



In 2025-2026 the Parish Council met 10 times in Wittering Parish Hall.

Geoff Dunkley resigned from the Parish Council and we would like to thank him for all his hard work and commitment over the years. He has been replaced by Brian Day.

Gavin Elsey, our Peterborough City Council, Ward Councillor has worked tirelessly for the residents, taking up their issues with the relevant authorities. I would like to thank Gavin for his efforts over the past year.

There have been a number of police surgeries in the last 12 months, giving residents a good opportunity to raise concerns, although thankfully the level of crime in the village remains low. PC Stephen Main and PC Oliver Gregory, North Neighbourhood Policing Team have supported residents when there have been matters of concern.

Several members of the public have attended meetings throughout the year and they are always very welcome. Various issues have been brought to the parish council's attention ranging from dog fouling, overgrown footpaths, antisocial behaviour and motorists parking vehicles dangerously.

Reflecting on the past year, planning and development have remained at the forefront of the Council's agenda. We have carefully reviewed and responded to a variety of individual planning applications, ensuring that each one aligns with the character and needs of our Parish.

However, our most significant undertaking has been our rigorous engagement with the **Draft Peterborough Local Plan**. Your Parish Council submitted comprehensive, detailed comments on the amended draft, advocating strongly for the interests of our residents.

Currently, Peterborough City Council is in the process of analysing the feedback received during this extensive consultation period. They are weighing our concerns alongside a broad spectrum of technical evidence as they refine the document. We anticipate that the next iteration of the Plan will be published for further consultation in **late summer 2026**.

Rest assured, we will continue to monitor these developments closely to ensure our community's voice remains a central part of Peterborough's future growth.



The Neighbourhood Plan Committee has reformed and an initial meeting held. Again, a Neighbourhood Plan is a way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives Local Communities the power to produce a plan with legal weight that directs development in the area.

The Wittering Parish Council website (www.witteringparishcouncil.com) has proven an ideal medium for people to keep up to date with Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings and other matters affecting the village.

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

The Sports Pavilion and Bowls Club Pavilion are much appreciated by residents and visiting football and bowls teams alike. The Leases for the Football Clubs have been rewritten.

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

I would like to thank Julia Cunnington, Jean Jackson, Gavin Elsey and other members of the Bus Service Campaign Group for their ongoing hard work in enabling a revised village bus service introduced in Wittering, Wansford, Ailsworth and Castor. A new service provider will start in June 2026 with funding for another 3 years.

I would like to thank Jo Gault, Emma Wilson-Jones and the Events Committee for their efforts in putting on the Village Fete. This was an enjoyable event. *A Christmas Fayre took place in December 2025.*

The Remembrance Day Sunday Parade and Church Service were well supported, and the Remembrance Afternoon Tea was enjoyed by all those attending.

The Sports & Social Club has experienced some financial difficulty in the last financial year. However, both the bingo and quiz sessions are proving popular.



The Parish Council's figures remain on a sound footing; the internal audit has been completed and suggestions from residents 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 weekend.

Following a recent structural survey showing the structure of the existing Parish Hall to be sound, the Parish Council has decided to future proof the current hall for the next 5 years with a renovation and redecoration programme. The plans for a new Parish Hall spoken about at last year's AGM are still ongoing and receiving consideration.

Allison Homes completed its 3-year development that comprises 3,4 and 5 bedroom houses in a variety of styles.

Gavin Elsey, Peterborough City Ward Councillor, has taken over from John Bradshaw to progress the case for an A1/Wittering Flyover. The submission is in Stage 2 (in the 2025-2030 programme of works). Stage 3 deals with the financing/funding of successful projects.

A meeting has been arranged with PCC to discuss the defective transport assessment and residential travel plan for Harriers Rest. This has a direct bearing on the campaign for an A1 flyover.

Emma Stacey and Louise Sampson have attended meetings on behalf of RAF Wittering, and I would like to thank them for their input.

The Parish Council has purchased Speed Radars to make motorists aware if they are speeding when entering/leaving the village.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Parish Councillors and the previous and new Clerks for their interest and commitment to the village over the past 12 months.

John Bradshaw
Chair, Wittering Parish Council
May 2026