

**MINUTES OF THE THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18th MAY 2021 AT 7:30 PM
AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, THEBERTON**

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr. Stephen Brett - Chair
Cllr. Hilary Ward - Vice Chair
Cllr. Stephen Morphey
Cllr. Paul Collins
Cllr. Nat Bacon

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Graham Bickers

In attendance:

Sharon Smith - Clerk/RFO
26 members of the public

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Pretty Road Bridge over the Sizewell Link Road

Cllr. Stephen Brett thanked everyone for attending and invited comments on EDF's draft proposals for a vehicular bridge at Pretty Road should the Sizewell Link Road be built.

Cllr. Brett said the Council were in favour of the proposal as the parish will be surrounded by roads busy with Sizewell traffic and locals will need a route out.

The following comments were made by members of the public:

- Opening Pretty Road may create a rat-run as traffic may wish to avoid the Link Road.
- The bridge is a crossing over the Link Road, there is no junction, therefore there it will not create a rat-run.
- Middleton residents generally use the A12 to access Saxmundham but they may switch to Pretty Road if the A12 is heavy with lorries.
- If there is congestion on the A12, LGVs may rat-run down Pretty Road to access the site causing more traffic on the B1122.
- Concerned that residents will be 'cattled-in' and unable to access the Link Road. The roundabout at the site entrance will be vast and will require a crossing over the railway to access the amenities and surgery at Leiston - same applies to Saxmundham. The proposed bridge is the best compromise we are going to get.
- Moat Road will still be closed therefore need to join Link Road to reach Leiston.
- Can access Leiston via Buckleswood Road and Waterloo Avenue via Pretty Road bridge.
- LGVs will not be controlled in the same way as HGVs and buses.
- EDF are trying to control LGVs to some extent by not allowing them to access the site.
- Deliveries will be dropped off at park and ride sites therefore we need to push hard for all LGVs to be tracked in the same way as HGVs.
- What is the proposed speed limit for the bridge? 40 mph will be the requirement. Currently it is 60 mph so reducing to 40 mph or 30 mph would be an improvement.
- Pretty Road will also become a Quiet Lane.
- Is it possible to create a ban for vehicles over 7 and a half tonnes? This may not be practical for residents as some agricultural vehicles and oil tankers are over that limit.
- Will EDF make the road good afterwards if the Link Road is removed?
- EDF's plans are for the Link Road to remain. The Highways Authority want it taken up.
- Will the bridge be lit?
- No, but there will be lights at the site entrance roundabout.
- Have Highways been involved with the design aspects of the bridge?
- Yes, the bridge has been designed by EDF in conjunction with Highways.

- Don't trust EDF. Asked for more plans showing a section as unable to get out of drive. Urged to speak to Planning Inspectorate as there is no reason why Route W was rejected. The Link Road should not be built. If we agree to this bridge then we are saying to EDF that we agree with the Link Road as they are giving us something.
- Understand views but we are not being offered Route W. The consequences of not having the bridge if the Link Road is built will be worse. Offered to take up the resident's concerns directly with EDF if there are problems with his access. This was rejected.
- I would like some of the other parishes to push to keep their roads open so there is not so much pressure on Pretty Road.

Cllr. Brett asked those present to vote for or against the proposed Pretty Road bridge. Votes in favour: 18, votes against: 0, abstentions: 5.

Cllr. Brett thanked everyone for their views and said he would provide EDF with this feedback.

The meeting closed at 8:00 pm.