

DRAFT Meeting Note



Southern Transport Forum

Meeting Type: Southern Transport Forum

Meeting held on: Wednesday 13th November 2024

Sizewell C Attendees:

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
Rebecca Quig, Transport Coordinator
Darren Benford-Brown, Community Safety Officer
Kirsty McMullen, Director, KMC Transport Planning
Teresa Haworth, East Suffolk Council Housing Fund

External Attendees:

Cllr David Chenery representing Wickham Market 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
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
Cllr Ian Ransome representing Little Bealings Parish Council
Cllr Alexander Nicoll, Suffolk County Council
Steve Merry, Suffolk County Council, Highways
Cllr Lee Reeves, East Suffolk Council

External Attendees:

Robyn Evans, SEC Newgate
Phil Briscoe, SEC Newgate

Apologies and Substitutions:

Cllr Richard Ayres substituting for Cllr Ian Norman representing Farnham with Stratford St Andrew Parish Council
Naomi Hayes substituting for Carolyn Barnes, East Suffolk Council, Transport Lead, Energy Projects
Apologies from Graeme Watts representing Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council

1. Welcome and Introduction of the Chair and Panel
2. Meeting note and matters arising from Southern Transport Forum (14th August 2024)
3. Report back from: Community Forum (9th October) Main Development Site Forum (15th October) and Northern Transport Forum (6th November)
4. Community Relations
5. Housing Fund
6. Road and Rail Updates
7. Traffic Movements and Transport Review Group Update
8. Community Safety
9. Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative
10. Dates of Future Meetings

DRAFT Meeting Minutes – 13/11/2024



Southern Transport Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introduction of the Chair and Panel – (Chair)		
1.01	<p>Brian Stewart, 'The Chair', opened the meeting and welcomed attendees, highlighting new members of the forum, apologies and substitutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Ian Ransome, representing Little Bealings Parish Council, was welcomed as a new member of the Southern Transport Forum. The Chair explained that he agreed Little Bealings Parish Council should join the forum due to the rail line which runs through the parish and the possible impact this could have on the local community. Apologies were noted from Cllr Graeme Watts representing Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council. It was noted that Cllr Richard Ayres was substituting for Cllr Ian Norman representing Farnham with Stratford St Andrew Parish Council, and Naomi Gould was substituting for Carolyn Barnes representing East Suffolk Council. 		
1.02	<p>The Chair went on to outline the purpose of the Southern Transport Forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions between SZC and representatives from communities located in the immediate vicinity of the Southern Park and Ride Freight management facility site Two village bypass Provide project information in relation to relevant construction issues and progress To enable local elected representatives to ask questions and raise issues of concern relating to road and rail specific to SZC construction Inform SZC on key issues affecting the local community in the immediate vicinity of the STF Sites Find ways to minimise the impacts and maximise the benefits of the project to those living and working nearby. 		
2	Meeting Note and Actions from Previous Main Development Site Forum (14th August 2024) – (Chair)		
2.01	The Chair moved the draft meeting note for their correctness.		
2.02	<p>Cllr John Bann said in item 7.01 he made reference to traffic counters not cameras. ACTION: It was agreed that this would be corrected in the meeting note and the note would then be approved.</p>	SECN	Complete
2.03	Cllr Alexander Nicoll reiterated his point made under item 6.02 at the previous meeting that Stephen Keighley had mentioned the level crossing works planned at Darsham and Melton and that substantial intervention would be required. Cllr Nicoll wanted to underline that he had not forgotten about this point and there are lots of parishes and hundreds of residents that rely on safe passage across the Melton Level Crossing. He said communication in advance of any closures would be greatly appreciated.		
2.04	<p>A slide was shown with actions from the last meeting and the Chair ran through matters arising.</p> <p>Item 2.02 – There was discussion about the arrangements for circulating the meeting notes. The Chair said SZC are working to circulate the draft meeting notes for each forum within about four weeks of the meeting taking place.</p>		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<p>Item 2.04 (7.09) – There was an ongoing action regarding a meeting with Saxmundham Town council, surrounding villages and Network Rail on rail issues. This is ongoing and RK said they are looking for this to take place early in the new year.</p> <p>Item 2.04 – There was some concern over Network Rail’s communication to Saxmundham. SK fed back on letter distribution at the last meeting, and the Chair said hopefully any future communications will be slicker. The Chair said there is no-one from Network Rail at the meeting but they will ensure the points are picked up with them.</p> <p>Referring back to Item 6.02, as raised by Cllr Alexander Nicoll earlier in the meeting, the Chair said there is an important point around communication to communities moving beyond the Melton Level Crossing and the possible impact of any road closure. He said action has been forwarded to the community relations team to ensure Melton Level Crossing information extends to the peninsula and the areas outlined once timings and works are confirmed.</p> <p>Item 6.06 – On the caravan site closure and the ACA and traffic concerns, the Chair said the accommodation strategy now includes Pontins and Lowestoft which will include bus transport to the site and therefore further help reduce traffic on the road network.</p> <p>Item 6.11 – The Chair said Daniel Fiske from Network Rail had committed to looking into some additional signals through Woodbridge. This is still ongoing.</p> <p>Item 6.18 – The Chair said an issue was raised around sequencing on the A12 works with Suffolk County Council. This would be covered in the presentation this evening.</p> <p>Item 6.20 – There was a suggested meeting with SCC and affected parish councils to discuss whether certain areas need to be more frequently monitored. The Chair said this would be discussed at the forum.</p> <p>Item 7.01 – A list was circulated for local groups to be monitored to be shared with the minutes. The Chair said this was sent to Kirsty McMullen and would be outlined at this meeting. ACTION: RK said SZC will follow up when the slides are shared with forum members.</p> <p>Item 7.05 – On requests to share the final designs for associated developments, the Chair said the team has committed to release drawings as soon as they are approved.</p> <p>Item 7.14 – Councillor Michael Mahony had made a request for other energy infrastructure projects to attend the forums. The Chair said Cllr Mahony had been written to today on this matter. The Chair said SZC is trying its best on this and said Scottish Power may make the first appearance. He said there would be a slide in the presentation to show some of the cumulative impacts. Cllr Mahony said he appreciates Sizewell’s help with this.</p>	RK	
3	Report back from: Community Forum, Main Development Site Forum and Northern Transport Forum – (Richard Knight)		
3.01	<p>Richard Knight (RK) gave an update on the most recent Community Forum (9th October), Main Development Site Forum (15th October) and Northern Transport Forum (6th November).</p> <p>AFTERNOTE: It was agreed that RK’s full notes would be shared in the meeting note as an afternote.</p> <p>MDSE</p>	RK	Complete



Southern Transport Forum

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recent Main Development Site forum was held 15 October at the Leiston Town Athletic Association. We heard from Rebecca Calder regarding the launch of the home improvement scheme as administered by East Suffolk council (you will hear further this evening). • We had a project update regarding activity and progress of the main and temporary construction areas from Rick Watler, this included an outline of the works expected for 2025. Traffic and transport update from Dave Peacop regarding transport flows through Leiston and the surrounding areas. • Darren Benford-Brown, our community safety officer, gave a reminder of the workers code of conduct and an outline of his role, which you will hear further tonight. • Q&A included further details for the future plans of the ACA site, works and harbour boundaries on Sizewell Beach, traffic and speed management along the Sizewell Gap and an update on SZC related transport vehicles. <p><u>Community Forum</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We held the second community forum for East Suffolk last week at Darsham High Lodge. The Community Forum is now bi-annual each being held in the Spring and the Autumn. • Julia Pyke addressed the forum, outlining financial position of the project and how the project is working with the government to secure the Final Investment Decision and highlighted that the government had awarded 5.5bn funding for the project over the coming period so that the project can continue to progress. • An update on the community fund was given, which you will hear details this evening. There were also further details offered around the housing, tourism and Natural Environment funds • Chris Young, the head of the Employment Affairs Unit gave a presentation on the employment and skills offer alongside apprenticeships and graduate programmes. • Damian Leydon, Site Delivery Director gave a detailed update of the site progress and showed a drone film of the works that have been done in 2024. He went on to outline the plan for 2025. <p><u>NTF – Wednesday 6th November 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Transport forum focused on rail and road along with traffic movements and updates from the Transport Review Group. • Richard Knight provided updates from the recent forums, before handing to Marjorie Barnes for a Sizewell C project overview. • Marjorie Barnes gave an update on the first round of awards from the Community Fund which you will all hear about tonight • Dave Peacop and Stephen Keighley provided updates relating to the road and rail. These included the drone footage of the main development site works. • Updates included off site infrastructure, Northern Park and Ride, Sizewell Link Road and Yoxford roundabout. This included an outline of vegetation works and wider context of why this is happening now. • David Peacop also gave an outline on how we are working with other NSIPs in the East Suffolk region. • Rebecca Quigg, the Sizewell C transport coordinator, introduced herself and her role (as she will do again tonight) and gave an update on SZC HGV movements over the last published quarter and an update from the Transport Review Group. • Darren Benford-Brown, our community safety officer, gave a reminder of the workers code of conduct and an outline of his role, which you will hear further tonight. 		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Q&A themes included requests for updates and timeline around compound building in and around Leiston, the roll out of vehicle identification plates. Discussions included how the project communicates to communities and Suffolk Constabulary attendance to forum meetings. 		
3.02	The meeting notes, slides and agendas are located on the East Suffolk Council website.		
4	Community Relations – (Marjorie Barnes)		
4.01	Marjorie Barnes (MB) gave an update on the project. MB said there have been over 200 enquiries during October, a number regarding vegetation clearance and some complaints focused on LGVs. Positive enquiries have been focused on jobs, accommodation and supply chain opportunities. MB welcomed that there had been a good turnout at the recent SZC jobs fair in Leiston. She said SZC will be looking to do more to promote the opportunities for local people and would be happy to do things with individual parishes on this as well. MB confirmed that the Annual Skills Implementation Plan was agreed with Suffolk County Council.		
4.02	MB reported that October was a busy month for the Transport Working Groups, with meetings held with Leiston, Middleton, Westleton, Blythburgh and Walberswick. SZC also attended Darsham Parish Council meeting with representatives from Yoxford to update on progress.		
4.03	On the Sizewell C Community Fund, MB said the first funds have been released to local communities and the panel will meet again in the next few weeks. She stressed that there is support available, particularly for smaller groups.		
5	Housing Fund – (Teresa Haworth)		
5.01	The Chair explained that as one of the signatories to the DCO and DoO East Suffolk Council as the housing authority has asked that the widest possible publicity is given to the Housing Fund.		
5.02	<p>Teresa Haworth (TH) gave an update on the Housing Fund provided by SZC to support the local housing market during the construction phases of the project.</p> <p>Increase supply of bedspaces in private housing: Applications are now open for two new grants to help East Suffolk homeowners get ready to rent out high quality accommodation to Sizewell C workers.</p> <p>Minor Works Grants: Up to £3,000 per bedroom is available to turn an unused bedroom into accommodation for a Sizewell C worker. This can cover things like repainting, new flooring, electrical upgrades, extra heating, new windows, or adding a washbasin.</p> <p>Renovation Grants: Up to £7,000 per bedroom is available for larger projects, including converting buildings to homes, structural work, electrical rewiring, heating installation, new windows and doors, plumbing, and adding kitchen or bathroom facilities. This grant can also be used to create shared accommodation - Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO).</p> <p>Further information on grant conditions and how to register an enquiry is available at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/sizewell-c-housing-grants</p>		
5.03	TH said ESC is currently undertaking a baseline review of tourist accommodation to understand what is currently available and what the tourist influx is so they can monitor what impact SZC is having on taking up these beds. ESC will also be looking at caravan sites in the local area.		



Southern Transport Forum

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5.04	Cllr Tim Beach said annexes were mentioned and asked whether this will be dependent on having or getting planning permission. TH said that if planning permission is required then this would need to be evidenced.		
5.05	Cllr Geraldine Barker asked how long the homeowner in receipt of these grants would be expected to house workers. TH said that for the Minor Works Grant, ESC would be looking for the room to be available for let to SZC workers for five years. If the owner sold the property within that period they would be expected to repay the grant. The renovation grant is ten years but this scales down after five years.		
5.06	Cllr Michael Mahony asked whether ESC will be monitoring homelessness levels and what they will do if levels increase. TH said there is a major homelessness issue across the country and ESC is already experiencing a high volume of homelessness, but said they want to see whether the project is impacting this. She said the homelessness team at ESC are applying for grant funding to try to support alternative means of preventing homelessness in the first place or provide funding in another way. She said it is part of a bigger housing strategy not just related to Sizewell.		
5.07	Cllr David Findley said there will be a significant number of people moving to the area from Hinkley Point, asking what the plan is around larger family groups. TH said ESC have not specifically developed a policy around families moving to the area. She said that if people wanted to utilise a grant for a family then ESC would look at it sympathetically. She said they have not yet experienced this but acknowledged that the workforce will change over time and the grant policy is designed to adjust and accommodate the needs of the workforce as it changes.		
5.08	Cllr Alexander Nicoll raised concerns about an increase in HMOs and the additional pressure this may place on social infrastructure. TH said ESC is not currently seeing a concentration of enquiries for any one area and that it is likely that those applying for grants will be spread across a sizeable area. She said Cllr Nicoll raised valid concerns regarding social impact but gave assurance that ESC will monitor what is happening and the effect it is having on the local community, adding that there is flexibility to change things if this proves necessary. She said ESC would rather HMOs are properly converted, and safe accommodation is provided than have HMOs appearing under the radar.		
5.09	Cllr David Secret said properties are already being bought up by entrepreneurial landlords. He asked what the planning situation is regarding HMOs. TH said planning consent is not required for an HMO unless it is for six or more people. She said ESC is looking at whether there are any other possible controls which might be needed to bring those to its attention. Naomi Hayes added that teams in East Suffolk Council are looking at this to see what mechanisms there are to provide a control on those.		
6	Road and Rail Updates – (David Peacop and Stephen Keighley)		
6.01	A fly through video of the main site was shown to members. David Peacop (DP) then gave an overview on road works, providing an update on: Countrywide Highways Signage, the Southern Park and Ride, Orwell Logistics Park, and the Two Village By-Pass.		



Southern Transport Forum

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6.02	DP explained that unfortunately there is a season when vegetation should be taken down and that we are currently in this season, encouraging the representatives to explain this to residents.		
6.03	On the Orwell Logistics Park, DP said three warehouses will be standard and one will be a temperature-controlled warehouse. He spoke on the Freight Management Facility and said all vehicles will go in there from January to be checked and a pass put in the window for notified and non-notified HGVs.		
6.04	On the A12 improvements and local road schemes, DP said typical improvements include: new and enhanced pedestrian footways and crossings, new road surfacing, village gateways, safety improvements and side road visibility, and reduced speed limits.		
6.05	<p>Stephen Keighley (SK) said 2025 will be the peak year for construction with the aim of having the infrastructure ready to have two trains running per day from 2026.</p> <p>Rail Scope Overview East Suffolk line Upgrades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level Crossing Upgrades • Track Works • Additional Signals <p>Rail Delivery – Construction Phases SK outlined the below core stages for the construction work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saxmundham Junction – upgrade existing junction • Sizewell Branch line – track upgrade, level crossing upgrade (7Nr), signalling upgrade • ACA Sidings – temporary sidings (3Nr) • Green Rail route – temporary connection to TCA, new level crossings (2Nr) • TCA Sidings – temporary sidings (8Nr) • East Suffolk line – level crossing upgrades (11Nr), track upgrades, signalling upgrade 		
6.06	SK warned the branchline is a live operational railway and starting from January 2025 there will be a higher frequency of trains travelling through. He wanted to stress this that it is not a safe place to walk and there have been instances of members of the public using this as a walking route. He encouraged the representatives to pass this on to residents.		
6.07	SK said SZC are currently carrying out various survey activities and track resilience activities to make sure existing infrastructure is safe to run the trains there. From January, SZC are running two-three trains and the frequency will significantly increase in February / March onwards. In the early part of next year, SZC will be working on installing the main compounds and carrying out enabling works. In Q2 next year, SZC will start delivering the main works.		
6.08	<p>DP said SZC are working with other infrastructure projects on a variety of topics, including communications and community engagement and logistics to understand planning and timelines. He highlighted the Suffolk County Council Major Road Network Scheme (MRN)</p> <p>Specific projects SZC are engaging with include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid Ventures (Lion Link); National Grid Electricity Transmission (Sea Link); Scottish Power (Nautilus) • Each project is at different stages of their DCOs 		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Sizewell C regular contact with Scottish Power Renewables and joined up with Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council • Ensuring that each other's DCO do not overlap, and works complement and do not duplicate • Scottish Power attends the Transport Review Group • Working groups on logistics and communications up and running - Road management - Abnormal Indivisible Loads coordination 		
6.09	DP outlined A12 improvements, saying the works will be implemented by SCC. SZC is co-ordinating with other projects, including Scottish Power Renewables to minimise disruption.		
6.10	<p>Cllr Tim Beach said there have been ongoing discussions amongst the Town and Parish Councils around doing work on cumulative impact, and said they want to work very specifically around this with SZC.</p> <p>DP welcomed this and encouraged the councils to contact Marjorie Barnes if they want SZC to engage directly with them on this.</p> <p>Cllr Beach said it would be a great start to be able to do this and talk informally and build through some of the traffic monitoring.</p>		
6.11	<p>Cllr Geraldine Barker said the DCO for Sea Link will be coming forward shortly, asking whether there is any possibility that this project will be able to use SZC's Park and Ride and freight management facilities.</p> <p>RB said it is an excellent question, acknowledging that SZC is building a huge amount of infrastructure and that depending on the phasing of the SZC works, it would be ideal if other projects could also utilise this infrastructure. However, he said it is not simple as it depends on how SZC utilises its facilities, what the uptake is, capacity, and how the other projects interact from a security perspective. RB said SZC needs to fully investigate this as it does not want to end up with large partially used facilities which are replicated by projects elsewhere.</p>		
6.12	<p>Cllr Michael Mahony spoke in relation to the railway works, asking whether SZC will give good notice of service interruptions, noting that the blockade in May will coincide with bank holiday weekend. He also asked how SZC will keep the A12 moving whilst they undertake level crossing works at Darsham.</p> <p>With regard to disruption during the nine-day blockade in May, SK said SZC are currently working with train operating companies to work out and agree how they will manage the passenger movements during the rail closure. He said this is still a work in progress but there are well established protocols, such as bus replacement services. He recognised this is not ideal but that it allows continued movement, and SZC are keen to make sure there are no significant highway closures at the same time as these works.</p> <p>On the road closures and disruption associated with Darsham, SK said SZC are not yet in a position to provide details of the timing of closures or the highway diversions. He said there will need to be some sort of highway closure in order to do the upgrade but that they would aim to minimise this. He said that when doing the level crossing, SZC would be looking to undertake work overnight, but that equally closing the road at night means there will be disruption to residents with 24 hour working. He said there is a plethora of impacts to consider and that SZC will be working closely with Network Rail and the Highways Authority to try to optimise this.</p>		
6.13	Cllr Ian Ransome raised the two track improvements, noting there is one at Wickham Market and asking whether the other is.		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<p>SK said the 2 track work sites are at Wickham Market and Burnt House, which is south of Saxmundham.</p> <p>Cllr Ransome asked why the second one isn't between Little Bealings.</p> <p>SK said he is aware that Network Rail are doing some work in the Little Bealings area, but that this is not something that is being done for Sizewell.</p> <p>Cllr Ransome said there were issues when Network Rail carried out rail improvement in the past, saying they previously shut the village off over Christmas and New Year, and people do not want to have a repeat of this.</p> <p>ACTION: SK said he is happy to have a conversation with Cllr Ransome and pass the message back to Network Rail but asked Cllr Ransome to provide the details on this.</p>	SK	
6.14	<p>Cllr David Findley asked how the wastewater is going to be managed given the construction that is taking place. He was concerned about the massive amount of wastewater to deal with and the size of the site for the management of human waste and wastewater.</p> <p>The Chair reiterated the forum remit and that questions should be about transport.</p> <p>DP said there could be a separate session on this.</p> <p>Cllr Findley said his first question is relevant as it is about how SZC will manage construction so rivers and streams do not get additional pollution.</p> <p>RB said SZC is currently going through the process of finalising its technical approvals for the highways works. He said the largest schemes are still going through this process. A huge element is ensuring there is the right level of flood resilience included within the designs. RB said SZC is fully engaging with the Environment Agency, who set the bar high in terms of what SZC need to do and how to manage the waters through construction as well as all the permits that are required, so it is fully regulated.</p>		
6.15	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll welcomed the point on coordination around the NSIPs and said there is not much evidence that other projects have been doing this, therefore commending SZC for leading on it. However, he said this corollary was partly contradicted by SK saying that Network Rail are doing something on the line that is nothing to do with Sizewell. He said this group would hope that given SZC are having continuous conversations with Network Rail, they can still extract information from them. He said whilst it may not be directly to do with Sizewell it can cause stress and strain along the line for passengers and that SZC may be able to get them to communicate better.</p>		
6.16	<p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll also said that in addition to mega projects there is a lot of pressure on residential housing starts in East Suffolk and called for even more joined up thinking on this. DP acknowledged the importance of this. He highlighted an example and said SZC presented at the East Suffolk Housebuilders Forum.</p>		
6.17	<p>Cllr Richard Ayres asked about the timescales for the two-village bypass. He said it would be useful to understand when archaeology is scheduled from and until, and when vegetation clearance will start.</p> <p>DP said the top of each slide in the presentation states what SZC are doing for each quarter.</p> <p>Cllr Ayres said would be helpful to know when they are taking place so people locally can anticipate the level of disruption.</p> <p>ACTION: DP took this as an action to see what could be done for the next forum on this.</p>	DP	
6.18	<p>Cllr John Bann sought clarity on the difference between the nine-day blockade in May and track access in October. With regard to track access to Melton and Darsham, he asked when details will be shared on what is proposed and the method of construction.</p> <p>SK explained that it is essentially the same thing just a different way of phrasing it. He went on to say that the nine-day blockade is specifically to carry out works within the Saxmundham</p>		



Southern Transport Forum

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	Junction area. With regard to the possession in October 2025, the current plan is that the track will be closed to allow work to be carried out at Darsham and Melton at the same time. The details of this are still being worked through to ensure there is a coherent plan, but he said SZC are putting pressure on the project team to provide this information as they are very conscious that they need to inform people of what is happening and to stick to these dates.		
6.19	Cllr Lee Reeves asked about the FMF and whether SZC have estimations on the level of traffic. DP said yes and SZC must forecast the levels of transport going through. He said there are some more slides later in the presentation on this.		
6.20	Cllr Robin Sanders raised issues with multiple road diversions and the need for these to be better signed. DP agreed with this.		
7	Traffic Movements and Transport Review Group Update – (Rebecca Quig and Steve Merry)		
7.01	Rebecca Quig (RQ) introduced herself and outlined her roles and responsibilities as Transport Coordinator.		
7.02	RQ outlined the high-level figures for the latest transport monitoring reports which is given to the TRG every quarter. She said SZC are looking at a process to get this data to representatives on a monthly basis, saying they want this to be sustainable and consistent going forward.		
7.03	<p>Wider Traffic Monitoring</p> <p>Traffic count sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Monitoring Surveys are mentioned in the Deed of Obligation as a potential measure to respond to traffic issues • In consultation with Parish Councils, traffic counts implemented proactively • 30 count sites agreed with local parish councils • Four permanent SCC counter sites to monitor seasonal changes • First surveys complete: summary of data to be provided later in November • Ongoing annual counts in April and October • Single set of summer counts in August 2025 		
7.04	<p>Wider traffic monitoring</p> <p>Permanent counters</p> <p>RQ said SZC have looked at this and are now implementing them proactively, saying there are 30 counter sites agreed with parish councils and four permanent counter sites to monitor seasonal change which have been agreed with SCC. The summary of the first data will be provided in November and there will be ongoing annual counts in April and October going forward and a single set of summer counts in August.</p> <p>Questioned on where the four counts are, RK said they are Yoxford, down towards Saxmundham, St Andrew, and then Woodbridge. He said SZC will provide a more detailed map which pinpoints each of these locations.</p> <p>RQ added that she is putting together a mailing list for all the parish councils in the area to provide the information in a way that feels easier.</p>		
7.05	Update on Transport Working Groups		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston – Meeting to discuss design updates: 3 October 2024 • B1122 – next meeting date in discussion • B1125 – In-person walkthrough of B1387 with Blythburgh and Walberswick Parish Councils: 30 September 2024 & meeting to discuss the Westleton Scheme and Middleton Footways: 31 October 2024 • Marlesford & Little Glemham – Next meeting date in discussion • Wickham Market – Design feedback received: 1 October 2024 & next meeting date in discussion • Yoxford – Meeting in November to update 		
7.06	<p>Transport Review Group General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Monitoring Report high level data will be made available on a monthly basis (with a more in-depth report presented quarterly at the TRG) • Next Transport Review Group is scheduled for 16th January 2025 due to the Christmas break • Transport Review Group meetings will be scheduled for 2025 before the end of the year • Transport Working Group meetings will be scheduled for 2025 before the end of the year 		
7.07	<p>Klaus Fortmann asked whether there is progress in terms of having parish councils get together to have a discussion about permanent monitoring positions. He referenced the four counters on the A12 and said many may think this is a little bit light as there will be a lot of replacement traffic. He suggested there should be effort made to capture more strategic points so SZC can react much quicker to issues developing.</p> <p>ACTION: The Chair summarised that Klaus Fortmann would like some further thinking to be done on extending the number of monitoring sites.</p>	SZC team	
7.08	<p>Cllr Michael Mahony said the TRG website needs to be better kept up to date, arguing that there needs to be a target by which minutes are put up on the website as the last meeting took place on 26th September and it is still not on the website.</p> <p>RQ said these minutes took longer as it was her first set and it went under closer review, but gave assurance that they are looking at how to make the process quicker.</p>		
7.09	<p>On traffic monitoring, Cllr Tim Beach noted that there was a meeting planned for 2nd December where there would be further discussion and analysis.</p> <p>RQ said analysis will go to the end of November and confirmed this date is in the diary for a conversation on this and suggested it would be a helpful time to talk through potential options for permanent sites as well.</p> <p>RB said there has been some very good engagement with PC representatives, so the intent was to have the feedback sessions with them but welcomed opening this up to others parish councillors in the affected areas.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander Nicoll said there should be something formalised under this group to ensure all parishes are treated equally.</p> <p>RB said the key point is that it needs to be done under the governance of the Transport Review Group. He said the meeting is a courtesy feedback session, noting that these are the initial results, and any formal reporting will go through the TRG.</p> <p>Cllr Nicoll said it is the role of this forum to make sure everyone is treated equitably.</p>		



Southern Transport Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
7.10	As a member of the group, Cllr Brian Hunt said they tried to make sure the coverage was right across the piece and made sure every community they felt would be affected was included. He said that to have included 30 data monitoring points from the start was a good achievement. Cllr Beach said there is a legitimate point about how the parish councils communicate and that this is not just down to SZC. RQ reiterated that SZC are putting together a distribution list to be able to contact parishes in that area and gave assurance that there will be ongoing communication. Cllr Nicoll said the work has been commendable but there are one or two parishes who have legitimate concerns who could benefit by being part of the net created. Cllr Beach said there is an argument about some form of allocation of resource to help them do that and said they have made this point before.		
7.11	Cllr Geraldine Barker said Saxmundham was not part of this group and found out about the monitoring from another parish. Cllr Barker asked that all data goes out to every single parish. RQ agreed. The Chair said this is what SZC have already undertaken to do.		
8	Community Safety – (Darren Benford-Brown)		
8.01	Darren Benford-Brown (DBB) gave an update on community safety. He outlined the code of conduct, which he said will soon be available on the Sizewell C website. DBB then went on to read out a statement on behalf of Suffolk Constabulary regarding policing support.		
8.02	Cllr Nicoll said someone at an inspector level of above from Suffolk Constabulary should attend the meeting. The Chair indicated that similar comments had been made at the last NTF meeting, and he had written to the Chief Constable of Suffolk Constabulary on the matter.		
9	Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative – (Chair)		
9.01	Submitted by Klaus Fortmann, Campsea Ashe Parish Council “CA PC is pleased that the traffic monitoring has now happened, even if this is a year late and therefore not truly establishing a baseline. As this is part of the Deeds of Obligation, how come this was not done immediately - as per DoO?” “Should PC's be concerned this being a sign of things to come?” Answer: It was agreed that this was covered in the presentation.		
9.02	Submitted by Klaus Fortmann, Campsea Ashe Parish Council “CA is concerned that key secondary roads are currently not captured via the permanent monitoring and hence impacts will get picked up too late for the Transport Group to enact remedies. Could we please have a list of the permanent traffic monitoring places currently in use and could PC's have a stake in choosing additional locations deemed necessary?” Answer: It was agreed that this was covered in the meeting.		
9.03	Submitted by Cllr Graeme Watts, Brightwell, Foxall and Purdis Farm Parish Group “A temporary water sourcing facility was proposed for the site in Levington. Whilst this will no longer be built in Levington it is unclear whether this will now be built at the new Freight Management Facility site at Orwell Crossing, another site, or is it no longer required? During the main Forum it was stated that an office would be created at Orwell Crossing could you confirm the approximate number of staff involved.”		



Southern Transport Forum

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	<p>Answer and Action: The response below was to be relayed to Cllr Graeme Watts who was absent from the meeting.</p> <p><i>“We know that East Anglia is one of the driest regions in the country and has been classified by the Environment Agency as a Serious Water Stressed Area. Our short-term water strategy includes storage at the MDS including tankers and rain water collection. We are also looking at options for further water storage and collection at the FMF and will keep the forum updated as we progress plans.”</i></p>	RK/ZB	
9.04	<p>Submitted by Cllr Richard Cooper, Marlesford Parish Council</p> <p>“Is there a way in which SZC Co can release their monthly traffic monitoring data in a more regular and timely way so that those of us who are frequently asked about the project and HGV movements in particular, can provide a meaningful answer based on recent data.”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that this was covered in the presentation.</p>		
9.05	<p>Submitted by Cllr Tim Beach, Snape Parish Council</p> <p>“The context is that there has been quite a lot of comment about driver behaviour and I assume that is being monitored but I wondered if anyone is collating wider ASB issues that are linked or purported to be to SZC?”</p> <p>Answer: DBB showed a slide with stats and data from Suffolk Constabulary on crime levels and types for the last 12 months. He said there is a monthly breakdown on the Suffolk Constabulary website. He said ASB will not be tolerated and is outlined in the workers code of conduct. He said SZC will investigate reports and refer to the police as appropriate.</p>		
9.06	<p>Submitted by Councillor David Secret, Benhall and Sternfield Parish Council</p> <p>“The recent vegetation clearance at the A12/B1122 junction caused considerable traffic disruption. In particular, buses were held up and were running 35 minutes late between Saxmundham and Aldeburgh. There are residents in the villages who rely on a timely bus service for their everyday business, medical appointments and connections with other public transport etc. What measures are SZC taking to avoid further such disruption?”</p> <p>Answer: DP said all traffic is managed and manned. He asked when the instance of services running 35 minutes late took place.</p> <p>Cllr Secret said it was at midday on Monday two weeks ago.</p>		
9.07	<p>Submitted by Cllr Michael Mahony, Friston Parish Council</p> <p>“Coordination at the Friday Street junction - The solution proposed at the Friday Street junction for the Scottish Power projects was the installation of traffic lights on the southbound carriageway to allow northbound traffic to turn right more easily down the A1094, the main construction route for the Scottish Power projects. It is understood that this solution is being abandoned given the construction of a new roundabout for SZC. Given that construction on the Scottish Power projects is expected to start next year, how will the construction of the Friday Street roundabout and the Scottish Power projects be coordinated to avoid traffic congestion and improve road safety on the A12 and the A1094, recognising also that such congestion will spill over into the rural road network?”</p> <p>Answer: RB said construction needs to complement both projects, and confirmed that SZC will be delivering the roundabout.</p> <p>Cllr Mahony asked whether it will be delivered on time, questioning how Scottish Power’s construction will fit in with the construction of the Friday Street Roundabout.</p>		



Southern Transport Forum

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	Steve Merry (SM) said the Scottish Power option has not been withdrawn in planning terms. SM said they are looking at a Q1-Q2 2025 start for the roundabout for SZC and looking at an Easter start for the commencement of the Scottish Power project, but that it will not ramp up until the summer. He acknowledged that this does mean there will be a difficult process for the construction traffic. SM gave assurance that there will be traffic management in place from Easter next year.		
9.08	<p>Submitted by Cllr Michael Mahony, Friston Parish Council “Can there be a standing agenda item in future agendas relating to the coordination of Sizewell C with the Scottish Power and National Grid projects?”</p> <p>Answer: It was agreed that this question has been answered.</p>		
9.09	<p>Submitted by Councillor David Chenery, Wickham Market Parish Council Q1: “What is the timetable for finalising the traffic calming drawings? I supplied our SZC Cttee comments some while ago. Be good to update the village on timescales please.”</p> <p>Q2: “What form would informing the public be? I think you and I were thinking of a manned exhibition showing the final drawings? This is on the basis we have debated the details for a couple of years now and exposed them to WM parish council and its committee. Whereas others favour a public open meeting, presumably to give a chance for further comment etc. I do sympathise with perhaps new residents moving into the village that might “be in the dark”. What do you favour?”</p> <p>Answer: RQ said the detailed design drawings are going to SCC this week and are awaiting their comments and will then be submitted for technical approval. She said the next stage is imminent and SZC will be coming back, likely in January, for another Working Group and to have that conversation. She explained that SZC will need to come and talk to representatives about the traffic regulation orders that are part of this design. She said a public exhibition would be helpful and part of it would be to show those final designs and agreed that some form of Q&A session would be appropriate. She said that dates for this will be shared once SZC has nailed down the traffic regulation orders. Cllr Chenery said new people moving into the village are completely unaware, so the type of engagement that takes place is quite important. RQ said she is happy to have a conversation on what will work best in this regard. Klaus Fortmann said it is important to include neighbouring villages RQ said any public exhibition would take place somewhere that is accessible to neighbouring villages.</p>		
10	Dates of Future Meetings – (Chair)		
10.01	<p>The Chair reminded people that SZC are holding a survey for feedback on the forums which closes on 20th November 2024.</p> <p>The dates were provided for the forums in 2025 and are available online here.</p>		
10.02	The meeting ended.		