

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY 2026 AT 7:00 PM

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

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

Apologies for absence:

District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Katie Graham
District Cllr. Tom Daly- apologised
Cllr. Robert Flindall- apologised
Cllr. Hazel Collins- apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon – apologised
County Cllr. John Matthews

Members of the public:

Two members of the public were present

In attendance:

Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO

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

None.

3. To receive a report from Sizewell C Richard Knight with regards to upcoming road closures affecting the Parish

Sizewell C presentation slides are attached as **Appendix I**.

Richard Knight provided an update on planned roadworks and traffic management arrangements affecting the parish during the remainder of 2026 and into 2027. This included the temporary closure of the B1125 by Essex and Suffolk Water from 9th November 2026 until 29th March 2027, progress on the Sizewell Link Road (SLR), Plaza Roundabout, temporary reopening of Moat Road, planned resurfacing works at Middleton Moor and the forthcoming closure of Leiston Level Crossing.

Cllr. Stephen Brett queried the outstanding highway improvements at Flash Corner, including the incomplete village gateway markings, and asked whether Moat Road would reopen before Hawthorn Road closed.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm whether Moat Road will reopen before Hawthorn Road closes.

Cllr. Stephen Brett also requested that the Parish Council continue to be kept informed of future traffic management decisions and raised concerns regarding construction traffic using rural roads and the management of roadside vegetation.

Cllr. Daryl Ash asked whether any further tree or hedgerow removal was planned along Eastbridge Road. Richard Knight advised that he did not believe any further vegetation clearance was proposed but would confirm.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm whether any further vegetation clearance is planned along Eastbridge Road.

Richard Knight provided an update on the construction of the Sizewell Link Road and Plaza Roundabout, advising that several weekend closures of the B1122 and Eastbridge Road would be required before the B1125 closure in November to complete the roundabout works. Measures would continue to be put in place to manage diversion routes and minimise vehicles travelling through Eastbridge.

The council requested confirmation that Abbey Lane would remain closed to Sizewell C construction traffic should it become the only route into Saxmundham. Richard Knight confirmed this would remain the case.

Richard Knight advised that the Northern Park and Ride was nearing completion and outlined measures being implemented to ensure the workforce used the designated park and ride facilities, including parking enforcement and site access controls.

Cllr. Paul Collins asked about the proposed closure of the A12 at Darsham. Richard Knight advised that Network Rail was working closely with Sizewell C to coordinate planned roadworks.

Further discussion took place regarding road safety along the B1125, the proposed permanent connection between the B1125 and the Sizewell Link Road, speed limits, increased traffic levels and ongoing mitigation measures. Richard Knight advised that permanent traffic monitoring equipment had been installed on the B1125 and that traffic surveys would continue as part of the Development Consent Order transport monitoring programme, with oversight from the Transport Review Group comprising Sizewell C, Suffolk County Council, National Highways and Suffolk Police.

Members expressed concerns that lessons had not been fully learned from other nationally significant infrastructure projects and highlighted the continued impact of construction traffic on local businesses. Richard Knight advised that business support and tourism funding remained available through East Suffolk Council however there is no future prospect of compensation for local businesses.

ACTION: Richard Knight to attend the Parish Council meetings in September and October to provide further updates on traffic management and roadworks.

Cllr. Stephen Brett, on behalf of the council, thanked Richard Knight for taking the time to attend the meeting and provide the update. The council requested that as mentioned, if Richard could please attend the next Parish Council meeting, due to be held on 9th September 2026, to provide a further update on the proposed traffic management and roadworks programme.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm attendance at the parish council meeting due to be held on 9th September 2026.

4. Public Forum

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

Two members of the public were present and thanked the council for arranging for SZC to address the community on traffic implication of SZC development.

A question was asked with regards to whether MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter had ever attended a Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council meeting. Cllr. Stephen Brett explained that although Jenny Riddell-Carpenter had never volunteered to attend, she had accepted the invitation to the Heritage Trail Launch Event in June and was seen attending Leiston Fair in August. Representation by our County Cllr. John Matthews was also discussed, mention that with the increase to 21 constituencies in his remit, he may be able to attend monthly meeting less regularly than the previous representative under the new unitary authority changes to local government.

- b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

No County Councillor was present.

- c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

No District Councillors were in attendance.

The East Suffolk Council monthly report is attached as **Appendix II**.

5. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2026 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

- b) Matters arising

None.

6. Energy Projects

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

Cllr. Paul Collins' June NSIPS report is attached as **Appendix III**.

Cllr. Paul Collins began by explaining that Lion Link have proposed changes to their cable route. The revised route would run to the west of Theberton, through Middleton and Middleton Moor across farmers' fields rather than following the new Sizewell Link Road.

He continued that he had questioned the reasons for the change and why LionLink have not worked with Sizewell C to facilitate the cables being installed alongside the new Sizewell Link Road. It was also questioned how the revised route would result in less tree and hedgerow removal when significant vegetation has already been removed as part of the SLR works.

The Parish Council is due to submit its views to the LionLink consultation.

Cllr. Paul Collins also raised matters relating to Sizewell C, including the completion of outstanding works at the B1122 Early Years to works at the junction at Flash Corner and the installation of the 30mph signage on the B1122.

A conversation was held with regards to Stop Sizewell C and whether the organisation plans to continue. Cllr. Paul Collins confirmed that the organisation will continue, however will no longer be a limited company and will instead continue to operate as a community organisation. Cllr. Paul Collins confirmed he will be stepping down from his post within Stop Sizewell C. Cllr. Graham Ward asked whether the Stop Sizewell C signage currently displayed around the village would be removed. Cllr. Paul Collins explained that the signs are the property of individual landowners and therefore could only be removed by the respective property owners.

7. Planning

- a) to receive a report from Cllr. Paul Collins with regards to the ESC Local Plan briefing held on 22nd June

The ESC Local Plan Briefing Slides are attached as a link in **Appendix IV**.

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised the current status of the East Suffolk Council Local Plan, which seeks to address a range of areas including the provision of employment space and housing. Councillors considered the plan to be comprehensive and therefore agreed that no formal Parish Council response to the current consultation was necessary.

It was noted that there will be two further consultation stages, including consultation on the proposals and supporting evidence, before the final plan is presented in 2028. Cllr. Stephen Brett confirmed that the Parish Council will have the opportunity to submit comments during each stage of the consultation process.

The council also noted that there are no areas for provision for new housing within Eastbridge however there are two potential outlined areas along the B1122 in Theberton.

8. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

- a) Community Council

Cllr. Daryl Ash attended the July Community Council meeting and informed the members that a rural cinema for Theberton and Eastbridge involving takeaway food and a film, once a month at Theberton Village Hall. They would like to gather the views and interest for hosting cinema events.

It was noted that the locks on the tractor shed and paperwork cupboard are now in place. The recent Fun Day was considered successful although the hot weather may have affected attendance.

The landlord of Theberton Lion has requested temporary use of the Theberton Village Hall car park during the forthcoming renovation works at the pub. Appropriate signage stating 'Parking at Own Risk' has been implemented.

Damage to the children's shelter at Theberton Playing Field was reported. A local resident has offered to carry out the necessary repairs. Councillors discussed whether the matter should be reported to the Police

and whether CCTV could be considered as a preventative measure. It was acknowledged that the suitability of CCTV would need to be carefully considered given the nature of the playing field and its use by children.

Cllr. Graham Ward suggested that the Council's insurers be contacted following completion of the repairs to arrange an inspection and confirm that the repairs are satisfactory.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to meet with resident who will fix the shelter on Theberton Playing Field](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to arrange meeting with chairman of Community Council to discuss SZC Community Fund application.](#)

b) Sizewell C Community Fund Large Grant Application to purchase replacement tractor

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the council that the application to the Sizewell C Community Fund for to purchase the replacement tractor for maintain the parish's green spaces has been successful. Cllr. Stephen Brett will speak to the supplier of the John Deere tractor; however the Parish Council will need to front the VAT from the council reserves.

- c) Sizewell C Community Fund Large Grant Application:
- i) Eastbridge Burial Ground Hedging
 - ii) Theberton Playing Field Seating Area
 - iii) Electricity and water supply to Eastbridge Burial Ground and Theberton Playing Field
 - iv) Benches for Heritage Trail route

Cllr. Stephen Brett confirmed the next tranche of applications to the Sizewell C Community Fund will be submitted by September 2026.

d) Heritage Trail Launch Event – 20th June 2026

Cllr. Stephen Brett remarked on the success of the Heritage Trail Event and was pleased that MP Jenny Riddel-Carpenter attended the event.

e) Theberton and Eastbridge Village signs and landscaping

There was no update to the Theberton and Eastbridge Village Signs and landscaping.

[ACTION: Clerk to add to the September meeting agenda.](#)

f) Suffolk County Council maintenance of footpaths and signage

[ACTION: Clerk to add to the September meeting agenda.](#)

g) Cllr. Hazel Collins to provide a report on Suffolk County Council Highways Forum

Cllr. Hazel Collins was not in attendance at the meeting.

h) Website hosting and accessibility audit

The Clerk summarised her report regarding the Parish Council website hosting and the requirement to update the website accessibility statement following the 2025-2026 Internal Audit. Quotations were

obtained from Community Action Suffolk (CAS), Aubergine and Parish Online for accessibility and website hosting services.

Following discussion, the council agreed they were satisfied with the current website hosting and support provided by Community Action Suffolk. The council also agreed there was no legal requirement to move to .gov.uk email addresses at the present time.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward to approve the Community Action Suffolk quotation of £108.00 including VAT to undertake the website accessibility audit, update the accessibility statement and rectify any identified accessibility issues. All in favour.

i) Community Action Suffolk GDPR Policy template

The Clerk highlighted the requirement to update the Parish Council's GDPR Policy following recommendations made within the 2025/2026 Internal Audit Report. The Clerk advised that Community Action Suffolk offers a GDPR policy template as part of its Organisational Health Check Service at a cost of £6.50, which would assist in ensuring the policy is updated to a suitable legal and professional standard.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward to purchase the Community Action Suffolk GDPR policy template at a cost of £6.50. All in favour.

j) Eastbridge Playing Field

Cllr. Stephen Morphey informed the council that the Eastbridge Playing Field goal posts will be painted once the summer heat subsides.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Morphey and Cllr. Hazel Collins to arrange a date to paint the Eastbridge Playing Field goal posts.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to add to the September meeting agenda.](#)

k) Speed Indicator Device

Cllr. Paul Collins July Speed Indicator Device Reports is attached as **Appendix IV**.

Cllr. Paul Collins noted that the July Speed Indicator Device (SID) reports showed an increase in traffic levels on the B1122. Previous monthly reports had indicated that traffic levels had remained relatively consistent at approximately 2,400 vehicles per day. The latest report recorded an average of approximately 2,700 vehicles per day with some days approaching 3,000 vehicles.

Councillors discussed possible reasons for the increase, including the closure of Pretty Road and the closure of Yoxford roundabout, as well as the potential increase in Sizewell C workforce traffic. It was noted that the SID report covered the period from 10th June to 13th July, meaning that only the final few days of the reporting period would have been affected by the Pretty Road closure. It was also noted that traffic levels in both directions have followed a similar pattern over recent months.

Councillors discussed when the recent introduction of average speed cameras influenced traffic levels, with drivers who may previously have avoided the B1122 due to the installation of cameras potentially now have fewer alternative routes available to them.

l) May Police Crime Report

The May Police Crime Report is attached as **Appendix V**.

There were two instances of violence and sexual offences to report within the Parish in May 2026.

m) Theberton and Eastbridge Newsletter

Cllr. Stephen Brett encouraged members of the public and Councillors to continue submitting suggestions and content to the Clerk for inclusion in the monthly parish newsletter. The Clerk has temporarily taken on responsibility for preparing the newsletter and the Council is awaiting a volunteer to come forward to take over the role on a permanent basis.

[ACTION: Clerk to speak with resident who has volunteered to learn how to publish the monthly village newsletter](#)

n) Village archives, local resident stories

Cllr. Stephen Brett explained the proposal to record the memories and personal stories of local residents as part of the village archive. The project would focus on people with a long-standing connection to Theberton and Eastbridge and would help preserve local history for future generations. Councillors agreed that this was a worthwhile initiative.

The possibility of applying for grant funding to support the expansion of the village archives and the recording of local stories was discussed. Cllr. Vanessa Davis noted that employing a professional documentarist could be costly, while an alternative approach would be for volunteers to undertake the recordings following appropriate training. Although this would be a slower process.

It was agreed that potential funding opportunities should be explored and that the project should be progressed over the coming months.

o) East Anglian Children's Hospice Donation on behalf of resident donating water for tree planting in Eastbridge

This agenda item has been previously agreed and authorised by the Parish Council.

p) Defibrillator training course for parish residents

[ACTION: Clerk to add to the September meeting agenda.](#)

q) East Suffolk Council Tree and Hedgerow Consultation until 5th August

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

r) Outstanding Actions List

The council agreed that no urgent actions were required at this time.

9. Devolution Consultation

- a) None

None.

10. Parish Matters

- a) None

None.

11. Administration

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

The council conducted the annual review of the Standing Orders.

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the Standing Orders.

[ACTION: Clerk to publish the updated Standing Orders on the Parish Council website.](#)

- b) To conduct the annual review of the Financial Regulations

The council conducted the annual review of the Financial Regulations.

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the Financial Regulations.

[ACTION: Clerk to publish the updated Financial Regulations on the Parish Council website.](#)

- e) To approve the bank reconciliation for Qtr1 2026-2027

It was proposed Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the bank reconciliation for Qtr1 2026-2027.

- f) To note the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2026-2027

The council conducted a review of the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2026-2027.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2026-2027.

12. Finance

- a) To note the latest financial position

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed that the latest financial position to be a true record. All in favour.

b) To ratify the following payments:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Public Liability	Community Action Suffolk	£750.55	LGA 1972 s.111
First Aid Kit	Honor Houlding	£8.50	PHA 1936, s.234

The Clerk informed the council that the invoice for the Community Action Suffolk Public Liability Insurance renewal was £0.01 lower than the quotation approved at the meeting held on 10th June 2026. The Clerk also advised that the First Aid Kit approved at the previous meeting had increased in price from £7.52 to £8.50 prior to purchase. Due to the urgency of the purchase, approval for the revised cost was given by Cllr. Stephen Brett.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed to authorise the ratified payments listed above. All in favour.

c) To authorise the following payments:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Honor Houlding	£391.17	LGA 1972 s.112
Broadband	BT	£34.74	LGA 1972 s.19
Donation	Leiston Library	£50.00	LGA 1972 s.139 (1)
Donation	EACH	£50.00	LGA 1972 s.139 (1)
Heritage Trail leaflets and board	Leiston Press Ltd	£237.80	LGA 1972 s.144
Website Accessibility Audit	Community Action Suffolk	£108.00	LGA 1972 s.111
GDPR Policy Template	Community Action Suffolk	£6.50	LGA 1972 s.111

The Clerk explained that the quotation from Leiston Press for the production of the Heritage Trail display board and leaflets was £45.00 higher than originally anticipated due to additional design work undertaken to produce the final A4 leaflet.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett to authorise the payments listed above. All in favour.

13. Correspondence

To review the correspondence received between the 8th of June and 20th of July 2026 and take action as appropriate

Cllr. Paul Collins highlighted an email with regards to Suffolk Highways and the monitoring road network in hot weather.

The Council agreed that there were no other further actions at this time.

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

A member of the public brought to the attention of the Council that yellow spray paint markings had been made on one of the roads in Eastbridge.

Cllr. Stephen Brett explained that Suffolk County Council has specific criteria and measurements that must be met before pothole repairs will be undertaken.

15. 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 the Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall

Honor Houlding

Parish Clerk

Meeting ended at: 21.15

Appendix I – Sizewell C Presentation Slides

[Presentation Slides – Sizewell C Traffic Management 22.07.26](#)

Appendix II – ESC monthly report

June 2026 Parish Report East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

Popular Roadshows Return this Summer

This summer, we're once again visiting towns around the district to chat to local people about our services and how they feel about what we do. We're HERE for you!

Having held our first roadshow in Halesworth in May, we will now be visiting the following locations throughout the summer:

- Thursday 2 July - Bungay
- Friday 31 July - Lowestoft
- Wednesday 19 August - Aldeburgh
- Saturday 12 September - Wickham Market

The Woodbridge roadshow is currently being rescheduled, owing to adverse weather conditions. All events are from 10am until 1pm.

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.

GLI Cllr Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council said: "Our roadshows are always very popular and give our communities the opportunity to speak directly to councillors and officers about any issues and questions they may have. Come and find out more about significant changes such as local government reorganisation, the new Local Plan and Better Recycling as well as the essential day-to-day services we provide. We look forward to meeting you!"

Working together to 'Protect our Hares'

East Suffolk Council is taking up the cause to help better protect one of the countryside's most iconic and graceful mammals.

As part of an ongoing commitment to conservation and restoring nature for local communities, the council is backing efforts to preserve and improve the welfare of brown hares.

Once widespread, Britain's fastest wild mammal is now a Priority Species – listed for conservation following historic population decline, especially over the last hundred years, due in part to habitat loss, intensified farming practices and changes in patterns of land use.

Despite targets in place to halt abundance decline by 2030 and reverse the trend by 2042, brown hares also face the threat of being illegally hunted with dogs – often for the purpose of gambling – and remain the only species of game in the country without statutory protection during breeding season.

East Suffolk Council is, therefore, supporting the introduction of a 'closed season' to prohibit shooting during the months when hares are pregnant or raising young, to prevent the starvation of orphaned leverets.

GLI Councillor Sally Noble, Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Environment, said:

"People are astonished to hear that hares can be shot during breeding season, and leverets left to starve in the fields, despite their priority status under the UK Biodiversity Plan. A closed season would help numbers recover and prevent orphaning dependent young.

"Although a Bill was introduced to the House of Lords for a closed season in 2024, there has been no further progress. Anyone who feels strongly about this should write to their MP urging the Secretary of State to introduce a closed season."

Help shape a new Local Plan for East Suffolk

East Suffolk Council is asking the public to take part in a questionnaire which will help them to prepare a new Local Plan which will guide development in the district over the next 20 years.

The Local Plan will set out a vision and strategy for the future growth and change in the district up to 2045. It will identify locations where new development can enable the provision of new homes, jobs, shops, community spaces, and new and improved infrastructure.

The questionnaire gives residents the opportunity to share their views on how the Local Plan should shape future growth in the district and respond to key issues including design quality, transport, housing, tourism, town centres, and climate change. It also asks for views on how people and organisations in the district would like to be consulted on the Local Plan during its preparation process.

GLI Cllr Packard, East Suffolk's cabinet member for Planning and Costal Management said:

"The East Suffolk Local Plan is a vital masterplan that will set out how our area will grow and develop over the next 20 years. As we prepare to consult the public on the content of this important document, we want to ensure all residents, businesses and stakeholders are informed, engaged and able to have their say in future consultations, so we're inviting as many people as possible to take part in this questionnaire. Responses to it will be invaluable in helping our team to shape the priorities of the Local Plan and to help them prepare for the next phase of the process."

Suffolk's local authorities have been working together on local plan preparation to support a consistent approach and effective cross-boundary working ahead of Local Government Reorganisation.

Responses to the questionnaire must be received by 5pm on Wednesday 29 July. Take part in the questionnaire at: tinyurl.com/ardjrytn

Tree planted in memory of Jo Cox

A new tree has this week been planted by East Suffolk Council outside their offices in Melton, in memory of MP Jo Cox.

Councillors joined together at East Suffolk House on Tuesday 16 June for a tree planting ceremony to commemorate her life and to mark ten years since the Member of Parliament for Batley and Spen was murdered in her constituency.

The sweet chestnut tree supplied by Greener Growth was planted by Cllr Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council, Cllr Paul Ashton, Deputy Leader of East Suffolk Council, Cllr John Fisher, Cllr Mark Jepson and Mark Pendlington, Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk.

After the tree was planted councillors and officers from the council took a moment to reflect.

GLI Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council, said:

"It's difficult to believe it's been ten years since Jo Cox's life was taken. We believe that it is more important than ever to be unified despite political differences and that we debate in a respectful and civilised way that is why we've come together as councillors from different parties and none.

"Thank you to Greener Growth for supplying the tree and giving it the extra care it needs to be planted at this time of year. We hope the tree will act as a reminder of the importance of community, compassion and standing together, reflecting Jo Cox's belief that we have far more in common than that which divides us."

The hand-grafted fruit tree has been cultivated through Greener Growth's partnership with Suffolk Probation Service and community payback teams, alongside work with Seeding Hope CIC. This initiative supports people who have been to prison to gain skills, purpose and confidence through horticulture.

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

1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

TEAGS encouraged supporters to write to Andy Burnham to ask him to cancel SZC and use the money for energy projects that can have a more immediate impact on net-zero and climate change.

The first stage of moving TEAGS Ltd to a community organisation has now been started with Barclays setting up a new account for the new organisation.

The final closure of the Limited company will occur at the end of September.

2. East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership

The group met on 7th July to discuss progress at meetings with the new SCC councillors Christopher Hudson and a brief exchange with Michael Hadwen. It was agreed that a one page document of issues and position of ESCEP on the various energy projects be created and sent to both councillors to help bring them up to speed with some of the bigger issues that the projects are creating in the area.

There was a discussion of the total inadequacy of the community fund that is proposed by SeaLink and our concern about how such a small amount was arrived at. Tom Daly will be contacted by Robin Sanders to understand how and why this has been agreed.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

The village Gateways on the B1122 have been installed. They are only on the eastern side of the road and have messages and 30mph signs both sides. Road surface treatments have also now been completed.

Works around Flash Corner and changes to junction priorities are still outstanding.

The next Northern Transport Forum is on 5th August 2026, Main Site Forum is on Wednesday 7th October 2026 and Community Forum on 22nd October 2026.

5. SZC Non-Material Changes to the Development Consent Order

There are eight changes requested by SZC to the Development Consent Order (DCO) and one directly to the Deemed Marine License (DML) regulated by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). We await PINS and the Secretary of State's decision on these changes.

6. Sea Link Interconnector, National Grid Electricity Transmission – DCO Examination

The Planning Inspectorate examination of the SeaLink DCO is now complete. The Examining Authority has 3 months to write their report and make their recommendation to the Secretary of State. Then the SoS has a further 3 months to make the final decision. Links to all the DCO documents can be found [here](#).

The SoS may ask for additional submissions during his consideration of the report and any submissions that are made now will be forwarded to the SoS with the Examiners report and recommendation.

7. Scottish Power Wind Farms and Friston Substation

Development at the Friston substation and cable trenching from landfall at Thorpeness are now underway.

8. LionLink – National Grid Ventures

LionLink are consulting on some changes to their proposals including a change to the landfall site, HGV route to the converter station and some changes and decisions about preferred options for the cable route.

The latter concerns how the cable route will be installed between Middleton Moor and Pretty Road. The two options were to follow alongside the Sizewell Link Road or to trench the cable on the western side of the SLR through farmers fields.

In our submission (below) to LionLink previously we supported the route adjacent to the SLR to reduce further damage to farmers fields.

4. We note the two cable route alternatives being considered for the section between Fordley Road, Middleton Moor and Pretty Road, Theberton. One follows the Sizewell Link Road (SLR), currently under construction, and the other using a trenched and trenchless route to the south of the SLR. Given the considerable disruption that the SLR is already having on the landscape and agricultural lands in this area, we would wholeheartedly support the use of the SLR corridor, and encourage SZC to engage positively with this proposal, to avoid additional impacts to the landscape and farmers who are already significantly impacted by the loss of land and orphaning of some field segments for the SLR construction.

Unfortunately, LionLink are now proposing the western trenching route to avoid having to coordinate their route with SZC's SLR works and give "greater certainty over how this section of the route would be delivered".

They also claim this would "Compared with the eastern route, it would help avoid the loss of habitats, including woodland habitat, trees within hedgerows and grassland areas." However, if they are working alongside the SLR route, all that habitat loss will already have occurred, so this seems to be a comparison to what is there without the SLR route being created and therefore doesn't reflect the real conditions on the ground now or once the SLR is completed, which should be before LionLink is consented or certainly in advance of any cable route construction.

I am attending the LionLink webinar on 21st July and will ask a question about this route and the impacts claimed.

The targeted consultation runs until 5th August, and I suggest we reiterate our preference as above and state that it is incumbent upon all the developers of energy infrastructure projects to coordinate their works and reduce impacts to those working and living alongside these projects to a minimum. It is simply not good enough to avoid such coordination simply to provide developers with the easiest option to implement their plans. I'll suggest a response at our meeting and after the webinar on Tuesday.

The Development Consent Order application to the Planning Inspectorate is scheduled for Q4 2026.

9. Solar Farms/Battery Storage

- **Town Farm Solar Park**
[Town Farm solar park](#), close to the A12 and south of Yoxford next to the Sizewell Link Road roundabout (under construction, this small solar park is 21MW and consented under ESC planning. It is not large enough to be an NSIP.
- **Helios Energy Park**
This will yet another NSIP because of its size (250MW). Further details can be found at [SCC](#) and in a submission on the [SeaLink DCO website](#).

10. Hydrogen East/Capital Hydrogen

No further information at this time.

11. Suffolk Water Recycling and Transfer Scheme

Essex and Suffolk Water have published the results to the initial consultation which can be found at <https://suffolkwaternetwork.co.uk/documents/yousaid.pdf>. The preferred routing and development characteristics will be published in the summer and an application for Development Consent Order (this is also an NSIP development) later in the year or early 2027.

Appendix III – ESC Local Plan Briefing Slides

[ESC Local Plan Briefing Slides](#)

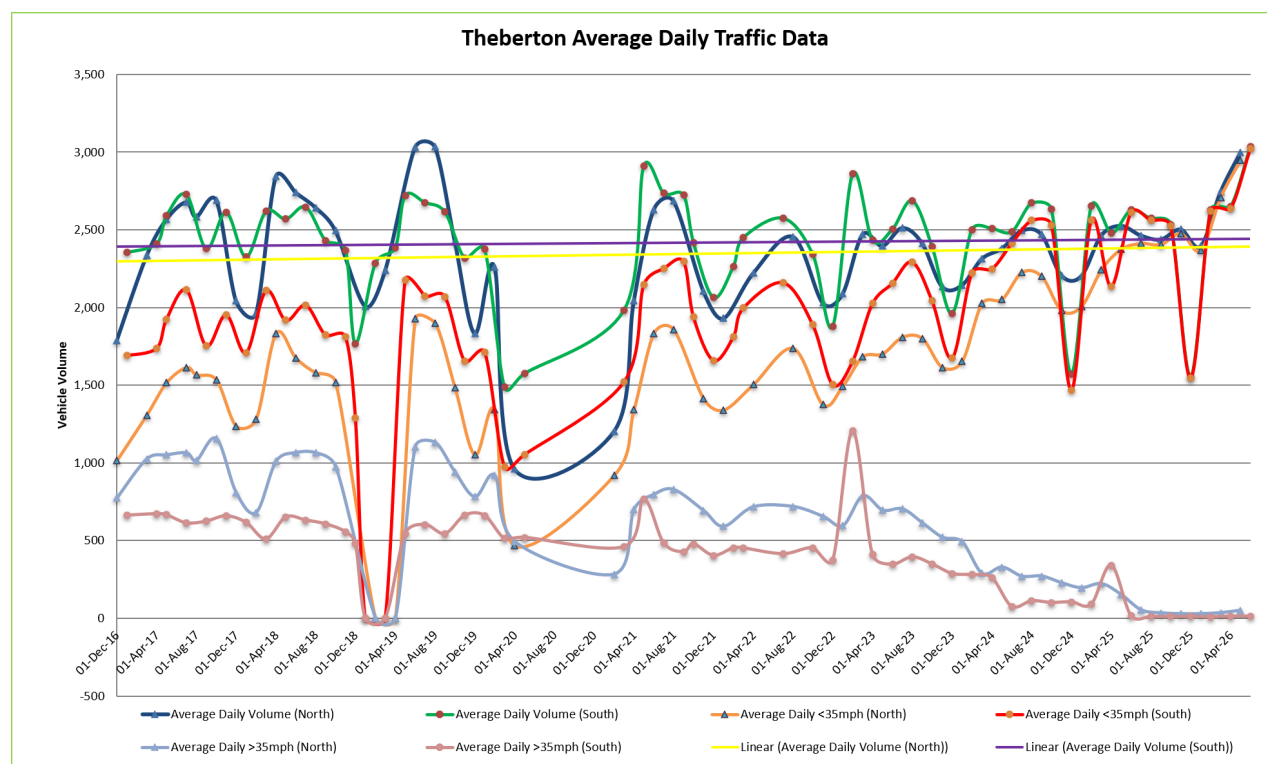
Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 22nd July 2026

The speed indicator device has been operational for one hundred and one ~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 **37.6 mph** from North and **35.3mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

The average speed cameras are now resulting in significantly lower speeds. **The reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic comes with the fact that this month only 0.4% of traffic from the South and 1.7% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 26.7% from the north and 17.4% from the south.** The fact that so few vehicles are now exceeding 35mph through the village means that the graph lines representing 'average daily volumes' and 'average daily volumes less than 35mph' are overlapping and pretty much indistinguishable from one another. The fastest vehicle this month was 65mph on 16th June at 09:30.

Whilst overall volumes had been in a slight decline (2-3%) to February, there now appears to be an increase in traffic volumes through the village. Whilst the HGV/HDV caps have been increased slightly to allow for the increasing number of worker buses from the two Park & Rides etc, one would have expected that to decrease traffic overall. Whether this increase will reflect a longer-term trend remains to be seen.



SID Start Date	18-Jun-25	18-Jul-25	16-Aug-25	13-Sep-25	16-Oct-25	15-Nov-25	17-Dec-25	14-Jan-26	13-Feb-26	15-Mar-26	14-Apr-26	14-May-26	13-Jun-26
Average Daily Volume (North)		2,464		2,439		2,503		2,395		2,744		2,997	
Average Daily Volume (South)		2,627		2,573		2,535		1,555		2,628		2,648	3,034
Total Vehicles (North)		46,816		46,336		47,561		45,495		52,131		58,432	
Total Vehicles (South)		49,911		48,883		48,158		29,550		49,930		52,964	57,652
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)		45,820		45,700		47,026		44,962		51,468		57,447	
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)		49,596		48,676		47,964		29,349		49,757		52,710	57,418
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)		996		636		535		533		662		985	
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)		315		207		194		201		173		254	234
Average Daily <35mph (North)		2,412		2,405		2,475		2,366		2,709		2,946	
Average Daily <35mph (South)		2,610		2,562		2,524		1,545		2,619		2,636	3,022
Average Daily >35mph (North)		52		33		28		28		35		51	
Average Daily >35mph (South)		17		11		10		11		9		13	12
85th percentile speed North (mph)		29.9		29.7		29.5		29.5		29.7		29.8	
85th percentile speed South (mph)		28.8		28.8		28.8		28.8		28.8		28.8	28.8

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

Appendix V – May Police Crime Report

