# APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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## Appleby Town Council Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

**Wednesday 22nd January 2025 at 6.45pm**

| **Councillors Present:** | | **Also in attendance:** |
|---|---|---|
| Cllr Davidson (Chair) | Cllr Pape | Town Clerk and Clerk's Assistant |
| Cllr Anderton | Cllr Railton | |
| Cllr Hilsden | Cllr Rooke | |
| Cllr Kemp | Cllr Turnbull | |

The Chair reported that Charlie Smith has resigned from Appleby Town Council.

**C1/01/25 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllr Curley, Cllr Chalmers, Cllr Connell, Cllr Heap and Cllr Potts.

**C2/01/25 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Anderton declared a personal interest in any matters relating to Fair Hill, as her property borders the land.

**C3/01/25 Public Participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**C4/01/25 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 18th December 2024** as a true and accurate record and the Council to approve any resolutions.

- **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 13th January 2025** as a true and accurate record.

- **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 13th January 2025** as a true and accurate record and to approve all recommendations as follows:

- To accept the Management Accounts for December 2024.
- To agree to vire budget underspends to Building Repairs.
- To advise that the trustees of the Ingram Dawson charity consider the application for St Lawrence's Church and decide an appropriate amount.
  (The Clerk reported that the Trustees had approved the grant application, awarding £1,500 to St Lawrence's Church.)

- **Property Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the Property Committee held on **Monday 13th January 2025** as a true and accurate record and to approve any recommendations:

- To start the process for registering the Moot Hall as a venue to conduct marriages. (The Clerk reported that she has started the registration process and the registration fee payable is £1,560 for three years. The application is subject to an inspection by the registration officer to ensure the venue meets their requirements.)
- To continue increasing the annual rent for Fair Hill during Horse Fair in line with RPI.

**C5/01/25 Unitary Authority Reports**

Cllr Connell's report was received and accepted. The Clerk highlighted that a draft timetable had been issued for the 563 Penrith to Kirkby Stephen service from 1 April, which provides a service for school and work times and is covered under the £3 capped fare. Westmorland & Furness Council have given Appleby Grammar School a grant of £8,000 from their Community Transport Fund towards the purchase of a school minibus. The Place Action Group met last week and Cllr Paula Heap will share the role of Chair with a Brough Councillor.

**C6/01/25 Police Newsletter – December and January**

The Police Newsletter was received and accepted. The new Neighbourhood Policing Pledge is centred around providing a dedicated model for each locality, with more visible presence and proactive work to tackle the issues that matter to the individual community, supported by PCSOs and Special Constables. Cllr Turnbull asked whether the Appleby police station was manned; the Clerk confirmed it is not, but events and training are often held there, and police on duty in Appleby would use it as their base.

**C7/01/25 Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported that the coffee morning held in December in support of Eden Animal Rescue raised £120 for the charity. She thanked any councillors who had helped or contributed raffle prizes.

**C8/01/25 Clerk's Report**

- **Bollards and Butts Shelters**

Westmorland & Furness Council have confirmed they will contribute £15,000 towards the bollards on the Sands and £2,000 towards the Butts Shelters. Appleby Rotary have confirmed a donation of £4,500 towards the refurbishment of the shelters. The shortfall that the Council would need to make up for both projects is approx. £7,000, which we can vire from underspend on other budget lines. It is hoped to get both projects started as soon as possible.

- **Public Hall Garage**

The large garage at the rear of the Public Hall is currently damp and not watertight and serves no useful purpose. The Clerk's Office will organise to sort out the contents and once done, some new watertight doors will be installed, so we can use it for much needed storage.

- **Radio 4 Any Questions?**

Appleby Public Hall is hosting Any Questions on Friday 14th March 2025. Free tickets have been advertised for just over a week and 150 out of 180 have so far been taken. A BBC engineer visited the hall last week to ensure the venue was definitely suitable and the signal strength was strong enough to air the programme live.

- **Business Networking Meeting**

The Business Networking meeting was held earlier today and although 25 businesses have indicated they would be prepared to pay an annual fee of £25 to be part of the group, disappointingly only 3

business representatives attended the meeting. It was agreed the Clerk would send out a survey to businesses as a last attempt to garner support.

**C9/01/25 Outside Body Reports**

**Appleby Grammar School:** Cllr Anderton reported that fundraising for the school minibus is going well, and the school are very grateful for the grant from the Hannah Kennington charity.

**ACAT:** ACAT are holding their first big breakfast of the year in the Supper Room on 16th February.

**C10/01/25 Community Achievement Awards**

The Clerk presented the amended nomination form for the Community Achievement Awards, with three suggested categories: Community Champion, Business Champion and Environment Champion and it was agreed these categories covered the three main fields.

Nomination forms will be made available on the Town Council website and hard copies from the Tourist Information Centre and will also be promoted on Facebook. The submissions can be sent either by email or by dropping the form off in the TIC. The nomination deadline will be 28th March, in time for the awards to be presented to the winners at the Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday 30th April. Any councillors who wish to be on the decision panel should contact the Clerk.

The Mayor thanked Charlie Smith for starting the conversation about the Community Achievement Awards.

**C11/01/25 Schedule of Payments & Bank Transfers – Month 2025**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign the schedule of payments for the month of **December 2024**, totalling £22,009.45. This figure includes employee salaries and all other expenditure and purchases; and is inclusive of VAT.

**C12/01/25 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas**

- Cllr Kemp reported that customers of the Royal Oak have been blocking the junction to come out of Mill Hill, on the left of the War Memorial, making the visibility bad when pulling out to go left down Bongate. The Clerk confirmed this could be reported to Highways.
- Cllr Turnbull asked when the double yellow lines were going to be completed around Clifford Street and Garth Heads Road. The Clerk said she would chase this with Highways.

**C13/01/25 Next Meeting**

To note that the Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday 19th February 2025** at **6.45pm** in the Moot Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 19th February 2025**, the Chair of this meeting was authorised by the Council to sign these minutes, to confirm they are a true and accurate record:

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