



## Tony Hills KCC member for the Romney Marsh Division Report December 2024



Yes, it's that time of year...when we wish all residents of the Marsh a Merry Christmas.

### Sea Water quality

The results and levels of sea water quality have been published by Defra for our end of Hythe Bay and are as follows:

**Littlestone** for the second year in a row has a Poor classification, With a recommendation of “advice against bathing”.

2024 classification	poor bathing water annual classifications
2023 classification	poor bathing water annual classifications
2022 classification	good bathing water annual classifications
2021 classification	good bathing water annual classifications

### St Marys Bay

Southern Water, finding and fixing the misconconnections in 2022 seems to have helped as we have seen a ‘step change’ in improvement...with “advice against bathing” removed.

2024 classification	Sufficient Bathing water annual classifications
2023 classification	Poor Bathing water annual classifications
2022 classification	Poor Bathing water annual classifications
2021 classification	Sufficient Bathing water annual classification

## Dymchurch

Defra have now classified the water quality as poor with the “advice against bathing”

2024 classification	Poor Bathing water annual classifications
2023 classification	Sufficient Bathing water annual classifications
2022 classification	Good Bathing water annual classifications
2021 classification	Good Bathing water annual classification

I continue to press the Environment Agency to look at why the southern end of Hythe Bay is having ongoing quality problems.

## Flooding concerns

I have put in motion a ‘bid’ to my regional flood committee for funding to do a detailed study on how we can manage ground water and surface water to protect Romney Marsh into the future. We are all hoping to avoid any more surface water flooding this winter.

## Marsh Transport

I have been told that the Marsh Bee got off to a great start, with thirty members in the first month! As I said last month. Our community is under great financial pressure. We the Marsh community needs to support the Romney Marsh Community Hub.

## Highways

Road closures are blighting the Marsh, sometimes without much warning under emergency powers. Signage can be left beyond the work completed, if you see this report it to me or the website below.

But in the meantime, remember safety comes first, so if you find what you consider to be dangerous, please report it.

<https://webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/ReportAFault.aspx>

## Plans for a giant Solar Farm

As you can see below there are plans from Low Carbon to construct a 500 megawatt solar farm surrounding Old Romney on the Marsh. I attended the presentation at New Romney to ask for more information to ask more questions over their proposal.

On the 12th of December there is a all member briefing at KCC.

I have been informed that an event to consider the proposal at **Newchurch Village Hall, Newchurch TN29 0DP at 7pm** I will attend to gather more information.

## South Kent Energy Park

Early engagement - 12 November to 20 December 2024

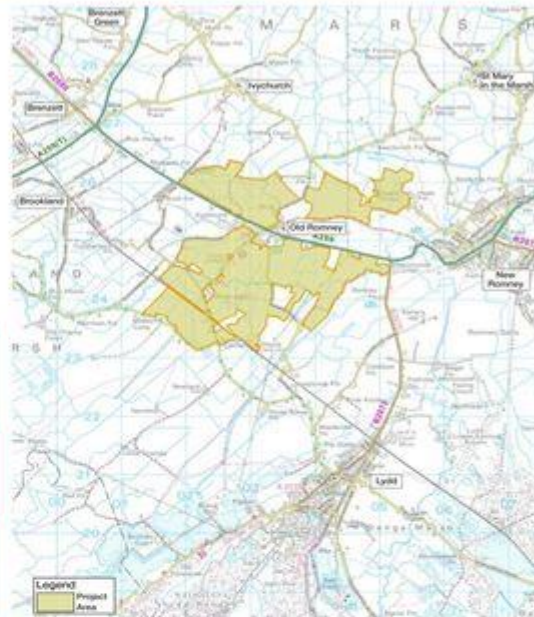


Low Carbon invites you to take part in the first phase of community engagement on our proposals for South Kent Energy Park, a solar and energy storage project near Old Romney.

The project is anticipated to have a generation capacity of up to 500 megawatts. This is equivalent to providing enough clean energy to power more than 140,000 homes – approximately 20% of the homes in Kent - every year.

Join us at one of our in-person or online events, where you can meet the project team and learn more about our proposals.

Tuesday, 26 November 14:30 - 20:00	Iychurch Village Hall Iychurch Road, Iychurch, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 0AL
Wednesday, 27 November 14:30 - 20:00	1st New Romney Scout Hall Church Lane, New Romney, Kent TN28 8ER
Thursday, 12 December 18:30 - 20:00	Online event – register to attend via our website: <a href="http://www.southkentenergypark.co.uk">www.southkentenergypark.co.uk</a>



Along with the findings from our continued environmental surveys, we will consider the feedback submitted during this phase in the design of our project.

Further community engagement on our advanced proposals will be carried out before we submit our planning application.

If you cannot attend one of our events, you can:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• View project information and submit feedback via our website: <a href="http://www.southkentenergypark.co.uk">www.southkentenergypark.co.uk</a></li><li>• Contact the project team to arrange a meeting using the details below</li></ul>
Contact us:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FREEPHONE +44 (0) 800 151 2962</li><li>• FREEPOST SOUTH KENT ENERGY PARK</li><li>• Email <a href="mailto:info@southkentenergypark.co.uk">info@southkentenergypark.co.uk</a></li></ul>

Letters and email received via the project email and freepost address between 12 November and 20 December 2024 will be considered as feedback.



If you have concerns, please email me... [tony.hills@kent.gov.uk](mailto:tony.hills@kent.gov.uk)

Tony

*Tony Hills, Kent County Councillor for Romney Marsh. F&H District councillor for Romney Marsh Ward. For details on how I will use your information please click [here](#) for my privacy notice. Home Telephone 01797 321246 Mobile 07860 295730*