# Appleton Wiske Parish Council

**DRAFT MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday commencing 2nd March 2026 at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors – Ken Blackwood (KB) (Chair), Richard Hauserman (RH), Richard Johnson (RJ), Jackie McReddie (JMcR), Derek Partington (DP) (Vice Chair), Duncan Rogers (DR), Katy Wilson (KW)

**CLERK:** Michelle Thompson (MT)

**NYC:** Cllr Annabel Wilkinson (AW) (Apologies received)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** None

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| **1** | **Public Participation -** None | **Action** |
| **2** | **Apologies Received -** None | |
| **3** | **Dispensations and Declarations of Interest** - All Members declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to agenda item 7 (e), Appleton Wiske Recreation Association (ARA), with the exception of Cllrs DP and RH | |
| **4** | **Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting -** Monday 2nd February 2026 – Approved | |
| **5** | **Matters Arising:** | |
| a) | **Parish Council Emails (.gov.uk) –** Cllr RH's parish email account is now active. Cllr DR requires a new email address. **Action:** Cllr KB to arrange new email account for Cllr DR. | **KB** |
| b) | **2nd Defibrillator -** It was confirmed that modification works are in hand (cabinet code 147). | **RJ** |
| c) | **Footpath Registration (Lord Nelson / Baker Street)** – Cllr KB reported on discussions with the Open Spaces Society. Their officer is reviewing the details to determine whether support can be provided. Members noted the forthcoming legislative deadline requiring historic footpaths to be registered. | **KB** |
| d) | **Speedwatch** – Members agreed the wording and distribution arrangements. It was agreed to print 250 copies for village distribution. **Resolved:** That 250 copies be printed and distributed. **Action:** Cllr KB to arrange printing, Cllr RH and the Clerk to distribute including spares for the shop. | **KB/RH/Clerk** |
| e) | **Bridge Concerns –** Members agreed to request an update on the outstanding quotation. Contact details regarding potholes/puddles outside the shop will be forwarded by the Clerk to Cllr DP.<br>**Action:** Clerk to email Highways requesting progress update. | **Clerk** |
| f) | **Publicity Role -** Cllr KW agreed to take on the Publicity role. **Resolved:** That Cllr KW be appointed as Publicity Lead and will begin collating village activities for publicity in the Darlington and Stockton newspaper. | **KW** |
| g) | **Appleton Wiske to Staindale Bridge Road Repairs -** No response to the letter has been received. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Cllr AW. Further concerns were noted regarding the road and signage outside Anvil House and lack of communication. **Action**: Clerk to contact Cllr AW and Cllr KB to contact Parish Liaison (Peter Cole). | **Clerk/KB** |
| h) | **Hinckley & Rugby Building Society Savings Account** - Details for an easy access account have now been received. **Resolved:** That £1,000 be transferred to the Hinckley & Rugby Building Society savings account. **Action:** Cllr KB to arrange transfer in accordance with banking procedures. | **KB** |
| **6** | **Reports** | |
| a) | **North Yorkshire Councillor:** No updates to report. | |
| b) | **Police**: No report received. Cllr KB also confirmed that to date, the school has not received any contact regarding parking on zigzag markings. | |

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| c) | **AWPC Clerk:** Members received an update regarding ongoing review of policies and procedures. | |
| **7** | **Business Matters: To consider** | |
| a) | **Election of a Councillor – Reserve Provision -** Members considered ringfencing funds to cover potential election costs. **Resolved:** That £2,000 be ringfenced within reserves for potential election expenses. | **Clerk** |
| b) | **Business Continuity Plan -** Members agreed that venue contact details and key passwords (website and iCloud storage) must be updated. Key statutory dates, including CIL return deadlines, will be added. **Action:** All Cllrs to view the BCP and send any additions or updates before next meeting | **All** |
| c) | **Age-Friendly Town and Parish Guide -** Members discussed the draft questionnaire to assess expectations and identify existing village activities. **Action:** Cllr DP to update and circulate draft questionnaire. | **DP** |
| d) | **Village Green – Vehicle Damage -** Members considered concerns regarding damage caused by vehicles, including parking in turning heads in Hunters Ride.(See agenda item 8a). Members also discussed the possible installation of recycled plastic bollards on sections of the village green e.g. outside the post office & shop, to minimise damage from vehicles. It was agreed that two bollards could be installed outside the shop, with wider consultation with residents at the Annual Parish Meeting. **Resolved:** That two bollards be installed outside the shop as an initial measure, and the wider proposal be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting for community feedback. A**ction:** Cllr KB to obtain pricing before proceeding with installation. | **KB** |
| e) | **Appleton Wiske Recreation Association (ARA)**<br>**i) Transfer of Land -** Members discussed the proposal for the Parish Council to own the full playing field, with management remaining with ARA. Insurance and legal implications require clarification. **Resolved:** That the Clerk request formal advice from YLCA.<br>**ii) Parish Council Becoming a Trustee -** It was noted that Cllr DR is now Chair of ARA. Members agreed to seek formal advice from YLCA regarding the process should the Parish Council become a trustee body. **Resolved:** That the Clerk request formal advice from YLCA. | **Clerk** |
| **8** | **Correspondence:** | |
| a) | **Hunters Ride Turning Head Parking –** As discussed under agenda item 7a, a resident raised concerns about long-term parking in the turning head at Hunters Ride. Members noted that signage and enforcement fall under North Yorkshire Council Highways. **Action:** Cllr KB will advise resident to contact Highways. | **KB** |
| b) | **OCU Group – Northern Powergrid Excavation Works -** Members considered the request for consent affecting the Village Green. While statutory undertakers have legal powers, the Parish Council may impose reasonable conditions regarding reinstatement and protection of land. **Resolved:** That consent be granted in principle, subject to receipt of detailed plans, and agreement to inspection of reinstatement works. **Action:** Clerk to draft response letter. | **Clerk** |
| c) | **Footpath to West Rounton** - A resident reported obstruction by a fallen branch. Members noted this can be reported via the North Yorkshire Council website. **Action:** Clerk to advise resident of NYC website reporting. | **Clerk** |
| **9** | **Planning**: | |
| a) | **ZB24/02455/HYB – Land North of Haggitt Hill Lane, East Rounton (BESS):** Members noted receipt of further commissioned reports, including Transport and Safety Assessments and comments from Yorkshire Wildlife Trust indicating further environmental work is required. **Action:** Cllr DP to continue with regular updates. | **DP** |
| b) | **ZB25/02214/FUL – 23 Hunters Ride, Appleton Wiske** - Amended plans were considered and the Council have no observations. **Resolved**: That the Clerk submit "No Observations". | **Clerk** |
| c) | **North Yorkshire Local Plan – Call for Sites -** Members noted additional site submissions. North Yorkshire Council is not currently accepting comments. Residents may register for updates individually. | |

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| 10 | **Financial Matters:** | |
| a) | **Lloyds Bank Account Status:** Noted<br>• Current Account: £1,620.95<br>• Savings Account: £15,893.90 | |
| b) | **Invoices Paid - noted.**<br>• PKF Littlejohn – Audit Services - £252<br>• Village Hall Post Office and Shop Committee (POSC) – Building Relocation Grant Application - £2000<br>• Broadacres Allotment Fee - £48.85<br>• YLCA Training – Business Continuity - £27.40<br>• Bank Charges- £4.25<br>• London Hearts - - Defib - £801.60<br>• Village Hall – Room Hire - £17.00 | |
| c) | **Payments Received – Noted**<br>• Bank Interest – £6.99 | |
| d) | **Invoices to Pay:**<br>• R Johnson – Thermostat Defib - £96.98 – approved<br>• NYC 490149340 – Newsletter and Posters - £325 – **Action:** Clerk to query price | |
| e) | **Invoices Issued:** None | |
| f) | **Funding Requests:** None | |
| **11** | **Member Reports** | |
| | **To Receive Member Reports:**<br>• **Cllr DP – Community Infrastructure Levy (CI**L) - Cllr D.P. offered to assist the Clerk with preparation of the annual CIL return. Members discussed eligible properties within the village. It was agreed that the recently installed defibrillators would be claimed against CIL where eligible. **Action:** Clerk and Cllr DP to complete the CIL return.<br>• **Cllr KB – Village Maintenance -** Cllr KB proposed that Village Maintenance be added as an agenda item. This was agreed. Maintenance issues raised included the bench outside the Post Office and the leaking roof of the community garage. **Action:** Cllr DP agreed to obtain a price for a cordless sander and to follow up with the builder regarding the garage roof repair.<br>• **Cllr DR – ARA Grass Cutting -** Members discussed possible alternatives to current contractors for grass cutting at the ARA and Cllr DR proposed to create a grass track of approximately 6–8 feet. It was noted that tractor equipment is required. Members suggested exploring whether the cemetery grass cutting contractor may be able to assist. It was also noted that the village strimmer is currently not working. **Action:** Cllr DR to explore grass cutting options and Cllr KB to assist in the repair of the strimmer if possible.<br>• **Cllr RJ – Streetlight -** A streetlight near the Village Hall is not working and has been reported.<br>• **Members noted:**<br>Tuesday 5 May 2026– Annual Parish Meeting<br>Monday 18 May 2026 – Annual Parish Assembly | |
| **12** | **Date and time of next meeting:** Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7.30 p.m. | |
| | **The meeting closed at 9.20pm** | |
| | **Minutes prepared by MT for Cllr KB.** | |