**Minutes of**

**Melmerby & Middleton Quernhow Parish Council**

**Melmerby Village Hall**

**Wednesday 6th November 2024 7.30**

1. Those Present Chairman Cllr J Foster; Cllr S Duckett; Cllr P Kettelwell
2. Apologies of absence Cllr T Richardson;
3. Minutes of last meeting read and signed as correct.
4. Matters arising

It was suggested at the last meeting that to try and prevent speeding in the village we set up a community watch. It would be very complicated to set up a community speed watch and require a special team to be set up. We would need quite a large team and purchase some hand held speed guns at £150 each.

We needed to upgrade the speed sign and it has been sent for upgrading but as yet has not been returned.

It was suggested a good use of the money from Cllr Brown would be some exercise equipment for older teenagers and adults.

Another suggestion was a second speed sign at the other end of the village. It was agreed we needed both but was decided to ask for the play equipment from Cllr Brown and purchase a second speed sign from funds already in the bank.

At the last meeting a resident asked if there could be white lines down the centre of Underlands Lane. An email was sent to Area 6 and they replied that this would be looked into.

1. Cllr Brown explained that the increase in NI will affect the budget of all employers and as NY has such a large number of staff this will be significant. The budget for Special Needs has to increase but not sure where the money will come from even though there are some reserves.

At the next forum meeting, Rachel Joyce who is on the senior management of North Yorkshire will give a talk. Cllr Brown has a new secretary, Stephanie White which means he will be able to communicate with us better. The Boundary Commission are altering the division of North Yorkshire next year to ensure that the number of residents in each boundary is similar and it is hoped Parish Councillors will have a say in this.

Cllr Brown has donated £500 he just needs to know what we want to spend it on as soon as possible.

Cllr Brown asked if the clerk could send a potted history of the problems with Underlands Lane and when we contacted Area 6. Send photographs of the problem to him. Also explain the problem of the broken street light outside number 1 Whitwell Terrace. They have patched the holes over and over again but the newest ones are too high and act like speed bumps. Cllr Brown felt the size of large wagons and farm vehicles are adding to the problem of decay in rural roads.

1. Open forum

A resident asked if we could deal with a tree on the layby which appears to be rotten, it was agreed to have this checked.

There is only one peg left on the new goal posts and they need moving back to their previous position.

A resident asked if the Parish Council pays for the Christmas Tree and the answer is yes along with the village hall.

1. Highways

As there has still been no answer to our emails regarding the poor condition of Underlands Lane outside Blythes Garage it was agreed to send a regular email to area 6 about this,

1. Planning

Woodend Woebeck Lane change of use of garden PENDING

Melmerby Lodge conversion of outbuilding to dwelling/office PENDING

1 Whitwell Terrace conversion of garage to residential use APPROVED

1. Playing field

Goal posts are very well used and the grass cutters are able to move them.

The wall around the playing field appears to be crumbling and needs checking

The playground equipment was meant to be painted this year but it never happened. It was agreed to wait till spring and if the decorator cannot do it to seek a new quote elsewhere.

1. Accounts
	1. Next year’s precept requested by December this year it was agreed to increase the precept by 5%
2. Parish web site still in progress
3. AOB

ThC Parish Group has asked if each council could donate £90 towards the funding for a secretary and hiring of the hall for the Forum meeting. It was agreed to do this.

1. Date of next meeting 19th February 2025

Signed as correct by the Chairman Cllr J Foster 19.02.25 …………………………………………………………

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| Quarterly Accounts |
| 1st September to 31st October 2024 |
|  |  |  | C/F |
|  |  |  | 13,491.11 |
| Clerk Salary | 280.8 |  | 13,210.31 |
| PAYE | 70.2 |  | 13,140.11 |
| Bank charges | 24 |  | 13,116.11 |
| Grass cutting | 394.8 |  | 12,721.31 |
| Precept |  | 2625 | 15,346.31 |

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