

In 2021-2022 the Parish Council met six times in Wittering Parish Hall.

Julia Cunnington, Roger Paull and Jon Warters resigned from the Parish Council in 2021-2022. Thanks were expressed to them for their commitment and hard work during their time Parish Councillors. Joanna Gault and Emma Wilson-Jones were co-opted onto the Parish Council in December 2021. There are currently two vacancies, and these will be filled by co-option shortly.

Richard Roffe decided not to stand in the Parish Council Elections as, having been a Parish Councillor for the last 50 years, he felt it was now time for him to retire. This outstanding achievement of a long and devoted service to the village has been acknowledged with deep gratitude by the Parish Councillors.

Disappointingly, attendance at meetings by Police Representatives has been non-existent over the past year as the PCSOs have failed to attend any meeting. Thankfully the level of crime in the village is low.

Several members of the public have attended meetings throughout the year, and they are always very welcome. Various issues were brought to the Parish Council's attention which varied from dog fouling, overgrown footpaths, anti social behaviour and motorists parking vehicles dangerously.

Throughout the year, several planning applications were considered and responded to. The 2nd Wittering Scouts received a positive result to their Planning Application 21/01857 Change of use of land and erection of a new scout hut and boundary treatments on land off Burghley Avenue, Wittering. There are two conditions are (1) the production of a Traffic Management Plan and (2) an Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan. A Sub Committee to oversee the project is to be set up and a Project Manager appointed. The 2nd Wittering Scouts agreed to continue to liaise with the Parish Council as the project progresses.

The Wittering Parish Council Website (www.witteringparishcouncil.com) has proved ideal for people to keep up with the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings and for other matters that affect the village.

Simon Hurn continues to keep the playing field and churchyard in a neat and tidy condition. I would like to thank Simon Hurn for his commitment to this.

The Sports' Pavilion and Bowls' Club Pavilion are much appreciated by residents and visiting football teams and bowls' teams alike.

The Allotments provide a popular amenity in the village. The Allotments are all rented out and there is a small waiting list for people wanting to rent out an Allotment. I would like to thank Geoff Dunkley for his commitment to the Allotments.

The Parish Council's finances remain on a sound footing, the internal audit has been completed and suggestions from parishioners to improve or add anything to the village are always welcome.

The Parish Hall is hired out on a permanent basis on five evenings per week. In addition, it is hired out for wedding receptions, christening parties, children's parties and other social functions at the weekends.

Wittering Parish Council received a grant of £52,855.87 in May 2021 from the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund. It has been agreed that £6,000 of this will be made available for repairs to All Saints' Church and £9,150 will be made available for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on 4th and 5th June 2022.

Delaine Buses Ltd withdrew from running the village bus service in December 2019 and no other bus company has been willing to take it over. Residents have the option to use the Stamford and Peterborough CallConnect Services which operate six-days-a-week: 7am-7pm, Monday-Friday, and 7:30am-6:30pm on Saturdays. These services operate in southwest Lincolnshire, east Northamptonshire, east Rutland and Peterborough and can be used for direct journeys to Stamford or Peterborough which includes Peterborough City Hospital.

Allison Homes has already commenced its 3-year development that will comprise of 190 three, four and five-bedroom homes in a variety of styles. The first residents moved in during September 2021. Allison Homes wants to manage the Parish Council's expectations – they are building in a densely populated area, and they understand the area has key workers and lots of parked cars. They said things will go wrong and it will be a challenging relationship. They work with third party/sub-contractors and don't always have full control of timings of deliveries for example. However, they want to work with the residents/village in harmony. They are willing to listen to residents' concerns via the Parish Council and step in as necessary.

Gavin Elsey, Peterborough City Ward Councillor has taken over from John Bradshaw with advancing the case for an A1/Wittering Flyover. Following a successful meeting held in January 2022, another meeting will be scheduled. He has spoken to Shailesh Vara, MP and is awaiting to hear back regarding his availability to attend the meeting.

Wg Cdr Margaret Boyle, Officer Commanding Support Wing, RAF Wittering has attended several Parish Council Meetings. Mark Davies, Community Devt Officer, RAF Wittering has also attended the Parish Council Meetings and his commitment and involvement to working with the Parish Council and village residents has been much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors for their interest and commitment to the village over the past year.

John Bradshaw
Chairman
May 2022