

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

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MINUTES OF WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2024 IN THE PARISH HALL

Item No	
24(11)1	<p>Chair's Welcome The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
24(11)2	<p>In Attendance: John Bradshaw, Geoff Dunkley, Jo Gault, Kate Jackson, Iain Wilkinson, Emma Wilson-Jones, Charlotte Blake (Head of Wittering Primary School), Gavin Elsey (PCC Ward Councillor) one member of the public and Deirdre McCumiskey (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies for Absence: Dave Hughes, Russell Pye and Emma Stacey (RAF Wittering)</p>
24(11)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>
24(11)4	<p>Public Time A member of the public had raised the following issue by email:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for CCTV at Entrances to the Village (by email) – Iain Wilkinson agreed to obtain a quotation for this. <p>Gavin Elsey raised the following issue:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC is likely to submit a Sec 114 (Bankruptcy) Notice as there is an £11 million deficit, and the new administration is not experienced and is struggling to cope. Children and Adult Services' provision is proving very costly. There may be a change in the way that elections are held which is currently one third for three years followed by a barren year to holding them once every four years to save costs.
24(11)5	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2024 The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2024, were reviewed, approved as proposed by Emma Wilson-Jones, seconded by Iain Wilkinson, agreed to by all present and signed by the Chair.</p>
24(10)16	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 10th October 2024</p>
	<p>Wittering A1 Flyover Campaign Group Gavin Elsey said that he had asked Lewis Banks, PCC Principal Sustainable Transport Planning Manager to contact the Secretary of State to confirm that the projects in the 2025-2030 funding round are still likely to go ahead. He has not heard back from Lewis Banks to date but will chase this up. Gavin had met with Highways England at the junction of the A1/Townsend Road to discuss safety improvements including the refurbishment of the markings and signage, but he had felt frustrated at the lack of awareness from HE.</p>

	<p>New Wittering Community Building It was agreed that the Parish Council Owned Buildings Sub Committee will meet with the Sports & Social Club to discuss the plans. Emma Wilson-Jones suggested that before the Parish Council proceeds any further with the plans, a funding stream needs to be agreed, and a part-time project manager appointed. The Clerk will contact Emma Stacey and Louise Sampson (RAF Wittering) and Maxine Palmer to determine potential funders. Geoff Dunkley said that the Parish Council needs to employ someone to undertake six-monthly checks on the Parish Council Owned Buildings. The Clerk will find out how other Parish Councils manage their buildings.</p>
	<p>Village Events The next events will be Drag Bingo on 16th November, Carol Singing on 6th December and a Christmas Fayre on 7th December 2024. The Remembrance Tea held on 9th November was a successful event and enjoyed by those who attended. Thanks were expressed to members of the Airplay Youth Club who helped at the event. The Remembrance Sunday and Monday events had also gone well.</p>
	<p>Neighbourhood Plan The letter to residents has been delivered by the Sports & Social Club and several responses have been received. It was agreed to arrange an initial meeting at 7.00 pm on either 27th November or 4th December in the Bowls' Club with a more structured meeting to take place in February 2025. Thanks were expressed to the Sports & Social Club for their help. The Chair will deliver the letter to the residents on Old Oundle Road.</p>
	<p>Speedwatch and the location of the Speed Radars Iain Wilkinson confirmed speed radars have been delivered. It was agreed to site one on Townsend Road (moving the current one to St George's Road) and one on Burghley Road (near the bus stop).</p>
	<p>Nature Recovery in Wittering The Chair said that he had attended a meeting on 13th November 2024 but had nothing further to report.</p>
	<p>Parish Council Logo Emma Wilson-Jones said she is waiting to hear from the external company and will chase this up.</p>
	<p>Park Farm Trees As Russell Pye was not present, this was not discussed.</p>
	<p>Leases for the Bowls' Club, Junior Football Club and Adult Football Club As Russell Pye was not present, it was agreed to defer the discussion on these to the next meeting.</p>
	<p>Parish Councillor Vacancy There was one applicant, Kate Jackson, and she was co-opted onto and welcomed to the Parish Council. It was agreed to defer filling the other vacancy until the New Year.</p>
24(11)7	<p>Meeting Dates 2025 9th January, 13th February, 13th March, 10th April, 8th May (APM & AGM), 12th June, 10th July, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November 2025. Emma Wilson-Jones said that she thought the Sports & Social Club were planning to change the day of their quiz from the first to the second Thursday of the month, but she would check.</p>
24(11)8	<p>Police Report It was noted that PC Stephen Main has been working in the village, monitoring areas of concern that are either reported to the police or picked up on Facebook.</p>
24(10)9	<p>Organisation Reports</p>
	<p>Bowls' Club Jo Gault said the new lawn mower has been delivered. There is a leak in the pavilion and the Clerk will ask Craig Buttress to look at it. There are difficulties in shutting the back door and the Clerk will ask the supplier to look at it. Jo said that John Hare, the Chair and a stalwart of the Bowls Club, had unexpectedly died at the weekend. A Minute's Silence was held in his memory at the end of the meeting.</p>
	<p>RAF Wittering Emma Stacey had asked:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could the football pitches be used for a Christmas football match planned for 4th December as the RAF pitches may not be ready following the current work being carried out to improve them? The Clerk will advise her to contact Steve Orr. • The Station is hoping to do a Santa Fire Truck tour again this Christmas sponsored by Babcock, where it will be travelling around the village with Santa's helpers giving out sweets and maybe raising funds for the RAF Benevolent Fund w/c 16th December. Is possible to tie it in with any plans that might be in place within the village? The Clerk will advise her that there are no plans in place within the village w/c 16th December 2024.
24(11)10	<p>Planning</p>

	23/01750/FUL Installation of an approximately 4.3km below ground pipeline as a diversion to an existing pipeline at Collyweston – Awaiting Decision
24(11)11	Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various CAPALC Bulletins (circulated) • Neil Boyce – Parish Liaison Local Plan Meeting Notes • Patricia Stuart-Mogg – Wansford Neighbourhood Plan Meeting 18th November 2024 – John Bradshaw and Jo Gault to attend
24(11)12	Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve the payments included on the financial statement dated 30th September and 31st October 2024. Approved as proposed by Goeff Dunkley, seconded by Kate Jackson, and agreed by all present • Budget and Precept 2025-2026 – the Finance Sub Committee had met to discuss this on 21st October 2024 and recommended a £5,000 increase to £65,000. This was proposed by Jo Gault, seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones, and agreed by all present. • To discuss a request for a contribution to the start-up costs of the Community Choir – it was agreed to donate £450 as proposed by Jo Gault and seconded by Kate Jackson • To discuss a request for a donation to the RBL Poppy Appeal – it was agreed to donate £150 as proposed by Geoff Dunkley and seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones • To discuss a request for a donation to All Saints' Church Flower Festival – it was agreed to donate £100 as proposed by Jo Gault and seconded by Emma Wilson-Jones
24(11)16	Matters for Future Consideration There were no matters for future consideration. The Chair will be away on holiday for the whole of January 2025. Jo Gault, Vice Chair will chair the next meeting.
23(11)17	Date of the next meeting To confirm the date of the next meeting as 9 th January 2025 to be held at 7.30 pm in Wittering Parish Hall. See 24(11)7 above.

Deirdre McCumiskey, Wittering Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

SIGNED _____
Chairman

DATE 09/01/25