ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF APPLEBY

Wednesday 30th April 2025
7pm– 9pm
Public Hall, Boroughgate, Appleby-in-Westmorland

To be held in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, Part III

The meeting was chaired by Pamela Davidson,
Chair of Appleby Town Council and Mayor of Appleby

Minutes

1. **Welcome**

   Councillor Davidson, Chair of Appleby Town Council welcomed members of the public to the meeting and introduced herself as Mayor and Chair of Appleby Town Council.

   There were 37 members of the public in attendance, including representatives from 20 local organisations and community groups.

   A number of groups were not able to attend, but had sent in written reports, which will be collated with the verbal reports and published on the website as one document with the meeting minutes.

   Residents were also encouraged to bring their issues and concerns to Full Council meetings, with the next meeting being on Wednesday 28th May, or fill in a comments slip, which are available at the back of the hall.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

   It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the **Parish Meeting** held on Wednesday 24th May 2024 as a true and accurate record.

   The Chair informed residents that although the Council currently has 13 Councillors, there are 3 vacancies on the Town Council, if anyone is interested.

3. **Town Council and Tourism Update**

   A Town Council update was given by the Town Clerk, Sue Gilbertson.

   It was noted that the Council is asking users of the Public Hall to give their suggestions on what improvements they would like to see in the hall. Suggestions forms are available from Appleby TIC and on the Town Council website at www.applebytown.gov.uk

   A tourism update was given by the TIC Manager, Nicola Elliott.

   Both reports are attached.

4. **Questions from Appleby residents**

   There were no questions from Appleby residents, but it was raised that the fencing through Holme Farm wood is currently in a bad state of disrepair.

5. Presentation of the Community Achievement Awards

The Community Achievement Awards are a new introduction for 2025. The Chair thanked Charlie Smith for suggesting the awards. The awards are to recognise individuals who live, work or volunteer within Appleby and who often remain behind the scenes and are doing exceptional things for their community. Nominations were made by their colleagues or customers.

This year's award winners were:

Environmental Champion – Nikki Brabant

Nikki founded the Wombling Free Eden Group and Appleby Wombles. She's not only the founding member of the groups, but also the driving force and inspiration.

Business Champion – Lucy Richardson

Lucy relocated Appleby Business Services to the Cloisters in June 2022. As well as running a fabulous business, which is an asset to the town, Lucy never hesitates to help anyone, in her quiet and unassuming way and always goes over and above.

Community Champion – this was a particularly hard one to decide and in the end the panel decided to give out two awards.

Jennie Whitfield

Jennie has dedicated over 20 years raising money for Eden Animal Rescue. Jennie makes thousands of beautiful handmade cards and her famous ginger biscuits, which she sells at local shops and events in aid of the charity. In 2024 Jennie raised an amazing £32,000 through her sales and attending 84 events.

Archie Spence

Archie has been part of many volunteering organisations throughout his years in Appleby and has been the driving force of ACAT (Appleby Community Acting Together) for some years.

6. Reports from local Community Groups and Organisations

All reports have been collated and attached in a separate report, which is available on the Council's website.

7. Close of Meeting

Cllr Davidson thanked all the representatives from the community groups and organisations for taking the time to come to the meeting to present their reports, and residents for attending the meeting.

To note the proposed date for the next **Town Meeting** is **Wednesday 29th April 2025** at **7pm** at the Public Hall, Appleby in Westmorland.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

At the Town Meeting on the 29th April 2026, the Chair of the meeting was authorised to sign the minutes as true record.

Signed: _____

Date: _____