

Meeting Note



Northern Transport Forum

Meeting Type:	Northern Transport Forum	Meeting held on:	Wednesday 8 th May 2024
Chair:	Brain Stewart, Chair	Council Representatives:	Cllr Christine Redgrave, Darsham Parish Council Cllr David Tower, substituting for Cllr Ian Patterson, Yoxford Parish Council Cllr Traci Weaver, Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council Cllr Andrew Candler, Sibton Parish Council Clerk Sharon Smith, Saxmundham Town Council Cllr Andrew Turner, Westleton Parish Council Cllr Matthew Saunders, Blythburgh Parish Council Cllr Paul Collins, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council Cllr Nicky Corbett, Leiston Town Council Cllr Josie Bassinette, Walberswick Parish Council Cllr Charles Macdowell, Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council Cllr Alexander Nicoll, Suffolk County Council Steve Merry, Suffolk County Council, Highways Cllr Paul Ashton, East Suffolk Council
Sizewell C Attendees:	Richard Bull, DCO Lead Marjorie Barnes, Head of READ Team David Peacop, Site Operations Director Tim Newton, Site Security Manager Spencer Bowdler, Site Operations – Site Lead Richard Knight, Senior Community Relations Manager Stephen Keighley, Rail Manager Jez Porter, SPM Associated Development – Highways Chris Heaney, Sizewell C Transport Coordinator Zoe Botten, Community Relations Manager Darren Benford Brown, Community Safety Officer		
External Attendees:	Robyn Evans, SEC Newgate Drew Aspinwall, SEC Newgate Phil Briscoe, SEC Newgate		

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Independent Chair Clarification Deed of Obligation
3. Meeting note and matters arising from Northern Transport Forum (6th February 2024)
4. Report back from: Main Development Site, Southern Transport, and Sizewell C Community Forums
5. Sizewell C Project Update and Overview
6. Construction Traffic Management Plan
7. The role of the Transport Review Group
8. Updates: Northern Park and Ride Site, Yoxford Roundabout, Sizewell Link Road Site, Other Highway Improvement Works Sites, Minor Works Update, Rail
9. Overview of the Worker Code of Conduct
10. Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative
11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th August 2024



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Meeting Note – 08/05/2024

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introductions – (Chair)		
1.01	<p>Brian Stewart, 'The Chair', opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed as new members of the Northern Transport Forum (NTF): Josie Bassinette, representing Walberswick Parish Council, and Nicky Corbett, representing Leiston Town Council. It was also noted that Cllr David Tower was substituting for Cllr Ian Patterson from Yoxford Parish Council.</p> <p>The Chair also welcomed the Sizewell C team presenting at the Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Bull - DCO Lead • Marjorie Barnes - Head of Regional External Affairs & Development • David Peacop - Site Operations Director • Tim Newton - Site Security Manager • Spencer Bowdler - Site Operations • Richard Knight - Senior Community Relations Manager • Stephen Keighley - Rail Manager 		
1.02	The Chair ran through the meeting agenda.		
2	Independent Chair Clarification Deed of Obligation – (Richard Bull)		
2.01	Richard Bull (RB) explained that there was a drafting error in the Deed of Obligation which stated that the Northern Transport Forum should have a Sizewell C representative chairing the meeting. He said this differs from the approach for the Main Development Site Forum, Southern Transport Forum and Annual Community Forum. The Sizewell C team have engaged with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council and drafted a letter for agreement, in order to rectify this error. This will bring the Northern Transport Forum in line with the other forums, and it will be chaired by independent representative, Brian Stewart.		
2.02	<p>RB explained that the SZC team wanted the NTF members to have sight of the letter before it was signed, which was circulated alongside the Agenda. Hard copies were available to members to read at the forum and the proposal was to sign it after the meeting, subject to the approval of the Forum. There were no objections received from the forum members therefore confirming Brian Stewart as the independent chair. The letter was signed after the meeting by all parties concerned.</p> <p>AFTERNOTE: A copy of the letter was issued to members along with these notes.</p>	RB	AFTERNOTE
3	Meeting note and matters arising from Northern Transport Forum (6th February 2024)		
3.01	The Chair reflected on the previous meeting and recognised that many members felt the tone of the meeting was not reflected in the draft meeting note. He offered assurance that a professional agency has been appointed to assist with drafting the Forum meeting notes and the running of the forums.		
3.02	The Chair listed a number of errors in the draft meeting note:		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sibton Parish Council representative is not listed under attendees and then not referred to by their name later in the meeting note. <i>(NOTE: Name not provided; or forthcoming from the clerk despite several attempts to obtain it for the note.)</i> There is a missing word section in the second line of 4.10 regarding the discussion about a level crossing on the B1122. 7.01 stated that the venue for the next Northern Transport Forum (8 May 24) meeting being held at Stratford rather than Darsham Village Hall. <i>(NOTE: This was correct at the time but the draft meeting note should have been updated when the venue was changed.)</i> 		
3.03	The Chair acknowledged that the tone of the meeting had not been reflected in the meeting note and invited members to comment further on the draft.		
3.04	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders said he submitted a question about the minutes, saying they failed to reflect criticisms that were made by himself, Suffolk County Council, and others during the meeting. He said it is not just the tone of the minutes that is lacking but that they also failed to record criticisms made regarding the way in which the meeting was being run, as well as a number of the statements made by Sizewell C.</p> <p>Cllr Saunders said that specific points that were raised in the previous meeting are also absent altogether, not just his criticisms. A point he raised about signage on the A12 is completely absent from the minutes. He recognised that it is a note of the meeting rather than a transcript but reiterated that a number of key substantive points are absent from the note altogether.</p> <p>He said that the current meeting should proceed on a thoroughly different basis and that it is incumbent on those taking notes that this is done with a good measure of integrity, otherwise Sizewell C's entire engagement process runs the risk of lacking in integrity.</p>		
3.05	The Chair said the team are committed to doing better and reiterated that the support for the meeting and the creation of the respective meeting note has been overhauled, with a new team put in place and present at the meeting.		
3.06	<p>Cllr Sharon Smith and Cllr Traci Weaver also stated that the points raised on the sign on the A12 were absent from the note.</p> <p>The Chair said this matter will be addressed later in the meeting.</p>		
3.07	The Chair said the draft meeting note can be noted rather than agreed and reiterated that the team would improve this going forward.		
3.08	<p>Cllr Traci Weaver sought clarity on whether the minutes would be approved but with amendments.</p> <p>The Chair reiterated that given the circumstances, they would be 'noted' rather than approved.</p>		
3.09	The Chair ran through some of the key project highlights discussed at the last meeting.		
3.10	Cllr Charles Macdowell asked for clarity on how the Chair is proposing to deal with matters arising from the previous meeting note.		



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	The Chair said he has a list of items that he has picked up and suggested including these as an annexe to the note of the current meeting. He then asked members to raise any aspects of the forum that they wanted to highlight.	Chair	(attached to meeting note)
3.11	<p>Cllr Macdowell said Middleton Parish Council is already having discussions about issues arising from the Sizewell Link Road regarding 'cut off back roads'. He said these discussions were underway informally and Middleton Parish Council feel that this needs to be formalised by way of a working group. Cllr Macdowell noted that there is already a working group around the repurposing of the B1122, which he said is a much smaller issue, and criticised the fact that there isn't a working group on the Sizewell Link Road.</p> <p>In response, RB said the B1122 working group met this week and the B1122 repurposing group exists to deal with the next stage of the B1122 after the delivery of the Sizewell Link Road (SLR). He said SZC are not proposing a specific working group on the Sizewell Link Road but said that issues can be covered within the existing working groups and that people can engage separately on any issues of concern relating to the SLR. He explained that a specific working group is not named within the Deed of Obligation but gave assurance that SZC understand the importance of engaging with the parishes on how SZC are proposing to develop the road and the construction methodology, and the detail.</p>		
3.12	<p>Cllr Macdowell asked whether it would be possible to formally bring the SLR into the remit of the B1122 working group. RB said that it would be fine to use the working group as a vehicle to bring issues to SZC's attention, but consideration would need to be given as to whether new members were brought into the working group.</p>		
3.13	<p>Cllr Macdowell said the SLR is a major piece of work and it is important to have a working group that exists specifically dealing with the SLR. RB said the purpose of the B1122 working groups is for SZC to develop the proposals in consultation with the groups. He said this is not the approach being taken with the SLR, explaining that engagement with the parishes is important but that SZC will be developing the schemes themselves in close engagement with the parishes.</p> <p>RB went on to say that a working group for the SLR will not form the basis of the B1122 working groups, reiterating that these groups are there to shape the designs that SZC are going to be delivering. With regard to the SLR, he said that SZC are delivering a proposal to set plans that they already have consent for, but did recognise that engagement with parishes is very important and efforts should be focused on this.</p>		
3.14	Cllr Matthew Saunders said there was some confusion at the last meeting on the B1125 works at Blythburgh, which were on the agenda but were not to be discussed at the meeting. Cllr Saunders said he raised a point at the time, which was not recorded in the minutes, about what can be done regarding the temporary signage that has been introduced, arguing that the current signage does not look temporary. He said he raised the point in February about the fact that there is a motorway sized sign placed along the side of the estuary as the A12 goes to Blythburgh. He said it is a massive eyesore and would have much less impact if it were to be moved back 150 metres. Cllr Saunders said this comment was completely ignored and a 'solar powered tower sign' has now been installed 100 metres further on within the conservation area of the village. He questioned the point in raising issues if they are to be ignored, and made worse in some instances.		



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	The Chair said that a question has been submitted on this issue and that this would be revisited later in the meeting.		
3.15	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll said the presentation showed that a schedule has been produced for transport-related Working Groups and circulated to members. He said that, as a member of Wickham Market Working Group, he does not recall having received anything.</p> <p>Richard Knight (RK) apologised and said a schedule has been circulated to members of all the Transport Working Groups and that we would check to see whether Cllr Nicoll had received this.</p> <p>ACTION: RK checked and Chris Heaney passed the meeting invite to Cllr Nicoll.</p>	RK	
3.16	<p>Cllr Traci Weaver asked if SZC could publish the dates for the Northern Transport Forum for the rest of the year to help with forward planning.</p> <p>The Chair said the dates for all future Fora meetings for 2024 have been set and these were shared at the end of the meeting and again at this one.</p>		
3.17	<p>Cllr Weaver noted that the SZC team had said the SLR would not be a working group but part of the NTF at the last meeting. She asked whether this could be an agenda item to ensure it is regularly highlighted.</p> <p>The Chair said the SLR is included as part of today's update, and this will continue as a standing agenda item as part of the transport updates item.</p>		
3.18	<p>Cllr Paul Collins said there are two other aspects of the SLR that need to be discussed, highlighting the Yoxford roundabout and the site entrance, where he said, a huge amount of work needs to be done. He called for a more focused group for the Parishes directly affected.</p> <p>The Chair said this would be covered in the update.</p>		
3.19	<p>Cllr Andrew Candler asked about vehicles going 'off route'.</p> <p>The Chair said this would be covered later in the meeting.</p>		
3.20	<p>Cllr Paul Collins was late to the meeting and asked whether the Deed of Obligation changes had been covered. Cllr Collins said he had seen the letter and that he objected to it. He said that he made a point about the review of the people who were supposed to be on the Northern Transport Forum, and that this change had not been made.</p> <p>RB said he was aware of this and that this point is slightly different to the clarification being covered in the formal letter. He said this can be dealt with through the current drafting of the Deed of Obligation and a change in the terms of reference. He said this will be a separate route to the letter but committed to ensuring that Cllr Collins has sight of this.</p>		
4	Report back from: Main Development Site, Southern Transport and Sizewell C Community Forums – (Richard Knight)		
4.01	<p>Richard Knight (RK) gave an update from the Annual Community Forum; Main Development Site Forum and Southern Transport Forums.</p> <p>RK said the forums are now in their second round of meetings. The agendas and slides for the meetings are on the Sizewell C website and the draft agendas are available for</p>		



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	members to comment on and request for topics / information to be covered. The presentation packs are published at the end of each meeting and the draft and final meeting notes are both published on the East Suffolk Council website.		
4.02	The Chair reiterated that the website contains information on the forums. Each of the forums will include an item on the agenda to report back on the other forum meetings to ensure members are kept abreast of progress on the other meetings.		
5	Item 5: Sizewell C Project Update and Overview – (Marjorie Barnes)		
5.01	<p>Marjorie Barnes (MB) said the project continues to move forward and is making good progress, outlining some of the key milestones reached since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Land Purchase has been agreed • The Nuclear Site Licence has been granted by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). She said this is a significant step forward and the first time the ONR has granted the licence since issuing one for Hinkley Point C in 2012. The licence came into effect the day it was issued (7 May 2024) and is the result of a rigorous process and several years of scrutiny by the regulator • Earth works have commenced on the temporary construction area which will enable the main access route to the site • The B1122 resurfacing has been completed • The ACA site building has been installed • Nuclear site fencing has been installed • The Sizewell C and tier 1 contractors, GMB and Unite trade unions signed a solidarity agreement to provide the best-in-class employment conditions. • The financing process continues to make good progress and SZC are on track to make a final investment decision in the coming months. 		
6	Construction Traffic Management Plan – (Richard Bull)		
6.01	<p>Richard Bull said the CTMP is part of the Deed of Obligation and sets out how Sizewell will manage traffic throughout the construction period. These principles have been agreed by SCC and ESC and are attached as an annex to the Deed of Obligation.</p> <p>He said out the key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Buses & HGVs (goods vehicles greater than 3.5t) will only be operating on designated routes controlled in accordance with the CTMP • All HGVs will be booked into the Delivery Management System and tracked to manage compliance to the designated routes • LGVs (goods vehicles less than 3.5 tonnes) that are travelling to the Main Site will be required to book through the Delivery Management System and advised to use designated routes to site – these vehicles will not be tracked • The Postal Consolidation Centres at the Southern Park and Ride will be used to consolidate postal deliveries for onward movement to the Main Site in larger vehicles • Sizewell C will not track individual workers private car movements • Car Drivers will be advised to adhere to project signage and appropriate routes – this will be reinforced through worker induction and the worker code of practice • All workers will be allocated a Park and Ride location to use or the Main Site car park for workers residing locally east of the A12 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Transport Review Group (TRG) is now live and will be monitoring SZC performance on all transport matters The TRG has access to the Transport Contingency Fund which can be utilised to manage any transport impacts that may arise throughout construction DCO Examination Report stated "We do consider that the Applicant is proposing a suitable approach for managing both freight movement and worker travel. We do not consider there would be any additional impacts that would not be managed or mitigated by the Applicant's approach". 		
6.02	A slide was shown to illustrate the size of vehicles in relation to tonnage, including a typical: 3.5 tonne van; 18 tonne van; goods delivery HGV; non-police escorted HGV; construction site vehicle HGV; and wide-load police escort.		
6.03	Cllr Alexander Nicoll spoke on the management of Light Good Vehicles (LGVs). He asked what recourse will be taken if Parishes or citizens raise instances of people not using the designated routes or dangerous driving. RK said there was a pre-submitted question on this which would be covered later.		
6.04	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders said that because of the shortcomings in minutes, it is important to have it clearly recorded that there are profound concerns that SZC have put themselves in a position where they cannot and will not track LGVs. He argued that the technology is available for SZC to do this, but they have chosen not to, and therefore will only be able to advise on the routes and not monitor them. He said SZC will not possess the data to determine whether there is a problem or not, and will therefore be entirely dependent on people reporting vehicles to them, noting that so far, the experience of this has not been encouraging.</p> <p>Cllr Saunders added that he understood tactically why made this decision had been taken but warned that the ramifications could be quite profound.</p> <p>RB took this point but responded that SZC have a fit for purpose transport strategy and will be able to deal with issues where they arise. He said SZC record the number plates of the LGVs through its system and that if number plates are reported then they can check whether this relates to SZC and follow this up.</p>		
6.05	Cllr Saunders said these vehicles could be subcontractors, not just SZC's own vehicles. RB said that if the vehicle is travelling to the SZC site, then it will be in the system and can be checked.		
6.06	<p>Cllr Andrew Turner asked for confirmation that when advising LGVs to follow designated routes, an LGV would not be expected to go down the B1125. He also raised the topic of average speed cameras and said that infrastructure could be in place which could monitor and 'police' the use of LGVs using the B1125.</p> <p>RB said that in terms of the designated routes, LGVs would be instructed to use the A12. He said SZC are discussing the topic of using average speed cameras.</p>		
6.07	Cllr Nicky Corbett said her question is about how to address traffic issues, not related to HGVs, through Leiston. It was noted that this would be covered later in the questions section.		



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6.08	<p>Cllr Macdowell raised the initiative with Cllr Tim Beach around contingencies. He asked whether this is in relation to accidents or blockages, for example, the A12 where there are instances of rat-running.</p> <p>RB said initially it is to try to establish which of the routes are of most concern. He said Cllr Beach has a concern in Snape and that there are also concerns that have been raised in Woodbridge and Melton. He said that if SZC can establish which of the groups they need to focus on initially, they can then engage with the relevant Parish representatives to understand what the key concerns are, for example whether it is a safety issue, speeding issue or to do with volume of traffic on the road. They can then discuss this within the small groups and the Transport Review Group (TRG) on how best to monitor these issues and try to deal with them as they arise, if they do materialise.</p>		
6.09	<p>Cllr Macdowell said there is a process in place at Hinkley Point C around contingency management where there are accidents and hold ups which create rat-running. RB said they would expect the TRG to deal with these issues. He said SZC are being proactive and getting ahead of the curve on this.</p>		
6.10	<p>Cllr David Tower asked whether SZC are looking at ANPR cameras. RB said this is not being considered.</p>		
6.11	<p>Cllr Andrew Candler asked whether all (the Sizewell) sites are being covered, or just with power station, with regard to the designated routes. RB said it covers the Sizewell C project.</p>		
6.12	<p>Cllr Candler asked what happens to vehicles identified as being off-route. He raised an instance of a cement company going off-route. David Peacop said that when it is recorded, it is taken through the security team and the employer, and then is enforced. AC said the system is not quite working already. Spencer Bowdler said the team would go into the details of enforcement later in the meeting presentation.</p>		
6.13	<p>Cllr Paul Collins asked whether the delivery management system is working for all HGVs and LGVs. David Peacop and Spencer Bowdler both confirmed that it is working. Cllr Collins asked about the postal consolidation centre. DP said it is a priority for the project to deliver the postal consolidation centre.</p>		
6.14	<p>Cllr Christine Redgrave asked what the contingency fund can be used for, questioning whether it could be used for cameras in villages. The Chair said this would be covered later.</p>		
6.15	<p>Cllr Traci Weaver said her understanding is that the number and estimates on LGV traffic for SZC currently comes from Hinkley Point. She said there is a provision in the CTMP, section 6.26, which says that if the numbers of LGVs exceed what SZC are expecting then they will reconsider whether something needs to be done by tracking. She asked whether SZC would be open to reevaluating this if needed.</p> <p>RB said this would come under the TRG. He said that if there was an unforeseen impact far in excess of what had been modelled, it would need to be discussed in the TRG to consider what impacts it is having on the local highway network and what needs to be done. He said</p>		



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	a decision would be made in that forum and one of the outcomes could be the tracking suggestion.		
6.15	Cllr Josie Bassinette said the LGV numbers need to be transparent so people can see if they are being exceeded and raise this with SZC. RB said Chris Heaney has confirmed that this information is provided and is publicly available and therefore can be tracked and benchmarked against what was in the assessment.		
7	The role of the Transport Review Group – (Steve Merry, Suffolk County Council)		
7.01	Steve Merry (SM) gave an overview on the role of the Transport Review Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaired by Suffolk County Council (SCC) • Attended by Sizewell C, SCC, East Suffolk Council, National Highways and Suffolk Constabulary • Met for 1st time on 25th January 2024 / will meet quarterly from April 2024 • Transport Monitoring Reports provided by Sizewell C to: be available on East Suffolk Council website; contain latest traffic / worker / freight monitoring data; provide a summary of the outcomes of the Transport Working Groups / Forums • There is a Transport Contingency Fund at £1.6m (2021-22 prices). 		
7.02	SM explained that the TRG reviews the monitoring reports and ensures the aims and objectives of transport management plans are achieved. If there are any disagreements, it goes to the delivery steering group.		
7.03	SM introduced Chris Heaney as the Transport Coordinator and gave an outline of his role. He said there is a construction workers' travel plan and will be a workers' travel plan for those who work at site. He said there will eventually be an operational workers' travel plan for those who come to work at the power station once operational, this plan must be agreed before the first reactor is live.		
7.04	He said there is a traffic incident management plan, all annexed in the Deed of Obligation. This is specifically to deal with incidents on the main construction routes. He said they will take whatever measures are possible to reduce HGV traffic on the network if there is an incident, but that this does not cover local residents and other people using the networks.		
7.05	Cllr Andrew Turner asked for the exact document with the projected LGV figures AFTERNOTE: RB agreed to share the correct link to the transport assessment with the forum. Link to DCO Transport Assessment is EN010012-005601-The Sizewell C Project - Consolidated Transport Assessment.pdf (planninginspectorate.gov.uk) https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN010012/EN010012-005601-The%20Sizewell%20C%20Project%20-%20Consolidated%20Transport%20Assessment.pdf		
7.06	Cllr Charles Macdowell asked how the parish councils interface with the TRG.		



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	SM said the formal route is through Chris Heaney as the Transport Co-ordinator.		
7.07	<p>Alexander Nicoll said given the duration of the project, £1.6m does not sound very much for the Transport Contingency Fund. He asked what recourse there is around resourcing.</p> <p>SM said a lot would depend on what the cause is. He said that if SZC are operating within the transport assessment and within the threshold, then in his view the contingency fund would have to deal with it. He said there are other pieces of legislation that could be used to deal with damage to the public highway.</p>		
7.08	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders stated that the B1125 is a B road with high accident rate and the road surface is in a bad state. He said that when issues related to road condition and white lining on the road surface are reported to Suffolk Highways, the response is that it does not meet their intervention criteria. He said Suffolk Highways have no plans to address any of the existing shortcomings for the B1125. He asked whether Suffolk Highways have any plans to revisit their intervention criteria in so far as they cover roads which suffer increased usage as a result of Sizewell.</p> <p>SM said the intervention criteria is based on safety criteria and this does not change across the network according to traffic, rather it is based on categories of road. He said this is based on national good practice and the fact that Sizewell are putting additional traffic on the road will not change this. In terms of highways engineering, he said HGVs make the most damage and therefore when discussing this with Sizewell in the DCO examination, the routes were fixed and the routes that HGVs use (the A12 and B1122) are subject to regular machine testing which assesses for structural strength. He added that there is a separate visual inspection and there is a fund secured which can be paid to Highways to undertake maintenance but it only covers the structural and visual condition of the highway. He said if damage does occur due to additional traffic, then Section 58 of the Highways Act means there is a route to go to the Magistrates Court to try to reclaim money, but said the onus is on Suffolk Highways to gather the evidence in order to do that.</p>		
7.09	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders said he gathers that the answer to his question is 'no'. He said it is important to note the project is kicking off at a time when the roads are in a worse state than they have ever been. He said response times have been downgraded repeatedly and there are no responses at all on some issues. He stressed it is important that this is recognised because this road is dangerous and currently has Sizewell workers speeding. He said there appear to be no plans to do anything about it and this is disappointing.</p> <p>Steve Merry noted these points.</p>		
7.10	<p>Cllr Josie Bassinette noted that if there was a major issue and a new plan needed to be formulated then there would need to be unanimous agreement on this.</p> <p>SM said this is the case.</p> <p>Cllr Bassinette said that Sizewell sits on the committee so Sizewell would presumably always veto a plan. She asked whether they would be able to escalate it.</p> <p>SM explained that there is an escalation. If any one of the group of eight disagrees with the others, then it is escalated up to the delivery steering group at director level and they would arbitrate.</p>		
7.11	<p>Cllr Josie Bassinette said there are numbers in the press that the Hinkley Point C workforce has been exceeded. She said this is way over the number modelling for Sizewell C and asked whether they are looking at the TRG on whether plans these plans hold up.</p>		



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	SM said the construction traffic workers' plan is set at 7,500. He said the size of the Park and Ride has been based on these numbers and if SZC were to exceed this number, his understanding that this would need to go back to the TRG and other groups. It was agreed that this is the case.		
7.12	RB responded to Cllr Bassinette's comment that SZC would 'automatically vote against something' and gave some reassurances that this would not be the case. He said all engagement to date has been in good faith and that SZC would look at plans with a fair eye and to make the right decision on a case-by-case basis. He said the TRG is there for a reason and SZC would like to reach a consensus with all its decisions if it can.		
7.13	Cllr Paul Collins said it was implied that the worker number is fixed. He said that Hinkley said there was no limit and the number was just there as an indication. He said it would be good to know how the number is fixed and what the obligations are should it be exceeded at Sizewell. Marjorie Barnes said that Hinkley have been constructing under a number of unforeseen circumstances, including the pandemic and Brexit. which have caused their figures to change. She said the figures Sizewell quote are based on learnings and knowledge gained from the construction of Hinkley and this project gives an additional element of certainty to set SZC's plans.		
8	Site Updates – (David Peacop, Spencer Bowdler, Stephen Keighley)		
8.01	Northern Park and Ride - Construction Traffic Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willow Marsh Lane will be temporarily closed during the construction phase for Openreach utility works and construction of access and compound for archaeology Diversion routes will be agreed with Suffolk County Council as part of the road closure Construction of the roundabout on the A12 will be prioritised to provide access for construction vehicles of the Northern Park and Ride as early as possible. 		
8.02	Northern Park and Ride – Operational Traffic Routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County wide signage under development 		
8.03	Yoxford Roundabout Early Works Q2-Q4 2024 An update was given on pre-construction activities at Yoxford Roundabout.		
8.04	Sizewell Link Road Early Works Q2-Q4 2024 An update was given on pre-construction activities at Sizewell Link Road. It was confirmed that this is not yet an approved design.		
8.05	Site Access Sign boards and Vehicle Markings An image was shown on how LGVs will be marked, in order that the vehicle can be identified as a SZC vehicle.		
8.06	Main Development Site Early Access Works Q2-Q4 Key points / descriptors of the plan of the Main Development Site Early Access were explained as follows:		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green accesses – used for access to main sites for pre-construction & construction activities Red accesses – used for pre-construction activities including archaeology, ecology & fencing It was noted that every entrance will have its own unique identification number. This number should be quoted by Members should they see anything wrong, and were encouraged to do so, reassurance was given that the entrances will be policed. 		
8.07	<p>B1122 Resurfacing Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DP said this is resurfacing scheme is complete. There is some learning to do and SZC will undertake a lessons learned exercise and report back over the coming months. 		
8.08	<p>DCO Reduced Speed Limits B1122 May 2024</p> <p>DP said SZC will be putting speed cameras and limits in place in various locations. Speed limits are changing to 20mph in some places and SZC are working with Steve Merry and the Police on changing speed limits.</p>		
8.9	<p>B1125 Vehicle Messaging Signs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site 1: Blythburgh VMS Sign installed on A12, near River Blyth overbridge Site 2: Darsham VMS Sign installed on A12, near junction with The Street Site 3: Darsham VMS Sign to be installed on B1122-B1125 junction when speed limit reductions start (May 2024). <p>DP said the project was given approval to put the (Blythburgh) sign in the current location and pledged to meet (Cllr Saunders) in the coming week and work out where to move the sign to.</p> <p>ACTION: Since the NTF images have been shared between MS and the project team re the location and where this is to be moved to, DP is arranging to have the signage moved and will update at the next NTF.</p>	DP	
8.10	<p>Updates were given on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Speed Limits B1122, Lovers Lane, Sizewell Gap DCO Reduced Speed Limits B1122, Lovers Lane, Sizewell Gap. 		
8.11	<p>Minor Roads Schemes</p> <p>Typical improvements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New and enhanced pedestrian footways and crossings New road surfacing Village gateways Safety improvements and side road visibility. <p>DP said the team would provide a programme of the minor road schemes each time the Forum meet. The timing is not yet fixed on the major road schemes, but the project want to undertake this work at the right time of the year, outside of the summer months.</p>		
8.12	<p>Rail Overview</p> <p>Stephen Keighley (SK) gave an overview on the delivery of rail infrastructure.</p>		



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Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	<p>DCO Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rail infrastructure works to enable delivery of materials to SZC site by rail, thus reducing number of HGVs and impact on local community Journeys from Ipswich to site and back only Overnight trains to avoid disruption to other rail services Rail noise mitigation plan acceptance by local authority. <p>Impact Mitigation measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design to avoid trains stopping / starting en-route. Replace jointed track with continuous welded rail 10 mph running in urban areas and branchline Trains not permitted through Leiston at night. <p>Description Start Date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 trains / day to ACA railhead * Jan 2026 4 trains / day to TCA (via GRR) * Apr 2026 ACA & GRR removed 2037 (approx.) <p>* Each individual train carrying materials to site will remove the equivalent of 46 HGVs from local roads.</p>		
8.13	<p>Rail Level Crossings - Overview</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> East Suffolk (ESK) line Scope Darsham Level Crossing Middleton Level Crossing Core SZC Rail Scope (DCO). 		
8.14	<p>Core Scope Overview</p> <p>1. Saxmundham Junction: Renewal of existing connection from ESK to SIZ branch line Installation of new powered crossover</p> <p>2. Saxmundham to Leiston (SIZ) branch line: Track renewal – Jointed track replaced by CWR Upgrade to the branch line signalling system, including interlocking upgrade Upgrade to 8Nr level crossings Associated telecoms, signalling power & civils.</p> <p>3. New Green Rail Route / Kenton Spur (CS2): Temporary railway to connect the SIZ branch line to TCA railhead (freight unloading facility & concrete batching plant) Installation of 2 new level crossings at Buckleswood Road and Abbey Road.</p> <p>4. New ACA siding (CS1): Temporary siding to connect the SIZ branch line to ACA.</p> <p>Delivery Strategy (GRIP 5-8): NR: Systems: (Signalling, Telecoms & Power) SZC: Non Systems (All other disciplines).</p>		
8.15	<p>ESK Track Upgrades</p>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: Replacement of existing jointed track with Continuously Welded Rail (CWR) to reduce rail noise & vibration in sensitive areas Bealings February 2024 Saxmundham April May 2024. 		
8.16	<p>Cllr Sharon Smith said she noted trains are not permitted through Leiston at night but asked whether they are permitted at Saxmundham. SK said yes they are. He explained that trains will always go through the railway at night and already do this. He said SZC are not allowed to disrupt passenger services and they run during the day and that the trains must go slower than passenger services in order to minimise noise and vibration. The only available freight paths through Saxmundham are at night.</p>		
8.17	<p>Cllr Charles Macdowell said Middleton Parish Council have a request for a 20mph speed limit. SM said he has spoken to the Police and colleagues and they do not feel it is appropriate to have a 20mph speed limit for that part of the B1122. Cllr Macdowell asked whether this was a formal response from the council? SM said it wasn't, but he could put something in writing, including details of the conversation regarding how the proposed 30mph speed limit is enforced. It was agreed that detail would be included in the letter to Middleton Parish Council. ACTION</p>	SM	
8.18	<p>Cllr Nicky Corbett said the rail head at the ACA is due to be removed in 2037, and asked, that as a matter of clarification would the project still use ACA after the green rail route is constructed? SK said the intent is to retain it there and they are currently looking at opportunities for widening the use of that. He said SZC are ultimately trying to minimise the number of HGVs and move material in the most environmentally friendly way, which is by rail.</p> <p>Cllr Nicky Corbett said the messaging has always been the green rail route will prevent any delivery coming through Leiston other than in the early years. She said the messaging must be robust on this. SK confirmed that he understood this.</p>		
8.19	<p>Cllr Andrew Turner said the train station car park is on the other side of the road to the station and that residents have complained about this for years. He asked whether Sizewell will be undertaking work to improve the safety for pedestrians crossing the A12 from the car park to the train station. Further to this, he added that Network Rail have a ticket machine on the station side to the A12, not the car park side. He raised concerns about elderly residents in particular. He mentioned plans to write to Greater Anglia on this but also asked whether this is something that SZC can help with. DP noted these comments.</p>		
8.20	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders said there was a double fatality in 2008 in Darsham and very limited works undertaken as a consequence, and a serious accident closed the A12 in July last year. He said that it looks as though there are no plans to deal with a known accident and dangerous spot, notwithstanding the fact that the Park and Ride will increase the scale of the problem.</p>		



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	SK said a lot of time and effort is spent looking at the safety of pedestrians and how the level crossing upgrade could mitigate the risk. He said he did not know how that has been addressed within the solution itself but said would take it away.		
8.21	Cllr Saunders said it is also a question for Suffolk Highways, noting their policy of not having speed cameras is part of the problem. SM said he would take this away to his colleagues as average speed cameras are not within his sphere of influence. On the pedestrian facilities, he confirmed that Network Rail have spoken to Suffolk Highways and they have asked to improve the footway on the east side to make it possible for people to cross over there and then cross the A12 as it was identified as a safety concern by Network Rail. As part of the Northern Park and Ride, he said that it is his understanding that they will also be linking into the footpath on the station side to improve this.		
8.22	Cllr Saunders said this does not deal with concerns about pedestrians crossing the car park to the station. He said it does not address the issues raised from the with the fatalities or the last year's accident. He reiterated that this is a known high-risk spot and Highways have declined to do anything about it. SM said he is aware of the 40mph speed limit and street lighting was installed after the fatalities. ACTION: He added that it is a matter for the Police and he is happy to take that to them. Cllr Saunders said installing speed cameras is an issue for the Highways Authority. SM disagreed, stating that it is the Police that install them.	SM	
8.23	Cllr Andrew Turner asked to see the plans he referred to for the level crossing at Darsham. DP said SZC will share these with the forum members as the design evolves.		
8.24	Cllr Andrew Nicoll said all the level crossings are in his division. He asked what thought has been given to how an ambulance would cross the Melton level crossing if a train were there? RK said this would be addressed at next week's Southern Transport Forum meeting.		
8.25	Cllr Christine Redgrave echoed the earlier comments about the Darsham level crossing, commenting that it seems as though the public car park has not been taken into account in planning. SK said one of the criteria in the selection of the preferred option for the level crossing design is the safety of pedestrians and when SZC have further information they will share this.		
8.26	Traci Weaver said DP showed the design slide for the SLR which is not approved. She asked whether SZC are welcoming comments about the SLR and whether the Forum members can receive a copy of the slide. DP said yes and this was agreed. The presentation pack including the slide is available here: sizewellc.com/community/forums		
8.27	On the level crossing at Darsham, Cllr Andrew Candler asked whether part of the Northern Park and Ride could be used for people using the rail station, saying this could solve the issue by making a car park on that side of the road. ACTION: RB said SZC will take this away. He said they previously said it would not be possible but that they would have a fresh look at this and revisit it.	RB	



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Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
9	Overview of the Worker Code of Conduct		
9.01	<p>Tim Newton (TN) gave an overview of the worker code of conduct.</p> <p>The conduct of the SZC workforce in the community is of the highest importance. It is for that reason that everyone involved with the SZC Project is expected to and sign up to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be responsible for your safety and the safety of others by complying with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations • Be ambassadors for the project through your behaviour and actions on site and in the community, including in the use of social media • Refrain from anti-social behaviour, discriminatory behaviour or harassment on and off site • Ensure that they are not intoxicated by alcohol or under the influence of illegal drugs • Respect colleagues and endeavour to maintain harmonious workplace relations at all times • Ensure that rented accommodation is maintained in a tidy state with the proper disposal of rubbish • Ensure that personal noise levels are appropriate to the time of day and location • Ensure no damage of any kind is caused to property on or off site • Respect speed limits and be aware of other road users, agricultural vehicles and livestock • Do not “fly park” at any time. <p>‘By attending and completing the SZC Site Induction and receiving access to SZC site you are confirming your commitment to the expectations described above’.</p>		
9.02	TN said SZC have the means to remove people from the project following a disciplinary process and highlighted a couple of occasions where this has already happened following a breach of the worker code of conduct.		
9.03	TN introduced Darren Benford Brown, who was in attendance, he has joined the project to perform the role of Community Safety Officer under the Deed of Obligation.		
9.04	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll suggested that the points in the worker code of conduct cannot all be equally weighted. He said it would be helpful for Parishes to have some idea as to what extent these points are enforced.</p> <p>TN said all must be conscious that they are taking about someone potentially losing their employment for a breach of the code of conduct. He said SZC must work with the unions, employers and contractors to give consistency in what they are asking them to do. He said SZC will conduct enquiries with Darren and its team; if it is a criminal matter then it goes to the Suffolk constabulary for further investigation. He said they have various policies in place to cover those elements, such as drug and alcohol testing, and have zero tolerance for this.</p>		
9.05	<p>Cllr Matthew Saunders asked whether there will there be any increase in policing levels or any change in how Suffolk constabulary police the area to reflect the fact that there will be greater demand on their services.</p> <p>RB said it is covered in the Deed of Obligation. SZC provide the Police with funding and they will be offered an office on the site to help with resourcing. ACTION: He said they would come back to the forum with further details on the funding.</p>	RB	



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9.06	Cllr Saunders said it will be helpful to know, as it is a problem now and will only get worse. Therefore it would be good to understand what SZC and the Police are doing in terms of changing how they operate. RB added that there is a Community Safety Working Group on which the Police sit and therefore any issues will be discussed there. He said SZC will come back formally with the specifics. ACTION AS ABOVE	RB	
10	Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative – (Chair)		
10.01	Pre-submitted Questions Submitted by Cllr Barry Rowing, Peasenhall Parish Council “Local residents in & around our village have noticed that during the recent B1122 works, many large tipper lorries have been spotted travelling through Peasenhall on the A1120, leading us to suspect that these are from the SZC road improvement works. It is not always possible to note the number plates or company names on these vehicles. We understand that there is a prescribed route for vehicles over 3.5T serving SZC that does not include the A1120 through Peasenhall & that they will all be fitted with transponders for you to check.” Answer: It was agreed that this was covered earlier in the meeting.		
10.02	Submitted by Cllr Barry Rowing, Peasenhall Parish Council “Is there any instantly recognisable external marking or windscreen sticker that you could affix to preferably all your vehicles & especially those over 3.5T, so that the public may identify them & be sure that they are not linked to SZC? These would help us to differentiate from those vehicles that are involved with any other proposed local land works or material movements that are being planned. We hope that you would like to ensure there are no unanswered questions about the SZC responsibility for these vehicles & reassure our community when any doubt exists during the 10 year build process that has now commenced.” Answer: Spencer Bowdler highlighted the SZC vehicle stickers and said there have been examples of the worker code of conduct being exercised on site, including one instance of someone being removed after a first strike. He said the first negative driving behaviour was reported and dealt with and a worker was removed from the project after repeating this behaviour through the worker code of conduct disciplinary process. He implored people to take advantage of the community helpline number and gave assurance that this is taken very seriously, with the community team investigating every report they receive immediately. He said that when instances do not relate to SZC, the team can work with other projects in the area to support them.		
10.03	It was noted that Cllr Barry Rowing is concerned about how to identify vehicles. Spencer Bowdler said there will be sticker types on LGVs and site 4x4 vehicles.		
10.04	Submitted by Cllr Christine Redgrave, Darsham Parish Council “Can the Forum please provide details and timings of the proposed road works along the A12 between Yoxford and Darsham relating to Sizewell C link road, Yoxford roundabout, Park and Ride and rail crossing works at Darsham Station. Please confirm whether dates for these works have been determined and if so, can they now be shared with the Parish and local residents.” Answer: Cllr Redgrave agreed this had been answered.		



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Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
10.05	<p>Submitted by Cllr Christine Redgrave, Darsham Parish Council</p> <p>“Also, in relation to road works along the A12, given the length of the prescribed diversion routes, how do you propose to monitor vehicle movements to ensure they comply with these routes and do not use unsuitable local rural roads as an alternative? What, if any, lessons have been learnt from the Theberton experience and the impact night time road closures on access for local residents? How do you propose that access will be retained at all times for residents, emergency services, as well as those needing social care - these must be fully catered for to avoid any possible delays.”</p> <p>Answer: DP said the team will come back with a report on its findings from both sides and the list of recommendations. ACTION</p>	DP	
10.06	<p>Submitted by Cllr Matthew Saunders, Blythburgh Parish Council</p> <p>“The minutes of the last meeting seem to have been edited to remove much of the criticism of Sizewell made at the meeting - how are we to have confidence in this process if minutes of meetings are inaccurate ? (Our emails to Sizewell on this issue have received no substantive response.)”</p> <p>“At the last meeting we raised concerns as to the siting of Sizewell C "temporary" signage on the A12. Not only has nothing been done further to these concerns - the situation has become much worse with solar powered illuminated signage being installed within the Blythburgh village conservation area in a position that clashes with access for wildfowl to the Dunwich Marshes NNR. Why can't you consult on issues such as this ??”</p> <p>Answer: Cllr Saunders said both questions have been answered well and said that the tone taken by Sizewell this evening is markedly different to the tone to that of the last meeting. He said it had been a thoroughly different experience, and wanted this to be recorded in the meeting note.</p>		
10.07	<p>Submitted by Cllr Traci Weaver on behalf of Cllr Claire Buttle, Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council</p> <p>“If vehicles are found to be using non-agreed Sizewell C routes, how will they be “punished”? Will they be fined? How much? Where, if fined a monetary amount, will the money go?”</p> <p>Answer: Cllr Weaver agreed this had been answered.</p>		
10.08	<p>Submitted by Cllr Traci Weaver on behalf of Cllr Claire Buttle, Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council</p> <p>“Will ANPR be used for monitoring on minor roads?”</p> <p>Answer: RB confirmed that SZC are not going to be using ANPR to manage traffic on local roads.</p>		
10.09	<p>Submitted by Cllr Andrew Candler, Sibton Parish Council</p> <p>“What is the considered daily vehicle movement into the NPR and times? The NPR is a 1250 car park, how many vehicles are expected to use this on a daily basis and the times?”</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Candler said there is a lot of emphasis on HGVs and LGVs, asking how often vehicles will be accessing the Northern Park and Ride car park on a daily basis and what times will they be entering.</p>		



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Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	<p>ACTION: DP said the team can produce an arrival profile and share this at the next forum. He said they will not all be coming in over one hour, likely over three hours, meaning there will be a regulatory flow. Cllr Josie Bassinette asked if this could include the coaches as well.</p> <p>Answer: DP agreed to show this.</p>	DP	Next NTF
10.10	<p>Submitted by Cllr Andrew Candler, Sibton Parish Council "What are your expected routes to the NPR?"</p> <p>Answer: DP said they will use the A12. ACTION: DP said they will provide a sketch diagram to illustrate how people will be coming in to site from the local network.</p>	DP	
10.11	<p>Submitted by Cllr Paul Collins, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council "What are the time lines for the construction start and finish of the main site entrance roundabout on B1122 and the diversion of Eastbridge Road and will Eastbridge Road remain open at all times during the construction?"</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that this was answered with the 'gant' chart shown as part of the presentation.</p>		
10.12	<p>Submitted by Cllr Paul Collins, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council "When will the project plan/schedule be available for the SLR construction and, following construction of the East Suffolk Rail bridge and Pretty Road bridge, will construction proceed from both ends or move West to East from the A12 to B1122 and site entrance?"</p> <p>Answer: DP said that as the sequencing and the timescales are confirmed, this will be shared with members of the forum. He said that they envision this starting in Q2 2025 but there is a lot more work to be done before that, highlighting ecology and archaeology works. ACTION: It was agreed that more information would be given on the detailed design at the next Forum.</p>	DP	Next NTF
10.13	<p>Cllr Charles Macdowell said he did not pre-submit this question as it relates to a meeting which took place yesterday around the B1122 mitigation works and improvements. Cllr Macdowell said he was stunned at the slow progress of that process. He made the point that if anything can be done to accelerate improvements on B1122, particularly as they pertain safety, they should be accelerated as far as possible beyond the execution date of early next year. DP noted this.</p>		
10.14	<p>Nicky Corbett reported that Leiston Town Council and residents are concerned about the increase in traffic which is already being seen since the triggering of the DCO. She asked whether SZC have predicted numbers of traffic in Leiston for the early years and if so, how they will know if they are exceeding expectations in the centre of Leiston as it will be a long time before transport infrastructure will be up and running. She wanted to know how SZC will be monitoring this and what is happening in the centre of Leiston. ACTION: DP said the team will come back on this question with a response. Meeting has now taken place.</p>	DP	Meeting has taken place.
11	Dates of Future Meetings – (Chair)		



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Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
11.01	It was confirmed that the next Northern Transport Forum would take place on: Wednesday 7 th August 2024 at 18.30.		
11.02	The dates of future Forum meetings were provided. Main Development Site Forum Tuesday 16 th July 2024 Tuesday 15 th October 2024 Northern Transport Forum Wednesday 7 th August 2024 Wednesday 6 th November 2024 Southern Transport Forum Wednesday 15 th May 2024 Wednesday 14 th August 2024 Wednesday 13 th November 2024		
11.03	The Chair noted that the meeting notes will be posted on the East Suffolk webpage. The meeting closed.		
11.04	Details of how to contact the project were handed out to attendees as they left the venue – the details of which are as follows: Call: FREEPHONE 0800 197 6102 Email: info@sizewellc.com In person: Sizewell C Information Office, 48 – 50 High Street, Leiston IP16 4EW. (Open for visits without appointment 9:30am – 5pm (weekdays only), closed lunchtimes 12:30pm – 1:30pm). By post: FREEPOST SZC (No stamp or further address required)		