



<b>To:</b>	<b>Barby &amp; Onley Parish Council Meeting</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>Cllr Rosie Humphreys Cllr Andrew Simpson</b>

## 1. WNC Matters

The local elections on 1<sup>st</sup> May saw the council change control from Conservative to Reform UK. As a reminder the number of councillors elected is 76 and the breakdown was as follows:

Party	Number of seats	Change
Reform UK	42	+42
Conservatives	17	-35
Labour	9	-9
Liberal Democrats	6	+2
Independents	2	0

Since the election 1 Reform UK councillor has been suspended from his party and now sits as an Independent.

We understand from the new council leadership that West Northants Council will be subject to the DOGE (USA -Dept of Government Efficiency) style review that has been initiated for Kent County Council by the Reform UK party.

We have raised our concerns over this in terms of the current council governance and giving access to individuals appointed by a political party who are not accountable to WNC and residents. We await further details.

Rosie Humphreys will serve on the Council's Strategic Planning Committee and Licencing Committee. Whilst Andrew Simpson will serve on the Adult Social Care, Health & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## 2. Local Issues

**Proposed 140-acre Solar Farm at land west of Ashby St Ledgers**, alongside the A361 and Daventry Road. We have forwarded details of a public exhibition on 17<sup>th</sup> June from 3pm to 7pm at the village hall in Ashby St Ledgers. The proposal is being put forward by Elgin Energy - see here [www.ashbystledgers.consultationonline.co.uk](http://www.ashbystledgers.consultationonline.co.uk) We understand a planning application will follow shortly after the consultation ends.

**Recycling material** collected here goes to a facility in Coventry (Sherbourne Materials Recycling). Parish Councillors and residents can visit this facility if they

wish to understand more about the process. As a result of a recent visit it was established that plastic film can be included in material collected and is recycled. If Parish Councillors or residents would be interested in attending, please let us know.

**Rugby Local Plan Consultation – including Lodge Farm & land off Barby**

**Lane** – although public consultation on this officially ended on 19<sup>th</sup> May – WNC Officers have met with Rugby BC Officers and agreed an extension for WNC to provide a submission to the proposals. This will go to the WNC's Planning Policy Committee in either June or July. The meeting agenda will be published shortly here [Agenda for Planning Policy Committee on Wednesday 18th June 2025, 6.00 pm - West Northamptonshire Council](#)

**Get in Touch:**

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