



Appleton Wiske Parish Council Summer Newsletter

Welcome to the season of bounty, abundance, and beauty!

As we step into the heart of summer, there's a real sense of momentum and pride in Appleton Wiske. This newsletter is packed with the spirit of our community, from exciting projects to heartfelt tributes, village improvements to inspiring personal achievements.

We've celebrated the 80th anniversary of V.E. Day with a fantastic turnout, and it was wonderful to see so many residents come together to mark such an important occasion. A huge thank you to everyone especially Councillor Shirley Duffield who organised the event and made it so memorable.

Meanwhile, long-standing projects like the relocation of our shop and post office continue to move forward with real energy. Over £18,000 has been raised, and thanks to the incredible efforts of volunteers, a planning decision is now awaited. The support shown by residents is a shining example of what we can achieve when we work together.

It's also been a joy to reflect on the school's achievements, including educational trips, sporting success, and community involvement. Fundraising efforts have been truly inspirational too, Michelle's return to the Inca Trail and Gareth's 40-mile trek are not only raising thousands for vital causes but also remind us of the strength and heart within our village.

The Parish Council continues to invest in the community, with new picnic tables, refurbished planters, the Speedwatch initiative, and support for the minibus and defibrillators. We are grateful for all the support from residents, especially in tackling issues like dog fouling and pavement parking, small actions that make a big difference.

We're also calling for volunteers to help organise this year's Bonfire and Fireworks Night, to keep this much-loved tradition alive now that the Pre-School has sadly closed.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to our newsletter sponsors, MD Mobility and Whitegates, whose generous support with printing helps us keep everyone informed and included.

Thank you for being part of everything that makes Appleton Wiske so special.

Wishing you all a sunny, safe, and joyful summer,

Ken Blackwood, Chair of Appleton Wiske Parish Council



Parish Council Contact

All communication to the Parish Council should be directed to the Clerk:

[clerk@appletonwiske-
pc.gov.uk.com](mailto:clerk@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk.com)
07877 673030

Lupton House, Front Street,
Appleton Wiske, DL6 2AB

Dates of next Parish Council Meetings

Monday 4th August 2025

Monday 1st September 2025

Monday 6th October 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 1st December 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 2nd February 2026

Monday 2nd March 2026

Tuesday 7th April 2026

**All meetings commence at
7:30pm in the village hall
unless advertised
otherwise**

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@appletonwiske

Love our newsletter or website? Then you'll definitely enjoy what we share on social media!

Stay up to date with village news, events, and more, and if you've got something to share, just drop us a message. We're happy to post it for you!

PARISH COUNCIL

Who are we?



Derek Partington
Vice Chair
derek@appletonwiske.com
01609 881617



Duncan Rogers
duncan@appletonwiske.com



Ken Blackwood Chair
chair@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk
01609 881660



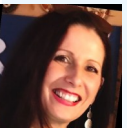
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Michelle Thompson B.E.M.
Clerk
clerk@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk
07877 673030



Shirley Duffield
shirley@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk



Celebrating 40 Years of Service: Thank You, Ken!

This year marks a fantastic milestone for **Ken Blackwood**, who is celebrating **40 years as a Parish Councillor** – a truly impressive achievement and a sign of his long-standing commitment to our village.

Over the decades, Ken has played a vital role in helping shape and support Appleton Wiske, giving his time and energy to ensure the Parish Council continues to serve the community effectively. His calm leadership, sound judgement and wealth of experience have made him a highly respected and much-valued voice on the Council.

As current Chair, Ken continues to guide the Council with care, clarity and good humour – and we're incredibly lucky to have him at the helm.

On behalf of the whole community, thank you, Ken, for your outstanding dedication to the village over the past 40 years. Your contribution is deeply appreciated by all.

Village Sign Refurbishment

As confirmed at the Parish Council Assembly meeting on 2nd June, four village signs are in need of renovation and fresh planting around their bases. This is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to help brighten up our community. If you'd like to get involved in upkeeping these village landmarks, please do step forward and contact the Parish Council Clerk, you'll be helping maintain our village's charm.



PARISH COUNCIL



Dog Fouling

Huge thanks to everyone who cleans up after their dogs - you're the reason our village stays lovely!

But to those who don't bother? **Shame on you.** Letting your dog foul on paths, gardens, or the village green and walking away is disgusting, lazy, and selfish.

Even worse are those who bag it and then chuck the bag into hedges or trees. What do you think happens to it? It ends up tangled in farm equipment, and yes, someone has to scrape it off a combine harvester. Imagine doing that for a living.

Every litter bin in Appleton Wiske accepts dog waste. So there's really no excuse. **Bag it. Bin it. Or take it home.** Don't be that person everyone else is complaining about.

20 mph Speed Limit – It's Not a Suggestion!

Main parts of the village are now officially 20 mph zones, and this limit is in place for good reason: to keep everyone safe.



Unfortunately, a few drivers are still tearing down Front Street as if the law doesn't apply to them. We'd like to remind those individuals, and yes, we do know who you are, that speed limits are not optional.

Slower speeds mean safer roads for everyone, including children, pedestrians, cyclists, horses and other road users. These zones aren't just signs on a pole, they're a commitment to making our village a safer, more peaceful place for all.

Speedwatch Initiative Under Consideration for Our Village

To support this effort, plans are underway to introduce a Speedwatch program aimed at encouraging safer driving through community-led speed monitoring.

A minimum of six volunteers will be needed to form a Speedwatch team. Training will be delivered locally, starting with a 30–45 minute session in the village hall, followed by practical roadside training. Speed checks will be carried out by groups of three volunteers at a time, using equipment that can be borrowed initially, provided it's used regularly. All monitoring must take place on hard standing ground for safety and effectiveness.

If you're interested in helping out and being part of the team, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk at clerk@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk. Your involvement could make a real difference in helping to reduce speeding and keep our village safe. Further updates will follow as more information becomes available.

Need to Store Materials on the Village Green?

If you're planning repairs or building works and need to store materials on the Village Green, the Parish Council asks that you:

- **Fill in a simple form** with details of the works, dates, and location.
- **Sign a declaration** agreeing to make good any damage and keep things safe and tidy.
- **Stick to a maximum of 4 weeks** unless further permission is given.

Work must **not start** until the Parish Council has received your form and confirmed approval.

Forms can be obtained and returned to: Michelle Thompson,
Clerk to the Parish Council:
Lupton House, Front Street,
Appleton Wiske, DL6 2AB
clerk@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk
07877 673030

Let's keep our Village Green safe, tidy, and well-loved - thank you for doing your bit!

Bin Collection Days

Starting **Wednesday 30th July 2025**, waste and recycling collections for Appleton Wiske residents will shift to a weekly **Wednesday** schedule to improve consistency and reduce disruptions.

Residents will have received a letter with details about their new collection day and other relevant information.



APPLETON WISKE NEWS

Could You Help Organise This Year's Bonfire & Fireworks Night?

For many years, Appleton Wiske Pre-School did a fantastic job organising our much-loved Bonfire and Fireworks Night, creating a safe, fun, and memorable evening for the whole village.

Sadly, with the recent closure of the Pre-School, this year's event won't go ahead unless a new group of volunteers steps forward to take the reins. It's a chance for the whole village to come together and enjoy an evening of warmth, community spirit, and spectacular skies.

This year, the Parish Council is looking for volunteers to help bring the event to life. Whether you've got experience organising events or just a bit of spare time and enthusiasm, we'd love to hear from you! From helping with planning and promotion to marshalling on the night, every helping hand makes a big difference.

The Parish Council is happy to support the event, including with funding, but we need a team of residents to take the lead on coordination.

If you're interested in helping to organise this year's event, or just want to find out more, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk or call 07877 673030

Let's keep the tradition alive!



V.E. Day 80th Anniversary 8th May 2025

Thank you to everyone who supported our village event marking 80 years since V.E. Day. Special thanks go to the following individuals and groups for their contributions:

Simon Golding – Joint Co-ordinator and Tribute
Michelle Thompson – Joint Co-ordinator and Parish Clerk
Ken Blackwood – Official Photographer and Chair of the Parish Council
Keith Davy – Village Crier
Mick Thompson – Health & Safety Checks
Kris Stephenson & Joe Symes – Beacon Lighters
Helen Harris & Susan Heathcote – Bunting
Elwyn Rees-Jones – Music
Village Hall Committee – Use of the Village Hall
Neil Clark & School Staff – Special Activities for Children
The Lord Nelson – Fish & Chips Supper
Inspiration Choir – Singing Programme
ARA Committee – Use of the Field
Parish Councillors – Agreement and Full Support
And to the many other volunteers – Thank you for helping to make the event such a success.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to:

Simon Golding and Keith Davy – Bell Ringers

Certificates for Service to the Country were awarded to:

Simon Golding C.B.E. Q.H.C.

Keith Davy
Richard Smith
Tony Horridge

Sam Bradshaw
John Barker*
Gareth Davies

A very special thank you to Shirley Duffield for organising the event.



***Mr Barker's certificate was presented to him before he sadly passed away**

APPLETON WISKE NEWS



40 Miles for a Cause: Gareth's Incredible Overnight Trek

Local resident Gareth recently completed an inspiring 40-mile challenge in support of Middlesbrough Amateur Swimming Club and Mind, raising an amazing £1,635 so far, with heartfelt thanks to the generosity of Appleton Wiske residents. Here, Gareth shares his own words about the journey:

"I set off Friday evening at 10 o'clock. Met a couple of groups on Carlton Bank training for Kilimanjaro but otherwise had the hills to myself all night. Well, apart from the wildlife and an almost full moon for company. I was battling with a tight hip flexor from 15 miles which really hindered my pace but reached halfway at 6 a.m. From then on in, it was just a matter of keeping going as the heat increased! A blessed breeze helped over the last 10 miles but by then it was hurting! The last 5 were just mind over matter as the physical and mental challenge was met."

40 miles in 16 hrs 43mins, 4500 calories, 9 litres of fluid, 83,050 steps!"

Well done, Gareth – what an incredible effort for two great causes.

gofundme



Scan to donate to Gareth's fundraiser
"MASC & Mind"

Update for Appleton Wiske Residents: Proposed Battery Storage Site at East Rounton

We wanted to keep residents informed about the ongoing developments regarding the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility planned for land near East Rounton.

What Is Being Proposed?

The proposal is for a very large-scale battery energy storage facility to be located on agricultural land at Haggitts Hill, west of the A19. These are industrial sites designed to store electricity during times of low demand and release it during peak periods.

Location in Context

While the proposed BESS site is in East Rounton parish, its proximity to Appleton Wiske and surrounding areas means local residents and the Parish Council are taking a keen interest in potential impacts.

Parish Council Involvement

Appleton Wiske Parish Council is aware of the proposal and we have:

Objected to the planning application.

Raised concerns about the risk of thermal runaway (fire), toxic gas emission, water pollution and highways issues during the lengthy construction period as well as the effects on the landscape and overall impact on the rural character of the area.

Encouraged local residents to read the plans and submit comments if they wish to voice support or objections.

The planning reference is:
North Yorkshire Council
Planning Application
ZB24/02455/HYB



In Memory of Jeanette (Jinny) Nicholson – A Message from our Parish Council Clerk Michelle Thompson B.E.M.

Many in Appleton Wiske will remember my sister, Jeanette (Jinny) Nicholson – daughter of Anne and Neil Mallen. We grew up here with our siblings Andrea and Simon, and 30 years on from losing Jinny to bone cancer, she's still deeply missed. She was just 18, the bravest, most inspiring person I've ever known. Since her passing, and following my own cancer diagnosis in 2003, I've dedicated much of my life to raising funds in her memory. I've run, hiked and cycled across the world, from Peru and Nepal to Vietnam, Kenya, and Tanzania, raising

hundreds of thousands for cancer charities. This year, I'm returning to the Inca Trail, 21 years after my first trek, to raise funds for St Teresa's Hospice in Darlington, who provide vital support to local families facing life-limiting illness. Please scan the QR code for my fundraising page if you would like to find out more. Thank you for your kindness.



APPLETON WISKE NEWS



The Lord Nelson Inn

Dine in Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday Lunch plus look out for the monthly Themed Nights on a Thursday too!

Tel: 01609 881351

E-mail: info@lordnelsoninn.com

Facebook:

@LordNelsonAppletonWiske/

CUB SCOUTS

Meet in the Village Hall every Wednesday evening in Term time. Boys and Girls, aged 8 to 10. Please contact Paula Spence Tel: 881251

BADMINTON

Men's Group meet in the Village Hall every Wednesday evening from 8.30 pm to 10.00 pm. Please contact Jim Boddy Tel: 881479

PILATES

Sessions are held in the Village Hall every Tuesday evening from 7.45 pm to 8.45 pm at £ 5.00 per session. Please contact Ann McEvoy Tel: 01325 337367

TENNIS

All are welcome to join in men, women and mixed club nights as well as just popping down when you feel like a knock about. If you are interested in becoming a member and would like more information please contact tennis@appletonwiske.com

Securing the Future of Our Post Office and Shop

We're delighted to bring you the latest update on our community effort to secure a permanent home for the Appleton Wiske Post Office and Village Shop. Thanks to the incredible generosity and spirit of our community, and in particular the efforts of Jackie and so many dedicated volunteers, we've now raised over **£18,000!** From pig racing to raffles, plant sales to open gardens, every event and donation is making a real difference.

A New Chapter – Working Together Under the Village Hall CIO

In a positive and progressive step, our project is now operating as a sub-committee of the Village Hall Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This has allowed us to move forward more effectively and collaboratively, and we're incredibly grateful to the Village Hall Trustees for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Progress So Far

- We're submitting a planning application to locate a modular building on the Village Hall car park and will share the decision as soon as we hear.
- We've applied for **£60,000 in grant funding** from several key funders to help bring the project to life.

Community Fundraising – Still Going Strong

Our recent **Open Gardens Weekend** was a fantastic success, not only raising funds but bringing the village together in full summer bloom. Huge thanks to Linda Breckon and everyone who opened their gardens, baked, volunteered, and visited. (Look out for some lovely photos in this issue!)

Every Step Is a Community Step

We're so proud that this project continues to be shaped by the people of Appleton Wiske. Your energy, ideas, and kindness are helping to create something truly special, a sustainable, local solution that keeps essential services at the heart of our village. We'll continue to keep you updated as we progress, and as ever, thank you for being part of the journey.

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DL6 2LL



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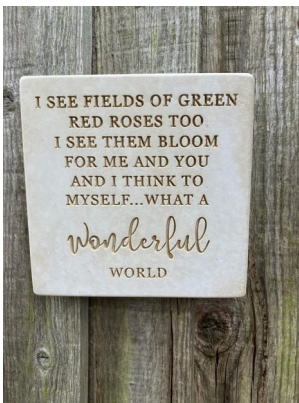
Tel: 01609 882355

www.whitegatesnursery.co.uk



APPLETON WISKE NEWS

Open Gardens 12th and 13th July 2025



Appleton Wiske Minibus
A Village Asset for
Everyone



Did you know the Appleton Wiske minibus isn't just for Wednesday shopping trips to Northallerton? While the weekly run is a much-loved service, the minibus is also available for **local individuals and groups** – perfect for getting to parties, day trips, local events or group outings.

Whether you're planning a lunch with friends, need transport for a club activity, or fancy a lift to a special celebration, the minibus is here to help. It's affordable, convenient, and a great way to travel together while supporting a brilliant village resource.

We're also currently on the lookout for **volunteer drivers**. If you have a little spare time and would enjoy helping others get around, we'd love to hear from you. Training and support are available – and you'll be making a big difference to our community.

The minibus is a fantastic asset – **but it only works if it's used**. So spread the word, book it for your next group outing, or volunteer to get behind the wheel.

For more information or to get involved, please contact:
ken@appletonwiske-pc.gov.uk
01609 881660

Hedgehogs

Appleton Wiske is lucky to have a thriving hedgehog population, but garden machinery can harm them—please check carefully before using mowers, strimmers, or hedge cutters, especially near long grass and hedgerows. A moment's care could save a life.

Let's keep this great service rolling!



APPLETON WISKE NEWS

Appleton Wiske Community Primary School

As we reach the end of another busy and exciting academic year at Appleton Wiske Community Primary School, it's a pleasure to share some highlights with the wider community. Our children continue to thrive in and out of the classroom, with a real buzz of learning across all year groups. Reception and Year 1 have enjoyed weekly forest school sessions, and we've enriched the curriculum with several trips: Reception visited Wensleydale Railway, Year 1/2 explored the James Cook Birthplace Museum, and Year 3/4 enjoyed their trip to the Jorvik Viking Centre. Year 5/6 pupils had a fantastic residential to Robinwood, where they showed resilience, teamwork and courage in activities like canoeing, climbing and caving, gaining life skills and making lasting memories. Sport remains a strong focus. Pupils have taken part in local events including dodgeball, netball, athletics and cricket. Our Year 3/4 cricket and athletics teams both won gold in recent tournaments, fantastic achievements! It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, sportsmanship and team spirit. Our Sports Day was a celebration of effort and participation, supported by families and friends. We're grateful to our parents, governors and the wider community for their ongoing support. Finally, I wish our Year 6 pupils the best of luck as they move on to new adventures. Wishing everyone a restful and enjoyable summer.

Neil Clark, Head Teacher



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NEW STORE NOW OPEN!



Please Help Keep Our Pavements Safe & Clear

Several residents raised concerns at the Parish Assembly about **cars being parked on pavements and near road corners** in the village. While we appreciate that parking can sometimes be a challenge, we kindly ask everyone to think about how their parking affects others.

Parking on pavements can:

- **Block access** for people using wheelchairs, mobility scooters, or pushing prams.
- **Force pedestrians into the road**, putting them at risk, especially children and older residents.
- **Damage pavements**, leading to unnecessary repair costs.

A Kind Request

We're asking all drivers to please avoid parking on pavements or too close to junctions. Let's all do our bit to help keep the village a safe, welcoming, and accessible place for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration.