

WITTERING PARISH COUNCILwww.witteringparishcouncil.com**Parish Clerk:**

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MINUTES OF WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 11th JULY 2024 IN THE PARISH HALL

Item No	
24(07)1	<p>Chair's Welcome The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
24(07)2	<p>In Attendance: John Bradshaw, Julia Cunnington, Geoff Dunkley, Jo Gault, Dave Hughes, Emma Wilson-Jones, Iain Wilkinson, Emma Stacey (RAF Wittering), Rev Margaret Venables, Cristina Fernandez-Hierro (PCC Recycling Education Co-Ordinator), six members of the public and Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies for Absence: Jean Jackson, Kate Jackson, Russell Pye and Gavin Elsey (PCC Ward Councillor)</p>
24(07)3	<p>Declaration of Interest The Chair reminded the Parish Councillors of their obligation under the Codes of Conduct to declare personal and pecuniary interest. John Bradshaw and Geoff Dunkley declared an interest in all matters concerning All Saints' Church (as they are Church Wardens).</p>
	<p>Cristina Fernandez-Hierro – Recycling Education Co-Ordinator, Peterborough City Council Cristina said that a survey of the use of the grey food waste bin had been undertaken in the village in March 2024. The results had shown that 20% of residents use the grey food waste bin whereas the Peterborough average is 42%. There are reasons for this, one being the somewhat transient population of the residents, and other reasons include not having a grey bin and hygiene concerns. A leaflet had been distributed to every household in the village in June 2024 to encourage recycling. Posters will be put on lampposts throughout the village. Cristina hopes to engage with Wittering Primary School, the 2nd Wittering Scouts, All Saints' Church, Airplay, etc. She will deliver grey food waste bins and liners for distribution at the Summer Fete on 13th July 2024 and will attend WittFest on 7th August 2024.</p>
24(07)4	<p>Public Time The members of the public raised the following issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ownership of the land down the left-hand side of the church. Emma Stacey said she did not believe that there were any old maps showing who owns what land in the village held at RAF Wittering. The Parish Council will forward a request for a search of the maps to Emma. Geoff Dunkley believed that a Hillside Gardens' resident works at the Land Registry and could be approached for advice and the Clerk will check this out. • Organising a recycling initiative at Wittering Primary School. The resident was advised to contact Cristina Fernandez-Hierro. • Motorists driving too fast on the bend and Lawrence Road (and other areas in the village). The Clerk will ask PCC if a 20-mph limit could be considered on all the village's roads. • A quad bike being driven on the playing field. This had been reported by Emma Wilson-Jones and she will speak to PC Stephen Main at the Police Surgery on 15th July 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motorists making U-turns across the A1 and onto the main entrance to RAF Wittering. It is believed that this are contractors rather than RAF Personnel. Gavin Elsey has already requested the installation of a concrete barrier preventing this. • The ownership of the garages on Jefferson Close. It is believed that these are not all owned by the MoD, but Emma Stacey will check this out. • Rev Margaret Venables spoke of the need for the church to relate better to the residents or otherwise there is a fear that the church will have to close due to low numbers attending services. A discussion took place as how a better relationship could be encouraged/managed. Emma Stacey said that a RAF Band is due to attend RAF Wittering in October 2024 and could be asked to perform a concert free-of-charge in the church.
24(07)5	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th June 2024</p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th June 2023, were reviewed, approved as proposed by Dave Hughes, seconded by Jo Gault, agreed to by all present and signed by the Chair.</p>
24(07)6	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13th June 2024</p>
	<p>Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group</p> <p>Gavin Elsey was not present so there was no update. The Chair said he planned to contact Sam Carling, the newly elected MP for North-West Cambridgeshire, to invite him to the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss this and other local issues.</p>
	<p>New Wittering Community Building</p> <p>Dave Hughes said that the meeting with the stakeholders held on 2nd July 2024 had gone well. He will be available at the Summer Fete to discuss the proposals to the residents. A Committee Meeting will be organised before the next Parish Council Meeting.</p>
	<p>Village Events</p> <p>The next Village Event will be the Summer Fete 1.00–11.00 pm on 13th July 2024. The next events will be Remembrance Tea on 9th November, Drag Bingo on 16th November and a Christmas Fayre on 7th December 2024. A Silent Disco may be organised in the church in 2025. The Chair expressed grateful thanks to the Events' Committee for all their hard work.</p>
	<p>Village Bus Service, Replacement of the Bus Shelter Noticeboards, Church Road Bus Shelter and Request for Yellow Lines on corner of St George's Road/Parker Road</p> <p>The new Bus Service which commenced on 3rd June 2024 continues to be very popular. Workers had been seen measuring up the old wooden Bus Shelter on Church Road so it is hoped that this will be refurbished soon. Requests have been made for an earlier bus service to Stamford in the mornings, this will be considered in due course. It was agreed to leave the request for yellow lines on the corner of St George's Road/Parker Road until the Bus Service Review which is due to be held in September 2024. It was agreed to ask Stagecoach if their drivers are aware of any specific areas in the village where parked cars are making it difficult for them to drive through safely .</p>
	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Chair had spoken to Simon Scriven regarding the contents of a letter (already circulated to the Parish Councillors) which will be delivered to all households in the village. The letter was approved as proposed by Dave Hughes, seconded by Jo Gault, and agreed to by all present. Jo will speak to Royal Mail regarding the cost of delivering the letter.</p>
	<p>Speedwatch</p> <p>After a brief discussion, it was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the Elan Evolis (£5,615.98), as proposed by Iain Wilkinson, seconded by Dave Hughes, and agreed to by all present. Iain Wilkinson will deal with this.</p>
	<p>Storage Container</p> <p>There was no update on this.</p>
	<p>Nature Recovery in Wittering</p> <p>The Chair will meet with Sophie Van Den Burgh to see what progress has been made and will report back at the next Parish Council Meeting in September 2024.</p>
	<p>Parish Council Logo</p> <p>Emma Wilson-Jones had forwarded the shortlist of designs to the Parish Councillors for them to vote on their favourite design.</p>
	<p>Parish Hall Fire Safety Report</p> <p>Russell Pye had spoken to Newflame regarding the inaccuracies contained in the Fire Safety Report. The report has been amended and will be passed on to Russell for any further comments.</p>
	<p>Park Farm Trees</p> <p>Russell Pye was not present so there was no update.</p>

24(07)7	<p>Footpath Improvements The Chair read out an email that he had received from Lee Moore, PCC Footpaths' Officer.</p> <p>"I met with the drainage engineer and contractor today and we have discussed a solution to the Hall Lane bridleway. I will be raising a works' order for them to undertake some vegetation clearance and groundworks to channel the water along to the left-hand side of the path as you go towards Hall Lane, there is already a drainage channel on some of this section which will also be cleared out at the same time. We will undertake these works and then monitor water flows and what has been achieved. The path through Lound Wood was a more difficult location so further discussing are to be made regarding this route, but options are available I just need to clarify a few things first. I will update you when I have a start date for the Hall Lane works, the proposed start date is the 2nd week in August but as always this is weather dependent, and I also need to talk to Robin Dunlop to secure access through Grange Farm".</p> <p>He had invited Lee to attend the next Parish Council Meeting.</p>
24(07)8	<p>Non-Payment of Parish Hall Fee The Parish Councillors were extremely disappointed to hear that two residents had not paid the remainder of the fee for booking the Parish Hall despite being contacted several times by the Clerk. Neither resident had contacted the Clerk to explain the reason that they had not paid. The Clerk will chase this up with the two residents. Legal advice will be sought. If this continues to be a problem, future hirers will be asked to pay the fee in full at the time of booking.</p>
24(07)9	<p>Fly Tipping If there appears to be any area in the village where fly tipping is more prevalent, PCC will consider erecting CCTV to monitor the situation. Becki Sharman, a local resident, frequently reports incidents of fly-tipping to PCC.</p>
24(07)10	<p>Clerk's Emails The Clerk will add the reply that "all emails will be responded to within the next seven working days" on her email system.</p>
24(07)10	<p>Police Report The next Policy Surgery will take place 6.00–8.00 pm on 15th July 2024 in Wansford Community Hall.</p>
24(07)11	<p>Organisation Reports No organisation Reports had been received.</p>
24(07)12	<p>Planning 23/01750/FUL Installation of an approximately 4.3km below ground pipeline as a diversion to an existing pipeline at Collyweston – Awaiting Decision 24/00686/TRE Lime trees x 3 (red) crown raise to 4m, reduce and shape trees by approx 3m (05/00002/TPO) at 7 Church View, Trent Road, Wittering – Awaiting Decision 24/00721/WCPP Variation of condition C2 (drawings and documents) of planning permission 23/00852/FUL at Land Adjacent to Magnolia House, Old Oundle Road, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision 24/00741/FUL Erection of a replacement stable block at Magnolia House, Old Oundle Road, Thornhaugh – Awaiting Decision</p>
24(07)13	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various CAPALC Bulletins • Cate Harding – Parish Liaison Meeting – 2nd October 2024
24(07)14	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve the payments included on the financial statement (previously circulated). Approved as proposed by Jo Gault, seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones, and agreed to by all present. • Funding of a CPR Course at the Parish Hall – it was agreed that the Parish Hall can be used free-of-charge for this training as proposed by Emma Wilson-Jones, seconded by Julia Cunnington, and agreed to by all present. This could take place monthly depending on the level of interest. However, an alternative venue may be All Saints' Church. Dave Hughes and Tracey Wilmott are consulting with outside organisations to organise this and the Restart a Heart Day, which is due to take place on 16th October 2024, may be a suitable date for the first course to take place.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Event at Parish Hall – to discuss hiring fee. It was agreed that the church will be a more suitable venue for this event and the Chair will forward the details to Rev Margaret Venables who will speak to Rev Gary Alderson. • It was agreed to fund the cost of the tree survey that had been undertaken in the churchyard as proposed by Jo Gault, seconded by Julia Cunnington, and agreed to by all present
24(07)15	Matters for Future Consideration There were no matters for future consideration.
23(07)16	Date of the next meeting To confirm the date of the next meeting as 12 th September 2024, to be held at 7.30 pm in Wittering Parish Hall.

Deirdre McCumiskey, Wittering Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

SIGNED

DATE

12/09/24

Chairman