# COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cllrs. Thea Watkins, Arne Wolters, Gillian Marsh, Kathryn Curran and John Renwick

# ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE

Sarah-Jane Moffat– Clerk (for the meeting), Monica Anderton (outgoing Clerk)

**1.WELCOME BY THE CHAIR**

Cllr Thea Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked Monica for all her hard work over the years and welcomed Sarah-Jane as the new clerk.

**2.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Chris Whitton and County Councillor Colin Horncastle

**3.DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

No disclosures of interest were received.

**4.DISPENSATIONS**

With no disclosure of interest, no dispensations were required.

**5.PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present or questions received.

**6.MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**It was AGREED to RECEIVE** and sign as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th June 2025, which are available on the council’s website.

**7.CHAIRS REPORT**

Nothing to report

**8.COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Nothing to report

**9.MATTERS ARRISING**

The final AGAR figures were adjusted, and Cllr Wolters will resend to all.

The Clerk to look at setting up new website that is more user friendly which is NALC.

Cllr Wolters to look at transferring the clerk@hedley email address over to new Clerk.

**10.FINANCE**

Balance as at 30th June 2025 £4,113.31

Payments approved

MF Anderton, Clerk, July 25 £186.68

All other creditors up to date

Letter going to BOS to cancel MF Anderton DD

Clerk discussed moving to Unity bank for ease of use and online banking. Cllr’s agreed this and the Clerk to start the process with Cllr’s Watkins, Wolters and Renwick to be added as signatories and the Clerk to have online access to view only.

**11.INSURANCE**

Email has been received from Gallaghers regarding the renewal documents. The questionnaire needs to be completed and returned to them by end of July. Cllr Wolters to send the Clerk the documents so that she can make contact with the insurers to ensure that adequate cover is in place for all aspects of the village.

# 11.ROADS/HIGHWAYS

# It was discussed at the meeting the HGV sign required at the bottom of West Hill on the New Ridley Road exit. Monica Anderton confirmed that Glen Harrison from NCC had been off sick but has now returned and is dealing with this.

There have been issues at the Farm entrance in the village whereby people are parking their cars and making it very difficult for the large lorries to gain access. Cllr Wolters suggested getting yellow lines installed at the either side of the entrance which may help, Clerk to find out how we go about this.

Cllr Curran discussed the ongoing issues with speeding vehicles in the Parish; she is going to send round some advisory signs to be erected that should hopefully encourage people to slow down.

It was discussed that one of the residents at the Lead Gate Cottages mentioned vehicles speeding past here. The Clerk to try and get a couple of the “Slow Down Horses on road” erected and hopefully this will have some effect.

Also, the flashing road signs in the village are no longer working, Clerk to find out how much it would cost to repair/replace.

**12. MOBILE LIBRARY**

Cllr Renwick discussed the timetable for the mobile library has become rather infrequent. It was supposed to be every second Friday at 9.40am however, this has not been the case recently. He was given the drivers mobile and email address, all of which he has had no response to. Given how small the village is and how a lot of people rely on this service, the Clerk to contact Northumberland Library Services to try and get some clarity on the situation.

**13.AOB**

The Clerk to send all Cllr’s a blank Declaration of Interest form for them to update and complete.

It was also discussed the frequency of the Parish Council meetings; Cllr’s will have a think about changing this to meeting 6 times per annum.

# DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th September 7.30pm The Feathers Inn

CHAIR: DATE: