

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2025 AT 7:00PM.

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Hazel Collins
Cllr. Vanessa Davis
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Robert Flindall
Cllr. Stephen Morphey

Apologies for absence:

District Cllr. Tom Daly
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
Cllr. Daryl Ash - apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon - apologised
Cllr. Graham Ward - apologised

Members of the public:

No members of the public were present.

In attendance:

County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Katie Graham
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

County Cllr. Richard Smith provided an update on Suffolk County Council matters. He advised that the County Council budget process is underway where further information will be published on 2nd January, with the final decision due on 12th February 2026. He reported that the proposed mayoral elections have been postponed until 2028, a decision that was unexpected and not welcomed by local government. Uncertainty remains over whether the County Council elections scheduled for 7th May 2026 will proceed, pending a government decision expected by 20th February 2026.

In response to a question from Cllr. Vanessa Davis, Cllr. Richard Smith confirmed that he would not stand for election again if elections proceed but would remain in post should they be postponed.

Cllr. Richard Smith responded to Sizewell C matters noting ongoing concerns regarding noise disturbance from piling works and confirming that a 30mph speed limit through Eastbridge remains the Parish Council's preferred outcome and is expected to be implemented in due course. Cllr. Stephen Brett confirmed that this issue had been discussed at the most recent B1122 Early Years meeting. He confirmed that it remains County Council policy for the link road to be removed following completion of the Sizewell C development and that while strategic transport will likely fall under

mayoral responsibility, the County Council is expected to remain the highways authority. He advised that under the Development Consent Order Sizewell C holds statutory powers and must be consulted but is not required to act.

Addressing concerns about traffic volumes, potholes and mud on minor roads, Cllr. Richard Smith advised that issues should be reported via the SCC highways website. He noted that winter conditions limit permanent repairs to roads due to freezing temperatures. Traffic on the A12 is currently at busy 'summer levels' with increased use of minor roads by larger vehicles contributing to increased wear and debris on roads.

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

District Cllr. Katie Graham summarised The East Suffolk Council Report which is attached as **Appendix I**.

Cllr Stephen. Brett sought ESC's views on the Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage (SWRTS) project, noting that it is a further Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project with potential impacts on the local area. Concerns were raised that the affected areas have not yet been fully assessed, despite increasing future demand for water. It was noted that there has been no major investment in the water network for over 30 years and that the scheme is intended to supply water to northern parts of Suffolk, where shortages are already affecting the approval of planning applications.

Members noted that the pipeline is expected to be routed along the edges of fields rather than roads and that land will be reinstated with soil returned in the correct order for future use. It was also observed that the consultation process appears to be better prepared than that undertaken for Sizewell C, although detailed research has not yet commenced.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2025 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

b) Matters arising

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council of residents' concerns regarding damage to local footpaths caused by bicycles and possible motorcycle use, noting that the RSPB has previously experienced similar issues with off-road bicycles and vehicles. Particular concern was raised in relation to the footpath adjacent to Holly Tree Farm.

Members discussed mud on local roads, noting that responsibility rests with landowner. Concerns were also raised regarding the Church Road diversion, where there are frequent flooding issues and the poor condition of the crossroads at Potter's Street. Further concern was expressed about the road surface on Onners Lane towards the B1122 which appears to be deteriorating.

ACTION: Cllr. Graham Ward to inform Clerk which footpaths require maintenance from misuse by bicycles and motorbikes.

ACTION: Clerk to send link to highways report

ACTION: All councillors to fill individual Highways Report and report back to Clerk to make second highways complaint for poorly maintained roads in the parish.

5. Energy Projects

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

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised the NSIPS Report which is attached as **Appendix II**.

Cllr. Paul Collins reported that a judicial review decision is expected by midday on Friday 12th of December 2025. He also advised that the Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage (SWRTS) project, another Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project appears to not be coordinated with Sea Link or Sizewell C. Sizewell C will contribute financially in proportion to the provision of two million litres of water per day.

Cllr Stephen Brett after speaking with the Chairman of Westleton Parish Council reported concerns from residents along the B1125 regarding the connection between the B1125 and the Sizewell C link road, which may encourage traffic to use the link road and bypass Theberton. He noted existing issues with rat-running on the B1125 and advised that the Darsham Park and Ride is expected to relieve pressure once operational, with the majority of traffic likely to remain on the A12 as it will be quicker. He reported that Westleton, Middleton and other parishes along the B1125 are seeking a 40mph speed limit from Westleton to Blythburgh and wish to host a joint meeting, which Cllr. Paul Collins and Cllr. Stephen Brett plan to attend.

It was noted that Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council has made clear its desire to prevent rat-running on the B1125; however, there is no support for removing the connection to the Sizewell C link road. Any such change would require approval from the Secretary of State, a further consultation and revision of the DCO.

- b) Essex and Suffolk Water Recycling Consultation

Cllr. Paul Collins SWRTS Briefing and T&E PC Non Statutory Consultation Response are attached as **Appendix III** and **Appendix IV** respectively.

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised the T&E PC Non Statutory Consultation Response to SWRTS and informed the council that the SWRTS Non Statutory Consultation deadline had been moved to 17th of December 2025.

It was proposed Cllr. Stephen Brett by and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Morphey to agree to sign and submit the T&E PC Non Statutory Consultation Response.

ACTION: [Cllr. Paul Collins to send the T&E PC Non Statutory Consultation Response.](#)

6. Planning

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

Cllr. Robert Flindall reported that the Neighbourhood Planning Focus Group met on 24th of November to discuss potential funding through the Sizewell C Community Fund. A further meeting is scheduled for 5th of January 2026 and it was noted that the draft funding bid requires further development. He advised that no Government funding is currently available, noting that a previous £10,000 grant had supported the appointment of a planning consultant.

He also reported that a designation of Local Green Space guidance document has been published and will be considered once the Council has agreed how the Neighbourhood Plan will be delivered.

- b) To discuss planning East Suffolk Planning Application DC/25/3619/FUL, The Alders, Potters Street, Theberton

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised Planning Application DC/25/3619/FUL, The Alders, Potters Street, Theberton which proposes a single flat roof extension to the rear of the property, far from other residents' views.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Robert Flindall that no objection be raised on the basis that the application aligns with planning policy and if executed properly, should not negatively impact nearby residents.

ACTION: Clerk to submit no objection comment to DC/25/3619/FUL, The Alders, Potters Street, Theberton before 24th December

c) To discuss Moat Road Storage Yard

Cllr Robert Flindall highlighted further resident complaints regarding 24-hour lighting at the Moat Road Storage Yard, specifically strong illumination at the entrance gate. He noted that the approved planning permission includes controls over lighting. The Council acknowledged that it has no enforcement powers but can make representations on behalf of parishioners.

7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Community Council

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the council that the next meeting is due to be held on 11th of December.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak with CC at meeting on 11th as to what design seating they would like at Theberton Playing Field.

b) Sizewell C Community Fund Application

Cllr. Robert Flindall confirmed that work has taken place to narrow down projects for the application to 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) Theberton and Eastbridge Tractor

ACTION: Neighbourhood Plan and Theberton seating area, add benches for Heritage Trail SZC Community Agenda

c) Eastbridge Common

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the council that he will be speaking with Cllr. Nat Bacon to coordinate date for works to be completed at Eastbridge Common.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Nat Bacon to organise mowing of Eastbridge Common.

d) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field

Cllr Stephen Brett reported that he and Cllr. Hazel Collins would be donating two Oak Tree saplings, one for Eastbridge Playing Field and one for Theberton Playing Field. It was noted that the Eastbridge sapling is intended for the far right corner of the field and that protective casing will be required to prevent damage from mowing operations.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Hazel Collins to organise Oak tree sapling relocation.

e) Bulbs and planting for the new Church Road verge

Clerk informed council that local resident volunteers will be planting bulbs on the new Church Road verge this week.

f) Heritage Trail

The Clerk informed the Council that the Heritage Trail launch event has been postponed until spring. Members discussed potential invitees, including district and county councillors, local media (Look East, EADT, Leiston Press), residents, both village pubs, and the Waveney Bird Club. It was suggested that the event could be coordinated with a Swift Tower fundraiser and to mark the two-year anniversary of Steve Pietowski's passing. Members noted the importance of involving both pubs in the event.

ACTION: Clerk to set a reminder to chase Heritage Trail Launch Event in February for March/April 2026 date.

i) Heritage Trail Launch Event

This item has been paused until Spring 2026.

g) Speed Indicator Device

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

Volume 2,500 vehicles per 20 days.

h) October Police Crime Report

The October Police Crime Reports are attached **Appendix VI**.

i) Theberton Playing Field Maintenance

Cllr. Stephen Brett provided an update from Cllr. Nat Bacon on the ongoing maintenance of the Theberton play equipment, including items beyond those identified in the inspection report. He confirmed that all nuts and bolts on the swings and climbing frames have been checked and tightened, and that additional play bark has been ordered and will be laid when conditions are drier.

Further works identified include strimming around the goals, installing signage and a net for the basketball hoop, fitting additional bird deterrents to the swings, adding missing nut caps, and cleaning and treating wooden and metal equipment with appropriate preservative and paint when weather conditions allow.

ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon to forward invoice for additional maintenance works for Theberton Playing Field.

j) Theberton Defibrillator Replacement Torch

The clerk informed the council that the wind up torch which comes as part of the emergency kit at The Lion Inn Theberton defibrillator was no longer working. After doing some research, the charity Community Heartbeat could provide a similar replacement for £14.39 however a cheaper alternative was available on Amazon for £5.99.

Cllr. Paul Collins said he may have a suitable replacement torch which he would be happy to donate to the parish.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to see whether he has a suitable replacement wind up torch to provide as a replacement for the Theberton defibrillator.

The Council discussed the defibrillator training held in 2024 and noted the value of the session. It was suggested that a further defibrillator refresher training session be arranged for March or April, allowing sufficient time for the training to be advertised in the Yoxmere Fisherman and the Parish newsletter.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate dates for defibrillator training course in March or April 2026.

k) Outstanding Actions List

The Clerk summarised the outstanding actions list, no further actions were required.

8. Devolution Consultation

- a) One Suffolk Consultation – deadline 11th January 2026

A discussion with regards devolution and local government reorganisation took place earlier in the meeting.

9. Parish Matters

- a) None

None.

10. Administration

- a) To discuss Precept Planning Projections 2026/2027 – deadline 26th January 2026

Clerk reported on the projected 2026/2027 precept and explained that due to the intention to gain grant funding from the Sizewell C Community Fund the Parosh Council income for 2026/2027 would likely be over £25,000 and therefore require an additional mandatory external audit.

Several factors remain under consideration prior to the precept submission deadline of 26th January 2026.

- b) To conduct the annual review of the Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Risk Assessment.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and to approve the annual Risk Assessment review. All in favour.

[ACTION: Clerk to add the annual Risk Assessment to the Parish Council website.](#)

- c) To agree to appoint the Suffolk Association of Local Councils as internal auditor.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and appoint Suffolk Association of Local Councils as internal auditor. All in favour.

11. Finance

- a) To note the latest financial position

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

- b) To note the correction to the earmarked reserve to the November financial position

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Hazel Collins and it was noted that the correction to the earmarked reserve to the November financial position and for the new document to be a true record. All in favour.

- c) To ratify the following payment:

| Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|--------------|-------|--------|----------------|
| Clerk's PAYE | HMRC | 331.16 | LGA 1972 s.112 |

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

d) To authorise the following payments:

| Details | Payee | Amount | Power |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|
| Clerk's Salary | Honor Houlding | £391.17 | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| Broadband | BT | £31.14 | LGA 1972 s.19 |
| .gov Mailbox | Community Action Suffolk | £27.00 | LGA 1972 s.142 |
| Theberton Playing Field Repairs | Ward Farming | £407.46 | PHA 1875 s.164 |

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Morphey and it was agreed to authorise the payments listed above. All in favour.

The Clerk also informed the council of a payment of £13.98 for pigeon spikes for the Theberton Playing Field swing due to be paid to Cllr. Paul Collins as an expense and confirmed that the payment would be added to January's meeting Agenda.

[ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment of £13.98 as expenses to Cllr. Paul Collins.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to add ratified payment of £13.98 to January's Agenda.](#)

12. Correspondence

To review the correspondence received between 12th November and 8th of December and take action as appropriate.

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

[ACTION: Clerk to request SZC attendance to the Parish Council's January meeting to discuss traffic monitoring and upcoming works.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to update January meeting date on website to the third week in January, Wednesday 21st January 2026.](#)

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

Cllr. Stephen Morphey reported that the signage on the B1122 for Eastbridge Road may have been hit by a road user and was set at a jaunty angle.

Cllr. Stephen Brett confirmed the signage had been noticed and re set straight. No further actions.

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 21st January 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding

Parish Clerk

Meeting Ended at: 20.45

Appendix I – East Suffolk County Council Report

Tackling health inequalities in East Suffolk

A new collaborative approach to tackling health inequalities affecting East Suffolk residents has been launched, with partners working together to improve people's access to health services, education, employment and housing.

The East Suffolk Marmot Place was officially launched on Thursday 27 November at High Lodge in Hinton and was attended by representatives from the main partner organisations; East Suffolk Council, Suffolk County Council and both the NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB and NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICBs which cover East Suffolk.

Health inequalities are unfair and avoidable differences in people's health, including how long people are likely to live, the health conditions they experience and the care available to them. A Marmot Place recognises that health inequalities are shaped by people's living, learning and working conditions, sometimes known as the 'social determinants of health' and include people's access to services, education, employment and housing.

At the launch of the East Suffolk Marmot Place, Sir Michael Marmot delivered a presentation on health inequalities in the district, delegates took part in a workshop looking at the key data around those inequalities and then heard from a range of experts working first hand to tackle them. The event closed with a talk from Alicia Phillips from the Institute of Health Equity about the Coventry Marmot Place and what becoming a Marmot Place means in practice.

Cllr Caroline Topping, Leader of East Suffolk Council said: "Meeting Sir Michael has been one of the most humbling of highlights of being Leader of East Suffolk Council. He and his team are an inspiration.

"Achieving health equity for our residents requires improving the conditions which shape their lives and this requires a joint approach. By working with partner organisations across the district, we will focus on tackling root causes of health inequalities, deliver better health outcomes and create communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive."

Marmot Places were developed after an independent report by Professor Sir Michael Marmot in 2010, commissioned by the then government, identified the most effective ways to reduce health inequalities in England using a set of eight principles:

- Give every child the best start in life.
- Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives.
- Create fair employment and good work for all.
- Ensure a healthy standard of living for all.
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities.
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention.
- Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes.
- Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together.

More than 50 areas across England, Wales and Scotland have already signed up to be Marmot Places; 37 of them are local councils and East Suffolk is the latest area to join.

Extended free Wi-Fi network helping more people stay connected

Extensions to East Suffolk Council's free Wi-Fi network in four of the district's market towns have proven popular with residents and visitors, with data showing a large increase in sign-ups to the service.

The existing free to use Wi-Fi networks in Aldeburgh, Halesworth, Leiston and Saxmundham were all extended earlier this year for the benefit of residents, visitors and businesses. Data collected shows a significant increase in registrations to the service since the extensions were launched, with an 86% increase in Saxmundham and a 73% in Aldeburgh.

Cllr Tim Wilson, East Suffolk's cabinet member for Economic Development and Transport said: "Our free Wi-Fi is available across East Suffolk as part of the Digital Towns programme which supports our market towns and businesses by strengthening the local economy and improving connectivity.

"The extensions to the Wi-Fi coverage in Aldeburgh, Halesworth, Leiston and Saxmundham mean more of the main shopping areas are now covered and we hope this will encourage more people to visit and stay longer, supporting local businesses."

"As well as free public Wi-Fi, the Digital Towns programme provides information on the number of visitors to each town, identifying the busiest times of day and where people visit most frequently and this enables us to offer tailored support to local businesses."

When visitors register for the free Wi-Fi, they can also choose to receive a quarterly email newsletter highlighting local events and information.

East Suffolk Free Wi-Fi is also available in Beccles, Bungay, Felixstowe, Framlingham, Lowestoft, Southwold and Woodbridge.

The Wi-Fi equipment is provided and managed on the Council's behalf by Elephant Wi-Fi.

Find out more, including details of the areas covered by the free Wi-Fi in each town, at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/east-suffolk-free-wi-fi

The extension in Aldeburgh went live in May 2025 and has seen a 73% increase in registrations compared to registrations before the extension. Leiston and Saxmundham also went live in May, with a 66% increase and 86% increase respectively. The extension in Halesworth went live in July and has so far seen a 24% increase in registrations.

[ESC Local Impact Report on NGET Sea Link](#)

East Suffolk Council submitted its Local Impact Report to the Planning Inspectorate on 18th November as part of the examination for Sea Link, a proposed high voltage undersea electricity link between Suffolk and Kent.

The full report can be accessed here:

[EN020026-001182-East Suffolk Council - Local Impact Report - 18.11.25.pdf](#)

The Local Impact Report lays out the detail outlined in the Council's earlier Relevant Representation submitted in June. It was informed by external legal counsel and supplemented with the concerns of Parish and Town councils who were invited to feed into the Council's response.

East Suffolk Council's position to the project remains one of objection, citing unsatisfactory engagement on the part of the developer, and challenging the need case for the development.

The Council argues that consent for this development is premature. The original requirement for Sea Link rested on the stated need to transport excess electricity from Suffolk generated by Sizewell C or brought onshore by the undersea cable interconnectors Lion Link and Nautilus. Nautilus has since that time moved its connection to the Isle of Grain, Lion Link has not yet been consented, and Sizewell C is 10-12 years away from operation. There is time to examine alternative approaches, and ESC repeats its request of government to carry out a full cost benefit analysis of all options for coordination available, including exploration of greater offshore coordination.

It is the view of ESC that due to a government steer in presumption of favour of infrastructure projects aiding Net Zero targets, the developer has taken a light touch approach to this consultation process and missed out genuine

opportunities of coordination with other projects, even those under its own umbrella company National Grid. This is unacceptable at a time when East Suffolk is already absorbing significant disruption and impacts to its environment, economy and communities from other NSIPs, notably Sizewell C.

As an example, the developer NGET chose the Saxmundham converter station site on the basis that it could co-locate with the converter station for NGV Lion Link. However, Sea Link has missed an opportunity to coordinate construction timelines with Lion Link, currently 12-18 months behind, and will neither share cable ducts, necessitating more land required and more construction impacts. This is co-location, and not genuine coordination.

The fact that NGET have sought to distance themselves from NGV in terms of co-ordination when both are owned by the same company bearing in mind the damage that both projects will cause to the area is insulting. Genuine co-ordination would not only help to reduce the huge burden on local communities and statutory consultees imposed by the consenting process, but it would also allow the robust consideration of the design and cumulative impacts of the projects.

The Council has also shared concerns about the landfall site between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness, highlighting the impacts to tourism and recreational use from the closure of Thorpe Road during construction. NGET have chosen to bring their cables onshore across an area of ecological importance, passing under the Leiston to Aldeburgh SSSI and North Warren RSPB reserve. ESC maintains that any cable crossing in this area is extremely sensitive, even where trenchless techniques are used such as Horizontal Direct Drilling, where there is a risk of frack out and impacts to habitat. At the planned Friston substation site, ESC raise alarm at the potential for mitigation previously agreed for Scottish Power's substation to be undone by Sea Link's own cable routes into the site.

The report highlights the mental health of our communities, the unacceptable proposal by NGET of a seven day construction week, the strain and lack of transparency posed by multiple consultations across energy infrastructure projects and the cumulative construction impacts of successive projects over an extended timeline.

Findings are included from an independent survey commissioned by ward councillors into the emotional wellbeing of residents in post codes affected by planned or consented energy projects, which found that "57% of residents [in the Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham area] feel that local energy projects are a barrier to their mental wellbeing to some extent". Some recurrent themes cited from this report showed adverse impacts from • perceived poor communication with NSIP developers; • the change and loss of habitats and green spaces in the local area; • feelings of insecurity, including financial insecurity, regarding the impacts of the NSIPs; and • increased anxiety and stress, including due to concerns about their housing situation and impacts on the local environment.

ESC continues to lobby the government on the need for a more strategic approach to energy generation along its coastline.

Appendix II – Cllr. Paul Collins NSIPS Report

1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

We are working with one of our collaborators to look at the funding details following the FID closure and will update our findings once complete.

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 for the morning of 9th 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.

I'm attending the session at the Royal Courts of Justice and will update the Parish Council at our meeting on Wednesday.

Further details on the challenge 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

Nothing to report. Minutes of a recent meeting have been distributed by Honor.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

We are still awaiting a final set of plans for the various road changes between Theberton and Eastbridge and reflecting the removal of the one-way system for Onners Lane.

Church Road/B1122 junction work is now complete.

The next Community Forum is on 19th March 2026, Northern Transport Forum is on 4th February 2026 and Main Site Forum on Wednesday 14th January 2026.

5. Sea Link Interconnector - Development Consent Order Examination

National Grid Energy Transmission are being very late in submitting documents responses to the Examining Authority resulting in a Rule 17 notice from the ExA admonishing NGET's performance and reminding them that they may become liable for any additional costs incurred by any Interested Party to the examination.

A spreadsheet has been created of all of the documents submitted to the Sea Link DCO hearing and is available at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1d_v0-UE301clpsUyGnppu5iCwOBACwhVI4xTITgnBIU/htmlview

6. Scottish Power Wind Farms and Friston Substation

Various preparatory works and archaeology are now being undertaken.

7. LionLink (formerly EuroLink) – National Grid Ventures

The statutory consultation for LionLink will start in January 2026 and will last until March 2026.

8. Solar Farms/Battery Storage

Nothing further at this time.

9. Hydrogen East/Capital Hydrogen

No further information at this time.

10. Suffolk Water Recycling and Transfer Scheme

The initial consultation on this scheme to implement the approved local Strategic Water Resource Management Plan 2024 via a first of a kind (for the UK) Waste Water Recycling plant, with enhanced pipework and storage reservoirs, is due for a response by midnight on 10th December. A briefing document and proposed consultation response are attached separately.

The proposed response is limited in scope to the proposed supply routes from Saxmundham Water Tower to the Sizewell C main platform.

Honor has also separately distributed materials from Essex and Suffolk Water and information events have been held in Leiston and Saxmundham of the past few weeks, one of which I attended.

Appendix III – Cllr. Paul Collins T&EPC SWRTS Briefing

The SWRTS Project is a National Strategic Infrastructure Project (NSIP) which will eventually have to go through a Development Consent Order application and examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

It has been determined as necessary for a number of reasons.

- The Environment Agency reduced the allowable abstraction limits for all bore holes and rivers in this area (Waveney in particular) as the current rates are unsustainable.
- Whilst there is sufficient supplies for residential supply in the coming years, there is insufficient for industrial and business premises going forward and at the moment there is a moratorium on new and expanded requests for water supply from businesses.
- In order to supply the additional need and to create some supply headroom for residential requirements as well, 11 million litres per day of potable water recycled from wastewater taken from the Lowestoft Sewage Works will be supplied to the network.
- Of this 2 million litres per day are required at Sizewell C, so even without SZC, the need is significant in this area.

The project is now in Preliminary Non-Statutory Consultation and responses are due by midnight 10th December.

There will be a further statutory consultation in 2027 when various options have been eliminated or settled upon (see below).

The anticipated schedule for the project is as follows;

- 29 Oct 2025 – 10 December 2025 – Non-statutory consultation
- Q3 2026 – Announcement of preferred pipeline route and other infrastructure
- Mid/Late 2026 – Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Submission
- Mid 2027 – Statutory Public Consultation
- Early/Mid 2028 – DCO Application
- 2029 – Start of construction

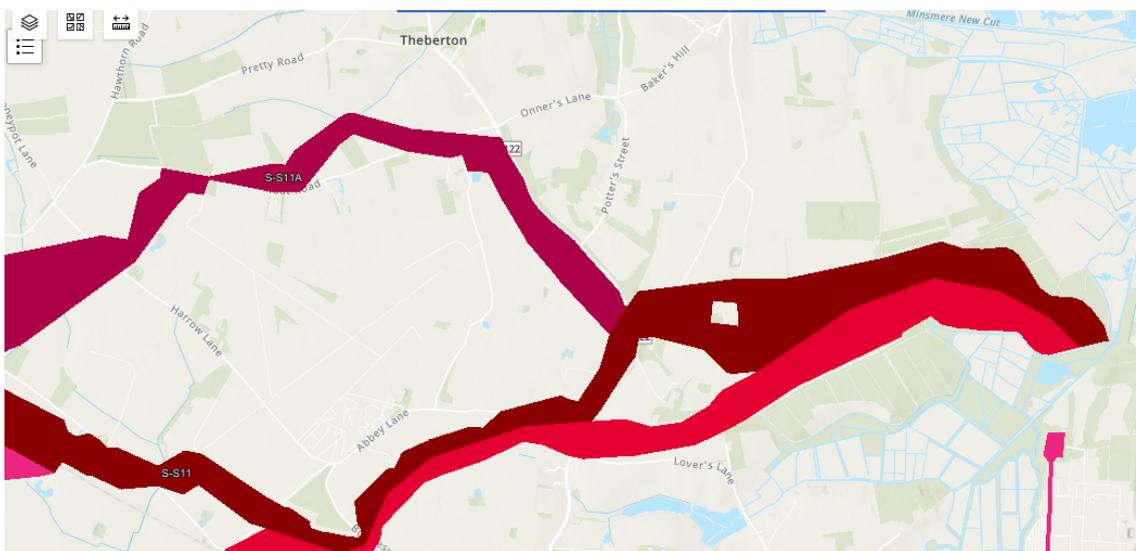
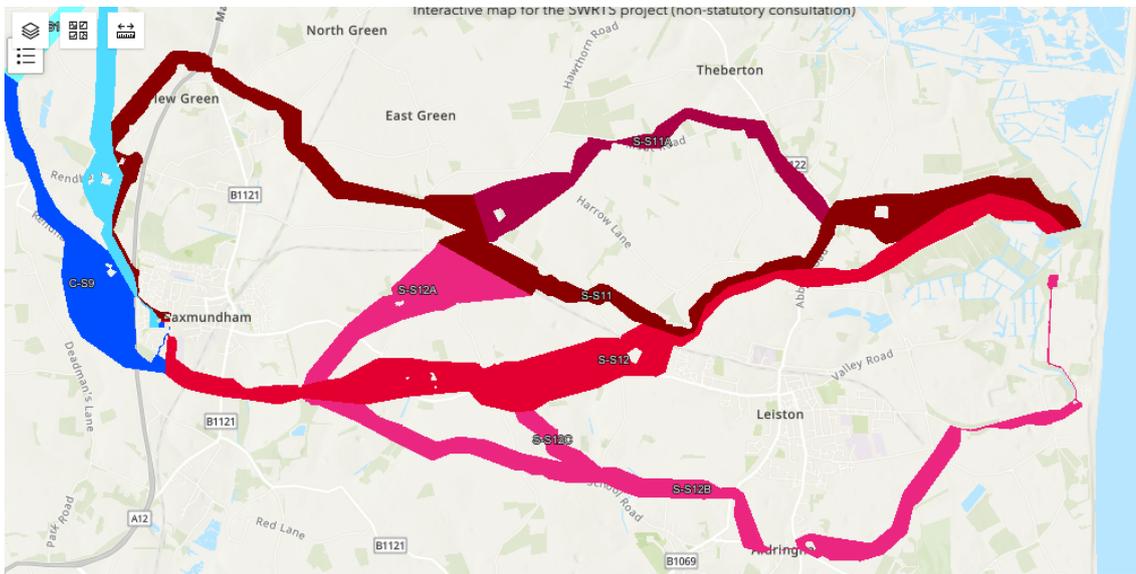
To achieve this the recycled water will be pumped into the Waveney and then abstracted for final treatment at the Barsham Water Works before being pumped into the new pipelines to the two areas that are in need of additional water supplies, which are near Eye and our area served from the Saxmundham Water Tower.

As part of this project, there are also two new underground reservoirs to be built near Eye and Sibton Green.

The vast majority of this project is well outside of our parish but the connection to Sizewell C from the Saxmundham Water Tower may cross the Parish depending upon which final route is selected.

There is another separate project that is just beginning to be planned for a large open primary reservoir for storage of winter rainfall in north Suffolk but this will not directly affect us.

Below are two maps of the overall pipeline options between Saxmundham Water Tower and Sizewell and a second closer view of the section around Theberton.



The S11A northerly route reaches Moat Road near Theberton Woods crosses to the SLR behind Theberton then follows the SLR/B1122 to the SZC site main entrance at the top of Eastbridge Road and enters the SZC site.

The S11 southern route comes from Clayhills across to Buckleswood Road, follows the SZC Green rail route to the B1122 and then goes alongside the B1122 to the main entrance roundabout at Eastbridge Road and into the SZC site.

The final route S12 is all outside of the Parish but crosses Buckleswood Road, as for S11, but follows the Green rail route all the way into the site.

Only S-S11A significantly enters the parish and perhaps would be our least favourable. Also, S-S11 at its western end from Saxmundham Water Tower up to Kelsale and across to Clayhills Road is also likely to be opposed by Kelsale cum Carlton as well and is one of the least direct overall routes.

I suggest we respond that given all the other disruption and works due to the SLR and the proposed Lion Link cable route we regard S-S11A as the least favourable and that we think that the pipeline route S-S12 for Sizewell following the existing Green rail route directly into site from Buckleswood Road, in order to cause the minimum of additional disruption.

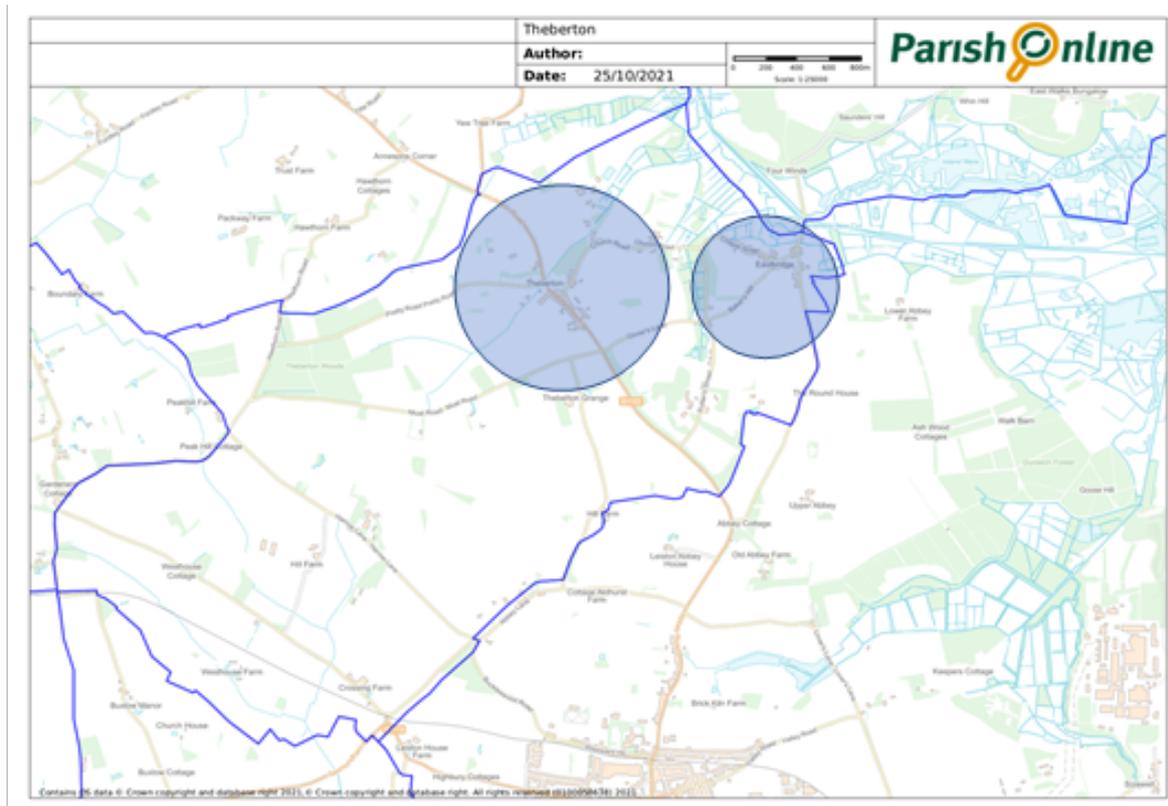
It would also be acceptable that the very final stretch from the Abbey Lane/B1122 junction opposite Lovers Lane could be installed below the temporary Bridleway 19 route, west of and parallel to the B1122 to the SZC main entrance roundabout at the top of Eastbridge Road before proceeding to the SZC SSSI crossing and onto the SZC platform.

I propose that we use the summary above as our response to the consultation which I've attached as a separate document for approval.

**SUFFOLK WATER RECYCLING, TRANSFER AND STORAGE PROJECT
NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

RESPONSE FROM THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL (T&EPC)

Introduction



Theberton

Theberton is a small village of approximately 170 people and 90 houses mostly straddling the B1122. It is about 4 miles north of the proposed Sizewell C (SZC) large twin reactor site. The proposed entrance to the main site will be approximately 1 mile from the village entrance sign. Within the village of Theberton there is St Peters Church, a Grade I listed thatched roof church with an unusual round tower, a Grade II listed public house, a village hall, two working farms, a cattery, a small business selling wild bird and other animal feeds, a small caravan park and other places to stay for visitors to enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside. The successful village hall offers many activities and classes to the community and surrounding areas.

Eastbridge

Eastbridge is a tranquil hamlet of around 70 people and 40 houses nestled in a rural landscape with no street signs or speed limits. It borders the Minsmere River which cuts through an area of important wetland known as the Minsmere Levels forming part of the Minsmere - Walberswick Heaths and Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), which is also the location of RSPB Minsmere Reserve. Within Eastbridge there is a public house, the Eels Foot Inn, a working farm, a certified and a basic campsite, for visitors to enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside. Many local people and visitors enjoy the circular walk from Eastbridge to the Minsmere sluice to reach the Suffolk Heritage Coast and the sea returning through RSPB Minsmere or via National Trust's Dunwich Coastguards Cottages.

Both villages are chiefly agricultural, and people live there historically or by choice for the tranquility, dark skies, and the proximity to the Suffolk Heritage Coast. The two villages are linked by single track lanes with walks in the countryside characterised by open skies, arable and livestock farms, pheasants, partridge, owls, marsh harriers, buzzards, bittern, deer, bats and other wildlife. Residents and visitors enjoy the proximity to RSPB's flagship nature reserve at Minsmere with the Leiston Long Shop Museum, National Trust Dunwich Heath, Aldeburgh, Walberswick and Southwold within easy reach.

1. Response

- 1.1 Our major concern is that all the National Strategic Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) need to collectively minimize their impact within Suffolk on all National Landscape areas and the various Nationally and Internationally designated sites that are a particular characteristic in the area surrounding Leiston and Saxmundham including the various outlying villages such as, Aldringham, Sizewell, Theberton and Eastbridge.
- 1.2 We are also concerned that the increasing levels of industrialization both on the coast and the immediate hinterland through Sizewell A, B and C, windfarm, interconnector landfalls and converter stations are already impacting the ongoing efforts to have the East Coast of the UK and in particular Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk to be designated as a World Heritage site known as the East Atlantic Flyway.
- 1.3 Whilst we understand the water stress already experienced in this area and the need to address the shortfall in water availability already identified in the Water Resources Management Plan 2024 and approved by OFWAT, with so many NSIPs either approved and under development or in the process of being examined for approval, we are concerned that the inevitable cumulative impacts of all these projects be minimized. Our response reflects that concern.
- 1.4 Our response concerns only those potential connection routes between the Saxmundham Water Tower and the Sizewell C development which requires 2 million litres of potable water per day during its commissioning and 60 year operation.
- 1.5 Several of the routes are located within the Parish or on its borders.
- 1.6 We have looked at the various routes (S-S11, S-S11A, S-S12, S-S12A, S-S12B and S-S12C) our preference is for the route to be as short as possible, whilst avoiding additional impacts on land that is not currently being used or proposed to be used in the other NSIPs (Scottish Power Windfarms, Sizewell C, SeaLink and LionLink).

2. Conclusion

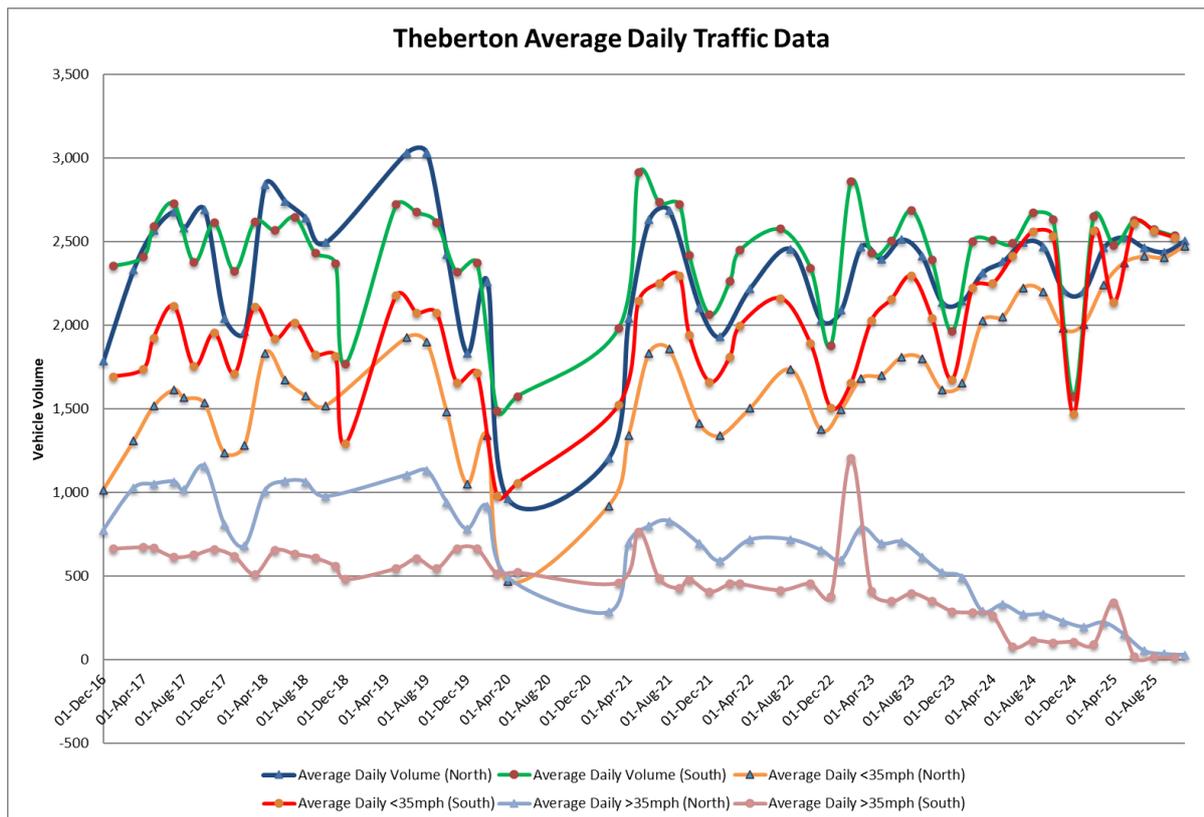
- 2.1 Our conclusion is that route S-S12 reflects this position as it ends up entering the existing Sizewell C temporary construction area alongside the Green Rail Route from Buckleswood Road on its way to the SSSI crossing onto the SZC platform.
- 2.2 It would also be acceptable that the very final stretch from the Abbey Lane/B1122 junction opposite Lovers Lane could be installed below the temporary Bridleway 19 route, west of and parallel to the B1122 to the SZC main entrance roundabout at the top of Eastbridge Road before proceeding to the SZC SSSI crossing and onto the SZC platform.

Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 10th December 2025

The speed indicator device has been operational for ninety-four ~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 **38.1mph** from North and **35.9mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

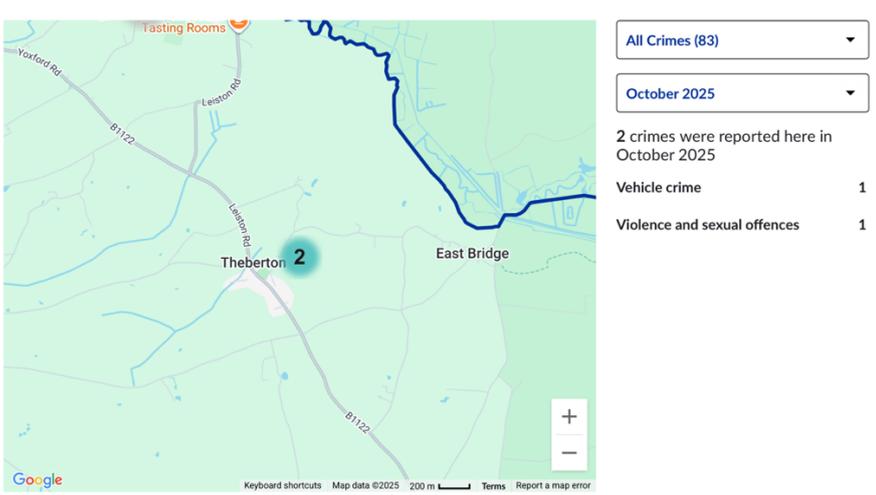
The average speed cameras are now resulting in significantly lower speeds. **The slow reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic comes with the fact that now only 0.4% of traffic from the South and 1.1% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 28.4% from the north and 18.8% from the south.**



| SID Start Date | 20-Nov-24 | 20-Dec-24 | 21-Jan-25 | 18-Feb-25 | 22-Mar-25 | 22-Apr-25 | 20-May-25 | 18-Jun-25 | 18-Jul-25 | 16-Aug-25 | 13-Sep-25 | 16-Oct-25 | 15-Nov-25 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Average Daily Volume (North) | 2,207 | 1,573 | 2,202 | 2,652 | 2,464 | 2,478 | 2,526 | 2,627 | 2,464 | 2,573 | 2,439 | 2,535 | 2,503 |
| Average Daily Volume (South) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Vehicles (North) | 44,146 | | 41,845 | | 49,273 | | 48,000 | | 46,816 | | 46,336 | | 47,561 |
| Total Vehicles (South) | | 29,882 | | 58,350 | | 47,072 | | 49,911 | | 48,883 | | 48,158 | |
| Total Vehicles <35mph (North) | 39,593 | | 38,125 | | 44,829 | | 45,121 | | 45,820 | | 45,700 | | 47,026 |
| Total Vehicles <35mph (South) | | 27,888 | | 56,369 | | 40,589 | | 49,596 | | 48,676 | | 47,964 | |
| Total Vehicles >35mph (North) | 4,553 | | 3,720 | | 4,444 | | 2,879 | | 996 | | 636 | | 535 |
| Total Vehicles >35mph (South) | | 1,994 | | 1,981 | | 6,483 | | 315 | | 207 | | 194 | |
| Average Daily <35mph (North) | 1,980 | | 2,007 | | 2,241 | | 2,375 | | 2,412 | | 2,405 | | 2,475 |
| Average Daily <35mph (South) | | 1,468 | | 2,562 | | 2,136 | | 2,610 | | 2,562 | | 2,524 | |
| Average Daily >35mph (North) | 228 | | 196 | | 222 | | 152 | | 52 | | 33 | | 28 |
| Average Daily >35mph (South) | | 105 | | 90 | | 341 | | 17 | | 11 | | 10 | |
| 85th percentile speed North (mph) | 34.1 | | 33.7 | | 33.8 | | 32.7 | | 29.9 | | 29.7 | | 29.5 |
| 85th percentile speed South (mph) | | 32.1 | | 29.8 | | 29.9 | | 28.8 | | 28.8 | | 28.8 | |
| % <35mph (North) | 89.7% | | 91.1% | | 91.0% | | 94.0% | | 97.9% | | 98.6% | | 98.9% |
| % <35mph (South) | | 93.3% | | 96.6% | | 86.2% | | 99.4% | | 99.6% | | 99.6% | |
| % >35mph (North) | 10.3% | | 8.9% | | 9.0% | | 6.0% | | 2.1% | | 1.4% | | 1.1% |
| % >35mph (South) | | 6.7% | | 3.4% | | 13.8% | | 0.6% | | 0.4% | | 0.4% | |

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

Appendix VI – October Police Crime Report



There were 2 crimes to report in Theberton in October 2025:

