

ILKETSHALL ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2026

Redisham Hall Farm solar farm Planning Application DC/25/2109/FUL

Background:

OPD Energy submitted a Planning Application to East Suffolk District Council in May 2025 in which it applied for permission to construct a solar farm on land at Redisham Hall Farm. The overwhelming majority of the land for the solar farm itself lies within the Ringsfield & Weston Parish Council area, with only a small acreage within Ilketshall St. Andrew. The major issue for Ilketshall St. Andrew is the connection from the solar farm on Ringsfield Road to the electricity sub-station on Clarkes Lane.

In its submission of May 2025, OPD Energy said that the connection would be by means of an underground cable running along Ringsfield Road, Tooks Common Lane and Clarkes Lane, and this would be subject to a separate planning application.

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council submitted its objections to the Planning Application on 9 July 2025, urging that the application be rejected until such time as a detailed plan for the construction of the cabling route was provided (amongst a number of other objections). Suffolk County Council Highways also objected to the absence of a detailed construction plan for the cable in its submission of 10 July 2025.

OPD Energy submitted some revised details for the buildings associated with the solar farm on 19th December 2025. Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council, in further comments submitted on 6 January 2026, reiterated its objection to Planning Application on the basis that there were still no details regarding the construction of the connecting cable.

OPD Energy submitted details of the construction plan for the cable connection on 5th January 2026. This, as with all the other documentation, is available on the East Suffolk Planning website <https://publicaccess.eastsuffolk.gov.uk>

Current position:

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council has been invited to submit further comments to East Suffolk Planning as a consequence of the cable construction plans which have now been submitted. The cable construction plans indicate that there will be road closures extending over several days for each of the roads along the route, amongst other implications.

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council has been arranged for:

Monday 23 February 2026, 7.30pm, at the Village Hall

in order to agree the response that the Parish Council should make. The Parish Council therefore invites residents to read the “Cable Route” document prior to the meeting on 23 February, and – if possible – to submit comments to the Parish Council email inbox (isaparishcouncil@gmail.com) prior to the meeting if you are unable to attend the meeting.

The “Cable Route” document should also be available on the Parish Council website shortly.

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