

MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 6:00 PM AT JUBILEE HALL, THEBERTON

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett – Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward – Vice-Chair
Cllr. Nat Bacon (part of the meeting)
Cllr. Adam Hurrell
Cllr. Laura Bonnett
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Graham Bickers
Cllr. Paul Collins

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Tom Lagden – written and accepted
County Cllr. Richard Smith
District Cllr. Tony Cooper

In attendance:

District Cllr. Russ Rainger
District Cllr. Tom Daly
Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
20 members of the public

2. Public Forum

a) EDF briefed the Council. and the members of the public present, about the proposed pedestrian crossing and other traffic calming measures in Theberton. The following was discussed and agreed:

- A pedestrian crossing is required near Church Road for the duration of the early years' construction phase.
- Traffic lights are strongly not wanted so this will determine the choice of pedestrian crossing.
- Consideration to be given to taking away the pedestrian crossing after the early years.
- A 20 mph speed limit through Theberton for the duration of the early years.
- Consideration to be given to reducing speed limits for the entire length of the B1122.
- Village signs to be replaced by gated village signs to reinforce the speed limit.
- Improvements and widening to the paved areas around Church Road.
- Consideration to be given to providing footways from Theberton village to Onners Lane and Moat Road.
- Consideration to be given to providing footways for the entire length of Theberton village.
- Consideration to be given to enhancing the current Property Price Support Scheme.
- Highways to take steps to prevent flooding on Main Road outside Wild About Birds.
- Interventions must be immediate.

ACTIONS: Clerk to ask Steven Merry, SCC Highways, to confirm that traffic lights are not required for a signalised pedestrian crossing. Clerk to provide Steven Merry with the report reference number for Main Road flooding. Council to provide EDF with a map of footway/footpath improvements.

b) Cllr. Tom Daly said he was very interested to listen to the EDF presentation and the views of the residents. He said he was also pleased to hear that Forestry England had taken on board the concerns raised about Theberton Woods. Cllr. Daly said he has been appointed to the Planning Committee South but, as Theberton and Eastbridge are in the North area, this frees him up to make representations on behalf of the Council on planning applications. Cllr. Daly concluded his report by mentioning the national week to undertake beach cleans at the end of September.

c) Cllr. Russ Rainger reported that the District Council does not have a policy to support dark skies initiatives at the moment but this is due for review. Cllr. Rainger said East Suffolk Norse have agreed to add the litter bin at Eastbridge playing field to their schedule for emptying. Cllr. Rainger said he has been appointed to the Licensing Committee and the Aldeburgh and Leiston Community Partnership Forum.

3. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Cllr. Nat Bacon declared an interest in item 6.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a) It was proposed by Cllr. Nat Bacon, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 4th August 2021 be approved. All in favour.
- b) Cllr. Hilary Ward reported that a request had been sent to the Community Council to provide funding for a new basketball backboard for Theberton playing field.
- c) Cllr. Laura Bonnett reported that Highways had cleared the blocked drains in Theberton with the exception of Onners Lane.
- d) The Clerk reported that the abandoned vehicle on Pretty Road had been cleared.
- e) Cllr. Hilary Ward reported that the no dog signage has been obtained for both playing fields.
ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett and Cllr. Nat Bacon to fit.
- f) Cllr. Laura Bonnett reported that the dog bin has been installed near Rattla Corner and positive feedback has been received from residents.

5. Energy Projects

Cllr. Paul Collins summarised his previously circulated report, attached as Appendix I. Cllr. Collins reported that he submitted the Council's response to EDF's consultation about the construction water supply. Cllr. Collins asked the Clerk to compile Statements of Common Ground for submission to the Examining Authority by Deadline 10. Cllr. Collins reminded the Council about the human wall event on Sizewell beach organised by Stop Sizewell C.

ACTION: Cllr. Paul Collins to provide the Clerk with a Statement of Common Ground template.

6. Theberton Hall Farm Noise

Cllr. Nat Bacon acknowledged the concerns raised by residents about excessive noise from drying fans and farm machinery. He said he was trying to work out which fans were causing issues and how to mitigate the noise. Cllr. Bacon said the drying phase will be completed by mid-October and there will be no noise thereafter. Cowls will be fitted to the fans later this autumn which should reduce the noise. It has not been possible to fit cowls earlier as they are bespoke and have to be made specially. Cllr. Bacon said he will also consider building an embankment. With regard to lorries and fork-lift movements, Cllr. Bacon said that loading does not occur before 6 am which he acknowledged is still early for some residents. Cllr. Hilary Ward noted that the Parish Council has no powers with regard to noise nuisance so any concerned residents should be signposted to the District Council. The Council agreed that it does not acknowledge anonymous letters.

7. Planning

Cllr. Graham Bickers proposed that the Council supports planning application DC/21/3822/FUL – extension at ground floor level to create new orangery (existing flat-roofed garage to be taken down), extension at ground floor level to create new bathroom and extension at first floor level to create en-suite bathroom and extended landing/study space with glazed roof lantern – The Willows, Church Road. Seconded by Cllr. Hilary Ward. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to inform the planning department.

8. Finance

Cllr. Stephen Brett proposed that the following payments are approved. Seconded by Cllr. Hilary Ward. All in favour.

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Sharon Smith	£249.82	LGA 1972 s.112
Clerk's Expenses	Sharon Smith	£45.56	LGA 1972 s.111
Jubilee Hall Broadband	Sharon Smith (BT)	£29.95	LGA 1972 s.19
Dog Waste Bin Licence	Sharon Smith (SCC)	£150.00	LGA 1972 s.19

No Dog Signage	Hilary Ward	£107.52	PHA 1936 s. 87
Parish Online Subscription	GeoXphere Ltd	£60.00	LGA 1972 s.111

9. Next Meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next Extraordinary meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Wednesday 15th September 2021 at 7:00 pm at Jubilee Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Appendix I – Energy Projects Report

1 TEAGS – Stop Sizewell C

This month the examination been all about the one additional Open Floor Hearing for new Interested Parties, three Issue Specific Hearings and submission of our Oral submissions along with any additional information to support the responses at the hearings and four Compulsory Purchase Acquisition Hearings which we didn't take part in.

Stop Sizewell C were not allowed to attend a CA hearing that discussed the ability of EDF NNB to finance the project given that they have recently updated their expected Financial Investment Decision date to late 2022/ early 2023. However, it was a subject that was included in the Policy and Need ISH.

EDF had claimed in a previous hearing that they expected the government decision on the Regulated Asset Base financial model to be approved before the close of the hearings on 14th October. In the Policy and Need hearing they backtracked and said that they had “mis-spoke” regarding the expectation of a decision on RAB. However, they also stated that they did not expect to have to update their project implementation plan as, despite the 6 monthly financial statements by EDF that they expected FID to be delayed until late 2022 or early 2023 (up to 6 months later than previously stated).

We have responded to the latest consultation on the proposal for a temporary desalination plant in conjunction with the Parish Council and Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group and have submitted that to EDF and copied SCC/ESC and the planning inspectorate.

We have also updated our Statement of Common Ground with EDF which should have been submitted by EDF on 3rd September.

It is not clear when EDF are expected to submit the final change request to PINS which will then be open for examination once PINS has accepted the changes.

Issue Specific Hearings for 14th to 17th September will cover Flood Risk/Water and Coastal, Community/Recreational/Amenity impacts, Landscape and Historic Heritage and finally DCO/CoCP/s107/Deed of Obligation. Stop Sizewell C and Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group will actively take part in all through myself or Alison directly. It is not clear when the Desalination plant will be covered as there are no further reserved slots for ISHs before the current end of examination on 14th October. It remains to be seen whether the examination will be extended given the lateness of EDF's DCO application changes.

We have a “human wall” event at 10:00am on Sunday 19th September where we will attempt to show where the toe of the Hard Coastal Defence will be and the height of “in-fill” to 5.4mAOD will be compared to the current sacrificial dune and shingle foreshore. It will last ~2hrs and we will photograph the line from a drone from north to south. Further details are available on the website and flyers and posters are being distributed locally.

We are still holding monthly SZC site walks from the Eel's Foot along with the next one scheduled for 20th September. Details are on the website.

The updated examination timetable currently is given below.

Publication or RIES (Report on Implications for European Sites) Third Written Questions (ExQ3)	9 September
Issue Specific Hearings Flood Risk/Water and Coastal Community/Recreational/Amenity impacts Landscape and Historic Heritage DCO/CoCP/s107/Deed of Obligation	14 September 15 September 16 September 17 September
Further request for information from ExA (ExQ4)	20 September
Deadline 8 – ISH etc hearing submissions, responses to ExQ3 and many updates	24 September
Deadline 9 – Comments on RIES and ExQ4 (in any)	30 September
Deadline 10 – Comments on Responses to ExQ3, ExQ4 and final SoCGs etc	6 October
Examination must end	14 October

2 T&E Parish Council

We responded to EDF's Desalination Plant Consultation in conjunction with Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group and Stop Sizewell C.

In the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH10) on environment, ecology and Habitats Regulation Assessment I was asked by Mr Brock to enter into a SoCG with EDF on Biodiversity Net Gain as once again I had pointed out the biodiversity losses associated with the loss of shingle dune and vegetated shingle habitat within the County Wildlife Site. This habitat comprises ~18% of the total habitat of this type within the whole of Suffolk and according to EDF's BNG tables 95% of the area which will be affected by the coastal defences will be destroyed. A meeting has now been confirmed between myself, AECOM and Arcadis (for EDF) for 21st September. I will be supported by two specialists from Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth.

We also had two questions from the ExA set at EXQ2 which were we were to respond to by 3rd September. One was about our efforts to register the Eastbridge area as a Dark Skies area and the other about the design for the Workers Campus at the top of Eastbridge Lane at Upper Abbey Farm. Both were responded to and have been circulated.

I have registered to attend at all four remaining Issue Specific Hearings next week.

3 Scottish Power DCO Examination

Now completed and ExA will be making final assessment for recommendation to the Secretary of State by mid-October and SoS decision mid-January.

4 Eurolink, Nautilus, Multi-Purpose and ESO Kent Interconnectors

The Parish Hall has been booked by National Grid for a public information/consultation session in September(?). This will presumably be for Nautilus and/or Eurolink interconnectors projects.