



Appleton Parish Council

Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, Appleton, WA4 5EQ

Telephone 01925 268153 Email clerk@appletonparish.gov.uk

To: - The Members of Environmental Working Party

You are summoned to the Environmental Working Party meeting of Appleton Parish Council to be held at Appleton Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road Appleton WA4 5EQ on

Tuesday 2nd July 2026 at 11:15pm for the purposes of transacting the business set out in the agenda below.

Karen Newton

Clerk of the Parish Council

Date of issue Thursday 25th June 2026.

If you have any general enquiries regarding the above meeting, please contact Miss Karen Newton, Clerk on telephone 01925 268153 or email clerk@appletonparish.gov.uk.

Agenda

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

To welcome members to the meeting and to receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons, if given.

2. Members Code of Conduct

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

Declarations are a personal matter for each Member, and the decision to declare, or not, rests with the individual Member based on the circumstances.

Any requests for dispensations in respect of declared pecuniary interests, whether made before or during the meeting, will be considered by the Parish Council and, if granted, will be formally recorded.

3. Public Participation

Members of the public may make representations, ask questions, or give evidence on agenda items during the public participation period. This period is limited to three minutes unless the Chairman directs otherwise. Questions do not require an immediate response and must not initiate debate. All comments must be addressed to the Chairman, who will control the order of speaking.

4. Pond Access Steps and Feeding Platform – Lyons Lane / Dudlow Green Play Area

Background

Following meetings and discussions with Warrington Borough Council (WBC), proposals have been developed for the replacement of the pond access steps and feeding platform adjacent to Lyons Lane and Dudlow Green Play Area.

A contractor with previous experience of undertaking works for WBC is currently preparing a quotation. At present, the estimated cost of the works is approximately **£15000** to **£20,000**.

Subject to approval and funding, it is anticipated that the works could be completed before the end of 2026.

Recommendation

To Note: No further action is required at this stage pending receipt of the contractor's quotation and additional information.

5. Dudlow Green Play Area

Background

Councillor Manson-Sawko has contacted an award-winning play area designer who grew up locally and now lives in London. He has kindly offered to review the play area and provide ideas for improvements and potential extensions to the existing facilities at no cost to the Parish Council.

The review may provide valuable guidance for future development opportunities at the site.

Recommendation

To Note: Cllr Manson-Sawko will liaise with the designer and provide updates to the Committee and Council as appropriate. No further action is required at this stage.

6. Verge at Green Lane / Cann Lane North Junction

Background

Following a recent site visit with a representative from WBC, it has been agreed that the verge will be cut and mulched soon to help restore the area to a manageable grass verge.

Once the area has sufficiently recovered, opportunities for introducing wildflower planting in suitable sections may be considered.

Recommendation

To Note: The planned cutting and mulching works and await the outcome before considering future planting proposals.

7. Tree Planting on Roundabout

Background

The roundabout at the junction of Barley castle Lane, Grappenhall Lane and Broad Lane currently contains a frost-damaged Cordyline which has limited visual appeal and damaged road signs and post.

It is proposed that consideration be given to replacing the existing planting with an appropriate tree specimen to enhance the appearance of the roundabout.

WBC has indicated that it has no objection to such a proposal, subject to the works being undertaken safely and with any necessary traffic management arrangements.

As planting would not take place before November, there is no urgency to make a decision at this time. Repairs and/or removal of damaged road signs/posts will also be discussed with Highways Officers to improve all aspects of the roundabout.

Recommendation

To Note: Further details and recommendations to improve this junction will be brought forward later in the year.

8. Wildflower Planting Programme – Spring 2027

Background

Any wildflower planting would be scheduled for **Spring 2027**.

To assist with future planning and contractor engagement, the Environment Committee is requested to consider putting forward a proposal in support of a programme of wildflower planting with a provisional budget allocation of up to **£5,000 plus VAT**.

The Environment Committee would include potential locations and detailed proposals for consideration by the Parish Council during September or October 2026.

Recommendation

The Committee is requested to:

1. **To Consider** indicating support in principle for a wildflower planting programme for Spring 2027.
2. **To Confirm** whether a wildflower planting programme with a provisional budget of up to **£5,000 plus VAT** is acceptable to recommend to the Parish Council in July.
3. **To Agree** to prepare detailed proposals for consideration in September/October.

9. Bulb Planting Programme – Spring 2027

Background

WBC has advised that if the Parish Council intends to undertake bulb planting for flowering in Spring 2027, notification should be provided by the end of July 2026 to enable the planting contractor to include Appleton Parish within its programme of works.

As no bulb planting was undertaken during Autumn 2025, Members may wish to consider an enhanced planting programme this year.

An indicative planting area of approximately **250 square metres** is estimated to cost around **£15,000 plus VAT**.

The Environment Committee would be required to identify potential planting locations and prepare detailed proposals for consideration at the September Parish Council meeting.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended **to consider:**

A recommendation to the Parish Council a proposal for bulb planting for Spring 2027 to include:

- a) A provisional budget of approximately **£15,000 plus VAT** in principle
- b) Authorise notification to WBC by the end of July that the Parish Council is considering participation in the 2026/27 planting programme.
- c) Request the Environment Committee to bring forward detailed proposals in September 2026.

10. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 1st October 2026 at 11.15 am

