

ILKETSHALL ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2024

Nomination of Directors Ilketshall St. Andrew and Ilketshall St. John Land Management Company, for 2024-2025

Under the terms of the revised Constitution of the Land Management Company responsible for managing the Commons in Ilketshall St. Andrew & St. John, the Directors of the company retire by rotation, with one of the Directors appointed by the Parish Councils, and one appointed by the Commoners' Association, retiring each year. Those Directors are eligible to stand for re-election. The Directors appointed take up their roles immediately after the Annual General Meeting of the Land Management Company, which this year is scheduled for 20th 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 8 Directors. Four of the Directors are nominated by the Commoners' Association, and four 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 Director 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, Lea Ingham, Jack Poulden 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 the Parish Council e-mail address (isaparishcouncil@gmail.com). Please do this by 31st January 2024.

Net Zero: “Everything, Everywhere, All At Once”

On 20 March 2023, the UN Secretary General said in a speech: “In short, our world needs climate action on all fronts -- everything, everywhere, all at once.”

Within Ilketshall St. Andrew, one of the major sources of carbon emissions is the heating of houses. The vast majority of houses in the village are heated by oil, with the remainder by propane gas or solid fuel, and just three (it seems) by heat pumps. The sale of new oil-fired central heating boilers **was** due to be outlawed in 2027, but a recent

over 

change in government policy pushed this back to 2035. So, while it will be possible to buy a replacement oil-fired boiler until 2035 (unless government policy changes again), hopefully residents of Ilketshall St. Andrew will be seeking to move away from oil (and gas) fired boilers well before then, in order to reduce carbon emissions.

Heat pumps are the major alternative home heating system to the use of fossil fuels. Heat pumps suffer from a lack of information (and also from too much misinformation) and therefore the Parish Council is proposing to hold an information session concerning all aspects of heat pumps at the Village Hall one evening (once the weather gets warmer) If you would be interested in attending such a session, please send an email to Rod Apps (rodapps1@gmail.com) or a note to Green Farm, Great Common Lane. Provided there are sufficient expressions of interest, the Parish Council will go ahead and arrange such an event – so please **do** send a message if interested; the deadline is the end of February.

Community Energy

Members of the Parish Council participated in a ‘virtual’ meeting with an organisation called “Community Energy South”, which seeks to help communities establish their own community energy schemes. [More information can be obtained from <https://communityenergysouth.org/pathways/>] It is probably the case that a community energy scheme would need to involve other villages, but there would need to be some individuals from Ilketshall St. Andrew to join a group to move the possibility forward. If you would like to be involved with this, then please send an email to Rod Apps (rodapps1@gmail.com) or a note to Green Farm, Great Common Lane), or contact him for further information. Please send any expressions of interest by end of February, latest.

Flooding

Parishioners will already be very aware of the heavy rain and the shortcomings of a number of drainage systems within the village. The importance of keeping drainage ditches clear has become very clear this winter, and the Parish Council has been asked to remind people to **not** clog up drainage ditches with garden waste, etc., which will worsen any flooding issue.

Neighbourhood Plan

Having suffered delays due to the Covid pandemic, the three villages of Ringsfield & Weston, Barsham & Shipmeadow and Mettingham are re-starting their efforts to produce a joint Neighbourhood Plan. Ilketshall St. Andrew rejected participating with those villages in a Neighbourhood Plan in 2019, but it seems that there has been a reconsideration by many in the village of the wisdom of that, and a number of new residents are supportive of participating in a Neighbourhood Plan. Re-joining the other three parishes in the creation of a neighbourhood plan would be possible at this stage, and therefore if you would like to be involved in undertaking this for the village (you do **not** need to be a Parish Councillor to do this), please send an email to Rod Apps (rodapps1@gmail.com) or a note to Green Farm, Great Common Lane, or contact him for further information. Please do this by the end of February.

Rod Apps, on behalf of Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council.