



Proposed Solar Farm on Measham Road next to the sewage farm plans to offer community investment opportunity & support for Thringstone community centre



As reported in the Ashby Times this week, Ashby Town Council have fully supported the Solar Farm.

Although technically within the Ashby town boundary, the location south of the A42 is not visible from the town and the environmental and visual impact on Ashby is minimal.

They, along with Packington Parish Council, will be the beneficiaries of a share of approx £5,000 per year for 25 years from the site if the application is granted (see below) From the picnic tables at Normandy Wood, Packington, the following is a existing view which could be replaced by Solar Panels

solar view.jpg

Full details of the planning applications are available on the council's planning portal via <https://plans.nwleics.gov.uk/>

Quote the reference numbers 15/00500/FULM (community site) and

15/00499/FULM (commercial site). Comments can be left here or direct in writing to NWLDC Planning dept, Council Offices, Coalville. LE67 3FJ or make your comments known to Your NWLDC councillor Nigel Smith at nigel.smith@nwleicestershire.gov.uk or your Parish councillors whose details can be found at <http://packington.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/parish-councillors.html>

A consultation was held in the Memorial Hall in February, and reported on in the March Packington Post, for a proposed Solar Farm next to the Sewage Works on Measham Road.

The developer is Solstice Renewables who recently installed the Solar Farm at the end of Babelake Street. A further press release has been issued identifying changes to the original scheme summarised as follows pn page 2. The proposals are now for a 1MW community solar farm and a 5MW commercial solar farm next to one another and have approximately 24,000 panels.

1Mw community solar farm:-

· Local residents will be given the chance to own a share of the Community Solar Farm. The share offer will seek to raise an estimated £800,000 to enable members of the community to own the 1 megawatt community solar farm. The details of the share offer are not available but the developers anticipate an average return of approx 5-8% over the life of the project. The returns will be lower at the beginning rising over the 25 years life of the project based on various projection and assumptions on inflation and the price of electricity. There are potential tax benefits to the individual investor depending on personal circumstances.

72nd Packington (Open) Horticultural Show Saturday 6th September 2015 The Memorial Hall Packington

Hi everyone its "show time" once again and the wheels are in motion to roll out this great Annual event. The Friday night before the opening the team are busy creating the setting and atmosphere for the displays, Saturday morning, the big day begins, rehearsal time over, stage set, cameras action.

Running order is as follows:

0900-1200 hrs Exhibits arrive, booked in and registered, during this time refreshments are available.

1200-1500 hrs Judging of all exhibits, during this time the exhibit hall is closed to the public.

1500 hrs until the end Bar opens and carries a good selection of Beers Wines and Spirits.

1500 hrs Hall opens to everyone and all exhibits can be viewed.

1530 hrs Presentation of prizes & awards.

1730 hrs Grande finale to a great day, "the Auction", compared and delivered by the incomparable Chris Miles, a most popular event that raises much needed funds for a number of charities.

As always, the hard work in putting this production together is worth nothing without an appreciative audience to make the show complete, but when the curtain comes down, the lights go out as the applause fades, all we hope is that everyone has thoroughly enjoyed the day and leaves for home with a warm happy feeling. All that then remains is to lock the doors knowing that's another success story and look forward to the next one.

"Thats Showbiz"

Schedules for the groups and classes of exhibits are available from Daybreak stores Packington or by calling **01530-811494** for information.



Precise details will be issued later.

- Profits generated after payment of dividends go to Thringstone Community Centre.(estimated by Green Fox at £10,000 per year – see below).
- The community energy investment scheme is being set up by the award-winning Leicestershire-based Green Fox Community Energy Co-operative
- Giovanni Maruca, Director of Solstice Renewables, said: “The government is keen to promote more community ownership of renewable energy projects, something we support as responsible developers. We’re looking forward to working with the Thringstone Trust to help their plans succeed.
5Mw commercial solar farm;-
- Solstice Renewables would also commit additional funds from the 5 Mw commercial solar farm to support community initiatives in the two closest parishes of Ashby and Packington, as well as for educational projects at local schools.

- They will be offering a community benefit fund of £5000 a year directly to be used by Ashby Town Council and Packington Parish Council to support social and environmental projects nearby.

(Editorial note: the original proposals specified that the benefit fund would be for Ashby Town Council only. The percentage split now proposed between Ashby and Packington is not known)

- In addition there will be £2000 per year for educational initiatives at Donisthorpe, Oakthorpe and Willesley schools.

Two separate planning applications for the solar farms have been submitted to North West Leics council by Solstice Renewables, with one application relating to the community-owned part of the site for 1 MW, and the other to the commercial site for 5 MW.

Full details of the planning applications are available on the council’s planning portal via <https://plans.nwleics.gov.uk/> quoting the reference numbers 15/00500/FULM (community site) and 15/00499/FULM (commercial site). Comments can be made on NWLDC web site or sent direct to the Council offices
Green Fox Community Energy Co-operative (Green Fox)
Green Fox is a non-profit social enterprise, founded in 2012, which supports community ownership and governance of projects to generate renewable energy, reduce carbon emissions and mitigate future climate change.(www.greenfoxcommunityenergy.coop)

“First Wednesday” Coffee Morning



So far this new venture has been slow to get off the ground but we shall persevere. From August the timings will change to 10.00 until 12.00

Why not call in and enjoy tea or coffee and maybe meet someone you know or even someone you do not know.

Mike Coke Tel 01530 560430

Coffee Mornings
August 5th
September 2nd

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Calling all DIYers



The seat outside the Memorial Hall is in need of TLC.

Presented to the hall by the WI back in 2000 it is showing signs of wear and needs the skill of a DIY person to restore it to

pristine condition. Can you help with this task?

The WI will pay for materials and the bench can be moved to a garage/ workshop to aid the restoration. Contact Mike.coke59@gmail.com if you can tackle this job or phone 560430

Packington Memorial Hall Progress Report 2015



Following the refurbishment the Hall management committee has endeavoured to maintain the premises in the pristine condition in which it was re-launched on 4th December 2009 and, where appropriate, improve the premises with additional facilities. The greatly increased use of the Hall has meant that maintenance of certain areas needs to be continually monitored. Following the internal repainting of the main hall last summer the carpets tiles around the main hall, and in the lounge area are about to be replaced with a fitted carpet which should prove more resilient and hard wearing than the existing floor covering. The main hall floor has just been professionally sanded and re-sealed and now looks as good as new.

A new fridge/freezer will shortly be purchased for the kitchen, and one of the existing fridges will be moved to the bar area.

The committee is also considering tenders for improvements to the roof to ensure swifter drainage of water from the main roof following heavy rain. In addition quotes are being sought for improved stage lighting in the main hall.

The recent "Film night" was a great success and a good number of those attending volunteered to help set up, and run, a film club. They will be contacted shortly to decide the way forward (anyone else who didn't make it to the film but would like to help please contact Chris Miles, Chairman of the management committee).

The management committee is shortly to trial a computerised booking system called "Hallmaster". It has been specifically designed for village halls and it is hoped it will reduce the ever increasing workload of the Booking Secretary and Treasurer.

Bookings will still be able to be made by phone and the Hall Booking Secretary Joan Lawther now has a new "dedicated" mobile phone specifically to take Hall bookings. The number is 07585 327291.

So if you have a special birthday approaching, or an anniversary event upcoming why not make it an extra special occasion book the Memorial Hall and fill it with your friends.

Adrian Mongredien
Acting Secretary of the Hall management committee.



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JOIN THE TEAM

We would love to have you in our team. You can contribute as much or as little as time allows.

Contact
editor@packington.info

ANNUAL DUCK RACE FROM 6.00 PM, MILL STREET. Annual Packington



Duck Race

BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 31st August.
6 pm on the Gilawiskaw
Mill Street

Duck Race Tickets can be purchased from Memorial Hall Management Members and Chris Miles for tickets and info
01530 4414378
christopher.miles@sky.com

There are three races in all and are followed by the very successful customised duck race where the winner takes 50 per cent of the entry money.

Proceeds to Packington Memorial Hall Charity.

Cash Prizes
Ticket £1-00
BAR-B-QUE
DRINKS

Promoter Mr C Miles for the Packington Memorial Hall Charity 521484



In June, 10 PMG members braved bright sunshine to visit the Forestry Commission's nearby Hicks Lodge Leisure & Recreation Area, just 3 miles from our village, for



a social stroll and afternoon tea in gorgeous mid-summer sunshine. This former coal area is now nicely restored and landscaped; it is the National Forest Cycle Centre, and its scenic routes include both family walks and trails, and more advanced tracks just for cycles. We first looked around the wooded New Clumps area, where our own PMG guide Geoff Gasson pointed out some pristine purple rare orchids, discreetly hidden amidst undergrowth. We then strolled round the scenic lake on the well-paved 2km Hicks Lodge Trail, admiring the wildlife on the water, before returning to the Bike Centre and Hicks Lodge Cafe, which serves hot and cold food, with homemade cakes and hot and cold drinks, just the job on a warm summer afternoon!

ADVANCE NOTICE of our PMG Summer 2015 Programme:

On Thursday 13th August PMG meets at the Bull & Lion for our 8:00am PMG Annual Breakfast. Our hosts, Emma and Phil, are offering freshly-cooked full English (£6.50) or cold Healthy-option (£5) choices of breakfast. This is always a major summer highlight for our group, and a great opportunity too for any village men to come along and see what we are about, over a nice breakfast in our favourite village pub-restaurant - we'll be delighted to welcome you.



Please book your place early, by Monday 10th August, with Robert on 411673, or by email, as below.

On Thursday 10th September, PMG visits the National Memorial Arboretum, NMA, leaving the village at 9:45am for the drive to Alrewas. We'll take our seats early for the 11am Remembrance, then the short lecture about this unique memorial facility with a brief description of its features, followed by a £3 informal 45-minute guided walking tour, with our own dedicated NMA guide, of the closer facilities. These include the stunning hilltop Armed Forces Memorial with its poignant life-sized sculptures. Visits to individual service memorials are also possible, and we'll finish the morning with lunch in the self-service NMA restaurant. PMG Committee Member Mike Coke is organising this visit - please contact him on 560430 to book your place, by Monday 7th September, and say if you need or can offer transport. For more on PMG, see the village



website "Packington dot info", or contact Robert Dilworth PMG Secretary tel 411673 rd.i@me.com

**ADVANCE NOTICE
PACKINGTON
OPEN GARDENS
BANK HOLIDAY**



MONDAY

31st AUGUST

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2.00pm to 7.00pm

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Kegworth

Friday 17th July 2015
1.00-3.00pm

Kegworth Parish Council,
1 London Road, Kegworth, Derbyshire
DE74 2EU

Ashby

Tuesday 4th August 2015
10.30am-12.30pm

Ashby de la Zouch Town Council, Legion
House, South Street, Ashby, Leics LE65 1BQ

Ibstock

Thursday 27th August 2015
1.00-3.00pm

Ibstock Business Centre, 57 High Street,
Ibstock, Leics LE67 6LH

Coalville

Friday 18th September 2015
11.00am-1.00pm

Marlene Reid Centre, 85 Belvoir Road,
Coalville, Leics LE67 3PH

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Call: 01530 41 77 36

Email: andrew.bridgen.mp@parliament.uk
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Strawberry Cream Teas Success – Mmm..



Above: Judith Wilson

£312 profit to help print your Packington Post. During the afternoon of Sunday 28th June 2015, approx 220 scones were baked, in 27 batches, using 6 whole bags of flour.

About 70 cream teas were served, and just under 80 take-aways were provided, with



another order for 30 scones on the following Tuesday! After costs of the ingredients – strawberries from Cattows Farm, where Pick Your Own is in full swing, and the cost of hiring the village hall, we have a wonderful £312 towards keeping your Packington Post in print.

Thank you everyone & especially Judith Wilson for running the day.

Dear All,

As part of the licence that I was given by the bishop when I became Team Rector of the Woodfield Team, I was given responsibility (shared with the bishop) of the 'cure of souls' of those who live in the area. It is given to all clergy when they become incumbents of a parish. I find that an awesome responsibility and an amazing privilege.

It sounds an antiquated phrase I guess: 'cure of souls'. Probably a better term nowadays would be 'care' of souls. Then we don't talk often about our 'souls' now – the language is much more about spirituality. I think there is something to be recovered though from the language of 'soul'. I read a poem recently by the American poet, Mary Oliver, and she writes: "Is the soul solid, like iron? Or is it tender and breakable, like the wings of the moth in the beak of an owl? Who has it, and who doesn't?.....Does it have a shape?" You might like to put 'soul' into your search engine and see what it produces.

What has made me think of the soul? Well, I'm just back from June holidays and realize that many of you will be about to go on holiday, or at least be taking life easier in July/August. I've had the opportunity to rest and reflect in my time away – to feed my soul, as well as my body and mind.

Is soul-time something we need to have? To treat ourselves to? What might soul-time look like? For me, it meant spending time in quiet prayer – not simply asking Jesus for things, but sitting or walking quietly with him. I dedicated that time to him for him to use as he wished, not what I might expect. I heard his quiet call 'Come to me'. 'Here I am; I am here for you' was my prayer in turn. It meant reading small portions of the bible and pondering them, meditating on them, letting them sink in. It meant reading some spiritual books.

Perhaps we all need to have more soul time? After all we worry about a soulless society, about

organizations with no soul. Let's spend these holiday weeks on tending our all important souls.

Let me know how you get on.

Vivien

Services July-Sept 2015

Please note that there is a change in the service pattern!

July 19th 11 am All age service

July 26th 11am Holy Communion

August 2nd 11 am Morning Prayer
6pm Evening Prayer

August 9th 11am Holy Communion

August 16th 11 am All age service

August 23rd 11am Holy Communion

August 30th 10 am United Service of Holy Communion at Swepestone church

There is also a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am

Packington Village Flower Festival: October 3rd/4th 2015



At Holy Rood, we aim to hold a flower festival over the weekend of 3rd and 4th of October (which coincides with Harvest Festival), in which as many village organizations as possible have a display. Would your organization like to participate?

There are a couple of possibilities:

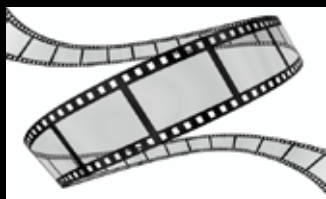
- You do a floral display (not necessarily all flowers), incorporating details of your group
- Or you could sponsor us to do the arrangement for you

Would you please let Vivien Elphick know if you'd like to join in on this by July 17th. You could e-mail me on vivien.elphick@btinternet.com, phone on **01530 270354** or drop me a line at The Vicarage, High Street, Measham DE12 7HZ

FILM CLUB

"opening night?"

Following the successful showing of Paddington back in April, several people showed an interest in helping to set up a Film Club.



A meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 8th September at 7.00 pm in the Meeting Room at the Memorial Hall. Please put the date in your diary or on your calendar and make an effort to attend. All Welcome.

Those people who completed a questionnaire on the night will receive an email nearer the time.

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