



Ashington Parish Council

NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2023

Grasslands Solar Farm planned for Canewdon and Ashington

What is being proposed

- 49.9 megawatt (MW) solar farm.
- Generating enough clean energy to power 16,000 typical family homes, saving over 8,900 tonnes of CO2 per annum.*
- Situated on 98 hectares (243 acres) of agricultural land – a mixture of arable and grassland.
- The electricity generated from the solar farm will connect into the local distribution network operator (UKPN) via an existing electricity pylon on the west of the site.
- Construction of the project is estimated to take approximately 18-20 weeks.
- Proposed construction and maintenance route will be via an existing farm/field gateway off Fambridge Road (for the western parcel) and Lark Hill Road/Canewdon Road (for the eastern parcel).

Public Consultation

IN TOTAL 55 consultation responses were received during the public consultation period. The feedback was largely positive, with 33 of respondents stating that they were supportive of the project, 3 respondents did not support the proposal, 6 were neither supportive nor unsupportive and 8 needed further information to form an opinion. Please note that 5 respondents did not answer to this question.

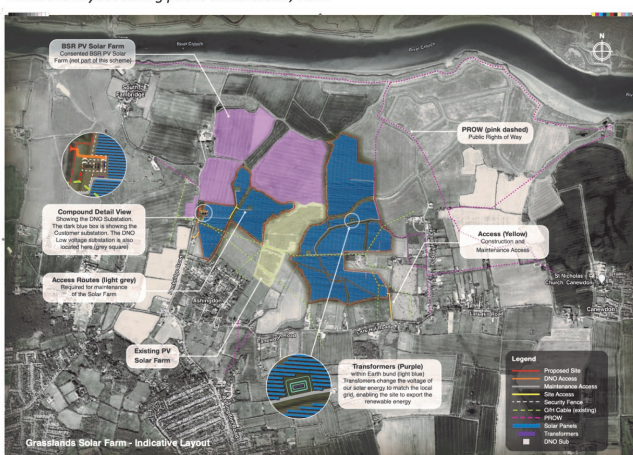
Summary of comments included;

- Concern of loss of agricultural land
- Encouraging wildlife
- Use of brown field sites
- Construction route
- Education to local schools
- Biodiversity

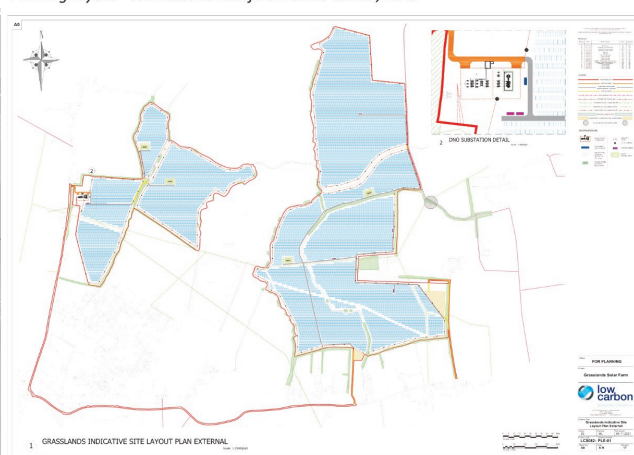
Project Benefits

- + Provision of enough electricity to power over 16,000 homes saving over 8,900 tonnes of CO2 annually.
- + Significant biodiversity net gain through the creation of wildflower grassland, enhancement of hedgerows and planting of new native hedge and tree species, and provision wildlife nesting boxes.
- + A Community benefit fund equivalent to £140,000 available to the local community.
- + Enhancement of business rates estimated to be equivalent to £100,000 per annum.
- + Provision of educational programmes to local schools.

Indicative Layout during public consultation, 2022



Planning Layout – submitted to Rochford District Council, 2023





ASHINGDON GETS ITS FIRST BLEED CONTROL KIT

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL has purchased and installed its first Bleed Control Kit in the parish. These lifesaving kits are designed to empower the public to respond effectively to catastrophic bleeding situations until professional medical help arrives.

Each bleed control kit is equipped with essential items for controlling severe bleeding, including a trauma dressing, gauze dressing, chest seal, tourniquet, gloves, and scissors. The kits are designed to be used by members of the public to provide help before the arrival of emergency services. The kit has been placed in the Defibrillator unit located at the Ashingdon Memorial Hall entrance.



Ashingdon Memorial Park Detached Work Project

July-August 2023

NINE Detached Youth Work sessions were delivered at Ashingdon Memorial Park during July and August 2023. Initial engagements aimed to connect with young people gathering in the park with the idea of building a programme of activity throughout the summer holidays.

This led to on foot engagements at the teen shelter as well as a programme of positive activities such as football, basketball, football golf and badminton. We were able to incorporate art projects into the programme, with young people supported by an artist to add high quality artwork to the teen shelter.

Statistics from the detached work project: Young people engagements over 9 youth work sessions. 83 boys aged 10-16 years old. 39 Girls aged 10-16 years old.

Conclusion:

Whilst the team had good engagement with young people

over the project, large groups of young people were not seen on the site each week. Young people we spoke with mentioned that they sometimes come to this park, sometimes other parks depending on the day and who they are socialising with.

The team wanted to highlight that the area designated for young people is unsafe and is not looked after with broken equipment and regularly covered in glass. It was felt that this may well be partly due to its location – away from any supervision, unlit and 'out of the way'. A thought was that a more suitable location for young people's space (e.g. shelter and MUGA) would be closer to the children's park and car park, although not right on of it.

The young people engaged were friendly welcoming, and readily engaged in activities provided

MEET YOUR PARISH COUNCILLOR



Councillor David Reed
Ashingdon West Ward

I've just become a Parish Councillor and look forward to being part of the body making the decisions that will make our community an even better place to work and live in. We've spent most of our lives in Essex, and now live in a lovely old cottage in Ashingdon with our cat Cherry, though both our families originally come from Bow and Bethnal Green in London's East end. Our children were educated on Canvey Island and both still live and work in the Southend area. For most of my working life I've commuted to London, but since Covid I now work mainly from home. I also worked with Essex Police for 22 years as a special constable.



Cllr. David Catchpole
Chairman

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS

WELCOME to our October newsletter. As we say goodbye to our rather disappointing Summer we look towards Christmas with Winter looming. So what has happened during the year? The newly refurbished toilets in the Memorial Park have been open for a while and usage is increasing now visitors are more aware of the facility, we did suffer some slight vandalism but hopefully it will be an isolated incident. We said goodbye to councillor Terry Flowers who had served the parish for many years and we wish him well. We have recently welcomed two new councillors David Reed and Nick Corless and I look forward to working with them in the coming months. We also say goodbye to our Parish Clerk Karen Boyce after 4 years service who left us at the end of September and wish her well for the future.

We held a indoor Coronation Street Party at the Ashingdon Memorial Hall to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles which was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. You're Council recently appointed a Youth Engagement company Bar 'n' Bus to visit the Ashingdon Memorial Park during July and August to engage with the children using the park to delivery community based youth work. (see page 2).

We had meetings with Low Carbon a company who are intending to install a Solar Array Farm in Canewdon and Ashingdon, it is called Grasslands Solar Farm and their planning application has been submitted to RDC (see page 1).

And finally we will be holding our annual Christmas Buffet at the Ashingdon Memorial Hall on Thursday 14th December from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All residents of Ashingdon are welcome. This prompts me to wish all residents of Ashingdon a Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Essex Waste Partnership

WASTE STRATEGY FOR ESSEX

2024 - 2054

DON'T WASTE THE CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY

What we throw away comes at a cost, for residents and the environment. By working together we can reduce waste, protect the environment and save resources.



We've set out how we plan to manage recycling and waste in Essex over the next 30 years in a new strategy.

Visit essex.gov.uk/wastestrategy or scan the QR code to tell us what you think about it.



If you need help filling in the survey, please call 0345 6037625.

**RETHINKING
OUR WASTE**

Working together for Essex
Essex County Council,
Essex District, Borough
and City Councils



Memory Lane Cafe was originally set up in 2019 when it was felt that there was a need for a meeting place for people with Alzheimers, Dementia and their carers to enjoy a few hours of companionship and meet with other carers along with their cared for loved ones in a friendly and relaxing environment, where they can share their common experiences.

We hold the cafe at the Hockley and Hawkwell Day Centre on the first Saturday of the month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tea, coffee and refreshments including home-baked cakes and fun entertainment are provided. To date this includes singers, bell ringers, a magician, chair aerobics, bingo and many other enjoyable activities. We have also enjoyed several afternoon teas and a Christmas celebration. We provide all of the above totally free of charge. Our guests have said how much they enjoy attending each month and our numbers have been gradually increasing.

We are very grateful to **Ashingdon Parish Council** for awarding us a grant of £300 which we will use towards organising future activities. If you would like further information please email:

Pam.foster@thememorylanecafe.org.uk

or call Pam Foster on **07768 367497**.

We also have a Facebook page Memory Lane Cafe (Rochford District).

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS



Monday 2nd October 2023

Monday 6th November 2023

Monday 11th December 2023

Monday 9th January 2024

Monday 5th February 2024

Monday 4th March 2024



CONTACT THE CLERK ON 07950 947731 FOR MEETING DETAILS

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Ashingdon & East Hawkwell Memorial Hall bookings **07307 692889**

St Andrews Church Hall bookings – Julie Goodge **01702 205918**

Neighbourhood Police **101**

1st Ashingdon Scout Group (St Andrews)

Group Scout Leader - John Blundell **01702 545666**

Cubs – Tracey Knight **07979 232322**

Brownies – Hilary Skeggs **01702 291131**

County Councillors

Laureen Shaw **01702 540398**

District Councillors

Mike Carter **07958 707070**

Danielle Belton **07525 714715**

Roger Constable **01702 548834**

Parish Councillors

David Catchpole (Ashingdon ward) **01702 544516**

Debbie Constable (Ashingdon ward) **01702 548834**

Sean Chittenden (Ashingdon ward) **01702 543704**

Pat Hennessy (Ashingdon West) **01702 205060**

David Reed (Ashingdon West) **01702 622953**

Glen Dryhurst (Ashingdon ward) **01702 543380**

Dan McCarthy (Ashingdon Heights ward) **01702 530870**

Sue Osborne (Ashingdon ward) **01702 544871**

Declan Lynn (Ashingdon ward) **07990 901756**

Nick Corless (Ashingdon ward) **01702 543696**

Clerk to Ashingdon Parish Council

Contact details:

ashingdonparishcouncil@outlook.com **07950 947731**

All contacts correct at time of printing

Rochford District Council

Council Offices, South Street,
Rochford, Essex, SS4 1BW

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road,
Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH

Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall

Ashingdon Road, Rochford,
Essex SS4 3HF

Telephone 07307 692889

www.ashingdonmemorialhall.uk

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE

Take a look at:

www.ashingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

PLANNING

All planning applications are now dealt with during our regular monthly council meetings at The Parish Room, Ashingdon Memorial Park, Cricket Pavilion. Members of the public are welcome to attend along with any other interested parties. Meetings normally start at 7.30 p.m. On the first Monday of the month except Bank Holidays and August..

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

There is currently one vacant seat on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a member of Ashingdon Parish Council please speak to our clerk, details below, or come along to one of our meetings which are held on the 1st Monday of each month (August no meeting) at 7.30 p.m. December meeting to be held on 11th December.

Contact the Clerk on 07950 947731