

# THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY 2025 AT 7:00PM.

### 1. Attendance and apologies

#### **Attendees:**

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair  
Cllr. Graham Ward  
Cllr. Stephen Morphey  
Cllr. Robert Flindall  
Cllr. Hazel Collins  
Cllr. Vanessa Davis  
Cllr. Paul Collins  
Cllr. Nat Bacon

#### **Apologies for absence:**

District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock  
District Cllr. Katie Graham  
Cllr. Daryl Ash- apologised

#### **Members of the public:**

One member of the public was present.

#### **In attendance:**

County Cllr. Richard Smith  
District Cllr. Tom Daly  
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

One member of the public attended the meeting.

- b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

County Cllr. Richard Smith reported that the proposal is underway for unitary authority reform, with leaflets being distributed to households. Suffolk County Council and the district councils held differing views and their prospective business cases must be submitted to government by the end of September 2025. A decision from the Minister of State for Local Government is expected by the end of 2025 or in early January 2026. An elected mayor is anticipated from May 2026, although the extent of their powers and influence is not yet known. Details will be announced gradually from autumn 2025, with a focus on economic development initiatives.

The final investment decision for the Sizewell C Development has been made, with the Government taking a 44.9% share. The total estimated cost is £38 billion, although there is scepticism that the project will cost more. Electricity production is expected by the end of the 2030s. The project will bring significant impacts on local roads. Concerns were raised about the A12, including the length of the 30mph restriction and the lack of dual carriageway in many areas. Cllr. Smith recently met with Highways Officer Steve Merry to seek explanations and continues to press for sensible traffic restrictions.

Cllr. Stephen Brett raised concerns about increasing traffic congestion. He noted that journeys from Rendlesham to Leiston have increased from 20–30 minutes to 35–40 minutes and questioned how the road network will cope when the SZC workforce expands from 2,000 to 8,000 workers. He reported that SZC has purchased land near High Lodge for worker accommodation, with a new planning application anticipated for the construction of lodges. He also expressed concerns about the additional pressure on the A12 and the proximity of the proposed park-and-ride facilities.

A member of the public raised safety concerns about signage at road junctions. It was reported that some subcontractors for SZC have been erecting signs without proper training or consideration, causing visibility issues. SZC has acknowledged the problem, and Steve Merry is in daily contact with SZC regarding this matter.

Cllr. Richard Smith reported that Suffolk County Council have begun preparations on the 2026/27 budget. A budget gap of £33 million has been identified within an overall budget exceeding £800 million. Cllr. Smith noted that savings have been sought continuously since 2010 and opportunities to make further cuts are limited. He also referred to the recent change of control at Kent County Council, now under the Reform Party, and the implications of their claims of waste reduction.

Cllr. Vanessa Davies added that the current year's budget is already affected by the proposed unitary authority reform, and there will be further consequences for the next financial year. She noted that staff are anxious, as both county and district councils will be abolished, with the unitary authority expected to be operational by April 2028.

[ACTION: Cllr Richard Smith to raise obstructive road signage issues with Steve Merry.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to add obstructive road signage question to Northern Transport Forum Questions before 1<sup>st</sup> August.](#)

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

District Cllr. Tom Daly summarised the East Suffolk Council July Report which is attached as **Appendix I**.

District Cllr. Tom Daly noted that leaflets have been distributed by Suffolk County Council regarding the election for Local Government Reform. He expressed concern that the proposals would remove power from a local level and all powers will be centralised. Suffolk County Council's approach has been to equate savings with future cuts, whereas East Suffolk Council has a different vision. At its most recent meeting, full council voted to pursue the creation of three unitary authorities, although the financial and democratic implications of this are not yet clear. Councillors were encouraged to attend meetings and raise their concerns with their representatives.

Cllr. Stephen Brett requested that discussion should remain focused on the structure of unitary authorities rather than political debate. He expressed personal concern that a three-unitary model could favour Ipswich and Felixstowe, leaving them as the wealthiest third, and stressed that a full debate should not take place until further information is available.

Cllr. Daly reported on energy projects and related infrastructure impacts in the area, reporting that East Suffolk Council continues to work with developers. Regular meetings are being held with OFGEN and Scottish Power. Quarterly discussions are planned to improve coordination of the increasing number of energy projects. Scottish Power Renewables and Sizewell C are working together on roadworks projects, sharing costs equally. Master planning is underway for the Friston converter station site with the aim of ensuring landscaping, biodiversity net gain and community acceptability and a blueprint for a master plan vision is currently being developed. The HELIOS solar and battery Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project near Friston has secured a connection agreement and although it could take up to two years before formal plans come forward, councillors will be consulted before applications are submitted.

A wide-ranging discussion followed. Cllr. Paul Collins raised concerns about the cumulative effects of energy projects near Friston and questioned when the limit should be drawn, while emphasising the urgency of addressing climate change and the need to balance this with land use. Cllr. Nat Bacon noted that the HELIOS project is purely commercial and warned against inefficient land use. Cllr. Richard Smith highlighted the negative impacts of schemes such as Sulica. Cllr. Stephen Brett questioned food production, referring to the increasing use of land for biodigesters rather

than food production as well as the land lost by farmers for the above mentioned energy projects. He also noted that it is estimated that Suffolk will produce 30% of the UK's power and stressed the need for more local energy connections in the South rather than exporting electricity to Kent, London and Europe. Councillors also debated the possible need for a third line of pylons and raised concerns that the planning of SeaLink 2 could lead to repeated disruption of the countryside.

Cllr. Vanessa Davies asked whether the economic impacts of energy projects were being monitored, noting that visitors are not returning to the area and that the local hospitality industry is reporting financial losses early in the project. Cllr. Daly confirmed that ESC is considering mitigation measures for businesses.

#### **4. Minutes and Matters Arising**

- a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

- b) Matters arising

Cllr. Stephen Brett highlighted an issue raised at an earlier Parish Council meeting regarding the ownership of the Theberton War Memorial located in the churchyard at St. Peter's Church, Theberton. He reported that, after speaking with the church it was confirmed that the church did not own the memorial. As a result, the historic item is likely to be uninsured, which the Council noted as a concern.

[ACTION: Clerk to add War Memorial Ownership to September Agenda.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to seek advice from SALC with regards to War Memorial ownership and quotes for insurance.](#)

#### **5. Energy Projects**

- a) To receive an update from Cllr. Paul Collins

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

Cllr. Paul Collins reported that the real cost of Sizewell C was estimated to be around £48 billion. He noted that the Regulated Asset Base (RAB) model worked on a lower and higher estimate, with the lower being £38 billion and the higher £47 billion. The reality is likely to fall somewhere in between but it could be more than £10 billion higher than this initial estimate. If costs exceed £47 billion, the difference will fall on taxpayers. He added that Hinkley Point C is already estimated at £48 billion, making the higher estimate for SZC seem likely. With a 12% return built in, this represented a better deal than any other asset base, with debate continuing as to whether the real interest would be 6–7% or significantly higher. Two thirds of the project would be debt-financed rather than investment-financed. The RAB charge was predicted to appear on bills at about £1 per month by the end of July or August and residents should expect to see this reflected soon. He noted that the Government support scheme was effectively open-ended.

Cllr. Collins also reported that the judicial review into SZC was still outstanding, following the refusal of the Stop Sizewell C appeal and that TASK was awaiting a decision on flood barriers.

He expressed frustration at delays to the B1122 working group, which had been promised for almost a year. He gave an example from the Main Site Forum, where the Council had been informed that Pretty Road would be closed for four to six months to prepare for the development of the new road. SZC had proposed Hawthorn Road as the suggested detour. Cllr. Stephen Brett asked whether anyone at SZC had driven along Hawthorn Road, which is single track and includes a ford, making it unsuitable for heavy traffic and as an alternative route. He suggested that Moat Road would be a more obvious option. Concerns were raised that Moat Road and Pretty Road might be closed at the

same time. Cllr. Richard Smith added that at some stage the A12 itself would be closed, leading to diversions of up to 40 miles, although he hoped this would be limited to overnight closures.

Cllr. Brett also reported that at the Northern Transport Forum it had been noted that when Darsham level crossing at the station is shut therefore diversions will be routed through Westleton.

Cllr. Collins further reported that he was applying to be an interested party for the SeaLink connector. While it did not affect the parish directly, he emphasised the importance of registering in case of future changes. Cllr. Smith supported this recommendation, and the deadline for registration was extended to 18 August. Cllr. Collins also read out the Middleton statement. It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Morphey and seconded by Cllr. Nat Bacon that Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council register an interest in the SeaLink connector. This was agreed unanimously by the council.

Cllr. Nat Bacon reported on a meeting with Jenny Riddell-Carpenter, who stressed the importance of coordinating projects and holding developers to account. She suggested the appointment of a government representative within the county to ensure commitments were met.

Members also noted the development of the new sixth form college, which will provide skills training relevant to Sizewell, including welding and heavy lifting, and opportunities for mature students.

A member of the public raised concerns about water use. They noted that, despite a dry year, irrigation licences had previously allowed significant agricultural water use and argued that current volumes used for dust suppression at the site were much less by comparison. Cllr. Brett added that the "Cut" was not dry but poorly maintained, with water flowing twice a day. He stressed the need to consider how much water would previously have been drawn by farming compared with SZC and reported that SZC was building a reservoir near Lower Abbey Farm.

## **6. Planning**

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

Cllr. Robert Flindall provided an update on the Theberton and Eastbridge Neighbourhood Plan and the strategy meeting held on 17 July 2025. He reported that the Service Level Agreement with East Suffolk Council had been signed, although government funding for Neighbourhood planning projects had recently been withdrawn. He noted that a funding application would be worthwhile and that it was necessary to begin a community consultation. East Suffolk Council advised starting with a questionnaire. Cllr. Paul Collins is working with the Post Office to determine the postcodes within the parish. The steering group will hopefully include members from the community, the County Council and other stakeholders. The aim is to gauge community interest in a neighbourhood plan and gather detailed feedback on priorities by organising workshops.

[ACTION: Neighbourhood Planning Strategy Group to arrange next meeting](#)

## **7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports**

- a) Community Council

The Clerk reported that no minutes had been received from the Community Council since their change of Chairman earlier in the year.

- b) Heritage Trail

Cllr. Stephen Morphey presented the first print of the Heritage Trail Map and the Council congratulated him and the Heritage Trail focus group on the presentation and content of the board and were very pleased with the result. The Council discussed the project and noted that the approximate cost for printing the boards and design by Leiston Press would be £500.00.

ACTION: Cllr Stephen Morphey to send high quality proof file to Clerk

ACTION: Clerk to send Heritage Trail Map by link to councillors for proofing

ACTION: Clerk to speak to CD Zeppelin owner – happy to pass images to Leiston Long Shop?

ACTION: Cllr Stephen Morphey to find price for printing A4 maps for placement in Village Hall, Eel's Foot & The Lion Inn

ACTION: Clerk to add Heritage Trail launch suggestions to September's agenda.

c) Speed Indicator Device

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

The Council noted that the installation of the 30mph speed cameras had already made a significant difference to the average speed of drivers on the B1122 despite the cameras not yet being operational. The proportion of vehicles exceeding the speed limit had fallen to 19.6%, compared with the mid-30% range previously. Traffic levels had not increased dramatically, which could be due to fewer tourists travelling or residents using alternative routes to avoid the B1122 as SZC related traffic increases.

d) Police Crime Report

The May 2025 Police Crime Report is attached as **Appendix IV**.

The Clerk informed the council that there had been one crime reported in the Parish in May 2025.

e) Theberton and Eastbridge Playing Field Swing Repairs

Cllr. Nat Bacon informed the Council that he had ordered the new piece of timber required to replace the rotting part of the swing at Theberton and Eastbridge Playing Field. The cost of repairing and maintaining this item of play equipment was expected to be approximately £250. The Clerk advised the Council that the ROSPA Play Safety Inspection for Theberton Playing Field had been booked and was likely to take place in September 2025.

ACTION: Cllr Nat Bacon to forward invoice for replacement swing materials to Clerk.

ACTION: Cllr Nat Bacon to aim to complete works on Theberton Playing Field Swing ahead of September's meeting and before the ROSPA play safety inspection

f) Theberton and Eastbridge tractor

Cllr. Stephen Brett explained that he was in the process of discussing an application for funding with the Sizewell C Community Foundation.

ACTION: Clerk to Theberton and Eastbridge tractor to Community Fund section of the agenda.

g) Yoxmere Fisherman Donation

Cllr. Stephen Brett introduced the topic of the Yoxmere Fisherman and the donation requested in 2024 to help keep the publication in print. He noted that the majority of other local parish councils had contributed to the cause and that the Yoxmere Fisherman had since reported having sufficient funds in their budget to continue production for an estimated further three years. Cllr. Brett proposed making a one-off donation of £250 to the Yoxmere Fisherman as a gesture of goodwill. A vote was held and the majority of Council members agreed to the proposal.

ACTION: Clerk to add £250 donation to Yoxmere Fisherman for authorisation

- h) Citizen's Advice Annual Donation of £50

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed for the Parish Council to donate £50.00 to the Citizen's Advice Bureau. All in favour.

[ACTION: Clerk to add £50 donation to Citizen's Advice Bureau to September's Agenda for authorisation](#)

- i) Councillor photographs for website

The Clerk suggested including either individual photographs of councillors or a group photograph of Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council on the parish council website. The Council agreed that there was no requirement to add individual photographs but noted that a group photo opportunity may be possible at the Heritage Trail launch event.

- j) Watering rota of newly planted trees at Eastbridge Playing Field  
i) Donation to resident's charity of choice for use of water supply for tree watering

Cllr. Hazel Collins has been speaking with the local resident who has been helping to provide water from her home for the new plantation of fruit trees at Eastbridge Playing Field. The resident had accepted the offer of a Parish Council Donation and nominated Water Aid as her chosen charity. All in Favour.

[ACTION: Clerk to add £50 donation to Water Aid to September's Agenda for authorisation](#)

- k) Sizewell C Community Fund Application ideas

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that he was seeking advice from Sizewell Community Fund and will report back in September's meeting. However, the owners of the land proposed for the planting of Black Poplars had objected on the grounds that the trees are likely to grow be too large.

- i) Eastbridge Burial Ground Hedging
- ii) Black Poplars on Eastbridge Road to the New Cut Bridge
- iii) Vegetation screening for Eastbridge Road burrow pits
- iv) Electricity and water supply to Eastbridge Burial Ground and Theberton Playing Field
- v) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field

- l) Outstanding Actions List

The Clerk provided a summary of outstanding actions and confirmed that any unresolved items will be added to the September action list.

## **8. Devolution Consultation**

- a) To discuss the topic of devolution

The council discussed Devolution with the County and District Councillors earlier in the meeting.

## **9. Parish Matters**

- a) To note the resolution of damage to the Eastbridge triangle

The council concluded they were happy with the repairs and regrowth of seed at the Eastbridge Village triangle after the damage made earlier in the year.

[ACTION: Clerk to remove from agenda](#)

## 10. Administration

- a) To conduct the annual review of the Internal Controls Statement

The council conducted the annual review and of the Internal Controls Statement and discussed alterations to be made to the document.

[ACTION: Clerk to update Internal Controls Statement and forward to the council for approval and add to September Agenda](#)

- b) To conduct the annual review of the Standing Orders

The council conducted the annual review and approved the Model Standing Orders.

[ACTION: Clerk to publish the approved Model Standing Orders on the parish website.](#)

- c) To approve the bank reconciliation for Qtr1 2025-2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed that the bank reconciliation for Qtr1 2025-2026. All in favour.

- d) To note the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2025-2026

The Council noted and approved the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2025-2026.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed that the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2025-2026. 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 and it was agreed that 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	Honor Houlding	£371.97	LGA 1972 s.112
Broadband (July)	BT	£31.14	LGA 1972 s.19
Broadband (August)	BT	£31.14	LGA 1972 s.19
Bush Cutter Maintenance	Stephen Morphey	£12.49	OSA 1906 s.10
Heritage Trail Illustrations	Hilary Ward	£1,800.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel 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 9th of June 2025 and 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025 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

Cllr. Stephen Morphey made the council aware of the overgrown hedge at Eastbridge Burial Ground. The council agreed that the required trimming of the hedge should take place in the Autumn.

### 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 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

[ACTION: Clerk to send email total to all councillors informing of the change of sate of September's meeting to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to update the parish council meeting dates on the website.](#)

Honor Houlding  
Parish Clerk  
Meeting Ended at: 21.12

## Appendix I – East Suffolk County Council July Report

### June 2025 Parish Report East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

#### [East Suffolk Council - HERE For You!](#)

Following a successful series of events last year, East Suffolk officers and councillors will be visiting towns around the district again this summer, chatting to local people about council services and asking how they feel about what we do.

Events have taken place in Saxmundham, Lowestoft and Kesgrave this year, and will be followed by Beccles in July, Felixstowe and Southwold in August before finishing in Framlingham in September.

Councillors and senior officers will be present to listen to local people and chat about our plans, our services and how we are looking to improve lives and outcomes not only in the towns we visit but throughout East Suffolk.

East Suffolk Council - HERE For You! Come and find us at:

16 July - Beccles

6 August - Felixstowe

27 August - Southwold

24 September - Framlingham

All events are from 10am until 1pm.

#### [£4.8million for leisure centre decarbonisation drive](#)

Ambitious plans to upgrade and decarbonise three of the district's leisure centres are moving forward after East Suffolk Council successfully secured a £2.8million Government grant.



Along with an additional £2m investment of its own, the grant of £2.8m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, run by Salix on behalf of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, will help the Council take a major step towards its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

Leisure centres currently represent the single largest contributor to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions – now accounting for around 42% of the total – and tackling emissions from the buildings is crucial to reaching overall carbon reduction targets.

Planned upgrades to Leiston, Waterlane, and Deben leisure centres will focus on replacing outdated gas boilers with cutting-edge air source heat pump systems for heating, and CO2 heat pumps for hot water in some locations, significantly cutting energy use and emissions at all three sites.

Additionally, Deben Leisure Centre will benefit from a new roof, and all three centres will gain further solar panel installations to help offset increased electricity use from the switch to electric-only systems. Funding will also help future-proof the centres by supporting the replacement of ageing equipment due for renewal – reducing the carbon footprint while avoiding major upfront costs.

GLI Councillor Sarah Whitelock, Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism, said:

“This funding is a game-changer. It allows us to make real progress towards our environmental goals while continuing to invest in high-quality leisure facilities for our communities. We're proud to be taking action that benefits both residents and the planet.”

All schemes will be implemented within two years – marking a significant step towards a greener, more sustainable future for East Suffolk, benefitting both the environment and local community. The transformation of Leiston, Waterlane and Deben Leisure Centres is part of the Council's wider commitment to sustainability, with previous work including improved insulation, LED lighting, solar panels and pool covers to reduce heat loss.

### *Community spaces set to flourish again as environmental scheme returns*

'East Suffolk Blooms', which encourages people in East Suffolk to pollinator-friendly wildflowers, is returning for 2025.

Each year, East Suffolk Council distributes free packs of bulbs to councils, community groups and organisations to plant locally as Suffolk Blooms campaign.

Successful applicants to last year's scheme planted numerous native bulbs in towns and East Suffolk, resulting in colourful flower displays which benefitted pollinators.

This time, in tandem with the East Suffolk's Amazing project to promote an all-round effort to help maintain the beauty and cleanliness of the district, earlier flowering bulbs are being offered that provide colour during early spring.

GLI Cllr Sally Noble, East Suffolk's cabinet member for the Environment, said:

“Year on year, we continue to receive a high level of interest in this scheme, which is why we are pleased it is returning for 2025.

“We expect to have enough bags of bulbs to distribute one to each of 50 groups across the district, and we look forward to receiving applications for East Suffolk Blooms 2025.”

Packs of Carlton daffodil bulbs will be available to collect in the autumn, around October, from two locations in the district.

The scheme is funded by East Suffolk Services Ltd, who will be providing £3,000 worth of flowering bulbs.



grow beautiful,

town and parish  
part of the East

villages across

An application form will be available to complete online until 31 August, before a judging panel meets to decide the successful applicants, with additional consideration given to groups reapplying after missing out last year. Applicants will then be informed of the decision by September.

Apply at: [my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/east\\_suffolk\\_blooms](https://my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/east_suffolk_blooms)

### *Operation Camouflage is back for another year!*

A popular summer activities programme for young people returns to East Suffolk next month.

Operation Camouflage begins at Sutton Heath, near Woodbridge on Tuesday 23 July. Organised by the Army Welfare Service and East Suffolk Council, the activity programme is open to children and young people aged between 8 and 16 years old who live in or go to school in East Suffolk.

Designed to bring young people together and help them develop new skills, Operation Camouflage runs every Tuesday to Thursday from Wednesday 23 July until Thursday 14 August. There will be a mix of physical, creative, educational and adventurous activities on offer including touch rugby, dance workshops, circus skills, bushcraft, 'It's a knockout' and much more. Snacks and lunch will also be provided.

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

"Holiday activity programmes such as Operation Camouflage provide essential opportunities for young people to take part in safe, fun activities and give parents and carers some respite from the caring responsibilities that the school holidays bring. Not only does this programme benefit young people's physical and mental health, but it is also a great way for them to meet new friends and try something different this summer."

Funding has been secured from the East Suffolk Holiday Activity Fund to offer free places to those that are eligible for free school meals in East Suffolk. Children of military families from Woodbridge are also eligible for discounted rates of £10 per day. For those not eligible for these, there are limited spaces available at a cost of £25 per day.

Operation Camouflage is a partnership between East Suffolk Council, the Army Welfare Service and Just42, who have been delivering the programme since 2008. The programme is designed to give young people from military families and those living in East Suffolk an opportunity to be active over the summer holidays and provide safe and positive activities.

Bookings are now open for those that are eligible for free school meals and military discount and bookings will then open to all on Friday 4 July.

Book your place at: [eastsuffolk.co/camo%20](https://eastsuffolk.co/camo%20)

### *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/](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/squeeze/)

For the most up to date information regarding East Suffolk Council, please visit: [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

## **Appendix II – Cllr. Paul Collins July Energy Projects Report**

### **1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C**

The Appeal Court has rejected our Judicial Review appeal against the ONR Nuclear Site License application, so this line of challenge is now closed.

It seems likely that by the time we meet the government will have announced that a Final Investment Decision (FID) has been made. At this point we have been told that Schroders Greencoat will not invest as the government has pulled back from developing a “green taxonomy” in which they hoped to label nuclear as a green technology. Without this, Schroders Greencoat are unable to invest. However, it seems that Centrica plus Canada’s La Caisse and Amber Infrastructure, both being reported on X as having been accepted as investors.

So, it looks like HMG will take a 47.5% stake, Centrica 15%, EDF 12.5%, with La Caisse, Amber and others taking the remaining 25%.

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

We await a High Court decision on the challenge to SoS DESNZ concerning 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/>

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

An initial meeting with DESNZ has taken place with a number of ESCEP committee members on 17<sup>th</sup> June. A further report will be issued shortly.

### **4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums**

At long last the Average Speed Cameras have been installed and will be operational from 28<sup>th</sup> July.

Progress on the one-way system in the local roads between Theberton and Eastbridge has made glacially slow progress and we await confirmation of the proposed date (18<sup>th</sup> September) to review finalised plans once the final plans have been approved by Suffolk County Council Highways Department.

These mitigations are woefully late and show SZC to be well outside the expected timeframe for delivery. It was a consistent theme from the Examining Authority at the DCO examination that mitigations are supposed to precede the impacts occurring. This expectation, which was dashed at the examination, are now even later than expected from statements from SZC both during the examination and in statements made at the Transport Forums.

The next Northern Transport Forum is on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2025, Main Development Site Forum is on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025, and Community Forum is on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.

### **5. Scottish Power Wind Farms and Friston Substation**

Various preparatory works and archaeology are now being undertaken.

### **6. LionLink (formerly EuroLink) – National Grid Ventures**

No further progress.

### **7. Sea Link Interconnector – National Grid Electricity Transmission**

The DCO Application has been submitted and accepted for examination by PINS. Registration as an Interested Party has been extended until 18<sup>th</sup> August.

I have reviewed a number of local registrations, such as Middleton (see below in italics), Westleton and Peasenhall and they are very general concerning increased traffic, tourism, environmental, lack of permanent jobs and mental health and well being and are supportive of both SCC and ESC's representations.

*Cumulative impact, specifically traffic and transport impacts of multiple energy projects within a small area. These are SPR EA3 connections, Sizewell C, Sea link and Lion link NG/NGET projects. The first of these are already bringing mental health and wellbeing issues, and this is likely to multiply given the sheer number and complexity of the projects. Many of our residents are retired and elderly. The projects are already bringing negative impacts on our key tourism sector, and again Sea link will multiply these.*

I note that Leiston Town Council has not registered at this time, although they may yet do so. The primary impacted councils, Saxmundham, Friston, Aldeburgh, Snape and Aldringham cum Thorpe are all registered.

There are 40 Town and Parish Councils registered at this time, some in Kent at the other end of SeaLink, and you can find them [here](#).

It is difficult, therefore, to see how to raise specific concerns within a Relevant Representation regarding Sea Link, from a Parish point of view, when there is so little potential additional impact. This will not be the case once the Lion Link Development Consent Order application comes forward.

So, despite having real concerns about the cumulative impact and industrialisation of the area with all of these energy projects, as well as sympathy for Saxmundham who are likely to have multiple large industrial sheds housing these converter stations and Friston who face an expanded National Grid Substation, I cannot see how to register the Parish as an Interested Party with a direct set of issues within a Relevant Representation.

If we did submit a general set of concerns such as those submitted by Middleton and others, it would give us a seat at the examination and the ability to question or submit further concerns based on issues raised in the examination. So, with the extension of the registration deadline, we are still able to register if we wish to do so.

## 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 July Speed Indicator Device Report

### Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

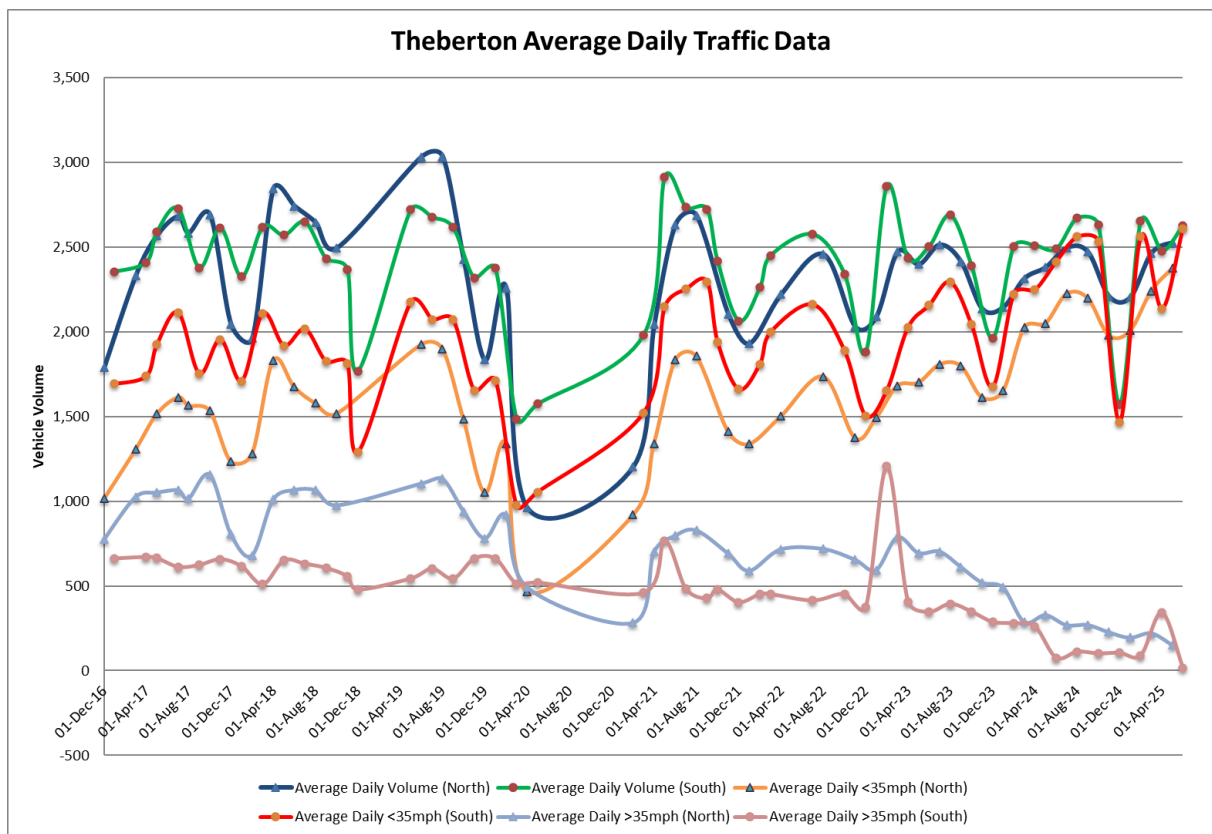
The speed indicator device has been operational for ninety ~20-day periods since 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016. It is placed at one end of the village or other at ~30-day intervals.

Traffic volumes long-term averages for those exceeding 35mph is now **30.3%** from north and **19.6%** from south.

The **85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed\*** is **38.7mph** from North and **36.2mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

There is a general reduction in speed noticeable from 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 when the enforceable 30mph speed limit came into effect.

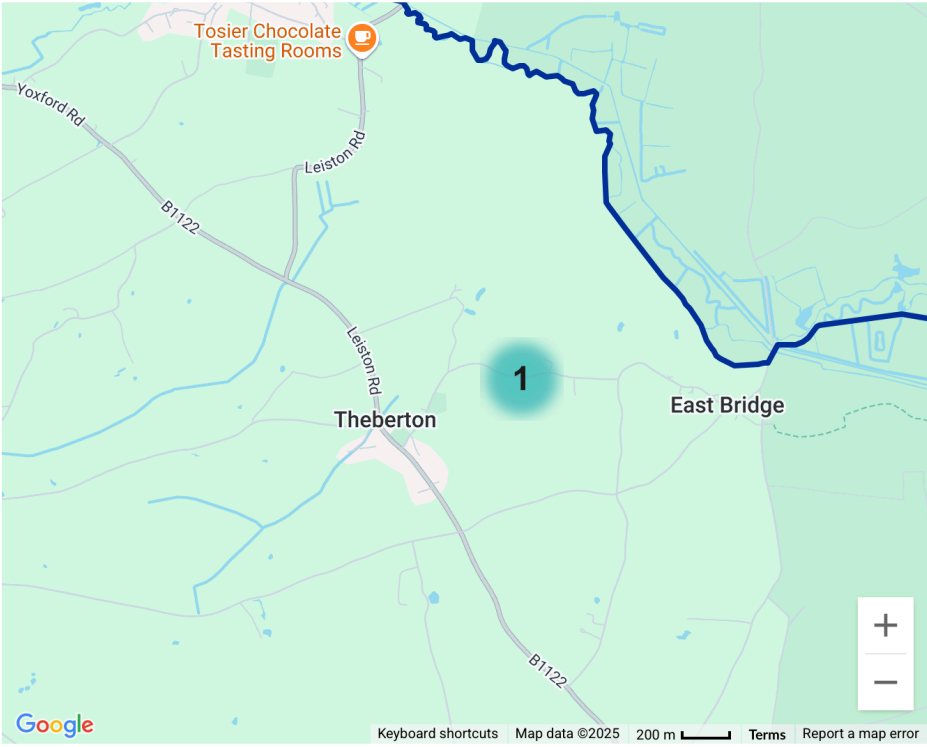
The average speed cameras are now installed, and operational, and **this month's reduction in the long term 85<sup>th</sup> percentile value for traffic from the South comes with the fact that only 0.6% of traffic was above 35mph compared to the previous period where the number was 13.8% (10.1% average over the last two years).** I expect next month's figures from the North will show a similar drop.



SID Start Date	12-Jul-24	11-Aug-24	10-Sep-24	21-Oct-24	20-Nov-24	20-Dec-24	21-Jan-25	18-Feb-25	22-Mar-25	22-Apr-25	20-May-25	18-Jun-25
Average Daily Volume (North)	2,495		2,471		2,207		2,202		2,464		2,526	2,627
Average Daily Volume (South)		2,672		2,632		1,573		2,652		2,478		
Total Vehicles (North)	48,750		46,940		44,146		41,845		49,273		48,000	49,911
Total Vehicles (South)		50,769		47,367		29,882		58,350		47,072		
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)	43,474		41,792		39,593		38,125		44,829		45,121	
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)		48,650		45,554		27,888		56,369		40,589		49,596
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)	5,276		5,148		4,553		3,720		4,444		2,879	
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)		2,119		1,813		1,994		1,981		6,483		315
Average Daily <35mph (North)	2,225		2,200		1,980		2,007		2,241		2,375	
Average Daily <35mph (South)		2,561		2,531		1,468		2,562		2,136		2,610
Average Daily >35mph (North)	270		271		228		196		222		152	
Average Daily >35mph (South)		112		101		105		90		341		17
85th percentile speed North (mph)	34.2		34.2		34.1		33.7		33.8		32.7	
85th percentile speed South (mph)		30.1		29.9		32.1		29.8		29.9		28.8
% <35mph (North)	89.2%		89.0%		89.7%		91.1%		91.0%		94.0%	
% <35mph (South)		95.8%		96.2%		93.3%		96.6%		86.2%		99.4%
% >35mph (North)	10.8%		11.0%		10.3%		8.9%		9.0%		6.0%	
% >35mph (South)		4.2%		3.8%		6.7%		3.4%		13.8%		0.6%

\*The 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile is indicative of the speed that the majority of road users are travelling at.

#### Appendix IV – May Police Crime Report



All Crimes (69) ▼

May 2025 ▼

1 crimes were reported here in May 2025

Other crime	1
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