

ILKETSHALL ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2023

[Local Council Elections 4 May 2023](#)

Two items here:

First: in order to vote at the local elections on 4th May 2023, you will need to produce some photographic identification.

Previously, anyone could turn up at a Polling Station, state their name and address, and then be able to vote. From the local elections on 4th May 2023 onwards, people will also have to produce some form of photographic identification.

Acceptable forms of photographic identification include:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional licence)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

You can also apply for a **Voter Authority Certificate** at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk

Second: in addition to District Council elections, the elections on 4th May are for the Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council.

The Parish Council has provision for 7 Councillors. If you would like to put yourself forward to be a Councillor you will need to complete and submit the necessary forms by 4th April 2023.

The forms and other information is available on the East Suffolk website:

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-council-parish-elections-thursday-4-may/>.

The completed forms have to be delivered by hand to the East Suffolk Council offices in Lowestoft (they cannot be delivered online or by post), although someone can deliver them on your behalf. East Suffolk Council will be running an appointment system for the delivery of the forms between Thursday 16th March (the earliest date for submitting them) and Tuesday 4th April (the deadline).

Because of these requirements, the Parish Clerk for a parish usually collects the forms for all the candidates together and then delivers them to East Suffolk Council. East Suffolk Council has supplied me with a batch of 'packs' of the necessary forms. If you would like a pack of the forms and/or would like any information about the role of Parish Councillor, please do get in touch, including via the Parish Council email address isaparishcouncil@gmail.com. If you would like me to deliver the forms on your behalf, please let me have the completed 'pack' by Thursday 16th March at the latest, so that I can then make an appointment to deliver them all to East Suffolk Council.

Shipmeadow Solar Farm

RES, the company investigating the possibility of a solar farm in Ilketshall St. Andrew and Barsham & Shipmeadow, requested a second meeting with the Parish Council on 6th February 2023. RES outlined the progress of their investigations since the public exhibition that they held in November 2022, and which was announced in a previous Parish Council Newsletter. RES also responded to a number of queries and issues that the Parish Council had received from residents both within the Parish and beyond. Following that meeting, RES has produced a 6-page Information Sheet, dated February 2023, and have posted this on their website: <http://www.shipmeadow-solarfarm.co.uk/consultation/> (under "Public Exhibition"). It is also available on the Parish Council website [<http://ilketshallstandrewparishcouncil.org>] under "Notices"

This Information Sheet outlines the current intentions of the company regarding the possible solar farm at Shipmeadow, and include some developments in relation to what the company outlined to the Parish Council and at the Public Exhibition in November 2022.

Directors of the Land Management Company

The Parish Council was pleased to receive **four** applications for the annual election of parishioners from the two parishes to serve as Directors of the LMC from February 2023 onwards. In response, the LMC sought to get approval from the Parish Councils and the Commoners' Association to change the Constitution of the LMC to permit a total of 8 Directors (4 parishioners, 4 Commoners). Having a total of 8 Directors will allow for people to join the Board and 'learn the ropes' before other Directors resign. The new Directors will be Jack Poulden (parishioner) and Lea Ingham (Commoner).

Please do remember the LMC Annual General Meeting, Village Hall, Monday 20th February, 7.30pm. The bar will be open beforehand, there is a free raffle, and a free quiz.

Allotments

The village has a plot of allotments on School Road. A number of these are now available for rent.

Some clearing of the ground will be necessary and, therefore, no rent will be payable until January 2024 (after which they will be £20 per year), payable in advance in January.

Please call Rosemary or Archie on 01986 781380 if you are interested.

Rod Apps, Parish Clerk