APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Finance Committee Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.04pm

Present:

Cllr Chalmers (Chair)
Cllr Anderton
Cllr Davidson
Cllr Heap

Also in attendance:

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

F1/01/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Curley and Cllr Pape.

F2/01/26 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chalmers declared an interest in item 5, as he understands his shop landlord has submitted a grant application.

F3/01/26 Management Accounts

The Chair presented the Management Accounts for December 2025.

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

F4/01/26 Budget and Precept for 2026-27

The Clerk presented the draft budget for 2026-27. At the request of the Committee Chair, a forecast column has been added to show the anticipated expenditure for 2025-26.

It was noted that building repairs expenditure will be over budget this financial year due to the amount of additional repair work done, but this will be offset by the underspends on other budget lines. The budget allocated for building repairs in 2026-27 will not cover the anticipated expenditure for all the repairs the Council would like to carry out to its properties, which includes the external repainting of the Moot Hall. It was agreed that any expenditure over and above this amount would be taken from the Council's reserves, in order to keep the Council Tax at the same level as this year.

The Draft Budget for 2026-27 was accepted and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council.

The Precept Request of £168,330 for 2026-27 was accepted and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council.

F5/01/26 Shop Front Grant Improvement Scheme

The grant panel had met to discuss the applications received for the first round of funding. Four applications have been received, three of which are situated on Bridge Street. The panel had a few queries on each application, but it was agreed in principle to award each applicant a grant of £1,000 towards their proposed shop front improvements. The Clerk highlighted there will be conditions on the grant offers advising applicants on planning regulations for Appleby. It was also agreed to do some publicity on these awards, as it is hoped this will encourage other business/property owners to apply.

F6/01/26 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

There were no items for future agendas.

F7/01/26 Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on **Monday 9th February 2026** 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 7.36pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 21st January 2026**, 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