

# ILKETSHALL ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2023

### Nomination of Directors Ilketshall St. Andrew and Ilketshall St. John Land Management Company, for 2023-2024

Under the terms of the existing Constitution of the Land Management Company responsible for managing the Commons in Ilketshall St. Andrew & St. John, the Directors of the company are appointed/reappointed each year. The Directors appointed take up their roles immediately after the Annual General Meeting of the Land Management Company, which this year is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

The Land Management Company (LMC) is responsible for the management of the commons in Ilketshall St. Andrew and Ilketshall St. John, and there are 6 Directors. Three of the Directors are nominated by the Commoners' Association, and three by the Parish Councils of Ilketshall St. Andrew and Ilketshall St. John. The Company is a not-for-profit company, and the directorships are unpaid. The Board of Directors meet on a regular basis every 3 months to decide on policies, and there are occasional additional meetings to deal with particular issues.

Applications are invited for the 3 Directors to be appointed by the Parish Councils, and are therefore open to anyone in Ilketshall St. Andrew or Ilketshall St. John who is not a Commoner. The main requirement is that you should have a strong interest in the commons. Applications are particularly welcome from younger residents of the Parishes. It is recognised that many people do not have much time to give over to activities such as the Land Management Company, and therefore it is worth noting that the commitment is to attend an evening meeting once every three months. In between times, if people are able to commit additional time to various activities associated with the commons, then so much the better.

If you would like further information about the role, then please contact one of the current Directors of the LMC (Tim Basey-Fisher, Gerald Godfrey, Chris Roberts, John Bedwell, Roo Lee or Rod Apps), or a member of the Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council (Gerald Godfrey, Jacqui Harrison, Colin Ward, Penny Ward or Rod Apps).

If you are interested in joining the LMC, then please write a brief outline of why you would like to do so, and send it to Rod Apps (Parish Clerk for Ilketshall St. Andrew, at Green Farm, Great Common Lane), or send it to the Parish Council e-mail address ([isaparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:isaparishcouncil@gmail.com)). Please do this by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

Rod Apps  
Parish Clerk, Ilketshall St. Andrew

**Roo Lee, a director of the LMC, writes:**

## **What it means to be a Director on the LMC**

When I moved to Ilketshall St John in March 2019 I was smitten by the abundance of beautiful surroundings.

When a flyer came through about a vacancy for the LMC Board I saw this as an ideal opportunity to get involved in protection of the beautiful Commons we have on our doorstep.

It is very interesting and diverse work, with anything from managing the overwintering grazing areas so we can protect swathes of commons to encourage cover for small mammals which brings in barn owls etc. to hunt on the land, to managing the ponds so they don't get overrun by reeds (which grow prolifically). We also check that the Commons don't have trees that shouldn't be there and that those that should be there are in good condition. But there is so much more to it than that and sometimes it is a challenge but I'm not afraid of challenges.

The Commons are just that, common land for use by all. I am passionate about nature, protecting wildlife and land and making sure that we have the Commons managed properly so many future generations can enjoy the beauty of them. I find it really helps with my own wellbeing because I am giving something back to the community, meeting new people, and helping nature thrive. It isn't easy juggling a full-time job, running a home and garden but I feel proud to be part of the LMC for what they achieve (mostly without acknowledgement) and thrilled that we are an amazing team helping our local communities enjoy the beauty around us.

I would love to see more people involved but it isn't for everyone because it takes commitment. But as the adverts say, "every little helps".

## **Parish Clerk role**

The Parish Council did not receive any expressions of interest from someone in the village to undertake the Parish Clerk role on a voluntary basis. At its December meeting, the Parish Council therefore took the decision to raise the Parish precept in order to be able to fund the appointment of a paid Parish Clerk. People from the village are, of course, able to apply for the post; the advert can be seen on the Suffolk Association of Local Councils website [www.salc.org.uk](http://www.salc.org.uk).

## **Thermal imaging camera project – last call!**

It was not possible to run the thermal imaging camera project over the Christmas/New Year period because the supplied camera was faulty. We are **hoping** to get a replacement camera at the end of the month. Everyone who has already expressed an interest will be contacted – but if you did not do so, and would now like to be included, please send an email to the Parish Council email address [isaparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:isaparishcouncil@gmail.com).