

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2026 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. Daryl Ash
Cllr. Graham Ward
Cllr. Stephen Morphey

Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith- apologised
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Katie Graham
Cllr. Nat Bacon- apologised

Members of the public:

No members of the public were present.

In attendance:

District Cllr. Tom Daly
Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO

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

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

None.

3. Public Forum

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

None.

b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

There were no County Councillors in attendance.

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

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

District Cllr. Tom Daly reported that Lord Patrick Vallance, the Minister for Energy, had previously been invited by the Council Leader to visit and see the cumulative effects of NSIPS and energy projects in East Suffolk. Cllr. Tom Daly attended an event at Sizewell with the new Chief Executive at the invitation of MP Riddell-Carpenter, where a letter previously sent electronically was also handed to the Minister requesting the emphasis of improved coordination. A response is awaited.

Cllr. Paul Collins referred to a parliamentary petition regarding coordinated NSIPs, of which MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter is aware.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to send link to parliamentary petition for NSIP coordination to clerk for circulation.

[ACTION: Clerk to circulate with councillors and post the parliamentary petition link on the parish council website.](#)

Cllr. Stephen Brett asked about the implementation of the new ESC recycling scheme. Tom confirmed that the scheme will be rolled out from tomorrow on a staggered basis across the district, with delivery of the new bins due on the day of the parish's scheduled collection.

[ACTION: Cllr. Tom Daly to inform council of when the new recycling bins will be delivered and new programme will be rolled out.](#)

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2026 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

- b) Matters arising

None.

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**.

The submitted B1125 calming measures proposal is attached as **Appendix III**. A response has been received from Sizewell C offering a meeting to discuss the proposals.

Potholes were noted as an ongoing issue in Suffolk and had been discussed at the Northern Transport Forum. No funding has currently been said to be available for the repair of damaged verges in the area. The proposed new road for Sea Link D2 is considered unlikely to proceed and would meet the B1122 at Potter's Street; it was suggested that D2 should have been constructed rather than the SLR. Cllr. Hazel Collins asked whether Suffolk County Council has its own department for dealing with potholes and it was understood that there is a dedicated operative and possibly contractors allocated to the issue. It was noted that potholes must be reported, as the authority is not liable for damage until a defect has been reported. It was asked whether Sizewell C would fund road repairs. It was confirmed that a fund is available to address wear and tear caused by heavy Sizewell C traffic.

Regarding the closure of the Darsham level crossing, it was not possible to confirm how long the A12 would be closed, with no trains running and no access to the A12 during the closure, pending submission of plans by contractors. It was noted that traffic from the Northern Park and Ride and Lowestoft accommodation would need to travel via Diss when this situation occurs.

Lion Link maps were discussed, showing the cable route passing around the back of Theberton using horizontal directional drilling beneath woods, roads and sensitive areas.

Cllr. Stephen Brett asked about noise levels and was advised that the works would not be as noisy as the current vibropiling at the main site. The generators used for the works at Pretty Road are likely to generate more noise than vibropiling. Sea Link will provide decibel level information in due course.

b) Request for donation to the B1125 Action Group

Cllr. Paul Collins reported that ESC, SCC and SZC had raised concerns regarding rat running on the B1125 and that parish councils had been asked to donate funds to support the proposal in form of banners along the B1125. The cost of supporting the cause has been stated as £72 for two plus VAT, equating to £43.20 per banner. A discussion was held regarding the likely effectiveness of the proposals, associated press activity and a proposed rally. It was noted that when TEAGS was established the Parish Council did not donate funds, instead collaborating on examination responses and with the Minsmere Level Stakeholder Group. It was noted that the Council has not previously ever provided funding to pressure groups. Members expressed the view that a donation should not be made on this occasion, although the Council was content to support the proposal in principle and had signed the proposal letter. It was further noted that the 2025 to 2026 donation budget has been spent and that any contribution would need to come from the 2026 to 2027 donations budget.

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to inform B1125 action group of T&E PC donation decision](#)

c) To discuss SZC compensation for village pubs

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that he had spoken with the landlord of The Theberton Lion regarding compensation linked to diversion signage and loss of income since the beginning of the development of Sizewell C. It was reported that compensation would only be payable if diversion signs remained in place after the diversion was no longer required. Following correspondence and a meeting with SZC, it was confirmed that no assistance would be provided for loss of trade and that this position applied to both the Theberton Lion and Eastbridge Eel's Foot, with no legal obligation on SZC to compensate businesses for loss of income.

Members acknowledged that while there may be no legal requirement to compensate businesses for loss of income, there is a moral argument given the parish's proximity to the site, the impact on local jobs and livelihoods and the risk posed to two small businesses that operate as important community hubs where residents come together. It was noted that the parish and its businesses are among the most affected, and that trade is reported to be down for small businesses generally. Anecdotal evidence was shared that, during previous roadworks and diversions, customers appeared to stay inland, for example in Framlingham and that another local pub had experienced its busiest summer, suggesting diversions may deter visitors from the immediate area.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins that the Parish Council write in support of the pubs and their claim. All in favour.

[ACTION: Clerk and Chair to draft a letter to Sizewell C, MP Jenny, ESC, SCC in support of compensation for affected businesses within the parish](#)

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 progress has been made following meetings with representatives from the Sizewell C Community Fund. Applications are being prepared based on community views regarding the mitigation of SZC impacts. A summary of the consultation strategy has been drafted and is ongoing with feedback awaited. Volunteers of the group will engage with community groups, including the book club. The Council has also been invited to submit a funding application for a new tractor to meet the 31st of March application submission deadline. Cllr. Stephen Brett highlighted the associated costs of new tractors and mowing attachments. It was also suggested to use QR codes to link to a Google form within the consultation.

[ACTION: Cllr. Robert Flindall to begin SZC Community Fund small grant application for new tractor.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to make page on website for neighbourhood plan with google form for completion](#)
[ACTION: Cllr. Robert Flindall to send questions for community engagement google form to clerk.](#)

b) Moat Road, Storage Yard update

Cllr. Robert Flindall reported that there is nothing new on planning matters and that enforcement details will remain on a private file. A resident has followed up with the planning authority, which has confirmed that a breach exists regarding lighting and non-containerised storage. The options are to remove the lights or apply for retrospective planning permission. It was noted that the gates have already been moved back wards as previously requested in the planning permissions.

[ACTION: Chairman to speak with resident and request any updated on Moat Road Storage Yard planning status.](#)

It was noted that producing a Neighbourhood Plan is increasingly important as it provides a way to interpret the generic policies of the Local Plan and guides how planning applications will be considered. The current Local Plan offers limited guidance, making a Neighbourhood Plan more significant. Cllr. Paul Collins reported attending a meeting in Lowestoft regarding the new NPPF, which is currently out for consultation. The Council also discussed the need to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement outlining how the community will be engaged in planning processes.

[ACTION: Cllr. Robert Flindall to write response to ESC community involvement consultation](#)

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to share response to East Suffolk major projects workers accommodation planning permissions consultation.](#)

7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Community Council

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that the next joint Community Council meeting with Parish Council members is scheduled for 12th February. The Chairman, Cllr. Stephen Brett, Cllr. Daryl Ash and the Clerk plan to attend to discuss projects for funding applications from the Sizewell C Community Fund, with Cllr. Hazel Collins also attending.

b) Sizewell C Community Fund Application

- i) Theberton and Eastbridge Tractor
- ii) Eastbridge Burial Ground Hedging
- iii) Theberton Playing Field Seating Area
- iv) Electricity and water supply to Eastbridge Burial Ground and Theberton Playing Field
- v) Benches for Heritage Trail route
- vi) Neighbourhood Plan Project

Cllr. Stephen Brett reported that the advice from the Sizewell C Community Fund was to submit an individual application for the tractor. He summarised three quotes: one with discount at £16,392 plus VAT with a two-year warranty or 1,500 hours; a John Deere, considered slightly more robust, at £28,084 plus VAT with no discount; and an ex-demonstrator at £10,000 plus VAT. The first two quotes are supported by large dealerships. Cllr. Brett expressed the view that the John Deere represents the best quality option, noting that the tractor needs to be reliable for intended use, with a potential lifespan of 20 years. The council noted that requested the associated service costs including oil and filters should be requested and be included within the grant application.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to obtain quotes for servicing for the quoted new tractors.](#)

c) Eastbridge Common

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the council that Eastbridge Common has now been mowed as requested but awaits to be raked to aid regrowth of wildflowers.

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins, Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Hazel Collins to arrange a date for raking Eastbridge Common.](#)

d) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field

Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak to resident for replanting of Oak sapling.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak with resident and arrange planting of Oak Trees at Eastbridge and Theberton Playing Fields.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to add the watering of the replacement oak sapling tree at CC meeting and request volunteers.](#)

e) Eastbridge Playing Field Inspection

The Clerk introduced the recent Sovereign Playing Field Inspection Report which shows all items of playing equipment to be low risk. Adding that the marks made by machinery at the bottom of most equipment are not severe and do not require remedial action.

Painting of the goal posts was also discussed and the council agreed that repainting would help protect this item of play equipment.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Morphey to send link for paint for the Eastbridge playing field goal posts to Clerk for purchase.](#)

f) Suffolk Fire and Rescue fire hydrant testing

The Clerk informed the Council that Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service confirmed their responsibility for the servicing, testing and maintenance of fire hydrants, typically on a four-year cycle. Maintenance in the parish was scheduled for the first two weeks of February and has now been completed, with 15 hydrants serviced.

g) .gov email addresses for all council members

The Clerk explained that NALC recommends using .gov.uk email addresses for all councillors to professionalise the sector. Explaining that a .gov.uk domain signals to the community that the Council is serious about transparency, professionalism and digital security and ensures communications are legitimate, making it harder for cybercriminals to impersonate the Council. However setting up an additional nine email addresses would cost £243 per year including VAT as an additional cost to the council. It was noted that all external communications are currently managed through the Parish Clerk. The additional addresses would represent an extra cost of 4–5% of the budget, which was considered a significant amount relative to Council resources. It was noted that few councillors communicate externally apart from Cllr. Stephen Brett, Cllr. Paul Collins and the Clerk. It was proposed to consider adopting .gov.uk addresses for 2–3 councillors in next year's budget and to review the position at the same time next year.

[ACTION: Clerk to add .gov mailboxes for all councillors to the agenda for February 2027.](#)

h) Speed Indicator Device

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

Cllr. Paul Collins reported that regular traffic levels are currently at their lowest, even when including all Sizewell C traffic, with approximately 400 fewer vehicles per day. He noted that this data could be useful in supporting the correspondence addressing compensation for local businesses.

[ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to send short analysis showing decrease in vehicles using the B1122 to support local businesses compensation proposal.](#)

i) December Police Crime Report

The December Police Crime Report is attached **Appendix V**.

The clerk informed the council that two crimes took place within the parish in December 2025. There was one instance of public order and one burglary reported.

j) Defibrillator Refresher Training

The clerk advised the council that no response had been received from Community Heartbeat and that the Resuscitation Council no longer provide such training for the community.

[ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes from local first aid trainers and St John's ambulance for community defibrillator training course.](#)

k) Local roads and footpath reports to SCC

The clerk informed the council no updates had been received by SCC on various reports of public highways and damaged road surfaces within the parish.

l) Theberton and Eastbridge Newsletter

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that it will cost approximately £50 for a professional to properly set up the parish laptop for use by the author of the village newsletter to ensure no parish information is passed in to correct hands.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins to pay for the factory reset. All in favour.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to arrange laptop reset.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to arrange delivery of PC laptop to newsletter author](#)

m) Outstanding Actions List

The Clerk summarised the outstanding actions list and the Council agreed that there were no urgent matters that required attention.

8. Devolution Consultation

a) None

None.

9. Parish Matters

a) None

Cllr. Steve Morpheu asked whether there had been any advancement on the Heritage Trail maps and launch. The clerk explained that they were waiting for the spring and to enquire with MP Jenny Ridell-Carpenter on dates for April and May to schedule the opening event.

ACTION: Clerk to add heritage trail launch event to March agenda

ACTION: Clerk to contact MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter for possible March/April Heritage Trail launch event date.

10. Administration

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

The council conducted the annual review and approved the Standing Orders. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to publish approved Standing Orders to parish council website

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

The council conducted the annual review and approved the Financial Regulations. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to publish approved Financial Regulations to parish council website

11. Finance

- a) To note the latest financial position

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham ward 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 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 |
| Clerk's Expenses | Honor Houlding | £6.80 | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Theberton Playing Field – Bark | Ward Farming Ltd | £106.39 | PHA 1875 s.164 |
| February Newsletter | Leiston Press Ltd | £22.00 | LGA 1972 s.111 |

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

- c) To note the receipt of the HMRC VAT return of £900.14

The council noted the receipt of £900.14 from HMRC from the annual VAT return in the Parish Council bank account.

12. Correspondence

To review the correspondence received between 19th of January and 9th February 2026 and take action as appropriate

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

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

Cllr. Graham Ward reported that during regular walks through the churchyard at St. Peter's Church, Theberton, he has observed flint falling from the church tower, presenting a potential danger to passers-by. The issue has been raised

with the Rector. Concern was expressed that someone could be seriously injured and it was queried whether vibration from the increased SZC road traffic and recent wet weather may have contributed to the damage.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak to church warden with regards to falling flint from St Peter's Church Tower.](#)

Cllr. Stephen Morphey raised concerns regarding large vehicles, including flatbed trucks and diggers on trailers, travelling past the Eel's Foot on Eastbridge Road. It was noted that current controls apply only to HGVs and that LGVs are not restricted in the same way. The use of the RSPB private road was also identified as an issue as being used by larger vehicles.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak with Jes Porter with regards to SZC traffic on Eastbridge Road.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to chase responses from SZC with regards to broadband for small villages and actions from meetings held on 12th January and 21st January 2026.](#)

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 11th March 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding

Parish Clerk

Meeting ended at: 20.53

**January 2026 Parish Report
East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update**

Millions in investment planned for East Suffolk

East Suffolk Council is seeking to commit almost £107million across the next four years towards the delivery of key projects and schemes that improve and enhance local communities.

On Tuesday 13 January, Cabinet members approved a General Fund Capital Programme, financed with internal and external resources, as part of the annual Budget-setting process, with a total financing requirement of £106.87m for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30. These proposals will now move to the next stage ahead of presentation to Full Council in February.

The programme includes Government funding for the transformation of brownfield land at Lowestoft's former Sanyo factory site into much needed future housing, increased investment into improving play equipment and play areas across the district, and funding towards the planned regeneration of Leiston Market Square.

GLI Cllr Vince Langdon-Morris, cabinet member with responsibility for Resources and Value for Money, said:

“This comprehensive Capital Programme is designed to deliver lasting benefits for residents, businesses and visitors to East Suffolk by investing in our communities, improving public spaces and creating new opportunities.

“It benefits from various sources of funding, including the Government's Towns Fund and Levelling Up Fund, and is based on this Council's key ambitions and its four main principles of Environmental Impact, Sustainable Housing, Tackling Inequalities and Thriving Economy.”

Small grants scheme launched to boost community cohesion

Community groups are being invited to apply for funding as part of a new scheme which aims to strengthen local ties.

The Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages Community Partnership is offering grants to community and voluntary organisations, as well as town and parish councils.

Grants ranging from £500 to £2,500 are available, and funding will be awarded to projects that work towards fostering a sense of belonging in the community.

Applications can be submitted from Monday 12 January until Monday 23 February and will be reviewed by a dedicated grant panel.

GLI Councillor Katie Graham, Chair of the Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Villages Community Partnership, said:

“We are proud to launch this grant scheme, aimed at helping projects in the community that boost local cohesion.

“Creating a sense of belonging and pride in the local area is key to the Community Partnership's priorities, and we are looking for projects that support togetherness by bringing people from different backgrounds together.

“We hope that by supporting these projects, we can help unite the community and improve wellbeing, stability and security within our society.”

This initiative supports the Community Partnership’s cohesion priority and reflects their commitment to building stronger, more connected communities.

The grant scheme is open to projects and organisations supporting community cohesion in Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and the surrounding villages.

For more information, please visit: tinyurl.com/58ftufm7

Council urges Government to improve coordination of major infrastructure projects during ministerial visit

During a recent ministerial visit to the district, East Suffolk Council has urged the Government to improve coordination and strategic oversight of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

On Thursday 18 December, Lord Vallance, Minister for Nuclear at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, visited Sizewell C. The Council's Deputy Leader Cllr Paul Ashton and cabinet member for Energy and Climate Change Cllr Tom Daly met with the Minister, alongside the MP for Suffolk Coastal Jenny Riddell-Carpenter. During discussions, the Council pressed its concerns about the lack of coordination across multiple NSIPs affecting East Suffolk and emphasised the importance of maintaining momentum on the social and environmental mitigations secured as part of the Sizewell C project.

East Suffolk continues to play a significant role in the nation’s progress towards Net Zero, with several NSIPs already planned or under construction across the district and heritage coast. These include the Sizewell C new nuclear project, alongside other large-scale energy and infrastructure schemes, including the Sea Link grid reinforcement project currently in examination with the Planning Inspectorate. However, the concentration of these projects, many with overlapping construction periods in the same geographical areas, poses the risk of substantial cumulative impacts on local communities, the environment, the district’s tourism economy, and essential services.

The Council has for years consistently raised these concerns with central government, stressing the need for a more joined up approach to infrastructure consenting. It has repeatedly called for a comprehensive cost benefit analysis of all available options or, at minimum, a Government led requirement for developers to work collaboratively to minimise harm to host communities.

During the meeting, the Council reiterated its commitment to constructive engagement with Government and developers but warned that the current system risks undermining community confidence and the deliverability of national infrastructure ambitions. The Council also reinforced its expectation that all NSIP developers must deliver the environmental mitigation and community benefits they have committed to, ensuring these measures provide meaningful and lasting value for local communities and environments.

GLI Cllr Daly said: “East Suffolk plays a vital role in supporting the nation’s energy and infrastructure ambitions. However, the sheer volume of major projects proposed for our district means we are facing unprecedented pressures. Whilst project benefits are on a national scale, the impacts are localised within our district. We need Government to take a more coordinated, strategic approach so that these projects can be delivered in a way that is fair to our communities and environment, and sustainable for the future. It is essential that the developers of these nationally significant projects not only make commitments but follow through on them, particularly when it comes to environmental mitigation and community benefits.”

In October, the Leader of East Suffolk Council, Cllr Caroline Topping, wrote to the Minister reiterating these concerns and invited him to visit the district to see firsthand the close proximity of the proposed NSIPs and the challenges faced by local communities.

East Suffolk Council will continue to advocate for improved coordination and collaboration between projects and developers and will keep pressing for communities affected by nationally important infrastructure to receive appropriate benefits for hosting them.

Updated strategy sets out future air quality improvement measures

East Suffolk Council has adopted a renewed strategy for improving air quality across the district through a range of proactive measures.

The updated Air Quality Strategy takes into account priorities identified during public consultation last spring.

The previous Air Quality Strategy was adopted in 2021 – before East Suffolk’s last remaining Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA), in Woodbridge and Stratford St Andrew, were revoked following consecutive years of nitrogen dioxide concentrations falling within Government-set air quality objectives.

As well as public opinion, consultation on the updated strategy involved workshops with key stakeholders including the Council’s own Environment and Climate Change, Planning, Building Control and Energy Projects teams, alongside Suffolk County Council Highways and Public Health & Communities team.

Required by Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) to specify proactive measures for improving air quality, the strategy also identifies key emission sources of the three main pollutants – nitrogen dioxide, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (particulate matter under 10 and 2.5 micrometres’ diameter) – to help focus work and resources.

New Government guidance and legislation produced since adoption of the previous strategy has been included, as well as updated health data specific to East Suffolk.

The updated Air Quality Strategy was approved by Cabinet members in December. GLI Cllr Sally Noble, East Suffolk Council cabinet member for the Environment, said:

“The whole strategy has been simplified and restructured to make it clearer and easier to read for the public and stakeholders.

“It shows just what has been achieved since the 2021 strategy was published and provides an action plan of measures to help further reduce emissions.

“The strategy will be updated as projects develop, and in the light of any new information, and progress on the action plan measures will be reported annually in an Air Quality Annual Status Report to Defra.”

East Suffolk Council’s [Air Quality](#) webpage contains various resources, information and guidance on reducing emissions and tackling pollution, while [East Suffolk Greenprint Forum](#) provides a link between public and voluntary organisations and community groups, to share skills and experiences, as well as assisting local environmental action.

Ease the Squeeze on Cost of Living

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix II – Cllr. Paul Collins 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 rejected the application for Judicial Review and TASC have automatically requested an appeal as the judgement was made in open court the following Friday and no written judgment was to be made available before the deadline for appeal would have expired.

The written transcript has now been received and didn't refer to some of the erroneous issues that the judge was corrected about during the oral judgement.

TASC and Leigh Day are now waiting to hear from the Court of Appeal if the appeal will be allowed to go forward.

Further details on the original JR 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 the original challenge at <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/sizewell-c-legal-challenge/>.

3. East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership

The ESCEP team will host a meeting for Parish and Town Councillors 6:00pm on 26th February at Yoxford village hall. Updates on Sizewell C, SeaLink, Lion Link and the Essex & Suffolk Water Recycling project will be on the agenda.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

The letter requesting additional traffic calming and speed limits on the B1125 has now been agreed and all the councils have agreed to support the letter. The final copy has been circulated.

Formal questions to the Northern Transport Forum regarding the capability of the SZC plaza roundabout to facilitate AIL deliveries to SPR and SZB and the SCC proposed SeaLink haul road from Saxmundham to the SZC SLR were asked and we were assured that the AILs will be able to navigate the new roundabout and that any link to the SLR, should it be approved in the SeaLink DCO would connect between Potters Street and the new plaza roundabout.

The presentation on roads and transport showed dates for implementing Early Years roadworks for Blythburgh and Westleton but nothing about the outstanding Early Years schemes for the lanes east of Theberton and the B1122. I pointed out that the Church Lane alteration had been completed but that no progress or dates were available for these final changes. Rebecca Quigg promised to get updated schedule for completing the changes.

I also pressed SZC about potholes, particularly south of Theberton on the B1122 as well as the general deterioration of country lane verges, such as Moat Road, Pretty Road, George Road and Abbey Lane, that are resulting in further roadside potholes at those locations. The issue generated a lot of support from other councils present and an admission that SCC Highways and SZC were aware of the problem. There is some discussion about potentially getting some financial support from SZC through the Transport Review Group for SCC Highways to address the problem.

As it happens, the following day, the potholes on the B1122 south of Theberton were filled in although the overall problem is significant on all the local roads being used by SZC 4*4 and commuter traffic.

There was considerable dismay at the presentation regarding of the closure of the A12 and East Suffolk Line by Network Rail to upgrade the level crossing. When asked about the plans for these closures, the Network Rail representative said that they were waiting for proposals from various contactors in the tendering process which drew some concerned comments. When asked how long a closure any similar junction upgrade had required, he stated that a similar upgrade on a more minor road had required an 11 day closure, but to be assured that road diversions via similar status roads and replacement bus services would be available. It was pointed out to him that the A12 has no close alternative A status roads going north/south and that the diversion for Friday Street closure was a 100-mile round trip using those criteria which all attending found unacceptable. This closure, however it is managed, will be hugely disruptive, not least for SZC's Northern Park and Ride which will be cut off from its access to the B1122 and SLR (once open). Councillors from Westleton and Middleton were clearly concerned about the potential impacts on the B1125 and roads between the A12 and B1125.

The next Community Forum is on 19th March 2026, Northern Transport Forum is on 6th May 2026 and Main Site Forum on Wednesday 15th April 2026.

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

I attended the Issue Specific Hearings between 28th-30th January which covered, amongst other things traffic and transport issues as well as listening to the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on 27th January through the live stream facility.

In the CAH, Suffolk County Council's barrister made a proposition that the SeaLink project should create a temporary haul road between the converter site at Saxmundham and the "end" of the Sizewell Link Road in order to accommodate the movement of AILs into the site. This proposal is to avoid the use of the B1121 from the A12 over the Benhall railway bridge to the proposed site access road to the west of the River Fromus, south of Saxmundham, on the B1121.

The route for this proposed haul road is likely to follow the old D2 route or route W that was an option during the SZC consultation and examination.

The response from the SeaLink applicant, National Grid Energy Transmission (NGET), was negative considering the costs and extended traffic miles required for loads to travel up to the SLR from the south, down the SLR and back across the haul road.

Although it wasn't raised during this segment and presumably will be raised once the Deadline 4 submissions are made, is that the converter stations will require AIL movements during its operational lifetime. If the haul road is temporary, then there will still have to be a permanent AIL access route which is likely to have to be down the B1121 and across a repaired or temporarily reinforced Benhall rail bridge. So, to press for this temporary haul road seems to be a very damaging suggestion to solve only part of the longer-term problem.

The ExA requested that SCC provide details of the route and reasons for the proposal by Deadline 4 (10th February) so that consideration can be given to this as well as provide an opportunity for landowners to respond to the requirements for temporary acquisition orders and submission of impacts.

In the ISH meeting there was an extended discussion about cumulative impacts of travel along the A12 from the A14 roundabout, through Woodbridge and all the way to the B1121 junction north of Saxmundham at Kelsale. Discussions between SeaLink and SCC are ongoing regarding additional A12 junction modelling.

There were also significant concerns regarding the diversion routes for periods when the B1121 will be closed due to works at the Benhall bridge or whilst the temporary overbridge is being constructed/used, especially as the current proposals use the main traffic light junction in the middle of Saxmundham which is already considered as at capacity for the majority of the day.

A further impact on the A12 traffic corridor will be the dualling of the A12 west of Woodbridge as well as significant roundabout and junction changes and upgrades (see [A12 Major Road Network Improvements](#)).

A spreadsheet is being maintained 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

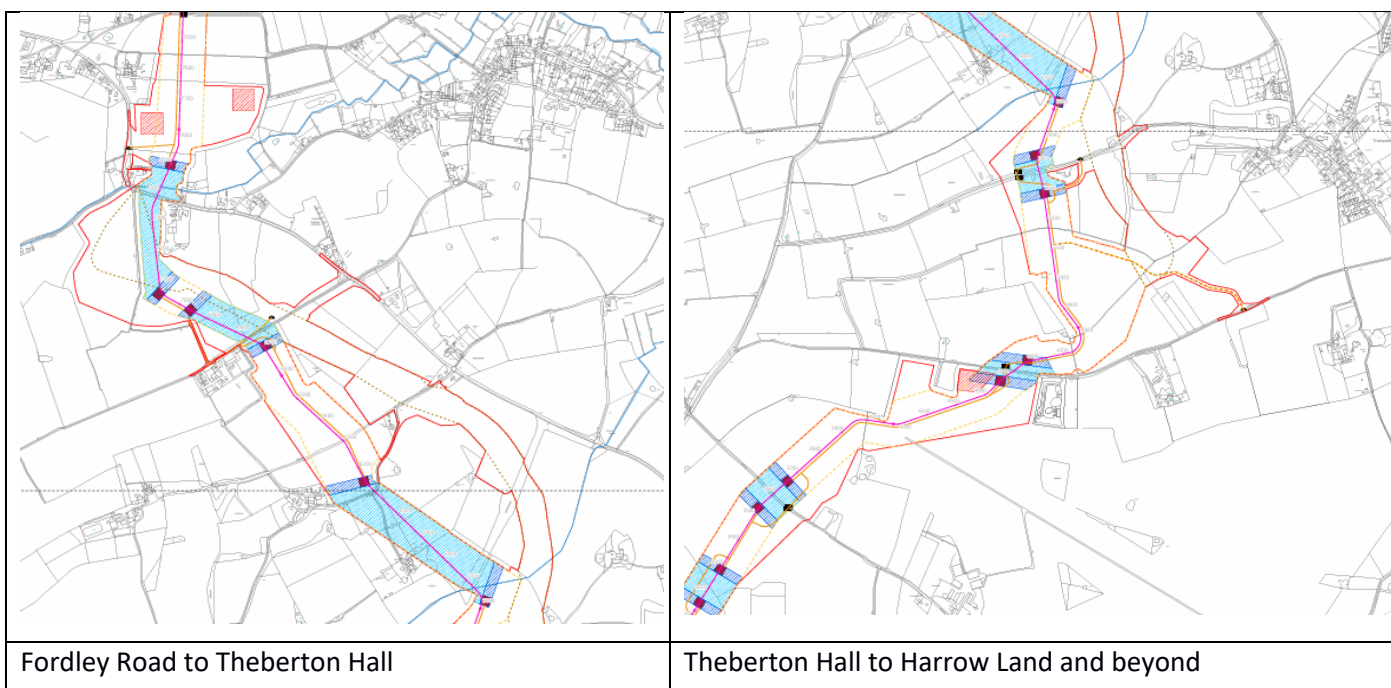
Various preparatory works and archaeology are now being undertaken.

7. LionLink – National Grid Ventures

The statutory consultation for LionLink ends at 11:59pm on Tuesday 10th March 2026. The full set of consultation documents can be found at [LionLink Library | National Grid](#).

I attended the LionLink exhibition at High Lodge on Friday 6th February mainly to get some additional information about the two routes that pass Theberton to the west of the B1122 before heading to its proposed Saxmundham Converter Station. I've also registered for the public webinar on 3rd March.

The two potential routes from Middleton Moor/Fordley Road to its crossing of Moat Road just west of the old scrap yard compound will cross the B1122 near Fordley Road then either be ducted alongside the SLR (to be agreed with SZC, see 2.2.16 [Preliminary Environmental Impact Report](#)) or will take a route to the south of the SLR crossing Pretty Road just west of the SLR bridge. From the [cable route plans](#) most of the road crossings are going to be Horizontal Direct Drilled as well as below sensitive woods/valleys, close to housing clusters and as dictated by the landscape. In general, they seem to be proposing many more HDD segments (blue hatching) than SPR or SeaLink. The solid red areas are the HDD drilling compounds, light red hatching construction compounds and red lines the construction area boundary.



A suggested response to the statutory consultation has been circulated with this document for approval to submit to the statutory consultation.

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

No further information at this time.

Appendix III – B1125 Calming Measures Proposal

Nigel Cann
CEO Sizewell C

Andrew Cook
Suffolk County Council, Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Growth, Highways and Infrastructure

Rachel Kearton
Suffolk Constabulary, Chief Constable

5 February 2026

Re: B1125 traffic volumes and speeds

Dear Mr Cann, Mr Cook and Ms Kearton,

We, the undersigned, are increasingly concerned about traffic volumes and speeds on the B1125 and are asking that traffic slowing measures are put in place to ensure that the B1125 is safer and is also not the quickest route for traffic from/to the north heading to/from Sizewell A, B and C and the towns and villages to the east of the A12.

Since the Sizewell C (SZC) construction started, B1125 peak-hour traffic volumes have increased and dangerous, fast driving has been reported to us by numerous residents who are increasingly worried about their safety. Compounding these concerns are that the B1125 is in poor condition: its verges in many places are deep gullies; it is prone to flooding; it is often covered in mud because of the numerous farm/field exits onto the road; the absence of white lines makes driving even more unsafe during the winter months when peak traffic is in the dark; and it has one particularly hazardous junction known locally as the “5 fingers”. Additionally, the road is a tourist route, one of the “5 fingers” is for a car park for woodland walkers, and the road is used by touring cyclists throughout the summer. Accordingly, we believe that the current 60mph speed limit is now inappropriate for traffic and certainly very dangerous for cyclists.

We appreciate that B1125 traffic volumes should decrease once the SZC Northern Park and Ride (NPR) is fully operational. However, we are very concerned that traffic to/from the north headed from/to Sizewell, Leiston, Aldeburgh and communities to the east of the A12 will increasingly use the B1125 as a short cut because of the growing volume and slowing speed of traffic on the A12 as:

- HGV traffic will continue to increase as SZC peak traffic will coincide with HGV and worker traffic for other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs);
- A12 speeds will decrease because of the increased traffic;
- The roundabouts at the NPR and Yoxford junctions will further decrease A12 speeds from the north as they will cause congestion because of the greater time it takes for HGVs and (NPR) buses to navigate roundabouts.

As a result, we expect an increased number of drivers to either choose, or be directed by their sat-navs, to use the B1125 instead of more appropriate A12 > B1122/ SLR route or A1094 roads. Moreover, we anticipate that a proportion of this B1125 traffic will be SZC-bound LGVs and other SZC non-HGVs even though SZC’s Development Consent Order “Consolidated Transport Assessment” states that:

The main constituent parts of the transport strategy are:

- *a strategy to transport the construction workforce to the main development site and associated development sites, whilst minimising the impact on local roads and communities;*
- ...

And that paragraph 1.3.1. of the Deed of Obligation, Annex K “Construction Traffic Management Plan” (CTMP) states that:

The objectives of this CTMP are to:

- ...
- *Minimise the impacts both for the local community and visitors to the area using the road network, so far as reasonably practicable.*

The B1125 is completely unsuitable for increased volumes of traffic - it is unsafe and is consequently impacting the well-being of local residents and visitors. We therefore believe that SZC, Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Constabulary should implement the following measures:

- a 40mph speed limit from the A12/B1387 junction and along the B1125 to the northern entrance of Westleton;
- a 30mph speed limit from Westleton to the terminus of the B1125 south of Middleton;
- traffic calming measures in Middleton – to be developed and agreed with Middleton Parish Council. Please note that Middleton Parish Council was not included in the original B1125 Working Group;
- SZC to track its own and its contracted LGVs and 4x4s, as it does its HGVs, and stipulate that they do not use the B1125;
- SZC and SCC to model the impact of all the new road infrastructure on traffic volumes on local B roads and monitor speeds on the B1125.

We believe the above measures are essential to ensure the safety and well-being of residents, the safety of road users and to help maintain the local tourist industry already threatened by the array of NSIPs underway and planned.

Could we please arrange a meeting to discuss the above.

Yours sincerely,

For and on behalf of:

Blythburgh Parish Council

Darsham Parish Council

Dunwich Parish Meeting

Middleton Parish Council

Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council

Walberswick Parish Council

Westleton Parish Council

Councillor Paul Ashton, Councillor for Wrentham, Wangford and Westleton Ward

Councillor Tom Daly, Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward

Councillor Katie Graham, Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward

Councillor Sarah Whitelock, Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward

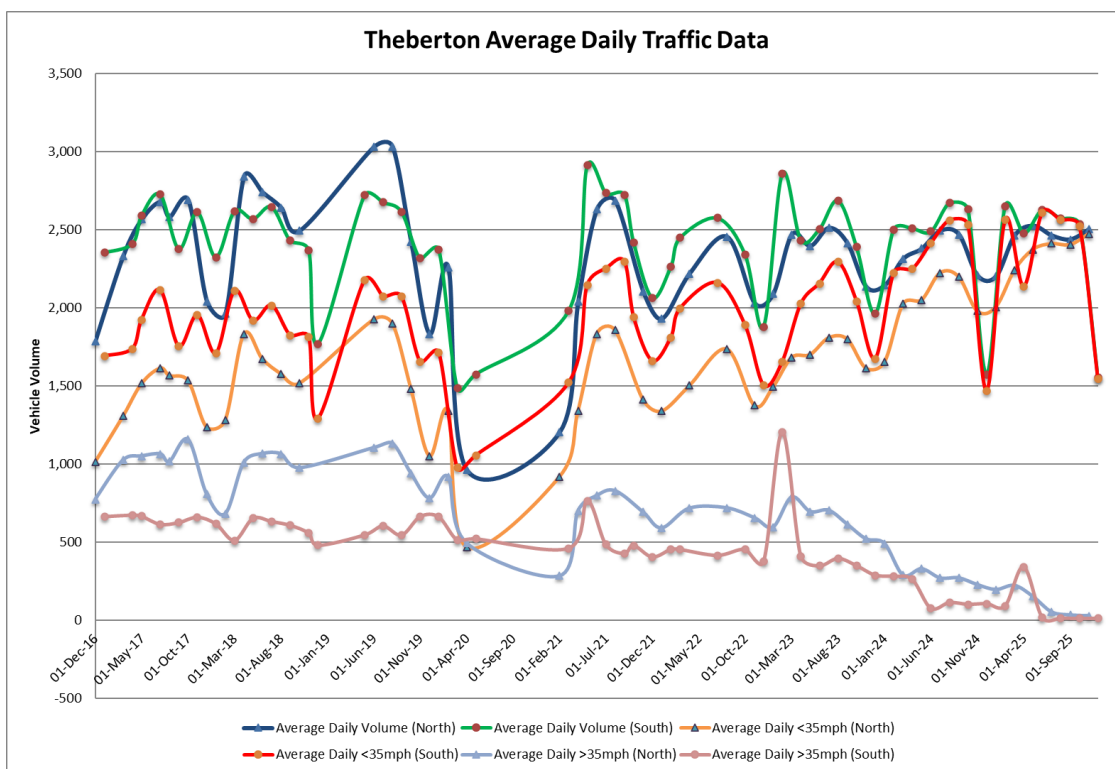
Appendix IV – Cllr. Paul Collins Speed Indicator Device Report

Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 11th February 2026

The speed indicator device has been operational for ninety-six ~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 **37.9 mph** from North and **35.7mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

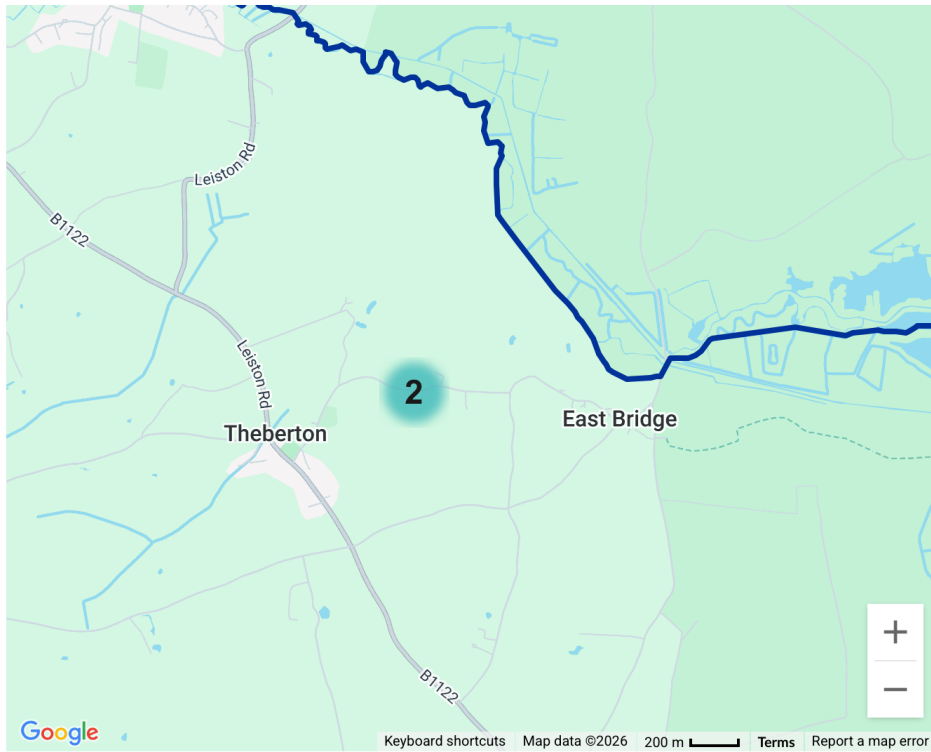
The average speed cameras are now resulting in significantly lower speeds. **The slow reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic comes with the fact that now only 0.7% of traffic from the South and 1.2% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 27.8% from the north and 18.5% from the south.**



| SID Start Date | 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 | 17-Dec-25 | 14-Jan-26 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Average Daily Volume (North) | 2,202 | | 2,464 | | 2,526 | | 2,464 | | 2,439 | | 2,503 | | 2,395 |
| Average Daily Volume (South) | | 2,652 | | 2,478 | | 2,627 | | 2,573 | | 2,535 | | 1,555 | |
| Total Vehicles (North) | 41,845 | | 49,273 | | 48,000 | | 46,816 | | 46,336 | | 47,561 | | 45,495 |
| Total Vehicles (South) | | 58,350 | | 47,072 | | 49,911 | | 48,883 | | 48,158 | | 29,550 | |
| Total Vehicles <35mph (North) | 38,125 | | 44,825 | | 45,121 | | 45,820 | | 45,700 | | 47,026 | | 44,962 |
| Total Vehicles <35mph (South) | | 56,369 | | 40,589 | | 49,596 | | 48,676 | | 47,964 | | 29,349 | |
| Total Vehicles >35mph (North) | 3,720 | | 4,444 | | 2,879 | | 996 | | 636 | | 535 | | 533 |
| Total Vehicles >35mph (South) | | 1,981 | | 6,483 | | 315 | | 207 | | 194 | | 201 | |
| Average Daily <35mph (North) | 2,007 | | 2,241 | | 2,375 | | 2,412 | | 2,405 | | 2,475 | | 2,366 |
| Average Daily <35mph (South) | | 2,562 | | 2,136 | | 2,610 | | 2,562 | | 2,524 | | 1,545 | |
| Average Daily >35mph (North) | 196 | | 222 | | 152 | | 52 | | 33 | | 28 | | 28 |
| Average Daily >35mph (South) | | 90 | | 341 | | 17 | | 11 | | 10 | | 11 | |
| 85th percentile speed North (mph) | 33.7 | | 33.8 | | 32.7 | | 29.9 | | 29.7 | | 29.5 | | 29.5 |
| 85th percentile speed South (mph) | | 29.8 | | 29.9 | | 28.8 | | 28.8 | | 28.8 | | 28.8 | |
| % <35mph (North) | 91.1% | | 91.0% | | 94.0% | | 97.9% | | 98.6% | | 98.9% | | 98.8% |
| % <35mph (South) | | 96.6% | | 86.2% | | 99.4% | | 99.6% | | 99.6% | | 99.3% | |
| % >35mph (North) | 8.9% | | 9.0% | | 6.0% | | 2.1% | | 1.4% | | 1.1% | | 1.2% |
| % >35mph (South) | | 3.4% | | 13.8% | | 0.6% | | 0.4% | | 0.4% | | 0.7% | |

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

Appendix V – December Police Crime Report



All Crimes (65)

December 2025

2 crimes were reported here in December 2025

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Burglary | 1 |
| Public order | 1 |