THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7:00 PM

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:
Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Graham Ward
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Vanessa Davis
Cllr. Daryl Ash
Cllr. Robert Flindall
Cllr. Hazel Collins
Cllr. Nat Bacon

Apologies for absence:
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
District Cllr. Tom Daly – apologised
Cllr. Paul Collins- apologised

Members of the public:
Fourteen members of the public were present

In attendance:
County Cllr. John Matthews
District Cllr. Katie Graham
Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO

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

The owner of Glebe House was in attendance as a member of the public and declared his interest in item 7. a) Planning Application: DC/26/2821/FUL, Glebe House, Leiston Road, Theberton.

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

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

ACTION: Richard Knight to send meeting presentation slides to clerk

Richard Knight advised that Sizewell C and Essex and Suffolk Water are in the process of coordinating works around planned road closure of the B1125. Littlemoor Road, Fordley Road, Hawthorne Road and Pretty Road had all been closed as part of the programme. Moat Road had been temporarily reopened, while George Road remained closed. Moat Road is expected to remain open until around Christmas and is currently intended for local traffic. Abbey Lane in Leiston has now reopened permanently.

Richard Knight explained that the priority before the B1125 closes on 9th November is to complete as many works as possible across the road network. The aim is to ensure the B1122 remains operational throughout the B1125 closure and the winter months, while progressing works around the Plaza Roundabout and SLR entrance to divert traffic away from Lover's Lane.

Before the B1125 closure, highway maintenance works including road sweeping, verge maintenance and minor improvements will be carried out on roads connecting Theberton and Eastbridge to the B1122. These works will use temporary, nonintrusive traffic management and will be staggered over a two week period.

A member of the public raised concerns that road drains in Theberton were full of Type 1 stone, which is washing into the drainage system and requested that pavements also be swept.

ACTION: Richard Knight to send 'clean up' works schedule for Theberton and Eastbridge and ensure litter picking of verges is included within this.

A member of the public raised concerns about trees and vegetation, noting that there are more occasions of fallen trees on roads within the Parish. They asked whether landowners were being engaged to help manage vegetation.

ACTION: Richard Knight to talk with landowners and offer to assist with tree management along scheduled works route in Theberton and Eastbridge.

Cllr. Robert Flindall asked whether drainage repairs would form part of the works. Richard Knight confirmed they were not within the current scope. Cllr. Stephen Brett requested a meeting with Jez Porter to discuss ongoing drainage concerns.

Richard Knight advised that closures affecting Eastbridge Road and sections of the B1122 were expected in late October and early November. He acknowledged concerns about the impact on residents and businesses, including the Eel's Foot. Suffolk County Council will be involved in securing road closures, writing to residents and updating the works tracker, with announcements expected within the next few weeks.

Resurfacing works between Yoxford and Middleton Moor are scheduled to be completed before the B1125 closure. Works will be carried out in stages overnight between the end of September and 6th November, with working hours of 7pm to 5am and all noisy works finishing by 11pm.

ACTION: Richard Knight to speak with the project manager for the resurfacing of the B1122 between Yoxford and Middleton and confirm dates and timings with parish council.

Richard Knight advised that Essex and Suffolk Water would attend the future Main Development Site Forum and encouraged greater engagement with parish councils including Theberton and Eastbridge, Westleton and Dunwich.

ACTION: Richard Knight to speak with Essex and Suffolk Water representatives and request they attend the parish council meeting due to be held on 14th October 2026 at 7pm and confirm with the clerk.

Richard Knight advised that both park and ride sites are now complete to the required capacity. Workers are being encouraged to use designated parking areas and park and ride facilities. Security checks for the construction site begin on the bus, allowing workers to travel directly to site and save them time without an additional security check on arrival to encourage use of the facility.

Traffic movements on the B1122 and worker shift times are being monitored with Suffolk County Council. HGV and bus movements are also being managed. SZC is working with emergency services and the police to plan for shorter daylight hours and winter weather and acknowledged the increased demand on the B1122 during the B1125 closure.

A member of the public asked about the reopening of Pretty Road in August 2027 following construction of the bridge and whether the recent reduction in activity indicated a delay.

Richard Knight explained that the first phase of the SLR works had been completed, including site establishment, fencing, earthworks and the haul road. A commercial agreement for the second construction phase was not reached with the current provider and therefore the works subsequently went to tender. Kier has now taken over the SLR works and is reviewing the plans, carrying out surveys and mobilising construction equipment.

The three key priorities are to complete the haul road through the SLR construction site to remove HGV and worker traffic from the B1122, construct the Pretty Road bridge and construct the rail bridge. Works will involve piling and foundations beneath the road and are expected to increase significantly in the coming weeks. The current target is for completion in early 2028, although SZC is challenging the contractors to improve on this date.

A member of the public referred to reports in the Financial Times that the project was six months behind schedule. Richard Knight did not dispute this and confirmed that SZC is working to improve the current programme.

A member of the public asked whether local residents would be expected to use the park and ride facilities and raised concerns regarding cycling infrastructure and previous experience of bus services at Hinkley Point C.

Cllr. Daryl Ash asked whether parking would be available at the campus for workers.

Richard Knight provided an update on the Sizewell C campus. The campus will include accommodation blocks, an amenity building, cinema and library, with some facilities available to the public. The next phase will include eight accommodation blocks providing approximately 1,300 rooms by mid 2027, with the campus expected to be fully operational in Q1 2029. The requirement for a car park at the campus has been removed, with workers expected to use park and ride facilities and bus services. Once the SLR is operational, the existing B1122 will become a C road. Consultation is to take place regarding the future use of the B1122, including the potential for a priority cycle lane along the route.

Approximately 2,800 workers are currently expected to be on site at SZC, with around 40% forecast to come from Suffolk. Richard Knight advised that the workforce would build gradually and that SZC aims to maximise the local workforce to reduce pressure on accommodation. Richard Knight explained that the campus accommodation will be constructed in stages as demand increases, with approximately 2,400 rooms planned by Q1 2029.

A member of the public asked whether the accommodation blocks would be similar in appearance to the amenity building.

ACTION: Richard Knight to forward drawings of accommodation blocks and campus site as the parish council have only seen the amenity building design.

A discussion took place regarding the phased construction of the campus and whether completing the accommodation in stages would extend the construction period. Richard Knight explained that there is significant demand for the campus accommodation. SZC currently has approximately 1,800 beds at Pakefield with a free bus service. The campus is expected to be attractive to workers due to its proximity to the construction site.

A member of the public raised concerns about the impact of worker accommodation on the local rental market. Richard Knight advised that SZC is not seeking to compete with the private rental market.

Cllr. Stephen Brett raised concerns regarding a private planning application to increase accommodation at a local site to approximately 600 lodges and proposals for a further 108 caravan pitches. Richard Knight advised that SZC was not aware of the planning application and confirmed that SZC had also spoken with residents. Concerns regarding additional vehicle movements were noted and SZC has arranged a minibus service. Richard Knight confirmed that the site does not form part of the SZC accommodation strategy.

The Main Development Site Forum will take place on 7th October.

The Community Forum will take place on Thursday 22nd October at the new visitor centre at Sizewell.

Cllr. Graham Ward asked whether Moat Road would close at the end of the year. Richard Knight explained that works required to progress construction towards the SLR are currently paused and that the timing of the closure will depend on how traffic responds to works by Essex and Suffolk Water. Cllr. Ward raised concerns regarding the suitability of Abbey Road as an alternative route and whether either Moat Road or Pretty Road could remain open to provide village and emergency access.

ACTION: Richard Knight to speak with Kier with regards to the phased plan of the SLR construction and whether Moat Road or Pretty Road can remain open at one time for village access, emergency services etc.

4. Public Forum

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

Fourteen members of the public were present

b) To receive a report from the County Councillor

County Cllr. John Matthews introduced himself and provided an update on the Blyth Division. He noted that all parishes within the division are impacted by Sizewell C and highlighted the administration's focus on progressing road resurfacing works and maintaining effective working relationships with partner organisations. He emphasised the importance of these matters to residents and stated that the community is at the heart of the administration's work. Drawing on his business and military background, he advised that his approach is focused on getting things done quickly.

Cllr. Matthews referred to the announcement by Angela Rayner regarding Local Government Reorganisation and the money already spent preparing for the proposed changes. District Council elections are expected to take place in May 2027.

Cllr. John Matthews advised that the NSIP Bus with elected representatives would be visiting Friston, Walberswick and locally affected areas on Friday 11th September.

ACTION: Clerk to nominate councillors to attend NSIP tour on Friday 11th September to Cllr. John Matthews

ACTION: Clerk to send action to Cllr. John Matthews for urgent meeting to be planned between Tristan Gale and ESC

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors

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

District Cllr. Katie Graham advised that she is pushing for maximum mitigation in relation to the Sea Link proposals with a package of up to £4 million being sought. Cllr. Katie Graham advised that National Grid Ventures, the developer of LionLink, has been more open to constructive engagement than Sea Link. Discussions have included the potential development of a site near Saxmundham and the importance of sympathetic design and a masterplan that reflects the local area. Potential legacy benefits include a community park with cycling and walking routes and landscaping.

Cllr. Nat Bacon introduced the Lion Link interconnector project. The proposed converter stations could be approximately 26 metres high and 100 metres long. Discussions have included whether converter stations could be partially or fully buried to reduce their visual impact. She also noted that the LionLink proposals are increasing pressure on Sea Link to consider similar mitigation.

ACTION: Cllr. Katie Graham to find out whether converter stations at Saxmundham will be buried as previously suggested within consultation to help reduce the height of the proposed buildings.

Concerns were raised regarding proposals for a further 108 caravans on the dog walking field and the potential overdevelopment of the site at Cakes and Ales Holiday Park. Cllr. Robert Flindall raised concerns regarding reliance on Abbey Lane as the access route, noting that it is a single-track road and unsuitable for double-decker buses, which could also have an impact on tourism.

Cllr. Katie Graham advised that she had received significant correspondence on the matter. She stated that there were concerns regarding workers being accommodated at the site and potential breaches of the relevant arrangements. She confirmed that the site does not form part of the Sizewell C accommodation strategy and noted that other, more suitable sites have been identified. She also highlighted the importance of reducing pressure on the local housing market.

5. Minutes and Matters Arising

a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2026 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

b) To approve as accurate the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 20th August 2026

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th August to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

c) Matters arising

None.

6. Energy Projects

a) To receive an update from Cllr. Paul Collins

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

7. Planning

a) Planning Application: DC/26/2821/FUL, Glebe House, Leiston Road, Theberton

The owner of Glebe House advised that they had reviewed the comments received online and had not identified any issues that had not already been anticipated. They advised that they were not expecting support from the Parish Council. The owner explained that they are approaching retirement and had intended to move. Property developers had expressed interest in the property and they felt that if they did not submit a planning application then a developer would likely do so. The resident then left the meeting for the discussion by the council to take place.

Cllr. Stephen Brett summarised planning application DC/26/2821/FUL, Glebe House, Leiston Road, Theberton.

Members of the public raised strong concerns regarding the proposed change of use to an 11 bedroom unsupervised workers accommodation, including its impact on local character, neighbouring properties, highway safety, parking, noise, varied shift patterns and vehicle movements. Concerns were also raised regarding the cumulative impact of Sizewell C related development on Theberton and the nature and availability of local housing.

Members of the public questioned whether the proposal was consistent with Sizewell C's commitments to minimise impacts on local communities and noted that the proposed accommodation could further reduce housing availability for residents.

Cllr. Nat Bacon raised concerns regarding the wider implications of similar proposals and how Sizewell C could intervene. Cllr. Daryl Ash noted that although the Sizewell C campus is being developed in phases according to demand, there is a more urgent need for worker accommodation.

Members of the public raised concerns regarding the cumulative impact of development on village's rural character, heritage and surrounding landscape, including the impact of major infrastructure projects.

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised relevant East Suffolk planning guidance and the forthcoming review of the Local Plan. The draft Major Energy Projects Planning Guidance is being amended following consultation and is expected to be considered by the Local Plan Working Group before further public consultation.

It was agreed that the Parish Council's response should take the emerging planning guidance and cumulative impacts into account. Members also discussed the need for residents to submit their own representations.

Concerns were also raised regarding other HMOs and potential breaches of planning or licensing requirements.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Grahm Ward to submit a strong objection to planning application DC/26/1229/FUL. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to submit Cllr. Robert Flindall's suggested response to ESC planning with regards to planning application DC/26/2821/FUL, Glebe House, Leiston Road, Theberton.

ACTION: Clerk to add completion of construction of SZC campus in Eastbridge to October's agenda

ACTION: Clerk to add discussion with regards to grants available for HMOs from SZC to October's agenda

b) Planning application: DC/26/1229/FUL – Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane

The council agreed there were no further comments to be made with regards to DC/26/1229/FUL - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane.

c) Planning application: DC/26/1229/FUL - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane - Full planning application for the reconfiguration of the holiday park to accommodate the siting of 108 new holiday lodges and works to existing visitor and operational service facilities, together with associated infrastructure works including improvements to access and circulation routes, parking, landscaping, drainage, plant and utilities as well as other site infrastructure. Temporary (time limited) consent, part retrospective, sought for workers accommodation within the existing and new holiday accommodation.

The council agreed there were no further comments to be made with regards to DC/26/1229/FUL - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane.

ACTION: Clerk to chase meeting with planning committee with ESC for planning application: DC/26/1229/FUL - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane

d) Planning application: DC/26/2943/EIA - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane - EIA Screening Opinion - Reconfiguration of the holiday park to accommodate the siting of 108 new holiday lodges and works to existing visitor and operational service facilities, together with associated infrastructure works including improvements to access and circulation routes, parking, landscaping, drainage, plant and utilities as well as other site infrastructure. Temporary use of site for workers accommodation within the existing and new holiday accommodation

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised planning application DC/26/2943/EIA - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane - EIA Screening Opinion.

The Council was informed that the application seeks to assist East Suffolk Council in determining whether the proposed reconfiguration of the site would have an environmental impact requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment. The applicants' agents have written to East Suffolk Council stating that the proposals do not meet the requirements for an Environmental Impact Assessment.

It was proposed by Cllr. Robert Flindall and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett to submit a 'no comment' statement to planning application DC/26/2943/EIA. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to submit response to ESC planning with regards to planning application DC/26/2943/EIA - Cakes And Ale Caravan Park, Abbey Lane - EIA Screening Opinion

e) Planning application: DC/26/2772/FUL – Lime Tree Cottage, Theberton

Cllr. Robert Flindall summarised planning application DC/26/2772/FUL – Lime Tree Cottage, Theberton.

It was proposed by Cllr. Robert Flindall and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett to submit no objection to planning application DC/26/2772/FUL. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to submit response to ESC planning with regards to planning application DC/26/2772/FUL – Lime Tree Cottage, Theberton

8. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Community Council

Cllr. Daryl Ash summarised the upcoming Community Council events including the recent August Jumble Sale and the upcoming Christmas Tree Festival. She also provided an update on the Community Council's applications to the SZC Community Fund and advised that the Community Council Chairman had requested a meeting with the Clerk to progress the application further. She also advised that the Community Council was exploring the possibility of hosting film nights and that a sound engineer from Halesworth Arts Centre Is due to assess the hall's suitability to explore this further. The Bonfire Night event planning is underway and that additional volunteers would be needed to support the event. The Council agreed that it is an important community event for the village.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange to meet with Community Council chairman to discuss SZC Community Fund Application

b) Success of Sizewell C Community Fund Large Grant Application and next steps

The Clerk informed the Council that a survey relating to the successful grant for the purchase of the parish tractor had been submitted to the SZC Community Fund for approval. This is the final requirement to fulfil the grant conditions before the funds can be released and the tractor purchased. Once approved by the SZC Community Fund, the survey will be published in October's newsletter.

ACTION: Clerk to add selling of old tractor on October's agenda

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

Cllr. Robert Flindall informed the council that the secondary Sizewell C Large Grant Application is under way to apply for an electricity and water supply to Theberton Playing Field and water supply to Eastbridge Playing Field.

ACTION: Clerk to meet with Cllr. Hazel Collins on Monday 14th September at 6pm to put submit the application for SZC Community Fund

d) Eastbridge Playing Field

Cllr. Steven Morphey informed the council that the Eastbridge playing field goal posts will be painted within the next couple of weeks.

e) Theberton Playing Field Inspection

Cllr. Stephen Brett updated the council that the vandalised equipment has since been repaired.

The clerk informed the council that the Theberton Playing Field Inspection in imminent and that findings of the report will be circulated in due course.

f) Speed Indicator Device

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

g) June and July Police Crime Report

The June and July Police Crime Reports are attached as Appendix V and Appendix VI respectively.

There were two crimes reported within the parish in June 2026. One instance of theft in Eastbridge and one instance of violence and sexual offences in Theberton.
There were no crimes to report within the parish in July 2026.

h) Theberton and Eastbridge Newsletter

Cllr. Stephen Brett encouraged members of the public and Councillors to continue submitting suggestions and content to the Clerk for inclusion in the monthly parish newsletter.

i) Development of a Parish Emergency Plan

Cllr. Graham Ward introduced the idea of establishing a Parish Emergency Plan in the light on the recent wildfires at Dunwich.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to request and circulate the Westleton Emergency Plan
ACTION: Clerk to add Development of a Parish Emergency Plan to October agenda

j) Outstanding Actions List

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

9. Devolution Consultation

a) None

None.

10. Parish Matters

a) None

None.

11. Administration

a) To note the and approve the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit for the financial year 2025-2026

The council noted the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit for the financial year 2025-2026 report.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett and seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and it was agreed to approve the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit for the financial year 2025-2026 report.

ACTION: Clerk to publish the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit for the financial year 2025-2026 report on the parish council website.

b) To conduct the review of the website accessibility statement

The council noted the website accessibility statement produced by Community Action Suffolk.

It was proposed by Cllr. Graham Ward and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and it was agreed to approve the Review of the website accessibility statement.

ACTION: Clerk to publish the website accessibility statement on the parish council website.

12. Finance

a) To note the latest financial position

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

b) To ratify the following payments:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary (August)	Honor Houlding	£391.17	LGA 1972 s.112
Broadband (August)	BT	£34.74	LGA 1972 s.19
Clerk PAYE	HMRC	£326.71	LGA 1972 s.112

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

c) To authorise the following payments:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary (September)	Honor Houlding	£391.17	LGA 1972 s.112
Broadband (September)	BT	£34.74	LGA 1972 s.19
Parish Online Subscription	GeoXphere Ltd	£60.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Printer Paper – Expenses	Honor Houlding	£15.89	LGA 1972 s.111
GDPR Template - Expenses	Honor Houlding	£6.50	LGA 1972 s.111

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

13. Correspondence

a) To review the correspondence received between 20th of July 2026 and 7th September 2026 and take action as appropriate

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

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

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Nat Bacon to visit trees and hedges in the parish.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Nat Bacon to discuss maintenance of village signs and triangles in the villages.

ACTION: Clerk to complete registration for Cllr. Daryl Ash and Cllr. Hazel Collins to safeguarding course due to be held on 14th January 2027.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate alternative dates for Community Renewable Energy Project with Cllr. Graham Ward

ACTION: Cllr. Graham Ward to attend Community Renewable Energy meeting on 8th October 2026.

15. Next Meeting

To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the next Parish Council Meeting which is scheduled to be held on the Wednesday 14th October 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
Meeting ended at 21.43

Appendix I – Sizewell C Presentation Slides

Sizewell C Presentation Slides – 09.09.26

Appendix II – ESC monthly report

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

GLI Council Leader Urges Communities to "Be Prepared" for More Weather-Event Emergencies

After a year of extreme weather events, East Suffolk Council Leader Cllr Caroline Topping is urging communities to think ahead and ensure that they are ready and able to respond to local emergencies.

After the recent wildfires in Dunwich, which in turn followed flooding and coastal erosion issues in recent times, Cllr Topping says it is more important than ever for towns and parishes to have clear Community Emergency Plans which detail exactly how they would respond in the event of an emergency, be it a natural weather event or otherwise.

East Suffolk Council and the county's Joint Emergency Planning Unit (JEPU) are hosting a webinar on Emergency Preparedness and Building Community Resilience on 1 October. It is designed to help Town and Parish Councils and Community Emergency Planning Groups better prepare for unexpected events and crises, and Cllr Topping hopes as many representatives as possible will attend.

She said: "East Suffolk Council takes its responsibility to help communities prepare for emergencies incredibly seriously and our Emergency Planning Officers and Resilience Coordinator work hard to ensure that local groups understand how to be ready for different scenarios.

"We want people to understand local risks and know what resources they have available to help minimise the impact of an emergency on their community. Experience shows that those who are prepared cope better when something unexpected occurs.

"There are many community groups, towns, parishes, and wards who have produced a plan already, but there are some who haven't and given recent events – with the increased likelihood of further emergencies due to climate change – I would urge as many as possible to get ready."

Community Emergency Plans contain a wealth of useful, practical information, which all local people can refer to and act upon. This includes establishing key emergency contacts, places of safety, skills needed and volunteering. One location which already has an effective Emergency Plan is Westleton, and their response to the Dunwich wildfires was thanks in no small part to their preparation.

Cllr Topping continued: "The incredible response in Westleton during the wildfires was an example of a prepared community which had plans in place should something occur. As a Council, we were able to liaise smoothly with the village hall committee and enact our rest centre operation effectively.

"So, while the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service were working extraordinarily hard to extinguish the fire, we were able to support people affected in a planned and co-ordinated way. The more communities that understand and prepare for such risks, the more effectively we will be able to respond.

Representatives of local communities should complete a registration form if they wish to attend the webinar, which is on Thursday 1 October from 5-6pm. Details can be found here: www.suffolkprepared.co.uk/events/east-suffolk-community-resilience-and-emergency-preparedness-webinar/

For further information about emergency preparedness in East Suffolk and the county as a whole, please visit: www.suffolkprepared.co.uk/get-prepared/prepare-your-community

Prioritising Support for Young People in East Suffolk

East Suffolk Council has launched a new Youth Fund, offering grants of up to £2,000 for projects supporting young people in the district.

Co-created with members of the East Suffolk Youth Council, the Youth Fund will support young people across the district and safeguard their future.

Grants of between £200 and £2,000 are available, and Youth Councillors have identified several areas they would like to see projects around. These include:

- Protecting and enhancing the environment
- Sport and leisure opportunities
- Improving transport options and accessibility for young people
- Developing skills, confidence and experience to support future employment and training
- Activities and opportunities for teenagers
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Reducing financial and practical barriers to opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Supporting youth facilities, clubs and safe spaces for young people
- Expanding youth provision in rural communities
- Increasing access to the arts and cultural activities

East Suffolk Community Partnership Board provided a £40,000 budget for the Youth Council to determine how it should be spent, and it was agreed that £32,000 would be allocated to the Youth Fund. The remaining funds will be used to establish projects that the Youth Councillors themselves have designed and created.

Applications for the Youth Fund grants close on Friday 2 October.

Following the application period, an appraisal process will take place. A decision-making panel made up of Youth Councillors and council officers will then meet in November to consider applications and make funding decisions.

Youth Councillors have been clear that they want to support a variety of projects from across the district. They are keen to see a range of different projects come forward and encourage applications from rural communities and larger communities alike.

GLI Cllr Caroline Topping, Chair of the Community Partnership Board, and GLI Cllr Anthony Speca, Chair of East Suffolk Council, said in a joint statement:

"Young people are the future of East Suffolk, so it is incredibly important that they have a say in shaping the places and opportunities around them. This new Youth Fund is particularly special because of the large role that the East Suffolk Youth Council have had in the process.

“We are delighted that funding is now available to support projects which will help young people in our communities to thrive. We encourage community groups, organisations and partners across the district to apply and help turn the ideas and ambitions of our young people into reality."

The Chair of the East Suffolk Youth Council commented:

“We’re so pleased that this Youth Fund has launched, and we have enjoyed the process of creating the guidance and application form. We look forward to seeing what projects come forward and how they will support local young people.”

More information can be found at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits-grants-and-support/community-grants-and-funding/east-suffolk-youth-fund

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) Update

LionLink is a new subsea electricity cable (known as an interconnector) proposed to run between Great Britain and the Netherlands, being developed by National Grid Ventures (NGV) and Dutch partner, TenneT, designed to connect our electricity system with the Netherlands. The project is currently in the pre-application phase. The submission of the full application is expected in Q2 2027.

Between 7 July and 5 August, NGV held a Targeted Consultation to seek feedback on a limited number of localised changes to the LionLink project which have been identified following Statutory Consultation, which was held between January and March this year. These changes included a relocation of the landfall site at Walberswick, realigning part of the project order limits with Sea Link's where opportunities to coordinate works have been identified, and other alterations to the order limits to facilitate improved access to sites during construction. East Suffolk Council submitted their response to the Targeted Consultation and is anticipating examination to start in Q2 2027.

On 30 June, officers took part in the Suffolk Design Panel Review meeting at the Fromus Centre in Saxmundham. The session included a visit to the proposed LionLink and Sealink convertor station site on the outskirts of Saxmundham and a presentation to the panel setting the Council’s position on the project, its concerns, and highlighting key points for consideration as part of the evolving converter station design on land East of Saxmundham. National Grid Ventures’s approach to the proposed design and landscaping of the convertor station site was received positively by the panel. A second Suffolk Design Panel Review meeting is currently being arranged to take place in October of this year.

The Design Review Panel identified the value of the landscaping areas proposed at the Saxmundham Converter Station site (for both LionLink and Sea Link), having significant potential to become more than simply landscape planting, rather a local community asset in the form of a country park allowing visitors to engage in recreation and educational opportunities, alongside realising local ambitions to link Saxmundham to the sea via greener routes. Plans are being refined; however the opportunities are significant in this regard and early findings are very encouraging. Coordination between the two project promoters is ongoing and something which ESC has been strongly advocating for at every opportunity.

The team continues to engage constructively with NGV to ensure local priorities remain at the forefront of discussions and to secure the best possible outcomes for local communities and the environments or East Suffolk. Several topic specific workshops are planned to take place during late summer and autumn.

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' September NSIPS Report

1. TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

Moving TEAGS Ltd to a community organisation is now underway with the new Barclays bank account active and we are ready to close the Ltd company once Alison is formally made redundant and her final salary is paid.

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

2. East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership

A tour of all the NSIP sites has been arranged for ESCEP and some local councillors on 11th September to raise awareness of the impacts on local communities of all the NSIPs.

3. B1122 planning discussions and SZC Deed of Obligation Forums

30mph roundels that are supposed to be applied to the B1122 road surface treatments at each end of Theberton village are still outstanding.

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

SZC has indicated at the last Northern Transport forum that these will be completed in "phase 2" of the Early Years works, in September.

The next Main Site Forum is on Wednesday 7th October 2026, Community Forum on 22nd October 2026 and Northern Transport Forum is on 4th November 2026.

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

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

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

The Planning Inspectorate examination of the SeaLink DCO is now complete and they have reported to the Secretary of State. The SoS has a further 3 months to make the final decision but has recently asked a number of organisations including NGET for further information and updates on progress of a number of items.

SEAS warned the Planning Inspectors during the DCO examination that Sea Link would cost more than the £3 billion NGET suggested. They have subsequently proved to be right.

NGET has now asked Ofgem to approve £3.197 billion costs for Sea Link. And that may not be the full story.

A further £170.8 million has been identified for costs not yet under contract - including archaeology, unexploded-ordnance surveys and other works.

However, there is another issue about the project and that is that National Grid has not yet demonstrated that Sea Link can operate at its full 2GW capacity while meeting the required network standards.

Ofgem says the measures currently proposed do not fully resolve the problem. So National Grid still needs to find a solution.

So, it is not clear what will be needed, where any changes will be needed (presumably in both in Suffolk and in Kent) and what these changes will cost, adding further to the £3.197 billion currently at Ofgem for approval.

Meanwhile, SEAS has proposed a much cheaper alternative by upgrading existing infrastructure and overhead lines for under £300 million. That's a huge difference.

Ofgem are now conducting a new consultation on the Sea Link Project which closes on 29th September.

https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/consultation/sea-link-project-assessment

6. Scottish Power Wind Farms and Friston Substation

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

7. LionLink – National Grid Ventures

LionLink's consultation on changes to their proposals including a change to the landfall site, HGV route to the converter station and some changes and decisions about preferred options for the cable route has now closed (5th August).

Following the LionLink webinar on 21st July a response was sent to the consultation that also complained about how my questions at the webinar were not properly asked or addressed by the LionLink attendees. The final submission to the consultation is attached separately.

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

8. Solar Farms/Battery Storage

- **Town Farm Solar Park**
  Town Farm solar park, is now under construction.
- **Helios Energy Park**
  This will yet another NSIP because of its size (250MW). Further details can be found at SCC and in a submission on the SeaLink DCO website.

9. Hydrogen East/Capital Hydrogen

No further information at this time.

10. Suffolk Water Recycling and Transfer Scheme

No further information at this time although, based on a discussion with Steve Merry of SCC Highways, it would appear that the pipeline will enter the SZC site at the SZC entrance roundabout at the top of Eastbridge Road at the junction with the B1122.

Appendix IV – September Speed Indicator Report

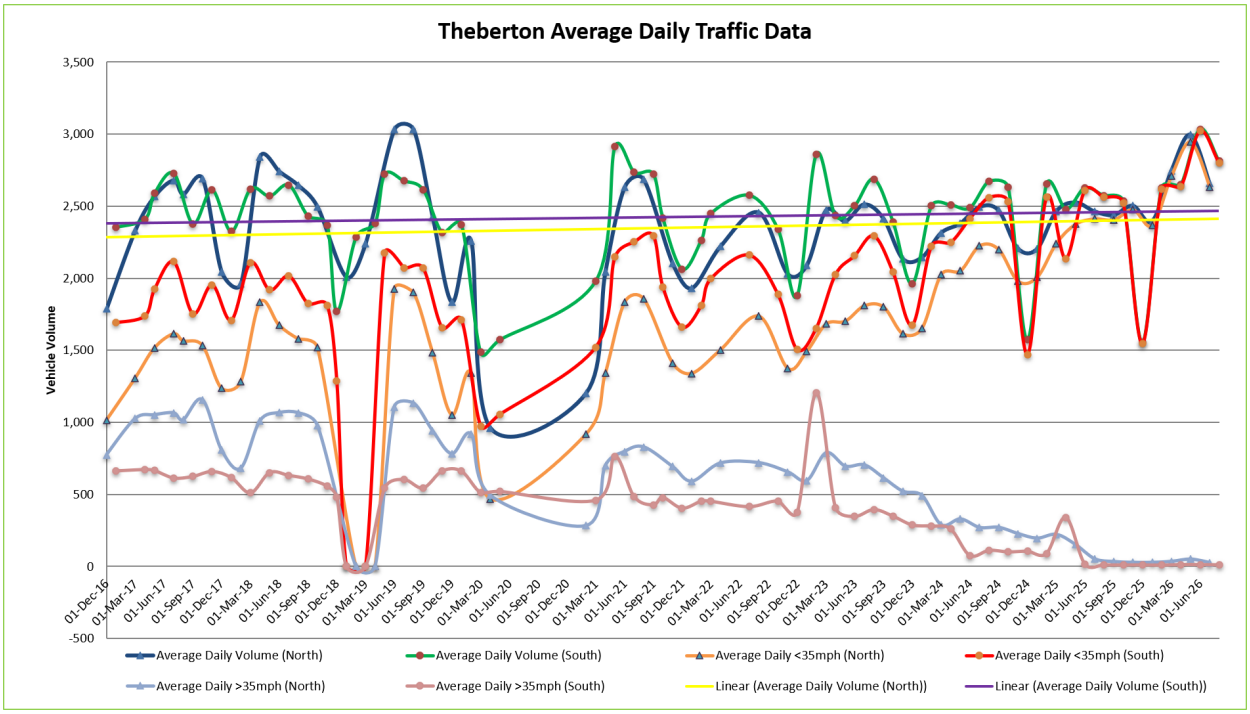
Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 9th September 2026

The speed indicator device has been operational for one hundred and three ~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 **37.4 mph** from North and **35.2mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

The average speed cameras are now resulting in significantly lower speeds. **The reduction in the long term 85th percentile value for traffic comes with the fact that this month only 0.4% of traffic from the South and 1.0% for the North was above 35mph compared to the long-term averages of 26.2% from the north and 17.1% from the south**. The fact that so few vehicles are now exceeding 35mph through the village means that the graph lines representing 'average daily volumes' and 'average daily volumes less than 35mph' are overlapping and pretty much indistinguishable from one another. The fastest vehicle this month was 75mph on 21st August at 14:10.

Whilst overall volumes had been in a slight decline (2-3%) to February, an increase in traffic volumes through the village from May to now looks to be reducing again, but more monitoring will be necessary to determine if the change is permanent or the trend back to the previous levels happen.

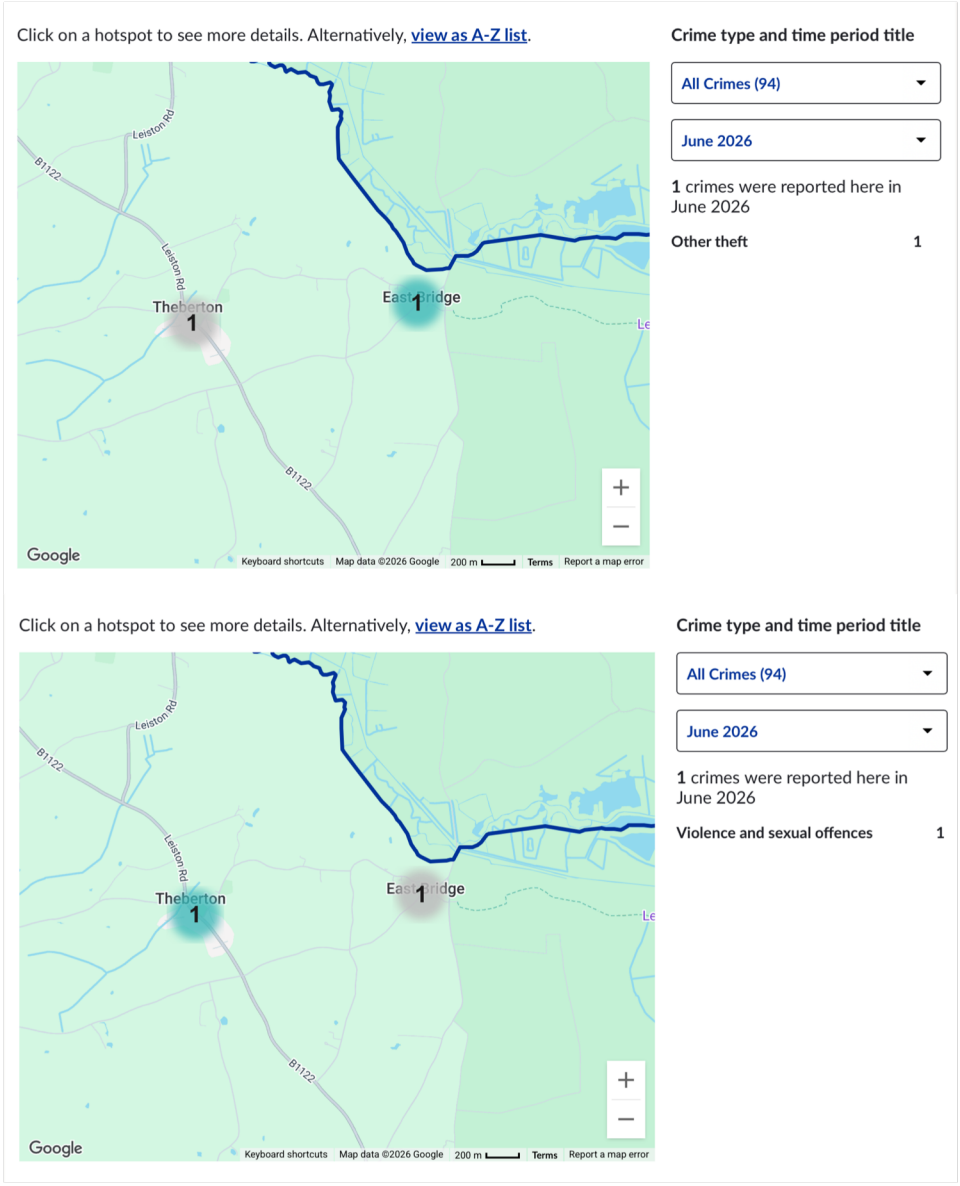


SID Start Date	16-Aug-25	13-Sep-25	16-Oct-25	15-Nov-25	17-Dec-25	14-Jan-26	13-Feb-26	15-Mar-26	14-Apr-26	14-May-26	13-Jun-26	14-Jul-26	12-Aug-26
Average Daily Volume (North)		2,439		2,503		2,395		2,744		2,997		2,660	
Average Daily Volume (South)	2,573		2,535		1,555		2,628		2,648		3,034		2,812
Total Vehicles (North)		46,336		47,561		45,495		52,131		58,432		53,201	
Total Vehicles (South)	48,883		48,158		29,550		49,930		52,964		57,652		53,429
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)		45,700		47,026		44,962		51,469		57,447		52,673	
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)	48,676		47,964		29,349		49,757		52,710		57,418		53,218
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)		636		535		533		662		985		528	
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)	207		194		201		173		254		234		211
Average Daily <35mph (North)		2,405		2,475		2,366		2,709		2,946		2,634	
Average Daily <35mph (South)	2,562		2,524		1,545		2,619		2,636		3,022		2,801
Average Daily >35mph (North)		33		28		28		35		51		26	
Average Daily >35mph (South)	11		10		11		9		13		12		11
85th percentile speed North (mph)		**29.7**		**29.5**		**29.5**		**29.7**		**29.8**		**29.6**	
85th percentile speed South (mph)	**28.8**		**28.8**		**28.8**		**28.8**		**28.8**		**28.8**		**28.7**
% <35mph (North)		98.6%		98.9%		98.8%		98.7%		98.3%		99.0%	
% <35mph (South)	99.6%		99.6%		99.3%		99.7%		99.5%		99.6%		99.6%
% >35mph (North)		1.4%		1.1%		1.2%		1.3%		1.7%		1.0%	
% >35mph (South)	0.4%		0.4%		0.7%		0.3%		0.5%		0.4%		0.4%

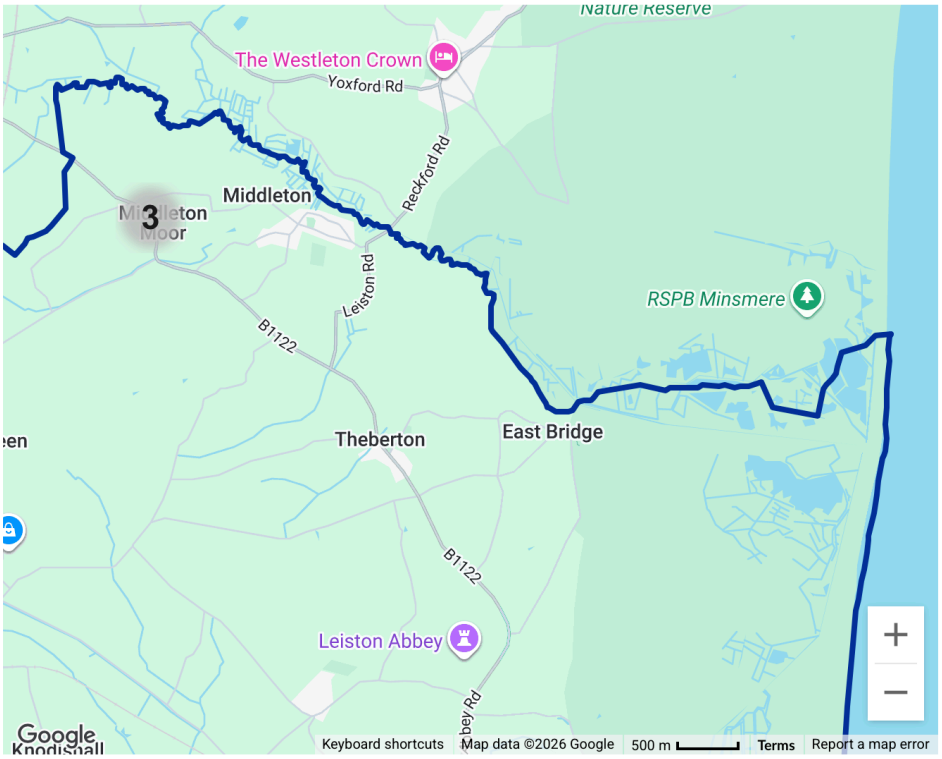
***The 85th Percentile is indicative of the speed that the majority of road users are travelling at.**

Appendix V – June Police Crime Report

June Police Crime Report



Appendix VI – July Police Crime Report



All Crimes (104)

July 2026

Live Chat