APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Finance Committee Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Monday 11th May 2026 at 7.33pm

Present:

Cllr Chalmers (Chair)
Cllr Anderton
Cllr Davidson
Cllr Heap

Also in attendance:

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

F1/05/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Curley.

F2/05/26 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Anderton and Cllr Connell declared an interest in item 6, as they are both governors of Appleby Grammar School.

F3/05/26 Actions from the Previous Minutes

- **Shop Front Grant Scheme**

The grant panel met last week and granted another three applications. Ten town centre businesses have been offered funding so far and although a number have started their improvements, only one has completed the work and drawn down money.

The Council last year agreed to contribute a further £5,000 once the initial funding of £10,000 had been distributed, and it is hoped the grant scheme can be continued moving forward. A press release will be publicised about how successful the scheme has been so far, in the hope more properties will apply.

F4/05/26 Management Accounts

The Chair presented the Management Accounts for April 2026.

The Management Accounts for April 2026 were accepted and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council.

F5/05/26 Year End Accounts

The accountant is currently reviewing the year end accounts and the Internal Auditor is coming next week, so it is hoped to get the Year End Accounts presented for approval to the Full Council meeting on 20th May.

F6/05/26 Charity Accounts

Appleby Grammar School have applied for a small grant to facilitate a graffiti art workshop to engage children who don't typically connect with more traditional art lessons.

The Committee agreed it is important to encourage young people to get involved with art and be engaged with the schools and it was agreed to recommend to the trustees to grant the application to Appleby Grammar School.

F7/05/26 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

- Cllr Chalmers would like a discussion about using any potential surplus from the previous year's budget to be ringfenced for a community grant pot to work alongside the charity accounts.
- Cllr Smith raised the idea of using one of the empty buildings to create a small museum for Appleby. The Clerk highlighted that this was included in the Town of Culture application and could also be included in a Community Plan, if the Council decides to go ahead with developing one.

F8/05/26 Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on **Monday 15th June 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 7.57pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 20th May 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 Chalmers