**WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL**

www.witteringparishcouncil.com

**Parish Clerk:**
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# MINUTES OF WITTERING PARISH COUNCIL (WPC) MEETING HELD AT 7.30 pm on THURSDAY, 22 October 2026 IN THE PARISH HALL

| Item No | |
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| 26(10)84 | **Public Forum**<br>War Memorial – Michelle Dundas advised she had kindly been offered the services of a specialist who could clean the war memorial free of charge in time for the Remembrance Service. Reverend Gary Alderson advised he would need to get approval from the Diocese and the wreathes could be removed to the RAF chapel within the church so they did not spoil outside. The stones painted by the school children would be removed a couple of days after the service and a cairn built at the school.<br><br>Reverend Gary Alderson provided an update regarding church finances. He advised he is setting up a Fabric Fund, Good Fund Me account to raise money for roof repairs.<br><br>There is a full family of badgers causing issues within the church grounds. He is speaking with an ecologist regarding how best to rehome them (needs a licence from the Home Office) but total cost of this is expected to be in the region of £10k.<br><br>Gary Anderson to share Go Fund Me page with RD to put on relevant Wittering Facebook pages.<br><br>Mal Brown provided an update on Remembrance celebrations. Wittering is standing alone with the Poppy Appeal this year (£3k raised last year with Barnack).Requesting a donation of £150 from WPC. RD to send funding request form to Mal Brown so we have the correct audit trail regarding funding.<br><br>Julia Cunnington-Jinks provided update on Caster bus issues mentioned at last month's meeting. Also advised on small timetable issues to reduce wait times at Exeter Road bus stop. |
| 26(10)85 | **Chair's Welcome**<br>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. |
| 26(10)86 | **In Attendance:**<br>Jo Gault, (Chair) (JG), John Bradshaw (JB), Liz Putterill (LP), Emma Wilson-Jones (EWJ), Iain Wilkinson (IW), Nikki Browne (NB), Ruth Demagalski (Clerk) (RD). Emma Stacey (RAF) (ES); 5 members of the public,<br>**Apologies for Absence:**<br>Kate Jackson (KJ), Gavin Elsey - PCC Ward Councillor (GE); Louise Sampson (RAF) (LS) |

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| **26(10)87** | **Declaration of Interest**<br>The Chair reminded the Parish Councillors of their obligation under the Codes of Conduct to declare personal and pecuniary interest. JB declared an interest in all matters concerning All Saints' Church (as he is a Churchwarden). JG and EWJ declared their involvement with Wittering Events. |
| **26(10)88** | **Minutes of the Meeting held on 24/09/2026:**<br>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24/09/2026, were reviewed and approved as proposed by JB seconded by EWJ, agreed to by those present and signed by the Chair. |
| **26(10)89** | **Matters for Discussion, Consideration and Approval**:<br><br>**Councillor Surgery 20/10:**<br>Feedback by JB.<br>Resident advised 2 streetlights out Church Park/Hall Lane area. Residents to be encouraged to report these issues to Fix My Street. However, WPC would take this forward with PCC on this occasion.<br><br>Cycle/Footpath from Wittering to Stamford very overgrown and uneven. EWJ advised this was being improved while current A1 works taking place. EWJ – providing contact details.<br><br>It was mentioned by one resident of the lack of engagement by JB.IW and it was agreed WPC need to use their banner for the next surgery to help advertise.<br><br>Harriers Rest area, request for a bench/waste bin by lake near new development. RD to obtain costs.<br><br>Fly tipping on Old Oundle Road. LP advised she had already reported.<br>RD has already put contact details on Wittering FB pages.<br><br>Fence by Church previously reported in September. Emma Stacey (RAF) is managing this.<br><br>JG/NB to hold next evening surgery.<br><br>**SEND Update by JG:**<br>Advised there would be an in/out driveway, capable of holding 8 vehicles.to remove traffic congestion on Church Road. They will need to adjust plinths to back of school wall to ensure the largest minibus can get through.<br>SEND will have 4 classrooms with 10 pupils in each for children with social and emotional mental health needs and the aim of the SEND classrooms is to help inclusion as the SEND pupils will be able to mix with the children in the main school.<br>Aim is to open in time for the next academic year.<br><br>**Finance:**<br>LP to set date for next Finance Subcommittee.<br>RD provided a brief update on the draft budget she has compiled and how this will affect the Precept figure for 2027/28.<br><br>**Land & Buildings:**<br>Cost to be considered of moving the container currently in the hall car park to the new gravel area where the garages were.<br>Picture of the tree roots uncovered when the garages were demolished to be held on file for future reference as needed.<br>Football Pavilion – Gas Safe Certificate (GSC) service/inspection of hot water heat scheduled for 11/07.<br>Showers – a vote was taken on the 3 quotes obtained for the new showers with the work being |

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| | awarded to Eriam. This work is to take place once the GSC is obtained. Proposed by KB, 2nd IW – two other councillors voted for Eriam – approved with two other votes going to Pro Plumbing.<br>War Memorial – Previously discussed in the open forum above.<br>History Boards – revised cost of Frames now £8,865 plus VAT (the company providing the frames previously provided the winning quote). Proposal to go ahead with the revised cost by EWJ, 2nd JB – all approved.<br><br>**Police/Traffic**<br>IW provided an update on the issues raised at the surgery and following subcommittee meeting. RD copied into a Parking Restriction Request Form submitted by a resident. IW to take forward with RAF.<br>Double Yellow lines outside Casworth Motors – RD to again following up with PCC.<br>Further damage to playground near St George's Road – RAF aware and actioning.<br>The spare speed radar to be installed by St Mary's Road/Lawrence Road to monitor speed in this area of the village. IW to action.<br><br>**Policies & Procedures**<br>JG to follow up with Active Council regarding the new website which should be ready by the time of the next meeting (layout similar to current website) and confirmed all gov.uk email addresses set up.<br>LP advised she has emailed WPC keyholder regarding contract and onboarding to payroll system.<br>LP advised she is finishing the draft of the use of container agreement for use by the Girl Guides. |
| **26(10)90** | **Wittering Village Neighbourhood Plan:**<br>NB advise draft questionnaire completed and once signed off will be ready for circulation mid-late January 2027.<br><br>Local Plan out for consultation however need representation to confirm Wittering excluded from Plan. Important to specify which Policy No. is being commented against. |
| **26(10)91** | **Village Events:**<br>Wittering Events – Halloween Film – Family Fun 30/10; Remembrance Tea Party 07/11, Christmas Tree Lights switching on event 6/12. Tree this year will be 8 – 10 feet and not rooted and Christmas Fayre (12/12).<br>. |
| **26(10)92** | **Planning**<br>No planning applications submitted in time for the meeting. |
| **26(10)93** | **Correspondence**<br>Already circulated. |
| **26(10)94** | **Finance**<br>Expenditure for September agreed and signed off by JG. RD provided brief explanation as to why expenditure higher this month than previous.<br>Clerk/RFO overtime – 18.25 hours approval. Proposed JG, 2nd EWJ approved by All |
| **26(10)95** | **Matters for Future Consideration**<br>Donation to Wittering Poppy Appeal |
| **26(10)96** | **Date of the next meeting**<br>To confirm the date of the next meeting – 07.30 pm on 26 November 2026 in Wittering Parish Hall |

Ruth Demagalski, Wittering Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

**SIGNED** _____ **(Chair)** **DATE 26 November 2026**