

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL,
THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE 2026 AT 7:45 PM

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Graham Ward
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Robert Flindall
Cllr. Hazel Collins

Apologies for absence:

District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Katie Graham
Cllr. Vanessa Davis- apologised
Cllr. Daryl Ash – apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon- apologised

Members of the public:

No members of the public were present

In attendance:

Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO
County Cllr. John Matthews
District Cllr. Tom Daly

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

No members of the public were present.

- b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr. Stephen Brett congratulated County Cllr. John Matthews on his recent election success.

County Cllr. John Matthews provided an update on his current work and committee responsibilities, including the Suffolk County Council Pension Fund and Scrutiny Committee. He noted that work relating to the Blyth Estuary involves balancing the interests of 21 parish councils and that recent boundary changes have added to this complexity. He also advised that many enquiries from residents continue to relate to traffic management and road closures.

Cllr. John Matthews reported on a presentation by the CEO of Sizewell C at the Suffolk Show, noting that the update focused on the project's positive progress and anticipated 10 year programme, including the creation of apprenticeships. He also referenced plans for approximately 110 homes near Emmerdale Farm Shop in Darsham, which had been approved by the Parish Councils Chairman's casting vote. Concerns remain regarding supporting infrastructure, particularly the lack of adequate sewage provision.

Concerns were raised about the impact of road closures on businesses within the parish, highlighting inaccurate temporary road signage and the proposed overnight closures of the B1122 during the harvest period. Cllr. Stephen Brett noted that while advice is being provided to affected businesses, no compensation is currently available despite sustained lobbying by the Parish Council.

Members discussed the issue, with Cllr. Brett confirming that letters had been sent to the Sizewell C CEO and MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter but had received the same response that no compensation scheme exists. County Cllr. Matthews acknowledged the concerns and commented that, given the scale and cost of the project, there should be a mechanism to compensate businesses for financial losses. He encouraged the Parish Council to continue applying pressure on the relevant organisations.

- c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

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

District Cllr. Tom Daly reported that there had been some issues with the new waste collection regime and advised that residents experiencing issues with food waste collections could use their general waste bin where necessary.

He informed members that consultation on the new Local Plan had opened and would run until 29th July 2026, encouraging both councillors and residents to participate.

Cllr. Tom Daly provided an update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), explaining that unitary authorities typically result in parish and town councils receiving greater responsibilities, funding and budgetary controls. He emphasised the importance of engaging with the process, noting that it will influence future governance, development and local infrastructure.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate [ESC LGR website link with the council](#)

Members discussed the opportunities and challenges this could present. Cllr. Stephen Brett expressed concern that additional responsibilities could place further pressure on already stretched parish councils, while Cllr. Paul Collins noted that councillor roles are voluntary and asked whether guidance on potential new responsibilities would be available. Cllr. Tom Daly advised that different models exist across the country and encouraged councils to view the changes as an opportunity.

County Cllr. John Matthews advised that the implementation of LGR had been delayed following judicial reviews in Suffolk and Norfolk. Cllr. Stephen Brett requested a briefing outlining the benefits and responsibilities for parish councils, expressing concern that increasing demands and reduced representation could discourage people from becoming councillors.

Cllr. Tom Daly also advised that funding is available for cycle parking projects through parish and town councils and noted that local bus usage has increased by approximately 15% to 30%.

Cllr. Hazel Collins asked whether hard plastics could be recycled at local recycling centres. Cllr. Tom Daly agreed to investigate and report back to the clerk.

ACTION: Cllr. Tom Daly to follow up on [hard plastic recycling availability at recycling centres](#)

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2026 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

- b) To approve as accurate the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 13th May 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and agreed that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2026 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

c) Matters arising

None.

4. Energy Projects

a) To receive an update from Cllr. Paul Collins

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

The Council discussed the new village gateway signage proposed as part of the B1122 Early Years Plan, noting that the installed features do not reflect the original approved specifications. Members were advised that gateway signs are scheduled to be installed on both sides of the road.

Cllr. Graham Ward also highlighted the newly laid raised footway crossing on the B1122 close to the front of The Lion Inn and questioned whether this formed part of the original B1122 Early Years Plan.

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to check secondary crossing to South of village beyond the pub have been installed as per the B1122 Early Year Plans.](#)

b) To discuss planning application: SCC/0090/26/DoR - Sizewell C Nuclear Power Station

Cllr. Robert Flindall proposed that nonmaterial amendments be accepted in relation to the change of use of land from an industrial estate to a steel fabricating facility, noting this would have a reduced impact compared with the previously proposed permissions. Members raised a query regarding whether accommodation originally proposed for the site would now be relocated to Pakefield, alongside proposals for approximately 340 touring pitches in Lowestoft. Concerns were also raised regarding the potential location of pitches should the application not proceed. It was further noted that there are approximately 600 caravan and lodge spaces proposed at Pakefield.

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to research whether Pakefield have already had approval for 340 pitches at Pakefield site.](#)

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins that there was no objection to the application and therefore no response to be submitted. All in favour.

Cllr. Stephen Brett provided an update on public rights of way to the rear of Theberton following discussions with local farmers. It was reported that no closures are proposed for footpaths within the parish. A diversion is being considered for the route behind Doughty Wylie in liaison with Suffolk County Council Public Rights of Way team, which was viewed positively. It was also noted that Moat Road may remain open to the B1122 for seasonal agricultural access to help local farmers.

c) Litter picking around SZC sites

The Clerk reported that there was no update at this time regarding progress with litter picking provided by Sizewell C. It was noted that a team has been working from a truck undertaking a survey of Church Lane to clean the road. They intend to clean Church Lane, Potters Street and the top of Eastbridge Road within the next few weeks.

[ACTION: Clerk to write to SZC to request litter picking to take place whilst road closures are in place.](#)

d) BT Open Reach joint meeting with Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council and SZC

Cllr. Stephen Brett advised that Openreach have been invited to attend the Parish Council meeting on 22nd July, although attendance has not yet been confirmed.

8. Planning

a) To discuss planning application: 2 & 6 of DC/26/1607/VOC - Storage Yard, Moat Road

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised the update relating to planning application DC/26/1607/VOC – Storage Yard, Moat Road.

The council discussed the submitted lighting statement, including ecological lighting considerations and potential risks to existing biodiversity. It was noted that the report concluded no further lighting considerations were required from the ecological surveyor.

Members also discussed the objection raised by the Environmental Authority regarding onsite generators and noise compliance, which prompted further debate. It was noted that all points attached to the original planning permission had been addressed, however existing uses would still need to comply with the original planning conditions.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins to submit a no objection response provided that all conditions attached to the original planning permission are fully implemented and adhered to. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to submit response to planning application: 2 & 6 of DC/26/1607/VOC - Storage Yard, Moat Road

b) To discuss planning application: DC/26/1494/FUL change of use, Doughty Wylie Crescent, Theberton

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised planning application DC/26/1494/FUL relating to a proposed change of use at Doughty Wylie Crescent, Theberton.

The council discussed the comments submitted by SCC Highways, noting concerns that the application did not adequately address vehicle access requirements, including onsite parking and turning arrangements.

Cllr. Stephen Brett raised concerns regarding the proposed parking provision, noting that whilst space was indicated for five vehicles to park, there appeared to be insufficient room for vehicles to safely manoeuvre and exit the site. Members also discussed the existing parking pressures within Doughty Wylie Crescent and the new development could lead to further overspill parking within an already fully capacitated area. Members debated the potential for fly parking within Doughty Wylie Close, which is private land.

Further issues were raised regarding potential noise and nuisance, the intensive nature of the proposed use and the impact on the rural character of the village. Members also noted concerns regarding the poor access onto the B1122.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins that the council objects to the application on the grounds highlighted by SCC Highways, including parking, access on to the B1122 and potential noise and nuisance concerns.

ACTION: Clerk to submit response to planning application: DC/26/1494/FUL change of use, Doughty Wylie Crescent, Theberton

c) Suffolk Preservation Society - Neighbourhood Planning Study Day 16th May 2026

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised his attendance at Suffolk Preservation Society Neighbourhood Planning Study Day 16th May 2026.

ACTION: Paul Collins to send slides from Suffolk Preservation Society Neighbourhood Planning Study Day.

ACTION: Clerk to add Local Plan and Paul's attendance to briefing to July agenda.

9. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Community Council

There was no update available from the Community Councils most recent meeting. The Clerk referred to the Sizewell C Community Fund application in relation to the Community Council and advised that a meeting will be arranged with the Community Council Chairman to assist in progressing the application.

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

The Clerk summarised recent correspondence regarding the tractor application form for the Sizewell C Community Fund. It was noted that three quotations are required, however only one had been submitted to date for the John Deere tractor. Cllr. Stephen Brett is currently liaising with local suppliers to obtain the remaining quotations, who have indicated they are happy to assist. Further information is now awaited from the Sizewell C Community Fund.

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. Robert Flindall reported that a focus group met on Monday 8th of June to discuss potential projects ahead of the 5th of July deadline for the Sizewell C Community Fund Large Grant application. He summarised the ideas for funding and presented them to the Council for consideration.

Members noted proposals relating to the craft group and bowls, alongside improvements including a new kitchen, which would be included under the Community Council application.

Further suggestions included allotments, with potential infill following the SLR and any future developments, and the creation of additional green space, which could also be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was also suggested that a local history project be developed, involving conversations with residents to record and preserve local knowledge, with the intention of contributing material to public archives.

ACTION: Cllr. Robert Flindall to send list of ideas for funding application to be recorded in minutes to Clerk.

ACTION: Cllr. Hazel Collins to obtain quote for electricity and water connection.

d) Heritage Trail Launch Event – 20th June 2026

The clerk summarised the list of actions and responsibilities ahead of the Heritage Trail Launch Event on the 20th of June 2026.

The Council considered quotations from Leiston Press for a Foamex board of the Heritage Trail Map for unveiling at the event, at a cost of £86.00. Members also discussed the purchase of A4 Heritage Trail leaflets for attendees.

It was agreed to purchase the Foamex board and 100 leaflets, with any remaining copies to be made available in local pubs for visitors and tourists wishing to complete the Heritage Trail.

It was proposed Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded Cllr. Graham Ward to approve the purchase of the Foamex board for unveiling and 100 Heritage Trail leaflets for the event to be held on 20th June 2026. All in favour

ACTION: Clerk to instruct Leiston Press to commence printing of Heritage Trail Foamex board and 100 leaflets for the Heritage Trail Event.

- i) To approve the Heritage Launch Event Risk Assessment

The council discussed and reviewed the Heritage Trail Launch Event Risk Assessment. Cllr. Graham Ward noted that a lead contact should be added to the document. It was decided that Cllr. Stephen Brett should take this role and be added to the Risk Assessment.

It was proposed Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded Cllr. Graham Ward to approve the Heritage Trail Launch Event Risk Assessment ahead of the event due to be held on 20th June 2026. All in favour.

- ii) To approve the purchase of a First Aid Kit

ACTION: Clerk to purchase First Aid Kit for Heritage Trail Event.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded Cllr. Graham Ward to purchase the First Aid Kit from Amazon for £7.52. All in favour.

- e) Theberton and Eastbridge Village signs and landscaping

Cllr. Stephen Brett reported that the Theberton village sign and surrounding area have since been mowed, and that the holes will be filled in during the autumn. It was also noted that Cllr. Nat Bacon will organise more regular mowing of the area.

Cllr. Hazel Collins and Cllr. Stephen Morphey will undertake strimming of the Eastbridge triangle.

Members also noted that both village signs require cleaning.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak to gold gilding specialist for a quotation for restoring village signs.

- f) Suffolk County Council maintenance of footpaths and signage

The Clerk reported that some of the footpaths in Eastbridge have recently been cut by Suffolk County Council. It is anticipated that the footpaths in Theberton may be scheduled for cutting in the near future.

- g) Cllr. Hazel Collins to provide a report on Suffolk County Council Highways Grass cutting and weed treatment forum attended in May

Cllr. Hazel Collins reported attending the Suffolk County Council Highways grass cutting and weed treatment forum. The presentation focused on the maintenance of highways, including how effective verge management can help extend the lifespan of roads. It was also noted that weed control is not used in certain areas due to safety considerations and to prevent potential damage to the road surface.

- h) New councillor email addresses

The Clerk highlighted the issue of parish council specific email addresses as raised in the recent audit. It was explained that .gov websites and the associated costs are not currently a legal requirement.

The Council agreed that it would be appropriate to introduce council specific email addresses for official parish council business as a security measure in the short term, while avoiding the cost of upgrading all accounts to .gov until such time as this is required by legislation.

Members resolved to use Gmail as the hosting platform and the Clerk will set up the email addresses on their behalf using the format Nametepc@gmail.com.

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett to set up new Gmail email addresses for all council members. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to set up parish council specific Gmail email address accounts for all councillors

i) Eastbridge Playing Field

Cllr. Stephen Morphey reported that Eastbridge Playing Field requires cutting. It was also noted that the goal posts are to be painted once the weather improves.

j) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field

Cllr. Hazel Collins reported that the oak tree planted at Eastbridge Playing Field requires protection to prevent it being eaten by small animals or damaged by maintenance machinery. Members also noted that the oak tree for Theberton Playing Field is planned to be planted in the autumn.

k) Speed Indicator Device

Cllr. Paul Collins June Speed Indicator Device Reports is attached as **Appendix III**.

l) April Police Crime Report

The April Police Crime Report is attached as **Appendix IV**.

There were no crimes to report within the Parish in April 2026, however there was one instance of violence and sexual offences to the Parish in Middleton Moore.

m) Theberton and Eastbridge Newsletter

The Clerk informed the Council that she will continue to prepare the village newsletter and requested suggestions for content for the July edition.

n) Village archives, local resident stories

Cllr. Vanessa Davies was not present at the meeting. It was therefore agreed that the update regarding village archives and the recording of local residents' stories would be added to the agenda for discussion at the next month's meeting.

o) Leiston Library donation.

The Council reviewed recent correspondence from Leiston Library and considered a request for a donation towards their work. Members noted that it is a well used local service that benefits a significant number of residents within the community.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward to donate £50.00 to Leiston Library. All in favour.

p) Outstanding Actions List

The clerk summarised the outstanding actions list to the council and agreed no urgent actions were required to take place at this time.

10. Devolution Consultation

- a) None

11. Parish Matters

- a) None

12. Administration

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

The Council agreed to include the review of the Internal Controls Statement on the agenda for the July meeting.

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

The Council agreed to include the review of the Standing Orders on the agenda for the July meeting.

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

The Council agreed to include the review of the Financial Regulations on the agenda for the July meeting.

- d) To conduct the annual review of Parish Council Public Liability Cover

The clerk presented two quotations obtained from Community Action Suffolk for the council's public liability insurance renewal. These were based on anticipated income for 2026-2027 from Sizewell C community grants.

The first quotation, based on an anticipated income of £40,000 relating to the tractor only, is £750.56. The second quotation, based on an anticipated income of £100,000 to include the tractor and additional grant applications, is £863.49.

The clerk noted that the council's previous year's renewal for 2025-2026 was £598.40. It was further noted that the council has budgeted £627.96 for public liability insurance following allowance for tractor insurance costs.

Members discussed that whilst both quotations exceed the current budget, the level of cover could be increased during the year if required depending on income received and future grant activity.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to renew the Theberton and Eastbridge public liability insurance with CAS at the annual cost of £750.56. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to proceed with renewal of £750.56 Parish Council Public Liability Cover with CAS.

- e) To agree to renew the tractor insurance policy with NFU Mutual

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to renew the Theberton and Eastbridge public liability insurance with NFU mutual at the annual cost of £36.92. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to proceed with renewal of £36.92. for renew the tractor insurance policy with NFU Mutual.

13. 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
Data Protection Registration	Honor Houlding	£52.00	LGA 1972 s.111

This transaction was approved at the May meeting. No authorisation of ratified payments required.

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
New Tractor Battery	Stephen Brett	£114.00	OSA 1906 s.9
Internal Audit	SALC	£226.80	LGA 1972 s.111
Public Liability	Community Action Suffolk	£750.56	LGA 1972 s.111
Public Liability	Community Action Suffolk	£863.49	LGA 1972 s.111
Tractor Insurance	NFU Mutual	£36.92	LGA 1972 s.111
First Aid Kit	Honor Houlding	£7.52	PHA 1936, s.234

The clerk highlighted the duplication of Public Liability renewal with Community Action Suffolk which was discussed during 12. d) where the policy for £750.56 was agreed. Therefore, the payment of £863.49 to Community Action Suffolk was not authorised.

It was proposed by Cllr. Paul Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed the authorisation of the payments listed above with exception of the payment of £863.49 to Community Action Suffolk. All in favour.

14. Correspondence

a) To review the correspondence received between the 11th of May and 8th of June and take action as appropriate

The Clerk summarised the above dated correspondence. The Council agreed that there were no other further actions at this time.

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

Cllr. Robert Flindall requested a date to attend a visit to SZC construction site. The council also mentioned the invitation to view progress on the SLR.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to ask SZC when a good time would be to visit the SZC construction site once the trainline has been built and the SSI bridge has been opened](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to add donation to water to local children's hospice to next month's agenda](#)

16. 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 22nd July 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
Meeting Ended at: 21.30

**May 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:

- Wednesday 10 June - Woodbridge
- Thursday 2 July - Bungay
- Friday 31 July - Lowestoft
- Wednesday 19 August - Aldeburgh
- Saturday 12 September - Wickham Market

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!"

Never Miss a Collection with the New East Suffolk App!

A new app has been launched to help East Suffolk residents with the changes to recycling which begin in June.

The app helps residents to quickly see which bin is due for collection each week and will help people check what can be put into each bin, to help people recycle even more.

There is also the option to receive reminders ahead of bin collection day and receive alerts if a scheduled bin collection has been delayed through bad weather or a traffic issue.

The new app also enables people to find nearby council-owned car parks, leisure centres and public toilets, as well as local places to eat and their associated food hygiene rating.

GLI Cllr Paul Ashton, East Suffolk's Deputy Leader and cabinet member for Corporate Services said: "The new East Suffolk app will help residents adjust to the changes to recycling services which are being introduced across the county on 1 June, making it even easier for people to check their collection day, the colour of bin being collected and check what items can go into each bin.

“In addition to recycling information, our new app also enables people to find nearby council-owned facilities such as car parks and public toilets, report issues directly using our online forms and check the food hygiene ratings of local places to eat, with more services to come in due course.”

The new app is available for Apple and Android in the app store (search for East Suffolk).

The new Better Recycling service launches in Suffolk from 1 June and from this date, residents will be able to recycle more items, including glass and soft plastic, through their recycling bins at home. The collections will be as follows:

- A weekly food waste collection (grey food container)
- A three-weekly general rubbish collection (black lid bin)
- A three-weekly recycling collection for glass, plastics, metal and cartons (blue lid bin)
- A three-weekly recycling collection for paper and card (green lid bin)

To help residents recycle even more, the new East Suffolk app has a handy recycling search tool to check whether an item can be recycled. There is also an AI powered image search which enables residents to take a photo of an item and check whether it can be recycled, and in which bin.

The new app is fully accessible and is voice reader compatible.

Community Spaces Set to Flourish as Bulb Giveaway Returns

East Suffolk Council will be giving away thousands of early spring flowering bulbs as its annual East Suffolk Blooms campaign returns for 2026.

Back for the fourth year, town and parish councils, community groups and organisations are invited to apply to receive free packs of pollinator-friendly bulbs to plant next spring.

The scheme works in tandem with the East Suffolk’s Amazing project which encourages everyone to maintain the beauty and cleanliness of the district, and last year established 25,000 narcissus ‘Carlton’ bulbs in the autumn, that emerged to brighten communities across the district earlier this spring.

This year, to provide greater benefit to pollinators, the council is offering mixed crocus bulbs, which is one of the earliest flowering plants that support pollinators emerging from hibernation, and is encouraging groups that missed out last time to apply.

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

“It’s been wonderful to see the growing number of flowers in our communities each spring since we started giving bulbs away in 2023 – with interest for the scheme growing every time we open applications.

“By encouraging groups to plant these early flowering bulbs we hope to boost the nectar that’s available to pollinators as they wake up from winter hibernation when food sources are scarce. We’ll be giving out 50 bags of bulbs across the district and we’re especially looking forward to receiving East Suffolk Blooms applications from groups which haven’t been successful in the past.”

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

The scheme is funded by East Suffolk Council’s trading company and services operator, East Suffolk Services Ltd, which will be providing £3,000 worth of flowering bulbs.

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

To apply, please visit: my.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/service/east_suffolk_blooms

Suffolk Councils Launch Reorganisation Website

www.suffolklgrhub.gov.uk

A new website providing trusted information on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Suffolk has been launched by the county's 6 councils.

The website, named Future Suffolk, is part of a shared commitment by the county, district and borough councils to ensure residents and communities understand LGR and what it means for them.

The site brings together key information, helping to communicate upcoming changes in a clear and consistent way. It also offers a single point of contact for residents, allowing them to submit any questions, comments and concerns.

The Future Suffolk website includes:

- Clear explanations on LGR
- A timeline of key milestones
- Maps of the new council boundaries
- An interactive map showing provisional ward names and boundaries
- Information on councillor numbers

The website also outlines proposed names for the new unitary councils and the details of the electoral wards within them - these are required as part of the legal process to establish the three new councils. The proposed names are Central and East Suffolk, Ipswich and South Suffolk, and West Suffolk.

Once established, the new councils will have the ability to review these names.

The website launch comes following government's announcement in March 2026, that three new unitary authorities would replace the current county, district and borough councils.

Elections for the new councils will take place in 2027 ahead of the first day of operations (known as 'Vesting Day'), when the new authorities formally assume their responsibilities.

LGR is a national programme across England to simplify and modernise local government structures, typically by replacing multi-tier systems with single unitary councils responsible for delivering all local services.

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/

Appendix II – Cllr. Paul Collins June NSIPS Report

1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

Submissions have been made to the Public Accounts Committee regarding the financing of Sizewell C and the lack of detail that was revealed in the Summary Business Plan published by DESNZ. It had been our expectation that the full business plan was to be published, but apparently the Treasury approved DESNZ only publishing the Summary which leaves much to be desired in terms of the details of the project plan, dates for completion and operation and the impacts of missing those key dates and the assumed 90% load factor, which has not been met by any of the currently operating EPR power plants.

The PAC's submission deadline was before the National Audit Office published its assessment of the SZC project and Regulated Asset Base. It is clear that the NAO has seen the full business case and its report is quite concerned over the financial aspects of the projects including the analysis of potential construction overruns and the fact that it feels that it would have been less expensive for the public purse had the project been financed entirely by the government.

We have submitted our analysis of the NAO report to the Public Accounts Committee and Alison will attend its hearing on Monday 8th June when Senior members of the DESNZ Nuclear Projects Delivery Team and Nigel Cann, Chief Operating Officer at SZC and a Treasury Director will give evidence to the Committee. The session will be streamed live as well.

The TEAGS Steering Committee met on 1st June to receive the AGM report and to discuss closing down the TEAGS Ltd company and review the TEAGS History Document that will eventually be deposited at Suffolk Archives. The closure cannot happen until the end of September due to commitments to Greenpeace Environmental Trust regarding our work with other Nuclear NGOs who attend the DESNZ NGO Forum and the ONR NGO Forum.

It is our intention to transition the Limited company back to a community organisation with the same name at which time our bank account will change and any remaining funds transfer to the community organisation bank account in accordance with our Aims and Objectives regarding cessation of activities.

Alison Downes, our Executive Director, who is working one day per week will be formally made redundant and we will submit a final set of accounts to HMRC as we close the company with Companies House.

2. TASC Biodiversity Net Gain SZC Visit

I accompanied TASC to a SZC arranged ecological site visit on Tuesday 12th May to the various "Wild" locations being created and maintained by SZC as part of the obligations and promises made in the DCO and Deed of obligation. In general, the progress of creating Sandlings type habitat is being achieved slowly and with SZC doing so with minimum interventions. Their approach has been informed by three trial plots in the Studio Field area, between

Sizewell Gap Road and Sandy Lane. Apart from the Aldhurst Farm area to the rear of Leiston where dog walking is permitted, all the new areas being created will be off limits to the public, apart from paths that follow the edges of the plots.

3. East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership

The group met on 18th May and discussed the final submissions of NGET concerning the SeaLink project and whether an additional submission should be made, as the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) Examining Authority cannot now consider and further submissions. However, one will be made as this will automatically be sent to the Secretary of State with the ExA's final report and recommendation.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

Rebecca Quigg (SZC Transport Coordinator) has set up another B1122 Early Years group meeting with Middleton and T&E Parish Councils which will include a briefing on the Sizewell Link Road. The meeting is set for Wednesday 17th June at 1:00pm using Teams.

Issues around potential private land rights at the Theberton lay-by on the B1122 opposite our SID installation have now been resolved by SZC and signs requesting that SZC HGV not to use the lay-by will be installed shortly.

The village Gateways on the B1122 have begun to be installed, although the one to the south of the village is on the wrong side of the road as it is a village exit sign.

The next Main Site Forum is on Wednesday 8th July 2026, Northern Transport Forum is on 5th August 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). See also change 7 below.

Change 1

This change anticipates the use of the northeastern corner of the Land East of Eastlands Industrial Estate (LEEIE) to be used as a steel reinforcement mesh fabrication facility. Raw steel wire will be brought to the facility by rail (see Change 2) reducing the number of HGV movements. In the DCO it was envisaged that these pre-constructed reinforcement meshes would be fabricated offsite and transported to site by road. A revised Construction Method Statement securing operating times, acoustic limits and vibration limits is also submitted.

This change has been talked about at several of the Main and Transport forums, is not a surprise and is a welcome change reducing HGV traffic. I recommend that we support this change in any response to PINS.

Change 2

This change allows SZC to use the rail line into LEEIE throughout the construction period, previously restricted to the period prior the Green Rail route becoming available. The intention is to bring in the steel wire required for the steel reinforcement mesh fabrication facility (Change 1) as well as the concrete lining segments for use in the cooling water intake and return tunnels. These will be fabricated at the same plant that Hinkley Point C has used near Bristol and were previously to be brought in by HGV. Once again this reduces HGV traffic on the roads and allows the train paths along the East Suffolk line to be used more effectively. Additional paths are not being made available by Network Rail as SZC already has the maximum possible assigned to the project.

This change has been talked about at several of the Main and Transport forums, is not a surprise and is a welcome change reducing HGV traffic. I recommend that we support this change in any response to PINS.

Change 3

This change expands that area on the Main Development Site (MDS) where radioactive Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) will be stored. Additional assessments show that the original area on the site was insufficient for the expected lifetime of the site and hence the increase. The design and final appearance of the facility are still required to be submitted to East Suffolk Council as a Discharge of Requirement request. No additional land take is required as this

additional area is entirely contained within the approved MDS boundary. I recommend that we support this change in any response to PINS.

Change 4 – see next page.

Change 5

This change is to clarify what happens when or if a certified control document in the DCO will not be executed as defined. There is a confusion about part of the DCO says such changes must be reported and approved (as changes) and another part of the document that requires a certified control document to be submitted for approval. The change makes it clear the amended certified control document must be submitted to the Discharging Authority for approval (prior to the work) as the new certified control document. I recommend that we support this change in any response to PINS.

Change 6

This change enhances the powers of SZC to define Traffic Regulation Orders, with the agreement of SCC Highways, on roads that are currently outside the scope of the DCO's Schedule 14. This currently means the changes have to be assessed and approved through SCC Highways normal procedures and from their already high list of TROs. The change means SZC will do all the assessments etc but then liaise with SCC, shortening the process and alleviating impacts on SCC Highways. SCC are in favour of this change. I recommend we make no comment other than to defer to SCC Highways in the matter.

Change 7

The DML is currently interwoven with the DCO with references to its schedules. The law allows changes to the DML to be applied for to the MMO and approved through their processes, which SZC have to do anyway. Unfortunately, the way this was dealt with in the DCO, means SZC has effectively to apply twice for any changes as it is also secured and cross referenced to plans and schedules in the DCO and which requires SZC to apply to the Secretary of State in a duplication of the process. Change 7 of the DCO updates the DCO to remove this duplication, allowing SZC to apply just the once to the MMO who are the statutory authority for all changes to the DML.

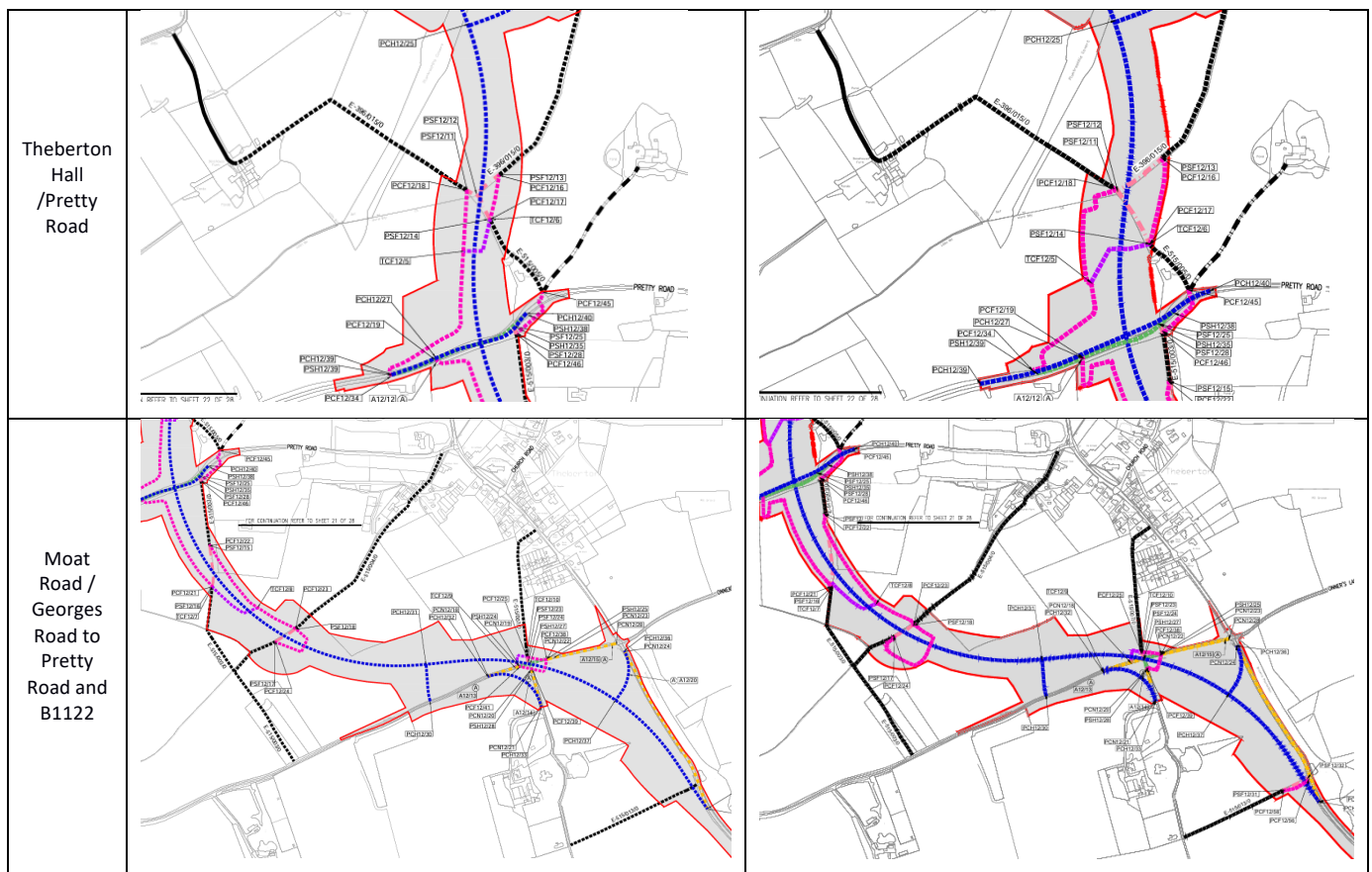
This is essentially a correction to poor/unnecessary drafting in the DCO and corrects that error. I recommend we support the change in any response to PINS.

Change 4

This change covers changes to the Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) associated with the MDS, Sizewell Link Road (SLR) and Two Villages Bypass. At the last Northern Transport Forum we asked a question about changes to the PRoWs to the west of Theberton and also regarding the completion date for the diversion of Bridleway 19 (answer, "around the end of the year"). The maps of the PRoW changes near Theberton, because of the construction of the SLR, can be found on the PINS website [here](#) on pages 30 and 31 and details of all the many individual changes for Theberton and elsewhere can be found in the [Change Application Report](#) Annexe A starting at page 17. For the area around Theberton they are reproduced as an overview below alongside the plans in the DCO and clarify the latest proposed routes but are little or only minor changes from the existing DCO.

Black dashed lines are existing PRoWs, pink are the new permanent PRoWs, long dashed pink are PRoWs permanently closed and purple temporary PRoWs. The blue dashed line is the SLR or new/amended road tracks (such as the new George Road/Moat Road junction and both the new Moat Road and new B1122 connections to the SLR). The yellow and green dashed lines show the sections of Moat Road, George Road and B1122 which will be stopped up permanently and Pretty Road is moved slightly towards the southeast to accommodate the new road bridge (little changed from the approved DCO). The adjustments overall, seems to be fairly minor to me but it is worth discussing further at our meeting before deciding on any response to PINS.

Area	DCO Plans	Change 4 Plans
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Change 8

This is all about corrections of drafting errors in the DCO that have become apparent during the work to implement the DCO.

This is essentially a correction to erroneous drafting in the DCO and corrects those errors. I recommend we support the change in our response to PINS.

SZC Deemed Marine License Change (MMO)

The change to the DML concerns the disallowed offshore piling periods.

In the DML the change is to wording about impact piling offshore. Impact piling is not allowed in the current DML “between May and August of any year,...”. The change is to rewrite that clause to say “between May and August of any year, unless otherwise agreed in writing to the MMO,...”.

The reason impact piling is not allowed, at this time, is because the Outer Thames Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA), which Sizewell Bay is a part of, is protected for Harbour Porpoise and other cetaceans who are present during these months and will be impacted by piling at these times.

This change does not mean that SZC will use impact piling between these times, but it potentially allows them to do so, if the MMO agree.

In order for MMO to agree to any application to do this they would also have to consult with other statutory bodies such as Natural England and the EA.

As SZC are currently building out the temporary jetty (Material Bulk Import Facility – MBIF) and have yet to start work on the Beach Landing Facility (BLF), it is likely that their inability to impact pile offshore is now delaying progress on both of these structures, which I’m sure is not helping with the overall SZC project timeline.

This change to the DML has already been made by the MMO but no application to undertake piling outside of the May to August period has been requested by SZC. Should such an application be made in the future by SZC, then there is a public consultation period for changes to DMLs. I have asked to be notified of such applications to the MMO.

As there can be no way of knowing whether Harbour Porpoise or other cetaceans are in the area when impact piling is being used, this could drive these sensitive cetaceans away and damage the SPA over the short and long term. Should such an application be made we can consider the case being made and object if appropriate. I have registered with MMO for DML email updates and 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

Various preparatory works and archaeology are now being undertaken.

8. LionLink – National Grid Ventures

No further progress. Awaiting Development Consent Order application to the Planning Inspectorate which 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 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://suffolkwaternetnetwork.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 – June Speed Indicator Device Report

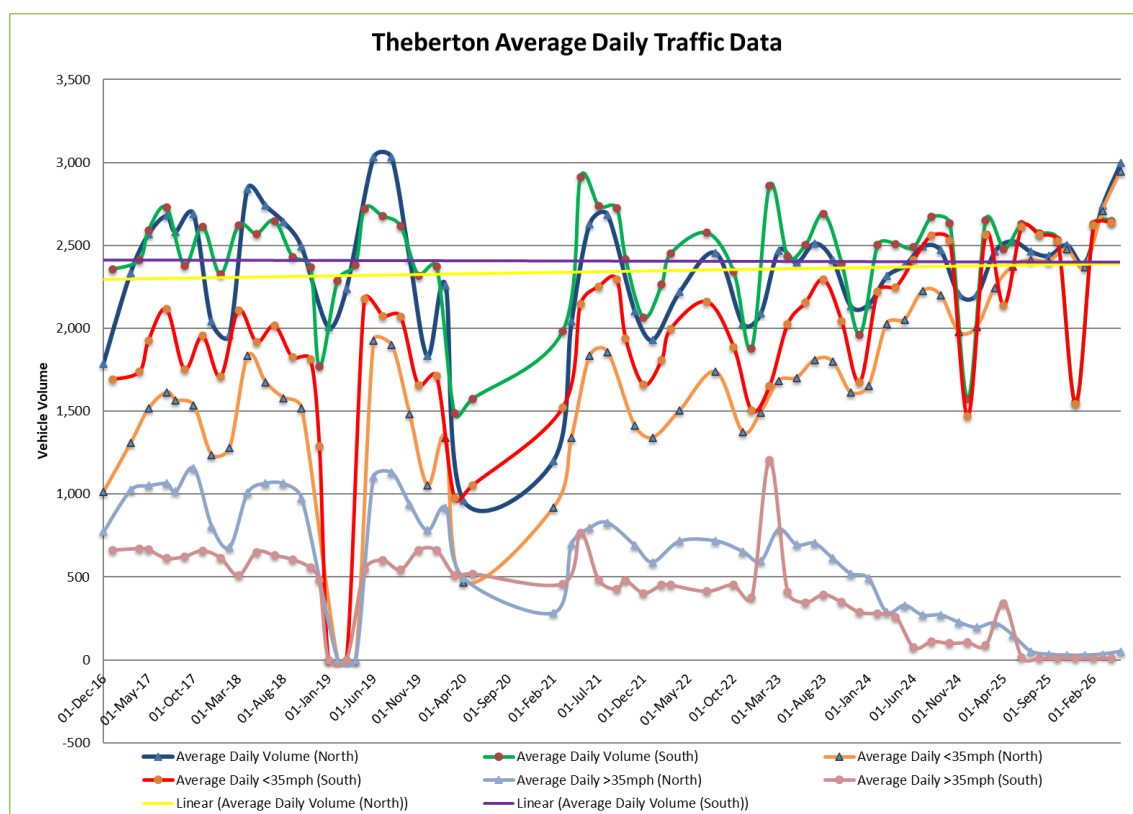
Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 10th June 2026

The speed indicator device has been operational for one hundred ~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 **35.4mph** 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 0.5% 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 17.8% from the south.** The fastest vehicle this month was 70mph on 28th May at 19:10.

The two almost parallel straight lines at about 2400 vehicle volumes represent the long-term trend of traffic volumes since the start of monitoring in December 2016. As you can see overall volumes are in a slight decline (2-3%) to current day, even with SZC traffic.



SID Start Date	20-May-25	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
Average Daily Volume (North)	2,526		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	
Total Vehicles (North)	48,000		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	
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)	45,121		45,820		45,700		47,026		44,962		51,469		57,447
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)		49,596		48,676		47,964		29,349		49,757		52,710	
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)	2,879		996		636		535		533		662		985
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)		315		207		194		201		173		254	
Average Daily <35mph (North)	2,375		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	
Average Daily >35mph (North)	152		52		33		28		28		35		51
Average Daily >35mph (South)		17		11		10		11		9		13	
85th percentile speed North (mph)	32.7		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	
% <35mph (North)	94.0%		97.9%		98.6%		98.9%		98.8%		98.7%		98.3%
% <35mph (South)		99.4%		99.6%		99.6%		99.3%		99.7%		99.5%	
% >35mph (North)	6.0%		2.1%		1.4%		1.1%		1.2%		1.3%		1.7%
% >35mph (South)		0.6%		0.4%		0.4%		0.7%		0.3%		0.5%	

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

Appendix III – April Police Crime Report

