

Meeting Note



Southern Transport Forum

Meeting Type: Southern Transport Forum	Meeting held on: Wednesday 14 th August 2024
Sizewell C Attendees:	Invited External Attendees:
<p>Marjorie Barnes, Head of READ Team David Peacop, Site Operations Director Tim Newton, Site Security Manager Richard Knight, Senior Community Relations Manager Jez Porter, SPM Associated Development – Highways Zoe Botten, Community Relations Manager Stephen Keighley, Rail Manager Kirsty McMullen, Director, KMC Transport Planning</p> <p>External Attendees: Robyn Evans, SEC Newgate Perry Miller, SEC Newgate Daniel Fisk, Network Rail</p>	<p>Cllr David Chenery representing Wickham Market Parish Council Cllr Chris Yeo representing Levington & Stratton Hall Parish Council Cllr Ian Norman representing Farnham with Stratford St Andrew Parish Council Cllr Brian Hunt representing Nacton Parish Council Klaus Fortmann, Clerk, representing Campsea Ashe Parish Council Cllr Richard Cooper representing Marlesford Parish Council Cllr Daniel Williams representing Little Glemham Parish Council Cllr Robin Sanders representing Woodbridge Town Council One elected Cllr or Clerk representing Martlesham Parish Council Cllr John Bann representing Melton Parish Council Cllr Geraldine Barker representing Saxmundham Town Council Cllr Michael Mahony representing Friston Parish Council Cllr Russ Rainger representing Snape Parish Council Cllr David Findley representing Ufford Parish Council Cllr David Secret representing Benhall & Sternfield Parish Council Graeme Watts representing Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council Cllr Alexander Nicoll, Suffolk County Council John Rozier, Suffolk County Council, Highways Cllr Lee Reeves, East Suffolk Council Carolyn Barnes, East Suffolk Council, Transport Lead, Energy Projects</p>

1. **Welcome and Introduction of the Chair and Panel**
2. **Meeting note and matters arising from Southern Transport Forum (15th May 2024)**
3. **Report back from: Main Development Site Forum (16th July) and Northern Transport Forum (7th August)**
4. **Sizewell C Project Update and Overview**
5. **Road and Rail Updates**
6. **Traffic Movements and Transport Review Group Update**
7. **Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative**
8. **Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th November 2024**

Meeting Minutes – 14/08/2024

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introduction of the Chair and Panel – (Chair)		
1.01	Brian Stewart, 'The Chair', opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.		
1.02	The Chair welcomed the Sizewell C team presenting at the Forum:		



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1.03	The Chair ran through the meeting agenda.		
2	Minutes and Actions from Previous Main Development Site Forum (15th May 2024) – (Chair)		
2.01	The Chair said the SZC team are on a learning journey with the meeting notes and will continue to improve and refine the notes going forward. The Chair moved the notes for their correctness. This was seconded by Cllr Lee Reeves and the minutes were approved.		
2.02	Cllr Richard Cooper requested members receive the minutes earlier than a week before the meeting. He explained that most representatives must report the minutes back to their respective Parish Councils. The Chair said he is keen to see the meeting notes finalised sooner, and the team are working to improve the preparation and clearance of the notes. He said that as the forum process matures, the team also hope to be able to circulate the presentation slides in advance of the meeting. He said they hope to do this from the start of next year and reiterated that they are on a learning journey.		
2.03	A slide was shown which captured the key matters arising from the last meeting.		
2.04	Item 2.06 – Richard Knight and Zoe Botten have ensured the mailing lists are up to date. Members should be receiving the papers by email, and they were encouraged to check their junk email if they are not receiving this correspondence. The email address that the papers are issued from is info@sizewellc.com Items 5.02 / 5.03 – It was confirmed that data on traffic compliance would be included in the meeting note and that the reports are on the East Suffolk Council website offering even more detail. The reports are available here: https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/national-infrastructure-and-energy-projects/sizewell-c-nuclear-power-station/governance-groups/ Item 6.14 – Cllr Richard Cooper had requested an update meeting on the Southern Park and Ride. It was confirmed that the offer of a meeting was honoured and this was held on 2 nd July. Item 7.09 – Cllr Geraldine Barker said there are a lot of households close to the railway line which did not think there would be night trains. She asked whether it would be possible to have a dedicated forum so that people can raise any concerns they have. The Chair said this is an ongoing action. The team will offer dates in the Autumn and this meeting will also include members of the Northern Transport Forum. Item 7.13 – The Chair said there would be an update on train movements and timings at this meeting. Item 8.06 – Stephen Deaville from Network Rail committed to review and report back on community letter distribution in Saxmundham. The Chair said there have been some lessons learned from this by Network Rail.		



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3	Report back from: Main Development Site Forum and Northern Transport Forum – (Richard Knight)		
3.01	Richard Knight (RK) gave an update on the most recent Northern Transport Forum (7 th August 2024) and Main Development Site Forum (16 th July 2024).		
3.02	<p>Main Development Site Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting covered updates regarding the overall works on the main site and the project. Updates included: A further East Suffolk wide community meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 October at the High Lodge in Darsham. The community fund is now open and is administered by the Community Foundation. The Community Foundation has held a number of ‘meet the funder’ events. The works which are on-going to establish the site included: footpath diversions are starting; Initial Earthworks and Trials have started; Ancillary Construction Area (ACA) development and Office Opening soon; Archaeology continues across the site and near completion on the ACA; Ecology and Landscaping works; UXO disposal; Training Facility opened; Drainage works (internal); Site access enabling; Rail enabling works; Details on road improvements including speed camera implementation and rail improvements were also outlined and will be outlined this evening as well. The project confirmed that the ACA has opened and confirmed that the caravan park at the proposed site will no longer be going ahead. Further detail on the Public Rights of Way / footpaths diversion were also outlined by Steve Mannings including an outline on the enhancements being proposed for Wild Aldehurst. There was a further outline of green space improvements to Leiston common. 		
3.03	<p>Northern Transport Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The previous meeting note was seconded and approved. Updates were given regarding the overall project by Marjorie Barnes. An update was given on the Main Site Development works including earth works and general site preparation, ecological works and site clearance. The ACA offices have now opened and traffic management and flow strategies were explained for workers using the site. An update was given on driver rules. Further timelines and details were given on the Northern Park and Ride, the Yoxford Roundabout and Sizewell Link Road, with details on site preparation over the next coming quarter including creating access points, ecological and archaeological works. Rail updates were given, in particular around level crossing improvements to Darsham and further details on improvements to the line between Woodbridge and Saxmundham. RK said further details would be outlined at this evening’s meeting. Further details on traffic monitoring and processes of how these were gathered were also outlined. A brief discussion was held on water collection contingency from Sternfield in which the project announced the plans were being reviewed with further details outlined in the next 24 hours. 		
3.04	The meeting notes, slides and agendas are located on the East Suffolk Council website.		
4	Sizewell C Project Update and Overview – (Marjorie Barnes)		
4.01	Marjorie Barnes (MB) gave an update on the project.		



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4.02	<p>Project Update After starting formal construction this year, the project continues to move forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orwell Logistics Park has been secured as the new location for Sizewell C's Freight Management Facility (FMF), which will ensure a controlled pattern of deliveries to Sizewell C, enabling reduced movements during peak or sensitive hours. Sizewell C reached another significant milestone signing major contracts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walter Tosto, a leading global player in the manufacturing of top-quality, high-pressure equipment and vessels. The multi-million pound contract with the Italian company is for the supply of critical heat exchangers for the Nuclear Island. Celeros Flow Technology, a global leader in flow control systems, having previously worked with Hinkley Point C on the provision of nuclear pumps. 		
4.03	<p>Community Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enquiries this month – 92 July to date. 1167 enquiries YTD – 45% of enquires are of a positive sentiment (with 40% neutral and 15% negative). Enquiries this month have maintained a positive focus on jobs, the Noise Mitigation Scheme, accommodation and supply chain. For July - 52% of enquires are of a positive sentiment (with 33% neutral and 15% negative). A small number of complaints regarding HGV parking which was addressed. 		
4.04	<p>Community Engagement The team have sent mailings to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible residents in Darsham for Noise Mitigation Scheme. Eligible residents in Farnham for Noise Mitigation Scheme. Weekly wide-load updates to subscribers. 		
4.05	<p>Sizewell C Community Fund The Sizewell C Community Fund has launched – grant criteria is available from the Suffolk Community Foundation.</p> <p>MB explained that the panel is formed, and the grant application process has been launched. She welcomed that busy sessions were held with the Community Foundation and local organisations to discuss how to apply for grants.</p> <p>MB said the next panel meeting will take place in September in which the panel will go through the applications that have been submitted. The foundation has been encouraged by the response from local organisations.</p> <p>MB said she hopes to be able to positively report on the local organisations and charities benefiting from the fund at the next meeting. She also said there is a plan to run further sessions and that SZC and the foundation want to ensure there is support to apply for these grants, particularly for organisations not so well versed in doing so, to make sure funding is fairly spread out.</p>		
4.06	<p>Sizewell C Forum MB said SZC is now in a steady rhythm of the forums and has introduced a feedback form. She encouraged members to provide their comments to help ensure the team are engaging in the</p>		



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	way people want. MB outlined the forum schedule and mentioned the additional Community Forum (9 October 2024) which has been added to the schedule following feedback.		
4.07	Sizewell Creative MB outlined the events that Sizewell Creative has been supporting across the county this summer.		
4.08	Cllr Alexander Nicoll said he was pleased to hear that the Community Fund is receiving applications and said there will be interest from the community to see where the money is going as this may trigger people to come forward with their own applications. He encouraged SZC to publicise this with as much detail as possible. MB said the team will push the fund at the next Community Forum meeting and will share case studies of who is receiving funding. She offered assurance that the SZC team are supporting local people to access the application process to ensure the money goes as widely as it can.		
4.09	Cllr Michael Mahony was pleased to hear about local businesses benefiting from contracts but argued that the value of these projects is key. He questioned whether the local businesses SZC are employing have the workers to fulfil the work given there is a skills shortage in the area. He questioned whether it is creating new employment or worsening the skills shortage and warned that local businesses doing work for SZC will put prices up for others who cannot compete. MB stressed that the contract value must be meaningful. She said these are major pieces of work and SZC is working with its commercial team and local suppliers and has a longstanding agreement with Suffolk Chamber of Commerce to ensure there is grassroots support for local businesses. She said they are sizeable contracts and SZC want to continue building a base and intelligence of what is in the region, but this is not to displace the existing skills in the region or cause issues for businesses. MB said SZC are working very closely with all the Suffolk colleges to ensure they are building additional skills and resilience within the local sector. She said they are also mindful that these are good jobs providing long-term employment and welcomed this as a good thing. She said Suffolk does not have high levels of unemployment but there is the 'working poor' and argued that SZC should not be shy about offering good rates of pay, though she did acknowledge they need to be mindful about what they are doing and how it affects other businesses. She reiterated that SZC want to build more skills and went on to highlight their work with Inspire Suffolk which helps hard to reach groups to get them back into work and society.		
4.10	Cllr Richard Cooper asked for an update in securing private sector funding for SZC and what impact it is likely to have on the final investment decision. MB said SZC is a majority government backed project which shows the importance of the project not just to Suffolk but to the whole of the UK. She said that discussions continue and are going well but she did not have any details to share. She gave assurance that SZC will share an update once they are able to and went on to offer assurance that the project is in a well-funded place to do the work currently being carried out.		
4.11	Klaus Fortmann asked about the local contracts signed, raising concerns about the location of these businesses and whether EDF is looking carefully at where the companies operate from. He spoke about traffic impact and whether SZC is signing contracts with companies intending to use Bentwaters. David Peacop confirmed that SZC will not be using Bentwaters. Klaus Fortmann said his question was referring to sub-contractors.		



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	DP said the sub-contractors still must go to SZC for permission to use pieces of land, and reiterated that they will not be using Bentwaters.		
5	Road and Rail Updates – (David Peacop and Stephen Keighley)		
5.01	<p>Main Development Site Works David Peacop (DP) began with an update on the main development site works.</p> <p>Site establishment continues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath Diversions • Initial Earthworks and Trials • Ancillary Construction Area (ACA) Development and Office Opening • Archaeology • Ecology and Landscaping Works • UXO Disposal • Training Facility Opened • Drainage Works (internal) • Site Access Enabling • Rail Enabling Works 		
5.02	<p>Site delivery – off site infrastructure A slide was shown on off-site infrastructure.</p>		
5.03	<p>Countywide Highways Signage DP said SZC are putting signs up and are going through the approval process with Suffolk County Council to agree the permanent location of the signs. He said they will then go to tender shortly to put the permanent signs up. He said quite a lot is linked to the tender and procurement process which impacts the time it takes to do things.</p>		
5.04	<p>Orwell Logistics Park DP said SZC have leased the facility and there are four warehouses there. Unit 1 and 2 are there and conversion works will start shortly to put offices in. Some of the equipment that is being procured will go into there as well, likely in the early part of next year.</p> <p>Unit 5 is currently in construction but DP reported that it is not being constructed by SZC, rather it is the landowners building it on Sizewell’s behalf. They will hand this to Sizewell next year and they will then start its fit out works for various elements.</p> <p>DP said SZC will move its freight management facility to the right side of the road and that this will open in a timely manner. He went on to outline the traffic routing.</p>		
5.05	<p>Southern Park and Ride DP outlined what SZC will be doing in Q2-Q3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site Accesses • Landscaping <p>DP said that when SZC are able to do so later in the year through the landscaping period, they will build landscaping areas at the front of every entrance.</p>		
5.06	<p>Southern Park and Ride Construction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagram showed traffic management during access construction – slightly changing the traffic management and will be giving advance notice. 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of temporary access managed with lane closure. Slip lane would need to operate one-way northbound towards the A12. 		
5.07	<p>Southern Park and Ride Operational DP showed an operational drawing of the Southern Park and Ride. He said that as the drawings are approved by Suffolk County Council, the SZC team will release them to show people what they are doing. He explained that the team only want to show approved drawings.</p>		
5.08	<p>Two Village Bypass Q3-Q4 2024 DP said the SZC team will start in earnest with the three access points shown on the map.</p>		
5.09	<p>Driver Rules The Driver Rules information pack provides a guide to the high standards and practices to be upheld by Sizewell C. It covers elements such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver induction Delivery vehicle tracking Sizewell C HGV routes Sizewell C delivery times Freight Management Facility Abnormal Indivisible Load (AILs) protocol Protocols during traffic incidents Delivery driver rules. 		
5.10	<p>Site Access Signboards and Vehicle Markings DP said there are SZC markings on the back of the vehicles and it is leading to reports. He gave an example of a vehicle reported in Salisbury and confirmed that this person is no longer working on the project. He encouraged people to report vehicles if they are seen in strange places.</p>		
5.11	<p>Weekly Delivery Coordination Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held between SZC Freight Management Team and all Contractor Management on SZC Project Coordination & Planning of all road freight deliveries to ensure compliance and smooth flow into all project areas Discussing during forum of any ongoing complaints or non-compliance to seek resolution amongst all Contractors to prevent further road freight infractions Ensuring that all road freight compliance is met or requiring improvement where identified is lacking. 		
5.12	<p>SZC Driver Control Processes Planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic Delivery Driver information pack – August 2024 commencement Telematic Tracking – August 2024 commencement Delivery Driver Inductions – August 2024 commencement Issue of SZC HGV & LGV numbered identification stickers – August 2024 commencement Construction of Holding Area for HGVs in South Plaza – October 2024 commencement Freight Management Facility – January 2025 commencement 		



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5.13	<p>A12 Improvements and Minor Road Schemes South</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typical improvements • New and enhanced pedestrian footways and crossings • New road surfacing • Village gateways • Safety improvements and side road visibility • Reduced speed limits <p>DP said SZC are trying to work out the integration for all these pieces of work and timings and are trying to procure all the items for the A12. He said they are trying to work out what is critical in terms of works and will then come to speak to the county council to determine whether they have got this right.</p>		
5.14	<p>A12 Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works to be implemented by Suffolk County Council (SCC) • Sizewell C is co-ordinating with SCC and other projects including Scottish Power Renewables to minimise disruption. 		
5.15	<p>Rail Overview Stephen Keighley (SK) gave an update on rail.</p> <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 (Each train removes 46 HGVs from local roads – up to 1000 / week) • Overnight trains to avoid disruption to other rail services • Materials from across country, held at Ipswich, until after last passenger train; then journeys from Ipswich to site for offloading and back • Rail noise mitigation plan acceptance by local authority <p>Noise & Vibration Impact Mitigation:</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 & branchline • Trains not permitted through Leiston at night (11pm to 7am) <p>Description 2 trains / day to ACA railhead – January 2026 start date 4 trains / day to TCA (via GRR) – April 2026 start date ACA & GRR removed – 2037 (approx.)</p>		
5.14	<p>Rail Scope – Overview</p> <p>East Suffolk Line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 x Level Crossing Upgrades • Track Upgrades • Additional Signals <p>Saxmundham Junction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade existing connection from ESK to branchline 		



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	<p>Sizewell Branchline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track upgrades Signalling system installed 8 x Level Crossing Upgrades <p>New ACA Sidings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Sidings to connect branchline to 3 x ACA sidings <p>New Green Rail Route / TCA Sidings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary railway to connect branchline to TCA railhead with 8 sidings <p>Rail – East Suffolk (ESK) Line Level Crossing Upgrades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melton Level Crossing Darsham Level Crossing East Suffolk (ESK) line Scope Core SZC Rail Scope (DCO) <p>Rail – Melton Level Crossing Upgrade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installing full barrier level crossing solution Improving highway & pedestrian safety Upgraded level crossing due to open Q1 2026 Construction sequence / plan for road closures being developed <p>Rail Delivery: Construction phases and timing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saxmundham Junction – start Q2 2025 and end Q2 2025 Sizewell Branch Line – start Q2 2025 and end Q4 2025 ACA Sidings – start Q1 2026 and end Q4 2026 Green Rail Route – start Q4 2025 and end Q1 2026 TCA Sidings – start Q1 2026 and end Q2 2026 		
6	Traffic Movements and Transport Review Group Update – (David Peacop and Kirsty McMullen)		
6.01	DP said there was a request to show live information from the TRG and showed two graphs which highlight what the two-way HDV movements are across the DCO as well as two-way LGV movements. Kirsty McMullen (KM) added that the monitoring reports and meeting notes are on East Suffolk Council’s website.		
6.02	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll said the Melton Level Crossing is probably the only level crossing where the impact could be felt across multiple parishes on the peninsula who are not part of the Sizewell C forum. He said there will be about seven or eight parishes and hundreds of residents on the peninsula who will be massively impacted and who do not have a voice on the forums. He said there will need to be a piece of more structured construction communications to the clerks of those parishes.</p> <p>MB said this was an important point and that SZC will ensure that any communications on Melton Level Crossing extends the peninsula and the areas outlined.</p>		



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6.03	<p>Cllr John Bann said Melton Parish Council is interested in what takes place here. Cllr Bann questioned whether there will be some early discussions on what is being proposed and said Melton Parish Council would like to have input on this.</p> <p>SK acknowledged it is not safe there and said it is a priority to work up the best and most practical solution. He said there are some significant issues, including utility services which could impact what SZC do, and they are currently working through the detail to get the right solution which can also be implemented with minimal disruption. He said SZC are conscious that they need to engage with anyone affected to communicate and agree on the most appropriate solution.</p>		
6.04	<p>Cllr David Findley said it would be helpful to have information on the potential impact such as nighttime working. He asked who will be driving this and recalled a recent experience of gas main works where the works were contracted about three levels down and the construction organisation did not understand the community. He sought reassurance about how this process will be managed and how it will involve local communities.</p> <p>MB said there may be instances where people might hear from Network Rail, but gave assurance that SZC work closely to ensure it is the right communications for local people and would not just pass responsibility on.</p> <p>SK said the Melton Level Crossing upgrade will be delivered by Network Rail funded by SZC, and said they are working closely together and want to ensure it goes well.</p>		
6.05	<p>Cllr Russ Rainger asked about the definition of the term HDVs.</p> <p>KM responded that a HDV is a Heavy Duty Vehicle and HGV is Heavy Goods Vehicle. She said that HDV includes buses and HGVs. She explained that in the early years there were sensitivities around the assessment in the ES on noise and air quality, and SZC needed to ensure it was covering buses and HGVs in the cap for the early years before the Sizewell Link Road is open. The 600 includes both to make sure they are staying within what was assessed in the ES, particularly for noise impacts. Once the Sizewell Link Road is operational, those sensitivities are taken away and the cap reverts to HGVs. She said SZC will monitor buses and that they do not want to be capping this as they want to have flexibility to use them as a mitigation measure. DP added that SZC works in total flow, managing the flow of all vehicles down the transport network.</p>		
6.06	<p>Cllr Rainger highlighted the closure of the caravan site and asked whether there have been any reports on how those people will be dispersed and about any impact this will have on traffic and transport.</p> <p>ACTION: DP said the team will present what they are doing around this at the next forum.</p>	DP	
6.07	<p>Cllr Lee Reeves welcomed the FMC moving to Orwell Logistics Park and asked when the two applications at Levington will be withdrawn. Cllr Reeves asked whether there are plans to move back the water extraction to the Levington area in light of the recent Sternfield decision.</p> <p>DP said water is a challenge at the moment. He said the original filling point was on the other side and SZC are looking to move it to Orwell Freight Management Facility. He said it is nothing to do with Sternfield.</p> <p>Cllr Reeves asked whether it will remain at 27 tankers a day.</p> <p>DP said the team are currently looking at this detail.</p>		
6.08	<p>KM said the tankers are included in the cap, so it is not in addition to what was assessed.</p>		



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6.09	<p>Cllr David Secret raised the lack of notice that was given on the Sternfield proposal.</p> <p>MB said there are a number of lessons learned from the Sternfield episode. MB said SZC listened to people’s feedback, took it back into the project and scrutinised what they could do to address this. She acknowledged that it is not the level of notice they would want to offer and that they have taken this back into the project as learning.</p>		
6.10	<p>Cllr Robin Sanders spoke on the passenger service, noting that the last train up the East Suffolk Line awaits the London train if there are delays and it may wait up to half an hour or more. He asked how this will be tied into SZC’s freight transport and whether there will be bus replacements if the passenger service is delayed.</p> <p>SK said SZC will not disrupt passenger services, and he does not anticipate a situation where they would need to cancel a passenger train. He said that if it became critical then SZC would have a discussion with Network Rail but reiterated that there are no plans to cancel passenger trains.</p>		
6.11	<p>Cllr Sanders said he is aware of issues with nighttime trains and said there is now concern that there is only a single signal at Woodbridge that controls everything up to Westerfield. He said that if there are problems up to Westerfield Junction then it will result in a train sitting there. He asked whether there is the intention to consider signalling further between the two locations.</p> <p>ACTION: Daniel Fisk said he does not think there are any plans for additional signals through there at present but said he could look at this. He said Network Rail understand they cannot block crossings.</p>	DF, Network Rail	
6.12	<p>Klaus Fortmann said the A12 improvement is happening and asked about the sequencing of the Melton crossing works and the A12 works.</p> <p>DP said SZC are working with Steve Merry and the council on the sequencing and will report back once this is known.</p> <p>SK said this is the same for the rail. He explained that SZC have a solution which is broadly agreed but they still need to finalise the detail of it. He said they will be talking to residents and local councils once they have agreed the methodology.</p>		
6.13	<p>Klaus Fortmann said the team had mentioned Wickham Market but pointed out that the residents affected by the trains actually live in Campsea Ashe.</p> <p>SK said Wickham Market station is in Campsea Ashe and that the SZC team are fully aware of this, noting that there are around a dozen houses within 500m of the track in Campsea Ashe.</p>		
6.14	<p>Cllr David Secret asked the team to be specific on the timing for the Friday Street roundabout.</p> <p>Jez Porter (JP) said SZC expediting’s are in procurement for the Friday Street roundabout, and they are intending to make commencement in Q2 2025 with delivery by Q2 2026. He said there are a number of processes to go through, including the procurement process, but that is the current aspiration and that the team will let members know if there are any changes.</p>		
6.15	<p>Cllr Richard Cooper asked about traffic monitoring. He said that some of the forum members received a note from Kirsty McMullen today (14 August 2024) and it looks as though there could be some additional traffic monitoring on its way. He said the question was first asked by Cllr Tim Beach on 9th April at the annual Community Forum. He said the question was asked as</p>		



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	<p>there is a real concern in this area that holiday traffic results in a large peak. He understood that the issue is being taken to the TRG but argued that Kirsty's note means that they are missing the holiday peak and are therefore no further forward than in April. He said there is a missed opportunity to have captured some data this year rather than having to wait until next year.</p> <p>KM said there is a lot of assessment and mitigation within the DCO which is being delivered and in addition to this, within schedule 16 of the DoO there is a contingent effects fund for the TRG to be able to draw down from should there be significant adverse transport effects that were not mitigated through the DCO. KM said the agreement of SZC in today's note sets out 24 locations to monitor across a wide area is to be able to provide an evidence base for the TRG to look at whether there are significant adverse effects in certain locations that were not picked up at the DCO that would need to be further mitigated.</p> <p>Referencing to the slides presented, KM said that they are well below the levels assessed in the DCO in the early stage of construction. She said SZC would monitor a mutual month in October 2024 to validate the baseline. This would allow SZC to establish the baseline and compare this to what is in the DCO as the first step. The next step is to create an ongoing evidence base from this baseline to discuss with the parish councils and the TRG over the 24 monitoring locations that the PCs have come forward with to determine whether there are areas where there are concerns. She recognised the concerns about a missed opportunity but said that they are still at an early stage to get this baseline and move forward throughout the construction period to continually monitor and review those contingent effects.</p> <p>KM said the monitoring points were provided by Cllr Tim Beach. The next stage would be to have a meeting with Suffolk County Council and small number of parish councils to agree this and commission the data to be presented to the TRG and this would be continually monitored going forward.</p>		
6.16	<p>Cllr Ian Norman said there have been seven accidents in Stratford outside the Riverside Centre where vehicles were being re-directed. He asked what the contingency plan is in this situation.</p> <p>DP said there is a huge piece of work ongoing on contingency planning and SZC are working closely with Steve Merry and the police on this. He gave assurance that SZC will not release vehicles from the site if there is an incident.</p>		
6.17	<p>Cllr Norman understood this but questioned where the vehicle would go if it had already left Sizewell and is on the A12.</p> <p>KM said it is twofold, saying SZC would hope the measures they are putting in place in terms of the two-village bypass, the Sizewell Link Road and road safety improvement measures would reduce the number of incidents. The other aspect is reactive, KM highlighted the Traffic Incident Management Plan (TIMP) agreed as part of the DCO which is a live document which can be reviewed by the TRG and the Police who sit on the TRG, as well as National Highways, Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council. She said there is an agreed communication protocol with the TRG whereby the Police can communicate directly with SZC if there is an incident reported. She added that there are holding locations as well as the ability to stop bookings. She said the project realises that it cannot capture every single vehicle, but they are trying to take as many vehicles off the road as possible and are trying to minimise numbers through these measures and with close engagement with the Police and the highways authorities.</p>		
6.18	<p>Cllr Norman highlighted the number of accidents in recent weeks. RK said this may be summer traffic.</p>		



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	<p>Cllr Norman said this may be the case but the volume of traffic on this road has increased tremendously and it is important that the gap between the Northern and Southern Park and Ride's and Sizewell is considered as residents could suffer badly.</p> <p>KM said the TIMP is a live document and SZC need to take this feedback from the community to consider whether there are any further measures to be put in place. ACTION: DP said would take it as an action to report back what they plan to do on this.</p>	DP	
6.19	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll commented on Cllr Richard Copper and Cllr Norman's points as he said the roads are busier at the moment. He recognised that some of this is in county and out of county holiday traffic and that this is an argument for having some peak traffic data done now, arguing that October is way off the dial. He said Kirsty's response was helpful but not what he was looking for and that it then came about from Cllr Norman's point that all these mitigation measures, which to some extent are predictive, will not be in place for 18-24 months. He said that had a survey had been done now then we could have some early notice during the peak period of what the additionality of vehicles would be. He said this could have given SZC a steer on where we might be in August in four years' time, whether some of the predicted mitigation measures are likely to fall short and whether the fund that the TRG has might need to do start doing some early thinking now rather than waiting until there is a problem. Cllr Nicoll said he is sorry that given the matter was raised by Cllr Beach in April that it has taken until August and that it may take until October, and that this will still not answer the question raised at the Community Forum.</p>		
6.20	<p>Klaus Fortmann asked about monitoring and said Campsea Ashe is pleased about certain locations but said there should be key locations monitored continuously so matters can be brought up immediately as they arise rather than waiting for October.</p> <p>ACTION: KM suggested it would be helpful to set up a meeting with SCC and relevant Parishes to discuss whether there are certain areas that need to be more frequently monitored.</p>	KM	
7	Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative – (Chair)		
7.01	<p>Submitted by Cllr John Bann, Melton Parish Council "From reading the minutes of the Southern Forum on 14th May, the Sizewell C Traffic Group intend to issue a definitive list of which local routes they will monitor traffic levels. When will this list be made available?"</p> <p>Answer: ACTION: KM said a list was circulated today and agreed that it could be made available to everyone in the meeting as part of the slides.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll said the database needs to be up to date to the day as people will lose out if it is in arrears.</p> <p>Cllr Bann said the county council has continuous automatic traffic counters around key roads and he cannot see why SZC could not fund such traffic counters throughout the year so people could assess this.</p> <p>KM reiterated the action to take this away and have a meeting to determine which of the 24 locations need to be more frequent.</p>	RK and ZB	
7.02	Submitted by Cllr John Bann, Melton Parish Council		



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	<p>“At the last meeting it was agreed that a dedicated forum would be set up to include Parish Council representatives to discuss concerns about train noise and the mitigation measures. When will this forum meet?”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that this had been answered in the meeting. The Chair explained that there will be a meeting to look at this with relevant parishes from both the Northern and Southern Transport Forum area. He clarified it is not a forum but a meeting.</p>		
7.03	<p>Submitted by Cllr Richard Cooper, Little Glemham and Marlesford Parish Council</p> <p>“Little Glemham and Marlesford are very concerned about the cumulative noise and vibration impacts of Sizewell C traffic and that of other energy projects, on properties close to the A12. On 11th October 2023 Cllr Sally Noble and I met with Richard Bull at the home of a Marlesford couple. We subsequently sent a detailed listing of the 42 Little Glemham and Marlesford properties within 20m of the A12 (see attached) to Sizewell C Co on 3rd January this year. We have sent several follow-up e mails and have raised the matter in person, but we have seen no substantive progress. We now want SZC Co to acknowledge that there is the potential for adverse impacts and to properly carry out the necessary baseline studies of noise and vibration that would allow benchmarking of impacts once SZC (and other projects) commence in earnest. Will they make that acknowledgement at this meeting?”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that this had been resolved as a meeting will be held on 8th October 2024.</p>		
7.04	<p>Submitted by Cllr Richard Cooper, Little Glemham and Marlesford Parish Council</p> <p>“And on behalf of the parishes affected by the Southern Park and Ride: At our meeting on 2nd July, SZC Co indicated that they were unwilling to share drawings of the Southern Park and Ride Site until after they had been shown at the Southern Transport Forum. Can we now assume that following this meeting, parishes will be supplied with appropriately sized drawings that can be reviewed by the respective parish councils?”</p> <p>Answer: DP said the question was answered through the picture shown at the meeting.</p>		
7.05	<p>Cllr Cooper said representatives need to convey these discussions back to their parish councils and the need to wait for approved drawings further delays their ability to brief parish councillors. Cllr Cooper referred to the meeting held on the Southern Park and Ride in which a number of actions were put forward to Richard and the rest of the SZC team and said he would like to think that they would get a chance to see whether these have been implemented before reaching the approved drawing stage.</p> <p>DP said SZC are prioritising consultation, but they are trying to get work in before sharing the final drawings.</p> <p>Cllr Cooper warned there is a danger that residents and councillors will think all is complete if they are not sharing things as they evolve.</p> <p>DP said he would speak about this with Jez Porter (JP).</p> <p>JP said SZC are trying to do this already, noting that they showed the 50% maturity level and committed to come back on this.</p> <p>RC said the action from the meeting on the Southern Park and Ride was that SZC would share the drawings in their current stage after this forum.</p> <p>ACTION: DP said SZC do not want to release drawings that are not approved, but committed to work out a gateway on this.</p> <p>RK said he was in the Southern Park and Ride meeting and there was a lot of feedback which will be passed on to the designers. He said SZC can come back and have a similar meeting at the next stage.</p>	DP	



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7.06	<p>Submitted by Klaus Fortmann, Clerk, Campsea Ashe Parish Council “Campsea Ashe PC (with considerable SCC support) spent over £20k on a TRO to regulate traffic through a particular village lane.</p> <p>Today, 6th Aug, four lorries used that road by 10.30 am; despite the TRO being in place, vehicles are using unsuitable roads and it creates considerable anxiety about the expected wave of traffic emanating from SZWC and the other energy projects as well as general traffic that will use 'alternative' routes to reach their destinations.</p> <p>Lanes & roads such as the B1078 (east of A12, leading to Tunstall) around Campsea are barely suitable for lorries or larger volumes of cars. How is SCC and SZWC ensuring that volumes are 'kept' at an acceptable level and that traffic linked to SZWC is not utilising those lanes? How is SZW monitoring this and if not - why not?”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that monitoring had been covered but Klaus Fortman said the main concern remains that there is no clear answer in terms of monitoring off site roads and SZC related traffic. He said that hopefully this can be picked up in the meeting on monitoring.</p>		
7.07	<p>Submitted by Klaus Fortmann, Clerk, Campsea Ashe Parish Council “It has been brought to our attention that Bentwaters is attempting to 'engage' with SZC related business, meaning to host contractors in the supply chain; how exactly is currently not clear. The A1152 at Melton cross roads is according to WSP (assessment for the 2020 local plan) at capacity. Neighbouring villages are already complaining and dealing with constant issues relating to traffic / road suitability. With Tunstall and Campsea (& Eyke) specifically having major road width issues, what - if any - is the strategy of SZWC and SCC? We were promised that SZWC would not utilise Bentwaters - was that an empty promise?”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that the Bentwaters question had been dealt with.</p>		
7.08	<p>Submitted by Snape Parish Council “What progress has been made in setting up the various traffic monitoring sites that were submitted in a paper to SZC and SCC staff in a paper and specifically whether the Traffic Review Group has this as an action in progress?”</p> <p>Answer: Cllr Russ Rainger agreed that there had been discussion on this in the meeting and a lot of good concerns were raised about the idea of the neutral period.</p>		
7.09	<p>Submitted by Cllr Michael Mahony, Friston Parish Council SZC proposal for 44 water tankers a day through Sternfield - Decision Making Process Whilst this deeply flawed proposal has been withdrawn the whole episode has been something of a shambles. This calls into question the nature of the decision-making process. My understanding is the proposal was escalated from the Transport Review Group to the Delivery Steering Group, presumably because there were understandable and serious reservations about it within the TRG. The Delivery Steering Group comprises The Delivery Steering Group comprises Philip Ridley ESC</p>		



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	<p>M Moll SCC R Bull SZC (Chairman) D Peacoup SZC Damian Leydon (Sunergos Partnership, but formerly of EDF and Hinckley Point)</p> <p>I note - SZC chairs the meeting (and assume has a casting vote) - looks to have a SZC majority no doubt Damian Leydon is meant to be “independent” - lacks anyone who has democratic accountability.</p> <p>Although on this occasion there has been a screeching U-turn the concern remains that the DSG will approve anything which SZC wants.</p> <p>Accordingly what lessons have been learned from the Sternfield water tanker shambles and how can communities have any confidence that their interests will not be easily overridden by the DSG in the future?”</p> <p>Cllr Michael Mahony argued that what happened in Sternfield was a shambles and SZC wasted both his time and the community’s time whilst also causing unnecessary distress. He called for an apology and argued it was a poor exercise in decision making. He sought reassurance on how SZC can ensure this does not happen again. Cllr Mahony said he is concerned as to the nature of the delivery steering group and argued that there does not seem to be any democratic accountability. He said the original discussion at the delivery steering group on this proposal took place on 2nd July, but nobody locally knew about this until a month later despite the group saying that there should be a communication plan. He reported that the minutes refer to ‘concerns’ but questioned whether the group truly understands the concerns. He questioned how the Delivery Steering Group will be changed and how anyone can have confidence that as soon as SZC run into a problem that the interests of the community will not be ignored.</p> <p>Answer: MB said the first point is around confidence in decision making and stressed that there is a thorough, robust and transparent way in which decisions are made. She said SZC have the structure as was agreed as part of the DoO and have a clear system of how decisions are taken. She said the carry out thorough investigations before carrying out work and this structure should give confidence that decisions are made in a formal proper way and minutes from these meetings are shared in a transparent way on East Suffolk Council’s website. She added that when SZC receive feedback, as we did from the community, we take action back into this governance structure.</p>		
7.10	<p>Cllr Mahony said the decision making process did not work and argued that there is no transparency of the minutes and said something needs to change. He argued that SZC cannot point to an existing process and say it is fine because it clearly is not.</p> <p>MB said the decision arrived at was the right outcome for the community and that SZC wrote to the residents and apologised for the concern and inconvenience caused by the initial communication on the contingency measures. She regretted it caused concern and said there is a thorough process in place and if you would like us to look at that then we can look further. She offered assurance there is a lengthy thorough process established and no decisions are taken lightly and there are checks and balances.</p> <p>Cllr Mahony said he was not reassured by this. He said he does not think SZC do not understand the degree of distress and concern caused. He said there are a lot of other things going on in the area and there needs to be a better appreciation of their time and SZC need to</p>		



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	learn some serious lessons from this. He also said the minutes need to be improved as referring to concerns and not specifying what they are is not good enough.		
7.11	<p>Submitted by Cllr Michael Mahony, Friston Parish Council</p> <p>“Why are no representatives from Scottish Power and National Grid attending this meeting despite previous requests in respect of their six NSIPs listed below) all of which will use the A12?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EA1N • EA2 • NG connection hub/node • Sealink • Lionlink • Nautilus <p>Cllr Mahony said it was referred to at the end of the last meeting as an action point that the Chair said it would be appropriate to possibly invite someone from National Grid to give their views on some of the cumulative impacts of some of the other projects in this area.</p> <p>Answer: MB said it is an important point that has been raised several times. She said cumulative impact is something that SZC considered throughout the consultation process and that they need to continue looking at it to ensure they are mindful of other asks on local communities where they are working. She said SZC are considering this and they are part of the project’s consultation plans, confirming that they meet with other projects and consider impacts. She said SZC did invite representatives from other projects to the meeting and they declined.</p>		
7.12	<p>Cllr Mahony asked whether SZC will extend the invitation for every forum going forward.</p> <p>RK said it was an open invite. He said this is about when the agenda for the forum is suitable and they are able to come along and contribute to conversation. He said they declined this particular invite, but it is an open invite and SZC will continue to extend it. He said other projects have their own community outreach that they need to do as well. He also made the point that this is a SZC forum and whilst it is important to have partners around the table, it is also about being reassured that SZC are working with other infrastructure projects in a number of other areas in terms of logistics and forward planning.</p>		
7.13	<p>JP said SZC are in regular contact with Scottish Power Renewables and joined up with Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council in this respect as well. He said SZC are looking at a number of minor road schemes where DCOs overlap in terms of requirements. For instance, on the Friday Street Roundabout SZC are working closely with another project to make sure the roundabout construction can accommodate their traffic. He said there are also schemes at Marlseford, Yoxford and Therbeton, where they are adopting a similar approach of combining the designs and taking a view on who is best placed to deliver the scheme to minimise disruption to the community.</p>		
7.14	<p>Cllr Mahony said this explains his point about why Scottish Power and National Grid need to be in the room.</p> <p>JP said Scottish Power have been invited and do attend the TRG. He said that as other projects come on stream, SZC will extend the invite to others so they can achieve a joined-up approach to minimise disruption.</p>		



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8	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13 th November 2024 at 18.30 – (Chair)		
8.02	It was confirmed that the next Southern Transport Forum would take place on: Wednesday 13 th November 2024 at 18.30.		
8.02	<p>The dates of future Forum meetings were provided.</p> <p>Sizewell C Community Forum An additional SZC Community Forum will be held on Wednesday 9th October at High Lodge Leisure, Haw Wood, Hinton, Nr Darsham, Suffolk, IP17 3QT.</p> <p>Main Development Site Forum Tuesday 15th October 2024</p> <p>Northern Transport Forum Wednesday 6th November 2024</p> <p>Southern Transport Forum Wednesday 13th November 2024</p> <p>The Chair noted that the meeting notes will be posted on the East Suffolk webpage.</p>		
8.03	The meeting ended.		