

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors are summoned to attend a meeting of Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council
on Wednesday 9th August 2023 at 7:00 pm at Jubilee Hall, Theberton.
Public and press are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

1. Attendance and apologies

Attendees:

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

Apologies for absence:

Cllr. Steven Morphey – Apologised
District Cllr. Tom Daly – Apologised
District Cllr. Katie Graham – Apologised
District Cllr. Sarah Whitelock – Apologised

Members of the public:

No members of the public.

In attendance:

Honor Houlding - Clerk/RFO
County Cllr. Richard Smith

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 explaining that he believes that the introduction of a 30mph speed limit is looking highly likely and that he is confident that this will be introduced with the onset of Sizewell C construction. He also believes that a 20mph speed limit along the length of the village on the B1122 has also been heavily discussed to help mitigate risk in conjunction with the expectation of excess traffic involved with the construction of Sizewell C.

Cllr. Stephen Brett interjected that in previous discussions, the council had been informed that they would have to raise the capital to cover the costs of introducing a 30mph speed limit in the Parish. It is expected that EDF will be encouraged to finance the majority of the funds to make the requested changes.

County Cllr. Richard Smith continued to notify the Council that he had heard that EDF are planning on bringing the start date to construction of Sizewell C forward to, earliest January 2024 and that the final investment decision could also be completed by then. He explained that it is likely that the Government will take a substantial stake in the investment decision and increase their share to meet any investment short falls from other private investors. The concern with this is that the taxpayer will be covering these short falls without warning. County Cllr. Richard Smith believes that a plans for the final investment decision and start date of construction will be finalised within the next four months.

A consultation is expected to be held in Autumn 2023 to listen to the views of Suffolk residents and businesses with regards to the government transferring more minor powers to County Councils. If the contract is signed, it is expected that a grant for approximately 16 million pounds per year, guaranteed for 30 years will be paid to Suffolk County

Council, however this amount will not be index linked. The consultation will cover aspects such as appointing elected leaders as opposed to a local mayor. County Cllr. Richard Smith went on to explain his concerns with this as although the leader will be appointed by the cabinet, the leader will have a lot of powers. He encouraged the Council to express their views when the consultation begins, which likely to be within the next month.

c) To receive reports from the District Councillors.

None present.

4. Minutes and Matters Arising

a) To approve as accurate the minutes of the meeting on 12th July 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hazel Collins and seconded by Cllr. Stephen Brett and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2023 to be signed as a true record. All in favour.

b) Matters arising.

None.

5. Energy Projects

a) To receive an update from Cllr. Paul Collins.

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

Cllr. Paul Collins brought to the attention of the Council that two of the current Development Consent Orders by EDF refer to the Coastal Mitigation Plan and that to his knowledge, there is currently no design for the coastal defence plan. Therefore, there has been 2 objections submitted to East Suffolk Council and The Marine Management Organisation with regards to not meeting requirements.

A meeting is scheduled to be held on 17th August 2023 to walk the frontage of Sizewell C. There has been considerable erosion to the coastline recently. Cllr. Paul Collins stated that the Sizewell B salient has diminished significantly in the past few years and although EDF claim to fly drones to monitor this erosion, there is no known evidence of their findings. He added that RSPB Minsmere are very concerned with the continued erosion, with specific concern to the southside of the sluice gate between Dunwich Coast Guard Cottages and Sizewell B.

It was noted by Cllr. Graham Ward that the coast and coastal defences do not fall directly within our Parish, however the general feeling of the Council was that the impact of the Sizewell development to our Parish and if the coastal defences are not dealt with, a breach to the defences would have a huge impact on Theberton and Eastbridge residents.

Cllr. Paul Collins updated the Council on the Lionlink & Sealink developments as he recently attended a National Grid meeting discussing the future of electricity supplier operators. He mentioned that if Scottish Power were to be refused that an appeal would be put in place for December 2023 as to whether the Friston Power exchange will go ahead. There has been a lot of preliminary coordination on the Lionlink and Sealink projects and that the current preferred option is for the power cables to enter between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness. Tests for the drilling are currently taking place under RSPB Minsmere reserve.

Cllr. Stephen Brett introduced the meeting he and the Clerk attended on 2nd August with Sizewell C representatives Richard Knight and Zoe Botten ahead of their plan to attend Theberton and Eastbridge's Parish Council meeting on 13th September 2023 of which the minutes have been circulated to the Council. Cllr. Stephen Brett encouraged the Council to read the minutes and report back to the Clerk with any further questions or areas of concern before the 13th of September.

ACTION: Councillors to read minutes from the Sizewell Meeting on the 2nd of August and report back to the Clerk with any further questions and concerns.

County Cllr. Richard Smith exited the meeting.

b) Discuss response to PPSS letter

Cllr. Stephen Brett discussed the recent response to the PPSS letter sent by email to EDF, Therese Coffee and Minister Bowie. We have yet only received one response from EDF which confirmed their stance and that the Scheme will remain with no adaptations. He brought to the council's attention that Theberton and been agreed to be allowed to be part of the scheme on a 'case by case' basis however that this had not been communicated to the residents of Theberton, however due to word of mouth there are three known residents which have applied to EDF via the PPSS scheme.

The Council agreed that EDF should individually write to the affected residents of Theberton to make them aware of their rights within the scheme and that this should not be a duty of the Parish Council however the Council should mark up a map to send to Sizewell C marking up the properties they feel should be included in the PPSS scheme and to receive the said letter from Sizewell C. All in favour.

ACTION: Council to draw up map to send to Sizewell C showing the residents they feel should be made aware of the PPSS scheme.

ACTION: Clerk to send a second email to Therese Coffee and Minister Bowie requesting a response to PPSS letter.

5. Clerk/Councillors' Reports

a) Platinum Heritage Trail.

The Council agreed to pause the plans for the Platinum Heritage Trail until Autumn 2023.

ACTION: Clerk to add The Platinum Heritage Trail to the agenda for October 2023.

b) Eastbridge Common.

Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Stephen Brett have assessed the nettles at Eastbridge Common and believe that the best course of action would be to not spray The Common as there are some wildflowers growing in the area that should be protected. The Council agreed that raking the area and spot spraying the nettles would allow the wildflower to grow and discourage further nettle growth.

ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett offered to ask the residents close to Eastbridge Common to begin raking the area.

c) Eastbridge Burial Ground.

A member of the public has made arrangements with The Council for the interment of a family member's ashes and the addition of four headstones to Eastbridge Burial Ground. There was also a collection at the recent funeral, where the family would like to donate the funds to the upkeep of Eastbridge Burial Ground. Although it is not usual practice, this member of the public would like to reserve a space at the burial ground, so that they can be buried alongside the rest of their family. The Council discussed this and decided it would be the right course of action to allow this as a one off. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to reserve a plot at the Eastbridge Burial Ground.

The work to be completed to paint the doors plus the addition of a solar powered light inside The Burial Ground shed was discussed by The Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed the work to be completed and light to be purchased and installed.

ACTION: Cllr. Steven Morpheu to purchase paint and solar light for the Eastbridge Burial Ground shed.

d) Village Signs & Noticeboards.

The Eastbridge village noticeboard has been fixed and reinstalled. The village noticeboard at The Village Hall in Theberton is also intact and fully operational. However, the village sign on the B1122 needs to be addressed, as the wood at the bottom of the sign has rotted and due to the fact, the noticeboard is recessed into the wall and will therefore require a skilled tradesman to replace the rotten wood in the notice board. Cllr. Stephen Brett noted that the opening of the Eastbridge and Theberton Village Hall noticeboards to be working correctly, however they could easily be adapted to open from the side to make using the noticeboards easier for other residents.

The Council decided that proceeding with quotes for fixing the noticeboard at Theberton on the B1122 and for amending the openings of all noticeboards so that they open from the side would be beneficial to the Parish.

[ACTION: Cllr. Stephen Brett to speak with local resident and obtain a quote for the work to be completed on the Theberton B1122 noticeboard and changing the two other boards to open on their side.](#)

[ACTION: Clerk to also obtain two other quotes for comparison purposes to ensure the Council finds the best price for work completed on the three village noticeboards.](#)

The village sign area at the corner of Pretty Road, Theberton has been maintained and tidied.

[ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon offered to cut the grass around the sign on the monthly basis, where possible.](#)

e) Community Council.

Cllr. Hilary Ward explained that there had been Community Council meeting since 5th July and that the meeting is due to be held 16th August therefore nothing to report on this occasion.

With regards the filing cabinet, Cllr. Paul Collins suggested that we file the Parish's historic administration and files with the Suffolk Archive.

[ACTION: Clerk to use the SALC guidelines and asses the Parish's paper files and discuss storing these with the Suffolk Archive.](#)

f) Speed Indicator Device.

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

Cllr. Paul Collins also brought to the council attention that the SID pole has been damaged and believes that it may have been vandalised. The data for this month seems to be in keeping with previous months therefore the device appears to be in full working order.

[ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Stephen Brett to visit the sign and try to fix the SID pole and report back at the next meeting.](#)

g) Police Crime Report.

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

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

h) Theberton Playing Field

Cllr. Nat Bacon has enquired with Jewson's to obtain a matching piece of wood to fix the mud guard of the tractor playing equipment at Theberton playing field however is concerned the replacement may not weather as well or be of the same quality as the rest of the item. After speaking with Action Suffolk who installed the tractor, the company implied they would try to find an offcut in their workshop for Theberton and Eastbridge.

The Clerk had spoken with Community Action Suffolk with regards to filing an insurance claim for the damage however there would be a £250 excess to complete a claim.

ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon to pursue the offcut of wood and fixing the tractor at Theberton playing field before proceeding further with any insurance claim.

It was reported that PC Cain had visited the resident's family who are believed to have damaged the Theberton playing field tractor. The Council agreed that they hoped the visit would be enough to deter the individual from any future incidents and agreed that there should be no further actions.

Cllr. Hilary Ward confirmed that the Theberton playing field bin had been emptied on this occasion but that she would check that this continues to happen over the busy summer months.

ACTION: Cllr. Hilary Ward to report back whether the Theberton playing field bin is regularly emptied.

The Clerk informed the Council that the Theberton playing field equipment inspection is due with ROSPA. It was noted that the Eastbridge playing field equipment inspections and insurance is in place with Sovereign and that it could be beneficial to have both playing fields covered by the same provider.

ACTION: Clerk to speak with ROSPA and Sovereign and obtain quotes for both playing field equipment insurance and inspections.

i) Updated Actions.

The Clerk reviewed the actions list and confirmed all had been completed in the previous month by the Council.

6. Planning

a) Review the previous planning experiences from Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council Letter addressed to Tom Daly.

The Council noted the report written by Cllr. Robert Flindall to be appropriate and to be sent to District Cllr. Tom Daly and thanked Cllr. Robert Flindall for his time and efforts in writing the well-rounded report.

Cllr. Robert Flindall added that he felt that the letter should be sent alongside a message explaining that the report was for the use of District Cllr. Tom Daly as information and not to be circulated further. The Council were all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk to send Cllr. Robert Flindall's letter to District Cllr. Tom Daly.

7. Parish Matters

a) To reinstate the Parish Newsletter.

Cllr. Hilary Ward informed the council that the prospective writer for the Parish Newsletter is currently on holiday. It was noted that when the previous newsletter was in circulation that there were not many items sent to the writer to add into the newsletter and that the Councillors should come up with ideas for improving the newsletter. It was also noted that a digital copy should also be available and uploaded onto the website as well as the hard copy which was delivered to residents alongside the Yoxmere Fishermen publication.

With regards to the Parish Council website, it was mentioned that the website is quite outdated and static and would benefit from more regular publications.

ACTION: Clerk to review other local Parish Council's websites for ideas and produce report for ideas to updating our current website.

b) Ideas for projects which the Parish could apply for funding under Locality Budget.

Cllr. Nat Bacon presented the idea of a network of cycle paths like the network that he recently enjoyed cycling on with his family in France. The network allowed him and his family to cycle around the countryside without ever having to cycle on roads ensuring the safety of his two young children. It was expressed that this would be a huge draw to the area for tourists and locals alike.

Cllr. Robert Flindall suggested that to begin a brief for we would first need to assess the OS map of the area and note where we suggest the paths should be instated to join current paths together and that discussing the possibility with EDF in association with AONB with regards to grants and funding the project.

ACTION: Cllr. Nat Bacon and Cllr. Robert Flindall to begin investigating other parishes where similar cycle path projects have taken place.

d) Parish Volunteer group for assistance with matters around the Parish.

Cllr. Robert Flindall noted that with regards to physical work and maintenance in the parish, it would be good to form a scheme of volunteers to help assist with these projects so that the responsibility does not always fall on the same members of the Council. This could perhaps be by working more closely with the Community Council and could be incorporated into the new newsletter service.

Cllr. Graham Ward also reported that his previous Parish had often used community service to volunteer to assist in such projects.

ACTION: The Clerk to add this item in the Clerk Reports section of September's agenda to allow more time to discuss the volunteer scheme project.

d) Small Village of The Year Awards entry.

Cllr. Paul Collins very kindly submitted an entry to the SALC Small Village Awards 2023 which we expect to hear results from by the 16th of August 2023.

8. Finance

a) To note the latest financial position.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed the latest financial position is a true record. All in favour.

b) To note the report from the Internal Auditor – Notification of Exempt Status.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward that the report from the Internal Auditor which is attached at **Appendix IV** and therefore no further actions are required. All in favour.

c) To approve the bank reconciliation for Qtr1 2023-2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins and agreed the banking reconciliation for Qtr 1 2023-2024 to be a true record. All in favour.

d) To note the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2023-2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stephen Brett, seconded by Cllr. Paul Collins noting the budgeted versus actual income and expenditure for Qtr1 2022-2023 to be a true record. All in favour.

e) To authorise the payments listed below:

Details	Payee	Amount	Power
Clerk's Salary	Parish Clerk	£301.67	LGA 1972 s.112
Uncontested Election	East Suffolk Council	£78.54	LGA 1972 s.111
SIID – New Keys Cut	Paul Collins	£8.40	LGA 1972 s.111

It was proposed by Cllr. Hilary Ward, seconded by Cllr. Graham Ward and agreed to authorise the payments listed above. All in favour.

9. Correspondence

- a) To review the correspondence received between 12th July 2023 to 8th August 2023 and take action as appropriate.

The Council agreed that there were no actions from the above dated correspondence.

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

- a) Cllr. Hazel Collins wanted to bring the sluice footpath by Rose Cottage in Eastbridge to the Council's attention. The footpath is continually being eroded by the badgers and badger sets under the footpath, which is making the footpath dangerous for use of walkers. It was mentioned that with badgers being a protected species there is likely to be very little that can be done; however, we should discuss this further at our next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to add the sluice path erosion at Rose Cottage, Eastbridge to September meeting's agenda.

- b) Cllr. Graham Ward discussed the signage he has seen for imposing a roadblock on the B1122 with regards to the Tour of Britain Cycle Race. He expressed concern over the closure of the road however the council noted that this is a rolling roadblock to allow the race to take place and in previous years had had a minor impact on residents and users of the B1122. The council agreed that there were to be no further actions to the imposed traffic management.

11. Next Meeting

To agree the date and time of the next meeting of the Council which is scheduled for Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Jubilee Hall.

Honor Houlding
Parish Clerk
9th August 2023
Meeting ended at 9.26pm.

No further news on the SZC Development Consent Order Judicial Review appeal.

EDF have submitted an updated Coastal Processes Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CPMMP) to East Suffolk Council to discharge requirement 12 of the Development Consent Order. It can be found at [DC/23/2660/DRR](#).

A second EDF request to discharge requirement 14 has also been sent to the Marine Management Organisation. Unfortunately, I could not find where responses to this request could be found on the MMO website. Fortunately, the applicant on behalf of the MMO, had been involved in some previous correspondence and so the objection was sent to him directly and he acknowledged receipt.

There is also a parallel request into ESC from MMO for consultation at [DC/23/2673/CON](#) on the same CPMMP subject.

Objections to all three of these requests have been sent to ESC and MMO on the basis that the CPMMP cannot be approved until a final design and positioning of the Hard and Soft Coastal Defence is approved against DCO Requirement 19. As of this time, no such final design has been submitted and in earlier conversations with Coastal Protection East, the Office for Nuclear Regulation and from documents submitted to the DCO examination, such a design was not expected to be submitted until several years into the construction period. However, it has been indicated that a proposed final design may well be submitted during this summer but a previous indication that it would be submitted in July has been and gone.

A request has been sent to the planning casework unit at the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities for these Discharge of Requirements applications to be called in. An acknowledgement of receipt has been received.

The planning for a SZC frontage beach walk with Bill Parker, Paul Patterson (CPE), a planning officer and some ESC councillors (incl. Tom Daly) has now been arranged for 17th August.

2 Energy Projects Cumulative Impact Group and Anglia Energy Planning Alliance

No further news.

3 T&E Parish Council

A response has been received and circulated from Paul Lennon at EDF regarding the Property Price Support Scheme. No responses have been received from HMG directors of the SZC projects or Andrew Bowie as part of the consultation on Community Benefits from Network Infrastructure projects.

The 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 has been sent and a proposal to meet with EDF on Tuesday 19th September 11:00am offered.

4 Scottish Power DCO Examination

The appeal by SASES is now set to be heard in December.

5 LionLink, Nautilus and Sea Link Interconnectors

I attended a meeting with representatives of both National Grid Ventures (Lionlink and Nautilus) and National Grid Electricity Transmission (Sea Link) on 31st July at Aldeburgh Parish Church Hall along with representatives from SASES, SEAS, ESC, Friston and Aldeburgh councillors.

NGET are expecting their permission and conditions from OFGEM in the coming 3-4 weeks, this is needed prior to any DCO consultations, application and examination. They are currently examining converter station building designs/heights and expect the statutory consultation to start in October with DCO application in late 2024. They will be doing some preliminary borehole work at RSPB North Warren to examine the possibility of Horizontal Direct Drilling under the whole of North Warren. This landfall site will not be the only one consulted upon, there will be a second. A seabed survey is expected spring 2024 which will finalise the two sites to be consulted upon.

NGV are still expecting Nautilus to landfall at East Grain in Essex and no further work or consideration is underway for the previously mooted Suffolk landfall sites. They expect that by end of 2023, once seabed surveys are contracted, that Suffolk landfall will be permanently off the table. This application in Essex will not be an NSIP and will be considered under the Town and Country Planning Act by the local authority.

Coordination between NGV, NGET and Scottish Power is being pursued as much as possible given the potential differences in timelines for the five projects (SPR is officially 2 windfarm projects plus an embedded NGET substation project at Friston). If the SPR project were to be struck down in the DCO appeal by SASES with the Friston substation

therefore no longer approved, there would be a connection issue for both Sea Link and LionLink that the Electricity Systems Operator would have to resolve (ESO are responsible for assigning all grid connections for wind farms and interconnectors). There is a backup plan, but it is not publicly available.

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero is expected to make an announcement about the Offshore Coordination Support Scheme in August.

ESO are launching an East Anglia Review to look at impacts of all the energy infrastructure being proposed for the area.

The latest ESO's Network Options Assessment which previously had a potential second interconnector link between Kent and the Sizewell area has now only the proposed Sea Link interconnector - SCD1.

6 EDF SZC B1122 planning meeting

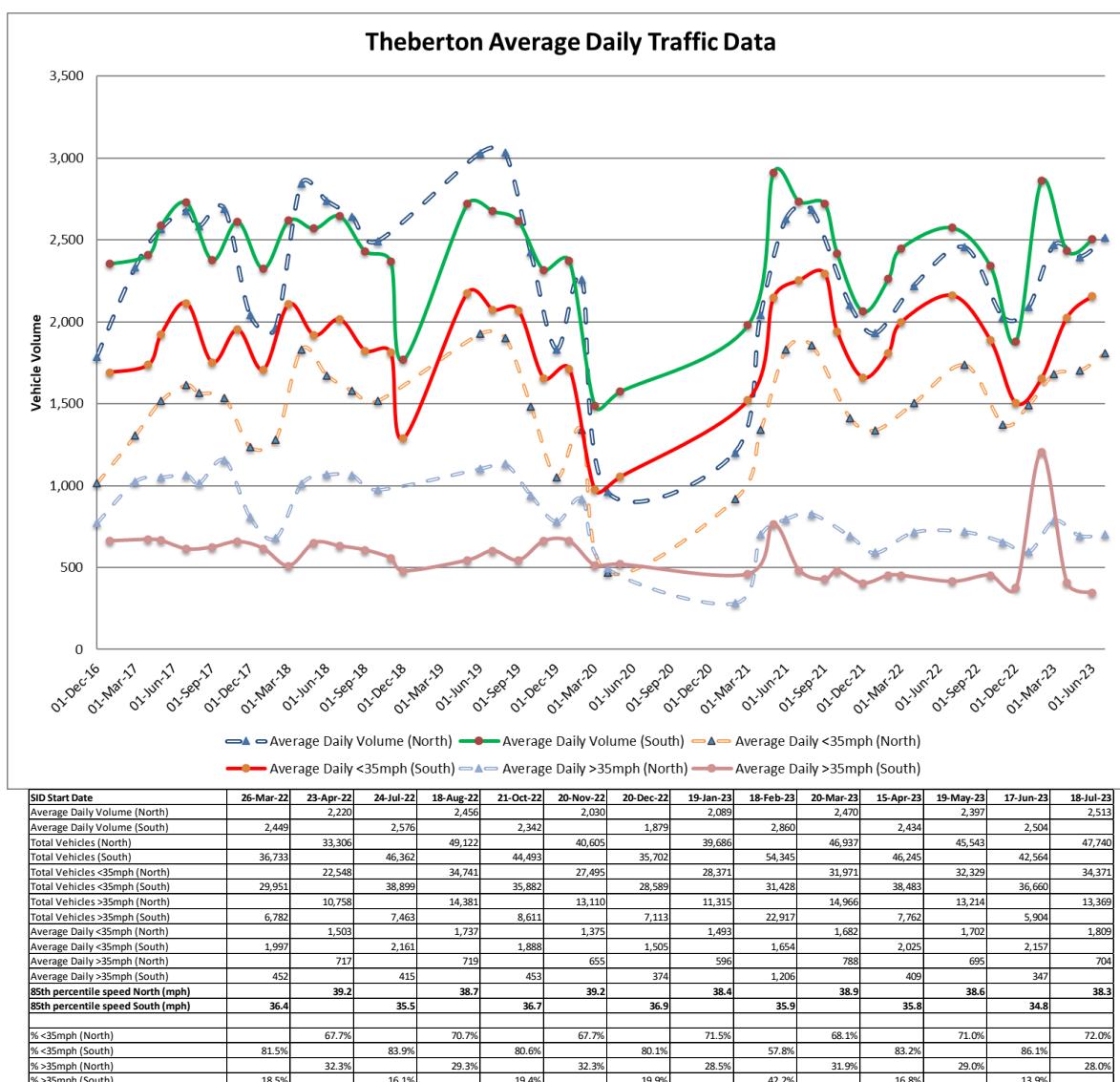
Draft minutes have been circulated and another meeting date is yet to be proposed.

The speed indicator device has been operational for sixty-eight ~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 **36.1%** from north and **23.6%** from south.

The **85th percentile speed*** is **40.0mph** from North and **37.7mph** from South when they enter the village. These averages are over the whole period from December 2016.

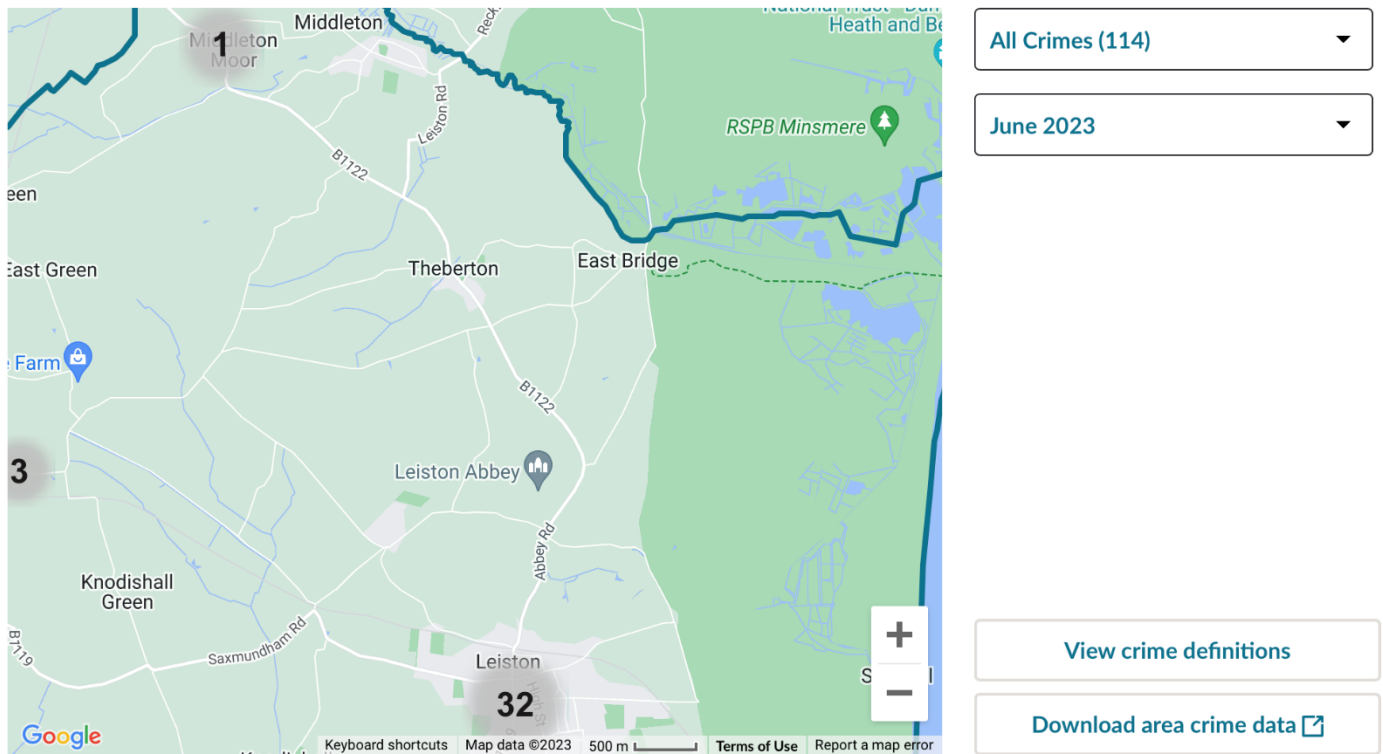
The SID pole at the north of the village has been the subject of vandalism. Someone has push it backwards to attempt to stop it monitoring traffic and it is now loose in the ground. A picture of the pole with the SID still attached is at the end of this report. The damage has been reported on-line to Suffolk Police - Crime Reference 37/45864/23 but has automatically been closed as there is no avenue of investigation that can be pursued. Whether we will be able to have the pole reset under our insurance policy should be investigated.



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



Appendix III – Police Crime Report June 2023



Dear Ms Houlding,

SF0374: Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status, 2023

This is an automated message to notify you that we have received and logged the notification of exempt status for the year ended 31 March 2023 submitted to us for Theberton & Eastbridge Parish Council. By notifying us that Theberton & Eastbridge Parish Council has claimed exemption there is no review to be performed and consequently no auditor certificate and report, or any other closure documentation, will be issued by us for this reporting year.

If you did not submit your notification of exemption by the specified submission deadline and were sent chasing letter(s), you will receive an invoice for those chaser charges calculated in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited which are available to view [here](#).

Unless we receive any correspondence from local electors during the period for the exercise for public rights that requires us to contact you, you will not hear from us again this year, except to chase any outstanding fees.

Kind regards,

SBA Team

For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP

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