

Ms A Dale

In attendance

Miss J Johnston (clerk)
Mr I Hutchinson (County Councillor)

Declarations of interest

J H Blackett-Ord – Whitfield Estate
I Hutchinson – Planning

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed

Matters arising

Cllr Mrs Johnston said that the footpath from the village shop to the Elk's Head sign in the village had been weedkilled but not swept.

Cllr Hutchinson said that the bin men might not empty the waste bin in the village if it was tied shut.

Cllrs reported that the drain at Plenmeller had still not been repaired. The potholes in Whitfield had been filled and most of the ones at Dodd Bank had been done although there were still some to do as they had run out of filling.

Cllr Mrs Sowler had emailed the clerk with information about a possible new internal auditor, Colin Corlett from Gilsland. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Johnston, seconded by Cllr Mrs Cousin and carried that we accept this offer.

The clerk had done an audit of names and addresses of suppliers for the Data Protection Act, but these amounted to very little. She said that she did not think the DPA applied to us as we did not hold any information on private individuals.

Cllr Blackett-Ord said that the safety barrier on the Hall Bank had been boded up and was not fit for purpose as it was not very strong. Cllr Hutchinson said that he would chase the matter up.

It was agreed to ask the joiner who works on Whitfield Estate if he would have a look at the notice board at Plenmeller and if possible give an estimate for its repair as it is quite dangerous.

Correspondence

The clerk had received a letter from NCC Transport dept to say that only the 20mph at Whitfield School was on the transport plan as both the 30mph at Plenmeller and the widening of the C322 road were not considered to meet their criteria for inclusion. The Transport plan for next year had been received and it was agreed to add the road widening again and ask that it be considered for upgrading to a B road. It was felt that this was now a very busy road and it was only a matter of time before there was a serious accident on this road because of the narrowness of the road, and the speed at which large vehicles were travelling.

Accounts for payment

J Johnston – clerks wages	£136.50
PAYE	£34.00

The clerk stated that the Burial Board cheque had to be resent because it was made out incorrectly and that two invoices which came in after the last meeting had to be paid straight away. One of these was the website fee of £75 and the other the NALC annual subscription of £65.21.

Any Other Business

Cllr Mrs Johnston reported that the bushes at the Blacksmiths Shop were obscuring the road and Cllr Mr Blackett-Ord said that he would arrange for them to be cut back. Cllr Mrs Johnston asked Cllr Hutchinson why Hexham Hospital had closed again overnight having been given assurances that this would not happen. He said that he had spoken to Guy Opperman MP who told him that the extra nurses who had been employed were either on sick leave, holiday or maternity leave. It was felt that Management were not doing a good job. It was important that this matter was not allowed to drift.

Cllr Mrs Johnston told Cllr Hutchinson said that there was always a lot of standing water at Todds Burn at Whitfield after rain as there were no channels to divert water off the road and into the ditches. Cllr Hutchinson said he would report the matter.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting as fixed for Monday 12th November at 7.30pm in Whitfield.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.