ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF APPLEBY

Wednesday 29th April 2026
7pm – 8.40pm
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 representatives from 15 local organisations and community groups in attendance.

   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 20th 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 30th April 2025 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.

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

   Both reports are attached.

4. **Financial Report**

   The Council controls its finances very carefully and our spend for last financial year will come in slightly under budget.

   Despite carrying out a number of additional and unexpected activities, which were not budgeted for, we are happy to report that there was no increase in the Parish Council Tax for Appleby residents for this coming year for the second year in a row.

All our finances and accounts are published on the Council website and if any residents have any queries regarding how the Council spend its precept and other income, we are happy to supply this information, if it's not published on the website.

5. Questions from Appleby residents

There were no questions from Appleby residents.

6. Presentation of the Community Achievement Awards

The Community Achievement 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 –

Julie Johnson

Julie is Chair of Appleby Edibles and Coordinator for Appleby Emergency Response Group. Appleby Edibles offers the community small growing spaces up at the old Heritage Centre site beside the station. With Julie's help, the group, which was struggling, has grown and flourished over the past couple of years. She is also Coordinator of AERG, providing invaluable support to improve the group's services. She is heavily involved in responding to flood warnings and alerts, enabling the community to be flood-resilient.

Gordon Shaw

Gordon has been a volunteer for the Red Squirrel Group for a number of years and provides great support to anyone in Appleby who encounters grey squirrels in their gardens or wooded areas, helping to preserve our red squirrel population for years to come.

Business Champion – David Cleator

David has had his electrical shop in Appleby for over 50 years and originally ran the business with his mother. David has always gone over and above for his customers and will be missed in town when he retires very shortly.

Community Champion – **Dawn Brown**

Dawn began volunteering for Appleby Air Cadets 10 years ago, as her son was a cadet and the squadron was short of adult staff. Dawn proved to be such a great asset, she went into uniform as an Adult Volunteer Sergeant in 2018 and was promoted to Flight Sergeant in 2023. Dawn is the only uniformed member of staff for the Appleby Squadron, supported by a small group of adult volunteers. Dawn's squadron leader said that she always goes the extra mile to ensure the cadets gain the best experience possible.

7. 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.

8. 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 28th April 2027** at **7pm** at the Public Hall, Appleby in Westmorland.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

At the Town Meeting on the 28th April 2027, the Chair of the meeting was authorised to sign the minutes as true record.

Signed: _____

Date: _____