

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY 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. Nat Bacon

Apologies for absence:

County Cllr. Richard Smith- apologised
District Cllr. Tom Daly- apologised
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Katie Graham
Cllr. Stephen Morphey - apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon

Members of the public:

No members of the public were present.

In attendance:

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) Richard Knight of Sizewell C to report on upcoming road closures in the area

Richard Knight of Sizewell C presented an update on road closures and diversions, the presentation is attached as **Appendix I**.

It was reported that the new roundabouts to be built at Yoxord and Friday Street have been fenced off and compounds have been established throughout the Sizewell Link Road route. Works are now commencing at the eastern end near Yoxford, including drainage, earthworks and the establishment of worker facilities, offices and operational areas. The Rookery Park railway bridge will need to be fully constructed without disruption to passenger rail services. Pretty Road was highlighted as a key area, with works requiring deep excavation to ensure the existing road level is maintained.

An update was provided with regards to road closures which will heavily impact the parish. Littlemore Road is currently closed and will remain permanently closed. Fordley Road is subject to ongoing BT Openreach network upgrades, with a closure planned in Q4 2026 for construction of the Sizewell Link Road; it is expected to reopen around September 2027 with confirmation outstanding as to whether it will reopen to traffic. Hawthorne Road is likely to close from the end of March Q1 and will not be reopened, with access to the Sizewell Link Road expected by 2027.

Pretty Road is scheduled for closure from Q2 2026, presenting a significant engineering challenge, with an anticipated closure period of 16 months, although it is expected to reopen before completion of the Sizewell Link Road. Moat Road closures are being coordinated with Abbey Lane to ensure that either Abbey Lane or Moat Road remains open for the duration whilst Pretty Road is closed. Abbey Lane is currently scheduled to be closed until January 2027, although work is ongoing to enable reopening by late spring or early summer 2026, with the intention that there will always be at least one route open. It was noted that Sizewell C will be meeting residents of Moat Road in person the following week with engagement aimed at understanding how residents use the road.

Cllr. Paul Collins asked whether the new corner connecting Moat Road to George's Road would be completed while Moat Road remains open. Richard Knight agreed to confirm when the new corner is planned to be installed.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm when the new corner connecting Moat Road to Georges Road will be instated.

It was noted that CGI visuals are being developed to show how the links will operate onto the link road, including details of traffic movements. These graphics will be shared with residents in due course.

Concerns were raised regarding the use of Pretty Road as a diversion during other closures, and it was confirmed that efforts will be made to avoid overlapping closures on Abbey Lane, Abbey Road, Moat Road and Pretty Road.

It was noted that Pretty Road will not have direct access onto the Link Road, while other roads will have left and right turn access. The Parish Council site visit held on the 12th of January highlighted progress on the northern plaza, with the southern plaza on Lover's Lane remaining a temporary resource. It was reported that earthworks will begin to be cleared from the summer. Concerns were raised regarding bridge weight limits for agricultural and forestry vehicles including Pretty Road and the Yoxford rail crossing.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm weight bearing value of all (Pretty Road, Yoxford Rail Crossing) road bridges associated with the SLR.

It was agreed that a technical specification site visit of the SLR route with Sizewell C would be arranged in summer 2026.

ACTION: Richard Knight to schedule a technical specification tour of the SLR with T&E PC in Summer 2026.

The new roundabouts on the A12 are expected to open in spring. March 2026 is expected to be a particularly disruptive period due to offsite works, including weekend closures at Friday Street and Yoxford, after which traffic flows are anticipated to improve incrementally.

Issues relating to drainage at the new pond at Lover's Lane were raised and Richard Knight agreed to discuss the capacity and future management of the pond with engineers.

ACTION: Richard Knight to speak with engineers with regards to the capacity of Lover's Lane Pond and ongoing management of flooding.

Public rights of way were discussed, particularly the footpath that leads from Doughty Wylie Crescent across to Moat Road. Richard Knight agreed to liaise with Suffolk County Council to confirm what appropriate solution had been decided. Richard Knight also agreed to provide the Clerk with slides from the Main Site Forum and the meeting held on 21st of January 2026 and to arrange testing of the improved Sizewell C works tracker with Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council.

ACTION: Richard Knight to speak with SCC Public Rights of Way to confirm solution for prospective footpath closure between Doughty Wylie Crescent and Moat Road

ACTION: Richard Knight to send T&EPC Clerk slides from the recent SZC Main Site Forum.

ACTION: Richard Knight to send T&EPC Clerk slides from the presented at the meeting held on 21st January 2026.

ACTION: Richard Knight to schedule testing of the improved SZC Works Tracker with T&E PC

A traffic monitoring programme of the B1122 and B1125 assessing the implications of the link to the SLR road at the B1122/B1125 turning has been completed. It was reported that traffic modelling indicates the link to the Link Road will benefit by decreasing the amount of traffic travelling through Middleton Moor and Theberton on the B1122.

Clarification was requested on whether resident workers to the east and west of the A12 are being encouraged to drive to site or use park and ride facilities. Efforts to reduce parking and traffic within Leiston and surrounding villages were outlined, although no definitive solution is yet in place.

Cllr. Nat Bacon expressed concerns that conditions on the B1125 have worsened, with increased waiting times to join the road since Christmas and that calming measures required to be introduced.

Cllr. Stephen Brett thanked Richard Knight for attending the meeting on behalf of the Council.

ACTION: Richard Knight to confirm whether the statement provided at the Main Site Forum on whether workers on the East/West of the A12 are being encouraged to drive to site or use the available park and rides.

ACTION: During the SZC site visit on 12th January David Peacop referenced that 76 cranes will arrive to site, each crane requiring 113 deliveries' – Therefore 8,588 deliveries.

c) To receive a report from the County Councillor

There were no County Councillors present at the meeting.

d) To receive reports from the District Councillors

There were no District Councillors present at the meeting.

The East Suffolk Council Report is attached as **Appendix II**.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2025 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

b) Matters arising

The clerk informed the council that the Eastbridge Playing Field inspection is due to take place within the next 7 days.

The clerk made the council aware that they had received an enquiry with regards to a local resident metal detecting on Theberton Playing Field. The council discussed that allowing metal detecting on the playing field could raise a range of practical and legal issues and the Council does not wish to set a precedent that could create further complications.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to Community Council request with regards to resident metal detecting on Theberton Playing Field.

5. Energy Projects

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

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

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to circulate a summary of the Lion Link consultation to present at next meeting on 11th February 2026.

- b) Discussion with regards to speed limits on the B1125

Cllr. Paul Collins presented the draft proposal to implement traffic calming measures on the B1125. The draft letter to Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk Council, the Police and a road safety organisation is attached as **Appendix IV**.

The Council discussed the longstanding issue at the corner approaching Middleton village from the B1122 on the B1125 and the wider route through Middleton towards Westleton, including consideration of extending 30mph average speed cameras from the B1122/B1125 junction. Concerns were raised about vehicle speeds, particularly on the Water Tower to Westleton stretch where speeds of up to 70mph were reported. The potential benefits of introducing 40mph and 30–40mph limits between Westleton and the B1122, as well as additional speed camera coverage towards Blythburgh were discussed. It was noted that these measures should also benefit neighbouring parishes.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Daryl Ash that the council sign the letter on behalf of Theberton and Eastbridge in support of the B1125 traffic calming proposal and that the council agree in principle to authorise Cllr. Paul Collins and the Chairman, Cllr. Stephen Brett, to sign minor amendments on behalf of the council.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to check for amendments of the B1125 traffic calming proposal and sign in agreement on behalf of T&E PC.

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 there was no update to Theberton and Eastbridge Neighbourhood Plan at present.

7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

- a) Community Council

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that the joint Community Council meeting with members of the Parish Council, which had been planned for December, did not take place. A joint meeting between both parties has now been scheduled for 12th of February and the Chairman, Cllr. Stephen Brett, Cllr. Daryl Ash and the clerk plan to attend.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett, Cllr. Daryl Ash and the Clerk to attend the Community Council meeting due to be held on the 12th of February at 18.30.

- b) Sizewell C Community Fund Application

Cllr. Robert Flindall reported that a meeting was held earlier that day with two representatives of the SZC Community Fund, which was considered to be very beneficial. It was advised that applications must be supported by clear evidence, specifically demonstrating the impacts of SZC on the local community and that a community survey will be required to identify the issues that need to be addressed. Suggestions for engagement included use of the local

Facebook "Chit Chat" group, attendance at regular community groups and activities such as book club, carpet bowls, the parish newsletters, the two public houses together with the use of QR codes in the Yoxmere Fisherman. Cllr. Robert Flindall advised that a plan will be produced, although the initial deadline of 31st of March may be missed. It was noted that consideration may be given to bring forward the application for funding for a tractor to maintain the playing fields, reflecting the community's value of open spaces. The next application deadline is at the end of June, with funds expected to be received by September 2026. Cllr. Vanessa Davis volunteered to assist with the application process, including referencing the mitigation of the effects of SZC.

ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Stephen Brett to discuss obtaining 3 quotes for purchasing second hand and new tractors.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to obtain 6 tractor quotes (3 new tractors, 3 second hand)

ACTION: Clerk to begin application for small grant for new tractor from Sizewell C Community Fund to be submitted before 29th March 2026.

- 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) Theberton and Eastbridge Tractor
- v) Benches for Heritage Trail route
- vi) Neighbourhood Plan Project

c) Eastbridge Common

Cllr. Stephen Brett advised that Eastbridge Common requires mowing. Cllr. Nat Bacon will arrange a suitable date for the work to be carried out and volunteers will assist with raking to support flower growth.

It was agreed that the work will take place on Monday 2nd February or Tuesday 3rd of February with Cllr. Paul Collins and Cllr. Hazel Collins volunteering to rake the Common.

ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon to arrange mowing of Eastbridge Common on Tuesday 2nd or Wednesday 3rd February and communicate with the council.

ACTION: Council volunteers to rake Eastbridge Common on or after mowing on Tuesday 2nd or Wednesday 3rd February.

d) Commemorative Oak Tree at Theberton Playing Field

Cllr. Stephen Brett informed the Council that a further donation of an oak tree has been offered by another local resident. It was noted that the saplings will require large planting holes and a significant quantity of compost, to be sourced from Eastbridge Farm.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak with local resident and arrange with Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Hazel Collins a date for planting the Eastbridge and Theberton playing field oak tree saplings.

e) Speed Indicator Device

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

f) November Police Crime Report

The November Police Crime Report is attached **Appendix VI**.

g) Theberton Defibrillator Replacement Torch

The clerk informed the Council that two replacement torches have been purchased online and that the torch inside the Theberton Lion defibrillator has since been replaced. The clerk also reported that no response has been received from Community Heartbeat regarding a defibrillator training course in March or April 2026.

[ACTION: Clerk to continue to chase Community Heartbeat for potential defibrillator refresher training date availability in March or April 2026.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to contact the Resuscitation Council for pricing and availability of defibrillator refresher training.](#)

h) Local roads and footpath reports to SCC

The clerk informed the council that four SCC reports have recently been completed. Two are with highways and two with rights of way. The clerk will continue to monitor and report back to the council.

[ACTION: Clerk to repeat reporting of footpaths and roads to SCC on PC agendas and monitor submissions.](#)

[ACTION: All councillors to report any issues with footpaths and roads directly with SCC and forward the confirmation email to the Clerk for monitoring.](#)

i) Theberton and Eastbridge Newsletter

The clerk informed the Council that the volunteer who produces the newsletter has advised she is unable to continue future publications due to currently having no working laptop. The clerk continued to explain that the council have a laptop used by their previous clerk that is no longer in use and therefore could be considered to be donated in order for the Parish newsletter to continue. It was noted that expenditure may be required to fully erase the device and that if a laptop is required for ongoing Parish Council use in the future, a new one would be purchased. It was proposed by Cllr. Robert Flindall and seconded by Cllr. Hazel Collins that the laptop be donated to the volunteer. All in favour.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Clerk to arrange factory reset and servicing of PC laptop.](#)

j) 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

None.

10. Administration

a) To conduct the annual review of the cemetery fees.

The Council conducted the annual review of the Eastbridge Burial Ground Cemetery Fees. The clerk informed the council that the fees did not increase in 2025. It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins to increase the Burial Ground Fees for 2026 by approximately 20%. All in Favour.

ACTION: Clerk to update Eastbridge Burial Ground Fees and publish on the website.

11. Finance

a) To note the latest financial position.

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

ACTION: Clerk to insert the 'as of' date onto the January financial position and recirculate.

b) To note the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr 3 2025/2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed that the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr 3 2025/2026 to be a true record. All in favour.

c) To approve the budget for the financial year 2026/2027

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the budget for the financial year of 2026/2027. All in favour.

d) To set the parish precept for the financial year 2026/2027

The clerk presented the budget vs actual projections for 2026/2027. It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins that the raise in precept for 2026/2027 should be of 4% equating to a precept of £10,871.98 to be requested by Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council. All in favour.

The Clerk informed the Council that due to the requested precept being over £10,000 half of the funds will be received by 30th April 2026 and the second half of the funds no later than 29th September 2026.

ACTION: Clerk to submit the precept request of £10,871.98 to East Suffolk County Council by the 26th of January 2026.

e) To approve the banking reconciliation for Qtr 3 2025/2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and it was agreed that the banking reconciliation for Qtr 3 2025/2026 to be a true record. All in favour.

f) To approve the VAT Return 126 dated 01/01/25 to 31/12/25

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and it was agreed to approve the annual VAT Return 126 dated 01/01/25 to 31/12/25. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to submit the VAT Return 126 dated 01/01/25 to 31/12/25 to HMRC.

g) To ratify the following payment:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
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Pigeon Spikes	Paul Collins	£13.98	OSA 1906 s.10
Clerk's PAYE	HMRC	£364.56	LGA 1972 s.112

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

h) 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
Defibrillator Torches (x2)	Honor Houlding	£9.99	PHA 1936 s.234

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.

12. Correspondence

To review the correspondence received between 10th of December and 19th January 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 raised a query regarding the testing of fire hydrants within the parish. He asked how frequently hydrants should be tested and where responsibility for this lies. It was noted that a number of fire hydrants within the parish appear heavily overgrown.

ACTION: Clerk to seek information from Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service with regard to testing and maintenance of parish fire hydrants and add this item to the February agenda.

Cllr Paul Collins noted that many parish councils are moving to .gov email addresses and queried whether this is something the Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council should consider.

CLERK: Clerk to obtain information with regards to council members transitioning to .gov mailboxes and pricing and add this item to the February agenda.

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 February 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
Meeting Ended at: 21.24

Appendix I - SZC Road Closures Presentation

Sizewell Link Road



Item 5 24

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Sizewell Link Road current status

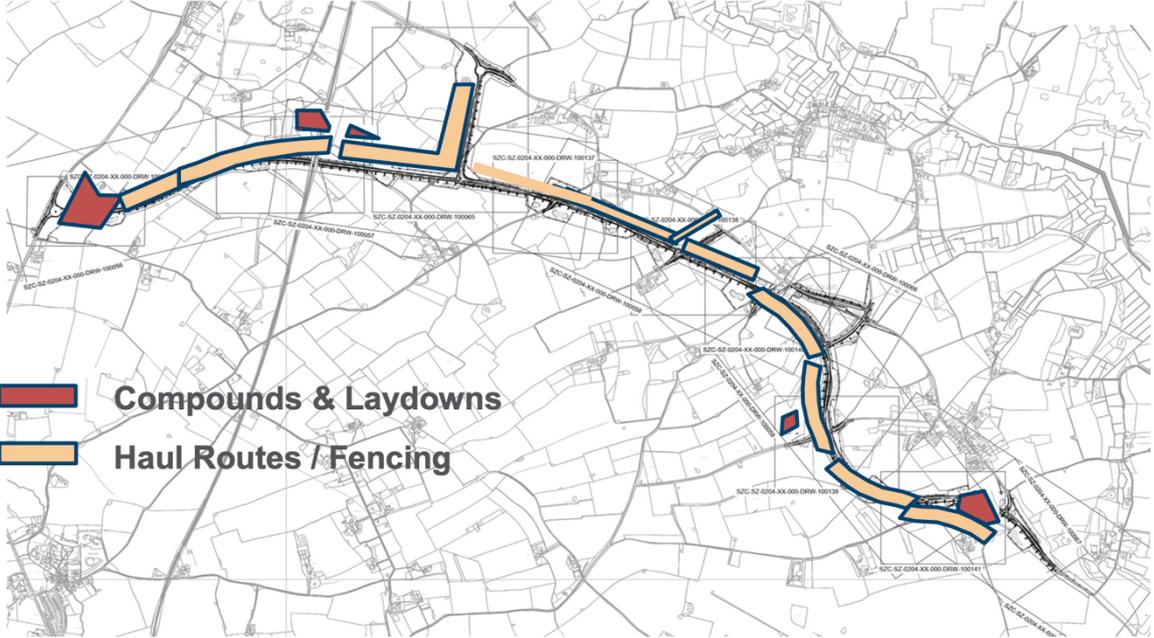


- Detail Design Complete. SCC Final Technical Approval
- Archaeology ongoing and ahead of programme
- Vegetation & ecology clearance almost complete
- Construction Contract awarded to Galliford Try
- Mobilisation Summer 2025
- Open Autumn 2027

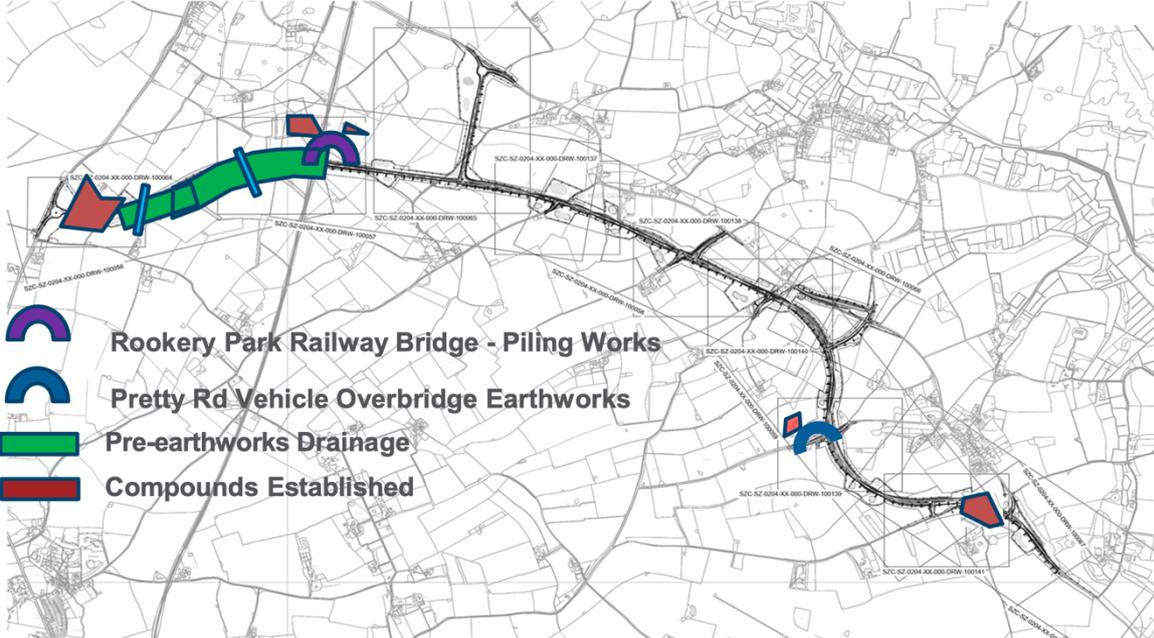
Item 5 24

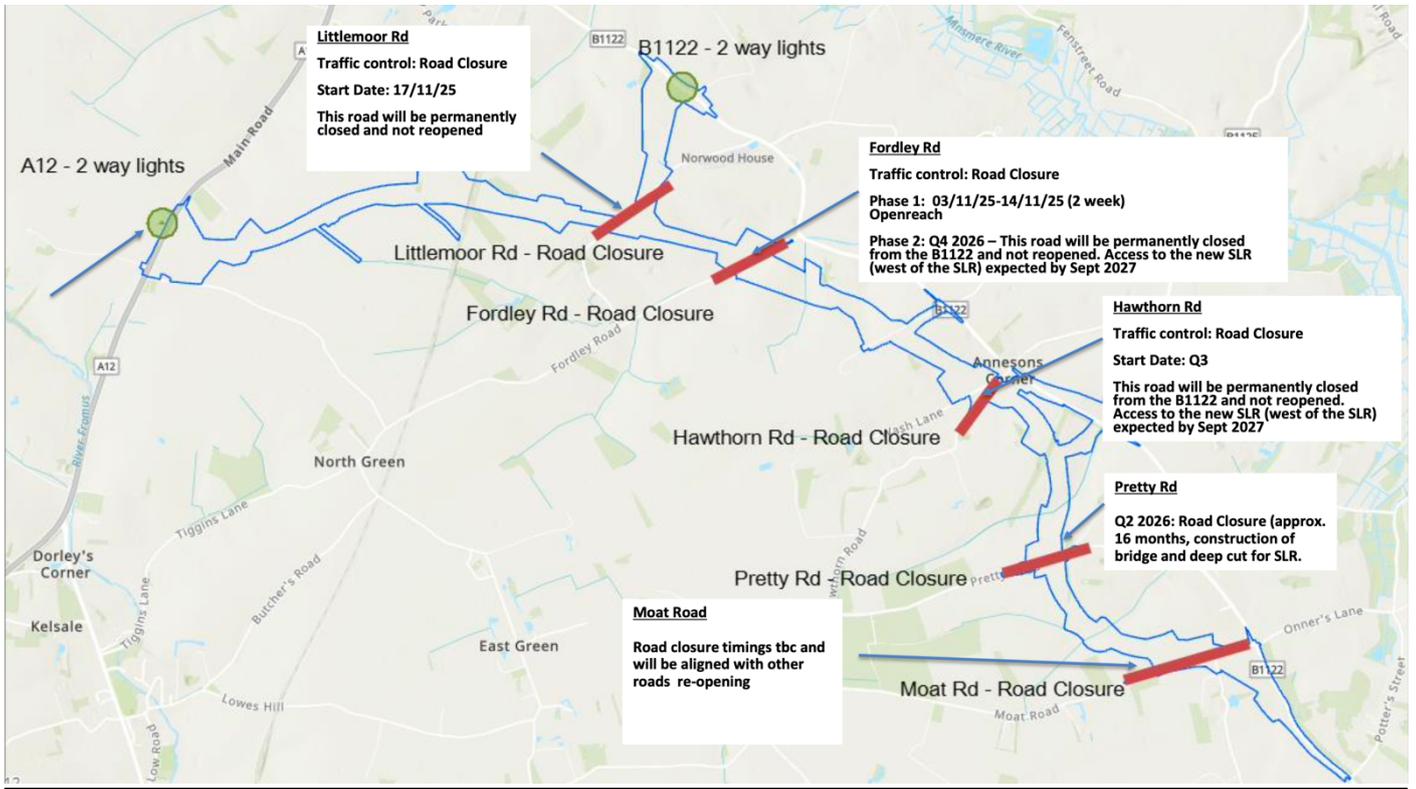
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SLR – Sequence Phase 1 (Aug – Nov 2025)

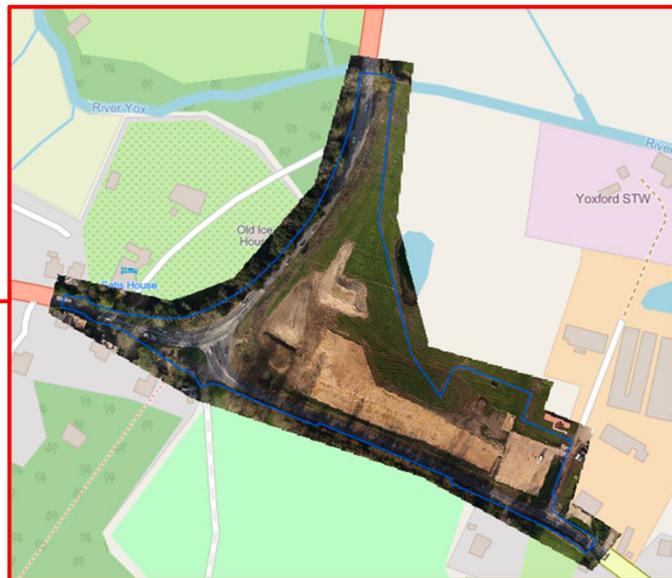
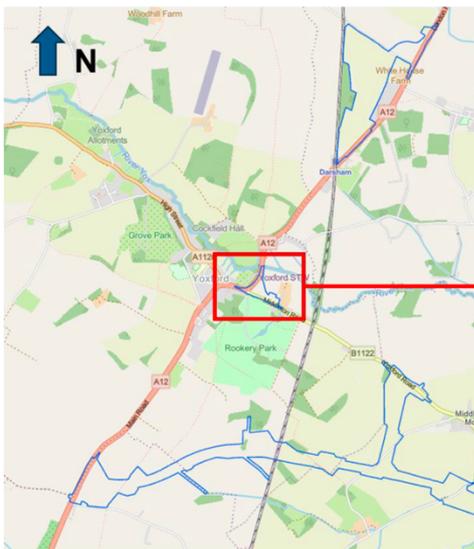


SLR – Sequence Phase 2 (Dec – May 2026)





Yoxford Roundabout



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Yoxford Roundabout



- Detail design and technical approval complete.
- Archaeology complete
- Vegetation & ecology clearance complete
- Utility works ongoing
- Construction Contract awarded to Breheny CE
- Open Spring 2026

Item 5 26

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Appendix II – East Suffolk County Council Report

Christmas 2025/ New Year 2026 Parish Report East Suffolk Council GLI Group – Councillor Update

Tackling health inequalities in East Suffolk

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

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

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

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

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

“Meeting Sir Michael has been one of the most humbling of highlights of being Leader of East Suffolk Council. He and his team are an inspiration.

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

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

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

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

Extended free Wi-Fi network helping more people stay connected

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Details can be found at: eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/digital-towns/east-suffolk-free-wi-fi/

Council Joins Call to End Gambling Advertising

East Suffolk Council has joined a coalition of organisations calling for a nationwide end to gambling advertising.

As part of its commitment to promoting wellbeing and protecting vulnerable people, the Council has joined nine other local authorities from across the country to become part of the Coalition to End Gambling Ads (CEGA).

East Suffolk Council also joins leading public health bodies, including the Royal Society for Public Health, the Association of Directors of Public Health, and the Faculty of Public Health, as members of the CEGA.

The campaign aims to reduce exposure to the potentially harmful consequences of gambling by calling on the Government to restrict advertising, promotions and sponsorship.

The Gambling Commission's latest annual survey revealed that 2.7% of almost 20,000 respondents had experienced adverse consequences from gambling and may have lost control of their behaviour. Meanwhile, 69% of 3,869 young people recalled having seen or heard adverts or promotion about gambling through at least one online or offline source, including television, sporting events, posters or billboards, social media and video sharing platforms.

As a licensing authority, East Suffolk Council is responsible for issuing premises licences and permits for local gambling venues. Although its powers to restrict advertising are limited to spaces and channels over which it has control, joining the coalition provides a way to collective support reforming the regulations which govern the industry.

In January, Haringey Council became the first local authority to join the Coalition. East Suffolk Council is among nine newly announced members, alongside Barnet, Blackpool, Brent, Bristol, Devon, Hackney, Lewisham and Southampton. Earlier this year, joined by more than 40 other council leaders, East Suffolk Council's Caroline Topping co-signed a letter calling on the Government to launch a six-point plan of action to help curb harms related to the industry.

GLI Cllr Topping said:

"This is a subject that I feel very strongly about. I have been speaking out against this and for toughening up gambling restrictions since I was at Waveney District Council. I'm pleased to support the campaign and for the Council be part of the Coalition in order to strengthen restrictions."

GLI Cllr Jan Candy, cabinet member for Community Health, said:

"For many, gambling can be enjoyed as harmless entertainment. But, for a significant minority, it can become a destructive addiction and have severe financial and social consequences.

"Gambling advertising is often difficult to avoid encountering – and that applies for young, susceptible and vulnerable people.

"Joining the Coalition demonstrates our support for stopping the negative impacts and reducing the risk of harm caused by gambling."

Will Prochaska, Director of CEGA, said:

“It’s inspiring to see councils stepping up to protect the health of their populations where national government is still wanting. Councils across the UK are recognising that gambling is a public health crisis fuelled by relentless advertising. By joining this coalition, they’re standing up for their communities and sending a clear message: it’s time to stop allowing companies to profit from promoting harmful products. We urge others to follow their lead.”

If anyone in East Suffolk is struggling with the impact that gambling has had on their finances and needs advice and support, they can contact the Community Help Hub by visiting the Money advice and support page of the East Suffolk Council website and completing a referral form, or by calling 0333 016 2000 and asking for ‘help with money’. You can also do this on behalf of someone else that you are worried about.

To do so, please visit: [eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/squeeze/i-need-help/money-advice-and-support/](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/squeeze/i-need-help/money-advice-and-support/)

East Suffolk Council’s Annual Photo Competition – Still Open

East Suffolk Council’s “Through the Lens” photo competition is back, and entrants are being given more chances to win with the introduction of two new categories. Last year’s competition welcomed more than 230 entries.

This year, photographers of all ages and experience are invited to submit entries for two categories, ‘People’ and ‘Place’. Under-16s will also have their own category, like previous competitions.

High street retail vouchers will be awarded to the winner of each category.

From the three winners, one overall winner will be selected. This photograph will grace the cover of the East Suffolk Magazine when it is delivered to every household in the district next spring.

Entrants are encouraged to capture the essence of the district by photographing the people, places and communities that make East Suffolk amazing.

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

“Last year’s photo competition was extremely successful, proving that we have some keen photographers across the district, and I am excited to see what this year’s competition brings.

“Our district is full of amazing people, places and communities with unique stories, all waiting to be captured through the lens. It could be an image of an inspiring person in East Suffolk, a beautiful landscape picture that reminds us just how amazing our district is, or an active and supportive community.”

Entries should be submitted before midnight on Saturday 31 January. Previous entries will not be considered.

Winners will be announced during the week commencing Monday 23 February, with the three winners each receiving a £100 high street voucher. The overall winner will also have their photograph featured on the cover of the East Suffolk Magazine in the spring.

For more information, and to submit your entry, please visit: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/east-suffolk-through-the-lens/

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 III – 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 considering whether to follow through with the appeal given the contents of the transcript.

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

At a meeting on 8th January a discussion of issues surrounding delivery of ALLs across the weak Benhall railway bridge and deviations with respect to the existing SPR approved DCO for the Friston substation were discussed. As it happens some of the Friston related issues have now been resolved or changed following change requests approved by the Examining Authority.

However, on a more general note the organisation, or lack of it, surrounding the conduct and planning by the PINS team surrounding the Issue Specific Hearings is leading to some dismay. There is no real indication of what will be examining and exactly when within the two 3-day periods leaving those who wish to address the Examination with little idea of what will be covered and when. A discussion about whether we should object to this haphazard approach was undertaken and a draft letter is being prepared.

As it now transpires, the second period of ISH hearings, starting 23rd February, has now been cancelled and a slightly more detailed list of subjects to be covered on the three days 28th – 30th January has been released by the ExA and PINS team but with no indications of which days will cover what. Whether there will be enough time to cover all the items on their list in the three days is not clear and will probably not be clear until the three days gets started. One assumes they'll just work from the top of the list to the bottom of the list but as the list mixes up issues and items to

be covered for both Suffolk and Kent, as well as a section on the offshore components, there is going to be a lot of wasted time for participants if a more detailed schedule is not released. Given some people will take time off to attend this 3-day event, better prior warning and planning should have gone into a detailed agenda, so people know when they are required. Compared with the Scottish Power and Sizewell C DCO Examinations, this is proving to be a very amateurish and incompetently organised Examination.

4. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

A final set of plans for the various road changes between Theberton and Eastbridge and reflecting the removal of the one-way system for Onners Lane has now been received and are attached to the email containing this report. All seems to be in order, and an “Unsuitable for HGVs” sign has been added to the entrance to Onners Lane opposite Moat Road.

Theberton (Paul Collins and Steve Brett), Middleton, Westleton, Blythburgh and Walberswick Parish Council representatives and the B1125 Action Group met on 8th January in Westleton to discuss SZC planned traffic calming on the B1125 between B1387 crossroads (near the water tower) and the B1125 junction to the Sizewell Link Road. A letter requesting additional traffic calming and speed limits is being drafted and a copy will be made available for our approval (hoping to get it for Wednesday’s meeting). A discussion about stopping the connection of the B1125 to the SLR was not agreed despite some of the attendees proposing it. The letter only contains those items that was supported by all attendees.

The next Community Forum is on 19th March 2026, Northern Transport Forum is on 4th February 2026 and Main Site Forum on Wednesday 15th April 2026.

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

The First set of Issue Specific Hearings have been confirmed as being held between the 28th and 30th January. There is no structure to the three days at this point in time with just a list of subjects to be included given. Whether this will become further refined before the event is not clear. I have registered to speak on behalf of the Parish Council based on our Written Representation.

The second set of dates starting 23rd February have been cancelled. Whether this action proves to be premature, we will have to wait and see.

In my application to speak, I raised the issue of the Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer and Storage Project not being included in their examination and pointed out that one of the potential routes for the pipeline between Saxmundham Water Tower and Sizewell C goes straight through the Converter Station Site outside of Saxmundham. Clearly this has now got the examiners attention as there is a new Examiners Question to National Grid about this.

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-UE301clpsUyGnppu5iCwOBACwhVl4xTITgnBIU/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 has now started and will last until 11:59pm on Tuesday 10th March 2026. The full set of consultation documents can be found at [LionLink Library | National Grid](#).

A very brief overview document and map have been distributed to all residents alongside a feedback form. The feedback form lists questions and suggestion on what issues to comment on for each question. These forms always have a bias to what the developer wishes to hear so it is suggested that responses are made either through an personal document addressing any specific issues which can be emailed to the company (info@lionlink.nationalgrid.com) or by making good use of the free form comments within and at the end of the form.

Unfortunately, the routes shown in the documents delivered to residents and the maps of the onshore cable routes do not match completely with some options in the online versions ([LionLink OSRR p117](#)), including a section in the

online version, B4 Option1 – the preferred option, near Middleton Moor stepping outside of the Environment Impact Assessment Scoping Boundary. It is not clear whether this is reflected in the map distributed to residents.

The maps in the assessment documents are also of poor resolution and when expanded to show route details around Theberton you cannot see details that would be available on Ordnance Survey maps.

Also, the maps fail to show where these routes are relative to the Sizewell Link Road and its various connection roads and junctions, in particular the “HVDC cable alignment – Eastern route option”, given in residents documents, appears to cross Pretty Road right where the SLR cutting goes below the Pretty Road bridge, outside Theberton Hall.

There is an interactive map of the route where you can zoom in, but it is not clear if the routes shown there correspond with the preferences given above. It does, however, indicate that the crossing of Pretty Road is to the west of the SLR Pretty Road bridge, but will still have to negotiate the SLR in its cutting which is likely to need to use Horizontal Direct Drilling and therefore will need locations for the start and end of those sections which is not clear in the route assessments given in the documentation referred to above.

The landfall, routing and converter station site documents still refer to Nautilus coming ashore in Suffolk which has not been the case for over 12 months now as it is making landfall at the Isle of Grain in Essex. This is a further indication that the documents on the LionLink website are possibly misleading and out of date. This is unacceptable.

LionLink need also to engage with the Suffolk Water Recycling and Transfer Scheme as their cable corridors will have some interaction with potential pipeline route sections S-S11A and S-S12.

Five public information exhibitions (Saxmundham, Walberswick, Darsham, Westleton and Yoxford) plus two webinars are planned by LionLink. Details can be found at [LionLink Have your say | National Grid](#).

I will write a proposed response for discussion at our next Parish Council meeting on 11th February.

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 IV – B1125 traffic calming measures draft letter

Re: B1125 traffic volumes and speeds

Dear ...,

We, the undersigned, are increasingly concerned about traffic volumes and speeds on the B1125. Since the Sizewell C (SZC) construction started, peak-hour traffic volumes have increased significantly 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 road 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; 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 car traffic and certainly very dangerous for cyclists.

We appreciate that traffic volumes should decrease once the SZC Northern Park and Ride (NPR) is fully operational. However, we are 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 three roundabouts at the NPR, Yoxford and the Sizewell Link Road (SLR) junction will further decrease A12 speeds as they will cause congestion because of the greater time it takes for HGVs and (NPR) busses to navigate roundabouts.

As a result, we expect these drivers to either choose, or be directed by their sat-navs, to use the B1125 instead of the A12 and the B1122, SLR, B1094 or other more southerly roads. Moreover, we anticipate that a proportion of this 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.*

We therefore believe that SZC, Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Constabulary should implement measures to reduce and make slower B1125 traffic. We therefore call for:

- 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 B1122 south of Middleton;
- traffic calming measures in Middleton;
- SZC to track its contracted LGVs and 4x4s, as it does its HGVs, and stipulate that they do not use the B1125.

We believe the above measures are essential to ensure the safety of residents and 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,

Blythburgh Parish Council
Darsham Parish Council
Dunwich Parish Meeting (? Helen, is this the correct terminology)
Middleton Parish Council
Theberton and Eastbridge parish Council
Walberswick Parish Council
Westleton Parish Council

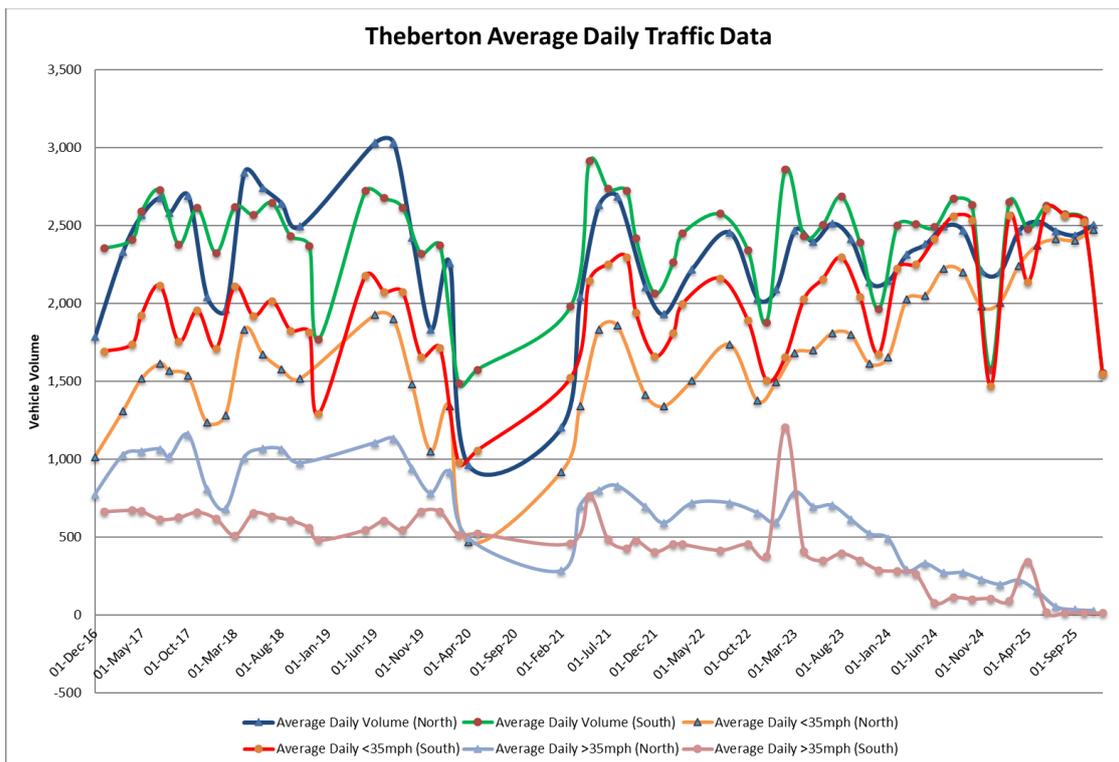
Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 21st January 2026

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

As is usual for the December period, the traffic volume falls significantly although the percentages over the 30mph speed limit remains similar to the last few months following the average speed camera switch on.

The **85th percentile speed*** is **38.1mph** from North and **35.7mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

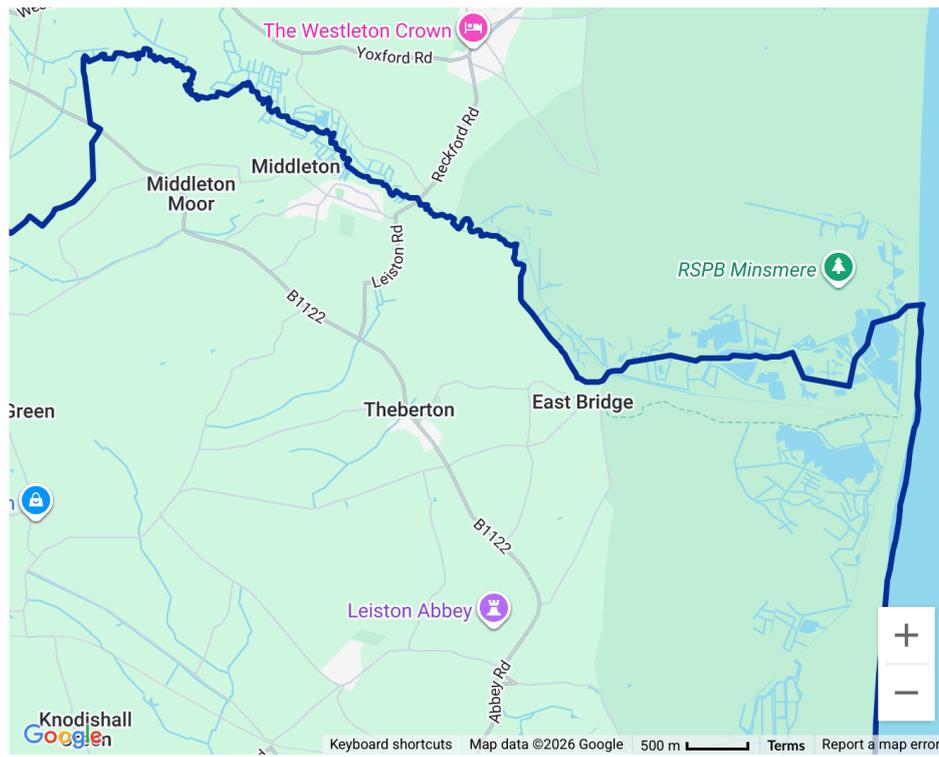
The average speed cameras are now resulting in significantly lower speeds. **The slow reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic comes with the fact that now only 0.7% of traffic from the South and 1.1% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 28.4% from the north and 18.8% from the south.**



SID Start Date	20-Dec-24	21-Jan-25	18-Feb-25	22-Mar-25	22-Apr-25	20-May-25	18-Jun-25	18-Jul-25	16-Aug-25	13-Sep-25	16-Oct-25	15-Nov-25	17-Dec-25
Average Daily Volume (North)		2,202	2,652	2,464	2,478	2,526	2,627	2,464	2,573	2,439	2,535	2,503	1,555
Average Daily Volume (South)	1,573												
Total Vehicles (North)		41,845	58,350	49,273	47,072	48,000	49,911	46,816	48,883	46,336	48,158	47,561	29,550
Total Vehicles (South)	29,882												
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)		38,125	56,369	44,829	40,589	45,121	49,596	45,820	48,676	45,700	47,964	47,026	29,349
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)	27,888												
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)		3,720	4,444	4,444	6,483	2,879	315	996	207	636	194	535	201
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)	1,994		1,981										
Average Daily <35mph (North)		2,007	2,241	2,241	2,136	2,375	2,610	2,412	2,562	2,405	2,524	2,475	1,545
Average Daily <35mph (South)	1,468												
Average Daily >35mph (North)		196	222	222	341	152	17	52	33	33	28	28	11
Average Daily >35mph (South)	105		90						11		10		11
85 th percentile speed North (mph)		33.7	33.8	33.8	32.7	32.7	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.7	29.5	29.5	
85 th percentile speed South (mph)	32.1		29.8		29.9		28.8		28.8		28.8		28.8
% <35mph (North)		91.1%	96.6%	91.0%	86.2%	94.0%	97.9%	98.6%	98.6%	98.6%	98.9%	98.9%	99.3%
% <35mph (South)	93.3%												
% >35mph (North)		8.9%	9.0%	9.0%	13.8%	6.0%	2.1%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.1%	1.1%	0.7%
% >35mph (South)	6.7%		3.4%			0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.7%

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

Appendix VI – November Police Crime Report



All Crimes (69) ▼

November 2025 ▼