

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL,
THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7:00PM.

An audio recording of the meeting was made for the purpose of testing online audio for Clerk remote presence at the November meeting. The recording will be deleted once the minutes have been approved. The council were made aware of the recording and agreed to the recording taking place. All in favour.

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Graham Ward
Cllr. Hazel Collins
Cllr. Vanessa Davis
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Daryl Ash

Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith – apologised
District Cllr. Tom Daly – apologised
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Katie Graham
Cllr. Robert Flindall - apologised
Cllr. Stephen Morphey - apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon- apologised

Members of the public:

No members of the public were present.

In attendance:

Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO

Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council approved the apologies and absences from this month's meeting. All in favour.

2. To receive declarations of interest and to consider requests for dispensations

None.

3. Public Forum

a) Members of the public may address the Council on any agenda item

None.

b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

There were no County Councillors in attendance.

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

There were no District Councillors in attendance.

The East Suffolk Council October Report is attached as **Appendix I**.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Hazel Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2025 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

b) Matters arising

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the council that SPR had announced the felling a group of nine dead trees on Thursday 16th October on the B1122 as part of the offsite highway improvement works where an ecologist will be present. The council discussed the lack of notice for the works to take place and agreed that residents should be informed via the SPR social streams and notices in Parish Council noticeboards rather than relying on the Parish Council to inform residents at late notice.

ACTION: Clerk to request SPR inform residents via social streams and posters in noticeboards.

5. Energy Projects

a) To receive an update from Cllr. Paul Collins

Cllr. Paul Collins' Energy Projects Report is attached as **Appendix II**.

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised his report and noted that a "Meet the Regulator" session is scheduled for 11th November, which he will attend. He reported significant progress on the main SZC site, including foundations for the concrete batching plant and desalination plant, and that tunnel segments will be transported by one train per day through Leiston for a prolonged period. Steel fabrication works are also being established behind the main offices. In relation to the borrow pit on Eastbridge Road, archaeological investigations will take place before further works begin in the first or second quarter of 2026. He also highlighted work to establish water management zones around the lake behind Plantation Cottages.

He advised that the B1125 is being connected to the Sizewell Link Road and that the B1122 junction is being realigned. In Middleton, it has been confirmed that five of the seven oak trees previously identified for removal will now be retained. The Early Years traffic meeting discussed at Theberton addressed the proposal to reverse priority at Flash Corner, the introduction of a residents-only restriction on Potters Street for access to the B1122 and confirmed it is likely that Onner's Lane will remain two-way to retain access for agricultural vehicles.

Discussions with Suffolk County Council regarding public rights of way focused on proposed diversions and temporary closures. SZC suggested closing the footpath behind Doughty Wylie Crescent to Moat Road for two years, however Cllr. Stephen Brett had made it clear that this route must remain open. While some diversions will take place, no footpaths will be permanently closed. A new footpath is proposed along Eastbridge Road adjacent to Bridleway 19, with the possibility of extending it towards Eastbridge village. Improvements to the sluice path and additional connecting routes are also being considered. It was noted that the SZC Main Site Forum contained a significant amount of information but was delivered under considerable time pressure.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to write to Steve Merry with regards to the extended road closure of Pretty Road.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak to SCC/SZC with regards to B1122 footpath, village gateways going to the South Side of Theberton and extension to bridleway 19.

Coastal construction activities are underway. Vibro Piling has generated noise complaints from residents in both Sizewell and Eastbridge, particularly due to work taking place from 9.00 on Sundays, which, while legally permitted, has raised concern. Erosion at the northern end of the site near the tank traps has increased considerably and SZC will need to reinforce the sacrificial dune. It was noted that recent years of minimal erosion have created a misleading impression of coastal stability.

Cllr. Collins confirmed that SZC has no plans to purchase houses in Sizewell village. Cllr. Ward raised the question of establishing a pedestrian route along the B1122 between Onner's Lane and Theberton; further investigation into land ownership and verge space will be required. In relation to the Sea Link project, it was noted that the council had

registered for the open floor hearing and concerns remain around how impacts in both Kent and Suffolk will be addressed.

It was suggested that the questions submitted to Sizewell C ahead of the Northern Transport Forum should address the lack of clear information regarding ambulance access during road closures, continued failure of timely letter drops to residents despite the scale of the SZC communications budget and increasing pressure on local GP services, where appointment waiting times have now reached approximately three weeks.

ACTION: Clerk to submit questions to SZC ahead of the Northern Transport Forum.

6. Planning

- a) To receive an update from Cllr. Robert Flindall with regards to the Theberton and Eastbridge Neighbourhood Planning Strategy

The Clerk informed the council that the Theberton and Eastbridge Neighbourhood Planning Strategy Group are due to arrange their next meeting to discuss next steps and potential funding.

ACTION: Clerk to organise Theberton and Eastbridge Neighbourhood Planning Strategy meeting.

- b) To review planning application DC/25/3415/LBC, The Old Rectory, Pretty Road, Theberton

The council discussed planning application DC/25/3415/LBC, The Old Rectory, Pretty Road, Theberton. The Clerk informed the council of Cllr. Robert Flindall's view submitted by email stating that a 'no objection' comment would be appropriate and that the planners should be qualified to make the best informed decisions. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to respond 'no objection' to planning application DC/25/3415/LBC, The Old Rectory, Pretty Road, Theberton via ESC planning portal.

- c) Report by resident with regards to breakers yard on Moat Road, Theberton

The Council noted that the planning permission for the site was granted on the basis of storage use under specific conditions. Concerns were raised that the current operations may not align with these conditions, with gates open throughout the day and a continuous flow of HGV traffic. It was observed that the site appears to be functioning beyond small-scale container storage, potentially impacting nearby residents and small businesses and contributing to increased heavy vehicle traffic on Moat Road.

Further concerns were reported regarding the movement of concrete beams associated with Volker Fitzpatrick, with Moat Road and the B1122 being used to access the storage yard. The scale and nature of these operations were questioned in relation to the original planning approval.

The council deemed it necessary to highlight the issues to ESC planning department on the back of several resident complaints.

ACTION: Clerk to inform planning authority whether Moat Road Storage Yard are operating correctly under their new planning permissions.

7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

- a) Community Council

Cllr. Daryl Ash reported that she and Cllr. Stephen Brett attended the CC meeting held on the 11th September. Arrangements for a quiz night have proved difficult and no new dates are available. Firework night was discussed and will proceed if additional marshals are confirmed. Cllr. Stephen Brett encouraged increased volunteering to support Community events and enhanced publicity on Facebook. Preparations continue for the Christmas Tree Festival in cooperation with the Church Committee. A parking donation was noted for the Masons' function. Quotes for replacement of the front door have been obtained from Waveney Windows. Harvest Festival and Remembrance

Sunday will take place on the 9th of November. The work to the church tower will be reviewed in 18 months, including consideration of phone mast proposals. The jumble sale has been rescheduled to the 1st of November due to road closures.

The meeting scheduled for the 6th of October has been cancelled and no further meeting dates have currently been arranged.

Cllr. Stephen Brett is liaising with the Community Council and the Church regarding a community fund application, with ideas being sought for church tower repairs. Further suggestions, including improvements to the village hall kitchen and a semi-circle bench, will be considered.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a joint meeting with the Community Council.

b) Broadband payments

The Clerk informed the Council that the 50% contribution from the Community Council towards the Village Hall broadband reserve had now been expended.

ACTION: Clerk to write to the Community Council with regards to the previous agreement of sharing the annual broadband costs at the village hall.

c) Sizewell C Community Fund Application ideas

Cllr. Stephen Brett explained that the council were awaiting ideas for funding from St Peter's Church and the Community Council. Cllr. Robert Flindall had also begun researching the application forms for the Sizewell C Community Fund.

- i) Eastbridge Burial Ground Hedging
- ii) Planting of trees on Eastbridge Road to the New Cut Bridge
- iii) Electricity and water supply to Eastbridge Burial Ground and Theberton Playing Field
- iv) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field
- v) Theberton and Eastbridge Tractor

d) To discuss the 20mph speed limit proposed by ESC

Cllr. Stephen Brett summarised the proposed letter from East Suffolk Council regarding the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in Knodishall and local parishes. He expressed opposition on the grounds that it would be unenforceable, noting that the police would not actively enforce such a limit. The Council discussed the matter, with concerns raised that the proposal may frustrate motorists and be used as a revenue generator. Reference was made to recent data showing 1,100 speeding incidents recorded by average speed cameras on the B1122, involving 413 individual drivers.

It was proposed by Cllr Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr Hazel Collins that the Council does not support the 20mph speed limit and traffic calming measures proposal. All in favour

e) To discuss the proposed 30mph speed limit through Eastbridge

Cllr. Stephen Brett reported that the implementation of the existing 30mph limit would be estimated to cost approximately £10,000 and acknowledged the significant involvement of Steve Merry in establishing the 30mph limit in Eastbridge. He noted that the B1122 Early Years scheme demonstrates how such limits can be extended over time and advised continuing to advocate for the longest possible extension, including the need for repeater signage every 200 metres. Surveying work and consultation will be required. It was also noted that the RSPB owns part of the road and that it is shared with Westleton Parish Council.

Cllr. Stephen Brett further reported that the Sizewell C proposals include a 30mph limit from Bridleway 19 to the B1122 on Eastbridge Road for safety reasons when the roundabout is constructed. He had requested that this 30mph limit be extended to cover Eastbridge, but this was refused on the grounds that additional signage would not be welcomed by residents. Given the expected increase in traffic through Eastbridge, he recommended that the 30mph limit should begin at Lower Abbey Drive. It was agreed that temporary 30mph signage may be problematic due to the narrowness of the road.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen. Brett to feedback the council's view to Steve Merry with regards to the 30mph speed limit introduced to Eastbridge](#)

f) Heritage Trail

Cllr. Stephen Brett reported that Leiston Press had produced two identical signs in error; however, the signs for both the Eel's Foot and Theberton Lion are now correctly installed. The Clerk advised the Council that the electronic version of the sign must be uploaded to the appropriate page on the website to ensure that the digital QR code functions correctly.

[ACTION: Clerk to request final proof of the Heritage Trail Map from Leiston Press and add to the Parish Council website](#)

g) Heritage Trail Launch Event

[ACTION: Clerk to write to MP Jenny Riddell Carpenter to attend Heritage Trail Launch Event.](#)

h) Speed Indicator Device

Cllr Paul Collins' Speed Indicator Report is attached as **Appendix III**.

i) July and August Police Crime Reports

The July and August Police Crime Reports are attached **Appendix IV** and **Appendix V** respectively.

There was one crime to report in July 2025 in the Parish for violence and sexual offences. There were no crimes to report in August 2025.

j) Theberton Playing Field Annual Inspection Report

The Clerk summarised the Theberton Playing Field Annual Inspection Report to the council explaining some items required maintenance works to be completed.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett speak with Cllr. Nat Bacon with regards to maintenance of Theberton Playing Field.](#)

k) Additional workload for Parish Council and Clerk due to NSIPS
i) Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council Facebook presence

The Council considered the additional workload placed on both the Parish Council and the Clerk in relation to NSIPs. It was noted that significant time and resources are required to manage communications and respond to matters arising from the Sizewell and SPR projects, and that the Parish Council does not have a dedicated budget to support this additional work.

The Council then discussed the possibility of establishing a Parish Council presence on Facebook. Reference was made to a recent situation in which a resident had shared comments on Facebook suggesting that the Parish Council had failed to inform residents regarding SPR works on Church Road. The Council noted that it had not been provided with

advance information on these works and that notification from had been received only after the event had taken place.

Concerns were expressed that maintaining a Facebook page would require a commitment to regular monitoring and responses and that it could open the Council to increased criticism. It was also noted that the Clerk does not currently use Facebook. The consensus was that information continues to be made available through the Parish Council website and that both SPR and Sizewell C maintain their own Facebook pages where updates are posted. The Council agreed that no further action would be taken regarding establishing a Facebook presence at this time.

l) War Memorial Ownership

Cllr. Stephen Brett confirmed that the War Memorial is not the property of the Church, although it is covered under the Church's insurance. The principal concern has now been resolved, and the Parish Council agreed that it has no further involvement in the issue at this time.

m) Poppy Wreaths

The Clerk informed the Council of the cost of poppy wreaths for Remembrance Day, noting that the prices remain the same as the previous year. A Poppy Wreath B is priced at £19.99, and two wreaths would therefore total £39.98, with an additional £0.02 donation to secure free delivery, bringing the total to £40.00.

The Council discussed who should lay the wreaths, given that the local ex-serviceman who previously undertook this duty has now moved away from the village. It was agreed that Cllr Stephen Brett would lay the wreaths in both Theberton and Eastbridge, or alternatively an elderly resident will also be asked whether they would like to participate.

[ACTION: Clerk to purchase Poppy Wreaths from RBL ahead of Remembrance Sunday](#)

- n) To agree the planned 2026 Parish Council meeting dates
i) Discuss the feedback from omitting the August meeting in 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins to agree the proposed 2026 Parish Council meeting dates. All in favour.

[ACTION: Clerk to add to 2026 meeting dates to website, website calendar and to the Village Hall calendar.](#)

- o) To discuss clerk's online attendance to 12th November 2025 meeting

The Clerk apologised for being unable to attend the Parish Council meeting scheduled for 12 November 2025 in person and requested permission to attend and participate virtually. A test of recording the meeting and accessing it via Google Meet was carried out during the current meeting to ensure the arrangements will operate effectively.

- p) Outstanding Actions List

There were no further actions to discuss.

8. Devolution Consultation

- a) To discuss the topic of devolution

None.

9. Parish Matters

- a) None

None.

10. Administration

- a) To note the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr 2 2025/2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed to note and approve the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr 2 2025/2026. All in favour.

- b) To approve the banking reconciliation for Qtr 2 2025/2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed to note and approve the banking reconciliation for Qtr 2 2025/2026. All in favour.

- c) To note the receipt of the remaining half of the 2025 precept of £5,204.24

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed to note the receipt of the remaining half of the 2025 precept of £5,204.24. All in favour.

11. Finance

- a) To note the latest financial position

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward the latest financial position to be a true record. All in favour.

- b) To authorise the following payments:

| Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|
| Clerk's Salary (September) | Honor Houlding | £479.54 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Broadband (September) | BT | £31.14 | LGA 1972 s.19 |
| Payroll Services | SALC | £54.00 | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Play Equipment Inspection | ROSPA Playsafety Ltd | £129.60 | PHA 1936 s. 87 |
| Heritage Trail Boards | Leiston Press Ltd | £840.00 | LGA 1976 s.19 |

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and it was agreed to authorise the payments listed above. All in favour.

12. Correspondence

To review the correspondence received between 8th September and 13th October and take action as appropriate

The council reviewed the above dated correspondence and agree no further actions were required.

13. Questions to the Chair/Items for the Next Agenda

None.

14. Next Meeting.

To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the next Parish Council Meeting which is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding

Parish Clerk

Meeting Ended at: 21.15

Appendix I – East Suffolk County Council October Report

September 2025 Parish Report

East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

Case for Change: plans to revolutionise Suffolk council services

Plans to revolutionise council services in Suffolk – delivering real improvements for local communities, saving at least £34m a year, and reinvesting £20m of that money annually into council services have been published.

The Three Councils for Suffolk Case for Change, with analysis from Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), an additional £67.5m could also be unlocked each year through localising Adult and Children's services – improving care for vulnerable children and adults and reducing cost through focusing on prevention and early help.

The proposal will deliver councils that are “big enough to deliver, local enough to care” – reflecting public desire to keep services and democracy close to where they live.

The councils will now debate and finalise the proposal to meet the Government's deadline of 26 September.

The proposal meets the Government's criteria that unitaries must have a “clear rationale”, be “sensible economic areas” and have “sensible geographies”.

It also provides simplicity for residents with all services that are currently the responsibility of county, borough and district councils subsequently delivered by just “one local unitary authority where you live.”

The proposed three new council areas will be for Central and Eastern Suffolk, Western Suffolk, and Ipswich and Southern Suffolk. These are working names at this stage.

Key elements of the proposal include:

Delivering value for money – cutting six current councils to three. They will pay for themselves within five years and unlock £34 million in annual savings, while allowing reinvestment of £20 million. Independent analysis shows that adopting an agile, locally driven approach to social care, with a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention, could unlock opportunities worth a further £67.5 million per year.

Putting residents and communities first - services delivered by local councils that know their communities – ensuring decision making and democracy are in the hands of local people and organisations. They will enable the voluntary and community sector, which is a lifeline for residents, to thrive through better engagement and fairer funding.

Equalising Council Tax – Modelling shows Council Tax can be equalised within each new council area within one year of the new councils forming. Under this model no household would see a greater increase in their 2028/29 council tax than under the current system.

Allowing for joint working - enabling councils to continue to work together across Suffolk where there is commonality of service, through shared service arrangements for additional efficiency.

Better focus on local need - recognising that Suffolk is a diverse county with very different needs, geography and history. Three unitaries based in three distinct areas will provide the clearest opportunity to prioritise and focus on these needs, opportunities and challenges, more than a remote single authority which would have to balance competing priorities.

Improving services for you - providing services tailored to meet local needs rather than one size fits all. This also recognises that many services described as 'countywide' are, in practice, delivered through locally organised teams to better meet community needs.

Strong local democracy - ensuring decision makers are close to those who must live with the decisions made, that they have the capacity to deal effectively with the workload and are able to respond to local concerns. Under the proposals for three unitaries, each with between 60 and 66 councillors, individual councillors will focus on and represent around 4,000 residents. Local Government Boundary Commission for England guidance says no one council should have more than 99 councillors. If this guidance is applied to one council for the whole of Suffolk a councillor would represent around 8,000 people. The ability to effectively represent people in a ward will also be much better under a three unitary model than a countywide authority as population grows to more than a million by 2045. The proposals will also empower and build on our strong relationship with town and parish councils.

Driving innovation and getting the essential services right – better supporting transformation, flexibility to react to local circumstances and driving prevention agendas in public services while delivering high quality services.

Ensuring a louder voice to champion Suffolk – the new Norfolk and Suffolk mayor will have a large area to cover. Three unitaries will provide better support and local representation to aid decision-making and ensure delivery of priorities.

The proposal has been built on public and partner engagement, including public events, face-to-face engagement with stakeholders, meetings, workshops and briefings.

They have also been shaped by the views of over 2,200 respondents to an online survey where more than one-third of respondents ranked "being local" as their top priority for future councils – something that could not be achieved by a one size fits all approach.

Three new councils would also build on the work of Suffolk's district and borough councils which have already achieved £330 million in savings in the last 10 years, through transformation, driving value for money and income generation.

Joint quote from the Suffolk district and borough Leaders:

"The people of Suffolk have made it clear: they want their council and councillors to be rooted in their communities, local, responsive, and focused on delivering value for money. Our Case for Change to Three Councils for Suffolk sets out a vision for three local unitary councils, delivering exactly that.

"By bringing all services under one roof in each area, the proposal strikes a balance between strong leadership and genuine local delivery. It ensures that Suffolk's towns, villages, urban centres, and coastlines - and the communities and businesses within them - receive the attention and support they deserve.

"These new councils would take on all responsibilities currently held by county, district, and borough councils, simplifying governance and ensuring services are delivered by a single, accountable body in each area.

"Crucially, parish and town councils will continue to play a vital role in representing their communities. Our proposal aims to strengthen their voice, ensuring they are fully engaged in decision-making and empowered to support residents more effectively.

"Our figures also show that this will not only drive millions in savings and investment but will be the best way to deliver locally tailored services and better outcomes. It enables councils to transform and, like

similar other unitary authorities in the UK, find more targeted ways to improve the delivery of vital services like social care, housing and much needed infrastructure. Three Councils for Suffolk delivers in a way that a one size fits all solution cannot. We look forward to the debates and moving the proposal forward to build more responsive, resilient and inclusive Suffolk Councils that work for everyone.”

threecouncilsforsuffolk.org

Event focused on supporting mental wellbeing to return

East Suffolk Council’s ‘Well Minds Event’ is returning in 2026, following the success of the inaugural event in 2025.

The event is aimed at spreading awareness of mental health issues and the support available locally. Lowestoft Sixth Form College will host the event on Tuesday 17 February 2026 from 9:00–14:00, with several workshop facilitators already confirmed to be in attendance.

As well as stalls from local groups, there will be a range of workshops educating attendees on areas of mental health, including youth mental health services, neurodiversity and building compassionate communities.

Two key speakers, Trevor Stevens and Hollie Middleton, will also talk about their lived experience with mental health.

Both statutory and voluntary organisations working to support mental health in the north of East Suffolk are invited to attend. Organisations are also invited to be a part of the event by booking a stall.

This provides a fantastic opportunity to showcase work, connect with other organisations and contribute to a meaningful cause. You can confirm your attendance or book a stall at: tinyurl.com/rcvduh9t

GLI Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk’s cabinet member with responsibility for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism said:

“We are so pleased to see this event return for another year. Improving the mental health outcomes of residents is one of this administration’s priorities. Good mental wellbeing is key to building strong communities and achieving positive life outcomes, and this event offers the tools to achieve this.

“We encourage organisations to come together to raise awareness, share resources and spark positive change by attending the Well Minds Event.”

The event has been organised in partnership with Lowestoft Sixth Form College and is funded through the East Suffolk Community Partnership Board.

Funding available to support farmland birds in East Suffolk

Landowners and managers within East Suffolk are being invited to apply for funding to help protect vulnerable bird species living within the district’s farmed landscapes.

The East Suffolk Farmland Bird Support Fund (FBSF) which is being delivered by East Suffolk Council has been established to reduce the impact of the Sizewell C project on farmland birds.

A total of around £300,000 in funding is set to be awarded, with grants of between £5,000 and £15,000 to help landowners and users to deliver projects that will create, restore, and enhance habitats for birds that use farmland for cover, nesting and to find food.

Examples of how the funding could be spent include:

- Planting wildflowers along field edges, creating meadows, and leaving areas of rough grass
- Planting native hedges, trees, and shrubs, and enhancing existing hedges
- Making ponds and introducing marginal planting
- Providing places for birds to nest
- Giving extra food to farmland birds during the winter

GLI Councillor Tom Daly, East Suffolk’s cabinet member for Energy and Climate Change, said: “The Suffolk coast has a rich biodiversity with many important and rare bird species such as Yellowhammers, Turtle Doves and Stone-curlews, which rely on farmland to survive.

“We want to work with farmers, gamekeepers and landowners to help protect and encourage bird species to thrive, with priority given to projects from areas most affected by the Sizewell C project.

“We recognise the vital role farmers and landowners fulfil in conservation, so we want to collaborate to help protect and encourage bird species to thrive. Priority will be given to projects from areas most affected by the Sizewell C project, but we’re inviting applicants to think creatively about how this funding can be used.

“What would be of particular benefit would be the establishment of permanent unsprayed field margins or the developing wildlife corridors, as they make use of uncultivated land to support biodiversity.”

Landowners or managers with land used for farming or next to farmland can apply, or if the land has been identified to be within a ‘Natural Environment Improvement Area’, though projects outside this area may also be considered.

Those interested in applying for the funding will need to submit an expression of interest form which will outline their proposal, with the council providing guidance where required before being invited to submit a full application. Funding will be distributed on a first come first served basis until all the money has been awarded.

Find out more at: tinyurl.com/4mdm4xyc

For further information, contact: farmlandbirds@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Ease the Squeeze on Cost of Living

Are you, or someone you know, worried about the increasing cost of living? We understand the pressures faced by many people today and we are working closely with key partners to ensure support is available to help ease the squeeze for households in East Suffolk.

To make it as easy as possible for you to access the services and support available, locally and nationally, we have gathered information about them in one place:

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/squeeze/

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit: **www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk**

View the Well Minds East Suffolk booklet: tinyurl.com/9xhka624

Appendix II – Cllr. Paul Collins Energy Projects Report

1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

Although FID has now been completed, contracts have still not been signed with the investors, and this is targeted to happen in early November.

2. TASC Ltd JR Challenge to Secretary of State Department of Energy Security and Net Zero

The High Court has granted TASC/Leigh Day a Permission hearing, and the date is now set in early December for the challenge to Secretary of State at DESNZ concerning the lack of assessment or DCO permission for Overland Flood Barriers (OFBs), that have been committed to by SZC Ltd in their Nuclear Site License.

Further details can be found at <https://www.leighday.co.uk/news/news/2025-news/opposition-to-sizewell-c-nuclear-power-station-sea-defence-plans-lodged/>

TASC are Crowd Funding to support this challenge at <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/sizewell-c-legal-challenge/> and once their crowd funding is updated, the date will become public.

3. East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership and Anglia Energy Planning Alliance

A meeting for all Parish and Town Councils has now been set for 6:00pm 29th October at Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew to provide an update on the various energy projects and about the Sealink DCO examination in particular.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

Work to realign the Church Road/B1122 junction is now underway but no schedule has been given for the rest of the Early Years works around Theberton and Eastbridge.

These mitigations are woefully late and show SZC to be well outside the expected timeframe for delivery.

The recent letter to residents about the lengthy Pretty Road closure for 21 months has been raised with Steve Merry at SCC Highways. It was previously understood that the closure would be for 6-8 months. There seems to be some confusion as to whether this lengthy period has been approved and also whether it means that Moat Road (which is due to be permanently closed at some point will be closed at the same time that Pretty Road is closed. We were assured by SZC that one of the two will always be open and currently the official diversion for the Pretty Road closure is Moat Road, which is also of concern to SCC Highways. We will raise this officially at the next Northern Transport Forum.

Middleton residents and council are discussing with SZC the issue surrounding the loss of 7 old oak trees required for the B1125/B1122 junction realignment and connection of the B1125 to the SLR. Five of the oaks have now been reprieved but the plans are being revisited to see if the other two can be saved as well. The meeting to discuss this is to be held this Thursday, 15th October.

The next Community Forum is on 23rd October 2025, Northern Transport Forum is on 5th November 2025 and Main Site Forum on Wednesday 14th January 2026.

5. Sea Link Interconnector - Development Consent Order Examination

The Planning Inspectorate Examination is now underway with the Preliminary Meeting being held on 5th November and Open Floor Hearings (OFH) starting in the afternoon and continuing on 7th November. The first Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) is being held on 11th November. There are still some concerns about how Issue Specific Hearings will be held as there are three separate threads to the project concerning Suffolk, Kent and Offshore. There is concern that it is not clear whether the Examining Authority (ExA) intend to hold clearly separate sessions or whether the Kent and Suffolk hearings will end up mixed in some way. This is being raised at the Preliminary Meeting where the final schedule of ISHs will be discussed. I haven't applied to attend these initial hearings and will concentrate on the appropriate ISHs once the schedule is published.

6. Scottish Power Wind Farms and Friston Substation

Various preparatory works and archaeology are now being undertaken.

7. LionLink (formerly EuroLink) – National Grid Ventures

No further progress.

8. Solar Farms/Battery Storage

Town Farm solar array, between Saxmundham and Yoxford, is now starting preliminary works close to the A12 where the Sizewell Link Road Roundabout is being constructed.

9. Hydrogen East/Capital Hydrogen

No further information at this time.

Appendix III – Cllr. Paul Collins Speed Indicator Device Report

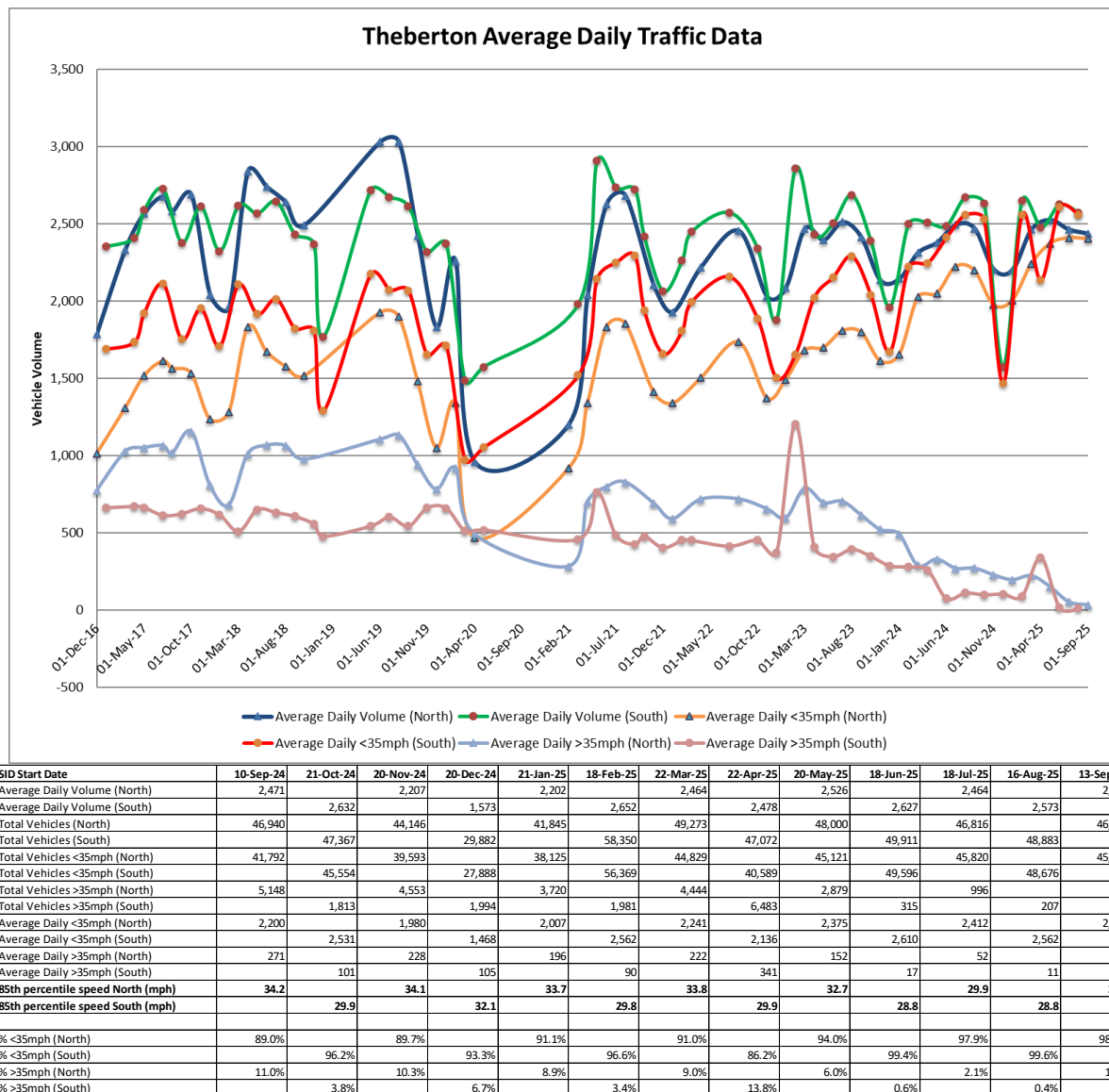
Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 15th October 2025

The speed indicator device has been operational for ninety-two ~20-day periods since 20th December 2016. It is placed at one end of the village or other at ~30-day intervals.

The **85th percentile speed*** is **38.3mph** from North and **36.0mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

The average speed cameras are now installed and operational, resulting in significantly lower speeds. **This month's reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic from the South comes with the fact that only 0.4% of traffic and 1.4% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 29.0% from the north and 19.2% from the south.**

The fastest vehicle going through the village in the last period was travelling at 70.0mph at around 11:00am.



*The 85th Percentile is indicative of the speed that the majority of road users are travelling at.

Appendix IV – July Police Crime Report



Appendix V – August Police Crime Report

