

**MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL,
THEBERTON ON WEDNESDAY 12th July 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward – Vice Chair
Cllr. Bob Flindall
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Hazel Collins
Cllr. Daryl Ash
Cllr. Graham Ward

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Paul Collins – Apologised
Cllr. Nat Bacon - Apologised
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock

Members of the public:

No members of the public.

In attendance:

Honor Houlding - Clerk/RFO
County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Tom Daly
District Cllr. Katie Graham

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

None.

3. Public Forum

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

None present.

- b) To receive a report from the County Councillor.

County Cllr. Richard Smith began by Congratulating Stephen Brett on 20 years with the Parish Council and thanked Cllr. Paul Collins for his outstanding work and knowledge with regards to the energy projects in the area and clarifying the status of the recent judicial review.

The County Council has agreed a programme to improve 300 miles of pavement across Suffolk where work has recently begun in Saxmundham. The programme aims to improve road surfacing and road signs across the County. The A1120 from Stowupland to Yoxford, known as The Tourist route, is scheduled to be the first road to be improved in our area however County Cllr. Richard Smith is pushing for the A12 as the major road in the County to be prioritised.

A discussion was held on whether this was mandatory signs only or non-mandatory signs would also be covered by the programme. County Cllr. Richard Smith believed this to be only mandatory signs and that road name signs were the responsibility of the District Council. District Cllr. Tom Daly confirmed that he would support the Parish with a two tiered approach to improvement of road signs in Theberton and Eastbridge.

ACTION: County Cllr. Richard Smith requested for the Councillors to suggest road signs in our Parish and local area that are showing distress and require restoration.

Cllr. Stephen Brett mentioned the B1122 working group which began last year. Progress was made with regards to the discussion of parishes wanting to introduce 20mph speed limits and also the proposal for a 30mph speed limit to be introduced in Eastbridge, which is currently a national speed limit road. However, there is currently no planned date for this group to meet in the future. County Cllr. Richard Smith vowed to speak with the Senior Officer with regards to this and come back with a planned date ahead of our August meeting. The Council also made County Cllr. Richard Smith aware of three road accidents on the B1122 in the past ten days which resulted in 2 fatalities.

- c) To receive reports from the District Councillors.

District Cllr. Tom Daly introduced District Cllr. Katie Graham to her first Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council meeting, where she explained her aspiration for the Council to feel heard by the District Council.

District Cllr. Tom Daly summarised a meeting which was held outlining local councils' approach to energy projects. He stated publicly that the party remain politically opposed to Sizewell C however we should work together with the project and engage constructively with them throughout the build. He confirmed he would be attending regular meetings with all parties to forge a positive working relationship for the County.

District Cllr. Katie Graham continued by summarising two new initiatives to support Suffolk Communities.

The first of which is an initiative to support families access cheaper school uniforms by setting up school uniform 'banks' where those in financial need can purchase second hand uniforms. The initiative will also help to reduce waste where 1.4 million items of school uniform are said to be discarded every year. Grants are available for up to £3,000 and applications will close on the 28th of July 2023.

The second initiative District Cllr. Katie Graham introduced East Suffolk Lettings which has been approved by the government to improve access to private lettings for individual residents. The aim is to encourage landlords to work with the council to offer lower rental prices, we will in turn receive incentives from the government. The programme aims to reach out to our homeless community and those most affected by the cost of living increase. This will also help to tackle empty properties. The Council were in approval of the initiative and felt that it is a criminal injustice to see empty properties decompose and decay when they could provide affordable housing for those in need, however a concern was expressed as to what would happen if the scheme was too popular and finding were to run out. District Cllr. Tom Daly stated that he hopes that if this were the case that the government would recognise the effectiveness of the scheme and provide scope throughout the country for better access to privately rented accommodation. Cllr. Hilary Ward asked whether compulsory purchase of empty, uninhabitable properties was possible. District Cllr. Tom Daly said he was not sure whether this was currently a possibility under the new scheme.

The newly established East Suffolk Services, formerly known as Norse ensures to provide the best value for money for local services, benefiting the council and all taxpayers by providing a cost effective, flexible service. Respond quickly to residents' local issues.

Lastly, District Cllr. Katie Graham mentioned the Tour of Britain cycle race which is scheduled to take place across Felixstowe, Kesgrave, Leiston and Woodbridge in September 2023. The race is thought to be watched by over 400,000 people and could generate up to £8.5 million of economic benefits for the County.

County Cllr. Richard Smith, District Cllr. Tom Daly and District Cllr. Katie Graham exited the meeting.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 14th June 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Steve Morphey, seconded by Cllr. Hilary Ward, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2023 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

- b) To review actions set at the meeting held on 14th June 2023.

Clerk suggested to discuss actions at the end of the meeting. All in favour.

- c). Matters arising.

None.

5. Energy Projects

- a) To receive reports from Cllr. Paul Collins.

In the absence of Cllr. Paul Collins due to being on holiday, Cllr Stephen Brett attended the recent TEAGS meeting where they discussed the refusal of the recent judicial review. Cllr. Stephen Brett encouraged the Councillors to read the Deed of Obligation as this is what will hold EDF accountable with proceeding development of Sizewell C.

Cllr. Stephen Brett also mentioned that Sizewell C had requested a premeeting with the Chairman & Clerk and that they intend to attend our Parish meeting on the 13th of September 2023. He asked the council whether if they would permit the premeeting with minutes made and circulated by the Clerk. This was approved by the council as it will enable the Council to prepare for the meeting in September.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett & Clerk to attend meeting on 2nd August with EDF.](#)

6. Planning

- a) To consider planning application DC/23/2436/FUL - Temporary compound to serve the Onshore Archaeological Mitigation Works associated with the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Windfarms.

Scottish Power renewables, Cllr. Robert Flindall, Cllr, Paul Collins and Cllr. Stephen Brett attended a meeting with regards to DC/23/2436/FUL and the prospective planning application on Harrow Lane. Cllr. Robert Flindall explained that the original development consent order suggested the parking compounds should be located near Friston however the former Airfield on Harrow Lane was deemed a more appropriate site due to the fact it already has concrete runway to provide hardstanding for parked vehicles. He continued to explain that the site was planned to be used for 18 months to 2 years for around 47 cars and act as a compound for Portacabins and mobile offices for the archaeological workers. Cllr. Robert Flindall as the Parish planning expert continued to explain that he felt that the application had addressed the interference to traffic, lighting and noise pollution and that the Council should rely on the EHO and ESC to place the correct conditions on the planning for the site. All in favour.

[ACTION: Robert Flindall to write paragraph for comments with regards to planning application DC/23/2436/FUL](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to submit comment on East Suffolk Planning before deadline of 19th July.](#)

Clerk made the Council aware of a new planning application SCC/0051/23SC/DO however due to short notice this was not added to the July agenda. The email also did not provide working links to the documentation required to assess the application. Cllr Stephen Brett noted that Cllr. Paul Collins had been able to access the documents. It was decided by the council that an extraordinary meeting should be held if deemed appropriate once the documentation had been received.

[ACTION: Clerk to forward documentation to Council once the email links had been fixed by the planning department and summon councillors to an extraordinary meeting if required.](#)

Clerk notified the Council of NSIPS focus groups they are able to attend on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st July.

- b) Cllr. Stephen Brett to report on East Suffolk Council Planning Forum meeting held on 7th July.

Cllr. Stephen Brett apologised that he was unable to attend the forum meeting on 7th July however notes and feedback from the meeting should be circulated by East Suffolk Council in due course.

7. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

- a) Platinum Heritage Trail.

There has been a pause on the Platinum Heritage Trail due to the Village Historian's commitments over the summer months. It was suggested that we proceed with other photos of the village however the consensus of the Council was to wait for the knowledge and input of the local historian specialist to proceed with the project.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett & Cllr. Steven Morphey to visit Village Historian to discuss the Heritage Trail Project.](#)

- b) Eastbridge Common.

Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Stephen Brett have not yet met at Eastbridge Common to discuss the best solution, whether it be chemical sprays to diminish the invasive nettles growing at the site. Cllr. Hazel Collins lives in very close proximity to The Common and commented that she likes the rewilding aspect of The Common and noted the wildflowers that are growing around the edges of the site. She continued to express that she did not agree with using chemicals on the land and that Regular mowing would be a more natural method to control the area.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett & Cllr. Nat Bacon to visit to discuss how we can protect the wildflower at Eastbridge Common. Dependant on their discussion, Honor to gain quotes from East Suffolk Services for regular mowing services.](#)

c) Eastbridge Burial Ground and Shed Doors.

Cllr. Steven Morphey and Cllr. Stephen Brett have tidied the rubbish and broken tiles from Eastbridge Burial Ground and evaluated the deteriorating paint on the Burial ground shed doors and requirement for a solar powered light for accessing the shed.

[ACTION: Cllr. Steven Morphey to gain quote for solar light to present at next meeting. Honor to add solar light and painting of doors to next meetings agenda.](#)

d) Village Signs & Noticeboards

Cllr. Stephen Brett apologised for the delay to the reinstatement of the Eastbridge Village noticeboard however explained that a piece of wood has now been found to repair the notice board.

Cllr. Hilary Ward also mentioned the catches on accessing both noticeboards in Theberton and that both boards are showing signs of aging.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett & Cllr. Hilary Ward to attend and assess whether noticeboards require updating.](#)

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to complete works on Eastbridge Notice Board and reinstate.](#)

e) Theberton Playing Field.

Cllr. Stephen Brett –reported that he had spoken with Cllr. Nat Bacon with regards to repairing the mud guards on the tractor which had recently been vandalised. Cllr. Nat Bacon has spoken with the company that originally made the tractor and will find out the cost of purchasing the timber to match the original design. The Council noted that play equipment insurance could cover the damages and should be something to look in to.

[ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon to get quote for materials for fixing the Tractor at Playing Field](#)

[ACTION: Honor to check with insurance whether this is covered to weigh up against cost of purchasing the wood and fixing ourselves.](#)

Cllr. Hilary Ward has contacted Norse with regards to the waste bin at Theberton playing field which is prone to overflowing. It was noted that the problem is persisting however the Eastbridge waste bin is regularly collected.

Cllr. Daryl Ash has spoken with our local community officer PC Cain. PC Cain has suggested that he would be happy to speak with the family involved with the vandalism at Theberton Playing Field and that unless we wanted to press charges there would be no criminal action taken against the individual. He recommended that to proceed with this a police crime report should be filed. The Council agreed that perhaps the suggestion of a small financial contribution towards the damage could be positioned with the family. The Council were all in favour of the suggested approach and police crime report to be completed.

[ACTION: Councillors to file report with Suffolk Constabulary with regards to vandalism of Playground Equipment and whether a small financial contribution will be possible.](#)

f) Community Council/Jubilee Hall Management Committee.

Cllr. Hilary Ward attended the latest Community Council Meeting where it was reported that the June Fun Day was a great success with residents and all that attended. The Community Council have requested that their Craft Group reduce some of their equipment held in the shed which may help to make room for the prospective Parish Clerk filing cabinet.

[ACTION: Clerk to reduce number of files held by The Council to assess how much space we require for files and size of filing cabinet in August.](#)

g) Speed Indicator Device.

The Council noted the latest report which is attached as **Appendix II**.

The Council agreed that the police response will likely be higher on B1122 in coming months due to the impact of the recent road accidents.

h) Police Crime Report.

There were no crimes to report in Theberton and Eastbridge in May 2023.

i) Hedgehog Highway Project

It was noted by the Council that Hedgehogs are a good indicator to a healthy countryside environment and that generally the UK is massively devoid of wildlife. It was felt that residents should support the cause, the Hedgehog Highway Project was deemed to not be a Parish Council matter and instead to be forwarded to the local newsletter, The Yoxmere Fisherman.

[ACTION: Clerk to send Hedgehog Highway Project through to Yoxmere Fisherman as a potential community news matter.](#)

j) Suffolk Community Awards

The Council have been recommended by SALC to self-nominate for the Suffolk Community Awards for the outstanding work as a small Parish Council with regards to energy projects and other matters. Due to the deadline, there is very little time to submit the application. Therefore, the council nominated Cllr. Stephen Brett & Cllr. Paul Collins to meet to try to apply on behalf of the Parish.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett & Cllr. Paul Collins to meet and submit Suffolk Community Award application.](#)

k) Business Broadband

In June's meeting it was discussed to change the Parish Council's Broadband provider to receive a more cost effective monthly price. After performing research, the Clerk presented some options to the Council and recommended the best deal to be with XLN broadband at a rate of £24.99 per month. All in favour of moving to XLN business broadband.

l) Actions update.

After reviewing the actions list it was deemed that all items had been addressed and discussed throughout the meeting.

10. Finance

a) To note the latest financial position.

The council noted the latest financial position which is attached at **Appendix III**.

b) To agree to renew the Parish Council insurance policy with Community Action Suffolk.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary ward seconded by Cllr. Daryl Ash and agreed to proceed with the premium of £568.20 with three year price guarantee with Community Action Suffolk. All in favour.

c) To authorise the payments listed below:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Honor Houlding	£301.67	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's Expenses – stationery & paper	Honor Houlding	£40.96	LGA 1972 s.111
Jubilee Hall Broadband	BT	£49.74	LGA 1972 s.19
SALC – New Clerk Training Modules 1-5	SALC	£216.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Community Action Suffolk Insurance	Community Action Suffolk	£568.20	LGA 1972 s.111
Jubilee Hall Broadband	XLN	£27.54	LGA 1972 s.19
Lawnmower Fuel	Steve Morphey	£5.83	LGA 1972 s.111

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Hazel Collins and agreed to authorise the payments listed below. All in favour.

11. Correspondence

- a) To review the correspondence received between 12th June 2023 and 5th July 2023 and act as appropriate.

No actions from the above dated correspondence.

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

- a) A member of the public had contacted the Council and offered to take up the Theberton and Eastbridge Parish newsletter. The Council thought that this would be a positive step.
- b) A local resident contacted Cllr. Hilary Ward on whether the Playing Field in Theberton can be used as overflow parking for an event at the church on 13th August. This was agreed by Chair. Stephen Brett and the council.
- c) We have been awarded a bag of bulbs by the East Suffolk Bloom Scheme Public Realm Contract Manager. Cllr. Hilary Ward will collect them in October in readiness for planting in the Parish.
- d) The newly planted Burial Ground Hedge unfortunately did not survive the droughts of 2022. Permission to remove the hedge added to next month's agenda.
- e) Chair. Stephen Brett asked the council to think of projects we could apply for the Locality Funding Budget under the new cabinet ahead of August's meeting.
- f) The area under the Theberton Village sign has been left unlevel with blue water pipe exposed, to be addressed with local resident.
- g) It was suggested that as Cllr. Nat Bacon, Cllrs. Steven Morphey and Chair. Stephen Brett perform the majority of voluntary work in the Parish that perhaps a volunteer group could be advertised in the Parish.

ACTION: Clerk to add the above items next month's agenda.

13. Next Meeting

To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Wednesday 9th August 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
Meeting Ended 21.12

Appendix I

1 TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

The decision on the TASC Ltd Judicial Review was released on 22nd June. Judge Holgate refused permission for the application for Judicial Review in the rolled-up hearing. So, the two days of hearings that heard the Judicial Review arguments were determined as a refusal for the Judicial Review to go ahead.

As a result, and having reviewed the decision documents, TASC Ltd have appealed five of the seven original grounds and have submitted draft skeleton arguments (within the 7-day appeal limit) for our case to be heard in Judicial Review (yes, we have yet to get to Judicial Review). TASC Ltd and Leigh Day are now preparing the full skeleton arguments which have to be submitted to the appeals court by Thursday 13th July. We will then await the decision of the appeals court on whether the appeal for Judicial Review can proceed.

Once again, this decision can take weeks or months and we may yet have to appear before appeals judge before a decision on the permission to appeal is made.

A brief meeting of the DESNZ Nuclear NGO meeting been held with Minister Bowie in attendance. Specific questions about Sizewell C were posed and attendees were able to state their major concerns about nuclear policy and issues for their specific regional areas. A more detailed meeting will be held on 19th July via Teams.

Disappointingly, Minister Bowie's promise to return to Suffolk before the parliamentary recess will now not happen due to his other commitments. A return date is unlikely to be set before the autumn. The intention at that time is to have a "town hall" type of event for Parish and Town Councils. Declan Burke is leaving DESNZ for a renewables company and the minister is likely to bring his replacement with him.

We have been putting pressure on EDF and Minister Bowie to have the SZC Community Forum reinstated. Whilst we have had some positive responses (not from EDF), no further progress has been made but we continue to request that this be reinstated. At Hinkley Point, the Community Forum has never stopped meeting from the early consultations right through to present day.

Further details of an issue at Taishan 1 regarding the fuel rod cladding has been published and EDF are intending to change the metallurgic composition of the cladding to resolve the situation. Similar problems have also been observed at other EDF PWR reactors in France, although perhaps not as severe as those experienced at the Taishan EPR.

EDF have submitted their construction emergency plan to Suffolk County Council for discharge of DCO Requirement 6. It can be found at <http://suffolk.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display?applicationNumber=SCC%2F0051%2F23SC%2FDOR>. The deadline for responses is 27th July.

The planning for a SZC frontage beach walk with Bill Parker, Paul Patterson (CPE) and some ESC councillors (incl. Tom Daly) is still being arranged. We are looking for a date in July.

Paul Patterson did say that they were hoping to have a new version of the HCDF/SCDF design in July, however, it is not clear that anyone outside of ESC/CPE will have access to this as it is part of a "Discharge of Requirements" application and there is no requirement for anyone outside the statutory organisations mentioned in the DCO to be consulted.

2 Energy Projects Cumulative Impact Group and Anglia Energy Planning Alliance

No further news.

3 T&E Parish Council

The letter to EDF regarding the Property Price Support Scheme has now been sent and copies sent to Minister Bowie, as part of the consultation on Community Benefits from Energy Infrastructure Projects, with copies going to the Secretary of State (Grant Shapps) and our MP Therese Coffey.

A letter from Middleton, Kelsale cum Carlton, Westleton, Yoxford and Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Councils to EDF and Suffolk County Council about our concerns regarding EDF's plans for the B1122 and other connecting roads is still being finalised but should be sent this week once some final parish specific appendices are completed and signed off.

4 Scottish Power DCO Examination - No further news.

5 Lionlink, Nautilus and Sea Link Interconnectors - No further news.

6 EDF SZC B1122 planning meeting - Draft minutes have been circulated and another meeting date is yet to be proposed.

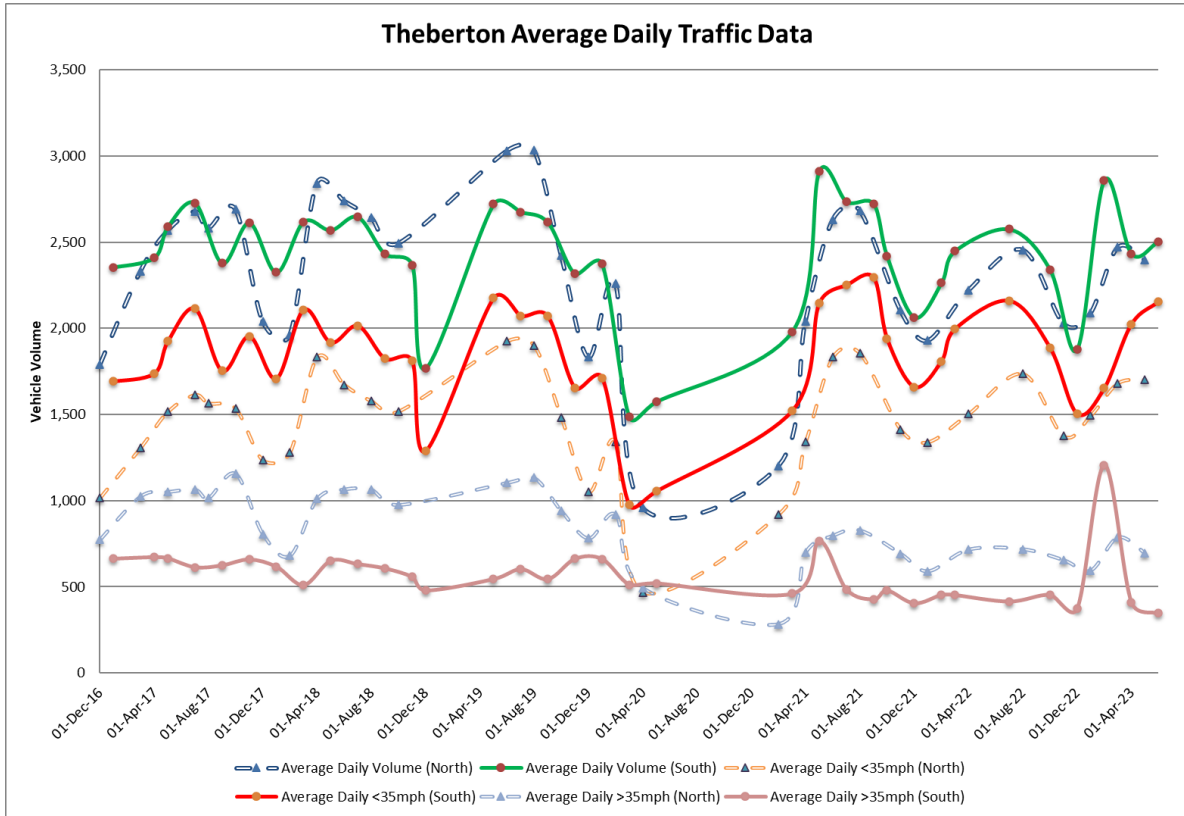
Appendix II

Theberton Speed Indicator Device Report 12th July 2023

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

Traffic volumes in the period since March 2021 are back to normal and the long-term averages for those exceeding 35mph is now **36.4%** from north and **23.6%** from south.

The **85th percentile speed*** is at close to 40mph with **40.1mph** from North and **37.7mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.



SID Start Date	10-Feb-22	26-Mar-22	23-Apr-22	24-Jul-22	18-Aug-22	21-Oct-22	20-Nov-22	20-Dec-22	19-Jan-23	18-Feb-23	20-Mar-23	15-Apr-23	19-May-23	17-Jun-23
Average Daily Volume (North)			2,220		2,576		2,030		2,089		2,470		2,434	2,397
Average Daily Volume (South)	2,263	2,449				2,342		1,879		2,860			2,434	2,504
Total Vehicles (North)			33,306		46,362		40,605		39,686		46,937		46,245	45,543
Total Vehicles (South)	29,421	36,733				44,493		35,702		54,345			46,245	42,564
Total Vehicles <35mph (North)			22,548		34,741		27,495		28,371		31,971		38,483	32,329
Total Vehicles <35mph (South)	23,530	29,951			38,899		35,882		28,589		31,428		38,483	36,660
Total Vehicles >35mph (North)			10,758		14,381		13,110		11,315		14,966		13,214	13,214
Total Vehicles >35mph (South)	5,891	6,782			7,463		8,611		7,113		22,917		7,762	5,904
Average Daily <35mph (North)			1,503		1,737		1,375		1,493		1,682		1,702	1,702
Average Daily <35mph (South)	1,810	1,997			2,161		1,888		1,505		1,654		2,025	2,157
Average Daily >35mph (North)			717		719		655		596		788		695	347
Average Daily >35mph (South)	453	452			415		453		374		1,206		409	347
85th percentile speed North (mph)			39.2		38.7		39.2		38.4		38.9		38.6	38.6
85th percentile speed South (mph)	37.0	36.4			35.5		36.7		36.9		35.9		35.8	34.8
% <35mph (North)			67.7%		70.7%		67.7%		71.5%		68.1%		71.0%	71.0%
% <35mph (South)	80.0%	81.5%			83.9%		80.6%		80.1%		57.8%		83.2%	86.1%
% >35mph (North)			32.3%		29.3%		32.3%		28.5%		31.9%		29.0%	29.0%
% >35mph (South)	20.0%	18.5%			16.1%		19.4%		19.9%		42.2%		16.8%	13.9%

*The 85th Percentile

Appendix III

Financial Position – July 2023

Bank Balances as of 5th July 2023

Barclays Current Account	£4,799.49
Barclays Savings Account	<u>£25,000.00</u>
	£29,799.49

Earmarked Reserves

Parish Playing Areas Maintenance & Sinking Fund	£3,000.00
Burial Ground Shed Roof Fund	£609.61
Community Infrastructure Levy 2021-2022	£651.14
Community Infrastructure Levy 2022-2023	£1,279.67
Jubilee Hall Broadband	£251.09
Platinum Heritage Trail	<u>£10,000.00</u>
	£15,792.51

Bank Balance Less Reserves **£14,006.98**

Receipts June 2023

Tony Brown Funeral Services	<u>£145.00</u>
	£145.00

Payments June 2023

BT Broadband	£36.24
Honor Houlding – Clerk’s Salary	£301.67
HMRC – P30 – Q1	£199.81
Tractor Insurance	<u>£52.84</u>
	£590.56

NET Balance **£13,561.42**