APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Appleby Town Council Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 6.45pm

Councillors Present:		**Also in attendance:**
Cllr Davidson (Chair)	Cllr Hilsden	David Johnson (Mace Bearer)
Cllr Curley (Deputy Chair)	Cllr Kemp	Town Clerk and Clerk's Assistant
Cllr Anderton	Cllr Railton	
Cllr Chalmers	Cllr Rooke	
Cllr Connell	Cllr Smith	
Cllr Heap	Cllr Turnbull	

C1/11/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Pape and Cllr Potts.

C2/11/24 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in respect of this meeting.

C3/11/24 Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

C4/11/24 Minutes

- **Ordinary Meeting of the Council**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the meeting to sign the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of the Council** held on **Wednesday 23rd October 2024** as a true and accurate record and the Council to approve any resolutions. Recommendations and resolutions approved.

- **Planning and General Purpose Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the **Planning & General Purpose** Committee held on **Monday 11th November 2024** as a true and accurate record and the Council to approve any recommendations. The following recommendation was approved:

- To progress the idea of setting up a Community Service Awards to be given out quarterly to individuals who have gone over and above in the community.

- **Finance Committee Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the **Finance Committee** meeting held on **Monday 11th November 2024** as a true and accurate record. The following recommendations were approved:

- To accept the Management Accounts for October 2024.
- To change the Council's banking facilities from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust Bank.

- To accept and implement the salary increases for 2024-25, in line with the Local Government Services Pay Agreement, backdated to 1 April 2024.
- To recommend Ingram Dawson trustees review and accept the grant application from Appleby Crafty Ladies Group (amount to be decided by the Trustees).
- It was agreed to decline the proposal to accept the change of suppliers from Corona Energy to a new contract via Utility Aid for the provision of gas services when the current contract through Westmorland & Furness is terminated on 31 March 2025. The Clerk explained that since the meeting, a cheaper alternative has been obtained with British Gas Lite, which was accepted.

- **Property Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the Property Committee held on **Monday 11th November 2024** as a true and accurate record and the Council to approve any recommendations. The following recommendation was approved:

- To accept the quote received from Stuart Challoner for work to be carried out to the roof of the Public Hall.

C5/11/24 Unitary Authority Reports

Cllr Connell's report was received and accepted. It was noted that the Place Action Group (PAG) meetings held in Warcop are making progress and one of the current undertakings is an audit of footpath connections within the Appleby and Brough Ward. The next meeting will be held sometime in December.

C6/11/24 Police Newsletter – October and November

The Police Newsletter was received and noted. The Clerk reported that we have a new Beat Officer, PC Maddi Bennett, in addition to PC Andy Watson, our current Beat Officer, who will share cover of Appleby.

C7/11/24 Mayor's Report

The Mayor thanked all those who had attended the Remembrance Day Parade, as it had been a very good turnout. She also reported that she had attended the Grammar School prize giving evening and it had been a lovely event.

The Mayor's Coffee Morning is taking place at 9.30am on Saturday 21st December in the Public Hall Supper Room and it would be much appreciated if Councillors were able to help out where possible, either on the morning or by donating a raffle prize.

The Mayor reminded Councillors to respond to emails promptly, to save office time having to chase up replies.

C8/11/24 Clerk's Report

- **Mill Hill**

The repairs to the wall at Mill Hill have been completed.

- **Recycling Centre**

The glass bins have been removed from the Heritage Centre and some additional glass bins have been installed at the Primary School site. This will hopefully help to reduce the noise issues reported.

Westmorland & Furness Council are currently carrying out a consultation on their waste and recycling services, which can be found on their website. A link to the online consultation has been posted on the Council's Facebook page and Councillors were asked to follow the page if they use Facebook and encourage residents to do so, as we post regular updates and links to external posts of interest.

- **Public Hall Roof**

Work to replace part of the Public Hall roof is due to start the week commencing 2nd December. It is anticipated that the work will take no longer than 4 weeks (weather dependant). Access to the Supper Room during this period will be via the Archive entrance.

- **Lighting Issues**

The street lighting on Doomgate was reported by a resident as being inadequate, following an incident when her daughter was walking home early one evening. Westmorland & Furness's lighting officer has been out to conduct a lighting assessment and has agreed to make some improvements. They have also been asked to assess the lack of lighting on Low and High Wiend, and this has been supported by our local Police Officer after some incidents of anti-social behaviour on those streets.

- **Doomgate FRMS**

Broad Close car park will be closed from Monday, 25th November. Although work has started on the re-surfacing of the temporary car park at Edenside, it is not confirmed when the car park will be ready.

Work on the construction of the chambers will start on 6th January, which will involve various road closures and temporary traffic lights until 30th May.

- **Butts Shelters and Bollards**

The Clerk had met with Westmorland & Furness officers to discuss the Butts Shelters. A specification to repair them, with costings has been sent to them.

Westmorland & Furness have confirmed they are happy with the specification for the removable bollards on the Sands and we are now waiting for them to confirm how much they can contribute towards the costs.

- **Library Building**

The Clerk had met with the Assistant Director of Community Infrastructure and the Library Services Manager to talk about the first floor of the library building and its potential uses. It is very early stages, but all positive.

- **Parish Meeting**

The Parish Meeting to discuss the use of Fair Hill for Appleby Horse Fair will take place at the Public Hall on Wednesday 4th December at 6.30pm.

- **New Office Furniture**

W&F advertised an offer of free office furniture from Penrith Town Hall that was surplus to requirements. New furniture for both the Clerk's office and the adjacent room has been acquired.

Cllr Anderton informed the Council that she had been approached by a resident regarding the lack of lighting on Back Lane. It was explained that because the lights hadn't been adopted and weren't replaced with new LED lighting columns, when bulbs go they aren't being replaced. Cllr Connell explained that this was an Eden District Council legacy that Westmorland & Furness Council had inherited and he didn't think this could be remedied, but would make some enquiries.

Cllr Heap commented that some residents of the Story estate use this lane regularly, and they were therefore pulling together a proposal to take to Westmorland & Furness Council to ask them to consider adopting this lighting. Cllr Heap reported that the shrubs and trees along the estate side of Back Lane had recently been cut back, but that piles of plant debris remained and she has asked LSL Estate Management Company to arrange for these to be picked up.

C9/11/24 Outside Body Reports

ACAT: Cllr Anderton advised that ACAT are getting their insurance sorted so the damage to the Moot Hall is resolved as soon as possible.

St Anne's Hospital: Cllr Connell, as a new director of St Anne's Hospital, informed Council that the planned major refurbishment of the almshouses was due to start early next year.

C10/11/24 Schedule of Payments & Bank Transfers – October 2024

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign the schedule of payments for the month of **October 2024**, totalling £17,684.33. This figure includes employee salaries and all other expenditure and purchases; and is inclusive of VAT.

C11/11/24 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- Cllr Smith requested the idea of having a Youth Council was investigated, as this would encourage younger residents to get involved and also develop future Councillors.

C12/11/24 Next Meeting

To note that the Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday, 18th December 2024** at **6.45pm** in the Moot Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.23pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 18th December 2024**, the Chair of this meeting was authorised by the Council to sign these minutes, to confirm they are a true and accurate record:

Cllr Davidson