

GBR 52: Board of Guardians Minutes, Berwick-upon-Tweed Union. Summary catalogue entries.

LEVEL	REF	TITLE	DESC	DATE
Volume	GBR 52	Berwick Board of Guardians minute book outlining the business of the Guardians in administering Poor Relief in the Berwick-upon-Tweed Union from 20 July 1874 - 11 September 1876.	<p>During the period covered by this volume, the following served as Guardians or paid officers of the Union.</p> <p>1874- 1875 William Allan, farmer, Newburn, Norham parish; George Bone, farmer, Cheswick Buildings, Ancroft parish; John Brown*, Berwick parish; Robert Brown*, Berwick parish; William Cleghorn, farmer, Norham East Mains, Norham Mains parish; Adam Darling, merchant, Governor's House, Berwick, Felkington parish; Robert Dickson, farmer, Ord Mains, Tweedmouth (rural ward); John Dunbar, farmer, Bankhead, Loanend Parish; John Fleming*, Berwick parish; James Hogg, farmer, Buckton, Kyleo parish; David Hume, farmer, Berrington Kyleo parish; George Lumsden, farmer, Shoreswood, Shoreswood parish; John Marshall, farmer, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Andrew Mitchell*, Berwick parish; William Moor, farmer, Longridge, Longridge parish; James Nicholson, farmer, Thornton, Thornton parish; Thomas Pattison*, Berwick parish; George Peel herring curer, Spittal, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Edward Pringle, farmer, Scremerston, Ancroft parish; Thomas Sanderson*, Berwick parish; William Smith, landed proprietor, Melkington House, Cornhill parish; William Smith junior, farmer, Melkington House, Grindon parish; David Tait, farmer, Ancroft Steads, Ancroft parish; John Tait, farmer, Riffington, Twizel parish; Andrew Thompson, merchant, Berwick on Tweed, Holy Island parish; Robert Towerson, butcher, Main Street, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Andrew Trotter, farmer and miller, Hornccliffe Mill, Hornccliffe parish; Rev Beverley Wilson, vicar, The Vicarage, Duddo parish; John Young*, Berwick parish; Matthew Young*, Berwick parish.</p> <p>*Guardians of Berwick parish were qualified to act as no Guardians have been elected.</p> <p>1875- 1876 William Allan, farmer, Newburn, Norham parish; James Black, farmer, Cheswick, Ancroft parish; George Bone, farmer, Cheswick Buildings, Ancroft parish; John Brown, farmer, Gainslaw Hill, Berwick parish; David Carr, farmer, Felkington, Felkington parish; William Cleghorn, farmer, Norham East Mains, Norham Mains parish; Adam Darling, merchant, Governor's House, Berwick, Berwick parish; John Davidson, gentleman, Castle Terrace, Berwick parish; Robert Dickson, farmer, Ord Mains, Tweedmouth (rural ward); John Dunbar, farmer, Bankhead, Loanend Parish*;</p>	20 July 1874 - 11 Sept. 1876

			<p>John Fleming, merchant, Castlegate, Berwick parish; James Hogg, farmer, Buckton, Kylee parish; David Hume, farmer, Berrington Kylee parish; George Lumsden, farmer, Shoreswood, Shoreswood parish; John Marshall, farmer, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Andrew Mitchell, farmer, Letham Shank, Berwick parish; William Moor, farmer, Longridge, Longridge parish*; James Nicholson, farmer, Thornton, Thornton parish; George Peel herring curer, Sandstell Road Spittal, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Thomas Sanderson, farmer, High Cocklaw, Berwick parish; William Smith, landed proprietor, Melkington House, Cornhill parish; William Smith junior, farmer, Melkington House, Grindon parish; David Tait, farmer, Ancroft Steads, Ancroft parish; John Tait, farmer, Riffington, Twizel parish; Andrew Thompson, merchant, Berwick on Tweed, Holy Island parish; Robert Towerson, butcher, Main Street, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Andrew Trotter, farmer and miller, Horncliffe Mill, Horncliffe parish; John Watt, farmer, Spittal Hall, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Rev Beverley Wilson, vicar, The Vicarage, Duddo parish; John Young, merchant, Western Lane, Berwick parish; Matthew Young, merchant, Palace Street, Berwick parish.</p> <p>Votes cast were given for Tweedmouth urban ward only: John Marshall – 373; John Watt – 345; George Peel – 256; Robert Towerson – 232.</p> <p>* Guardians qualified to act in parishes where no guardians have been elected.</p> <p>1876- 1877 William Allan, farmer, Newburn, Norham parish; James Black, farmer, Cheswick, Ancroft parish; George Bone, farmer, Cheswick Buildings, Ancroft parish; John Brown, farmer, Gainslaw Hill, Berwick parish; Robert Brown, butcher, Castlegate, Berwick Parish; David Carr, farmer, Felkington, Felkington parish; William Cleghorn, farmer, Norham East Mains, Norham Mains parish; Adam Darling, merchant, Governor’s House, Berwick, Berwick parish; John Davidson, gentleman, Castle Terrace, Berwick parish; John Dunbar, farmer, Bankhead, Loanend Parish; Alexander Gillie, farmer, East Ord, Tweedmouth (Rural Ward); George Hogg jr, farmer, Goswick, Holy Island parish; James Hogg, farmer, Buckton, Kylee parish; David Hume, farmer, Berrington Kylee parish; George Lumsden, farmer, Shoreswood, Shoreswood parish; John Marshall, farmer, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); Andrew Mitchell, farmer, Letham Shank, Berwick parish; James Nicholson, farmer, Thornton, Thornton parish; George Peel herring curer, Sandstell Road Spittal, Tweedmouth parish (urban ward); James Smith, farmer, West Longridge, Longridge parish; William Smith, farmer, Melkington House, Cornhill parish; William Smith junior, farmer, Melkington House, Grindon parish; David Tait,</p>	
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Item	GBR 52/1-7	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 20 July 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; George Peel; William Allan; John Fleming; Matthew Young; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker].</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Ian Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]. Thomas H Mitchell [Thomas Mitchell]; Robert L Yetts [Robert Yetts], Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Stoddart (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); George Douglas (farmer); Thomas Landreth (farmer); John L Brown (farmer); Firewood -</p>	20 July 1874
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		<p>Captain Edwards (wood). Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief given under suspended order Mary Watson); Newcastle Blind Asylum (quarter's maintenance and education of George Cairns). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance of 12 lunatics and part quarter of 1 other); Royal Edinburgh Asylum (quarter's maintenance of Hannah Jamieson). Extra Medical Fees: Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Robert Fluker (Berwick District, vaccination fees); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District, vaccination fees); James Lambie (Islandshire District, vaccination fees). Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams (Ancroft, Kyloe). Building Account: Workhouse alterations: Mark Graham, Mason (balance of contract, extra work); John McCall, carpenter (contracts, extra work); Robert Dickson, slater & plasterer (contract); R Nicholson & Son, plumber & glazier (contract, extra work); William J Gray, architect (fees & charges).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Edward Fox, Spittal, debility, some weeks.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the town ships of Duddo and Longridge were tabled.</p> <p>The half yearly statement of the Medical Officer of the Workhouse was tabled. His replies were generally satisfactory and no comment was required.</p> <p>Letter received from Dr Colville Brown, Medical Officer of the Workhouse. With</p>	
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			<p>reluctance he asked for an enquiry into the conduct of the Master of the Workhouse [Thomas Mitchell]; his conduct made it impossible for Brown and others to do their duty peaceably and effectively. He considered that if the Guardians were aware of the unhappy conditions, which were incompatible with good government, they would take action to alleviate them and apportion blame. Rather than detail his complaints, he asked for a full and fair enquiry.</p> <p>To be considered at the next meeting; a copy of the letter to be given to the Master and Dr Brown to be asked to then provide the "details".</p> <p>Letter received from George Culley, Assistant Inspector, giving notice of the Poor Law Conference to be held at Newcastle on 4th and 5th August. It asked for the attendance of the Chairman of the Board and as many other Guardians as were able to attend.</p> <p>To be considered again at the next meeting with the intention of appointing a deputation to attend.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/8-22	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 3 August 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; William Moor; George Peel; Andrew Mitchell; John Brown; George Bone; James Hogg; Matthew Young; John Fleming; Rev Beverley S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; John Marshall; William Allan; Thomas Sanderson; Robert Brown; John Young; David Tait; David Hume; Robert Towerson; Edward Pringle. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was</p>	3 Aug. 1874

			<p>given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Stoddart (grocer); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Douglas (farmer); Ninian Sanderson (farmer); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Firewood - Mutter, Howey & Co (cartage); Captain Anderson (wood); John Davidson (wood); Parish of Berwick (poor rate on Workhouse); George Macaskie (printing and advertising); G F Steven (advertising account); Berwick Advertiser (advertising account); Thomas Mitchell [Master] (removing pauper to Belford).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Mary Ann Young, Chapel Street, childbirth, necessaries; Mary Ann Young, Chapel Street, childbirth, necessaries;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Turnbull.</p> <p>The invitation to the Conference at Newcastle, deferred from the last meeting was considered. Agreed on the motion of George Bone, seconded by the Vicar of Berwick that the Chairman [Andrew Thompson], David Tait, David Hume should attend, their expenses to be paid by the Union.</p> <p>Circular concerning the removal of lunatics to asylums, sent by the Commissioners in Lunacy to all Relieving Officers was tabled.</p> <p>The half yearly report concerning the state and condition of those maintained there by the Guardians, from the Superintendent of the County Asylum was tabled.</p>	
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			<p>Agreed at the next meeting to appoint a deputation to visit the Asylum and report.</p> <p>Letter received from James C Weddell, Hon Secretary to the Berwick Dispensary. It reminded the Guardians that on 10th January 1870 they had sent a copy of their resolution that the establishment of a fever hospital for the town and adjoining district would benefit the inhabitants and make savings on the poor rates. A meeting was held on 1st February between the two bodies. The outcome was the sale of the old dispensary, the purchase of a new site and erection of a substantial dispensary and infirmary, costing upwards of £3000. His Committee were led to expect some considerable assistance from the Guardians either towards the new building or a yearly payment towards its maintenance. He asked for the Guardians' response. To be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Vaccination Officers tabled their half yearly returns, which were satisfactory and required no action.</p> <p>An Order of Justices received from Alnwick Union adjudging the settlement of Mary Curle, widow aged 83. The execution of the Order was suspended due to her sickness. Following Joseph Scott's report [Relieving Officer] they asked the Clerk to obtain a copy of the deposition.</p> <p>They then considered the complaint from the Medical Officer against the Master of the Workhouse, referred from the last meeting.</p> <p>The Board of Guardians resolved itself into a Committee and in the absence of reporters considered the details now furnished by Dr Brown [Colville Brown] in support of his letter of 17th July. They also heard and recorded signed statements made by witnesses called by him in support of his allegations. Brown and the Master [Thomas Mitchell] were present while this was done. Mitchell, after alleging some of the statements were untrue and others grossly exaggerated, asked for time to consider the allegations before replying to them and did not question the witnesses called on the understanding he would have an opportunity later and asked for copies of the present letter and the witness statements.</p> <p>They then returned to being a meeting of the Board and Dr Brown's present letter and the witness statements were considered.</p> <p>Dr Brown stated that his complaints against the Master began from his first contact</p>	
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			<p>with the Workhouse and had continued almost without interruption to the present. He therefore has detailed the most recent, more personal to him or his duties, or more easily evidenced.</p> <p>Mitchell addressed him rudely on 8th July in the presence of Rev Irwin, Vicar of St Mary's. He was prepared to give the details but would prefer the evidence was obtained from Irwin. Afterwards Mitchell grossly insulted him and repeated the offensive statements in front of the male and female lunatic attendants for whom he had sent. They could verify and explain the state both parties were in. Later, he thought 10th or 11th July, on Brown saying that he would seek an investigation Mitchell apologised and did so more than once subsequently. Brown refused to accept this for reasons he would give later. Brown stated he was not alone. The nurse had complained to him of rudeness to her on 24th June, the Male Lunatic Attendant on 28th June and on 4th July the Matron [Agnes McLeod] informed Brown that Mitchell had rudely addressed her in language not fit to be used to the lowest inmate of a brothel. The previous winter the Master "had given the Matron in charge of a policeman", becoming a fact of common notoriety in the Workhouse. Shortly after the New Year he had drawn the Master's attention to some stinking beef and the poor quality of the tea given to the lunatic residents. Mitchell blamed the Matron. When Brown raised this with her she stated that she could not remedy it and said her "blood boils when I think that woman (pointing to Henderson about whom the police row originated) is allowed into the store and I am not". Henderson admitted then, in Brown's presence, that the Matron had found her in the store, the keys being given to her by the Master. Brown had been repeatedly informed by the officials that Henderson had weighed out their weekly supply of groceries. Brown had only just learnt, otherwise he would have informed them before, that when the Master was absent at supper time, 6pm, the lunatics and presumably the other inmates did not get their suppers till long after as the Matron did not have the keys for the purpose. Brown knew from his own experience that in the absence of the Master the Matron could not supply any wine or spirits needed, only the Porter. She had also told him she was not allowed even into the bread stores. The inmates are aware of this thus lowering her position and authority. Even worse is the language used about her and addressed to her by the Master in the presence of inmates. He had heard the Master refer to her as "that dirty devil" in the presence of a few of the young women. The Male Lunatic Attendant had heard the Master use language in the presence of inmates "turn your ugly face away", "all that she wants is a man", "have you no a</p>	
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		<p>place down with your Robert", "she's mad, she's quite mad". The Female Lunatic Attendant told him she had heard female inmates speak of the Matron in the same way, unrestrained and unchecked by the Master though in his presence. He had been given similar accounts by the former Lunatic Attendant and the Porter. They had also told of the unseemly and discreditable quarrels which frequently took place; Brown had witnessed some of these. As the Matron had been threatened with a legal prosecution by the Master, Brown doubted that she would speak out. She recently said to him "God only knows what I have suffered from that man". She has informed the Lunatic Attendants and Rutherford and his wife of the infamous stories of what she has known and what suspected. They can provide information. Brown gave one account told him by the Matron which can be confirmed by Rutherford, the previous Porter. One morning they could not wake the Master to get the keys for breakfast. On the order of the Matron they put a ladder up to his bedroom window to see in. Mitchell was in bed. A man went up but could not rouse him, Rutherford followed with the same result. Apart from Rutherford, who suspected a different explanation, they thought he was dead and eventually the Matron broke a pane, they put a boy through who opened the door. Brown said he would let Rutherford relate the state he and the Matron found the spirit and ale store in, how long the Master had been in, who came with him and how they got out as they did not the way they came in. The story was well known in the Workhouse at the time. Rutherford could inform them that the Master was not infrequently late. Similar discreditable stories were told him by the former Matrons, Miss Daniel and Miss Palmer.</p> <p>The Male Lunatic Attendant frequently had complained to Brown that the Master had interfered with his duties to the detriment of his authority over those in his care. He told Brown that after the Newcastle Races of 1873 the Master made the place so uncomfortable for him that he thought he would have to leave. The Attendant would explain with corroborative evidence. Brown believed the account to be true and evidence of extremely bad government. After complaints from the Attendant he had advised him to report the matter to the House Committee but the Attendant considered that useless as "the Master made the balls which the Committee fired off on Board days". Brown also said they should ask the Attendant if he was ever out late with the Master and what state he was in when he returned.</p> <p>The present Female Lunatic Attendant had recently told Brown that she wished she had safely left with a good character. If her friends knew the nature of the place they would not allow her to stay and that having worked in the Workhouse would act as a</p>	
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			<p>disqualification for a good situation. Brown considered that a complete investigation was essential.</p> <p>Both Attendants had told Brown that they planned to resign as soon as possible. The former Female Lunatic Attendant, Miss Shiells, left owing to the Master. Rutherford had written his resignation owing to the Master's behaviour towards his wife. The complaints of Miss Palmer and Miss Daniel were pitiful. The situation had existed since Brown's first connection with the Workhouse. Initially he had not accepted the stories and Mrs Fox, the first Matron, blamed him for taking the Master's part. But when the next Matrons, Miss Palmer and Miss Daniel, the old porter, his successor, Miss Brown, Mr and Mrs Rutherford, the present Attendants and the old nurse all complained of his overbearing manner and language and he experienced some similar behaviour himself, he had to believe it true. At that time he was not prepared to report it to the Guardians, as some of the officials had wished, knowing how painful it would be. The gross insult made on 8th July determined him to resign or raise it. He decided that it was his duty to report it to the Guardians though would have preferred to resign. He had not discussed the matter with the inmates, but he considered that some current and previous inmates, under oath would give evidence of irregularities. He had not talked with the present porter, but thought he would be able to give corroborative evidence. He was prepared to clarify any of his statement and hoped the examination of the officials would take place immediately.</p> <p>Statements of the witnesses called at the request of Dr Brown.</p> <p>Agnes McLeod, Matron of the Workhouse:</p> <p>First: she gave her account of the incident when Mitchell reported her to the police. She and an inmate Margaret Henderson had a quarrel and there were blows. On a Saturday evening about 8 30, she saw Henderson at the kitchen door and asked her what she was doing there. She said she was waiting for an opportunity to get a biscuit to send to her child. McLeod told her to go down immediately and mind the patients for Miss Dalziell was not in. She would not go and McLeod said to her that she was listening at Mr Mitchell's back door. Henderson then took hold of McLeod who fell down and screamed out. McLeod then went into the kitchen and complained to Mitchell. She irritated him by saying that he should have come to her assistance. He then went for the policeman and gave her in charge to the police, saying "take the woman" or "I commit her" or something similar. The policeman waited while she got her things and after about two hours left without taking her.</p> <p>Second: she told of the occasion when Dr Brown complained of some stinking beef</p>	
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		<p>and bad tea. She explained she was not responsible, that she thought the Master always gave the tea to the cook and that she had seen Henderson in the store and once she was using the key.</p> <p>Third: more than three years ago, one morning at 7 40 she went to the Master's house and found the tea and coffee for the inmates had not been issued. She could not get in and rang the bell ten or twenty times. She sent for a ladder and John Carse went up but could not wake him. She then sent a boy through the lower window to open the front door. She went to the stores. The store containing wine tea and sugar was in a state, some beer or something had been spilt on the floor and table. Beer is kept in the store. It looked like whisky, broken bottles or something; she thought there were broken bottles. She was followed by Esther Blackhall, an inmate, who went up stairs.</p> <p>Four: Three weeks previously one of Dr Brown's patients, who had heart disease, fainted. Mitchell kindly gave her some spirits. McLeod took her to hospital, without asking his permission. On her return, Mitchell said to her "go away with your ugly face, you are full of impudence.</p> <p>She had never complained to the Committee. She had heard a great deal about Mitchell's conduct but saw nothing wrong herself.</p> <p>Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant.</p> <p>During the last month, he was asked to go to the Master's office. Mitchell and Dr Brown were there, and disagreeable words were passed about Pinder going to Newcastle Races. He had permission from the Board to go and Mitchell said Dr Brown had complained. Mitchell called Dr Brown a liar and that "he would not believe him, no more than the dirt in the street". He also said that it was a pity that there was not a better qualified man available who understood the cases better than Brown. Brown smiled and said he would not quarrel with him.</p> <p>He had complained about Mitchell once or twice to Brown since the Committee made some inquiries. He had never complained to the Inspectors, the Lunacy Commissioners or the Committee. Brown advised him to go to the Committee but he would rather resign. When he twice previously complained, he was made more miserable afterwards. He had told Brown that Mitchell had said that he did not care for the Committee "for when he fired the balls they only just fired them". Pinder was often out late. He and Mitchell had been out together, were both a little "on the wing" and both had had a little too much; it might have been after midnight.</p> <p>In 1873 he had asked the permission of the Master to go to Newcastle Races; at first</p>	
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		<p>he had said he could go for three days and need not ask the Guardians. He later withdrew this. There was not time to ask the Guardians. Pinder went anyway, getting over the wall and no complaint was made against him.</p> <p>He had heard Mitchell say to the Matron, "turn your ugly face to the wall, the sight of you will make me sick, you are fit for Miss Dalziell – a man is what you want". [sic] This was in the dining hall in the presence of some inmates; he thought Hush was one of them.</p> <p>Elizabeth Ann Dalziell , Female Lunatic Attendant</p> <p>During July she had been called to the Master's parlour and found Dr Brown, Mitchell and Pinder there. Mitchell had sent for her about Pinder being away. She did not recollect Dr Brown saying anything to Mitchell. She heard Mitchell say to Dr Brown "I do not take your word about anything, you think yourself a gentleman, but it is a pity you are not out the place" and replaced by another "who understands his business better".</p> <p>She had said to Brown that she wished she was out the place with an unstained character. This was because of some of the stories going about; some of the inmates had been taking her name improperly and she had also heard tales from the Matron. Mary Harle, Workhouse nurse.</p> <p>In June she had complained to Dr Brown that Mitchell had been rude to her. The previous night a lunatic called Johnson had been brought to her as the male attendant was away and he stayed all night. The next evening Mitchell and Dr Brown came with two men and took Johnson out of the hospital to the fever wards. Mitchell told her to get out and she refused. He said he would put her out. She complained of his rudeness in ordering her out of the room. Dr Brown has sometimes been present when Mitchell was rude to her. She had never complained to the Committee. She was asked the previous Monday if she had any complaint and had said "No".</p> <p>Abram Rutherford.</p> <p>At first he had been the Porter then Lunatic Attendant and his wife was Female Lunatic Attendant for a short while. Both left in April 1872. When he was Porter he had let Mitchell in about 5am. The Matron complained that she could not get the necessary rations or get into the Master's house. A ladder was put up to his bedroom window. Rutherford who was on the ladder could not rouse him. He offered to get rations from another source but the Matron did not agree and broke a pane of glass so that a boy could get in and open the front door. He did not see the Master again that morning. Two persons had come in with the Master and Rutherford did not let</p>	
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			<p>them out again. He saw the Master's store. A good deal of liquor was lying about, spilt beer and wine. He did not see any broken bottles. He did not remember telling Dr Brown of any other time when Mitchell came in late.</p> <p>The Board resolved: First – that all the matters complained of by Dr Brown be referred to the Local Government Board with copies of the documents submitted; that they be requested to make a full inquiry by an Inspector or otherwise into the truth of the allegations.</p> <p>Second – that the Master be provided with copies of the documents.</p> <p>Third – that the Master forthwith hand over to the Clerk the Porter's books whilst Abram Rutherford was Porter.</p> <p>Margaret Baker, widow of Isaac Baker, late coastguardsman, who was admitted to Northumberland County Asylum on 23 July at the cost of the Union, was in receipt of a pension 6s per week.</p> <p>Resolved that application be made HM Customs that payment of the pension be made to the Guardians so long as she is chargeable, to cover part cost of her maintenance.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/23-30	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 17 August 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; David Tait; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; Robert Brown; William Allan; John Young; Robert Towerson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Brown [Colville Brown]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	17 Aug.1874

			<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Douglas (milk seller); James Grey (spirit merchant); Firewood - Captain Helgeson (wood); Allan Brothers (wood); Henry J Williams (removing Eliza Fewell, widow & four children, to Ongar Union Essex); Ann Renwick (oakum rope). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing Margaret Baker and Elizabeth Y Tilley to County Asylum). Extra Medical Fees: John Paxton (East Northhamshire District); Matthew J Turnbull (West Northhamshire District). Vaccination Expenses: John Paxton (East Northhamshire District);</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General Police Rate by 15 August from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyoel; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Received from Alnwick Union an Order of Justices made on 15 October 1864 directing the removal of Ann Purvis from the township of Hauxley to the parish of Tweedmouth. It was endorsed on the same day with a suspension of execution, and on 1 August 1874 with a further order, noting her death on 19 June 1874, directing Berwick Union to pay Alnwick Union £100 16s 3d, being the charges incurred since the suspension of the order. From an account subsequently provided £14 18s 3d was incurred before 25 March 1866 and was therefore chargeable to Tweedmouth parish and the balance of £85 18s to the common fund of the Union. Agreed that these sums be paid.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Mary A Young, Chapel Street, childbirth, necessaries;</p>	
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		<p>May Ridpath, Loanend, debility, necessaries; Edward Fox, Spittal, debility, bottle cod liver oil.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Kyloe.</p> <p>Considered the request from Berwick Dispensary and Infirmary for a contribution towards their costs, referred from the last meeting. Agreed to set up a Committee of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the Vicar of Berwick to discuss with the Committee of the Dispensary and Infirmary their financial state, in particular the amount they required to raise annually by voluntary contributions and the advantages for the Board of Guardians if they subscribed annually to the funds. To report back to the Meeting in four weeks.</p> <p>A deputation was appointed, consisting of the Chairman and David Tait, a Vice Chairman, accompanied by Dr Brown, to inspect the lunatics supported in Northumberland County Asylum and report back.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board acknowledging receipt of the minute concerning the complaint by the Medical Officer of the Workhouse against the Master. They would consider the matter and, according to practice, had written to Mr Mitchell to provide any explanation he might have.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding. The latter were greater than usual as the North Eastern Railway Company had not paid the sums assessed. The Clerk was directed to request payment by the Company.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that as directed at the last meeting he had obtained the depositions in the case of Mary Curle, brought by the Alnwick Union for removal to the Berwick Union. Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] had made inquiries and expected to have additional information in a day or two. The Clerk was authorised, if the</p>	
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			<p>information gave reasonable grounds to appeal, to do so.</p> <p>An Order of Justices was received from the Alnwick Union, for the removal to Berwick Union of Ann Dunn, widow and her four children. Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] reported that he was making inquiries into the alleged grounds of settlement. Agreed that, if advisable, the Clerk was authorised to apply for copies of the depositions.</p> <p>The Guardians agreed to the request of the Ongar Union for the return to the Union of Eliza Fewell, widow, and her four children, recently removed under order of Justices. They declined to interfere in the amount or mode of payment of the proposed non resident relief.</p> <p>Application from Morpeth Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of removal, of Mary Arnott, spinster, aged 76. As she had recently been chargeable to the Union and had a clear settlement, the Guardians were satisfied that she was removeable to the Union and accepted the application.</p> <p>John Crosby [Relieving Officer] was authorised if found necessary, to apply to the Justices for Orders on Robert Gibson and Thomas Gibson, sons of Isabella Gibson to contribute 2s per week each in repayment of relief given to their mother.</p> <p>The Chairman and David Tait, Vice Chairman, informed the Meeting of the proceedings of the Poor Law Conference at Newcastle which they had attended with Mr Hume on behalf of the Board.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/31-37	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 31 August 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; John Marshall; David Tait; John Young; Robert Brown; William Allan; George Bone; Robert Towerson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p>	31 Aug. 1874

			<p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); James Turnbull (tailor); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Thomas Spaven (ironmonger); John Stoddart (grocer); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (farmer); Joseph Archer (Justices Clerk for copy depositions); William Dickson (Justices Clerk for copy depositions); Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District Registrar's fees); Robert Walker (Islandshire District Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District Registrar's fees). Registration Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District Registrar's fees); Robert Walker (Islandshire District Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District Registrar's fees).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>A collector's monthly statement was laid before the Board for the township of Horncliffe.</p> <p>Agreed the procedure for appointment of a Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Islandshire District from 30th September. Agreed to make an appointment at the meeting in four weeks and that it be advertised in the local newspapers.</p>	
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			<p>Letter received from the Local Government Board consequent on the report received from their Inspector, Dr Airy, concerning his discussions with the Guardians about the arrangements for vaccination.</p> <p>In the Tweedmouth District, where there is a weekly attendance, the average is no more than one. This does not meet the principles of the circular letter of 20th February 1869. Therefore a change in the arrangements is necessary which the Guardians were asked to consider. If they wish to retain a separate district for Tweedmouth, vaccinations should be done periodically and not oftener than three successive weeks at quarterly periods. They would prefer that the Tweedmouth District, or at least those parts within Berwick Borough, were immediately combined with Berwick District (this will be necessary when art. 2, reg. 18 February 1868 is brought in, copy enclosed). This arrangement is recommended.</p> <p>The Local Government Board welcomed the Guardians' acceptance of the new arrangements, as proposed by Dr Airy, in East Norhamshire and Islandshire Districts. They asked that the endorsements to the contracts be forwarded for approval; form enclosed.</p> <p>Agreed the endorsements for the latter districts: Islandshire – attendance at Fenwick 1 30pm, Halfway House, Beal 12 30pm, Holy Island Friday. East Norhamshire – 1st and 2nd Tuesdays April and October, Norham, Horncliffe, Shoreswood; 1st and 2nd Wednesdays, same months, Grindon, Duddo, Twizel. After lengthy discussion re Tweedmouth District, deferred to next meeting.</p> <p>Letter received from Robert Hedley, Local Government Inspector, informing them he was leaving his present district, expressing his thanks and regrets at the termination of contact. Reply to be sent reciprocating these sentiments and congratulating him in what they hope is promotion.</p> <p>The Clerk presented his calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year; referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee for comment</p> <p>Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] reported that Mary Curle's late husband had gained settlement by hiring and service in Ancroft parish. Therefore no appeal had been</p>	
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			<p>made against the order of removal made by Alnwick Union.</p> <p>As requested, the Clerk had obtained copies of the depositions in the case of Ann Dunn, widow, and her four children in the order of removal by Alnwick Union. Joseph Scott asked for time to make enquiries into the alleged birth settlement. Agreed. The Clerk was authorised to make an appeal if the circumstances warranted.</p> <p>John Crosby, Collector to the Guardians, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against Francis Davidson, late of Travellers Rest, to contribute towards the maintenance of his wife in the Workhouse.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Margaret Henderson, widow, and her three children, now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/38-58	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 14 September 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; David Tait; John Young; Robert Towerson; Robert Brown; Andrew Trotter; George Bone; John Fleming; Matthew Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for:</p>	14 Sept. 1874

			<p>Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Wood (baker); L S Fleming (leather merchant); Johnson & Co (brewers); John McCall (undertaker); George Douglas (milk seller); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Andrew Thompson, Chairman (expenses of deputation attending Poor Law Conference, Newcastle); John Rutherford (oakum rope); Firewood - Captain Akerman (wood); Davidson John [sic] (wood); John Mace (twine); Captain Cargill (wood); R Davidson & Sons (wood); Allan Brothers (wood); Captain Woolnough (wood); Mutter Howey & Co (cartage);.</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate by 19 September from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyoel; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for all the parishes.</p> <p>The Guardians considered the arrangements for vaccination in the Tweedmouth District, deferred from the last meeting. Agreed that for the present to keep a separate district. To meet the views of the Local Government Board they decided to amend Dr Davidson's contract - vaccinations to be performed at the Tweedmouth station quarterly. The clerk was instructed to inform the Local Government Board and to contact Dr Davidson for his agreement and his opinion on the days of the week and number of consecutive weeks needed.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Special Committee set up to deal with the request for contributions to the Infirmary was not ready to report but would do so in the future.</p>	
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			<p>Circular from the Local Government Board enclosing the forms to be used to apply for a share of the grant for the cost of maintenance of pauper lunatics in asylums and describing how it would be distributed. From both the circular and the forms it seemed that no provision was made for the grant to cover lunatics maintained in the Workhouse. Asked that the Workhouse Medical Officer provide the numbers of those lunatics maintained in the Workhouse, with the support of lunatic attendants and other special arrangements, who would otherwise have to be in an asylum. The Clerk to send this information to the Local Government Board and to ask when the Guardians would be entitled to a share of the grant for those inmates.</p> <p>Letter received from The Local Government Board, concerning the charges brought by Dr Brown against Thomas Mitchell. It enclosed the letter they had received from Thomas Mitchell in response to the charges. They asked for their observations on the statement and highlighted that the first two charges relate to 1871 and 1873. The Board of Guardians resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Board in the absence of reporters. The letter from Thomas Mitchell to the Local Government Board was read. Prior to discussing it, both Dr Brown and Thomas Mitchell, were asked to retire. Before doing so Dr Brown asked that he be given a copy of the letter (as Mitchell had been given a copy of his) and stated that many of the allegations made by Mitchell were untrue.</p> <p>After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Board having heard Mitchell's letter should inform the Local Government Board that they declined to make any observations on it.</p> <p>The Meeting resumed and Mitchell's letter with a note of proceedings and recommendation of the Committee, as above, was submitted.</p> <p>Thomas Mitchell's letter to the Local Government Board: This was a very lengthy refutation of Brown's charges against him.</p> <p>He says that with two exceptions, the charges were a collection of grumbling remarks by various officials. None of these had ever made complaint to the Local Government Board's inspectors or to the Guardians. He stated that Brown had been heard to say that if ever he (Mitchell) found fault with him or complained about him he (Brown) would "do for" him. Mitchell had recently had to call Brown's attention to a patient who considered the doctor had neglected him. He pointed out that he had been 17 years in post without complaint; the Inspectors' reports had all been favourable. To achieve this, careful supervision and perhaps frequent raising of shortcomings had been</p>	
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			<p>necessary. He addressed Brown's complaints under headings. 1 Insinuated misbehaviour by his coming in late. The occasion in 1871 when he slept in and could not be roused with Brown's insinuation that he had been brought home at an unseemly hour the worse of drink. He explained that he had attended a concert and met some friends. They went to a respectable inn where they stayed till around three or four. Two of them walked up the street with him; he was perfectly sober and invited them in to continue their conversation, telling the porter not to stay up as he would let them out by the garden gate. He provided some spirits and water of which they partook very sparingly. He obtained this from the store in the passage close to his sitting room where, among various other things, his own private groceries were kept. He had to pour the spirits from a small grey beard [sic]. It was difficult to do so without spilling a very little which he probably did. His friends left, he let them out and locked up. It was probably about 5am when he got to bed. He slept very soundly and did not wake up in time. He questioned whether the Matron's actions were necessary – Rutherford's evidence suggested not – and seemed calculated to cause talk. No complaint was made until now. He said the store would be open as it was close to his rooms and the front door was locked. While a little whisky might have been spilt, no wine or beer could have been and there was no broken bottle. The witnesses differed on these details. He denied that he was in the habit of keeping late hours. Pinder [lunatic attendant] said he had been out "on the wing with him". He could only recall two occasions; both about two years ago, when Pinder came in about 8pm saying that he had met an old friend of Mitchell's, Mr Gowanlock from Yetholm, at Stafford's a public house about 50 yards away. He stayed till about 10pm leaving, he thought, Pinder there. He was quite sober. The second time, about 8 or 9pm, after doing the rounds of the wards, he went to Stafford's on invitation. Stafford was also a cattle dealer and he went to see some bullocks. Pinder was also there and they then went into the house. Mitchell discovered Mrs Stafford was a relative of someone he had known well 30 years ago. They talked till about 11pm when he left perfectly sober having drunk very little. 2 His conduct towards Pindar [sic], male lunatic attendant. Pinder stated that once or twice he had complained to Dr Brown since the committee had previously made enquiries. Mitchell did not know what these enquiries were. Mr Culley, Inspector had raised with the Committee the door from the lunatic quarters to the street about which Mitchell had told him. Pinder had taken offence at this. Pinder</p>	
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		<p>admits he was often out late and then it was possible for communication between the street and the Workhouse. As he (Mitchell) would be held responsible he had raised it.</p> <p>On sundry occasions he had complained to Pinder about the state of his wards. He had seemed to regard this as interference and showed some temper which Mitchell ignored as his suggestions were accepted.</p> <p>Newcastle races, 1873. Some days previously, Mitchell had agreed that Pinder could go. On the Monday night he saw Pinder and another coming from the infirmary wards, where they had no business. When he queried this Pinder said they had been seeing the nurse (they had taken whisky with them). Mitchell said they should be in their own places. Pinder was threatening towards him – “You bloody villain, I could knock your head off. You are not my master”. Mitchell had retorted that as he was not his master, he could not give him permission to go to the races. Pinder went to the races; Mitchell did nothing further. This year Pinder asked that permission be sought from the committee, which was given. Mitchell had done all he could to enable the visit. During his absence a man called Johnson was admitted in a lunatic state, causing some difficulties. Dr Brown grumbled at Pinder’s absence. Brown also informed Mitchell that an inmate, Ferguson, had struck John Brown, a lunatic, with a stick. Pinder exceeded the leave granted and on his return had remarked that he had overstayed but knew all were in safe hands and that he had been lucky. There was no quarrel.</p> <p>Pinder had never complained to Mitchell, nor as far as Mitchell knew to the committee or inspectors.</p> <p>3 His conduct and demeanour to Dr Brown.</p> <p>More than once inmates had complained to Mitchell of the Doctor’s inattention to them. The last was Peter Gallagher, had complained five times that Brown would not attend him. Twice Mitchell had seen Gallagher hold his head under the cold water tap for relief. Gallagher said it would be pointless to ask Brown to see him. The next time Brown visited, Gallagher asked him to look at his head. Brown said he had no time then but would see him the next day. As Gallagher said it was useless for him to speak to the Doctor, Mitchell, when he heard he was in the ward went to see him. When he got there he found that Rev Irwin was visiting and as Brown could not get in had gone to other wards. He later saw Dr Brown and raised his lack of attendance to Gallagher. He denied that he had not attended Gallagher. Mitchell offered to bring Gallagher to him but Brown refused to wait. After dinner (three quarters of an hour</p>	
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			<p>later) Brown came to the office and told Mitchell that Gallagher had been getting medicine for three weeks. Mitchell replied that Gallagher was now affected with a different complaint which he detailed. Brown replied that Mitchell was always finding fault and that he had been quarrelling with Pinder. They then proceeded to disagree with each other about Mitchell's interactions with Pinder and whether Brown had complained about his absence. From Mitchell's account this deteriorated into an unpleasant quarrel. A few days later Brown informed him that he was going to report him to the Guardians. Mitchell replied that he was at liberty to do so, but that he was not aware that he was in the wrong. If he thought he was or it was pointed out to him how, he would apologise.</p> <p>4 His alleged misconduct towards the Matron.</p> <p>It would seem that most of her grumblings centred on her not having the keys or access to the stores.</p> <p>Some years previously he had found it necessary, as he had had to make good deficiencies, to keep the keys to the wine store which also contained sundries. At the time she complained to the Committee, who after examination, agreed that he keep them. Some while later she complained that she found it too heavy to cut the bread and get the weights correct. At her request, he took charge of that store also. The other is also in his charge. He considered it impossible for more than one person to be in charge of a store because of issues of responsibility. He considered the Matron's management not to be sufficiently accurate. For instance when the cook was unwell, the Matron miscalculated the amount of water needed to make tea and it had to be watered down to make the quantity. It was not the quality of tea that was at fault as alleged. The stinking meat complaint arose because one of the infirm inmates found one day he could not finish his meat and put it in a drawer. On a subsequent day took it out and added it to his fresh meat. Mitchell personally inspected all the meat before it left the butchers shop. He frequently had to draw the Matron's attention to various matters not in a proper state, either from his own observation or complaints from officials or inmates. Two or three weeks ago the Visiting Committee complained of the dirty state of the young women's apartments. He had raised this in the past until he refrained because of the strong language used by her, leaving it to the Committee.</p> <p>He denied that he had used inappropriate language to the Matron. He was not the person who called her a dirty devil. One time when she was very ill natured he had remarked on her facial expression. Whenever there was any criticism she got into a</p>	
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		<p>rage and her language was strong. He had heard other officials and inmates use strong language and had checked them, but this was usually in retort. Once Pinder had complained that she had been saying that he was behaving inappropriately in respect of some of the young female inmates. He advised Pinder to ignore it as she was in the habit of speaking unguardedly and no one heeded her. He did speak to her as promised. On another occasion, after a minor reprimand she made a remark about Miss Dalziell being his fancy woman in front of others. This went the rounds. On 14th August 13 vagrants arrived soaked and she was asked by the Porter that she send some of the women to light the stove to get their clothes dried. She refused either to send the women or come herself, saying the clothes would dry in the sleeping quarters. Mitchell told the Porter that he requested it, but she refused to do it. Mitchell, the Porter and the cook had to light the stove and get the clothes dried. When he raised it with her the next day he got the usual grumbling. On complaining several times about the state of the water closets she responded with strong language. Last week, to avoid this he had written to her about the filthy smelly state of the utensils in some of the old peoples' rooms. In raising these issues he did not want to make a complaint against her, but to illustrate what he had had to deal with. He did not doubt she had grumbled to the doctor. She should have raised it with the House Committee or any of the Board who could easily ascertained the position. The doctor insinuated that threatened with legal proceedings by the Master she would not dare to complain. He had never made such a threat. He had on one occasion in November, sent for the Police Officer. He had heard a disturbance coming from the cookhouse. He found the Matron in a violent rage with two women inmates beside her. She accosted him insolently and furiously asking why he had not come to her aid. She said "that villain Henderson" had knocked her down and threatened him. She spun round and grabbed his beard with one hand and hit him in the eye with the other. The two women rescued him. He did not lay hands on her and as she was in an outrageous state called the police officer. He explained to him what had happened and asked him to do what was necessary. After about half an hour she had quietened and persuaded the policeman to take her to Mitchell's office. She begged that he would not send her to gaol and promised that she would not act so again. At his request the policeman left.</p> <p>5 His conduct to Miss Dalziell and the Nurse.</p> <p>Dr Brown insinuated in his letter that Miss Dalziell was concerned that she wanted to get safely out of the place with a good character in consequence of Mitchell's</p>	
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			<p>behaviour. Her evidence disputes this. She was concerned that stories were being told about her and some of the inmates had been taking her name improperly. The origin of this was undoubtedly the remark made by the Matron when quarrelling with him. He stated there was absolutely no foundation.</p> <p>He explained his alleged rudeness to the nurse on 24th July. A man who was deranged was brought into one of the wards. He and two male attendants were going to strip him and put him to bed, so he suggested she leave. She refused to do so and he ordered her to leave.</p> <p>6 His general conduct.</p> <p>He had held the post for 17 years during which official reports had shown universal satisfaction with him and his management. Recently the Guardians had unanimously increased his salary. There had never been a complaint against him. There would not be now if he had not, perhaps over zealously, considered it his duty to bring to the doctor's attention a patient alleged to have been neglected by him. He took umbrage at this and made an unprovoked and untrue charge against him for quarrelling with Pindar [sic]. It was in response to this and in reply to his repeated charges, after being told they had no foundation, that Mitchell's alleged rudeness took place. Dr Brown then in retaliation gathered all the scandal and grumbings of others for years past.</p> <p>He apologised for the length of the explanation but the manner in which the charges were presented made it necessary. He would gladly provide any further explanation which they may require.</p> <p>Resolved that the Local Government Board be informed that the Guardians, having heard Mitchell's letter, did not wish to make any observations on it.</p> <p>Also resolved that Dr Brown be informed that as Mitchell's letter was addressed to the Local Government Board, the Board of Guardians could not provide him with a copy and that he should apply to that Board if he wished a copy.</p> <p>Letter received from James Radford, District Auditor, that he would audit the accounts on 23 October.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee reported that they had received notice from Berwick Urban Sanitary Authority that all water closets should be disconnected from the water pipes by means of intermediate cisterns. All water closets in the Workhouse complied, having "Lamb's Patent" or similar. No expenditure would be required.</p>	
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			<p>The Committee reported that they had examined the Clerk's calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year and were satisfied with them. They recommended their acceptance and they were approved.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying provisions and clothing will expire on 3 October. The form of advertisements for tenders was approved and the Workhouse Committee were authorised to consider and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>John Crosby, Collector to the Guardians, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against John Redpath, of Berwick, shipbroker, to contribute the cost of his wife's maintenance while chargeable to the Union.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/59-66	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 28 September 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; George Peel; George Bone; Robert Towerson; Andrew Mitchell; John Young; John Fleming. Ex Officio Guardians: None. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Agnes McLeod, Matron; Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant; Elizabeth A Dalziell, Female Lunatic Attendant; George Main, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse;</p>	28 Sept. 1874

		<p>Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Margaret Cowe (grocer); Robertson & Co (ironfounders); George Wood (baker); Johnson & Co brewers); John Stoddart (grocer); George Douglas (milk seller); W G Carr & Son (druggists); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); John McCall undertaker); Knight & Co (books & forms); George Macaskie (printing and advertising); Proprietor of Berwick Advertiser (advertising); Gibson F Steven (advertising); Alexander Paton (bookseller); T R Thompson (fire insurance premium); E Willoby [Clerk to the Guardians] (Justice Clerk's fees quarter's postage & sundries); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing Scotch paupers, quarter's postage & sundries); Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] (quarter's postage & sundries, expenses enquiring into settlement case)</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>In accordance with notice given, the Guardians appointed a Registrar of Births and Deaths for the sub district of Islandshire in place of Robert Walker who had resigned. Applicants were: Matthew Tibbit, gentleman, Scremerston; T H Cowan, schoolmaster, West Allerdean; George Winskill, general merchant, Scremerston. On the motion of Robert Towerson, seconded by George Bone, Matthew Tibbit was unanimously appointed. The appointment to be notified to the Clerk to the Registrar General.</p> <p>Letter received from Dr Davidson, Tweedmouth, agreeing to the changes in the</p>	
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			<p>vaccination contract. It was accordingly endorsed: at Tweedmouth, instead of weekly, attendance to be on the first and second Wednesdays in January, April, July and October. The attendances at Scremerston and Ancroft to be as at present.</p> <p>Letter received from Agnes McLeod. She said that Dr Brown had told her that Mitchell's explanation of the police quarrel was very different from hers. Owing to the way she was examined, she had been too favourable to Mitchell in it. She therefore requested that a full inquiry was made into the incident as her character was at stake and into Mitchell's conduct, which had been cruel and unjust to her, both before and after her appearance before the Board of Guardians.</p> <p>Agreed that a copy be sent to the Local Government Board, with a request that the inquiry into Mitchell's conduct be done as speedily as possible.</p> <p>Dr Brown reported on the recent visit to Northumberland County Asylum. They had visited on 18th September and seen each patient. All seemed as well and as well cared for as possible. There were not many as most are cared for in the lunatic wards of the Workhouse. Until the future of the lunatic wards in the Workhouse is decided, it was not possible to recommend any for return to Berwick. He then reported that if the lunatic attendants in the Workhouse were discontinued, 7 male and 13 female patients would need to be transferred to an asylum. The other 3 male and 6 female patients would necessitate special arrangements for nursing as the general nurse had an ample workload.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended the tenders for provisions, necessaries, clothing, bread, oatmeal etc for acceptance. Agreed.</p> <p>Contribution orders to be sent to the overseers of the parishes of the Union to meet the expenditure of the Board for the next half year were agreed. These were to be paid by two equal instalments on 17th October and 16th January. The sums totalled £4386.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended that the fire insurance for the Workhouse buildings should be increased from £2000 to £3000. Agreed, also the recent alterations required a new policy to be made. The Clerk to negotiate with the insurance agents and report to the next meeting.</p>	
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			<p>Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, was granted leave of absence from the next meeting. Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant, was granted three days leave during the next week.</p> <p>Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against John Howey, now or late of Stigswood [?] [Stobswood?] Colliery, for neglecting to maintain his three children, Alice, Margaret and John who had therefore become chargeable to the Union.</p> <p>George Bone brought to the attention of the Meeting an irregularity by the Master of the Workhouse in dispensing the outdoor medical stores. On sundry occasions he had dispensed wine to the outdoor poor in reputed pint bottles, value 1s 9d each, whilst the same were charged as if they contained an imperial pint, value 2s 4d. The Master was called in and admitted that he had been under an erroneous impression regarding the size and value of the bottles. He had not dispensed any of these in the current half year. He would obtain from the wine merchant a full account of all such bottles supplied and account to the Union Treasurer for the excess of 7d per bottle.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/67-77	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 12 October 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Brown; Thomas Sanderson; George Bone; Robert Brown; Robert Dickson; John Marshall; David Tait; Robert Towerson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p>	12 Oct. 1874

			<p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous shown in the Master's Day Book for the past quarter, and for clothing for the past half year, was given.</p> <p>The garden account was debited by the value of the slops from the Workhouse given to the pigs.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions shown in the Master's Day Book was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Dixon (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Margaret Cowe (grocer); William Wilson (plumber & glazier); Robert Dickson (slater & plasterer); Thomas Spaven (ironmonger); Peter Gibson (blacksmith); Johnson & Co (brewers); Mark Graham (mason); John McCall (undertaker); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); George Douglas (milk seller); John Cockburn & Son (carpenters); John Yule & others (sundries for garden); John Stoddart (grocer). Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief advanced under suspended order for Mary Watson and Hannah Wilson). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance for 12 pauper lunatics and part quarter for two; Royal Edinburgh Asylum (quarter's maintenance for Hannah Jamieson). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, vaccination officer, (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, vaccination officer, (quarter's salary); Robert Fluker, [medical officer], Berwick District (vaccination fees). Collectors Poundage: John Husband, Berwick; James Paxton, Horncliffe; Robert Lambert, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John A Woods, Treasurer;</p>	
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			<p>Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert C Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]; Thomas H Mitchell [Thomas Mitchell], Master of Workhouse; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>Payment of £5 given to Thomas Mitchell, Master, for petty common charges of the Workhouse.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying the poor with bread and meal for this quarter.</p> <p>Letter received from Thomas Mitchell, Master of the Workhouse, explaining the error in the outdoor medical stores account in respect of wine. He referred to his statement at the last meeting, concerning his error in the dispensing of wine for the outdoor poor into pint bottles. He had checked with the wine merchants and confirmed that he had bought 10 dozen pint bottles of wine, costing £10 10s, paid for by the Guardians, which therefore cost 1s 9d per bottle. In dispensing the wine, he wrongly collected from the Relieving Officers 2s 4d per bottle, the cost of an imperial pint bottle, whereas those dispensed were reputed pint bottles. For the ten dozen this amounted to £14, £3 10s more than the cost. This payment had been given by him [Mitchell] to the Union Treasurer to be credited to the medical stores account. That account, therefore, had benefited over the outrelief account by £3 10s. He submitted that the Clerk should transfer the £3 10s from the one account to the other, to rectify the mistake. He apologised for his unintentional</p>	
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			<p>error and produced his store account and the communications from the wine merchant, verifying his statements.</p> <p>Thomas Sanderson moved, seconded by Robert Towerson, that the explanation be deemed satisfactory. George Bone moved an amendment that it be considered not satisfactory, but there was no seconder. Therefore the motion was carried and the Clerk was authorised to make the adjustments to the two accounts. The Meeting also ordered that the Master be provided with and keep a proper Store Stock Book.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board concerning the complaint by Dr Brown against Thomas Mitchell, Master of the Workhouse and his statement in response.</p> <p>The Local Government Board found that some of the charges related to events in 1871 and 1873 and that Brown had said his complaints could go back much further. Therefore they did not consider an enquiry into these complaints would be expedient especially as the Master admits that in the past irregularities had taken place and that he had omitted to bring to the notice of the Guardians conduct on the part of officials which he should have reported. The more recent complaints, over the past year, consist of charge and counter charge. The investigation of these would be very difficult and probably not reach a satisfactory conclusion. The Master had held office for 17 years and they believed had generally discharged his duties efficiently. Indeed his salary was recently increased. However during this period he had committed grave irregularities and behaved towards other officers without the courtesy and consideration to which they were entitled. It was evident that there was a want of harmony and good feeling between the officers.</p> <p>The Local Government Board did not at present plan to hold a formal investigation. They requested that the Guardians inform the Master of the views which the Local Government Board hold of his conduct. Also they must impress on him that if he wished to retain his office he must conduct himself towards the other officers in a manner which avoids any further complaint.</p> <p>The Guardians met this request by reading the letter in the presence and hearing of the Master.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board in reply to the Guardians' enquiry whether they could apply for a share of the grant made by Parliament for pauper lunatics, in respect of the chronic and harmless lunatics maintained in the Workhouse.</p>	
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			<p>The grant made by Parliament only applied to the maintenance of paupers placed in county or borough asylums and licensed houses. Those maintained within the Workhouse were not eligible.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board approving the new vaccination contracts for Islandshire and East Norhamshire Districts. Notice must be given before the changes could be made. They also asked for a preliminary report into the proposed alterations in the Tweedmouth District. The Clerk reported that he had sent this and suggested that the public notices be delayed until they had approval for Tweedmouth District.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee had decided not to pay extra medical fees claimed by Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker] and referred the matter to the Board for enquiry into the statement that Jane Derry had offered to pay Dr Fluker for his services during her recent confinement. They also recommended that the husbands of Margaret Donoly and Jane Meston should be charged for the fees paid in their cases. After hearing Dr Fluker and John Crosby [Relieving Officer] the Board agreed that the fees should be paid to Dr Fluker and ordered Crosby to ask the two husbands for repayment and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee were asked to obtain and select tenders for making clothing for the male inmates of the Workhouse.</p> <p>George Bone gave notice that at the next meeting he would move suspension of the Master of the Workhouse [Thomas Mitchell] for reasons which he would then state.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/78-89	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 26 October 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; William Allan; Andrew Mitchell; John Dunbar; James Hogg; John Young; Matthew Young; Adam Darling; Robert Dickson; John Fleming; Robert Brown; Thomas Sanderson; Edward Pringle; George Bone; John Marshall; George Peel; David Tait; Robert Towerson; William Moor. Ex Officio Guardians: Ralph Forster; Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers,</p>	26 Oct. 1874

			<p>outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for:</p> <p>Supplies and services: John Davidson (grocer); John Mitchell (hosier); George Young & Co (drapers); Ralph Ross (butcher); Margaret Cowe (grocer); William Redpath (draper); Morrison & Marshall (drapers); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); John Veitch (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); George Douglas (milk seller).</p> <p>In-maintenance Account: Boys' National School (education of indoor children); Girls' and Infants' National School (education of indoor children); St Cuthbert's RC School (education of indoor children).</p> <p>Out Relief Account: Newcastle Blind Asylum (quarter's board & education of George Cairns).</p> <p>Lunatics Account: Andrew Thompson [Chairman] (expenses of deputation to Northumberland County Asylum); Dr Colville Brown (examining two lunatics); Dr PW Maclagan (examining Mary Ann Smith); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing Mary Ann Smith to County Asylum).</p> <p>Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown (Workhouse); Robert C Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District); M J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull] (West Northhamshire District).</p> <p>Vaccination Expenses: Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District); Robert Walker (Islandshire District, Registrar's fees).</p> <p>Registration Expenses: Robert Walker (Islandshire District, Registrar's fees).</p> <p>Collectors Poundage: John Gilchrist (Norham, Norham Mains).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the Local Police Rate by 31 October from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill;</p>	
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			<p>Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kylee; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>George Bone, as notified at the last meeting, gave a statement of his allegations of mismanagement and misconduct on the part of Thomas Mitchell, Master of the Workhouse.</p> <p>First: In dispensing wine to the outdoor poor he charged for an imperial pint and gave only $\frac{3}{4}$ of that quantity. The food for the indoor poor had often been improperly used and unequally given out. Last winter the hospital inmates did not receive the full amount of bread; the Nurse said on the Master's orders. The male lunatics have often complained of the quantity of bread. The attendant had often sent back inadequate amounts and had them increased. Three weeks ago two pieces, similar to others provided, were weighed and found to be 3ozs and 7ozs. The Master told the Matron she was cutting the bread too thick and at the end of the quarter she had used 8 loaves too many for which he would have to pay. When she mentioned this to the baker he said they had 50 loaves still to get. He had criticised the previous matron, Miss Daniel, for over providing meat. She had retorted that if he had fewer dinner parties on Saturdays the meat would last the week. The inmates of the lunatic wards complained of their tea; the attendants agreed, though sometimes it was satisfactory.</p> <p>Second: The Master was often visited by friends from the country on Saturdays and provided them with a meal. He also entertained local friends to food and drink, staying for supper till 10pm. It is alleged they were wholly or partially entertained from the Workhouse stores. The previous Matron said he used a week's worth of tea in the pot and appropriated whole joints of meat, the residue being given to the inmates as their ration, cold or uncooked. The male lunatics complained of getting outside cuts or scrag ends of cold roast beef which the attendant said was often old and smelt off.</p>	
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			<p>He also alleged that last winter the Master had a boarder for several weeks.</p> <p>Third: He often used Workhouse labour and material in repairing his own property in Bells Court and at Spittal.</p> <p>Fourth: Stories have long circulated in the Workhouse and now partially outside, about some able bodied women. Phillis Aitchison, at one time employed about the house, was long notorious for annoying the Matrons and usurping their functions on his authority. He was admonished for this by a Committee of the Board and he promised to change. He did not fully carry this out causing the resignation of Miss Daniel. The latter had often after midnight seen Aitchison pass her window going in the direction of the Master's house.</p> <p>Fourth: Afterwards an inmate named Blackhall was employed for a while as domestic servant in the Master's house. Whilst an inmate she had a child who was not affiliated. The child got the itch and she had to stay with it. She told three officials that because she was suspicious and jealous, she got a key and entered the Master's house and went to his bedroom door. She heard the Master say, "I hope you have not the same complaint Blackhall had". She went into the room. A scuffle took place and she tore his shirt (the Matron later said she had seen it). He bundled her downstairs, locked her into the office until he got the other woman out. He then gave her the key to the wine and spirit store and told her to help herself, which she did, causing a hangover the next morning. Shortly afterwards she became ill, telling an official it was a result of lying so long in the Master's bed and now she was turned out and he had taken another.</p> <p>Fifth: A woman called Scott then worked in the Master's house. She was often seen to have as much as 20s or more in her possession. She said she got it from the Master, who stayed late for supper; sometimes 5s at a time.</p> <p>Sixth: The next servant was Henderson. The Matron has already said that Henderson had access to the stores, while she did not. After some rumours she was transferred to help the female lunatic attendant. She became jealous of any female being near the Master. Once when left in charge of the ward, she left and went up to the Master's door to listen. The Matron found her there about 9pm and reprimanded her. She assaulted the Matron. This was the row when Mitchell called the police to the Matron. About Christmas the Master called for the interim porter (an inmate acting in the Porter's absence) after 11pm to put Henderson into the refractory ward as she was drunk, had buffeted him severely and scratched his face. The police were not called nor was she punished. Another inmate, who for a time shared sleeping</p>	
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		<p>quarters, told Robert Pindar [sic] that Henderson was often so drunk she could not undress and slept in a chair and that she often went to the Master's as early 4am, she said, to take him a glass of whisky and milk. The Matron said that she had often seen her, the worse of drink which must have been got in the Workhouse, from the stores.</p> <p>Seventh: Alleged drunkenness. Mr Rutherford, the previous porter and male lunatic attendant, said that he had often seen Mitchell the worse of drink, on average about thrice a week. If he had not been drunk, he would have thought him mad. Pinder corroborates this. Once Rutherford was rung by a neighbour about 1am to remove Mitchell from a fight in the street. The late Andrew Barclay, who was acting as his second, came to the Workhouse with him and was given whisky. On the occasion, previously told by Pinder when he said they were "on the wing" together, the Master, rather than being sober, was so drunk that he had to be helped into the Workhouse by two people. Pindar [sic] said that he [Mitchell] had had at least 10 or 12 glasses of whisky. Last April he was so drunk in a nearby public house that he picked a fight, and in taking off his coat lost his watch, which was found on the floor the next morning. He returned to the same pub the next night with the Porter, again was the worse of drink, was helped home by the Porter, lost his bunch of keys, which were returned. About last midsummer he was found drunk at the railway station about 8am. In July when he insulted the Medical Officer, those present said he was gravely under the influence of drink. More recently at a local hotel he was in a similar state. When the son of a guardian offered to see him home he as very abusive, because his father had not stood up in his defence at the Board. When an inmate called Laidler died in the lunatic ward about 6pm and the staff asked him for a shroud, he was drinking in his house with someone, and said he would do so when ready. It was 10pm before he did. Therefore the body had to lie open to the other inmates.</p> <p>George Bone, seconded by William Allen, moved that the Board take steps to have an enquiry into the allegations of mismanagement and misconduct by the Master of the Workhouse and that in the meantime he is suspended.</p> <p>The Chairman [Andrew Thompson], seconded by Robert Towerson, moved an amendment that the Master be not suspended.</p> <p>Adam Darling moved that the official enquiry be applied for as moved by George Bone, but that the Master be not suspended in the meantime.</p> <p>After discussion the Chairman withdrew his motion and Mr Bone agreed not to press for the Master's suspension.</p>	
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			<p>Adam Darling's amendment was put and carried: Resolved unanimously that the Local Government Board be applied to and forthwith hold an official Inquiry into the truth of the allegations of mismanagement and misconduct now made against the Master of the Workhouse.</p> <p>George Bone gave a written copy of his statement to be sent to the Local Government Board and agreed to provide a list of witnesses.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board concerning the vaccination arrangements for the Tweedmouth District. With the agreement of the Board and Dr Davidson the contract was amended: At the house of William Allison, Well Square, Tweedmouth, on the 1st 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of the months of January, April, July and October at 11am; At the house of Mrs Ogilvie, Richardson's Stead, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays in the months of April and October at 2pm; At the house of Mrs Pringle, Ancroft, the same days at 3pm.</p> <p>Letter and plan received from Mr Gray, Architect, concerning the reinsurance of the Workhouse buildings against fire. Referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee with power to settle the details and arrange insurance for the increased sum of £3000.</p> <p>Entry in the Workhouse Visitors' Book by George Culley, Local Government Inspector. He had inspected the Workhouse and found it clean. All the beds in the female sick and fever wards were occupied by ordinary sick or infirm females and there were some cases of sickness in the ordinary wards which the Medical Officer considered would be better treated in the infirmary. To be looked into and discussed at the meeting in 4 weeks.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported that Mr Lumsden of Shoreswood had supplied a number of illustrated newspapers and monthly periodicals. Agreed that he should be thanked.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported that a tender had been received from James Turnbull, Woolmarket, Berwick, for Workhouse male inmates during the current year</p>	
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			<p>and recommended its acceptance: Men's coats and trousers 11s a set Boys' suits 9s each. Agreed.</p> <p>Letter received from the District Auditor, pointing out the large increase in the number of vagrants admitted in the past half year. He suggested the introduction of police supervision of the vagrants tickets issued and the applicants scrutinised at a police station. To be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/90-95	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 9 November 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Robert Brown; John Dunbar; George Bone; David Tait; Andrew Mitchell; John Brown; Thomas Sanderson; William Cleghorn; David Hume. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: None. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Ralph Ross (butcher); Paxton & Purves (drapers); Robert Rutherford (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); Adam Winlaw (boot & shoemaker); Border Brewery Company; John Dawson (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); William Alder (spirit merchant); Henry Robinson (farmer); Firewod - Mutter Howey & Co (cartage); John Mace (twine); Samuel Currie</p>	9 Nov. 1874

			<p>(wood); Ann Renwick (wood, old rope for oakum); Brigham & Co (sharpening saws); Alexander Gibson (wood); R Davidson & Son (twine). Outdoor Medical Stores: W J Carr & Son (cod liver oil).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyoel, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>A substituted valuation list for parish of Berwick was tabled.</p> <p>In accordance with the notice given at the last meeting, the Board discussed the increase in vagrants admitted in the past half year and whether police supervision of the issue of tickets at a police station should be introduced. Admissions were: past half year – 1109; previous half year – 651; corresponding half year – 648. In view of this increase, and to raise the awareness of the local police of the vagrants, it was agreed to approach the Watch Committee and suggest that the present Superintendent of Police be appointed Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants at an annual salary of £5. Vagrants would apply for admission at the Borough Police Station, under the direction of the Superintendent.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board concerning the complaint against the Master of the Workhouse. In accordance with practice they had written to him asking for any explanation and they would communicate after receiving it.</p> <p>Reply from the Local Government Board approving the endorsement to the contract for vaccination in the Tweedmouth District. Agreed that 100 copies of the consequent notice of vaccination arrangements be printed and circulated.</p>	
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			<p>Granted leave of absence to Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant, for that evening to attend the Petty Constables' supper.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Margaret Gray, widow, having been born there, now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>He was also authorised to ask the husband of Agnes Myhill, a Custom House Officer in London, to repay the cost of her maintenance during illness in the Workhouse.</p> <p>George Bone gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that the weekly allowances of outdoor relief from 7 December next to 12 April should be raised by 6d per week for those paupers receiving no more than 3s 6d per week and by 1s for those receiving above that, provided it is for more than one person and that after 12 April it should be reduced back by the same amounts.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/96-103	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 23 November 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; James Hogg; Andrew Trotter; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; John Brown; John Young; Adam Darling; George Bone; Robert Brown; John Dunbar; Robert Towerson; Thomas Sanderson; Andrew Thompson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown];.Fluker [Robert Fluker]; George Culley, Local Government Inspector. Chairman: Matthew Young & Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was</p>	23 Nov. 1874

			<p>given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); Ralph Ross (butcher); John Davidson (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); James Grey (wine merchant); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gas Light Company; Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Wood (baker); Border Brewery Company; George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); William Gibson (carter); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); Catherine Patterson (cleaning Tweedmouth pay station); John Main (cleaning Spittal pay station); Firewood - B G Sinclair (wood); John Davidson (wood); Mutter Howey & Co (cartage); Garden - Corporation of Berwick (half year's rent of Workhouse garden). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (Berwick District registration fees); Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] (Norhamshire District registration fees). Registration Expenses: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (Berwick District registration fees); Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] (Norhamshire District registration fees).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>A supplemental valuation list for the parish of Tweedmouth was tabled.</p> <p>The Board considered, in accordance with the notice given on 12 October, the concerns about the accommodation in the Workhouse infirmary, raised by George Culley. Local Government Inspector.</p> <p>The Board found that at present, the fever wards were being used for the ordinary sick and infirm. Whilst there were sufficient beds for present needs, if there were any cases of fever or other infections either among the indoor or outdoor poor there was nothing available.</p> <p>On the suggestion of Mr Culley it was agreed that the Board of Guardians ask the Berwick Urban Sanitary Authority whether they could make available to the Guardians beds in the port hospital for cases of fever or infection should the need</p>	
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			<p>arise. Local Government Board approval would be necessary.</p> <p>George Bone, having given notice at the last meeting, presented the motion, seconded by Rev J G Rowe, that the weekly allowances of outdoor relief from 7 December next to 12 April should be raised by 6d per week for those paupers receiving no more than 3s 6d per week and by 1s for those receiving above that, provided it is for more than one person and that after 12 April it should be reduced back by the same amounts.</p> <p>Carried unanimously. To put this into effect, all cases of outdoor relief were to be entered in the Relieving Officers' application and report books and in the relief order book. This matter was adjourned to the meeting on 7 December.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board concerning the complaint against the Master [Thomas Mitchell]. It contained a copy of the Master's response. The Local Government Board considered that some of the allegations occurred too long ago to be considered as they had explained in response to Dr Brown's complaint. They would instruct their Inspector, George Culley, to hold an enquiry into such charges as refer to conduct since the beginning of the previous year [1873] on receipt of a statement giving the particulars of the circumstances.</p> <p>Copy of the response of Thomas Hood Mitchell [Thomas Mitchell, Master of the Workhouse].</p> <p>It stated that some of the allegations had been made by Dr Brown already, the rest were chiefly of an earlier date. They only arose because he had pressurised Dr Brown to attend to Gallagher [an inmate]. Mr Bone was a near relative and intimate friend of Dr Brown. The allegations were so numerous and confused that he found it difficult to respond. In so far as they insinuated fraud, immorality, drunkenness, misapplication of stores, improper use of the services of inmates or materials, inattention or misconduct in his management, he denied them. He had always done his best for the interests of the Union and the inmates and during the many years the Guardians and their Committee had never found fault with him. Some of the charges had arisen from events in the time of the previous Matron, Miss Daniel, who left May 1869; Phillis Aitchison, left May 1870; Rutherford, Porter, left November 1871; Scott, now dead. He would fully explain all or any charges should the Board decide to set up an investigation.</p> <p>The Guardians decided to ask Bone to submit a statement as requested by the Local</p>	
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			<p>Government Board.</p> <p>Circular and general order received from the Local Government Board concerning proceedings under the Vaccination Act and the duties of Vaccination Officers. Mr Culley drew their attention to the requirement to pay reasonable costs and expenses to the Vaccination Officers in enforcing the Act. Resolved that special directions are given in each case of default.</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate calculated on a new County Rate basis. He explained how this would be beneficial to the Union.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/104-114	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 7 December 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Marshall; George Peel; David Hume; George Bone Andrew Mitchell; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; John Dunbar; David Tait; Robert Brown; Matthew Young; James Hogg; John Brown; William Moor; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	7 Dec. 1874

			<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Ralph Ross (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); John Davidson (grocer); Border Brewery Company; John Elliot (druggist); George Douglas (farmer); John Stoddart (grocer); William Alder (spirit merchant); Elizabeth Whitehouse (farmer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Main (removing Scotch pauper). Extra Medical Fees: John Paxton (East Norhamshire District). Vaccination Expenses: John Paxton (East Norhamshire District).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate and Local Rate by 10 December from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyoel; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Margaret Robertson, Hatters Lane, childbirth, necessaries.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyoel, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>George Bone submitted an amended statement of the charges he preferred against the Master of the Workhouse [George Mitchell]. He started by saying that he had considered his statement of 26 October would have been sufficient on which to base an enquiry and that he would then provide a list of witnesses. The further information he could provide was necessarily limited as he was unable to interview unwilling witnesses or any inmates, except in the presence of the Master. The statement would cover the current and previous year.</p>	
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			<p>First: Wine question. About 19 September he was informed the Master had been charging for wine to the outdoor paupers at 2s 4d which cost 1s 9d. On 28 September he told John Crosby, Relieving Officer, that he intended to ask him at the meeting of the Board how much wine the paupers got for a pint. He told the Master of Bone's intention. At the meeting when asked, Crosby said that he had measured a small bottle in the last week of March and again in the first week of April. Both times there was only ¾ pint for which he had paid the Master 2s 4d, the price he always paid for a pint. He complained to the Master. In his defence the Master pleaded guilty, saying that he had taken the half bottles for half quarts and produced an account for the half bottles delivered by the wine merchant since first used – 25 March 1870. He said this amounted to 10 dozen bottles and that he would pay the difference in value between a pint and ¾ pint on that quantity. On 3 October (after he had had 5 days to examine the wine in store) he voluntarily paid £3 6s 6d to the Union Treasurer to be credited to the outdoor wine account, an account to which no payment had been previously made. On 12 October he gave a written explanation to the Board, withdrew his plea of guilty and said that all sums collected by him, including the 2s 4d per half bottle were paid to the credit of the medical stores account. He asked for the £3 6s 6d to now be credited to the outdoor relief account and said that the surplus of wine was in the store. But the wine merchant who had supplied the half bottles had given amended returns amounting to a total of 12 dozen bottles. Therefore from the Master's own statement there should be 36 half bottles of surplus wine in store, which he did not find out for a week. During the same period 62 dozen whole bottles had been supplied. Bone's opinion was that the truth could not be established without a full examination of the Relieving Officer and his books, the Workhouse books, the wine merchant's accounts and the recipients of the outdoor wine and their friends for the period stated by the Master – March 1870 to September 1874.</p> <p>Second: The inmates' food was sometimes short. Last winter the full amount of bread was not distributed to the hospital inmates, the nurse said on the Master's orders. The male lunatics had often complained of the quantity of bread and milk and the attendant had sent it back and got more added. On 9 October last some portions of bread were weighed and varied from 3 to 7 ounces. Last April both male and female lunatics complained about the tea. The attendants said they could not tell whether it was tea, coffee or dirty water. This had occurred previously.</p> <p>Third: Food improperly used. When the Visiting Committee visit fortnightly most were</p>	
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			<p>usually entertained by the Master with bread, beer etc. Although fewer friends have visited the Master since the beginning of last year, he still entertains; those from the country getting a meal and those from the town a meal, a drink or both. In the first quarter of 1873 they had supper almost every Saturday night. It is alleged they were wholly or partially entertained from the Workhouse stores. The Master had supplied himself with whole joints of meat. About February 1873 Dr Fluker dined with him. One of the joints was a leg of mutton. The remnants were taken to the dining room and served to the inmates. Last January or February the meat sent to the male lunatics was stinking. In the last two years cuts and snag ends of old roast beef were several times provided to the outside poor.</p> <p>Fourth: During the last two years the Master's property in Bell's Court has several times been cleaned by Workhouse labour. About February 1873 and May 1874 his property in Spittal was likewise repaired.</p> <p>Fifth: Able bodied women question. Up to April 1873 Jane Scott, now dead, was servant in the Master's house. She was often seen with money in her pocket, up to 20s or more. She said she was given it by visitors who had stayed for supper, sometimes 5s at a time. A woman named Henderson (who left the Workhouse last May term and is now married to Devannah, living at Tithehill in Carham parish) was servant to the Master during the summer and autumn 1873. She had access to the stores while the Matron was excluded. From January or February till March last she assisted Miss Dalziell in the female lunatic ward. She seemed miserable through jealousy of any female near the Master. One evening when left in charge of the ward in Miss Dalziell's absence, she was found by the Matron about 9pm listening at the Master's door. When she reprimanded her for leaving the ward, she assaulted the Matron. In the ensuing row, the Master called the police to apprehend the Matron. Henderson also told Robert Pindar [sic] of her jealousy of the Master. Between last Christmas and New Year, when James Lough was interim porter, he was rung up by the Master after 11pm to help him with Margaret Henderson who was drunk and had buffeted the Master severely and scratched his face. On leaving the lunatic ward in March she was sent to work in the kitchen as well as the Master's housework. She slept in the cooking house along with Alice Hush. The latter told Robert Pindar that Henderson was often so drunk at night that she could not take her clothes off, and slept in a chair. She often went to the Master's house as early as 4am to take him a glass of whisky and milk. The Matron had often seen her under the influence of drink, which she could only have got from the Workhouse stores.</p>	
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			<p>Sixth: Alleged drinking habits of the Master. The Matron said that he was almost daily under the influence of drink; the more drink the more rude and quarrelsome he was. Robert Pinder confirmed this and if he had not known him to be under the influence he would have thought him insane. The time Pinder said the Master was under "the wing" and had to bring him home was the middle of December 1872 and the middle of February 1873; both from the same house Mrs Stafford's.</p> <p>Seventh: On 30 April last he was under the influence of drink in nearby refreshment rooms. He quarrelled with another customer, took his coat off to fight him and lost his watch. He was brought home by Thomas Cargill, a railway porter. On the next night he was again under the influence in the same place and lost his bunch of keys. The porter, who was with him, took him home.</p> <p>Eighth: On 8 July last he insulted Dr Brown, Medical Officer. Those present said he was gravely under the influence of drink.</p> <p>Ninth: Around 9 July last he was the worse of drink on Berwick station platform about 8am.</p> <p>Tenth: About 1 September last he was the worse for drink in the Red Lion Hotel, Berwick, and was abusive to the son of a Guardian.</p> <p>Eleventh: When an inmate of the lunatic ward Samuel Hawley died (not Laidler as I was previously Informed) the corpse was kept lying beside the other inmates for about three hours longer than necessary for the want of a shroud as the Master was drinking in the office with another, believed to be a ship captain.</p> <p>Twelfth: Since the Medical Officer made his charges against the Master, the latter has tried to tamper with and intimidate those he expected to be witnesses, both inmates and outsiders.</p> <p>Thirteenth: On 12 October last the Master promised the Board to improve his behaviour. Several times since he has been rude, brawling and quarrelsome to other officials, though since July last in a more subdued manner. Two weeks ago he accused the Matron of taking a slice of brown bread. She retaliated by charging him with selling soap from the Workhouse. He said he had only charged cost price and the quarrelling between them continues. Last Wednesday he was rude and brawling to Dr Brown in the office because he had made a change to the dietary of the hospital inmates for one day in the week.</p> <p>[This statement is very long and detailed. To see it in full please consult the Minute Book, GBR 52]</p> <p>Resolved that a copy be sent to the Local Government Board, so that as promised an</p>	
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			<p>enquiry would be carried out. Mr Bone handed over a list of witnesses as requested.</p> <p>Letter received from the Town Clerk intimating the agreement of the Borough Watch Committee to the Board of Guardians' suggestion that the Superintendent of Police be appointed Relieving Officer for vagrants, provided the salary paid to him was not less than £10 per annum.</p> <p>After discussion, the proposal by Matthew Young, seconded by the Chairman, that the salary previously suggested be increased to £10 on condition that the appointment and salary be in the first instance for one year only, was passed.</p> <p>The Board agreed that a temporary deficiency in the supply of skim milk be temporarily substituted by the use of treacle.</p> <p>Agreed that on Christmas Day, instead of the usual Friday diet, the inmates be allowed beef, plum pudding and beer and a distribution of tobacco and snuff.</p> <p>The Chairman offered to provide on New Year's Day a dinner of beef and plum pudding. Matthew Young, Vice Chairman offered to add a dessert. The Master reported that Ralph Dodds had offered his annual treat on New Year's Eve of tea and cake.</p> <p>The Vicar raised the existence of some very dilapiated [sic] property in Berwick. It was let for dwellings at very small rents and was used by people who were thus likely to remain in the town and then become a charge on the poor rates and were a risk to public health. He suggested that representations be made to the town authorities with a view to the properties being declared uninhabitable and pulled down. The Chairman, who was a member of the Town Council, said that he would bring this to the notice of the Urban Sanitary Office at their next meeting.</p>	
	GBR 52/115 -122	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 21 December 1874	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Robert Brown; John Dunbar; George Bone; John Young; Matthew Young; William Allan; Andrew Mitchell; David Tait; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Brown [Colville Brown];</p>	

			<p>Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Ralph Ross (butcher); John Davidson (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); George Brown (undertaker); George Wood (baker); Border Brewery Company; George Douglas (farmer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); William Alder (spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (farmer); Young & Son (grocers); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer). Out Relief Account: Alnwick Union (Relief given to Mary Curle under suspended order).</p> <p>Cheque for £61 2s 1d paid to the Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £1850 received from the Public Works Loan Board.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Cornhill; Norham; Norham Mains; Twizel.</p>	
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			<p>Letter received from the Local Government Board enclosing the report of the Lunacy Commissioners of the visit on 2 December by their Visiting Commissioner, Mr Cleaton, to the Workhouse. They drew the Guardians' attention to the absence of the attendant on the male lunatic ward and asked for their observations.</p> <p>The report:</p> <p>There were 38 inmates classified of unsound mind; 14 male and 24 female. Of these 11 men and 19 women were in the lunatic wards, the rest were in the main Workhouse or the female hospital. One woman, Hannah Richardson, had a severe wound on her forehead and was consequently in bed. It was sustained accidentally by a fall during a fit, in the hospital. The nurse was present but unable to save the patient from falling. Another epileptic patient, Grace Thompson, was reported to be occasionally violent before or after her fits. Cleaton happened to meet the Medical Officer and they discussed the management of these patients. The latter agreed to watch these patients carefully and if they could not safely be cared for in the Workhouse, arrange their transfer to the asylum. The rest of both sexes appeared to be ordinary chronic cases, harmless and fit for workhouse care.</p> <p>The lunatic wards were in fair order though the floors would have benefitted from more frequent scrubbing and the windows from more frequent cleaning. Very few of the patients are able to help and each paid attendant has only one sane pauper assistant. The female ward needs a receptacle for dirty clothes; a box with a lid placed near the door would suffice. Currently soiled clothes are kept in the bath. Also required are a store for utensils and more means for personal washing. The handle of the hot water tap in the bathroom should be removable and kept by the attendant and thus inaccessible to inmates. Fatal scaldings have occurred in some workhouses for want of this precaution. He also advised that the rules as to bathing, prepared by the late Poor Law Board, be displayed in the bathrooms as a guide to the attendants.</p> <p>Some of the rooms in the male ward need repainting and brightening up. It would be advantageous if there was a room for picking oakum rather than using the day room. The men are well supplied with illustrated and other newspapers but the women less so. He suggested a musical box would amuse them; it had been found in similar circumstances that music has a tranquillising effect. About 10 men but only 4 women are employed. The arrangements for outdoor exercise and diet are as previously reported and there were no complaints.</p> <p>He had visited about 2pm and while on the male ward he did not see the paid attendant. The pauper assistant told him that the attendant had gone into town by the</p>	
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			<p>door in the airing court and that the Master did not know of his absence. Cleaton considered this open to abuse. The Guardians should consider ensuring that the attendant was only absent when permitted by the Master.</p> <p>The Medical Officer complied with the provisions of Sec 20 of the Lunacy Acts Amendment Act 1862.</p> <p>The Meeting decided to question the Male Lunatic Attendant concerning his absence. It was found that he had again used the keys of the male lunatic yard to leave the Workhouse without the knowledge or leave of the Master at about 1pm just as the inmates were due to start dinner. He had not given a reason and had not returned. The Master informed them that the Attendant took Thursday afternoon for his weekly leave of absence.</p> <p>After a division, it was resolved that the Male Lunatic Attendant forthwith hand over the keys referred to, to the Master and the matters referred to in the Commissioners report, including the absence of the Attendant then and today be referred to the Workhouse Committee for report at the next meeting.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board sanctioning the proposal to substitute treacle for milk in the porridge on the understanding that it was strictly a temporary measure.</p> <p>Letter received from Johnson & Co offering to present the inmates with an 18 gallon cask of ale on New Year's Day. The Chairman reported that the Border Brewery Company, with whom they now dealt, had already provided a similar gift. Resolved that the gift of Johnson & Co be respectfully declined.</p> <p>Tenders for supplying the Workhouse with 20 sacks of new made oatmeal were received. They selected the tender of George Hood, baker, marked No. 1, at 43s 6d per sack.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying bread and meat will expire on 2 January. The Workhouse Committee were authorised to obtain tenders and report to the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/123-133	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 4	Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Marshall; John Dunbar; Matthew Young; George Bone; David Tait; Robert Brown; George Peel; John Young; Andrew Mitchell.	4 Jan. 1875

		<p>January 1875</p>	<p>Ex Officio Guardians: Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Ralph Ross (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Davidson (grocer); Border Brewery Company; George Douglas (farmer); William Alder (spirits merchant); Robert Sanderson (farmer); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); E Willoby [Clerk] (quarter's postage & sundries); Knight & Co (books & forms).</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Agnes McLeod, Matron; Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant; Elizabeth A Dalziell [Elizabeth Dalziell], Female Lunatic Attendant; George Main, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse; Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p>	
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			<p>inmates and suggested they repeat the Sunday diet for all adult inmates instead – viz meat, bread and broth.</p> <p>Agreed these recommendations be accepted and that they seek the approval of the Local Government Board that the present allowance for dinners on Wednesdays be discontinued and that cooked meat, bread and broth be substituted in the same proportions as for Sunday dinner.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported back on their deliberations concerning the report of the Commissioner of Lunacy of his visit.</p> <p>1 The state of the floors and windows: They recommended that the Master ask the appropriate officials to take more care in the future. The Committee had in the past found the wards in a reasonably clean state.</p> <p>2 Receptacle for dirty clothes for female ward: They had ordered this to be provided.</p> <p>3 Store closet for utensils for female wards and means for personal washing: As the wards are presently arranged they could see no means of providing these.</p> <p>4 Handles for hot water taps: The Master was ordered to provide these; to be under the care of the Attendants.</p> <p>5 Rules for bathing: The Attendants were already provided with these.</p> <p>6 Rooms requiring painting and brightening up: The Committee would, if required, report on what could be done to these rooms at the time of year suitable for the work.</p> <p>7 A room for oakum picking: They could see no means of providing more accommodation for the use of male lunatics than the current one sitting room and one work room.</p> <p>8 Illustrated papers: These are fairly distributed to both sexes, though not always on view to avoid destruction by a mischievous inmate.</p> <p>9 Musical Box: The female lunatic attendant sometimes entertains the inmates with a concertina. The Committee left it to the Guardians to decide whether more was required.</p> <p>10 Absence of the Male Lunatic Attendant: The latter alleges that on 2 November he was absent on business and returned about 6pm. On 21 December he was absent with Henry Gibson, drinking in two public houses from about 1pm till after 6pm. He had gone out to buy evergreens but did not do so. He gave the Committee a lengthy statement to the effect that his differences with the Master accounted for his leaving the Workhouse without informing the Master. He also stated his decision to resign at the end of one month.</p>	
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			<p>Letter from the Male Lunatic Attendant [Robert Pinder] asking that his statement be read to the Meeting. This was done.</p> <p>A further letter from him was then read tendering his resignation as soon as possible. He had several things to state to the Inquiry and would return to do so. He found the place and the Master unbearable and he would like to leave as soon as they could engage a replacement. He should have done so before and would have if it had not been for the Inquiry.</p> <p>His resignation was accepted and that he should work one month's notice.</p> <p>Resolved that the Workhouse Committee be asked to consider the propriety under present circumstances of appointing another Male Lunatic Attendant and of removing the male lunatics to the County Asylum. The wards vacated to be considered for the use of ordinary sick inmates and female lunatics.</p> <p>Letter from R Douglas, Town Clerk, Berwick Borough Council, informing them the Watch Committee approved the appointment of the Superintendent of Police as Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants to deal with applications from them for admission to the vagrant wards in the Workhouse. The appointment was for one year, salary £10, Applications could only be made at the Police Office in the Town Hall. The matter would need to be considered by the Council, whom he was sure would sanction it.</p> <p>Resolved that the Guardians would make the appointment at their next meeting.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board, dated 22 December 1874, concerning the revised charges against the Master of the Workhouse.</p> <p>The first charge had already been investigated and decided by the Board of Guardians. If it were reopened it would be necessary to enquire into circumstances occurring before the proposed official enquiry. Therefore that charge would be excluded from the Inquiry.</p> <p>Mr Culley, Inspector of the District, was at present through illness unable to carry out his duties. He had been asked to hold an Inquiry into the other charges as soon as possible after 1 January. The Master was to be informed of the arrangements.</p> <p>Letter from George Culley, Inspector, Fowberry, Belford, arranging to hold the Inquiry in the Board Room of the Workhouse on 5 January. He enclosed summonses for the witnesses.</p>	
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			<p>The Clerk reported that he had that day received a telegram from Mr Culley changing the date to 12 January. The Clerk was contacting the witnesses. Mr Bone, with the permission of the Meeting handed a list of further witnesses. To be sent to Mr Culley. The Clerk reported that Mr Culley had asked that the Guardians arrange the conduct of the Inquiry. Agreed that the Clerk was the appropriate person and was authorised to represent the Guardians and examine the witnesses called by Mr Bone on the matters referred to in his statement.</p> <p>The Clerk made observations on several matters occurring to him in connection with the statement and list of witnesses as submitted by Mr Bone.</p> <p>.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/134-143	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 18 January 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; Thomas Sanderson; David Hume; George Bone; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; Robert Brown; John Fleming; Robert Towerson; David Tait; Matthew Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill;</p>	18 Jan. 1875

		<p>John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert C Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]; Thomas H Mitchell [Thomas Mitchell], Workhouse Master; Robert Pinder, Male Lunatic Attendant, balance of salary from 25 December to 28 January, date of leaving office. Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: George Wood (baker); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Coy; Ralph Ross (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); William Wilson (plumber); William Shield & others (sundry accounts, garden & pigs); Thomas Spaven (ironmonger); James Turnbull (tailor); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); Robert Dickson (slater & plasterer); John Mitchell (hosier); George Brown (undertaker); John Cockburn (carpenter); John Russell (builder); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Stoddart (grocer); Border Brewery Company; John Davidson (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); William Alder (spirit merchant); Thomas Sanderson (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Phoenix Fire Office (balance of insurance premium); Firewood - John Yule (wood); John Mace (twine, wood); R Davidson & Son (twine); Ann Renwick (wood).</p> <p>Out Relief Account: Newcastle Blind Asylum (quarter's maintenance of George Cairns); Morpeth Union (relief paid under suspended order to Mary Watson and Hannah Wilson).</p> <p>Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance of 14 pauper lunatics and part quarter for one; Royal Edinburgh Asylum (quarter's maintenance for Hannah Jamieson, a pauper lunatic).</p> <p>Extra Medical Fees: Robert Carr Fluker [Robert Fluker] (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District).</p> <p>Vaccination Expenses: Robert Carr Fluker [Robert Fluker] (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District).</p> <p>James Lambie (Islandshire District); John Crosby, Vaccination Officer, (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer, (quarter's salary).</p> <p>Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams, Ancroft, Kylee; John Husband, Berwick; Robert Lambert, Tweedmouth.</p>	
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			<p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Margaret Inglis, aged 56, Shoreswood Colliery, partially disabled from mental debility and melancholia; Isabella Blackhall, Woolmarket, fractured arm, necessaries; Isabella Blackhall, Woolmarket, fractured arm, necessaries; Mary Ann Young's child, Chapel Street, whooping cough, the mother needs to be at home to attend to the child; Rosanna Flannigan, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Holy Island, Norham, Norham Mains; Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be affixed to the contracts for supplying to the Workhouse and outdoor poor bread, meat for this quarter.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee presented the minute of their deliberations concerning the future of male lunatic provision in the Workhouse as requested at the last meeting. They considered the propriety of not replacing the Male Lunatic Attendant and of transferring those male lunatics, who could not be retained without a special attendant, to the County Asylum. Dr Brown had advised that of the 13 male inmates, 6 to 8 would need to be transferred. Additional accommodation was required in the Workhouse for the aged and infirm and female lunatics. The Government grant of 4s per week would be payable for the lunatics sent to the Asylum. They had therefore unanimously resolved to recommend that the Male Lunatic Attendant should not be replaced and that steps be taken to transfer those inmates to</p>	
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		<p>the County Asylum, whom the Medical Officer and magistrate decided necessary. They further recommended that the wards used by the male lunatics should be used for the female lunatics. A bathroom, water closet, yard and three rooms to the south end of the female lunatic wards could then be added to the present hospital accommodation. Detailed plans for the use of the rooms can be provided in due course. Only a door at the top of the stairs in the present female lunatic wards to separate the two categories would be required.</p> <p>It was unanimously resolved, proposed by David Hume, seconded by Thomas Sanderson, that the above report be adopted and put into effect as soon as possible. The Clerk was asked to contact the Asylum authorities and to take the necessary steps for those inmates who required to be moved to do so before the Male Attendant leaves.</p> <p>In accordance with notice given at the last meeting, they appointed an Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants.</p> <p>It was resolved, proposed by the Chairman, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, that John Garden, Superintendent of Police for the Borough of Berwick, be appointed Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants, to receive applications and grant orders for admission to the vagrant wards in the Workhouse and to perform all the duties of a Relieving Officer under the regulations issued or to be issued by the Local Government Board as to the relief of casual [sic - ?casual] paupers. The applications are only to be made and granted at the Police Office in the Town Hall. The appointment was from 1 February, in the first instance for one year and the salary £10.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board concerning the proposed changes to the Workhouse dietary. They agreed to the proposed changes:</p> <p>For the able bodied.-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Men</td> <td>Bread 7ozs,</td> <td>Broth 3 gills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Women</td> <td>„ „ 6ozs,</td> <td>„ „ 3 gills</td> </tr> </table> <p>For the aged, infirm and imbeciles –</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Men</td> <td>Cooked meat 2ozs</td> <td>Bread 7ozs</td> <td>Broth 3 gills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Women</td> <td>„ „ 2ozs</td> <td>„ „ 6ozs</td> <td>„ „ 3 gills.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Letter from William Weatherhead, solicitor, asking that money and clothing etc</p>	Men	Bread 7ozs,	Broth 3 gills	Women	„ „ 6ozs,	„ „ 3 gills	Men	Cooked meat 2ozs	Bread 7ozs	Broth 3 gills	Women	„ „ 2ozs	„ „ 6ozs	„ „ 3 gills.	
Men	Bread 7ozs,	Broth 3 gills															
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Men	Cooked meat 2ozs	Bread 7ozs	Broth 3 gills														
Women	„ „ 2ozs	„ „ 6ozs	„ „ 3 gills.														

			<p>belonging to the late William Unthank, currently in the possession of the Guardians, be handed over to his nephew, James Unthank of Berwick. Before this was done, John Crosby [Relieving Officer] was asked to find out whether the deceased left a widow or children and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against George Gibson, of Berwick, custom house officer, for neglecting to maintain his wife and two children who had that day become chargeable to the Union.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/144-151	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 1 February 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; George Bone; John Marshall; William Allan; John Young; David Tait; Robert Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); John Davidson (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); George Brown (undertaker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Border Brewery Company; George Douglas (farmer); William Alder (spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller). In Maintenance Account: Education: quarterly fees for indoor children: Berwick Boys National School; Berwick Girls National School;</p>	1 Feb. 1875

		<p>St. Cuthbert's RC School. Vaccination Expenses: Matthew Tibbit, Islandshire District, Registrar's fees. Registration Expenses: Matthew Tibbit, Islandshire District, Registrar's fees.</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the Local Police Rate by 1 February from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Ann Taylor, Church Street, childbirth, necessaries; William Wakenshaw, Tweedmouth; T Richardson, Ord Moor, chronic bronchitis and asthma also heart disease; Thomas Trotter, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth, hurt from a fall.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Kyloe, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>A Minute from the last meeting of the Workhouse Committee concerning the male and female lunatic wards was read. They had inspected the wards. Four males had been removed [to the County Asylum] and the rest would be transferred to the ordinary wards when the male lunatic attendant left. They recommended that the rooms vacated should be used as follows: Upstairs: Bedroom 40 – 4 beds - female lunatics; Bedroom 41 – 5 beds - female lunatics; The following rooms were currently occupied by females: Bedroom 43 – 4 beds; Bedroom 38 – 10 beds; Bedroom 39 – 3 beds; Downstairs Bedroom 42 – 4 beds.</p>	
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			<p>This provided 30 beds for females instead of 20 beds at present. The two day rooms and yards used for males to be used for females. They recommended that the male attendant's room should become a day room for the female attendant in addition to her bedroom, with the proviso that if it were required for another purpose she would give it up. The Master had been authorised to get an estimate for erecting a door on the stairs used by the females. They had deferred discussion on the accommodation for the hospital until they could consult the Medical Officer. The Guardians approved this report and they asked the Committee to confer with the Workhouse Medical Officer at their next meeting concerning the arrangements for sick inmates and the 3 wards to be appended. The Master reported the estimate received from John Cockburn and Son to provide and install the door on the stair. Accepted.</p> <p>The Master was authorised to send the Indian rubber waterproof bed to Newcastle for repair.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board agreeing to the appointment for one year of Superintendent Garden as Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants. Letter from Supt. Garden thanking them for the appointment. The Clerk was authorised, if necessary, for a placard informing of the change in arrangements for the relief of vagrants.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, reported that he had been unable to find evidence concerning the nearest relatives of the late William Unthank. On the Clerk's suggestion the matter was deferred until the promised statutory declaration by the deceased's nephew was received.</p> <p>Half yearly return received from the Medical Superintendent of Northumberland County Asylum.</p> <p>John Crosby presented his half yearly return as Vaccination Officer. No compulsory proceedings were required in the Berwick District.</p>	
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			<p>Letter received from the Local Government Board, assenting under protest to non resident relief being granted to James Skelly, an orphan aged 8, residing with Mrs Janet Storie at Willington, within the Durham Union.</p> <p>Circular also received intimating payment of their share of the Parliamentary grant towards the cost of lunatics in Asylums during the half year ended 29 September last, £67 8s.</p> <p>The Workhouse Medical Officer had entered in his report book that the too frequent use of oatmeal porridge and treacle this year and last was producing skin disease among the children. If milk was not available he recommended that they be given tea and bread and butter instead of porridge and treacle. The Master was authorised that, when there was a shortage of skim milk, he should purchase enough new milk for the children.</p> <p>J N Tristram, Assistant Inspector, had visited on 30 January and entered in the Visitor's Book that he was quite satisfied as regards cleanliness, good order and care taken of the inmates.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/152-165	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 15 February 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; William Allan; John Dunbar; John Marshall; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; Matthew Young; Robert Brown; David Tait; Robert Towerson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was</p>	15 Feb. 1875

			<p>given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: J G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Veitch (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); W G Carr & Sons (druggists); George Brown (undertaker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); William Shiell (farm steward); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Berwick Urban Sanitary Authority (general and special district rates on workhouse); Parish of Berwick (poor rate on Workhouse). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing 4 lunatics to County Asylum). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District, Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District, Registrar's fees). Registration Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District, Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District, Registrar's fees).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Holy Island, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>Reply from the Local Government Board approving the transfer of a considerable proportion of the male lunatics to the County Asylum and asking for details of the proposed alterations to allow for different use of the accommodation.</p> <p>Report from the Workhouse Committee following their discussion with the Medical Officer for the Workhouse about the best arrangements for the accommodation of the sick and infirm paupers using the present infirmary and the three wards previously used by the female lunatics. They made the following proposals: The present infirmary should be for the purposes previously sanctioned by the Local Government Board.</p>	
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			<p>The three wards newly available should be part of the female infirmary and for the time being under the charge of the Medical Officer and the Nurse. The nearest room to the present infirmary on the south end, No 35, contains 2041 cubic feet, was previously used as a bedroom and has 3 beds. The next, No 36, is 2086 cubic feet, previously a day room, could contain 3 beds. The third, No 37, is 3936 cubic feet, also previously a day room, could contain 7 beds. These rooms have an excellent airing yard and large water closet attached. Nine bedsteads would need to be purchased and the Medical Officer recommended that 3 should have moveable racks.</p> <p>They had identified the following advantages:</p> <p>1 Ordinary sick females would no longer occupy wards Nos 6 &7, part of the male infirmary, and No 9, the female fever ward.</p> <p>2 Wards Nos 6 & 7 would then be available to ordinary sick males who would no longer need to use No 4, the male fever ward. Both fever wards would then be available and the Guardians would avoid the trouble and expense of using the Port Hospital.</p> <p>3 Some of the very aged women, now housed in the ordinary aged women's wards could be moved to the infirmary with the advantage of the oversight of the Medical Officer and Nurse. This would free up accommodation in their current wards. They reminded the Guardians that the male lunatics not transferred to the Asylum were now in the ordinary men's wards and the female lunatics were now using the day and bed rooms and yards, previously used by the men as well as 3 other bed rooms previously available to them.</p> <p>These changes are clearly shown in the table of Workhouse Accommodation attached. Up to No 32 the table is as previously sanctioned (apart from temporary changes to accommodate infirmary inmates). They have corrected the table to take into account changes to the vagrant wards made a little time previously when an additional male ward was provided and partitions erected to the male beds. The total accommodation has increased from 180 to 190 and for vagrants from 20 to 23. The Committee suggested that a copy of the table be sent to the Local Government Board and the Board be requested to fix that as the limit of accommodation.</p> <p>The Committee then addressed the issues raised in the report of the Visiting Commissioner in Lunacy. The recent changes have altered and in some cases remedied the problems raised. Bearing this in mind they made the following observations:</p>	
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			<p>1 The cases of Hannah Richardson and Grace Thompson. They were still being treated in the Workhouse and the medical officer had not considered it necessary to transfer either to an Asylum.</p> <p>2 They had raised with the officers concerned the alleged need for more frequent floor scrubbing and window cleaning.</p> <p>3 They had directed that a receptacle for dirty clothes be supplied to the female ward. The recent changes have provided the suggested store closet and more means for personal washing. The female lunatics now have 3 large store closets and use of the water closet etc previously provided for the men.</p> <p>4 Moveable handles have been provided for the two hot water taps in the bath rooms, placed under the care of the attendant. She also has a copy of the rules for bathing.</p> <p>5 The rooms which they considered needed repainted and brightened up are now occupied by the female lunatics. The Committee will attend to this in milder weather, lessening the discomfort to the inmates.</p> <p>6 The female lunatics have all along been provided with illustrated and other newspapers. They have not always been kept on the table to prevent destruction by some of the patients. Their attendant occasionally played a concertina for their amusement and the Committee hesitated to recommend the expense of providing a musical box as suggested by the Commissioner.</p> <p>They considered these comments covered all the suggestions raised which had not already been addressed. The adoption of their suggestions together with the current arrangements for the infirmary would not incur any building costs other than the erection of the stair case door to separate the lunatic wards from the infirmary. Nine additional bedsteads would be necessary (one bedstead previously used by an attendant was available) to furnish the converted day rooms. Other articles might be found necessary, but could be used elsewhere if no longer needed.</p> <p>Room 40, used by female lunatics, was next to the aged women's bedroom 18. Therefore if there was a change in demand this room could with little cost be used for aged women.</p> <p>Table of usage of Workhouse accommodation on page 164 not inserted</p> <p>On the motion of the Chairman, the report was approved and it was agreed that it with the appended table should be sent to the Local Government Board for approval.</p>	
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			<p>Circular received from the Local Government Board concerning Scotch paupers.</p> <p>Half yearly vaccination returns received from Joseph Scott and considered satisfactory.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he had taken proceedings before the justices, as directed, against George Gibson, Custom House Officer, for neglecting to maintain his wife and his two children. The hearing was adjourned for the defendant to make arrangements for maintenance. Gibson, who was present, offered to take the two children and place them under the care of his mother and to pay his wife 3s per week for her maintenance. This proposal, because of the unusual circumstances, was approved and the Clerk authorised to withdraw the proceedings.</p> <p>Agreed to discuss the appointments from 25 March of the medical officers for the Islandshire and West Norhamshire Districts at the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/166-174	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 1 March 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Trotter; George Peel; Matthew Young; David Tait; Robert Towerson; Andrew Mitchell; John Dunbar; Robert Dickson; Adam Darling; George Bone. Ex Officio Guardians: None. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	1 March 1875

		<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Coy; James G Smith (butcher); John Davidson (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; William Alder (spirit merchant); Mrs Whitehead (farmer); Ninian Sanderson (farmer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Mrs Ann Renwick (old rope for oakum etc); John Shaw & Sons (stamping ink); Firewood - John Yule (wood); John Davidson (wood); Robert Darling (wood); Robert Robertson (wood); Mutter Howey & Co (cartage); John Mace (twine);</p> <p>Cheque for £83 3s 4d paid to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £2450 received from them.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Horncliffe, Kylloe.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Duddo, Grindon, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kylloe, Loanend, Longridge, Shoreswood were tabled.</p> <p>As agreed at the last meeting they discussed the terms of appointment of medical officers for the Districts of Islandshire and West Norhamshire from 25 March. Agreed: Islandshire district – consisting of parishes of Holy Island, Kylloe and the township of Haggerston in the parish of Ancroft, area 11908 statute acres, population 1952; salary £25 per annum. West Norhamshire District – consisting of parish of Cornhill, area 4430 statute acres, population 781, salary £8 per annum. These salaries were exclusive of the fees presented by the Consolidated Order of the Poor Law Board.</p>	
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			<p>Agreed that the above appointments would be made at the next meeting.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board giving their decision from the Official Enquiry into the charges made against the Master of the Workhouse. They had received from Mr Culley, Inspector, the evidence given at the Enquiry against T H Mitchell, [Thomas Mitchell], Master. After careful consideration they had decided that, apart from the charge relating to his conduct at the refreshment room at Berwick station on 30 April 1874, the graver charges against him were not substantiated. However he had gravely neglected his duty in not reporting to the Guardians the misconduct of the late male lunatic attendant; his relations with some other officers was so unsatisfactory as to interfere with the good order and discipline of the Workhouse and his conduct in some other respects was such that it was desirable that he should no longer hold his office. They required that Mitchell resign.</p> <p>Further their Inspector had informed them that the Matron, Mrs McLeod [Agnes McLeod] was inefficient and they considered that in order to secure proper management a married couple should be appointed as Master and Matron. They therefore requested that the Guardians also call on the Matron to resign so that a married couple could be appointed.</p> <p>The Master, who was present, informed the Guardians that he would resign and left the meeting. Shortly after he handed in a letter of resignation. This said he would resign in one month and hand over all stores for which he was responsible. The resignation was accepted to take effect on 1 April 1875.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to pass on the decision of the Local Government Board to the Matron and ask her to resign forthwith.</p> <p>Agreed an adjournment of the Meeting to 8 March to receive the Matron's resignation, to decide the terms of the vacant offices and to make arrangements for advertising them and obtain applications.</p> <p>Letter received from Captain Milne Home MP drawing attention to the Government's reply in the House of Commons the previous Monday to Mr Ramsay concerning relief to paupers in Scotch Poor Houses.</p>	
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			<p>After discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk write to both town and county members and ask them to press on the Government that lunatics under supervision in English Workhouses should be treated the same as they now are in Scotland in sharing in the grant in aid of the cost of lunatics.</p> <p>The Clerk presented his calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year; referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee for comment</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>Letter received from H J Williams, Assistant Overseer for the parish of Kylloe, seeking to substitute as his surety George Hogg of Kylloe for John Forster of Fenham who wished to withdraw on account of ill health. Agreed.</p> <p>The Meeting was adjourned as agreed above.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/175-176	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians adjourned meeting held on 8 March 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; Robert Brown; John Brown; William Allan; John Young; Matthew Young; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; John Dunbar; David Hume. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe;</p> <p>Letter of resignation received from Agnes McLeod, Matron of the Workhouse, resigning from 1 April. This was accepted.</p> <p>They then settled the arrangements for advertising and making the appointments. The appointments should be made at the meeting on 29 March. The offices should be filled by a husband and wife. The salaries offered were £70 for the Master and £25 for the Matron. The Master was required to give security by a bond with two sureties for £100. Applications with two testimonials should be received no later than 24 March.</p>	8 March 1875

			<p>Travelling expenses of selected candidates were allowed. The appointments were to start on 1 April. Advertisements were to be placed in the Berwick papers, the Local Government Chronicle, the Kelso Chronicle, the Scotsman, the Newcastle Daily Chronicle, the Newcastle Daily Journal and the Glasgow Herald; two insertions in the weekly papers and four in the daily papers. The applications would be discussed at an adjourned meeting of the Board on 25 March to select the candidates for interview.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the town ships of Norham, Norham Mains and Twizel were tabled.</p> <p>Letters had been received from the Borough Members [of Parliament] concerning the grant in respect of lunatics kept in workhouse wards.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/177-183	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 15 March 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Dunbar; John Marshall, James Hogg; David Tait; George Bone; Robert Brown; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; Matthew Young; Robert Dickson; William Cleghorn; Robert Towerson. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for:</p>	15 March 1875

		<p>Supplies and services: James Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Coy; Elias Pearson (baker); John Davidson (grocer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Coy; John Stoddart (grocer); Andrew Gibson (carter); William Alder (spirit merchant); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Firewood - John Yule (wood); Allan Brothers (wood). Outdoor medical stores: W G Carr & Son (cod liver oil).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: William Skelly, Church Street, sickness, bottle cod liver oil; Elizabeth Shanks, Hide Hill, sickness, pint port wine; Ellen Johnson, Walkergate Lane, injury to knee, necessaries; Ellen Johnson, Walkergate Lane, injury to knee, necessaries; William Burn, Church Street, sickness, necessaries.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Holy Island, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>A supplemental valuation list for the parish of Tweedmouth was tabled.</p> <p>In accordance with notice given, the meeting appointed the medical officers for Islandshire and West Norhamshire: Islandshire – James Lambie of Lowick was reappointed at a salary of £25 from 25 March 1875 to 25 March 1876. West Norhamshire – Matthew James Turnbull of Coldstream was reappointed at a salary of £8 from 25 March 1875 to 25 March 1876. Agreed that the Local Government Board be informed that it was impossible in either district to procure the services of a qualified medical officer resident in the district. Both the above were qualified in all other respects. As they were not resident in their</p>	
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		<p>districts the appointments were for one year.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board approving the rearrangement of accommodation in the Workhouse and fixing the accommodation at 190. They also enclosed a table showing the distribution of the accommodation.</p> <p>The Guardians decided to defer purchasing the necessary bedsteads and any further transfer of inmates until the new Master and Matron were in post. They also asked the Clerk to inform Urban Sanitary Authority that it was expected that they would no longer need to use the Port Hospital.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled a return of the attendance of Guardians at Board and Committee Meetings for the current year.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying provisions and clothing will expire on 27 March. The form of advertisements for tenders was approved and the Workhouse Committee were authorised to consider and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee had examined the Clerk's calculations of the estimated sums required from the parishes for the next half year which they recommended for approval. Agreed.</p> <p>This Committee recommended that Hannah Johnston, an inmate, be supplied with a pair of boots and a shawl on her going out into service in May. Agreed.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Ireland Catherine Coyne, widow, who today became chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>The Clerk drew the Guardian's attention to the proceedings in the House of Commons the previous Friday. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had replied to Captain Milne Home's question re payment for lunatics. He had stated that lunatics in workhouses in England were not in the same position as those in Scotland. The latter were in the direct control of the Lunatic Commissioners. He could not make the case of Scotland a precedent for granting aid from the imperial exchequer to paupers in workhouses in England.</p>	
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			<p>Letter received from Captain Milne Home giving his opinion of the above and his willingness to further assist.</p> <p>The Meeting were not satisfied with the justice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's decision. They asked the Clerk to write to some other Unions similarly situated to get there views and intimate that the Berwick Guardians proposed to petition Parliament for a share of the grant. The Clerk was asked to prepare a petition for the adjourned meeting.</p> <p>The Meeting was adjourned to 25 March for the purpose of approving and signing the petition and selecting for interview the applicants for the post of Master and Matron.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/184-185	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians adjourned meeting held on 25 March 1875	<p>Present: Matthew Young; George Bone; David Tait; Robert Towerson; Robert Brown; John Young; John Brown; Andrew Mitchell.</p> <p>Guardians: Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The Meeting considered the applications for the posts of Master and Matron of the Workhouse. There were 72 applications. After much consideration, the following four were selected for interview: Alexander Y Will, trades officer in the general prison for Scotland in Perth, aged 36, and wife aged --, with 2 children aged 4 ½ and 10 months; James Bennett, now of Pinkie by Edrom, late second Master Sergeant in the Royal Artillery, aged 39, and wife aged 41, with 6 children, aged 14,10, 8, 6, 3 and 1 ¼; John Rutherford, chief warden of Newcastle prisons, aged 40, and wife aged 44, with one girl aged 14 ½; George Fairbairn, superintendent of river police at Peebles, aged 39 and wife aged 39. They had no children.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to write to them and ask both husband and wives to attend for interview on 29 March. They would be paid second hand rail fares and all reasonable expenses.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled correspondence with four other Unions concerning the distribution of the parliamentary grant towards the cost of lunatics. He suggested that instead of presenting a petition to Parliament he should be authorised to communicate a</p>	25 March 1875

			<p>statement of the facts and the views of the Guardians direct to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This proposal was approved.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/186-194	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 29 March 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Young; William Cleghorn; David Tait; George Bone; Robert Brown; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; Andrew Tait; William Moor; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; Matthew Young; George Peel; John Brown; John Tait; Robert Towerson; John Dunbar; Robert Dickson; James R Nicholson [James Nicholson]; John Marshall; David Hume. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Agnes McLeod, Matron of Workhouse; Elizabeth A Dalziell, Female Lunatic Attendant; George Main, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse; Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals, furniture and property, building account, garden account, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gas Light</p>	29 March 1875

		<p>Coy; Elias Pearson (baker); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Coy; Robert Dickson (slater & plasterer); John Cockburn & Son (carpenters); Thomas Spaven (ironmonger); James Turnbull & Co (tailors); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); William Wilson (plumber); John Davidson (grocer); Waite Brothers & others (sundries for garden & pigs); George Douglas (farmer); Alexander Brown (cabinet maker); George Brown (undertaker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (farmer); John Russell (builder); John Stoddart (grocer); Thomas Graham (milk seller); Peter Gibson (blacksmith); Young & Sons (grocers); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); Andrew Stafford (milk seller); Alexander Paton (stationery & printing); George Macaskie (printing & advertising); Knight & Co (books & advertising); Gibson F Stevens (advertising); Berwick Advertiser (advertising); E Willoby [Clerk] (Justice Clerk's fees, quarter's Postage & sundries); Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] (half year's postage & sundries); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (half year's postage & sundries); Alexander Y Mill (candidate for Master & Matron – interview expenses); George Fairbairn (candidate for Master & Matron – interview expenses); James Bennett (candidate for Master & Matron – interview expenses); Firewood - John Mace (string); John Yule (wood); Hector Jackson (wood);</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The value of the provisions, the necessaries and miscellaneous account and clothing consumed in the Workhouse during the last quarter was given.</p> <p>The garden account was debited with the value of slops from the Workhouse in the last half year and the sum credited to the inmaintenance account.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Felkington, Holy Island, Thornton were tabled.</p> <p>The Meeting then proceeded to the appointment of a Master and Matron of the</p>	
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			<p>Workhouse, In place of Mr Mitchell and Mrs McLeod who had resigned as required by the Local Government Board.</p> <p>The full list of applicants was read and the applications and testimonials of the four selected for interview were examined.</p> <p>After the interviews the Guardians voted as follows:</p> <p>John Rutherford and wife – Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; John Young; William Cleghorn; Robert Brown Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; Andrew Trotter; William Moor; George Peel; John Brown John Tait; Robert Towerson; Robert Dickson; John Marshall; David Hume; Rev Wilson; Rev Rowe; Rev Procter; Ralph Forster. 20 votes.</p> <p>George Fairbairn and wife – George Bone; John Dunbar. 2 votes.</p> <p>James Bennett and wife – David Tait. 1 vote.</p> <p>John Rutherford, aged 40, and his wife, Hannah Rutherford, aged 44, were appointed. He was then Chief Warder at Newcastle upon Tyne prisons. Their salaries were £70 and £25 per annum together with rations, coal, gas and unfurnished house. Their 14 year old daughter was allowed to reside with them and use rations from the Workhouse stores, the cost being repaid to the Guardians. The appointments were to commence from 13 April and the Master to provide a bond of £100 with 2 sufficient securities.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee were delegated to approve the sureties, arrange necessary alterations to the officers' table of rations and fix the amount to be paid for their daughter's rations. They were also to decide whether an office should be provided for the Master outwith his house and its situation. To report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to pay expenses to the candidates and return the testimonials of the unsuccessful candidates.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended acceptance of the tenders for supplying the Workhouse with provisions and clothing and the outdoor poor with bread, oatmeal etc. Agreed.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended that Mary Sanderson, an inmate, be provided with a suit of clothes and a pair of boots for her eldest boy. She was going out into service taking her two children. Agreed; to be supplied by the Master.</p>	
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			<p>Letter from the Local Government Board approving the appointments and salaries of Drs Lambie [James Lambie] and Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]. The Common Seal was applied to the signed contracts.</p> <p>The Clerk submitted a statutory declaration by Mrs Sarah Ann Spinks, 267, Camberwell Road London, that she and James Unthank of Berwick, tailor, were the only personal representatives of William Unthank, who had recently died in the Workhouse then a widower with no family.</p> <p>The Meeting being satisfied with these statements authorised John Crosby [Relieving Officer] to hand over to James Unthank the money and bank book of the deceased on showing an authority from Mrs Spinks to receive them in respect of her interest therein.</p> <p>The Guardians granted leave of absence to [Elizabeth] Dalziell, Female Lunatic Attendant, to attend a tonic solfa concert the following evening.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/195-204	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 12 April 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; Matthew Young; George Bone; John Marshall; Robert Brown; John Dunbar; David Tait; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edmund Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk;</p>	12 April 1875

		<p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Fluker; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew Turnbull; John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants from 1 February; Thomas Mitchell, Master of Workhouse to 12 April; Agnes McLeod, Matron to 12 April; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates Holy Island.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance for 15 pauper lunatics and part quarter's for 4); Dr Colville Brown (4 certificates of lunacy); Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief advanced under suspended orders to Hannah Wilson, Mary Watson); Newcastle Blind Asylum (quarter's maintenance and education for George Cairns); Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown (Workhouse); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Robert Davidson (Tweedmouth District); James Lambie (Islandshire District); Matthew Turnbull (West Northhamshire District); Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); sundry householders (rents of vaccination stations); Robert Fluker (Berwick District, vaccination fees); Matthew Turnbull (West Northhamshire District, vaccination fees); Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams (Ancroft, Kyloe); John Husband (Berwick); James Paxton (Horncliffe); Robert Lambert (Tweedmouth); Supplies and services: John Rutherford (interview expenses); The Scotsman (advertising); Newcastle Chronicle (advertising); Newcastle Daily Journal (advertising); Firewood - H Robertson (wood); R Davidson & Sons (twine).</p> <p>John Rutherford, newly elected Master of the Workhouse, was given £5 for petty charges of the Workhouse.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p>	
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			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Bridget Leddy, Chapel Street, childbirth, necessaries 1 ½ lbs beef; Bridget Leddy, Chapel Street, childbirth, necessaries 1 ½ lbs beef; Mary A Dawson, Walkergate Lane, debility from childbirth, 1 ½ lbs beef.</p> <p>In the quarterly review of cases where relief was given on account of sickness it was noted that Dr Davidson had not seen some of these cases staying in the country parts of his district. Agreed that he should be asked to arrange to inspect and report on these cases before the next meeting and in the future within the last fortnight of each quarter.</p> <p>The Master of the Workhouse highlighted the state of two female lunatics. Their clothes, he alleged, were in a filthy state from an accumulation of vermin. After hearing from the Workhouse Medical Officer and the Lunatic Attendant, they were satisfied that the two women had not been neglected but suggested a more frequent change of clothing.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee reported that in passing Dr Fluker's account for Extra Medical Fees they noticed that the Relieving Officer had granted orders for medical relief to the wives of 3 able bodied men in cases of childbirth and to one able bodied man in the case of a fracture. The Committee recommended that the latter recipient be asked to repay the cost of his medical treatment and that proceedings be taken before the Justices against the three men for failing to maintain their wives. The recommendation was adopted and John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was ordered to take proceedings against Peter Johnston, chimney sweep, Michael Marshall, roper, and William Hepburn, labourer, all of Berwick, for allowing their wives to</p>	
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			<p>become chargeable to the Union.</p> <p>They also reported that they had approved the rations to be provided to the new Master, his wife and daughter. He should be asked to repay £8 10s for the cost of his daughter's rations. The nurse's ration should be increased by ½ lb cheese weekly. This was approved and the Guardians adopted the amended table of weekly rations for Workhouse Officers:</p> <p>Master – meat 4lb, potatoes 7lb, flour 7lb, cheese ½ lb, bacon ½ lb, milk 2pt, butter ½ lb, tea 4oz, sugar ¾ lb, rice ¼ lb;</p> <p>Matron – as Master, except no cheese, milk 3 ½ pt, sugar 1lb, rice ¾ lb;</p> <p>Master's daughter – meat 2 ¾ lb, potatoes 3lb, flour 4lb, oatmeal 1 ½ lb, milk 3 ½ pt, butter ¼ lb, tea 1oz, sugar ¼ lb;</p> <p>Lunatic Attendant – as Matron except bread 7lb, flour 2lb, cheese ½ lb, no bacon, tea 2oz, coffee 2oz, sugar ¾ lb, barley ¾ lb, no rice;</p> <p>Nurse – as Lunatic Attendant except bread 8lb, no flour;</p> <p>Porter – as Lunatic Attendant except bread, 8lb, no flour, 2lb oatmeal, no cheese, no barley, ¾ lb rice;</p> <p>Totals – meat 21 ¾ lb, bread 23lb, potatoes 38lb, flour 20lb, oatmeal 3 ½ lb, cheese 1 ½ lb, bacon 1lb, milk 19 ½ pt, butter 2 ¾ lb, tea 15oz, coffee 6oz, sugar 4 ¼ lb, barley 1 ½ lb, rice 1 ¾ lb.</p> <p>When potatoes are not used 6 oz of bread instead each day.</p> <p>The Committee had also considered provision for the Master of an office and in his house an additional store room. They unanimously recommended that the board room be used as an office when not otherwise required. If the Master wishes, a large wooden cupboard could be fitted in the kitchen.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Order received from the Local Government Board directing payment by the Guardians of reasonable travel expenses, totalling £27 2s 6d, to those attending as witnesses at the recent official enquiry into the conduct of the previous Master, T H Mitchell.</p> <p>The Clerk was directed to offer payment to the witnesses and report the results to the next Meeting, except for Robert Pinder, late male lunatic attendant, who was then an officer in the Workhouse and therefore incurred no expenses. He was asked to draw</p>	
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			<p>this to the attention of the Local Government Board and request them to make a condition in the order if necessary.</p> <p>Contribution orders to be sent to the overseers of the parishes of the Union to meet the expenditure of the Board for the next half year were agreed. These were to be paid by two equal instalments on 1 May and 17th July. The sums totalled £3526.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying to the Workhouse with bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>The Assessment Committee recommended that the salary paid to Edward Willoby, then Clerk, for the year ending on 25 March 1875 be increased by £5 to £25 in consequence of the extra duties arising from the Rating Act 1874. Approved.</p> <p>On the motion of George Bone, it was agreed to print an amended list of paupers.</p> <p>George Bone also gave notice that at the next meeting that he would present a motion that the Porter of the Workhouse be requested to resign.</p> <p>The Rev Procter moved, seconded by Matthew Young, a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his services during the past year. George Bone moved that the meeting proceed to the next business. This amendment was not seconded and the motion was therefore carried and the Chairman acknowledged the same accordingly.</p> <p>Application received from Mrs McLeod, previous Matron, for a testimonial. The Meeting agreed and expressed their opinion that during the nearly six years she had held office, her conduct had been highly respectable and generally satisfactory. The official reports laid before them have been creditable to her management and notwithstanding many adverse circumstances she had been able to retain her office for a long time and to merit the esteem of her employers.</p> <p>The thanks of the Board were given to the Vice Chairmen for their assistance in the conduct of the affairs of the Board.</p>	
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Item	GBR 52/205-214	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians first meeting of the year held on 26 April 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Davidson; David Carr; William Moor; John Marshall; John Fleming; George Peel; David Tait; John Young; Rev B S Wilson [Beverley Wilson]; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; Robert Dickson; John Watt; John Brown; Matthew Young; James Hogg; James R Black [James Black]. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Matthew Young took the Chair until the election of a new Chairman. Andrew Thompson took the Chair on his election.</p> <p>Return of the election of Guardians for 1875 – 1876. Ancroft: George Bone, Cheswick Buildings, farmer; David Tait, Ancroft Steads, farmer; James Richardson Black [James Black], Cheswick, farmer; Berwick: Matthew Young, Palace Street, merchant; Andrew Mitchell, Letham Shank, farmer; John Brown, Gainslaw Hill, farmer; Thomas Sanderson, High Cocklaw, farmer; John Young, Western Lane, merchant; John Fleming, Castlegate, merchant; Adam Darling, Governor's House, merchant; John Davidson, Castle Terrace, gentleman; Cornhill: William Smith, Melkington House, landed proprietor. Duddo: Rev Beverley S Wilson [Rev Beverley Wilson], Duddo Vicarage, vicar. Felkington: David Carr, Felkington, farmer; Grindon: William Smith jnr, Melkington House, farmer. Holy Island: Andrew Thompson, Berwick upon Tweed, merchant. Horncliffe: Andrew Trotter, Horncliffe Mill, farmer and miller. Kylloe: James Hogg, Buckton, farmer; David Hume, Berrington, farmer. Loanend: John Dunbar*. Longridge: William Moor*. Norham: William Allan, Newburn, Norham, farmer. Norham Mains: William Cleghorn, Norham East Mains, farmer.</p>	26 April 1875
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			<p>Shoreswood: George Reuben Lumsden [George Lumsden], Shoreswood, farmer. Thornton: James Robert Nicholson [James Nicholson], Thornton, farmer. Tweedmouth (Urban Ward): John Marshall, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth, farmer 373 votes;; John Watt, Spittal Hall, farmer, 345 votes; George Peel, Sandstell Road, Spittal, herring curer, 256 votes; Robert Towerson, Main Street, Tweedmouth, butcher, 232 votes; (Rural Ward): Robert Dickson, Ord Moor, farmer. Twizel: John Tait, Riffington, farmer.</p> <p>* Guardians qualified to act in parishes where no guardians have been elected. The nominations and voting papers were to be kept in safe keeping by the Clerk.</p> <p>Andrew Thompson, proposed by Matthew Young and seconded by Rev Thomas Procter, was unanimously elected Chairman. He Then took the Chair.</p> <p>Matthew Young and David Tait were unanimously elected Vice Chairmen; Matthew Young to have preference.</p> <p>The following Committees were appointed and dates of first meetings fixed. Assessment Committee Elected Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; James Hogg; John Watt. Ex officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Workhouse and Finance Committee Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; John Fleming; John Watt; George Bone; George Peel; Thomas Sanderson; John Brown; Andrew Mitchell; John Young; John Davidson; John Marshall; Robert Dickson; James Hogg.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p>	
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			<p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Thomas Mitchell [previous Master] (butter purchased in market); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); George Brown (undertaker); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); James Grey (spirit merchant). In Maintenance Account: Boys' National School (fees & books); Girls & Infant School (as above); St Cuthbert's RC School (as above); J Turnbull & Son (outfit for Mary Sanderson's child); William Wilson (as above, also outfit for Hannah Johnson); James Russell (outfit for Hannah Johnson). Vaccination Expenses: Dr James Paxton (East Northhamshire District); John Crosby (Berwick District, registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Northhamshire District registrar's fees). Extra Medical Fees: : Dr James Paxton (East Northhamshire District); Registration Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District, registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Northhamshire District registrar's fees). Collectors Poundage: J Gilchrist Northham, Northham Mains.</p> <p>Agreed that Edward Willoby, Clerk, be paid £10 for his work and expenses in conducting the election of guardians and also £25 for his services as Clerk to the Assessment Committee, as agreed by the Local Government Board. He was also paid £4 14s 10d for his work in organising the contested election in Tweedmouth urban ward.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that as directed he had paid expenses to all the witnesses, except Robert Pinder, who gave evidence at the recent official inquiry: Andrew Elliott Allan; Colville Brown; John Brown; Robert Brown; Thomas Cargill; Thomas Cooper; George Davidson; William Davidson; Robert Dickson; David Fender; Robert Carr Fluker; Mark Graham; Robert Gray; John Henderson; James Hogg; Christopher Hopper; James Jeffreys; John Miller; John Mitchell for Isabella his wife; George Moor; George Norris; Elias Pearson; William Pratt; William Richardson (railway porter); William Richardson (farmer); Ralph Ross; John Russell; Abraham Rutherford; James Grinton</p>	
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			<p>Smith; Robert Smith; Ralph Somerville; David Turnbull; Peter Wait; Joseph Weatherstone; Henry John Williams; Thomas Winter.</p> <p>In accordance of the notice given at the last meeting, George Bone, seconded by John Watt, moved that the Porter of the Workhouse be requested to resign. Matthew Young, seconded by Rev Thomas Procter, moved an amendment that the Porter be reprimanded for his past misconduct and admonished to be more careful in the performance of his duty in the future.</p> <p>For the motion: George Bone; John Watt; James Black.</p> <p>For the Amendment: Matthew Young; Andrew Thompson; John Davidson; David Carr; John Marshall; John Fleming; George Peel; David Tait; John Young; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; Robert Dickson; John Brown; James Hogg; Rev J Rowe; Rev Thomas Procter; Rev B Wilson.</p> <p>The amendment was carried and the Porter was called in and addressed by the Chairman in the terms of the motion.</p> <p>Letter received from the Medical Officer of the Workhouse, Colville Brown. It said that from the date of the meeting he wished to nominate Dr Jameson, who had agreed to carry out the duties, as his deputy for the Workhouse. He also wished to withdraw as deputy for Dr Fluker for the outdoor poor; he was willing to continue for a reasonable period, to allow his replacement.</p> <p>Dr Fluker, who was present, named Dr Davidson as his deputy. The meeting approved the appointment of both new deputies.</p> <p>The Clerk reported the death of Hannah Jamieson, lately a pauper lunatic maintained at the Royal Edinburgh Asylum by the Union.</p> <p>The Vicar of Berwick [Thomas Procter] gave notice that at the next meeting he would present a motion that the Guardians subscribe £20 per annum to Berwick Infirmary.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the meeting that the half yearly audit of accounts would take place on May 7 and 8.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p>	
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			<p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Fluker; Davidson; Lambie.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Bridget Leddy, Chapel Street, childbirth, 1 ½ lbs beef and necessaries; As above.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/215-220	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 10 May 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; John Watt; David Hume; James R Black [James Black]; John Davidson; John Young; George Bone; John Brown; Andrew Mitchell. Ex Officio Guardian: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Paxton & Purves (drapers); John Mitchell (hosier); John Davidson (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); James Smith (butcher); Robert Rutherford (draper); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); James Russell (draper); H & A Johnston (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Purves & Son (shoemaker); James Dunlop (draper).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p>	10 May 1875

			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Margaret Young, Alexander Young's widow, Church Street, childbirth, necessaries; as above.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick.</p> <p>With the consent of the meeting the Vicar of Berwick withdrew his proposed motion as the previously appointed committee will shortly report on the matter.</p> <p>Dates for the meetings for the annual examination of the indoor and outdoor poor were fixed: Berwick, Board Room, 17 May pm; Spittal, Chapel vestry, 19 May am; Tweedmouth, Church vestry, 19 May pm; Horncliffe, Fishers' Arms, 25 May am; Norham, Victoria Inn, 25 May pm; Cheswick, Cat Inn, 4 June am; Beal, Plough Inn, 4 June pm.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board approving the appointments and salaries of Mr & Mrs Rutherford as Master and Matron of the Workhouse. Another letter rescinded the payment of expenses to Robert Pinder for his attendance at the official inquiry.</p> <p>An order from two Commissioners in Lunacy was tabled directing the removal of Henry Ramsey from the Workhouse to the County Asylum. He reported that this had been done and Ramsey would now be maintained by the Union at the County Asylum.</p>	
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			<p>Application from Glendale Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of removal, of Mary Ann Fairley, widow, and her five children. It appeared to the meeting that her late husband, with his wife and family, had a constructive residence in the Glendale Union at the time of his death. As this was recent, the provisions of 9 & 10 Vic. Cap. 66 apply, and the Guardians did not accept chargeability.</p> <p>Tenders were received for printing 100 lists of paupers; the meeting decided to accept the tender of G F Steven at £3 7s 6d. They also accepted the tender of James Turnbull & Son, tailors, Woolmarket, to provide during the current half year trimmings for men's' coats at 8s 6d, vests at 2s 10d, trousers at 3s 8d and boys' vests, jackets and trousers at 9s the suit.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled a statement, received from Mr Culley, Local Government Inspector. It gave for the North East District of the numbers of indoor and out door poor relieved on 1 January in the last three years with the ratio to population.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/221-229	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 24 May 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; David Tait; George Peel; Andrew Mitchell; Adam Darling; John Young; George Bone; George Watt; John Marshall; William Allan. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	24 May 1875

		<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: William Redpath (draper); James Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Brown (undertaker); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); James Grey (spirit Merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing Catherine Coyne to Ireland); Catherine Patterson (cleaning Tweedmouth pay Station); John Main (cleaning Spittal pay station); Firewood - William McLean (wood); John Mace (twine); Robert Taylor (wood); Garden - Corporation of Berwick (half year's rent for garden); John Rutherford [Master] (five pigs purchased by him). Out Relief Account: Alnwick Union (relief granted under suspended order to Mary Curle). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing Henry Ramsey to County asylum).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate by 24 May from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kylee; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Lambie.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Berwick, Tweedmouth were tabled.</p> <p>Received the Annual Report of the District Auditor concerning the officers' bonds – all were satisfactory.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board containing an extract from the</p>	
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			<p>report of Dr Nairne and Mr Howard on their visit to the Workhouse on 28 April on behalf of the Commissioners in Lunacy. They requested that they were sent the observations of the Guardians upon the statements and recommendations of their report. They also asked whether Henry Ramsay [sic] had been transferred to an asylum as requested.</p> <p>The extract stated that five of the men of unsound mind were in 36 Ward under the care of an ordinary pauper inmate. He commented on two:</p> <p>John Gray, a recent admission, had jumped out of one of the dormitory windows on the first floor a few days previously. Fortunately he had landed on to a dovecot roof, projecting from the building, from where he was rescued by ladder without serious injury. He was not supposed to have any suicidal tendencies and it is not clear that that was his intention. He was now carefully watched. The visitors considered it necessary for the Medical Officer to observe him carefully in case he exhibited symptoms which indicated he needed treatment in an asylum.</p> <p>Henry Ramsay, aged between 50 and 60, an epileptic, had given some trouble. When seen he was quiet, though unwilling to speak or answer questions. The Master, the pauper in charge of the ward and two patients reported that at times he was very abusive, on one occasion he struck another inmate and was subject to outbursts of violent and dangerous passion. They were of the opinion that he was undoubtedly insane and required attention and watching not possible in the Workhouse and had signed an order for his removal to the County Asylum.</p> <p>The majority of the men were employed in some kind of work and, with the exception of the five mentioned above, were lodged with the other inmates. The upstairs day room was tolerably comfortable; that on the ground floor was very untidy, several men were at work chopping wood. They considered this work should be done elsewhere. The facilities for daily washing were very inadequate, being wooden tubs in the open yard. They hoped a proper lavatory would be provided. They also suggested that the string of the shower bath in the bathroom be locked up and the key kept by the Master so that it cannot be used without his knowledge.</p> <p>The additional wards had improved the women's accommodation. The rooms were tidier though the day room needed whitewashing and some cleansing. Bathing rules had been placed in the bathroom but the moveable handles to the taps had been left on and not kept by the nurse.</p> <p>The Board of Guardians asked the Clerk to inform the Local Government Board of the compulsory removal of Henry Ramsey to the County Asylum, that John Gray had</p>	
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			<p>since been permitted by the Medical Officer to leave the Workhouse and that the other matters had been passed to the Workhouse Committee for attention and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>Agreed that the Committee appointed last year, consisting of the Chairman, the two Vice Chairmen and the Vicar of Berwick, to consider an annual contribution to the Dispensary be reappointed and report back to the Guardians as soon as possible.</p> <p>Application from Belford Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of removal, of Ann and Isabella Alexander (the former was recently ordered to be removed from Glendale Union) and to grant them non-resident relief whilst residing in the Belford Union. The Guardians consented to accept chargeability but declined to give the proposed non-resident relief.</p> <p>The Chairman, Matthew Young, gave notice that at the next meeting he would propose that allowances of 2s per week be given in respect of all out door pauper children who had passed the 3rd school standard and were not yet 13 and continue to be regular attendants at school. George Bone seconded and the Relieving Officers were directed to enter these children into their application and report books and submit them to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Meeting agreed to the Clerk's application to change the date of the Islandshire District meeting from 4 June to 8 June.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against: George Gibson, Custom House Officer, to show cause why an order should not now be made on him to contribute 8s per week in repayment of relief given to his wife and two children, John Beech, late of Dunse and now of or late of Jarrow, for neglecting to maintain his wife and children, who had become chargeable to the Union. The two sons of Euphemia Henderson to show cause why an order should not now be made on them to contribute 3s per week in repayment of relief given to their mother.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/230-	Minutes of Berwick	Present:	7 June 1875

	236	Board of Guardians meeting held on 7 June 1875	<p>Guardians: Matthew Young; James R Black [James Black]; George Bone; William Allan; John Watt; David Tait; William Cleghorn; Andrew Mitchell; Robert Dickson; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: David Tait & Matthew Young Acting Chairmen..</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); L T Fleming (leather merchant); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); J Moor & Co (ironmonger); Garden - John Yule (carting refuse and ashes to garden); Firewood – John Yule (wood); Alexander Gibson (carting wood); Robert Ferguson (wood); Allan Brothers (wood). Registration Expenses: E Willoby (annual allowance for use of offices etc as Register Office).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of:</p>	
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			<p>Norham; Norham Mains; Twizel for April. Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe and Kyoel for May.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation list for the parish of Ancroft was tabled.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee presented their comments on the report of the Commissioners in Lunacy as requested.</p> <p>The untidy state of the downstairs day room, due to its use for chopping wood: They suggested that the shed on the opposite side of the yard could be fitted with a long form and used for wood chopping in the summer. The Committee considered that the day room could continue to be used in cold weather. It was new and large and there was room for those not working; the day room upstairs was also available to them.</p> <p>Facilities for daily washing for the men: They agreed this was inadequate. They suggested that the disused bath room at the top of the men's stairs could be converted. The present fixed bath could be covered over and a washing trough with three divisions fixed on top of it; the existing bath and waste pipe could be utilised for drainage. The cistern in the room could also be covered over and a clean water tap attached for the men's use.</p> <p>String on the shower bath: This could be sufficiently protected if the string was replaced by a wire hooked moveable pulley; the latter to be kept by the Master when not in use.</p> <p>The state of the female lunatics' day room: The ceiling was whitewashed not long before the Commissioners' visit. The Committee considered no further work was required.</p> <p>The moveable tap handles not being removed: The Master had undertaken to check from time to time that this was being done.</p> <p>The Committee considered these recommendations met the concerns of the Commissioners.</p> <p>The Board agreed that these recommendations be carried out and asked the Committee to ensure they were done properly.</p> <p>The Special Committee, appointed to consider contributing to the funds of Berwick Infirmary, reported.</p> <p>The Committee accepted the reasonableness of the request by the Infirmary Committee given the objects of the Institution.</p>	
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			<p>They had considered the current use of the fever wards of the Infirmary for treatment of cases of typhoid and the probable savings to the rates of the Union. Given this and likely future savings they recommended the Guardians made an annual subscription of £15.</p> <p>The Committee did not consider it necessary to alter the rule whereby no one in receipt of parochial relief is eligible for admission to the Infirmary but the fact of an inpatient becoming a pauper would not prevent him or her from continuing to receive the benefit of the Institution. It had based its recommendation of a generous subscription on the grounds that the services the Infirmary offered must in many cases prevented people from falling upon the rates therefore saving the funds of the Union a large annual amount.</p> <p>Agreed the report would be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying bread and meat will expire on 26 June. The Workhouse Committee were authorised to obtain tenders and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>An Order of Justices and notice of chargeability was received from the Leeds Union, alleging the settlement in the Berwick Union of three deserted children, Elizabeth, Margaret and John Booth and ordering their removal. John Crosby [Relieving Officer] to investigate and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against: James Smith of Spittal, cooper, for an order to repay some portion of the relief being given to his father and mother.</p> <p>John Yeaman of Gateshead, railway employee for an order to repay the relief being given to his father, Robert Yeaman.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/237-244	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 21 June 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Robert Dickson; John Dunbar; George Peel; John Watt; Andrew Trotter; James R Nicholson [James Nicholson]; James R Black [James Black]; John Davidson; John Young; George Bone; David Hume; George R Lumsden [George Lumsden]; William Allan; James Hogg.</p>	21 June 1875

			<p>Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); George Douglas (milk seller); Border Brewery Company; Robert Taylor (blacksmith); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); John Rutherford (vegetables); John Stoddart (grocer); E Willoby [Clerk] (expenses attending meetings for annual examination of paupers).</p> <p>Cheque for £32 13s 8d paid to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £950 received from them.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Berwick, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p>	
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			<p>fishery on 7th July.</p> <p>Circular and new Order received from the Local Government Board concerning the qualification of the medical practitioner furnishing a medical certificate in the case of an amputation by a District Medical Officer.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, reported on his enquiries into the alleged settlement of the 3 deserted children about to be removed from Leeds to Berwick. These were not quite satisfactory and the Clerk was asked to elicit further information and time for enquiry by applying for copies of the depositions on which the order was made.</p> <p>The Clerk was ordered to apply to Yarmouth Union to accept, without an order of Justices, the chargeability of Elizabeth Springall, widow and her 6 children who have become chargeable and are removable.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/245-252	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 5 July 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; John Watt; John Brown; John Young; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; George Peel; John Marshall. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Brown [Colville Brown]; Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and property, building & repairs and garden account, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	5 July 1875

			<p>Payments were ordered for: Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief given to Mary Watson and Hannah Wilson under suspended order of removal). Supplies and services: Knight & Coy (books & forms); Parish of Berwick (poor rate on Workhouse); E Willoby [Clerk] (quarter's postage and sundry payments, cost of proceedings before Justices); John Crosby (expenses in looking into settlement); John Garden (police expenses serving summonses at Gateshead); James G Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Coy; Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Edwin Cross (plumber); J Moor & Co (ironmongers); Waite Brothers (seedsmen); Ralph Thompson (joiner); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (farmer); Border Brewery Company; James Jeffrey (blacksmith); Alexander Brown (cabinet maker); John Rutherford (vegetables); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); Firewood - John Mace (twine); John Brody (firewood);</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Hannah Rutherford, Matron of Workhouse from 13 April; Elizabeth A Dalziell, Female Lunatic Attendant; Mary Harle, Nurse; George Main, Porter; Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>From the Master's books the value of provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous consumed by the inmates and officers of the Workhouse, in the past quarter was given.</p> <p>James Weatherston, boot & shoemaker, Norham, appeared with his apprentice, Thomas Egglestone, who was apprenticed on 2 September 1872. The Guardians were satisfied that the indenture of the apprenticeship was being met by both parties and agreed to pay Weatherstone the second half of the premium of £5.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief:</p>	
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		<p>Margaret Robertson, Chapel Street, sickness, 2 lbs linseed meal.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for all the parishes of the Union.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported that the Master's house and other parts of the Workhouse required painting. They recommended that the partition between the parlour and closet on the upstairs floor of the Master's house be removed and the east wall be continued on a line with the passage, prior to painting. Agreed.</p> <p>Two letters received from Dr Davidson suggesting changes to the arrangements for vaccination in his district. After discussion with Dr Davidson, and subject to approval from the Local Government Board, the Guardians agreed the following: Tweedmouth District – first, second and third Monday's of January, April, July and October at his residence; third and fourth Tuesday's of April and October at Richardson's Stead [Scremerston] and an hour later at Ancroft. The Clerk to prepare an amended contract for the next meeting.</p> <p>[Dr Brown] Workhouse Medical Officer presented his half yearly report. His answers to the printed questions were generally satisfactory.</p> <p>The Clerk had obtained the depositions concerning the case of the three deserted children, Elizabeth, Margaret and John Booth, from Leeds Union. From these and inquiries made there were no grounds to appeal against the grounds of the Order concerning alleged settlement but the depositions did not disclose any information concerning the desertions by, or settlement of the children's father. Agreed John Crosby [Relieving Officer] should go to Leeds to make further inquiries and that thereupon, if he thinks fit, the Clerk to give notice of appeal against the Order.</p>	
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			<p>Crosby was also asked to inquire into the ability of Captain Yeaman, South Shields, to repay 1s 6d per week additional relief given to his father.</p> <p>An Order of Justices was received from Lambeth Union, for the chargeability of Catherine McLaren, a pauper lunatic, now in the Surrey County Asylum and asking for the reimbursement of £4, 1s already incurred. As inquiries had shown her settlement was indisputable, it was decided not to appeal.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Isabella Shippley, aged 6 months, having been born there, now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>They then inspected those of the indoor poor who were able to attend the Board Room.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/253-259	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 19 July 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; George Peel; John Young; James R Black [James Black]; George Bone; David Tait; John Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Matthew Young..</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John A Woods, Treasurer; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians;</p>	19 July 1875

			<p>Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert C Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]; John Rutherford, Master of Workhouse from 12 April; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions and necessaries, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gaslight Coy; Margaret Cowe (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); James Grey (spirit merchant); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); John Stoddart (grocer); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (travelling expenses to Leeds and North Shields inquiring into settlement etc); Firewood - John Winter (wood); William Patterson (cartage); Captain Jonson (wood); Captain Burrows (wood); Mutter Young & Co (cartage); Brigham & Co (sharpening saws). In Maintenance Account: Boys' National School; St Cuthbert's RC School (both, school fees for indoor children); Out Relief Account: Leeds Union (maintenance of Elizabeth, Margaret and John Booth whilst under order of removal). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance of 19 pauper lunatics; one for part quarter); Lambeth Union (maintenance of Catherine McLaren under order of adjudication); Robert Fluker [Medical Officer] (examination & reporting case of Henry H Ramsey). Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown, Workhouse; Robert Fluker, Berwick District; Thomas Davidson, Tweedmouth District. Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Robert Fluker, Berwick District vaccination fees; Thomas Davidson, Tweedmouth District, vaccination fees. Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams, Ancroft, Kylee; John Husband, Berwick; Robert Lambeth, Tweedmouth.</p>	
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			<p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Margaret Robertson, Chapel Street, abscess (breast), 1 lb linseed meal; Margaret Robertson, Chapel Street, abscess (breast), 1 lb linseed meal; Mrs Rowland, Hatters Lane, child, boy, aged 4, sickness, requires mother to attend him.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board concerning the arrangements for vaccination in the Tweedmouth District. They agreed to the proposed changes provided the Guardians were satisfied there was sufficient room at Dr Davidson's surgery. John Crosby [Relieving Officer] reported there was and the amended contract was agreed for signature.</p> <p>The half yearly return from the Superintendent of the County Asylum of the state of inmates maintained by the Union was tabled.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, reported on his inquiries at Leeds concerning the parents of the Booth children, now in Berwick Workhouse. Crosby was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against John Booth, father, for neglecting to maintain them and to offer £1 reward for his apprehension and to make all inquiries into his last legal settlement. The Master of the Workhouse was authorised at the request of the grandfather of the children to give one of them to the latter's care and custody.</p> <p>Crosby also reported into the circumstances in which he had found Captain Yeaman of Gateshead.</p> <p>Application from Morpeth Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of Justices, of William Brown and his wife. He was alleged to have settlement in</p>	
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			Berwick Union by hiring and service. Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] was asked to make inquiries and report to the next meeting.	
Item	GBR 52/260-266	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 2 August 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; David Tait; John Dunbar; John Davidson; John Peel, John Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev John George Rowe [Rev J G Rowe]; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); William C Caverhill (ironmonger); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Berwick Urban Sanitary Authority (highway and general district rates on Workhouse). Lunatics Account: Surrey Lunatic Asylum, Wandsworth (maintenance 21 June to 1 July Catherine McLaren). Vaccination Expenses: James Lambie Islandshire District, vaccination fees); John Crosby (Berwick District, registrars fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District, registrars fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District, registrars fees). Registration Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District, registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District, registrar's fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District, registrar's fees).</p>	2 Aug. 1875

		<p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General and Local Police Rate by 31 July from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Mary Hunter, Chapel Street, injuries by husband, severe, two weeks, altogether, necessaries; George Gardiner, labourer, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries; M Robertson, Chapel Street, abscess breast, 1lb linseed meal.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Kyloe.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled the amended Vaccination Contract, signed by Dr Davidson. The Common Seal was affixed. To be sent to the Local Government Board for approval.</p> <p>John Crosby, as Vaccination Officer, tabled his return of births registered for the half year to 31 December 1874 showing that they had all been satisfactorily accounted for. Therefore compulsory measures were not required.</p> <p>As requested the Workhouse Committee had obtained tenders for painting and papering in the Workhouse. The tender of £46 10s from John Crow, painter and paperer, High Street, was accepted.</p> <p>A notice of discharge for Catherine McLaren, who had recovered, had been received from Surrey Lunatic Asylum. She had been placed there by Lambeth Union and was</p>	
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			<p>chargeable to Berwick Union.</p> <p>Circular and order received from the Local Government Board, concerning the compulsory use of a Demand Note in the collection of the Poor Rate.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Great Yarmouth Union had accepted without an order of chargeability, responsibility for Elizabeth Springall, widow, and her six children. An order for their admission to Great Yarmouth Workhouse had been sent and John Crosby [Relieving Officer] was ordered to arrange this.</p> <p>Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, reported back on William Brown and his wife. The Guardians were satisfied they had settlement in the Union and agreed to accept them without an Order of Removal.</p> <p>Application from Glendale Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of Justices, of Mary Gibson, widow, and her three children. Referred to Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, for inquiry and report to the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/267-271	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 16 August 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: David Tait; William Cleghorn; John Young; John Brown; John Watt; David Hume; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; John Dunbar. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr. Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: David Tait.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, indoor funerals and garden account shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	16 Aug. 1875

		<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Husband and others (sundries for garden); George Brown (undertaker); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Kelso Chronicle (advertising); John Crosby (removing pauper to Scotland).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, aged 35, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries; Margaret Robertson, Chapel Street, abscess breast, necessaries; Mary Hunter, Chapel Street, needs to attend her child, John, who is very ill. Therefore she cannot go to work.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Holy Island, Horncliffe, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>[George] Bone highlighted a newspaper report of proceedings in the County Court concerning the claim for £200 by the wife of Richard Turner who for many years had been an inmate of the Workhouse. Agreed to seek repayment of one year's maintenance for Richard Turner.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board approving subject to a small addition the new vaccination contract with Dr Davidson. Agreed to the public notices of the new arrangements.</p> <p>Payment received from the Local Government Board of £109 in payment of a moiety of the medical officers' salaries for the year ended 25 March.</p>	
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			<p>Joseph Scott, as Vaccination Officer, tabled his return of births registered for the half year to 31 December 1874 showing that only one birth had not been satisfactorily accounted for. This was due to the illness of the child's mother at the Vaccination period. The Guardians were satisfied in the meantime with the explanation.</p> <p>Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, reported back on Mary Gibson, widow, and her three children. The Guardians were satisfied her late husband, James Gibson had settlement by hiring and service in the Union and agreed to accept them without an Order of Justices.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/272-275	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 30 August 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; James R Black[James Black]; John Davidson; Andrew Mitchell; John Young; George Bone; John Dunbar. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions and necessaries, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p>	30 Aug. 1875

			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef;</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the townships of: Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>The Clerk presented his calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year; referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee for comment</p> <p>The Clerk reported on progress in seeking repayment of one year's maintenance for Richard Turner. He had contacted John Brown of Gainslaw Hill for repayment from money alleged to have been deposited with his late wife by her sister (Richard Turner's wife). Brown's solicitor, Mr Weatherhead, had replied that Brown in toto denied that any sum had been advanced to him beyond £100 held upon trust for Mrs Turner's separate use. The Clerk also produced a copy of the decree of the County Court served last week on Richard Turner and notice of a meeting to be held that day by the Registrar to take the enquiry and accounts referred to in the decree. It was decided to defer to the next meeting, when the result of today's meeting should be known, the question of any further action.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against John Mundell, late of Berwick, cab driver, for neglecting to maintain his wife and two children who had therefore become chargeable to the Union.</p>	
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Item	GBR 52/276-280	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 13 September 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Watt; James R Black [James Black]; Matthew Young Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; George Bone; John Marshall. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, and indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); James Grey (spirit merchant); George Brown (undertaker). Vaccination Expenses: William Allison, Tweedmouth (half year's rent of room for vaccination Station).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate by 18 September from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kylloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p>	13 Sept. 1875
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			<p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef;</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee had examined the Clerk's calculations of the estimated sums required from the parishes for the next half year which they recommended for approval. Agreed.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying provisions and clothing will expire on 2 October. The form of advertisements for tenders was approved and the Workhouse Committee were authorised to consider and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported that the north end walls of the boys' and old women's day rooms were very damp. They had asked the Master to get the plasterer to examine them and recommend a remedy. The latter had recommended that they should be covered with cement. Agreed that the work should be done.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the meeting to settle accounts in the case of Turner and Brown had been postponed for a month. Further consideration of the matter by the Board was therefore deferred.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/281-286	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 27 September 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; John Watt; John Dunbar; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; John Davidson; George Bone; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: None. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p>	27 Sept. 1875

			<p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Hannah Rutherford, Matron; Elizabeth Ann Dalziell, Lunatic Attendant; George Main, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse; Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Margaret Cowe (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); J & G Turnbull (tailors); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); J Moor & Co (ironmongers); James Grey (spirit merchant); John Davidson (grocer); Border Brewery Company; William G Carr & Son (chemists); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); John Stoddart (grocer); G F Steven (printing voting papers, Tweedmouth parish); Gibson F Steven (printer); William Murray (printer & stationer); Berwick Advertiser (advertising); George Macaskie (advertising); Knight & Co (forms); Phoenix Fire Office (insurance on Workhouse); George Main (removing Scotch pauper); E Willoby [Clerk] (Justice Clerk's fees, quarter's postages and sundries); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (quarter's postages and sundries); Joseph Scott [Relieving officer] (quarter's postages and sundries); Firewood - George Purves (sharpening saws); Allan Brothers (wood);</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p>	
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			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef;</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the town ships of Horncliffe and Grindon were tabled.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended acceptance of the tenders for supplying the Workhouse with provisions, necessaries and clothing and the outdoor poor with bread, oatmeal etc. Agreed.</p> <p>Contribution orders to be sent to the overseers of the parishes of the Union to meet the expenditure of the Board for the next half year were agreed. These were to be paid by two equal instalments on 16th October and 15th January. The sums totalled £3640.</p> <p>Notice from James Radford, District Auditor, that he would audit the accounts on 22 October.</p> <p>Circular received from the Local Government Board informing that the Government would repay from a Parliamentary grant the additional remuneration granted to the Registrars of Births and Deaths by 37 & 38 Vic. Chp. 88 Sec. 31 and included the claim forms.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Daniel Ferguson, having been born in Glasgow and now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for an Order adjudging that the last legal settlement of and directing the removal of Elizabeth Springall, widow, and her 6 children to Yarmouth Union, they now being chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>Agreed to discuss the sums allowed for clothing of boarded out children at the next</p>	
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			meeting.	
Item	GBR 52/287-294	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 11 October 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; George Bone; David Tait; John Marshall; John Davidson; Andrew Trotter; William Allan; James Hogg, David Hume. Ex Officio Guardians: None. Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The Master's accounts for the Workhouse in the last quarter for provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous and clothing for the past half year were presented.</p> <p>The Garden Account to be debited by the value of slops from the Workhouse for the past half year and this credited to the in maintenance account.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals, furniture and property, buildings and repairs, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Ralph Thompson (joiner); James G Smith (butcher); Edwin Cross (plumber); Margaret Cowe (grocer); William Patterson (plasterer); Elias Pearson (baker); Border Brewery Company; James Grey (spirit merchant); George Brown (undertaker); James Jeffrey (blacksmith); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker). In Maintenance Account: Boys' National School (education of indoor children).</p>	11 Oct. 1875

			<p>Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief given under suspended order to (1) Mary Watson (2) Hannah Wilson (3) given to accepted paupers, William Brown and wife). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance of 20 paupers); Robert Fluker [Medical Officer] (certificate of lunacy). Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown (Workhouse); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby (Vaccination Officer quarter's salary); Joseph Scott (Vaccination Officer quarter's salary); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District). Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams (Ancroft, Kyloe); John Husband (Berwick); James Paxton (Horncliffe); Robert Lambert (Tweedmouth).</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer, vagrants; John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Fluker; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull. John Rutherford, Master of the Workhouse; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>£5 given to John Rutherford, Master, to pay petty common charges of the Workhouse.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, not so well again, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef;</p>	
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			<p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Kyloe, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>As agreed at the last meeting, they considered the clothing allowance of boarded out children. On the motion of George Bone, it was unanimously agreed that the allowance of 30s per annum be increased to £2 5s for children of 8 and over. The Relieving Officers were instructed to do so in future.</p> <p>Application from Leeds Union requesting that they accept chargeability of Susannah Forsyth, a lunatic maintained in West Riding Asylum. As the Board had on a previous occasion accepted responsibility for her, they accepted the application.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying to the poor bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>They accepted the recommendation of the Workhouse Committee that the side roof of the boys' day room be properly spouted.</p> <p>They also accepted the recommendation that John Crosby, Relieving Officer, take action to recover payments from George Gibson, Custom House Officer and Thomas Morrison, labourer; 10s each paid to Dr Fluker for attending their wives during their recent confinements.</p> <p>John Crosby, Collector to the Guardians, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against George Gibson, Custom House Officer, Berwick, to recover payment of arrears due on an order made on him to repay the relief given to his wife.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/295-300	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 25 October 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young, John Dunbar, John Young, David Tait, George Bone, Andrew Mitchell, Adam Darling. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker].</p>	25 Oct. 1875

			<p>Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funeral, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Margaret Cowe (grocer); James Gray [sic] (wine & spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); James G Smith (butcher); George Young & Co (drapers); W A Johnston & Co (drapers); John Mitchell (draper); William Redpath (draper); Morrison & Marshall (drapers); Elias Pearson (baker); Adam T Gunn (draper); George Brown (undertaker); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); George Main (removing pauper to Scotland). Out Relief Account: Alnwick Union (relief given under suspended order to Mary Curle). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing lunatic to asylum); John Garden (as above). Collectors Poundage: John Gilchrist (Norham, Norham Mains).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of a Local Police Rate by 30 October from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p>	
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			<p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, shoemaker, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Mary Wilson, High Street, childbirth, necessaries; Mary Wilson, High Street, childbirth, necessaries;</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>The Master reported that George Main, Porter, had been guilty of misconduct by being drunk on two occasions and of using a gate in the vagrants' yard to let a friend in and out of the Workhouse after giving the keys to the Master for the night. The Clerk tabled a letter from George Main tendering his resignation at the end of one calendar month. On the motion of David Tait it was agreed to accept the resignation and to settle the terms of appointment of a successor at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Master requested the provision of a new office as he found the board room, which he currently used, cold and inconvenient. They examined the proposed site for the office and instructed the Master to obtain a plan and specification from George Gray, architect, for the Guardian's approval.</p> <p>They agreed the provision of a cooking range for the Master's kitchen.</p> <p>The application from Newcastle upon Tyne Union to accept chargeability of John Curry was not accepted as the information obtained was unsatisfactory.</p> <p>Application from Yarmouth Union requesting that they accept chargeability of Thomas Manuel, a pauper lunatic. The Guardians accepted the application subject to him being identified as a man who had resided in Berwick until a few weeks ago.</p> <p>The Clerk submitted for the approval of the Guardians the balance sheet of the Union's accounts for the past half year, now closed and audited and including the apportionment of the charges on the Common Fund at 5s 6d in the £.</p>	
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Item	GBR 52/301-306	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 8 November 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; James R Black [James Black]; David Tait; Andrew Mitchell; John Brown: John Watt; George Bone; David Hume; Adam Darling; John Dunbar; John Young; William Cleghorn. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and property, buildings and repairs shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: John Crow (painter); James G Smith (butcher); James Dunlop (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); W Purves & Son (shoemakers); L T Fleming (leather merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (grocers); George Woods (baker); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Berwick District (Registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (Registrar's fees). Registration Expenses: John Crosby, Berwick District (Registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (Registrar's fees).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p>	8 Nov. 1875
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			<p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Andrew Hepburn, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; Andrew Hepburn, Walkergate Lane, sickness, necessaries, 1 ½ lbs beef; John Docherty, tinker, Church Street, sickness, Altogether unable to work, necessaries ; Margaret Nicholl, Weatherly Square, childbirth, necessaries; Margaret Nicholl, Weatherly Square, childbirth, necessaries; Mary Tait, West End, Tweedmouth, cardiac, unable to support herself as usual.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation list for the parish of Berwick was tabled.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Thomas Manuel, pauper lunatic, had been seen and identified as having lived in Berwick. Therefore, as previously agreed, the Board had accepted chargeability whilst he was in Ipswich Asylum.</p> <p>Following notice given at the last meeting, the terms of appointment of a Porter in place of George Main was decided. On the motion of Adam Darling, seconded by George Bone, the salary was fixed at £26 per annum with apartments and board in the Workhouse. An advertisement to be placed in the local papers and the Kelso Chronicle was agreed, with the appointment to be made at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Master submitted the plan and specification of W G Grey, architect, for the proposed Master's office and also estimates. Subject to the agreement of the Local Government Board, these were accepted along with the estimate of M Gray & Sons.</p> <p>Application from St Pancras Union, Middlesex, requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of removal, of Charlotte Perry, single woman aged 68.</p>	
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			<p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was asked to inquire into the grounds of settlement and report.</p> <p>Ten days leave of absence was granted to Elizabeth Dalziel, Lunatic Attendant.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against George Gibson, late Custom House Officer, Berwick, for neglecting to maintain his wife and children who had therefore become chargeable to the Union.</p> <p>George Bone gave notice that at the next meeting he would propose that the weekly allowances of outdoor relief from 6 December to 10 April next be increased by 6d per week to those receiving any sum not exceeding 3s 6d and by 1s for those receiving a larger sum provided it was for the maintenance of more than one person. The increase was not to apply to boarded out or non resident poor and was to be reduced on 10 April to the current amount.</p> <p>Adam Darling likewise gave notice that he would propose that the weekly allowance for boarded out children be increased by 6d for those children who were 8 years and above.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/307-312	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 22 November 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; David Tait; Adam Darling; John Davidson; John Marshall; John Watt; John Dunbar; George Bone. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p>	22 Nov. 1875

			<p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funeral shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Robert Rutherford (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gas Light Company; George Douglas (farmer); George Brown (undertaker); William Richardson (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); H J Williams (removing Elizabeth Springall, widow, & six children to Great Yarmouth); Garden - Corporation of Berwick (half year's rent of garden). In maintenance Account : Girls' National School (fees & books). Lunatics Account: Leeds Union (cost of conveying Susannah Forsythe to West Riding Asylum and 17 weeks maintenance there); Great Yarmouth parish (cost of conveying Thomas Manuel to Ipswich Asylum and maintenance to 2 October there); Surrey Asylum, Wandsworth, (maintenance of Catherine McLaren from 1 – 26 July). Vaccination Expenses: John Paxton, East Northhamshire District (vaccination fees).</p> <p>Salaries: Balance paid to George Main, late Porter,</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Elizabeth Wilson, aged 36, Mill Strand, Tweedmouth, sickness, dyspepsia, will probably soon be convalescent, she is not altogether prevented from attending her usual calling.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Supplemental valuation list for Tweedmouth was tabled.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that two applications for the post of Porter had been received.</p>	
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			<p>One had since withdrawn. The remaining applicant was Robert Lyall, aged 21, now assistant at Broomdykes Tile Works. He was interviewed but did not produce testimonials.</p> <p>Agreed that the appointment be deferred to the next meeting. Meanwhile Lyall was asked to produce testimonials and the post would be advertised again, once in the local papers and twice in the Scotsman and Newcastle papers.</p> <p>George Bone in accordance with notice given at the last meeting proposed that the weekly allowances of outdoor relief from 6 December to 10 April next be increased by 6d per week to those receiving any sum not exceeding 3s 6d and by 1s for those receiving a larger sum provided it was for the maintenance of more than one person. The increase was not to apply to boarded out or non resident poor and was to be reduced on 10 April to the current amount.</p> <p>It was seconded by Rev Thomas Procter and unanimously carried. It was ordered that all outdoor paupers were to be listed in the Relieving Officers' Applications and Report Books and the Relief Order Book so that the change can be instituted at the next meeting, to which this matter is adjourned.</p> <p>Adam Darling likewise, in accordance with notice, proposed that the weekly allowance for boarded out children be increased by 6d for those children who were 8 years and above.</p> <p>It was seconded by George Bone and carried unanimously. The Relieving Officers reported on the cases and the resolution was put into effect.</p> <p>John Crosby [Relieving Officer] reported on Charlotte Perry, whose chargeability St Pancras Union, Middlesex, sought to transfer. While she alleges she is a single woman, her five sisters resident here allege the contrary. The Guardians therefore did not voluntarily accept her chargeability.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding. Nothing had been paid by the townships of Norham, Norham Mains and Twizel. The Clerk was asked to contact the Collector, John Gilchrist, and seek urgent payment.</p> <p>The Clerk was also asked to inquire about the present state of the County Court</p>	
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			action re Turner v Brown and to take all practical steps to recover the maintenance of Richard Turner in the Workhouse.	
Item	GBR 52/313-319	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 6 December 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; John Davidson; David Tait; Adam Darling; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; James R Black [James Black]; George Peel; John Dunbar; John Marshall; John Watt; John Young; David Hume; William Allan. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); Adam Winlaw (shoemaker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); James Grey (spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Alex R Lowrey (farmer); Catherine Patterson (cleaning Tweedmouth pay station); John Main (cleaning Spittal pay Station); Garden - Robert Moor for John Rutherford (price of 12 pigs purchased by the Master); Lunatics Account: John Garden (removing Thomas Rutherford to County Asylum).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate and Local Rate by 11 December from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Hornccliffe; Kyoeloe;</p>	6 Dec. 1875

		<p>Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Ann Kelly, Church Street, sickness, necessaries; Mary Menckie, Chapel Street, debility, necessaries; Mary Menckie, Chapel Street, debility, 1 ½ lbs beef.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for all the parishes.</p> <p>As agreed, they proceeded to appoint a Porter for the Workhouse. Applications were received from: William Carr, withdrawn; Robert Lyall, 21, single, Broomdykes, assistant at tile works; James Lister, 29, Leith, telegraphist; George Bogue, 36, married, Berwick, light porter; Patrick O'Neill, Glasgow, railway porter; Alexander Reid, 48, Berwick, pensioner; Hector Fobister, 32, Edinburgh; James B Landreth, 62, married, Berwick, grocer; Hugh Davidson, 29, single, Norham, salmon fisherman; James McPherson, 26, single, Burnmouth, railway porter; James Gordon, 34, single, Newcastle, late railway detective officer; George Simpson, 38, single, Leeds, pensioner. Applications and testimonials were examined and George Bogue, James Landreth, Hugh Davidson & James McPherson, who were present, were interviewed. George Bone, seconded by John Watt, proposed George Bogue. William Allan, seconded by John Dunbar, proposed Hugh Davidson.</p>	
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			<p>For George Bogue – George Bone, John Watt, Andrew Mitchell, George Peel, John Marshall, Matthew Young, David Tait, Adam Darling, David Hume, James R Black [James Black], John Young. 11 votes.</p> <p>For Hugh Davidson – The Chairman [Andrew Thompson], William Allan, John Dunbar. 3 votes.</p> <p>Therefore George Bogue was appointed Porter of the Workhouse, salary £26 per annum, with rations and apartments as his predecessor and his wife to be allowed to reside with him.</p> <p>George Bogue agreed to start on 14 December.</p> <p>George Bone gave notice that he would propose at the next meeting that Mrs Bogue would be employed in the female vagrant and female receiving wards. In respect of which she would receive her rations.</p> <p>Received circular from Luton Union concerning the administration of outdoor relief.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/320-325	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 20 December 1875	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; John Davidson; John Dunbar; James R Black [James Black]; Adam Darling; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, and indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for:</p>	20 Dec. 1875

		<p>Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Brown (undertaker); William Richardson (grocer); George Wood (baker); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); John Stoddart (grocer). Lunatics Account: John Garden (expenses removing William White to County Asylum).</p> <p>Cheque for £58 11s 2d paid to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £1850 received from them.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Ann Kelly, Church Street, sickness, necessaries;</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board agreeing the appointment and salary of George Bogue, Porter.</p> <p>On the motion of George Bone, seconded by David Tait, following notice given at the last meeting, it was unanimously agreed that Mrs Janet Bogue, wife of George Bogue, Porter, be employed to keep clean the vagrant and receiving wards and attend upon the female vagrant and receiving wards. For this she would be allowed her rations and be called Porteress, the engagement to terminate on a week's notice on either side.</p> <p>The Master submitted an amended table of weekly rations for the Workhouse officers, which was approved by the Board. Master – meat 4lbs, bread, 7lbs, potatoes 7lbs, flour 2lbs, cheese ½ lb, bacon ½ lb, milk 2 pints, butter ½ lb, tea 4 oz, sugar ¾ lb, rice ¼ lb. Matron - meat 4lbs, bread, 7lbs, potatoes 7lbs, flour 2lbs, bacon ½ lb, milk 3 ½ pints,</p>	
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Item	GBR 52/326-331	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 3	Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; John Davidson; John Watt; David Tait; George Bone; Robert Dickson; Matthew Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Young; James R Black	3 Jan. 1876

		January 1876	<p>[James Black]; John Marshall; Adam Darling. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, indoor funerals, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Robert Mathison (cooper); George Brown (undertaker); W G Carr & Son (chemists); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); James Grey (spirit merchant); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); E Willoby [Clerk] (quarter's postage & sundry payments); Knight & Co (books); Newcastle Chronicle (advertising); Firewood - Ann Renwick (old rope); Robert Taylor (wood); Allan Brothers (wood); In maintenance Account: Boys' National School (school fees & books); Girls' National School (school fees & books). Outdoor Medical Stores: W G Carr & Sons (chemists).</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Hannah Rutherford, Matron of Workhouse; Elizabeth A Dalziell, Lunatic Attendant; Mary Harle, Nurse; Robert Fair, Hairdresser; George Bogue, Porter (2 weeks).</p>	
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		<p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Ann Kelly, Church Street, sickness, necessaries; Allen [?] Simpson, Chapel Street, accident, necessaries.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kylee, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended acceptance of the tenders for supplying the Workhouse with provisions and clothing and the outdoor poor with bread, oatmeal etc as follows: James G Smith – rounds & flanks of beef @ 11s 6d per stone, houghs of beef @ 5s 10d per stone, legs of mutton @ 11d per lb, suet @ 8d per lb. Elias Pearson – indoor fine bread @ 5 ½ d per 4 lbs, indoor seconds bread @ 5 ¼ d per 4 lbs, indoor flour @ 36s per sack, indoor 10 sacks oatmeal @ 43s 9d per sack, outdoor seconds bread @ 4 lbs 6 oz for 6d, outdoor flour @ 4 lbs 2 ½ oz for 6d, outdoor oatmeal @ 3 ½ lbs for 6d. Agreed.</p> <p>Letter received from John Husband, Collector of Poor Rates for parish of Berwick. It stated that for the current six months his allowance will not amount to £16. When he was appointed the prospective salary mentioned was £80. When the poundage was reduced from sixpence to four pence he expected his annual salary to be £70, whereas over the last six years it had averaged only £58. A recent order of the Poor Law Board had increased the workload in filling in the necessary entries in the Books and also in collecting the rate. Each separate rate must be recorded at least ten times and demand notes given to each rate payer. He therefore requested that they consider an increased allowance commensurate with the work involved. Agreed to consider this at the next meeting and the Finance Committee was asked to</p>	
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			investigate and report.	
Item	GBR 52/332-341	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 17 January 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; George Bone; John Young; James Hogg; Matthew Young; John Davidson; James R Black [James Black]; Andrew Mitchell; David Carr; Adam Darling; John Dunbar; William Allan; John Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The Master's accounts for the Workhouse in the last quarter for provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous and clothing for the past half year were presented.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer for Vagrants; John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Carr Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull [Matthew Turnbull]. John Rutherford, Master of Workhouse; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and</p>	17 Jan. 1876

		<p>property, buildings and repairs shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; James G Smith (butcher); Edwin Cross (plumber); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); J Moor & Co (ironmongers); W C Caverhill (ironmongers); Ralph Thompson (joiner); Mark Graham (mason); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); William Richardson (grocer); George Wood (baker); James Grey (spirit merchant); John Stoddart (grocer); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); James Jeffrey (blacksmith); E Willoby (Justice Clerk's fees); Berwick Advertiser (advertising); Scotsman (advertising); Edward Speller (Registrar's fees); Firewood - .Ralph Thompson (sharpening saws); Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief given to William Brown and his wife – non resident paupers; relief given under suspended order to Mary Watson); Alnwick Union (relief given under suspended order to Mary Curle). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum quarter's maintenance for 21 pauper lunatics, part quarter's maintenance for 6 pauper lunatics); Ipswich Borough Asylum (quarter's maintenance for Thomas Manuel); West Riding County Asylum (quarter's maintenance for Susannah Forsyth); Colville Brown [Medical Officer] (certificate of lunacy); Robert Fluker [Medical Officer] (2 certificates of lunacy); David F S Cahill (certificate of lunacy). Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown, Workhouse; Robert C Fluker, Berwick District; Thomas Davidson, Tweedmouth District. Vaccination Expenses: Robert Carr Fluker, Berwick District; Thomas Davidson, Tweedmouth District; James Lambie, Islandshire District; Matthew J Turnbull, West Norhamshire District; John Crosby, Vaccination Officer, quarter's salary; Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer, quarter's salary;. Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams, Ancroft, Kylee; John Husband, Berwick; Robert Lambert, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief:</p>	
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			<p>Matthew Johnson, aged 54, labourer, Spittal, chronic inflammation of lungs, confined to bed. Recovery will be slow, totally unable to attend to any calling; Thomas Hastings' wife, Hatters Lane, childbirth, she declares to me that they have not a bit of food in the house; Phillis Atkinson, Greens, debility, from destitution, necessaries; Andrew Flood, shoemaker, Chapel Street, fracture of leg, necessaries.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying the poor with bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>In accordance with the notice given at the last meeting, the board then considered the application of John Husband, Collector of Poor Rates for Berwick parish, for increased remuneration. The Workhouse Committee, who had investigated, unanimously recommended that, given the amount of work now required, that the poundage payable to him be increased from 4d to 5d per £ from 1 February. The Chairman [Andrew Thompson], seconded by Adam Darling, moved that this recommendation be adopted. George Bone, seconded by James R Black [James Black], moved that John Husband be paid an annual fixed salary. Both were put to the Meeting and the first was carried – that subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, John Husband be paid a poundage of 5d in the £ on the rates collected by him, from 1 February.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board agreeing to the allowance of rations for the Workhouse officers.</p> <p>Circular received from Mr Culley, Local Government Inspector, asking for a return of certain particulars of deaths in the Workhouse during 1874. Agreed that the Medical</p>	
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			<p>Officer and Master provide this.</p> <p>Dr Brown [Colville Brown], Medical Officer for the Workhouse, gave his half yearly statement. He reported that there was insufficient ventilation in the men's day room. It was too hot and close which he attributed to the stove. He also reported a deficiency of gutta percha sheeting for the beds. His replies to the printed questions were satisfactory. His concerns were referred to the Workhouse Committee for inquiry and report.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Thomas Manuel had been discharged, recovered, from Ipswich Borough Asylum. Arrangements were required for his removal to Berwick. The Board agreed to pay this under the direction of the Asylum.</p> <p>Return received from John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants for the eleven months to 31 December 1875, sent from his office, Chief Constable's Office, Berwick. It showed the number of vagrants and tramps inspected by the police and given tickets for the casual wards of the Workhouse, by category, month, nationality and where they had travelled from. For full details, especially of month, please consult GBR 52. Totals were: Males – 1266; Females – 137; Children – 40; Total – 1443; English – 456; Scotch – 608; Irish – 328; Foreign – 11; Travelled from England – 856; Travelled from Scotland- 587. The figures show the greatest number in September. With the exception of August, about a third more came from England going north than from Scotland – possibly accounted for by the strikes in England in the coal and iron trades.</p>	
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			<p>A great number were professional tramps who go about the country making a pretence of looking for work but not wishing to find it. A number were relieved several times during the year; there was not a separate column in the ledger to distinguish these.</p> <p>Several, who had money to pay for lodgings, were refused tickets and a few were locked up, charged with drunkenness and other offences and dealt with by the Magistrates.</p> <p>The average number relieved during the past six years was 1743; consequently there has been a considerable decrease.</p> <p>The Clerk reminded the meeting that Superintendent Garden's appointment with the Board would expire on 1 February. Agreed to decide on renewal at the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/342-348	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 31 January 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Trotter; John Watt; George Bone; David Tait; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; John Dunbar; John Young; Matthew Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, and indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Elias Pearson (baker); James G Smith (butcher); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); John Stoddart</p>	31 Jan. 1876

			<p>(grocer); George Brown (undertaker); James Grey (spirit merchant); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Parish of Berwick (poor rate on Workhouse); Messrs Lister for Newcastle Daily Journal (advertising); Kelso Chronicle (advertising).</p> <p>Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Berwick District (registrars fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (registrars fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (registrars fees);</p> <p>Registration Expenses: John Crosby, Berwick District (registrars fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (registrars fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (registrars fees);</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General Police Rate by 1 February from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kylloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Further to the notice given at the last meeting, it was unanimously agreed to renew the appointment of John Garden, Superintendent, as Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants for one year with the same duties and salary, £10.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported back on the issues raised by Medical Officer of the Workhouse. They had visited the Men's day room and found it smoky. To improve the ventilation and chimney draught they recommended that the chimney be heightened by 4 feet and provided with a funnel, also that a ventilator be made into the chimney near the ceiling and above the stove pipe hole. The present chimney was too low to provide an adequate draught or to carry smoke away from the adjoining yards.</p>	
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			<p>The Committee found that waterproof sheeting was required for some beds in the infirmary, the young women and children's wards. They recommended the purchase of 30 yards of good quality sheeting. The Board accepted the above recommendations and asked the Committee to carry them out.</p> <p>The half yearly return from the Superintendent of the County Asylum concerning the state and condition of the lunatics maintained there by the Board was presented.</p> <p>Letter received from John Husband, Collector of Poor Rates for Berwick, thanking the Guardians for increasing his remuneration.</p> <p>John Crosby, as Vaccination Officer, presented his half yearly returns. All were satisfactory and no action was required.</p> <p>Application from Newcastle Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of Justices, of Grace Renton, single woman aged 20. John Crosby [Relieving Officer] reported that she was believed to be married and that she and her alleged husband recently visited Berwick, visiting her parents. About a fortnight past her father visited her and gave her money to help her over her expected confinement. After considering this, the Guardians decided not to accept chargeability.</p> <p>The Master of the Workhouse presented a list of young women recently confined in the Workhouse and still chargeable, suggesting that steps be taken to affiliate their children. Referred to the Workhouse Committee to inquire into the circumstances and recommend any action required.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/349-354	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 14 February 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Adam Darling; John Watt; John Dunbar; David Hume; George Bone; John Davidson; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; John Marshall; David Tait; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p>	14 Feb. 1876

			<p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions and necessaries, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Stoddart (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); William Richardson (grocer); Thomas Landreth (farmer); George Macaskie (advertising); Firewood - .Leitch & Dods (firewood); Robert Middlemiss (carting firewood); Out Relief Account: Churchwardens of the parish of St Pancras (relief advanced to Charlotte Perry while under order of removal).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Eliza Taylor, aged 36, Golden Square, sprained ankle, necessaries; Matthew Johnston, aged 55, labourer, Spittal, sickness, disease of the bronchial tubes, a cure is very doubtful, entirely prevented from following his usual calling; Mary White, aged 38, Norham, anaemia, wholly; Matthew Johnston, Spittal; Edward Fox.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p>	
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			<p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Kyloe, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>Letters received from: Local Government Board - agreeing the increased rate of poundage paid to the Collector for Berwick parish. As above – remittance of £182, the amount due to the Union from the Government grant in aid of the cost of pauper lunatics. Superintendent Garden – thanking them for his reappointment as Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants.</p> <p>Joseph Scott, as Vaccination Officer, presented his half yearly returns. All were satisfactory and no action was required.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee, on the suggestion of the Master, recommended that he be authorised to purchase 24 tons of lime to spread on the Workhouse garden. They also reported on action taken concerning the affiliation of certain children. These were approved and agreement given for the Master to purchase 24 tons of lime.</p> <p>Application from Glendale Union requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of Justices, of Mary Ann Fairley, widow and her five children, who belong to the parish of Cornhill and resided there prior to May 1874. Owing to the death of her husband in Glendale Union in December 1874, she was for one year chargeable to that Union. The Guardians were satisfied that she was now removeable to Berwick and accepted the application</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Matthew Johnston, aged 53, and his wife, he having been born in Scotland, now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p> <p>John Crosby, Collector to Guardians, was authorised to obtain an order before the Justices on Robert Yeaman, grocer, North Shields, to repay 2s 6d per week of the relief given to his father, Robert Yeaman of Spittal.</p>	
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			<p>Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer was authorised to obtain a warrant and conviction of George Armstrong, late of Scremerston Tile Works, coal miner, for neglecting to maintain his wife and four children who had therefore become chargeable to the Union.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the town ships of Cornhill and Shoreswood were tabled. Agreed to discuss these at the next meeting.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/355-359	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 28 February 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; John Davidson; John Watt; John Brown; Adam Darling; George Bone; David Tait; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; John Dunbar; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, indoor funerals, buildings and repairs shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: M Gray & Sons (builders); James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); J Moor & Co (ironmongers); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Brown (undertaker); John Stoddart (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); Thomas Landreth (farmer); Brigham & Co (founders); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); Berwick Urban Sanitary Authority (district rates on garden and Workhouse);William Hope (advertising in Glasgow Herald); Garden - Henry Payn (garden plants); Parish of Berwick (poor rate on</p>	28 Feb. 1876

		<p>garden);</p> <p>Cheque for £79 11s paid to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £2450 received from them.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>Letters received from the Local Government Board: Agreeing to the reappointment for another year of Superintendent Garden as Assistant Relieving Officer for vagrants. Remitting the grant of £9 for additional fees paid to the Registrars of Births and Deaths and requesting the insertion of certain further particulars. Claims hereafter made for repayment of the cost of lunatics. Informing of the decision of the Education Department to continue the standard of education for pauper children at the third standard prescribed by the code of 1875.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>The Clerk presented his calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year; referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee for comment</p> <p>Agreed to discuss at the next meeting the terms of appointment of Medical Officers for Islandshire and West Norhamshire from 25 March.</p> <p>George Bone raised the case of a pauper, Isabella Sanderson, Cheswick Buildings.</p>	
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			<p>As she required medical relief, she sent notice to the Medical Officer for Tweedmouth District [Thomas Davidson] who saw her and sent medicine last Thursday which caused much vomiting. He had not visited her to check on the effects of the medicine given two weeks last Saturday.</p> <p>His weekly report book indicated that he last visited on Thursday 17th and last supplied medicine on Wednesday 23rd.</p> <p>Agreed that the Clerk write to him and request that she be visited as soon as possible and that he explain why he had not visited more frequently.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/360-365	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 13 March 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; George Bone; John Davidson; George Peel; John Watt; Matthew Young; James Hogg; James R Black [James Black]; Andrew Mitchell; John Marshall. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev John George Rowe. Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gas Light Company; Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Robert Rutherford (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Stoddart (grocer); James Grey (spirit merchant); William Richardson (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Johnson & Co (brewers); George Brown (undertaker); Thomas Landreth (farmer); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (expenses serving summons on Robert Yeaman at North Shields);</p>	13 March 1876

			<p>Firewood - Ann Renwick (old rope);</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate by 25 March from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for all the parishes.</p> <p>In accordance with the notice given, they considered the terms of appointment for the Medical Officers for Islandshire and West Norhamshire Districts from 25 March. Islandshire District – consists of the parishes of Holy Island and Kyloe and the township of Haggerston in Ancroft parish. These consist of 11,908 statute acres and a population of 1952. Salary: £25 per annum. West Norhamshire District – consists of the parish of Cornhill. This consists of 4,430 statute acres and a population of 781. Salary £8 per annum. The salaries were to exclude the fees prescribed by the Consolidated Order of the Poor Law Board. Agreed to make the appointments at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee had examined the Clerk's calculations of the estimated sums required from the parishes for the next half year which they recommended for approval. Agreed.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled the return of attendance of the Guardians at the Board and Committee Meetings for the present year.</p>	
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			<p>The contracts for supplying provisions and clothing will expire on 25 March. The form of advertisements for tenders was approved and the Workhouse Committee were authorised to consider and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>As requested at the last meeting, Dr Davidson presented his account concerning the case of Isabella Sanderson of Cheswick Buildings. He asserted that the charge of neglect on his part was frivolous and vexatious and his attendances were as entered in his weekly report book.</p> <p>In response to the Chairman, Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, reported that the pauper had not complained to him of not being visited by the Medical Officer. George Bone stated that from the information given by the pauper and her daughter it appeared that Davidson had not visited on two of the days entered in his report book. In these circumstances they constituted a Committee of David Tait and James R Black, who lived in the same parish as the pauper. They would meet at her house on Monday next, along with George Bone, Dr Davidson and Joseph Scott to ascertain the dates of the visits made and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Master of the Workhouse submitted a list, with names, ages and descriptions, of the children then in the Workhouse. Several were orphans who would benefit from being boarded out in suitable homes in the country district of the Union. The Clerk was authorised to place an advertisement in the local papers.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/366-373	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 27 March 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; James Hogg; John Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; Robert Dickson; John Dunbar; James R Black [James Black]; George Bone; David Hume; William Allan. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Dr Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Paxton [John Paxton]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p>	27 March 1876

		<p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Hannah Rutherford, Matron; Elizabeth A Dalziell, Lunatic Attendant; George Bogue, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse; Robert Fair, Hairdresser.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals, furniture and property, building and repairs shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith(butcher); Margaret Cowe (grocer); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); Ralph Thompson (joiner); William Patterson (plasterer); Mark Graham (mason); John Stoddart (grocer); Lancelot T Fleming (leather merchant); George Douglas (farmer); Edwin Cross (plumber); George Brown (undertaker); James Grey (spirit merchant); Johnson & Co (brewers); William Richardson (grocer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Henry Robinson (farmer); James Jeffrey (blacksmith); G F Steven (printing & advertising); Berwick Advertiser (advertising); George Macaskie (advertising); William Murray (stationer); John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (half year's postage); Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] (half year's postage); E Willoby [Clerk] (quarter year's postage, Justice Clerk's fees).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The value of the provisions, the necessaries and miscellaneous account and clothing consumed in the Workhouse during the last quarter was given.</p> <p>The Garden Account to be debited with the value of the Workhouse slops given to the pigs in the last half year.</p>	
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			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>As agreed at the last meeting the appointments of Medical Officers for the Islandshire and West Norhamshire Districts were made. James Lambie of Lowick was appointed to Islandshire for the year ending 25 March 1877 at a salary of £25 and Matthew James Turnbull was appointed to West Norhamshire for the year ending 25 March 1877 at a salary of £8.</p> <p>Agreed that the Local Government Board be informed that the Guardians could not find medical officers resident and suitably qualified in these districts. Both the above were so, apart from residence, and were therefore appointed for one year.</p> <p>The Special Committee reported on Dr Davidson's attendance on Isabella Sanderson of Cheswick Buildings.</p> <p>They met with Isabella Sanderson, her daughter, Dr Davidson and the Relieving Officer at Cheswick Buildings on 20 March. They sought to establish the dates of the visits made by Dr Davidson between 25 January and 28 February. Isabella Sanderson could not remember the dates of the visits but knew the days of the week. Working backwards she stated he had visited on Monday, 28 February, Saturday 12 February and Tuesday 25 January. The first two dates agreed with those in Dr Davidson's record book. It stated that he also visited on Thursday 17 February. She was positive there was no visit between 28 and 12 February and Dr Davidson admitted the entry in his book was an error. His book gave no entry for 25 January but there was one for Monday 31 January. He admitted this was an error and the visit took place on 1 February. The patient was adamant he did not visit on that date. Her daughter corroborated this. The daughter added that it was on the Tuesday, the day after the Board Meeting. This could not have been 24 January. The patient stated there were six visits in all, including that day, viz 25 January, 12 and 28 February, 6, 15 and 20 March. Isabella Sanderson signed a deposition to confirm the above. The Committee stated her evidence was given clearly and distinctly. The Relieving Officer affirmed that the particulars were the same as she had given him all along.</p> <p>Dr Davidson gave a statement declining to acknowledge any error in his entries in his</p>	
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			<p>report book, though admitting he may have made a mistake. He presented a letter from George Robertson of Goswick to the effect that Davidson was at Goswick on 1 February and had stated he had been at Cheswick Buildings seeing patients. David Tait, one of the Special Committee, submitted that the facts had been proved and moved, seconded by James R Black, That the Chairman admonish Dr Davidson to ensure in future that entries in his book are a correct record of his visits to his patients and that the Chairman remind him that the Guardians expected him to give reasonable and conscientious attendances upon the sick poor under his charge. As there was no amendment, The Chairman admonished Dr Davidson in the terms of the motion.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee gave a list of the tenders selected for supplying the Workhouse with provisions and clothing and the outdoor poor with bread, oatmeal etc. and recommended acceptance. Agreed.</p> <p>Letter received from the Medical Officer for the Workhouse [Colville Brown] recommending the removal of certain lunatic paupers to the County Asylum. John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was instructed to arrange for their examination by a magistrate.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/374-380	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 10 April 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; George Bone; John Watt; Andrew Mitchell; Matthew Young; John Young; John Marshall; John Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Dr .Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p>	10 April 1875

		<p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John A Woods, Treasurer; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Fluker; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull. John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer, vagrants; John Rutherford, Master of the Workhouse; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: In maintenance Account: Berwick Girls' National School (quarter's tuition for indoor pauper children); Berwick Infants' National School (quarter's tuition for indoor pauper children); Berwick Boys' National School (quarter's tuition for indoor pauper children); St. Cuthbert's RC School (quarter's tuition for indoor pauper children); Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief advanced under suspended order to Mary Watson and Hannah Wilson); Alnwick Union (relief advanced under suspended order to Mary Curle). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance for 24 pauper lunatics); West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum (quarter's maintenance for Susannah Forsythe); Ipswich Borough Lunatic Asylum (maintenance and cost of removal of Thomas Manuel); Dr Colville Brown (2 certificates of lunacy). Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown (Workhouse); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer (quarter's salary); Sundry householders (rents of vaccination stations); Robert Fluker (Berwick District vaccination fees); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District vaccination fees). Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams, Ancroft & Kyloe; John Husband, Berwick;</p>	
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			<p>James Paxton, Horncliffe; Robert Lambert, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie..</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Holy Island, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>Contribution orders to be sent to the overseers of the parishes of the Union to meet the expenditure of the Board for the next half year were agreed. These were to be paid by two equal instalments on 29th April; and 15th July.</p> <p>On the recommendation of the Workhouse Committee, the Master was authorised to get an estimate from John Crow, painter, for painting the Master's new office.</p> <p>Letter received from the Local Government Board agreeing the appointments of Drs Lambie and Turnbull. The Common Seal applied to the contracts.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying to the Workhouse with bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>A Special Finance Committee, the Chairman [Andrew Thompson], Matthew Young, Adam Darling, John Young, were appointed to examine and pass the school fees and accounts required to be paid at the next meeting.</p> <p>James Radford, District Auditor, gave notice that he would audit the accounts on 5th and 6th May.</p> <p>The Clerk presented a statement of the Union Common Fund Account for the half year just ended, showing the distribution of charges among the parishes. Approved.</p>	
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			<p>Notification received from Wakefield Asylum that Susannah Forsythe had been discharged, recovered from the Asylum. Arrangements were being for her removal.</p> <p>On the motion of Matthew Young, it was unanimously agreed that a vote of thanks be given to the Chairman for his services to the Board during the past year.</p> <p>On the motion of the Chairman, it was unanimously agreed that a vote of thanks be given to the Vice Chairmen for their services to the Board during the past year.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/381-387	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians first meeting of the year held on 24 April 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Andrew Mitchell; David Carr; George Bone; James R Black [James Black]; Matthew Young; David Tait; Alexander John Gillie [Alexander Gillie]; John Marshall; John Watt; John Davidson; George Hogg; William Cleghorn; James Smith; John Dunbar; George Peel; Robert Brown; John Young; William Allan. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: James Black took the Chair until a Chairman for the ensuing year was elected. On appointment as Chairman Andrew Thompson resumed the chair.</p> <p>Return of the election of Guardians for 1876 – 1877. Ancroft: George Bone, Cheswick Buildings, farmer; David Tait, Ancroft Steads, farmer; James R Black [James Black], Cheswick, farmer; Berwick: Andrew Thompson, Bay View [Berwick], gentleman; Adam Darling, Governor's House [Berwick], merchant; Matthew Young, Palace Street [Berwick], merchant; John Young, Western Lane, merchant; Andrew Mitchell, Letham Shank, farmer; John Davidson, Castle Terrace, gentleman; John Brown, Gainslaw Hill, farmer; Robert Brown, Castlegate, butcher. Cornhill: William Smith, Melkington House, farmer. Duddo: Rev Beverley S Wilson [Rev Beverley Wilson], Duddo Vicarage, vicar. Felkington: David Carr, Felkington, farmer. Grindon: William Smith jr, Melkington House, farmer.</p>	24 April 1876

		<p>Holy Island: George Hogg jr, Goswick, farmer; Horncliffe: Andrew Trotter, Horncliffe Mill, farmer and miller. Kylloe: James Hogg, Buckton, farmer. David Hume, Berrington, farmer. Loanend: John Dunbar, Bankhead, farmer. Longridge: James Smith, West Longridge, farmer. Norham: William Allan, Newburn, Norham, farmer. Norham Mains: William Cleghorn, Norham East Mains, farmer. Shoreswood: George R Lumsden [George Lumsden], Shoreswood, farmer. Thornton: James R Nicholson [James Nicholson], Thornton, farmer. Tweedmouth (Urban Ward): John Marshall, Kiln Hill, Tweedmouth, farmer; George Peel, Sandstell Road, Spittal, herring curer; John Watt, Spittal Hall, farmer. (Rural Ward): Alexander J Gillie [Alexander Gillie], farmer. Twizel: John Tait, Riffington, farmer.</p> <p>The nominations and voting papers were to be kept in safe keeping by the Clerk.</p> <p>Andrew Thompson, proposed by Matthew Young and seconded by James Black, was unanimously elected Chairman. He then took the Chair.</p> <p>Matthew Young, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by John Davidson, and David Tait, proposed by James Black, seconded by Andrew Mitchell, were unanimously elected Vice Chairmen; Matthew Young to have preference.</p> <p>The following Committees were appointed and dates of first meetings fixed. Assessment Committee Elected Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; John Watt; James Black. Ex officio Guardians: Rev Thomas Procter; Rev J G Rowe; Ralph Forster. Workhouse and Finance Committee Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; John Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Davidson; John Brown; Robert Brown; John Marshall; George Peel; John Watt; Alexander Gillie; George Bone; James Hogg; George Hogg.</p> <p>The Standing Orders of the Board were read by the Clerk.</p>	
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			<p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: John Stoddart (grocer); John Mitchell (draper); James G Smith (butcher); James Grey (wine & spirit merchant); Paxton & Purves (drapers); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Dunlop (draper); Elias Pearson (baker); James Russell (draper); W & A Johnston & Co (drapers); John Davidson (Grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer], (removing 2 lunatics to County Asylum); John Paley (removing lunatic from Wakefield Asylum).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker;</p> <p>A Collector's monthly statement was laid before the Board for the parish of: Cornhill.</p> <p>Notification received from the County Asylum that Thomas Rutherford had been discharged, being removed by his father.</p> <p>A comparative statement of Indoor & Outdoor Relief was received from the Local Government Inspector.</p>	
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			<p>Attention was drawn by the Clerk to the Local Government Board Circular of 23 March 1874 concerning returns to Medical Officers of Health. In consequence of applications from the Medical Officers of Health for Berwick Urban Sanitary District and the Rural Sanitary District of the Union being now appointed under the Local Government Board, it was necessary to comply with the Circular by providing them with a list of new cases of sickness after each Board Meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk was instructed to request the Medical Officers to submit returns of new cases of sickness regularly, to provide them with the necessary returns and send these to the two Medical Officers of Health as soon as possible.</p> <p>The Clerk reported the death of one of the Sureties for James Paxton, Assistant Overseer of Horncliffe. William Paxton, saddler & harness maker of Berwick was prepared to become a Surety. Approved and the clerk was requested to prepare and execute the bond.</p> <p>As James Weatherston, boot & shoemaker of Norham had allowed his pauper apprentice, Thomas Eggleston, to return to the Workhouse before the expiry of the indenture, the Clerk was directed to ask for an explanation and to intimate the Guardians' intention to enforce the provisions of the indenture.</p> <p>George Bone gave notice that at the next meeting he would propose the Guardians contribute £15 annually to Berwick Infirmary.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/388-394	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 8 May 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; Adam Darling; James R Black [James Black]; David Tait; George Bone; George Peel; John Watt; David Hume; George R Lumsden [George Lumsden]; John Tait; Andrew Mitchell; William Allan; John Brown; John Dunbar; George Hogg. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order</p>	8 May 1876

		<p>of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith; Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); ? Marshall (drapers); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John McCall (undertaker); George Douglas (milk seller); Border Brewery Company; James Grey (spirit merchant); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller). Garden - :T G S Grahame (mealseller); William White (manure); Robert Middlemiss (carting manure); Berwick Corporation (half year's rent); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company (lime). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Berwick District (Registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (Registrar's fees); Registration Expenses: E Willoby (annual allowances for use of offices for registration expenses); John Crosby, Berwick District (Registrar's fees); Matthew Sibbit, Islandshire District (Registrar's fees); Joseph Scott, Norhamshire District (Registrar's fees); Collectors Poundage: John Gilchrist (Norham); ? [illegible] Norham Mains.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft,</p>	
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			<p>Berwick, Holy Island, Kylee, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>In accordance with notice given, George Bone, seconded by Adam Darling, moved that the Union contribute annually £15 to the funds of Berwick Infirmary. George Lumsden, seconded by George Hogg, moved an amendment that no subscription be made. A petition against the motion from a "Meeting of the Ratepayers of Spittal" signed by 99 people was produced.</p> <p>Vote: For the motion – Matthew Young (chairman); George Bone; Adam Darling; David Tait; David Hume; James Black; Andrew Mitchell; Rev J G Rowe. – 8. For the amendment – George R Lumsden [George Lumsden]; George Hogg; John Tait; William Allan; John Brown; George Peel; John Dunbar; John Watt – 8.</p> <p>As the votes were equal, the Chairman gave his casting vote for the motion, which was therefore carried.</p> <p>Resolved that the Guardians of the Union, with the consent of the Local Government Board, pay an annual subscription of £15 towards the support and maintenance of Berwick Infirmary, being a public infirmary for the reception of sick and wounded persons.</p> <p>Agreed that the Meetings of Guardians for the annual examination of the indoor and outdoor poor be held as follows: Board Room, Berwick, 15th May 2 pm; Chapel vestry, Spittal, 17th May [? time]; Church vestry, Tweedmouth, 17th May [? time]; Fisher's Arms, Horncliffe, 23rd May 11am; Victoria Inn, Norham, 23rd May [? time]; Cat Inn, Cheswick, 24th May [? time]; Plough Inn Beal, 24th May [? time].</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board concerning the employment of poor boys in the Royal Navy.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that no reply had been received to his two letters to James Weatherston, concerning the unlawful discharge of his apprentice, Thomas Eggleston. As it appeared that Weatherston no longer resided within the Union, it was decided to take no further action at present. It was agreed that Eggleston should go into the service of Mr Strother, saddler, Norham, who wished to take him on a six</p>	
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			<p>month trial.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended the acceptance of the tender from John Crowe to paint the Master's new office. Agreed.</p> <p>The Assessment Committee recommended that Edward Willoby, the Clerk be paid £20 for his services to the Committee over the year to 25th March. Agreed; the sanction of the Local Government to be sought.</p> <p>Agreed that the Standing Orders of the Board should be revised by a Special Committee, consisting of the Chairman, the Vice Chairmen, Adam Darling and George Bone and report back.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/395-401	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 22 May 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; Adam Darling; George Bone; George R Lumsden [George Lumsden]; John Brown; John Marshall; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; James Smith; William Allan; George Peel; Andrew J Gillie [Andrew Gillie]; James R Black [James Black]. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe. Medical Officers: Drs Davidson [Thomas Davidson]; .Fluker [Robert Fluker]; Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, and indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John</p>	22 May 1876

			<p>Stoddart (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; John McCall (undertaker); James Grey (spirit merchant); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Veitch (grocer); Firewood: Michael Murray (wood); Ralph Thompson (sharpening saws); A Thomson (wood); Thomas Strother (wood); R Davidson & Son (sacks).</p> <p>Agreed that £10 be paid to Edward Willoby, Clerk, for his trouble and expenses in arranging the elections, in accordance with the Election Expenses general Order.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>A supplemental valuation list for the parish of Berwick was tabled.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended that the tender of Elias Pearson, Church Street, to supply six sacks of oatmeal as per sample, for the indoor poor at 48s per sack be accepted. Agreed.</p> <p>Reply received from the Local Government Board concerning the subscription to Berwick Infirmary. They requested that they be informed of the special objects of the Infirmary and also the particular advantages or privileges which the Guardians would receive, as regards the chargeable poor of the Union and to what extent the Guardians were likely to make use of them. They also asked for any printed statement relative to the Infirmary.</p> <p>The Clerk produced the printed regulations and report for 1874 of the Berwick Dispensary and Infirmary.</p> <p>The Clerk also produced a letter from William Alder, Treasurer to the Infirmary, complaining of and [illegible] a statement by G R Lumsden at the last meeting that the names of all subscribers were not published. Mr Lumsden then stated that he had meant that those who contributed to Church collections and otherwise were not</p>	
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			<p>known and therefore published.</p> <p>Rev J G Rowe, seconded by Matthew Young, moved that a Committee be appointed to draw up an answer to the Local Government Board and submit it to the next meeting.</p> <p>George Lumsden, seconded by John Watt, moved an amendment that no such Committee be appointed.</p> <p>Votes: For the motion – Rev J G Rowe; Matthew Young; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; James Black; George Bone; – 6 votes.</p> <p>For the amendment – George Lumsden; John Watt; James Smith; William Allan; John Brown; Alexander Gillie; John Marshall. 7 votes.</p> <p>Andrew Thomson, Chairman and George Peel abstained.</p> <p>The amendment was therefore carried.</p> <p>John Watt, seconded by George Lumsden, moved that the Local Government Board be informed that the Guardians do not expect to derive any [illegible] from Berwick Infirmary. As no amendment was moved, the motion was carried and the Clerk instructed accordingly.</p> <p>Adam Darling gave notice that he would at the next meeting move that the Treasurer of the Infirmary be asked to provide a list of all persons, both indoor and outdoor, since the opening of the Infirmary with a statement of the result of such treatment.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled copies of the Bills now before Parliament - the Valuation of Property, the Poor Law Amendment and the Highway Bills.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/402-408	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 5 June 1876	<p>Present:</p> <p>Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; John Watt; Alexander John Gillie [Alexander Gillie]; James R Black [James Black]; John Young; George R Lumsden [George Lumsden]; Andrew Mitchell; George Peel; John Dunbar; George Bone.</p> <p>Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe;</p> <p>Medical Officers: Dr. Fluker [Robert Fluker].</p> <p>Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order</p>	5 June 1876

		<p>of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, furniture and property and indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); William Wilson (boot & shoemaker); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); John McCall (undertaker); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); [illegible] & Son (sack manufacturers); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer); John Garden (police expenses searching for George Gibson); Catherine Patterson (cleaning Tweedmouth pay station); John Main (cleaning Spittal pay station); Garden: Miss Watt (seeds & plants); Robert Moor (7 pigs sold in market).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel were tabled.</p> <p>A medical certificate was presented for the following who was granted relief: Mary White, aged 38, Norham, debility, convalescent from recent catarrh, partially; has always been delicate and weak; never able to work.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe.</p>	
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			<p>In the unavoidable absence of and at the request of Adam Darling, Matthew Young, pursuant of the notice given at the last meeting, moved, seconded by George Bone, that the Treasurer of the Infirmary be asked to provide a list of all persons, both indoor and outdoor, since the opening of the Infirmary with a statement of the result of such treatment.</p> <p>As no amendment was made, the motion was carried.</p> <p>The annual statement of the District Auditor, concerning the officers' securities, which was satisfactory, was tabled.</p> <p>Reports were received of the annual meetings for the examination and inspection of the outdoor poor.</p> <p>Berwick District. 15th May 1876, in the Board room. Guardians present: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; George Bone; George Lumsden; Adam Darling; John Young; Andrew Mitchell. Considered 125 cases, representing 214 people, 184 of whom attended.</p> <p>17th May, in Spittal Chapel vestry. Guardians present: Matthew Young; George Peel; John Watt; John Marshall. Considered 38 cases, representing 59 people, 50 of whom attended.</p> <p>17th May, in Tweedmouth Church vestry. Guardians present: Matthew Young; George Peel; John Watt; John Marshall; Rev Thomas Procter; David Tait; George Bone; Robert Brown. Considered 80 cases, representing 113 people, 87 of whom attended. Recommendations: Immediate reduction of relief – 1 case; to be reported for reduction in at the end of the current half year - 2 cases; further inquiries – 3 cases; increase recommended – 3 cases.</p> <p>Norham and Islandshire District. 23rd May, in the Fisher's Arms, Hornccliffe. Guardians present: Matthew Young; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; David Carr; [illegible]. Considered 19 cases, representing 29 people, 21 of whom attended.</p> <p>23 May, in the Victoria Inn, Norham. Guardians present: Matthew Young; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; David Carr; [illegible]; David Tait; James Black; George Bone; William Cleghorn; William Allan; George Lumsden. Considered 41 cases, representing 51 people, 45 of whom attended.</p>	
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			<p>31st May, in the Cat Inn, Cheswick. Guardians present: Matthew Young; David Tait; George Bone; James Black; Adam Darling; James Hogg. Considered 25 cases, representing 30 people, 21 of whom attended.</p> <p>31st May, in the Plough Inn, Beal. Guardians present: Matthew Young; David Tait; George Bone; James Black; Adam Darling; James Hogg Andrew Thompson. Considered 10 cases, representing 12 people, 9 of whom attended.</p> <p>Recommendations: relief to be increased in 5 cases; to be reduced in 1; not to be granted in 1 application for renewal of relief formerly given but now discontinued; inquiries to be made in the case of an old couple, having a married son without family.</p> <p>Consideration of the arrangements to be made, if any, to examine the indoor poor deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>Entry from the minutes of the last meeting of the Workhouse Committee: The Master reported the death of Robert Fair, hairdresser and barber at the Workhouse. Selby Lockwell, who had done the work during Robert Fair's illness, was willing to continue on behalf of Mr Fair's family until the end of the quarter. The Committee recommended acceptance. Agreed. At the next Meeting they would appoint a hairdresser and barber for the Workhouse at the present salary of [illegible].</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>The contracts for supplying bread and meat will expire on 24 June. The Workhouse Committee were authorised to obtain tenders and report to the next meeting and also tenders to make up men's and boys' clothing.</p> <p>An Order of Justices was received from the Newcastle upon Tyne Union, for the removal to Berwick Union of John Turner Curry, alleged to be settled in Berwick parish. On hearing John Crosby's [Relieving Officer] statement it was agreed there were no grounds for objection</p>	
Item	GBR 52/409-414	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians	Present: Guardians: James R Black [James Black]; Robert Brown; John Watt; George Bone;	19 June 1876

		<p>meeting held on 19 June 1876</p>	<p>John Dunbar; John Young; Andrew Trotter; George Hogg; George Peel. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker Chairman: In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairmen, James Black took the Chair at the request of the meeting.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: Elias Pearson (baker); James G Smith (butcher); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; John Stoddart (grocer); John Davidson (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Mc Call (undertaker); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller).</p> <p>Cheque for £31 7s 7d paid to the Exchequer Loan Commissioners, being instalment and 1 year's interest on loan of £900 received from them.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board agreeing the contribution of £15 as an annual subscription to Berwick Infirmary. Agreed that the subscription due on 8 May last be paid.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown;</p>	
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			<p>Davidson; Fluker. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Berwick, Norham, Norham Mains, Tweedmouth, Twizel.</p> <p>In accordance with notice given at the last meeting, the Board proceeded with the appointment of a hairdresser and barber for the Workhouse. An application had been received from Selby Lockwell, High Street, Berwick. He was appointed at a salary of £6 per annum, payable quarterly; his duties to start on 24 June with one month's notice on each side.</p> <p>Letter from William Alder, Treasurer to Berwick Infirmary, with the agreement of the Committee to provide with the sanction of his Committee desired list of patients.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee recommended acceptance of the tenders for supplying the Union with meat etc. as follows: James G Smith – rounds & flanks of beef @ 11s 6d per stone, houghs of beef @ 5s 6d per stone, legs of mutton @ 11d per lb, suet @ 8d per lb. Elias Pearson – indoor fine bread @ 6 d per 4 lbs, indoor seconds bread @ 5 ¾ d per 4 lbs, indoor flour @ 38s per sack, outdoor seconds bread @ 4 lbs 5 oz for 6d, outdoor oatmeal @ 3 lbs 6oz for 6d, outdoor flour @ 4 lbs 1 oz for 6d. Agreed.</p> <p>The Committee also recommended the purchase of a new druggist for the Lunatic Attendant's day room. Agreed.</p> <p>Application from Morpeth Union, requesting that they accept chargeability, without order of removal, of Margaret Lee, widow and her four children. Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, was asked to inquire into the circumstances and report.</p> <p>At the instance of the Vicar of Berwick, the Master reported that the sewer grating, just outside the Workhouse gate was frequently in a very filthy condition and that an offensive middenstead had developed on Corporation property adjoining the Workhouse. It was reported that the middenstead had been removed and the Master was instructed to report the sewer to the Inspector of nuisances.</p>	
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			<p>The Annual Kettle for the Guardians and Officers was arranged for [?] July at Cheswick Links.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board agreeing payment of £20 to the Clerk for his services to the Union Assessment Committee.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/415-421	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 3 July 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; Matthew Young; David Tait; Adam Darling; George Bone; Andrew Mitchell; David Carr; John Dunbar; John Marshall; Robert Brown. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals, repairs shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); Scremerston & Shoreswood Coal Company; James Dunlop (draper); Berwick & Tweedmouth Gas Light Company; John Stoddart (grocer); Henry E Nicholson (plumber); Thomas Strother (carpenter); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); John McCall (undertaker); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Border Brewery Company; W C Caverhill & Company (ironmongers); Knight & Co (books & forms); E Willoby [Clerk] quarter's postage and sundry payments); J Henderson (bookbinder). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (expenses removing lunatics to and from Asylum).</p>	3 July 1876

			<p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Hannah Rutherford, Matron of Workhouse; Elizabeth Ann Dalziell, Lunatic Attendant; George Bogue, Porter; Mary Harle, Nurse; Representatives of the late Robert Fair, Barber.</p> <p>A cheque for £38 given to the Master to enable him to purchase wood from Masters of foreign going ships – to be accounted for in the wood accounts.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master's accounts for the Workhouse in the last quarter for provisions, necessaries and miscellaneous for the past quarter were presented.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Margaret Pipe, Horncliffe, phthisis, wholly; Richard Romaines, aged 27, labourer, Norham, complete paraplegic, wholly.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Tweedmouth.</p> <p>The Common Seal to be applied to the contracts for supplying the Union with bread, meat etc for this quarter.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported on the tender from David Scott, tailor, Church Street, for suits for the male inmates of the Workhouse – men 17s each, boys 11s each. This was an increase of 2s per suit from the last tender. They had therefore</p>	
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		<p>sought an estimate from John Main, tailor, Spittal. As the tender from Scott was the lower it was agreed to accept this until 25 March next.</p> <p>It also reported the following: Agreement for two boys to join the Band of Hope on condition that no charge is made against the Guardians. The advisability of purchasing a new washing machine and some linen baskets and ropes. They suggested the latter were bought from R Davidson & Son and that the Chairman examine the present washing machine and advise on its repair or purchase of a new one. The Meeting gave its approval and the Chairman offered the benefit of his experience concerning the washing machine.</p> <p>It was reported that Margaret Shield and Elizabeth Young Lilley had been discharged as recovered from the County Asylum.</p> <p>Agreed on the motion of Adam Darling to appoint a deputation at the next meeting to visit the County Asylum and report on the condition of the inmates maintained there by the Union.</p> <p>Seven days leave of absence was granted to the Porter.</p> <p>Joseph Scott [Relieving Officer] reported on the case of Margaret Lee, widow, and her four children. The Meeting agreed to accept chargeability without order of Justices but did not agree to their getting non resident relief.</p> <p>An Order of Justices and notice of chargeability was received from the Kingston Union, for the removal to Berwick Union of Christina Morrison, single woman aged 66. On hearing Joseph Scott's [Relieving Officer] statement it was agreed there were no grounds for objection.</p> <p>It was reported that George Smith, aged 25, a tramp unable to travel by road had been sent by the Inspector of Dunbar to Berwick by rail. He had had to be treated in the Workhouse for 3? [illegible] days. The Clerk was asked to request an explanation from the Inspector of his apparently improper conduct.</p>	
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			John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against James Morgan, labourer, Berwick and Andrew Flood, shoemaker, Berwick for respectively neglecting to work and wilfully allowing themselves and their wives to become chargeable to the Union.	
Item	GBR 52/422-428	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 17 July 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; Adam Darling; George Bone; John Young; James R Black [James Black]; Robert Brown; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; John Dunbar; George Hogg. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>Payment of salaries was ordered for: Edward Willoby, Clerk to the Guardians; William Willoby, Assistant Clerk to the Guardians; John A Woods, Treasurer; John Crosby, Relieving Officer, Collector to Guardians; Joseph Scott, Relieving Officer, Collector of Rates, Cornhill; John Garden, Assistant Relieving Officer, vagrants; Colville Brown, Workhouse Medical Officer; District Medical Officers: Robert Fluker; Thomas Davidson; James Lambie; John Paxton; Matthew J Turnbull. John Rutherford, Master of the Workhouse; Robert L Yetts, Collector of Rates, Holy Island.</p>	17 July 1876

			<p>Payments were ordered for: In Maintenance Account: Boys' National School (fees for indoor children); Girls' National School (fees for indoor children); St Cuthbert's RC School (fees for indoor children); Beveridge Strother (outfit for Thomas Eggleston). Out Relief Account: Morpeth Union (relief advanced to Hannah Wilson and Mary Watson whilst under suspended orders). Lunatics Account: Northumberland County Asylum (quarter's maintenance for 23 lunatics and part quarter for 4 others); West Riding Asylum (maintenance for Susannah Forsythe from 2nd to 13th April). Extra Medical Fees: Colville Brown (Workhouse); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby, Vaccination Officer, (quarter's salary); Joseph Scott, Vaccination Officer, (quarter's salary); Robert Fluker (Berwick District); Thomas Davidson (Tweedmouth District); James Lambie (Islandshire District).. Collectors Poundage: Henry J Williams (Ancroft, Lowick); John Husband (Berwick). Supplies and services: Berwick Parish (poor rate on Workhouse); Firewood – Captain O P Olsen (wood); Captain Miles Burrows (wood); Mutter, Howey & Co (cartage); Captain E Olsen (wood); Captain C Johansen (wood); E Tovieson [?] (wood).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the Local Police Rate by 22 July from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill; Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyloe; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Holy Island, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p>	
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			<p>Pursuant to his notice, Adam Darling moved that the Chairman, the Vice Chairmen and Dr Brown be appointed to visit the County Asylum to examine and report on the lunatics maintained there by the Union. Agreed.</p> <p>Reply received from the Inspector of Poor, Dunbar, concerning the case of George Smith, a tramp. The Inspector stated that he had given the money to Smith for food and lodgings. The Meeting considered that the advance of 4s by the Inspector was improper and directed that a copy of the correspondence be sent to the Board of Supervision with a request that it should not recur again.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe were tabled.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against Thomas Russell Junior, Murton Square, labourer, to obtain an order on him to contribute to the maintenance of his father and mother who had become chargeable to the Union.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/ 429-434	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 31 July 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: Matthew Young; John Watt; James R Black [James Black]; David Tait; John Brown; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; George Hogg; George Peel; Robert Brown; David Hume; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: None. Medical Officers: Dr.Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: Matthew Young.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p>	31 July 1876

			<p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, clothing, indoor funerals shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John McCall (undertaker); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Border Brewery Company; James Grey (spirit merchant); Alexander Yourston (carter); George McMullen (tailor); Urban Sanitary Authority (District rates on Workhouse); Garden – H S Grahame (mealseller); Robert Cockburn (manure account); Berwick Parish (poor rates on garden); Urban Sanitary Authority (district rates on garden); Firewood – [illegible] (firewood); Captain Jensen (firewood); Robert Middlemiss (carting wood); Robert Main (carting wood); William Strothers (firewood). Vaccination Expenses: Matthew Turnbull, West Norhamshire District (vaccination fees). In-maintenance Account: Kingston Union (maintenance of Christian Morrison while under order of removal).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: James Armstrong, Old Brewery Lane, rheumatism, is disabled from following his employment; Caleb Buglass, shoemaker, Coxon's Lane, sickness, is unfit for any employment at present.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Report in the Workhouse Visitor's Book, dated 26 June 1876, by John D Cleaton, Commissioner in Lunacy, of his visit that day. He examined 10 men and 21 women of unsound mind and would report to the Local Government Board on their condition. In</p>	
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			<p>the meantime he reported that all the men appeared chronic and harmless and suitable for workhouse care. He considered one woman, Alice Cameron, should at once be sent for curative treatment to an asylum. Two others, Christian Morrison and Margaret Shiel, appeared unfit for retention in the Workhouse and he recommended special observation and consideration by the Medical Officer whether they should be transferred to an asylum.</p> <p>Dr Brown tabled his report on the above.</p> <p>Alice Cameron came to the Workhouse voluntarily to be under his care after some time. From his knowledge of her previous history and present symptoms, he classified her as a lunatic. She was decidedly better since coming in and since being separated from her child.</p> <p>Margaret Shiel was sent to the Workhouse from the Asylum as being cured. From her appearance and conversation, after some time he reached the conclusion she was still insane and should be sent back to the Asylum.</p> <p>Christian Morrison was admitted eight days before without any certificate of or history of insanity. He also considered her insane and suitable for an asylum.</p> <p>He had not reported any of them to the Guardians as suitable cases for detention in the Workhouse as they were under observation as to whether they were lunatics of such a nature as to make them unsuitable for care in the Workhouse. He considered Margaret Shiel and Christian Morrison to have suicidal tendencies and therefore should be transferred. Alice Cameron, though improving, would benefit from transfer to Collingwood.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was directed to arrange for them to be examined by a Magistrate with a view to their transfer to the County Asylum.</p> <p>The half yearly return from the Superintendent of the County Asylum concerning the lunatics maintained there was tabled. It was noted that there was nothing filled in in the column for "observations".</p> <p>The half yearly statement of the Medical Officer for the Workhouse was also tabled. The replies to the printed inquiries were all satisfactory.</p> <p>Letter received from Dr Brown informing them that Dr Fraser was acting as his deputy since the departure of Dr Jamieson from Berwick. The arrangement was approved.</p>	
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			The Clerk reported that an Inspector from the Edinburgh Board of Supervision had visited to inquire into the facts of the case of George Smith. The result had not yet been received.	
Item	GBR 52/435-438	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 14 August 1876.	<p>Present: Guardians: Andrew Thompson; David Tait; William Allan; David Carr; Robert Brown; Andrew Mitchell; Andrew Trotter; John Watt; John Young. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: None. Chairman: Andrew Thompson.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); John Davidson (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Margaret Cowe (grocer); John Veitch (grocer); William J Gray (architect's charges re Master's office). Vaccination Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District registrars fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District registrars fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District registrars fees); Registration Expenses: John Crosby (Berwick District registrars fees); Matthew Sibbit (Islandshire District registrars fees); Joseph Scott (Norhamshire District registrars fees);</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p>	14 Aug. 1876

			<p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; Lambie. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors monthly statements were laid before the Board for the parishes of: Ancroft, Berwick, Cornhill, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Norham, Norham Mains, Twizel.</p> <p>Supplemental valuation lists for the parishes of Ancroft and Kyloe were tabled.</p> <p>The Vaccination Officers submitted their returns showing the number of births registered, the numbers of those vaccinated or accounted for during the half year ended December 1875. The returns were satisfactory and no proceedings by the Board were required.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/439-444	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 28 August 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: David Tait; George Bone; George Hogg; Adam Darling; Andrew Mitchell; John Watt; John Young; John Marshall. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr. Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: David Tait.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p>	28 Aug. 1876

		<p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); Elias Pearson (baker); John Stoddart (grocer); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Border Brewery Company; Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); Garden: John Bingham (one sow); Robert Small (carting ashes). Lunatics Account: John Crosby [Relieving Officer] (removing lunatics to asylum).</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker; The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>A collector's monthly statement was laid before the Board for the parish of: Tweedmouth.</p> <p>Letter from the Local Government Board enclosing the report of Mr Cleaton, Visiting Commissioner of Lunacy, of his visit to the Workhouse on 26th July. They asked for the response of the Guardians after consideration of it. The Guardians had considered Cleaton's report contained in the Workhouse Visitor's Book at their meeting on 31st July.</p> <p>Further report. Alice Cameron had been admitted three weeks previously, suffering from melancholic exhaustion which apparently came on some months before, after childbirth. She had been in the Asylum once and recovered. Christine [sic] Morrison had been in the Workhouse a few days. She had been removed from Kingston - on - Thames Union. She had been admitted to that Workhouse after being rescued from drowning by the police in a suicide attempt. She was still much depressed and he considered her suicidal disposition, though not active, was only in abeyance. Margaret Shiel had been discharged from Morpeth Asylum on 22nd July. Prior to admission she had been melancholic and had attempted suicide. He stated she was now maniacal though tractable and considered her condition could worsen.</p>	
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			<p>Arrangements for accommodation remained the same for this class of inmate.</p> <p>Men – They were mixed with ordinary inmates, had no special rooms and share with others the supervision of the Master and Porter, apart from two, who are bedridden and in the hospital, where there is a paid nurse. The remaining eight had as a day room, the room used for chopping wood, in which several were employed. The arrangement was uncomfortable and unsatisfactory. A separate day room should be provided. Since the last visit a new lavatory has been provided near the dormitories; a great improvement. The state of beds, bedding and clothing was satisfactory.</p> <p>Women – They were housed in a series of day rooms and dormitories known as the female imbecile ward. They were supervised by a paid female attendant with the assistance of a sane pauper. He found them clean and tidy in person and clothing and the rooms, beds and bedding in fair order. The window sashes in the dormitories are not safe at present; they should be stopped from opening more than 6 inches, top and bottom. He had been told the back yard was rarely used. Its present condition was unsuitable for that class of inmate, several of them were epileptic and feeble and could injure themselves by falling on the rugged pavement. If the walks were gravelled, trees, shrubs and a covered seat provided, it could be useful for the more helpless inmates.</p> <p>Eight to ten of the women and some of the men were taken for walks beyond the premises very frequently by the female attendant and the porter respectively. These officers also superintended the weekly bathing. The handles of the hot water taps were now kept in their charge. The male bath room was in an inconvenient place. The shower bath was no longer connected and never used. The diet was unchanged and satisfactory.</p> <p>The Medical Officer had given certificates in compliance with the provisions of sec 20, Lunacy Acts Amendment Act, in all cases apart from the three women listed above. Agreed that the Report be referred to the Workhouse Committee for consideration and report.</p> <p>The Clerk gave his quarterly statement of the sums requested from the parishes, the amount paid and the amounts outstanding.</p> <p>The Clerk presented his calculations of the sums required from the parishes to meet the expenditure of the Board for the ensuing half year; referred to the Workhouse and Finance Committee for comment and report.</p>	
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			<p>Letter from Selby Lockwell, the recently appointed barber, tendering his resignation from 29th September. It was accepted and action on replacement deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk was authorised to apply to the Justices for a warrant to remove to Scotland Andrew Gordon, aged 66 and his wife, he having been born in Leith, now chargeable to the Union and removeable.</p>	
Item	GBR 52/444-449	Minutes of Berwick Board of Guardians meeting held on 11 September 1876	<p>Present: Guardians: David Tait; Adam Darling; George Bone; William Allan; John Young; Andrew Mitchell; John Dunbar. Ex Officio Guardians: Rev J G Rowe; Medical Officers: Dr Fluker [Robert Fluker]. Chairman: David Tait..</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had examined the books of the Master, Relieving Officers, outdoor relief lists, receipt and expenditure books in conformity with the general order of the Poor Law Board.</p> <p>Financial accounts for the Union and the Relieving Officers Messrs Crosby [John Crosby]; Scott [Joseph Scott]; were presented, and payments ordered as required for out-relief and in-maintenance.</p> <p>The amount of the invoices for provisions, necessaries, indoor funerals, furniture and property shown in the Master's Day Book, was given.</p> <p>Payments were ordered for: Supplies and services: James G Smith (butcher); John Stoddart (grocer); Elias Pearson (baker); James Dunlop (draper); Margaret Cowe (grocer); George Douglas (farmer); Elizabeth Whitehead (milk seller); John McCall (undertaker); James Grey (spirit merchant); Alexander R Lowrey (farmer).</p> <p>Request received from the Clerk of Peace for Northumberland for payment of the General County Rate by 20 September from the following parishes: Ancroft; Cornhill;</p>	11 Sept. 1876

			<p>Duddo; Felkington; Grindon; Holy Island; Horncliffe; Kyoie; Loanend; Longridge; Norham; Norham Mains; Shoreswood; Thornton; Tweedmouth (Ord township); Twizel.</p> <p>Financial transactions between the parishes and the Treasurer were recorded.</p> <p>The Master produced his estimate of provisions etc required for the next fortnight.</p> <p>Medical certificates were presented for the following who were granted relief: Michael Caisey, aged 25, Weatherly Square, injury to head, unable to follow his employment.</p> <p>Weekly medical returns were received from the following Medical Officers: Brown; Davidson; Fluker. The necessary extracts were made for the Medical Officers of Health.</p> <p>Collectors' monthly statements were laid before the Board for all parishes.</p> <p>Agreed that the Clerk would arrange for advertisements in the local papers for the post of barber for the Workhouse at £9 per annum. Appointment to be made at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Workhouse and Finance Committee had examined the Clerk's calculations of the estimated sums required from the parishes for the next half year which they recommended for approval. Agreed.</p> <p>The Workhouse Committee reported on their consideration of the report by the Lunacy Commissioner.</p> <p>Use of the day room for chopping wood: They pointed out that there was another day room upstairs for the use of the very aged. They considered that the ordinary room provided sufficient accommodation for those who could work. They had been informed that each night when work was finished it was cleared and made comfortable for use between supper and bed time.</p> <p>Windows in the female imbecile ward: The Master had reported that the windows had been secured in the manner specified.</p>	
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			<p>Back yard of the female insane ward: The Committee pointed out that there was a front yard for the ward, on the south side, which was gravelled with shrubs and seats. The Committee recommended that the back yard could be improved. The paved part could be gravelled and the Master would provide the suggested covered seat and shrubs suitable for the yard.</p> <p>The men's bath: They could not suggest a better position for it but recommended that the present bath be improved by encasing the bath with a wood lining.</p> <p>The report was adopted; the Master was authorised to get the wood lining for the bath; the Clerk to inform the Local Government Board of their decisions.</p> <p>Reply received from the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, concerning their inquiry into the case of the tramp, George Smith, who travelled from Dunbar to Berwick Workhouse. They had notified the Inspector of Poor there that in their opinion "he had acted indiscreetly and improperly in giving George Smith the sum of 4s on or about 29 July and have warned him to be more careful in future".</p> <p>The contracts for supplying provisions and clothing will expire on 3 October. The form of advertisements for tenders was approved and the Workhouse Committee were authorised to consider and report to the next meeting.</p> <p>Notification received from the District Auditor of his intention to audit the accounts of the Union on 20 September. The Meeting agreed his use of the Board Room for the audits of the School Boards of Cornhill and Twizel on the same day.</p> <p>John Crosby, Relieving Officer, was authorised to take proceedings before the Justices against John McIntosh, of Berwick, rope maker, for wilfully allowing himself to become chargeable to the Union.</p>	