APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND TOWN COUNCIL

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Appleby Town Council Minutes

For the meeting held in the Moot Hall

Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 6.45pm

Councillors Present:		**Also in attendance:**
Cllr Davidson	Cllr Heap	David Johnston, Mace Bearer
Cllr Anderton	Cllr Railton	Clerk's Assistant
Cllr Connell	Cllr Rooke	
Cllr Curley	Cllr Turnbull	

In the absence of the Clerk, the minutes were taken by the Clerk's Assistant.

C1/10/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Chalmers, Cllr Gates, Cllr Hayes and Cllr Hilsden.

C2/10/26 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in respect of this meeting.

C3/10/26 Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

C4/10/26 Minutes

- **Ordinary Meeting of the Council**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the meeting to sign the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of the Council** held on **Wednesday 23rd September 2026** as a true and accurate record and the Council to approve any resolutions. Recommendations and resolutions approved unanimously.

- **Planning and General Purposes Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the **Planning & General Purposes** Committee held on **Monday 12th October 2026** as a true and accurate record.

- **Finance Committee Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the **Finance Committee** meeting held on **Monday 12th October 2026** as a true and accurate record. All recommendations were approved unanimously:

- To approve the Management Accounts for September 2026.
- To approve the application from Appleby British Legion Club for £500 from the Community Chest Grant Scheme.
- To commit a further £5,000 in funding to the Shop Front Grant Scheme.

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- **Property Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign the minutes of the Property Committee held on **Monday 12th October 2026** as a true and accurate record.

C5/10/26 Standing Orders

It was **RESOLVED** that the Standing Orders for 2026-27 were accepted and signed.

C6/10/26 Code of Conduct

It was **RESOLVED** that the Code of Conduct for 2026 was accepted and signed.

C7/10/26 Unitary Authority Reports

Cllr Connell's report was received and noted.

The revised National Planning Policy Framework will come into effect on 31 October. It will allocate most decisions to local council planning officers and reduce the scope for planning committees to change officer decisions. Westmorland & Furness Council has therefore decided to merge its three local committees into one central planning committee of thirteen councillors to deal with the limited range of applications that are not decided solely by officers.

The footpath between Appleby and Ormside has been significantly improved as part of the Westmorland and Furness Way.

On 6th May 2027, there will be elections for the Mayor of the combined Cumbria Authority, whose remit will include public transport and economic development, and for all Westmorland & Furness councillors. The Boundary Commission has adjusted many ward boundaries to accord with population numbers. As a result, Appleby will be uncoupled from Brough and become a one-member ward comprising the town and its immediate surround.

Cllr Connell recently attended a meeting at which the preparations of local communities to deal with temporary disruption caused by such things as flooding, power failure etc were discussed. Appleby Emergency Response Group, which was represented at the meeting, is recognised as being an exemplar for community preparedness. One of the presentations given was from Scottish Power under whom Electricity North West now falls; they operate an Extra Care Register for households for whom temporary power loss would be particularly problematic.

C8/10/26 Police Newsletter

The Police Newsletter was noted.

C9/10/26 Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported she had opened the RopeWork and ClayLife Pottery shops in mid-September and wished them the best.

It was announced that the Mace Bearer, David Johnston, would be retiring from his position and this Full Council meeting would be his last. The Council thanked him for his service.

C10/10/26 Clerk's Report

A review of NALC's Model Standing Orders is currently taking place. Feedback received includes having a new section on Conduct of Council Business and Decision-Making.

An amazing sum of £3,350 has been raised for the Christmas Lights so far, on top of the £2,000 committed by the Council. Because of this amazing effort, we plan to buy some new over the street lights for Bridge Street to make the entrance to the town more attractive. AW Jenkinsons have also donated the main Christmas tree by Low Cross free of charge. Our electrician will be fitting a new external power supply to the British Legion Club, which will supply power to the trees on Boroughgate and give us 24-7 access to this power.

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The lights will be put up on Sunday 22nd November with the help of the Rotary Club, before the switch-on on Friday 27th November at 6pm.

At a stakeholder meeting for the M6 Lune Gorge project on 29th September, the main update to report on was that an Options Report would be presented to the group with options for how J38 would be affected and operate during the bridge works. This will be presented to the group in January 2027 and will go out for public consultation in February.

C11/10/26 Outside Body Reports

Cllr Turnbull reported that St Lawrence's Church have Christmas Trees available to sponsor and decorate and they will be open during the Light Switch-on serving hot drinks.

C12/10/26 Schedule of Payments & Bank Transfers – September 2026

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign the schedule of payments for the month of **September 2026**, totalling £19,293.73. This figure includes employee salaries and all other expenditure and purchases; and is inclusive of VAT.

C13/10/26 Councillors' reports and items for future agendas

There were no reports or items for future agendas.

C12/10/26 Next Meeting

To note that the Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be on **Wednesday 18th November 2026** at **6.45pm** in the Moot Hall.

To note that Remembrance Sunday is on **Sunday 8th November 2026**, and councillors should meet in the Moot Hall for **10.15am**.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.12pm.

At the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 18th November 2026**, the Chair of this meeting was authorised by the Council to sign these minutes, to confirm they are a true and accurate record:

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