

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026 AT 7:00pm.

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Graham Ward – Vice Chair
Cllr. Hazel Collins
Cllr. Steven Morphey
Cllr. Robert Flindall
Cllr. Daryl Ash
Cllr. Nat Bacon

Apologies for absence:

District Cllr. Katie Graham
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock
Cllr. Paul Collins- apologised

Members of the public:

Four members of the public were present

In attendance:

District Cllr. Tom Daly
Honor Houlding- Clerk/RFO

2. Annual Reports

a) Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council

Cllr. Stephen Brett delivered the annual report and began by thanking the District Councillors for their continued support and the time they dedicate to the Parish. He also thanked the Clerk for her work throughout the year.

Special thanks were given to Cllr. Richard Smith for his support, understanding and guidance, noting that he had always ensured the Parish Council was well informed and supported.

Cllr. Stephen Brett reflected on what had been a very busy year for the Parish Council. He highlighted the Heritage Trail project and thanked Cllr. Stephen Morphey for his work and support towards the official launch event, due to take place jointly with Theberton Community Council on Saturday 20th June 2026.

He also noted the successful planting of fruit trees at the playing field in Eastbridge, along with the recent planting of an Oak tree lead by Cllr. Hazel Collins.

Members heard that the Parish Council is currently progressing a grant application for a new tractor and mower to assist with maintaining both playing fields. Cllr. Robert Flindall advised that a larger grant application is also being explored for additional community projects identified through the successful community survey. A possible third application may then follow to assist in funding a Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Stephen Brett noted that the Parish Council is very small and that the ongoing Sizewell C project, alongside other infrastructure proposals, continues to place significant demands on councillors' time. Particular thanks were given to Cllr. Paul Collins for his extensive reading and significant support in relation to these matters.

Thanks were also extended to all local volunteers involved in litter picking, grass mowing and supporting the running of the Community Council.

Cllr. Tom Daly advised that East Suffolk Council supports neighbourhood planning initiatives.

Cllr. Robert Flindall reported that there had been constructive meetings with East Suffolk Council officers, although progress has slowed following the withdrawal of government funding. Alternative funding avenues are therefore being explored, including the Sizewell C Community Fund.

Members also heard that the current Government has introduced significantly increased housing targets and that local authorities must demonstrate an appropriate land supply to help prevent speculative development. As a result, adjustments to the Local Plan will be required.

A member of the public referred to the Neighbourhood Plan and concerns surrounding potential future housing developments. It was clarified that, as part of the Local Plan process, a “Call for Sites” had been undertaken seeking suggestions for land that may be available for development. These sites had not been put forward by the Parish Council, but generally by developers or landowners.

It was explained that a Neighbourhood Plan could help protect the villages from unsuitable development proposals and provide greater local influence over future planning decisions.

A member of the public commented that a Neighbourhood Plan could help form part of an argument either for or against future housing applications. It was explained that the Local Plan acts as a strategic planning tool and sets policies relating to matters such as infrastructure and facilities, whilst a Neighbourhood Plan can provide more detailed local guidance, including the type and location of development considered appropriate. It was also noted that the Parish may ultimately determine, with supporting evidence and authority support, that there is limited or no suitable space for development.

b) Suffolk County Council

There were no County Councillors present and no Annual Report submitted by Suffolk County Council.

c) East Suffolk Council

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

d) Theberton and Eastbridge Community Council

There were no Community Council members present.

e) St Peter’s Church, Theberton

The St Peter’s Church, Theberton Annual Report is attached as **Appendix II**.

f) The Theberton Lionesses

The Theberton Lionesses Annual Report was read out by the Chairperson and is attached as **Appendix III**.

Cllr. Stephen Brett thanked The Lionesses for their work within the community and extended help for applying for grants via the Sizewell C Community Forum and other local funding streams.

g) Stop Sizewell C

The Stop Sizewell C Annual Report is attached as **Appendix IV**.

3. Annual Reports from any other groups

MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter’s Annual Report is attached as **Appendix V**.

4. Next Meeting

To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the next Annual Parish Council Meeting which is scheduled to be held on the Wednesday 12th May 2027 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
Meeting ended at 7.45pm

Appendix I – East Suffolk Council Annual Report

Suffolk's District and Borough Councils have welcomed the Government's decision on the future shape of local government in Suffolk.

The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has confirmed that three unitary councils will be created in Suffolk replacing the current system made up of Suffolk County Council and the five district and borough councils: Babergh, East Suffolk, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk and West Suffolk.

The new councils will come into operation in April 2028, with elections scheduled for next year to establish the shadow authorities responsible for shaping and overseeing the transition.

The joint statement made by District and Borough Council Leaders said: "We are delighted to have the opportunity to reshape local government so it can better serve our residents and businesses, both now and for future generations.

"We had confidence in our Three Councils for Suffolk proposal, and we are pleased that the Government has listened to both us and the public in concluding that three unitary councils will best reflect and support the diverse needs across Suffolk.

"We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition and to creating councils that are large enough to deliver, and local enough to truly care."

The three unitary model will be simpler for residents (providing a single point of contact for services) and provide greater value for money (saving Suffolk £106 million in the first five years); crucially, it will mean accountability because decision making will be kept truly local to you.

For more details, please visit: [Welcome – Three Councils For Suffolk](#)

GLI Achievements

As the GLI (Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent) administration of East Suffolk Council, we are proud of our cross-party collaboration and the successes this has led to throughout our current term. Many of our Councillors were new to the role, and we have all dedicated ourselves to the communities we were elected to serve; below is a list of some of our achievements so far. If you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to contact us.

- Community Energy. (launch event on 29th May)
<https://eastsuffolkcommunityenergyprogramme.eventbrite.co.uk>
- Tree strategy ([East Suffolk Tree and Hedgerow Strategy | East Suffolk Council](#))
- East Suffolk Youth Council ([East Suffolk Youth Council pays visit to Parliament | East Anglian Daily Times](#)
[Youth Councillors visit heart of British democracy | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Community Hub ([Council Community Hub officially opens in Lowestoft | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Teenage Engagement Project
- Community Café
- Youth Clubs

- SISU machines ([Lowestoft residents encouraged to ‘make those moments last’ by getting their blood pressure checked - Suffolk County Council](#))
- Port Health
- £1.5m Thriving Communities Fund for areas outside of Lowestoft and Felixstowe ([New fund announced to support East Suffolk’s smallest communities | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Work on Developer’s Charter – subsequent support for pressure groups speaking out against government restrictions on local authorities to improve building standards for new builds in east Suffolk. This will impact ES’s carbon costs, fuel poverty and general health of occupants.
- Marmot place – investment in health equity. ([East Suffolk Marmot Place | East Suffolk Council](#) [Tackling health inequalities in East Suffolk | East Suffolk Council](#))
- All car parks are equipped with at least one coin operated payment machine, and also offer contactless card payment - machines are designed to be located near disabled spaces. ([Car parks and tariffs | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Nature at Work, engaging schools, parish council’s and town councils to help biodiversity. ([Nature at Work | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Cycling and Walking strategy. ([Cycling | East Suffolk Council](#))
- SALIX government grant to decarbonise leisure centres so they are cheaper to run and more sustainable. ([Leisure development projects | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Managed and monitored challenging energy projects and sought ways to support residents wherever possible.
- Investment in Community Partnerships – support of bat monitoring. ([Community Partnerships | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Solar for schools
- Flood resilience fund, and support in extreme weather conditions ([Resilient Coasts | East Suffolk Council](#)).
- Support for Thorpeness community. ([Coastal Erosion at Thorpeness | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Green Light Trust
- Kirkely Waterfront
- Lowestoft cultural quarter improvements ([Work to deliver Cultural Quarter progressing once more | East Suffolk Council](#))
- National first CO2 restriction on an unpopular incinerator.
- CIL play area funds.
- Overseen the rewriting of the constitution. ([Constitution | East Suffolk Council](#))
- Largest ever council house retrofit fit programme in Suffolk -£11m
- First cooperation between NHS and council on warm homes grants targeted at fuel poor with chronic health. ([Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund Wave 3 | East Suffolk Council](#))

Appendix II - St Peter’s Church, Theberton - 2026 Annual Report

Annual Report
of the Parochial Church Council

Of
St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge Suffolk



For the year ended 31 December 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION: Church Address:

Priest in charge: Address:

Telephone:

Banker: Address:

Independent Examiner:

Church Road Theberton Suffolk IP16 4SA

Revd. Tim Rogers The Rectory
The Street Darsham

Suffolk IP17 3QA 01728 668951

HSBC Bank UK 20 High Street Saxmundham Suffolk IP17 1DB

Oliver Charles Suffolk House High Street Yoxford
Suffolk IP17 3EP

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge 2 Annual Report and Financial Statements

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

PCC Member's Name

Rector: Curate: Retired Clergy:

Lay Elder: Church Wardens:

Deanery Synod Representative:

Elected Members:

Term of Office Ends

St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge

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Revd. Tim Rogers Vacancy

Revd. Susan Warne

Vacancy

Simon Ilett Nicholas Cooper

Vacancy

Sally Ilett (Secretary / Electoral Roll Officer) Nick Ward (Treasurer)

Nicholas Cooper (Safeguarding)

Stephen Beaumont

Sesi Turnbull

APCM 2026 APCM 2026

APCM 2026 APCM 2026 APCM 2026 APCM 2026 APCM 2026

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All regular church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Peters PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Church Membership

Electoral Roll – Resident:

Electoral Roll – Non-Resident:

Average Adult Attendance Communion: Average Adult Attendance Taizé/Healing: Average Adult Attendance

Morning Praise:

Official Offices Baptisms Weddings Funerals Interment of ashes

2025 19

3

15 10

8

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2024 18

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MINISTRY

- Reverend Tim Rogers continues as Rector of Yoxmere after being installed on 28th September 2020 and we thank him warmly for his ministry and support to our parish.
- We are also grateful to Reverend Susan Warne who fully retired from the ministry in

April this year, and we send our sincere wishes for a happy retirement.

SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Annual Report:

Parish highlights included the following.

- During the year we were blessed with fifteen Holy Communion and eight Morning Praise services. Many thanks to the Clergy and Lay members who took these services and the congregation attending.
- Thanks to Patricia Cooke for the playing our pipe organ at many church services throughout the year. It is so lovely to hear our organ played on a regular basis and so beautifully.
- There were ten Taizé/Healing services during 2025. Thanks to Simon Ilett for preparing the Taizé service sheets throughout the year and for the thoughtful wording provided in the Taizé service sheets. Thanks too to the PCC members who took these services.
- Nicholas Cooper continues to be our Safeguarding Officer. Many thanks to Nicholas for keeping up to date with the regulations and prompting the PCC to complete follow- up training as required.
- January 12th – Plough Sunday Taizé service, ten people in attendance.
- April 20th - Easter Sunday service was held, eighteen in the congregation.
- August 10th - The Annual Animal Service (Taizé) was held in the churchyard; this happy

occasion was a remarkable success with fifteen people attending.

- October 12th - Harvest Festival Service held at St. Peters Theberton.
- November 9th - Our Remembrance Sunday and wreath laying service (Taizé), twenty-

three people attending. Thanks to Simon Ilett who wrote and printed the service sheets. Our thanks to Beverly Smith who co-ordinated donations for the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

- Thanks to Joan Harvey, we are lucky to have Joan in our midst keeping an eye on the flowers and making our church look so beautiful.

- • December 6th & 7th - Christmas Tree festival with over thirty beautifully decorated trees of all shapes and sizes. Huge thanks go to all the contributors and Joan Harvey for organising it all.
 - • December 17th Carols around the Christmas Tree, a well-attended event; folks in fine voice and mulled wine and nibbles.
 - • December 24th – Christmas Eve Nativity service, with carols, and readings amongst the beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Lovely to see children attending together with one hundred and twenty adults.
 - • December 25th – Christmas Day service, ten people in attendance.
- St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge 5 Annual Report and Financial Statements
- • This year donations were made to several charity organisations, these included funds for the following: Suffolk Historic Churches, Suffolk Guild for Ringers, Round Tower Trust, and to EACH.
 - • Thanks to our Church Wardens, Simon Ilett and Nicholas Cooper. We thank them for their contribution to the work of our parish.
 - • During the year the treasurer Nick Ward, Church Wardens and PCC have ensured the Parish Share was achieved.

BELLS

Our thanks again go to Julia Brown our Bell Captain. Over the year the ringers have endeavoured to ring church bells for every service. We are grateful to all the various people who come from Knodishall, Benhall, Kelsale, Bungay, Yoxford, and Theberton to make ringing possible. We are lucky to have one of the best rings of six bells in the area.

FUND RAISING

June 28th – The third annual Teddies from the Tower - this was really a fun event well supported by the local community with the many children watching their teddies fly from the top of the tower. Refreshments were provided by our church community, and the afternoon was heralded a success.

CLEANING AND FLOWER ROTAS

To the helpers who regularly clean the church building, and flowers that are arranged so beautifully for services; we give our sincere thanks.

FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS

May 13th -The Church Pipe Organ – For routine maintenance to the Organ including tuning and basic repairs / adjustments to the instrument, including oiling the blower. The work was carried out by Tim Artiss of The Suffolk Pipe Organ Company.

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

We are grateful for the groundwork support from Megan Rowlands Placement Co-ordinator, East of England Probation Service, and of course to the support guys.

The churchyard has been kept tidy while allowing certain areas to be left for wildflowers to bloom and seed. The grass has been kept short in other areas for access and management.

The Churchyard maintenance is carried out on a voluntary basis and our appreciation, and huge thanks are due to Colin Harper.

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POLICIES

Health and Safety

The church building and churchyard are regularly inspected, and a report is considered by the PCC. Qualified persons inspect electrical items and fire extinguishers. There is a Health and Safety Policy for the church and activities.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MONTAGE

The photographic montage has been added at the end of this report to illustrate some of the items referenced in the text.

ANNUAL REPORT

The annual church report is compiled and written by Nick Ward and proofread by Sally Ilett. Simon Ilett approves the report for St Peters Church Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf.

Simon Ilett Church Warden

PCC St Peters Church Theberton - accounts summary sheet for year ending 31st December 2025



PCC St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge Year End 31.12.2025 INCOME			PCC St Peters Church Theberton and Eastbridge Year End 31.12.2025 EXPENDITURE		
	2025	2024		2025	2024
Balances B/f/d	£		Payments		
Current	1,387.52		Parish Share	7,362.00	7,787.94
Deposits	4,722.15		Anglia Water re Utilities Water	92.09	80.33
Total funds B/f/d	6,109.67		Total Gas & Power re Utilities Electric 28.10.25 last payment	539.62	747.26
Income			Ocupus Electric utilities from 01.11.25 first payment	35.40	0.00
Church Cash and Cheques Collections	5234.63	2234.94	Ecclesiastical Church Insurance re	2,440.97	1,728.76
HSBC Deposit Account (annual & monthly donations)	3,630.00	3,410.00	Golden Harp re Mower parts / fuel, oil & mower belt	42.02	382.14
Interest deposit account	91.19	104.18	Chubb - Annual Fire extinguisher service/purchases	66.87	895.95
Gift Aid - donations (JK, MS, JR) Restricted Fabric	1,200.00	650.00	Donations - Suffolk Historic Churches	50.00	300.00
SumUp card reader donations	680.25	273.74	Donations - Suffolk Guild of Ringers	30.00	30.00
Church activities (funerals)	673.60	212.09	Donations - Round Tower Church Trust	30.00	10.00
HMRC Gift-Aid Tax reclaim	1,104.88	1,321.78	8-bound AVX Ltd Alarm Subscription and sensor replacement	648.00	735.00
Suffolk Historic Churches Bike ride	135.00	20.00	Suffolk Pipe Organ - Great Pipes refurb and tuning	365.98	1,269.35
Payroll charitable giving	480.00	530.00	Sean Johnson Haydn's invoice for hedge trimming	300.00	0.00
Yoxmere administration refunds	172.00	938.00	St Ilett reimbursement for Collect in Ltd SumUp reader and subscription	394.12	0.00
CBF Deposit Fund	7,500.00	5,000.00	DAISY COMMS LTD FIRST PAYMENT SumUp fees collection fees	40.32	0.00
NET ZERO QUICK WINST EDS&IPS DBF 1 A	3000	0.00	Tyre Hill Builders - Quincentennial Works 2023 Items Nave & Church yard	750.00	36,112.84
Charities Aid Foundation Kings Hill West Malling Kent	300	0.00	G. Knight's Church LED lighting schemes	2,496.56	0.00
Total receipts	18,151.55		EACH Christmas donation	300.00	0.00
Balances B/f/d	6,109.67		Patrick Cooke - Organist Fees	575.00	725.00
Receipts	18,151.55		HSBC Bank Charges (Current Account)	54.03	77.49
Total income for year	24,261.22		Salvation Army / The Trussell Trust Donation	0.00	300.00
Less payments	-17,932.58		Leiston Press. Teddies from Tower, Xmas Eve sheets and posters	304.60	32.40
Total C/f/d	6,328.64		N & H Ward Reimbursement for Christmas gift for JH & CH	86.00	0.00
Balances C/f/d			Yoxmere Administration expenses	0.00	528.00
Current	6,282.66		Transfer to Fabric account £1000 current and £500 from deposits	1,500.00	300.00
Deposits	45.98		Total payments	17,932.58	30,942.46
Final Total	6,328.64				

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The independent Examiners Report was carried out by Mr Oliver Charles 5th May 2026; a letter of confirmation is included below.

Suffolk House
High Street
Yoxford
Suffolk
IP17 3EP

5th May 2026

Mr N. Ward
The Treasurer
The Parochial Church Council
St Peters Church
Leiston Road
Theberton
Suffolk
IP16 4SA

Dear Nick,

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Peters Church

I have examined the accompanying financial statements of St Peters for the year ended December 31, 2025. The financial statements are the responsibility of the church's management.

My examination was conducted in accordance with accounting practices and included a review of accounting records, bank reconciliations, and supporting documentation.

After reviewing, I found no significant changes needed for the financial statements to comply with accounting practices.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oliver Charles', written in a cursive style.

Oliver Charles

St Peters Church Theberton with Eastbridge Photo montage for 2025

This is our year of key events



PPRESENTATION 13TH MAY 2026

GOOD EVENING

For those of you who don't know me I am Suzi Cooper and I represent The Theberton Lionesses, raising awareness and funds for the local hospice movement.

A word about the charities we support. East Anglia's Children's Hospices or EACH and the St Elizabeth Hospice groups are very strong, providing all kinds of medical, practical, emotional and physical support for all ages and all family members. This support is vital and comforting for those facing life-limiting or life-threatening illnesses and their families. Check out their websites to learn exactly what services they provide. It is very impressive. However, for this service the hospice movement locally needs in excess of £20 million per year. The charities receive roughly about 30% from government sources so they rely on a huge amount of support from local businesses, volunteers and fundraisers.

As we have not presented to you before I have provided some leaflets for you to take away but I will give you a short history.

We are group of ladies who are passionate about fundraising but also enjoy each other's company, meeting usually once a month followed by supper.

We are called the Theberton Lionesses because the first few meetings were held in The Theberton Lion. Landlord Tom Lagden still supports us with a box on the bar and other donations and Helen Lagden was an original member, with many great ideas to form an official committee. The logo was designed by another committee member, local artist Sandra Pond.

We originally formed in 2022 and produced our first event The Ladies Night in Snape where we raised £1500. We reformed the current committee of eight members in 2023. Since then we have organised three main events and two tea parties raising over £11,500.

During the last year we held our first Bring your Bakes competition followed by afternoon tea in the garden here. Together with the auctioned items we raised £1000. In August we invited people to attend a Ceilidh with The Hosepipe Band: a great fun evening and this raised £2000.

This weekend we are holding our second Bring Your Bakes competition. On Saturday we are accepting cakes and breads from 9am until 10.30. Judging will start at 11am. Viewing of entries plus afternoon tea service from 2pm, auction of donated items from 3pm. Please do come. It's great fun and we hope the weather is warm and sunny.

Our next event in November at Darsham is a Tamla Motown disco starting with a 60s and 70s style buffet. Tickets £20.

Finally, as we provide our own home cooked food for all our events, we decided to produce a fundraising cookbook, comprising our own and family recipes. This has now been handed to the printers in Southwold with the support of some local sponsors and the fabulous illustrations once again from Sandra Pond. We have called it "Roaring Recipes" and it should be on sale for £10.00 by late May early June. Do place an order!

Thank you for your time.

Annual Parish Meeting Report

Covering the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group on Sizewell Ltd is a legal entity, trading as “Stop Sizewell C”. Our [Articles of Association](#) state that we are not-for-profit. If TEAGS Ltd was wound up, an Asset Lock ensures remaining funds would be distributed to organisations holding Sizewell C to account.

Our Aims and Objectives: Our objective is to Stop Sizewell C and all efforts are dedicated to achieve this. We also recognise the need to seek to minimise the impacts on the Parish of Theberton and Eastbridge should the project go ahead, and will additionally:

- a) Oppose the location of a construction workers’ accommodation campus and borrow pits close to Eastbridge.
- b) Oppose the Sizewell Link Road when less impactful alternatives exist.
- c) Oppose any proposals that damage the local environment or have potential long-lasting safety implications.
- d) Question the impacts to the social and economic wellbeing of the local area and claimed benefits of the project.

PART I, ACTIVITIES.

NB Beyond the mention of key project milestones, this report does not attempt to document in detail Sizewell C’s groundworks during 2025 and our efforts to highlight/challenge these. The majority of this report is focused on our core activities of campaigning to stop Sizewell C.

1. Advocacy

a) National Government and Parliament:

In the early part of the year we focused attention on The Chancellor Rachel Reeves and Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Darren Jones with targeted petitions. We subsequently broadened this to the PM, Chancellor and Energy Secretary and continued to promote our petition to the Chair of the Office of Value for Money, David Goldstone, urging him to conduct a review of Sizewell C.

In March, in conjunction with the Green New Deal, we published a report called “[Avoid a Nuclear White Elephant](#)”, outlining how the money the government was likely to spend on Sizewell C could massively increase the Warm Homes budget, but it proved hard to get press coverage for this.

We also responded to a number of key developments:

- In January the Financial Times reported that Sizewell C could cost close to £40bn. Sizewell C denied it. Stop Sizewell C was quoted by the FT, Independent, BBC national online and Daily Mail among others.
- Simultaneously the French state auditors, the Cour des Comptes, issued advice that EDF should not take a Final Investment Decision at Sizewell C until it had resolved its funding deficit for Hinkley C. Their report also revealed that the cost of Sizewell C sharing Hinkley's "first of a kind" expenses (contractually a reduction in the strike price from £92.50/MWh to £89.50/MWh) would be £4bn. Stop Sizewell C was quoted by the Telegraph and a major piece by the Sunday Times.
- In April Sizewell C was awarded a further £2.7bn from the £5.5bn subsidy announced last year. Stop Sizewell C was quoted by The Telegraph plus local and industry press.
- In late April we joined protests at the International Energy Security Summit in London.
- Rumours began to swirl that Centrica was interested in taking a 15% stake, EDF a 12.5% stake and other investors were entering the capital raise (see item 2 for details).
- A strong feature throughout the year was political rhetoric from the Labour government threatening to "rip up the rules" and "sweep aside the blockers". We were proud to appear at number 10 in [The Sun's](#) top 20 "blockers" which rather over-enthusiastically credited us with helping Sizewell C's costs double from £20-40bn.
- Conversely, plans to re-categorise nuclear as "green" energy appeared to go on a back burner - indeed in July the government said it would not create a green taxonomy.

As early as April The Times flagged that Prime Minister Keir Starmer was seeking a "nuclear moment" ahead of the 11 June **Spending Review**, but in the event the moment came only 24 hours beforehand, on 10 June. In anticipation of this we had stepped up activity to highlight the risk of such a bad political decision.

- On the night of 4 June we projected warning onto the dome of Sizewell B. These featured in international press coverage of Sizewell C in following week.
- On 7 June we held a joint "Outrage" Rally with Against Sizewell C, also designed to pay tribute former Chair Pete Wilkinson who had died January (see 4 for details).
- On 9 June we heard rumours that Keir Starmer to Sizewell C the following day and warned to be ready to protest. In the event, the Prime cancelled that part of his trip and limited visit to an Ipswich college.



messages prominently the

Together to TASC's suddenly in

was coming supporters Minister himself to a

On 10 June the government announced that it would be investing £14.2bn in Sizewell C (making £18bn in total), but the announcement fell short of a Final Investment Decision - as the capital raise was incomplete - and no overall cost for Sizewell C was given. In a single day Stop Sizewell C excess of 80 press calls and conducted numerous - starting at 5.30am and ending at 7.30pm with a Channel 4 News (right) - resulting in at least 50 appearances in mainstream media. For more 5.



handled in live interviews debate on known highlights see

In July a Final Investment Decision was announced, with Sizewell C's expected cost given as £38bn [2024], making a total mockery of the government's denial of the Financial Times's £40bn story a few months previously. Outrageously no completion date was provided beyond "mid to late 2030s". with Centrica, EDF, Amber Infrastructure and Canadian Pension Fund La Caisse (CDPQ) all taking stakes that would reduce the government's share to just under 50%. There was further significant press coverage, prominently featuring Stop Sizewell C. However, Final Close (the signing of contracts) was not achieved until November 2025.

Throughout the year Alison continued to co Chair (with a senior official) a DESNZ Nuclear NGO Forum. Our advocacy efforts were slightly hampered by the lack of a Nuclear Minister during the key Final Investment Decision process. Lord Hunt chose to retire in May after the passing of the GB Energy Bill and his replacement, Baroness Curran, resigned after two weeks for health reasons. There was no Nuclear Minister until Lord Vallance was appointed in September. He attended an online forum in October and visited Sizewell C in December but regretfully did not take up our invitation to meet us.

b) Local politics:

Activity with local elected representatives was more limited this year as the main focus was on the Final Investment Decision. However, throughout the year we continued to support Town & Parish Councils in their efforts to secure direct dialogue with officials over the cumulative impacts of Suffolk's energy projects.

In February Alison visited Hinkley C to update herself on the current status of the project and its main challenges, during which she met with a number of County, Town and Parish Councillors as well as the Stop Hinkley campaign.

Stop Sizewell C also introduced academics with expertise in Emergency Planning to Suffolk County Council officials and look forward to future collaboration on this topic.

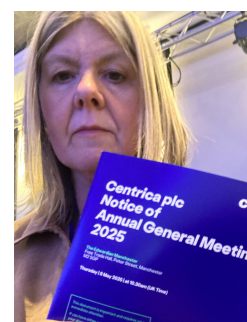
2. Financial Campaigning

Campaigning to pressure pension funds and other investors not to take a stake in Sizewell C was understandably our top priority in the first half of 2025.

At the start of the year we continued to target Centrica, Amber Infrastructure, Schroders Greencoat, Equitix, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) and Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC). As rumours emerged of other investors entering the capital raise process, we added online actions targeting Brookfield, Canadian pension fund La Caisse (CDPQ) and Rothesay.

In May we attended the AGMs of Schroders and Centrica (other companies not or AGMs not being accessible) and spoke to both Chief Executives, getting the first lack of a green taxonomy was an obstacle for Greencoat, though Centrica was clearly committed to the project.

In the event, three of the nine companies we targeted aside from EDF (12.5%) *did* in Sizewell C (Centrica 15%, Amber 7.5% and CDPQ 20%) with generous guaranteed



holding AGMs hint that the very

take a stake income - at

our expense - being given, but we were especially pleased that USS and Schroders Greencoat did *not* invest, and relieved that ENEC was not included among Sizewell C's owners.

Throughout the year we continued to campaign against and highlight the unfairness of the Regulated Asset Base (RAB) model for Sizewell C, which the Office for Budget Responsibility calculated would cost consumers £4bn in the period to 2030/31. RAB payments started to appear on bills at the very end of 2025 and were blamed for energy bill rises. Stop Sizewell C was quoted in press reports.

After many years of pressing the National Audit Office to make an early enquiry into Sizewell C, this enquiry was finally launched and the findings expected in 2026.

3. Engagement with Regulators and Legal Challenges.

As mentioned above, a strong feature of the year was changes to planning, siting and nuclear regulation. Stop Sizewell C was quoted in the media about a new National Policy Statement which would open up new sites to nuclear developers outside of the existing ones. Of particular concern was the government's Nuclear Regulatory Review which threatened to "rip up the rules" to nuclear regulation. Stop Sizewell C and other NGOs were invited to meet the Taskforce.

We continued to highlight Sizewell C's lack of water, contributing to a front-page story by the East Anglian Daily Times, and participating in consultations about a bespoke pipeline to the plant to be built by Essex and Suffolk Water.

During 2025 we offered moral support to Together Against C's legal challenge of the Sizewell C's failure to submit plans overland flood barriers – known about by EDF since 2015 - planning examination. There was a permission hearing at Court in December but the application was refused. Paul served as a Director of TASC during this time. Aerial image copyright John Fielding licensed to Stop Sizewell C.



Sizewell
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Collins
right

Stop Sizewell C also continued to participate in regular and engagement with key regulators, including the Office Regulation - sending representatives to special in-person Change workshops - and the Environment Agency. We attended the Sizewell C Forums as an observer.

forums
for Nuclear
Climate

4. Community Engagement and Public Awareness

In the early part of the year we published a series of new boards and organised an online talk and Q&A with Stop campaigner Roy Pumfrey, which was attended by 80
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-gjiZ5Ql6U>

On 7 June, as mentioned above, we co-organised an Rally with Together Against Sizewell C. This was largely a tribute to TASC former Chair Pete Wilkinson, who had suddenly in January, but the timing meant it took place before Sizewell C's fate was decided. More than 300 attended to hear speakers including Jonathon Porritt, Kronick (representing Greenpeace), Simon Barnes and daughters Emily and Amy, with music from Peter Kirtley Nonny Denny. After the speeches we walked up the tie yellow ribbons to the Sizewell C fencing. There was press coverage. Photos right by Sarah Lucy Brown c. Stop C/Together Against Sizewell C

On 5 November we co-organised a rally to highlight the “cumulative impact” of multiple energy projects, along campaigning against Sea Link, LionLink and the Friston hub. The event, coinciding with the opening of Sea Link's examination, was supported by over 400 people.

5. Media work

During 2025 Stop Sizewell C had well over 200 appearances in the media, some of which has been mentioned above. Particular highlights from 10 June BBC and ITV national television news, Channel 4 news *and* a live debate (pictured above), numerous broadsheets and national radio interviews and concluding with a live solo interview in the Look East studio in Norwich. Local coverage on 10 June focused on residents who actively support Stop Sizewell C.

Other highlights during the year included a OpEd with Jenny Kirtley for Outrage Rally, and a day of reporting by GB news about Sizewell C, for which Stop Sizewell C found a range of interviewees.

We were also pleased to see a raft of supportive commentary pieces about Sizewell C, including The Times and a Financial Times critique of “unbuildable” Sizewell C

6. TEAGS Ltd

During much of 2025 Alison Downes was employed almost full-time as Executive Director, made possible by our supporters. Following the Final Investment Decision, Alison reduced her hours to half-time in the last three months of the year. TEAGS Ltd held 11 meetings during the year.



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Sizewell



with NGOs
energy
planning

included

The Directors are (*alphabetical order*): There are no persons of significant control

- Stephen Brett
- Paul Collins, Chair
- Alison Downes (legal name Reynolds), Executive Director and Company Secretary
- Robert Flindall,
- Charles Macdowell, Treasurer

Our full Members, who with the Directors form the Steering Group, are (*alphabetical order*):

- Julia Brown
- Michael Gower
- Alan Hatt
- Sue Morrice
- John Rea-Price
- Mark Solomons

7. Dedication and Thanks

In 2025 we were deeply saddened by the loss of former Steering Group member Martin Cooper (right), in early December, and former TASC Chair Pete Wilkinson. This Annual Report is dedicated to both.

We remain indebted to so many who have helped us in a multitude of ways. They are too numerous to thank individually but we express our deep gratitude to them all, including all of our supporters, our donors, and our ‘home’ community of Theberton & Eastbridge.



REPORT TO THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE COUNCIL

Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP, Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal
Annual Parish Meeting 2026

1. Introduction

Representing Suffolk Coastal as your Member of Parliament remains a real privilege. Over the past year, I have continued to spend as much time as possible out across my large and diverse constituency - through workshops, community coffee mornings, surgeries and meetings with residents.

It has always been important to me to be visible, accessible, and rooted in the day-to-day lives of the villages and towns that I represent. Each of the conversations I've had over the past year have been invaluable in shaping my work in Westminster and in trying to bring change here in Suffolk Coastal.

I am grateful to Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council for the opportunity to provide this written update. Theberton and Eastbridge are villages with a strong sense of place and community, and throughout the year I have heard from residents on a range of issues including energy infrastructure projects and their coordination across Suffolk coastal, the protection of the natural environment, local infrastructure, access to services, and the importance of ensuring that rural communities continue to have a strong voice in national decision-making.

This report provides an overview of some of the work I have undertaken over the past year both in Parliament and across the constituency. If there is anything you would like to know more about, or if you need any support, please do email me at jenny.riddellcarpenter.mp@parliament.uk.

2. My Work

My work in Parliament has been shaped by the issues facing communities right across Suffolk Coastal. That has included education, healthcare, farming, transport, the environment, energy costs and access to services - all areas where decisions made in Government and Whitehall are felt very clearly in rural communities like ours.

You may be aware that in Parliament I founded and now chair the Labour Rural Research Group, which brings together more than 40 rural and semi-rural Labour MPs from across England, Scotland and Wales. Through that work, I have been pushing to make sure the realities of rural life are far better understood at the heart of Government and Whitehall, and that rural communities are no longer treated as an afterthought in national policymaking. The LRRG is focused on developing the research, evidence and policy ideas needed both to unlock the potential of rural communities and to confront the challenges they face. Our recent report, *Poverty in Rural Britain*, made clear that hardship in rural areas is too often overlooked or misunderstood, and set out the case for policies that reflect the higher costs, and reduced access to services that many rural residents face. You can read more about the Labour Rural Research Group and its work online here:

<https://www.labourruralresearchgroup.com/>.

Elsewhere, this year I was pleased to secure a new SEND school in Saxmundham, after campaigning hard both locally and in Government departments to secure the necessary funding. This new school will provide 126 places for children with the most severe mental or physical needs who can't be taught in mainstream school. I think that this is one of my personal top achievements over the past 12 months and means the most to me personally.

More recently, I have been working hard to mitigate the impacts of the conflict in the Middle East. We have seen sharp rises in heating oil and LPG prices, as well as

energy prices more generally. In Parliament and with Ministers, I have been leading the calls for stronger protections for households reliant on heating oil and LPG – and I have been calling for these markets to be capped. Working with rural colleagues, I am determined to see change and protections for customers that match the same standard “gas-grid” customers enjoy. I have been clear throughout that this is not just an economic issue, but a matter of fairness for rural communities.

I have been pushing Suffolk County Council to make sure that the £1.5 million that the Government has allocated to support the most vulnerable households who are reliant on oil and LPG is delivered as quickly as possible. I am also pushing for that support not to be restricted to those in receipt of benefits but made available to households that are struggling – either in work, retired or otherwise.

In March, I was delighted to host a roundtable in Suffolk Coastal with the farming Minister, Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP, and local farmers – allowing local farmers and growers to speak directly with the Minister and share the challenges (and opportunities) facing farming in east Suffolk.

Elsewhere, road safety has been a major priority in my parliamentary work this year. In November, I brought forward the Road Safety (Schools) Bill as a Ten-Minute Rule Bill to create a legal duty on councils to work proactively with schools to improve safety outside school gates. You may be aware that, in my constituency, Bucklesham

School had been campaigning for 25 years to get the road that their school sits on, reduced down from 60mph to 40mph. Once I got elected, I supported their campaign and took it to Parliament, and we finally saw action this year. I have been very clear in challenging the myth that councils can only act after a serious incident occurs on our roads. There is no truth to this at all – and all councils can make roads safer without waiting for an accident to happen first.

As part of my work on rural transport, I am campaigning for major improvements to local rail services, including better early morning and late evening trains, a regular half-hourly Ipswich–Lowestoft service, and a renewed effort to reinstate the Lowestoft–London line. I have already received over 450 responses to my rail survey and will be publishing a report shortly. I have also launched a rural bus survey, which is gathering evidence about the impact of infrequent and unreliable services. I will be convening a roundtable with local bus operators to discuss these issues directly, as I continue pressing for more reliable and accessible transport across rural communities.

3. Energy Infrastructure Development

One of the other key issues I have focused on over the past year has been the coordination of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) across Suffolk Coastal. I have consistently raised concerns about the cumulative impact of these developments and the need for a more joined-up approach, rather than decisions being made in silos without proper consideration of what that means for the communities affected. I have repeatedly made the point that residents are being asked to shoulder the combined impact of multiple major energy projects, without the coordination or strategic oversight that should come with that. I have led two Westminster Hall debates on this issue, where I set out the lack of coordination along the Suffolk coast and called for a stronger national framework to move away

from what I have described as a fragmented “whack-a-mole” approach to development.

Alongside that, I have held a significant number of private meetings with developers, Ministers and officials in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to raise constituents’ concerns directly and press for better coordination, communication and accountability. I also convened a coordination meeting bringing together senior representatives from the main energy projects, to press for better alignment of delivery, less disruption for local communities, and clear accountability to local residents.

I have been clear throughout that I will continue to challenge developers and hold them to account, both individually and collectively, and I will keep using every parliamentary and ministerial route available to me to push for better coordination and to ensure that communities are properly heard and protected here in Suffolk Coastal.

4. Local Casework and Support

Over the past year, my team and I have supported thousands of residents across Suffolk Coastal with a wide range of casework, including housing, access to healthcare, SEND provision, pensions, local infrastructure, and difficulties navigating public services. As well as a significant volume of casework relating to the energy infrastructure projects and engagement with developers, where my team hold regular meetings with Sizewell C to raise constituent concerns directly.

In villages such as yours that often means helping residents work their way through systems that can feel slow, frustrating or difficult to navigate — whether by contacting public bodies directly, following up on outstanding issues, or pressing for answers where they are needed.

In October, I was pleased to welcome the Nature Minister, Mary Creagh MP, to Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Martlesham Wilds, and used the visit to raise concerns with her in the context of national planning and policy. This included reinforcing the importance of holding energy developers to account and ensuring that major infrastructure delivery is properly coordinated and responsive to local community impacts and concerns.

5. Future priorities

Looking ahead, my focus will remain on the issues that matter most to rural communities like Theberton and Eastbridge

That means continuing to press for a planning system that respects local communities and rural character; protecting Suffolk Coastal's rivers and the wider natural environment; holding water companies and regulators to account; continuing to hold energy developers to account where major infrastructure is being delivered; and lobbying Government for further legislative change to better reflect the cumulative impact of development, alongside standing up for farming and the rural economy.

I will also continue to make the case in Parliament and with Government that rural and coastal communities must not be an afterthought in national policymaking. Too often, the needs and realities of villages such as Theberton and Eastbridge are overlooked or poorly understood, and I will keep working to ensure that rural voices are heard clearly and consistently at the heart of decision-making.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide this report. It is a privilege to represent Theberton and Eastbridge and the wider Suffolk Coastal constituency in Parliament.