

**MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT THE JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7:00 PM**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett - Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward - Vice Chair
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Nat Bacon
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Philip Baskett
Cllr. Graham Bickers
Cllr. Beth Goose

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Julian Wallis – written and accepted
District Cllr. Tony Cooper
District Cllr. Terry-Jill Haworth-Culf

In attendance:

County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond
Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
2 members of the public

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Public Forum

a) The Council received a briefing from National Grid Ventures about the Nautilus Interconnector which is a proposed interconnector between the UK and Belgium which will include cabling works and a converter station situated in East Suffolk. When built, Nautilus will create a new 1.4 gigawatt electricity link between the transmission systems of the two countries and will carry enough electricity to supply around 1.4 million homes. If the UK's electricity supply is low it will be able to access surplus supplies of wind or sun energy generated in Belgium. The briefing team said that interconnectors made energy more secure, affordable and sustainable for consumers and it will reduce reliance on energy from fossil fuels. The electricity will be transported under the North Sea via subsea cables which will be buried onshore at one of 4 landfall sites identified on the Sizewell coast. In order to connect to the National Grid, the cables will initially connect to a converter station, 24 m high with a footprint of 5 hectares, in one of 8 proposed sites in the parishes of Leiston and Theberton, then to Scottish Power Renewables' offshore windfarm substation proposed for Friston or Leiston. National Grid Ventures have not yet undertaken site visits to any of the 4 proposed landfall sites nor the proposed 8 converter station sites; all sites have been identified from desk-top studies. The design for the converter station has not yet been developed and will be informed via a thorough consultation process with the local community. Nautilus is at a very early stage of development and is classified as another Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project in this area. Should a Development Consent Order be granted in 2023, a Final Investment Decision will be made in 2024, construction will begin in 2025 and commercial operation will commence in 2028. A second interconnector, called Eurolink and connecting with the Netherlands, is also proposed in the future and will require a its own landfall site and converter station. The interconnector projects will be considered alongside the East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two offshore windfarms and Sizewell C as Scottish Power Renewables and EDF Energy will have already submitted their applications for Development Consent Orders to the Planning Inspectorate. All members expressed concern at the lack of coordination between the promoters of all the major local energy schemes and the disproportionate cumulative burden that the area was expected to bear.

b) County Cllr. Richard Smith reported that next year's budget, with a proposed precept of 4%, will be tabled for approval at the full Council meeting on 13th February 2020. Cllr. Smith will make his views clear that the precept should only be raised by 2% as the government's contribution was

higher than expected and other sources of funding have now been confirmed. The government's £9m contribution will be added to the County's reserves and £7m will be raised from Suffolk residents. Cllr. Stephen Brett informed Cllr. Smith that Highways rejected the Council's request for a grit bin on Church Road in Theberton as the road is already on a gritting route

c) District Cllr. Jocelyn Bond informed the Council that the District Council now had enforcement powers for parking offences which will come into effect on 1st April 2020 and the rules will be rigorously enforced by 20 newly recruited traffic wardens. Cllr. Bond also asked for, and received in principle, the Council's support for a motion drafted by the Aldeburgh and Leiston Ward Members. The motion will ask the District Council to add its support to the aims and objectives of the letter sent to the Secretary of State for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy by the Anglian Energy Planning Alliance (which was endorsed by 33 Town and Parish Councils) asking the government to urgently address the cumulative impact of all the energy projects in the area. The motion will also refer to the Suffolk Public Leaders' representation to the Budget 2020 which stated: 'Suffolk has a key role in the UK's clean energy production and we ask government to urgently address the onshore environmental and community impacts. Building on our track record, we want to pilot with government a new approach to manage environmental impacts and realise more efficient development for offshore wind and other renewable energy.'

4. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Morphey, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins, and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 8th January 2020 be signed as a true record.

5. Matters Arising

- a) The Clerk, referring to item 3, invited Cllr. James Mallinder, the ESC Cabinet member with responsibility for the Environment, to attend a Council meeting but no reply has been received yet.
- b) The Clerk, referring to item 5b, reported that Barclays Bank are investigating the fraudulent direct debit transactions on the Council's accounts and they are considering monetary compensation.

6. Councillors' Meetings and Progress Reports

- a) Theberton Playing Field Improvements – Cllr. Hilary Ward reported that the Council's application for a grant from the Outdoor Playing Space Fund was successful. Full funding is now in place therefore Cllr. Ward placed the order with Action Play and Leisure and installation of the new play equipment is expected in early March (exact date is to be confirmed). Cllr. Stephen Brett agreed to fit the new gate in time for the Easter holidays.
- b) Sizewell Matters – report attached as Appendix I
- c) Speed Indicator Device - report attached as Appendix II.
- d) Police - no crimes were reported in December 2019.

7. Parish Matters

- a) Cllr. Nat Bacon informed the Council that he has arranged for a donation of plants and protective tubes from The Woodland Trust. This will enable a hedgerow to be planted on two sides of Theberton playing field. It was agreed that a hedge is preferable to fencing as it will create a natural screen which will improve the visual amenity of the field, provide a wind barrier and increase the wildlife habitat. A vote of thanks was given to Cllr. Bacon who agreed to plant and maintain the hedgerow on behalf of the parish.

b) The Council postponed considering further ways to improve climate and environmental friendliness at both playing fields until the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to add to next month's agenda.

c) The Council agreed to send a letter to the Planning Inspectorate, EDF Energy and the Local Authorities regarding the validity of the Sizewell C application for a Development Consent Order. The Council gave a vote of thanks to Cllr. Paul Collins for drafting the letter. It was also agreed to share the letter with local Town and Parish Councils and to ask them to submit a similar version.

8. Administration

a) The Council adopted Model Standing Orders.

b) The Council conducted the annual review and approval of the Financial Regulations.

c) The Council reviewed and updated the Outstanding Actions list:

i) The Clerk has arranged to collect the old records from the previous Clerk later this week. It was agreed that all the Council's records are to be stored in a metal filing cabinet at the Clerk's address.

ii) Cllr. Beth Goose has requested a visit from Suffolk Constabulary's Safety Camera Enforcement Team.

iii) Cllr. Nat Bacon agreed to email the Clerk with the revised quote from BT to install broadband in Jubilee Hall. Clerk to forward to the District Councillors for grant processing.

9. Finance

a) The Council noted the latest financial position detailed in Appendix III.

b) The Council approved expenditure of £120 plus VAT on a new filing cabinet.

ACTION: Clerk to withhold purchase until Cllr. Nat Bacon checks whether he has a spare cabinet.

c) The Council postponed approval of the bank reconciliation for Quarter 3 2019/2020.

ACTION: Clerk to add to next month's agenda.

d) It was proposed by Cllr. Beth Goose, seconded by Cllr. Hilary Ward, and agreed to authorise the payments listed below. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£263.52	LGA 1972 s.111
Newsletter Printing	Leiston Press	£15.00	LGA 1972 s.142
Filing Cabinet	Sharon Smith	£144.00	LGA 1972 s.111

10. Correspondence

The Council noted the correspondence received between 3rd January 2020 and 6th February 2020 detailed in Appendix IV.

11. Questions to the Chair

a) Cllr. Graham Bickers informed the Council that he attended the ESC Planning Forum where the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) scheme was outlined. Cllr. Bickers raised a question about parishes, such as Theberton and Eastbridge, which were ineligible for CIL if there is no

village envelope which permits development. Cllr. Bickers was informed that there was no redress for this.

b) Cllr. Stephen Morphey suggested that the Council considers implementing a Dark Skies Policy which may prove beneficial when responding to the public consultations of all the proposed energy projects in the area.

ACTION: Clerk to research and report back.

c) Cllr. Paul Collins informed the Council that TASC are considering the possibility of claiming a public footpath called the Black Walks. The path is between Bridleway 19 at The Round House, via Lower Abbey Farm to the Sluice Path (close to Twopenny Arch across the Minsmere New Cut). In the past, this has been a drovers path and cattle used to be moved to the Minsmere Marshes grazing during the late spring, summer and early autumn months. The Council agreed to support this initiative.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9:45 pm.

Appendix I – Sizewell Matters

1 TEAGS

Much of the effort this month has been continuing discussions with groups that will be submitting as interested parties at any DCO examination. Despite Jim Crawford's response to the SZC Community Forum that EDF were looking to submit the DCO in the "first half" of 2020 and the EDF Newsletter saying the DCO will be submitted "some time" this year, we are now getting feedback from Suffolk County Council, BBC and most recently by direct contact with PINS that they all expect the DCO to be submitted by 28th February 2020. The direction of the campaign and emphasis will be heavily influenced by whenever EDF decide to submit their DCO Application. If this does happen at the end of this month, our efforts and collaborations will move into a very active phase as the timescales for responses etc become very fixed and predictable.

We are now aware that EDF are in discussions with Somerset County Council and the District Councils about increasing the maximum workforce well above the 5,600 discussed in the DCO. At SZC, a figure for "sensitivity testing" of the transport plan was set at 7,900 in Stage 3 documentation which may now reflect their true expectations.

Alison took part in BBC Politics East Brunch Bunch on Sunday 9th February alongside Adam Rowlands (RSPB) and Stephen Baker (CEO ESC). The session was recorded last Wednesday at Minsmere, but the final cut was fairly heavily edited with a number of issues such as Regulated Asset Base financing cut out.

Articles have continued to appear in both local and national press on various aspects of the Sizewell development. A report sponsored by TEAGS and written by Professor Stephen Thomas of Greenwich University, analysing Hinkley Point finances was released and saw opinions in the Financial Times and from Investec (a well-respected financial planning and asset management business). Old Sparky at Private Eye also ran a comment in last week's issue.

TEAGS met with several of our financial supporters on 26th February where we provided a summary of our efforts to date and some general directions of where we are heading with our continued campaign.

There has been a debate in Parliament that was brought about by the new MP for Anglesey (Ynys Mon) to discuss the government's position on the Wylfa Newydd development (currently mothballed by Hitachi). Mention was also made of its relationship to the Sizewell C project. Nadhim Zahawi MP (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at BEIS with responsibility for nuclear energy) indicated that Secretary of State at BEIS expected the energy White Paper to be published this quarter but made no mention of progress on the replacement National Policy Statement for new nuclear to extend EN-6, which only applies to new nuclear generating to the grid by end of 2025, which neither Sizewell nor Wylfa can achieve. He acknowledged that the initial consultation on RAB was still being considered as alternative funding routes for new nuclear were being formulated but made no further commitments about direction or timescale.

2 T&E Parish Council

On 23rd January Cllr. Paul Collins, Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Graham Bickers attended a SALC meeting at Darsham Village Hall, where SALC agreed to submit a motion to NALC regarding the proliferation of proposed energy projects in and around Leiston based on the letter that has already been sent to SoS BEIS, Andrea Leadsome MP and signed by 33 Parish and Town Councils (at last count). This will sit alongside another motion from Norfolk parishes regarding the wind farm on-shore developments in their area and currently being championed in parliament by George Foreman MP.

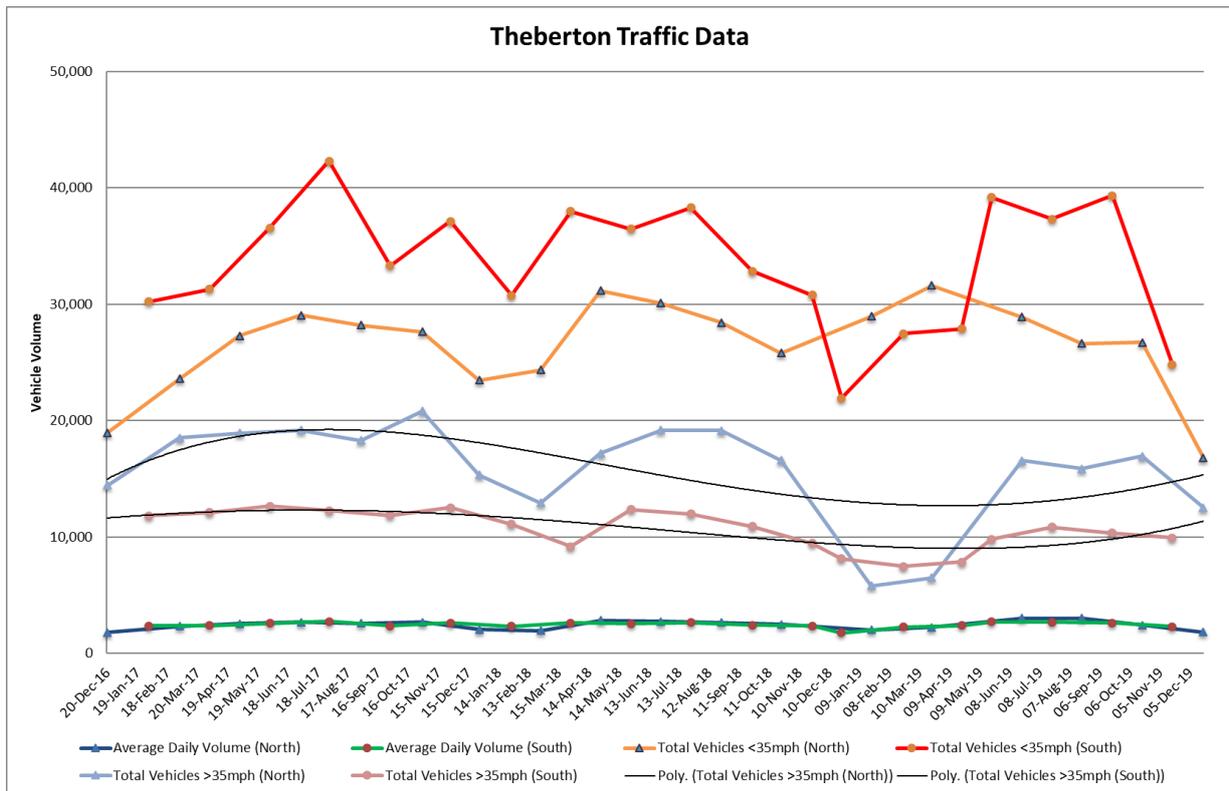
Appendix II - Speed Indicator Device

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

For the 4 months in 2019 the SID was placed at each end of the village but turned around to watch the traffic leaving the village. There is a drop in the number of vehicle movements which is due to the SID being having its radar blocked by cars on its nearside.

The last eight 20 day periods has seen the SID turned once again to face traffic coming into the village and traffic volumes and speeds have returned to similar averages seen in the previous period of facing traffic.

So whilst the vehicle movements data may be low during those 4 months (January to April), the more interesting statistics are that the percentage exceeding 35mph decreased to 16.9% and 21.4%, now returned to 39.6% and 24.6%, and the 85th percentile speed* was 35.8mph and 37.2mph compared to 40.7mph and 38.2mph when they enter the village showing that vehicles are slowing down further as they pass through the village.



	23-Nov-18	22-Dec-18	Village End				Village Start				20-Jun-19	20-Jul-19	19-Aug-19	18-Sep-19	18-Oct-19	17-Nov-19	18-Dec-19
SID Start Date			21-Jan-19	22-Feb-19	22-Mar-19	21-Apr-19	21-May-19										
Average Daily Volume (North)			2,007	2,284	2,240	2,383	2,721	3,031	2,676	3,033	2,615	2,424	2,317	1,833			
Average Daily Volume (South)	2,368	1,768															
Total Vehicles (North)			34,733	34,956	38,091	35,743	48,977	45,461	48,175	42,466	49,682	43,631	34,762	29,324			
Total Vehicles (South)	40,254	30,054															
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)			28,938	27,472	31,606	27,888	39,170	28,896	37,320	26,606	39,341	26,699	24,821	16,817			
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)	30,790	21,912															
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)			5,795	6,485	7,855	8,807	16,565	15,860	15,860	15,860	10,341	16,932	9,941	12,507			
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)	9,464	8,142		7,484	35.9	7,855	9,807	10,855	10,855	40.1	10,341	40.7	9,941	41.4			
85th percentile speed North (mph)			35.7	37.1	37.2	37.0	40.2	37.6	37.3	37.3	40.7	39.4					
85th percentile speed South (mph)	38.0	38.6															
% <35mph (North)			83.3%	83.0%	83.0%	80.0%	80.0%	63.6%	62.7%	61.2%	61.2%	61.2%	57.3%				
% <35mph (South)	76.5%	72.9%		78.6%	78.0%	78.0%	80.0%	77.5%	79.2%	79.2%	79.2%	71.4%	42.7%				
% >35mph (North)			16.7%	17.0%	17.0%	22.0%	20.0%	36.4%	37.3%	38.8%	38.8%	28.6%					
% >35mph (South)	23.5%	27.1%		21.4%	22.0%	22.0%	22.5%	22.5%	20.8%	20.8%	20.8%	28.6%					

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

Appendix III – Financial Position

Bank Balances as at 9th January 2020

Barclays Current Account	£4,576.61
Barclays Savings Account	£1,516.00
	<u>£6,092.61</u>

General and Earmarked Reserves

EDF Energy Grant - Work Party Tools	£132.58
General Reserves	£2,495.00
Parish Playing Areas Maintenance and Sinking Fund	£1,000.00
	<u>£3,627.58</u>

Bank Balance less Reserves **£2,465.03**

Payments - February 2020

Sharon Smith - Clerk's Salary	£263.52
Sharon Smith – Filing Cabinet	£144.00
Leiston Press – Newsletter Printing	£15.00
Sovereign - Maintenance Package (3 months)	£53.97
	£476.49

Receipts – December 2019

Barclays Bank – Interest **£0.75**

Net Balance **£1,989.29**

Appendix IV – Correspondence

Suffolk Association of Local Councils

- a) E-Bulletins – 10/01/20, 24/01/20,
- b) Ipswich Norther Route: Strategic Outline Business Case published as SCC and ESC are consulted.
- c) East Suffolk Forum.
- d) The Local Councillor – Latest Edition.

East Suffolk Council

- a) Cllr. Jocelyn Bond – comments on planning application DC/19/3966/FUL – Field End, Theberton.
- b) Cllr. TJ Haworth-Culf – updated January 2020 report.
- c) Love East Suffolk 2020.
- d) Town and Parish Council Forum Agenda and Slides.
- e) Active Communities Officer – Outdoor Playing Space Fund Grant.
- f) Cllr. TJ Haworth-Culf – February 2020 report.
- g) Material planning considerations.
- h) CIL training.
- i) Head of Planning report - Field End, Theberton.
- j) Response to second stage complaint letter.

Suffolk County Council

- a) Highways – report regarding fallen road sign acknowledgement.
- b) Cllr. Richard Smith – response regarding grit bin application.
- c) Highways – request for grit bin rejected as roads are on gritting route.

Sizewell

- a) East Anglia Planning Alliance – Follow Up on Letter to Secretary of State for BEIS.
- b) EDFE – Plans for Sizewell C.
- c) EDFE – Sizewell B Community Newsletter.
- d) TASC – Judicial Review Proceedings Against East Suffolk Council.
- e) SPR – Investing in East Anglia.
- f) Planning Inspectorate – Registration for EAN1 and EA2 Offshore Windfarms.

Suffolk Constabulary

- a) PCC asks for views on his precept proposals.
- b) ESC now responsible for parking enforcement.
- c) Constable's County – February edition.

Other

- a) Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB – grants open for applications.
- b) Greenprint Forum – Winter Newsletter.
- c) Community Action Suffolk – membership due for renewal.
- d) Latest news from the ICO.
- e) Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association – request for donation.
- f) Parish Online – news and updates.

- g) AONB monthly update.
- h) Suffolk Preservation Society – Climate Emergency – Water Crisis.
- l) Community Heartbeat Trust – Telephone Kiosk, Eastbridge.