APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Finance Committee Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Monday 10th November 2025 at 7.36pm

Present:

Cllr Chalmers (Chair)
Cllr Anderton
Cllr Davidson
Cllr Heap

Also in attendance:

Cllr Connell
Cllr Hilsden
Cllr Kemp
Cllr Railton
Cllr Smith
Town Clerk and Clerk's Assistant

F1/11/25 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Curley and Cllr Pape.

F2/11/25 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chalmers declared an interest in the shop grant scheme as proprietor of a town centre business.

F3/11/25 Actions from the Previous Minutes

- **Town Centre shop front grant scheme**

Appleby Community Enterprises Ltd (ACE) has now been dissolved and its residual funds have been passed to Appleby Council to manage, on condition that the money is used to support business improvement activities. It was agreed at last month's Finance Committee meeting that Appleby Council would match fund the amount given by ACE and this would be ringfenced to create a scheme for local independent businesses to apply for a small grant to improve their shop fronts.

The Clerk reported that Westmorland & Furness Council has been contacted to ask if they can provide any match funding.

The Clerk has drafted an application form and guidelines, which the Chair of Finance and Alan McViety from ACE will review before circulating.

- **External Auditor Update**

No response or acknowledgement has been received from the external auditors asking for a breakdown of the additional costs on their year-end audit invoice relating to issues with the use of Fair Hill during Horse Fair raised by an elector. It was agreed that the outstanding amount relating to these costs will not be paid until a satisfactory answer is received.

F4/11/25 Chair's Report

There was no Chair's report in respect of this meeting.

F5/11/25 Management Accounts

The Chair presented the Management Accounts for October 2025.

The Management Accounts for October 2025 were accepted and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council.

F6/11/25 Broadband and Phone Supplier

The Clerk reported that the Council's broadband and phones have been moved from BT to a dedicated business provider called Daisy Communications, which will reduce our annual costs by over 60%.

F7/11/25 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

There were no items for future agendas.

F8/11/25 Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on **Monday 8th December 2025** at **7.15pm**, or at the rising of the Planning and General Purposes Committee in the Moot Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.56pm.

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

Cllr Heap