



Appleton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Appleton Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7pm in Appleton Parish Hall

Present: - Councillors L Booth (Chair) R Bett (Vice Chair) L Chapman, G Chapman, E Manson-Swako, J Wheeler, H Speed.

Attendees: - Clerk – Karen Newton

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

An apology for absence was received from

Cllr K Critchley – Family Engagement

Cllr P Lewenz – Holiday

Cllr P Walker – Health

The apologies were **proposed for acceptance by** Cllr L. Booth and **seconded by** Cllr R. Bett.

2. Members Code of Conduct

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. Minutes

The following additions to be added to the minutes of Full Council Meeting the 21 April 2026 were approved:

Complaints Procedure: Following discussion, it was agreed that consideration of this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to allow further revisions to be made by Cllr Critchley.

Grants Awarding Policy: Following discussion, it was agreed that consideration of this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to allow further revisions to be made jointly by Cllr Manson-Sawko and Cllr Wheeler.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21 April 2026, together with the additions and amendments detailed above, be approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Cllr Eleanor Manson-Sawko and **seconded by** Cllr R. Bett.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 21 April 2026 be approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Cllr G. Chapman and **seconded by** Cllr R. Bett.

5. **Finance**

Resolved: That items 5.1 to 5.5 be deferred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting scheduled for 4 June 2026. 5.1 Payment Schedule for March, April and May 2026

5.2 Receipt Schedule for March and April 2026

5.3 Bank Reconciliations for March and April 2026

5.4 Payments over £100 relating to the Parish Council website for March and April 2026

5.5 Bank Statements for the financial year 2025/26

5.6 It was agreed that the 2026 annual subscription to the Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society **be approved** at a cost of £8.

Proposed by Cllr L. Chapman and **seconded by** Cllr R. Bett

5.7 It was noted that no contribution would be made from Parish Council funds. Cllr L. Booth advised that she had personally purchased a retirement gift.

6. **Policies and Procedures – Finance & General Purposes Committee Recommendations**

It was noted that consideration of the Biodiversity Policy, as recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, was deferred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting scheduled for 4 June 2026.

7. **Unauthorised Fence on Parish Council Land**

The Council considered the installation of a fence on Parish Council land without prior permission.

It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain and review the relevant title deeds to confirm land ownership and report back to a future meeting. No further action was taken pending clarification of ownership and receipt of the deeds.

8. **Reports from Parish Councillors**

The Council received an update from Cllr Helen Speed:-

Broomfield's Leisure Centre

No further update. It was suggested that a Friends of Broomfield's Group be progressed, with six expressions of interest noted.

Appleton Cross

No progress reported; still awaiting planning and site visit update.

Orchard Meadows

No further complaints received.

Dudlow's Green Medical Centre and Pharmacy

No further update. A meeting will be sought with the Interim Director of Place at the ICB.

SEWUE Development Framework

A meeting was held with Homes England and Warrington Borough Council. The framework remains delayed, with a tentative submission date of September. Further work is ongoing regarding access arrangements and infrastructure impacts.

Waste Recycling Centre

No further response received regarding alternative site suggestions; the matter remains under review.

HMP Thorn Cross

No update on parking issues. A proposed change to rapid dispersal allocations will not proceed.

Thorn Inn and Nursery Parking

No further complaints. Contact will be made regarding verge repair arrangements.

9. **PCSO / Police report/Update**

No report had been received from the local PCSO.

10. **Grant Applications – Finance & General Purposes Committee Recommendations**

Resolved: That the decisions of the Finance & General Purposes Committee be ratified, including the award of a grant of £1,859.12 to Bawming of the Thorn and the request for the Tuesday Litter Team to complete the Parish Council's donation application documentation before its application is reconsidered.

It was noted that Cllr K. Critchley requested his vote against the grant award of £1,859.12 to Bawming of the Thorn be recorded, as he was in favour of a grant award closer to £2,000.00.

11. Purchase of IT Equipment for Clerk/Officer Setup

The Council noted that two laptops had been purchased for use by the Clerk and Deputy Clerk.

12. Dispensations – Councillor Attendance

Resolved: That dispensations from the six-month attendance requirement under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 be granted for a period of six months in respect of a Councillor's absence due to ill health from May 2026 and a Councillor's absence due to maternity/pregnancy from September 2026.

Proposed by Cllr Helen Speed and **seconded by** Cllr Ghazala Chapman.

13. Dates and time of next meetings

The Council noted the schedule of forthcoming meetings for June and July 2026.

June 2026

Thursday 4 June 2026

- 9:15am – Planning Committee Meeting
- 9:45am – Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting
- 11:15am – Employment Committee Meeting

Tuesday 16 June 2026

- 6:30pm – Planning Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm – Full Council Meeting

July 2026

Thursday 2 July 2026

- 9:15am – Planning Committee Meeting
- 9:45am – Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting
- 11:15am – Environmental Committee Meeting

Tuesday 21 July 2026

- 6:30pm – Planning Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm – Full Council Meeting

13. Agenda items were addressed as scheduled.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:50PM

Signed.....*Cllr Laura Booth*.....

Dated.....*16th June 2026*.....