

# Chair's Report 2025

The purpose of this 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting is to let the people of North Turton know what the Parish Council and District Council have been doing over the last 12 months.

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A main part of the Parish Council's duties is the review of planning applications. We have commented on 68 applications in the past year, of which 22 related to extensions or alterations to dwellings, 18 were for new dwellings – either new buildings or the conversion of existing buildings, 7 were for the erection of agricultural buildings and 21 were for other things.

Members of the public have been invited to all of our council meetings and are given an opportunity to voice their opinions on planning applications, and any other issues they wished to raise.

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Some of the other things the Parish Council has done during the year include:

- Entering two villages into the 2024 Lancashire Best Kept Village competition:
  - Belmont was Highly Commended in the Small Villages category
  - Belmont Primary School was Highly Commended in the Schools category
- Continued to raise the profile of the Parish Council by keeping the Facebook page up-to-date giving more social media communication
- Created a new “.gov.uk” website in line with current accessibility requirements
- Created new e-mail accounts for all Councillors using “.gov.uk”
- Kept the new Parish Council website up to date with current news and agenda/minutes of meetings
- Continued to help Chapeltown Village Residents Association (CVRA)
- Maintained the planters in all the villages
- Arranged meetings in Edgworth, Belmont, Chapeltown and at Turton Tower to include residents
- Having updates from and regular contact with the Police including the local PCSO
- In conjunction with Edgworth & District Horticultural Society successfully completed the renovation of the Chapeltown Community Garden using a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund

- Elected 1 new Councillor to the Parish Council
- Co-opted 2 new Councillors to the Parish Council
- Arranged three replacement signatories on the Council's bank account
- Continued regular meetings with the Trustees at The Barlow to enable the Council to keep informed of any developments
- Moved out of the office at The Barlow, Edgworth to enable the Clerk to work from home
- Archived paperwork sent to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
- Arranged with Turton Tower to store remaining paperwork in secure unit on-site
- Cancelled broadband/phone provider in the office at The Barlow, Edgworth
- Arranged repairs to wall at The Moss in Belmont that had collapsed
- Agreed to fund a school crossing person at Edgworth Primary School in 2024/25
- Moved forward with selling the Gatehouse Garden at Turton Tower to BwDBC
- Liaised with the Lengthsman around fly tipping in the area, emptying dog bins and grass, path & hedge maintenance
- Laid wreaths on Remembrance Sunday at St Anne's Chapeltown, St Peter's Belmont and the War Memorial in Egerton
- Organised the switching on of the Christmas lights at Belmont, Chapeltown and Edgworth

*Daniel Wild*

Chair of North Turton Parish Council