

ILKETSHALL ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2022

The Parish Council is back to meeting in the Village Hall. The meetings are usually the first Monday of every alternate month, and the next meeting is scheduled for

[Monday 3 October 2022, 7.30 pm.](#)

The Agenda will, as usual, be available on the website [ilketshallstandrewparishcouncil.org] a little while before the meeting. Minutes of previous meetings, financial information about the Parish Council, statistics from the Vehicle Activated Sign etc., etc., are also available there. We really would welcome your attendance!

Quiet Lanes

The process of getting most of the roads in the village designated as Quiet Lanes is **nearly** complete! School Road is due to complete the process very soon, and the hope is that Banters Lane will also complete the process within a couple of months. The signage for those two roads will then be added, and all the roads that can be designated as Quiet Lanes will have been completed. Top Road/Ringsfield cannot be designated, because it is too busy to be classified as a Quiet Lane, unfortunately.

Top Road

The Parish Council has continued to explore possibilities for alleviating the speeding problem, and the HGV problem, on Top Road/Ringsfield Road. The siting of the Vehicle Activated Sign (shared with Ringsfield & Weston Parish Council) continues to record a very high incidence of speeding vehicles, with instances of 80 mph within the 30mph limit. The Parish Council is making another attempt to create a “Community Speedwatch” team (probably in conjunction with Ringsfield & Weston), so if you would be willing to devote a bit of time to this, please get in touch with Rod Apps via the Parish Council email address (isaparishcouncil@gmail.com).

The Parish Council is also investigating the possibility of having additional road paintings on Top Road, such as chevrons near to the start of the 30mph limit, and “30” roundels at the start of the limit. At the time of writing, the Parish Council is awaiting a detailed plan and costing from Suffolk Highways before it can proceed.

The HGV issue is (even) more difficult to deal with. Residents of Top Road in particular will be aware of the number of HGVs using the road as a ‘rat run’ to get to and from the

Over 

Southern Relief Road around Beccles, which has led to a significant increase in the volume of HGVs. At particular times of the year, many of these vehicles are using the road to access the biodigester plant at Ellough. “HGV jams” have been recorded where two HGVs, going in opposite directions, have **just** managed to squeeze past each other on Top Road. In principle, a weight limit (except for access) could be introduced onto Top Road/Ringsfield Road, but the village’s share of the cost of introducing that would be £14,000, and hence is not possible. Even if a weight limit was introduced, the problem of **enforcement** (the responsibility of the police) would remain. The Parish Council will continue to place pressure on Suffolk Highways to take some action, but the impact of a Parish Council is inevitably limited . . .

Blue Recycling Bins

The Parish Council email inbox regularly gets emails about problems with what people are putting in their blue bins, and asks Parish Councils to help.

It seems that East Suffolk County Council is losing a serious amount of money (hundreds of thousands of pounds per year) as a consequence of people putting incorrect materials into their blue bins. When a (blue) bin lorry turns up at a recycling centre, the contents are sampled, and if there is more than an acceptable amount of incorrect items, the whole load is rejected. Which means that the whole lorry load has to go to ‘normal’ waste, with the associated costs. Which means higher-than-necessary Council Tax bills.

So . . . the plea is to make sure that only correct items are included. ‘Wrong’ items that should **not** be put in blue bins (but often are) include:

- ‘Tetra paks’ – the cartons used for long life milk, juices, etc.
- Glass
- Plastic bags, film and wrappings
- Food
- Textiles

The message seems to be; if in doubt, put it in the black bin. Further information about recycling can be found at: <https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/my-bins/together-we-can-get-our-recycling-right>

Vacancy for Parish Clerk

The current Parish Clerk (Rod Apps) will be standing down at the next local council elections (scheduled for May 2023) at the latest, and therefore the Parish Council is looking for a replacement. In the past, this has been done on a voluntary basis (John Bedwell for *many* years, followed by Mike Croft and then Rod Apps) and if the village is to avoid the cost of employing someone as Parish Clerk, we need a volunteer to take over. If you would be interested in taking on this role, please get in touch with Rod Apps (via the Parish Council e-mail address, isaparishcouncil@gmail.com)