

Meeting Note



Main Development Forum

Meeting Type: Main Development Forum

Meeting held on: Wednesday 15 April 2026

Chair:

Christine Abraham

Sizewell C Attendees:

David Peacop, Site Operations Director
 Rick Watler, Site Delivery Lead
 David Seal, Offsite Delivery Manager
 Richard Bull, Head of Planning
 Marjorie Barnes, Head of READ
 Richard Knight, Senior Community Relations
 Stephen Keighley, Rail Lead, SZC
 Rebecca Quigg, Transport Co-ordinator
 Steve Merry, SCC Highway
 Zoe Botten, Community Relations Manager
 Jez Porter, Stakeholder and External Roads Lead
 Ollie Fordham, Parking Delivery Lead

External Attendees:

Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk Council
 Cllr Maureen Jones, Aldringham-Cum-Thorpe Parish Council
 Cllr Stephen Brett, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council
 Cllr Nicky Corbett, Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council
 Cllr Ruth Hardy, Knodishall Parish Council
 Cllr Steve Thorpe, Middleton-cum-Fordley Parish Council
 Cllr Kerstin Davey, Aldeburgh Town Council
 Pat Hogan, Sizewell Residents Association

External Partners:

Suffolk Constabulary

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Meeting notes and matters arising from Main Development Site Forum (14 January 2026)
3. Main Site Update
4. Questions Regarding Presentations
5. Roadworks and Diversions
6. Rail Update
7. Traffic and Transport
8. Q&A – via Town and Parish Council Representative
9. Date of Next Meeting

DRAFT Meeting Note – 15/04/2026

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introduction		
1.01	Christine Abraham welcomed the attendees.		
2	Meeting notes and matters arising from Main Development Site Forum (14 January 2026)		
2.01	8.02 – David Peacop would cover the phasing of the plaza entrance roundabout within his presentation.		
2.02	8.04 – the signage at Sizewell Beach car park, detailing no overnight parking, had been installed.		

Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
2.03	8.06 – David Peacop said signage had been erected in the designated lay-bys on the B1122. However, one area had not been designated as a lay-by, and SZC would require permission to erect a sign there. Afternote: dates to meet have been offered to the parish council		
2.04	8.08 – Rebecca Quigg said data on the Sizewell buses would be included within the next round of the traffic monitoring report.		
2.05	8.09 – Signage had been erected stating that Leiston was open for business. Cllr Nicky Corbett stated that Blackheath Corner remained outstanding. The action was carried over.		
2.06	The notes and actions of the previous meeting were approved.		
3	Main Site Update		
3.01	Rick Watler presented drone footage of the site.		
3.02	Archaeology work remained ongoing at the two-village bypass, with earthworks also commencing. The Bailey bridge would be installed over the River Alde later in the week. Yoxford Roundabout had opened to traffic.		
3.03	The Sizewell Link Road (SLR) was progressing well. Rick Watler highlighted the Ancillary Construction Area (ACA). The area to the north of the rail would act as an unloading area. The last drainage works and infrastructure were being installed across the main site. Asphalt of the central plaza was complete. First archaeological investigations for the College on the Coast had concluded.		
3.04	2.4 million cubic metres of soil had been moved across the temporary construction area (TCA). 98,000 cubic metres would be excavated from the borrow pits over the next 12 weeks, marking the completion of all fill activities and earthworks on the TCA. The civil works for the batching plant would be completed in December.		
3.05	30,000 tonnes of asphalt would be installed on the main access road, with the work expected to be completed by July. Ground improvements and deep soil mixing towards the North Sea was ongoing. The main construction area (MCA) east building had gone live.		
3.06	Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) had commenced on the MCA. Marine works for the combined drainage outfall would start in August. Regarding the MBIF, the installation of piles from the Canti-traveller rig was ongoing. The desalination plant shaft had been installed to full depth. Construction works for the north plaza would start in Q2 2026, with a phased opening from 2027.		
3.07	David Peacop reported that a second mobile phone mast would go live in July. A third mast would be erected in the MCA area.		
3.08	The southern park & ride (SPR) and Northern Park and Ride (NPR) had opened. A parking notice was being issued to drivers, which included SZC's worker code of conduct. Bus passenger services were now running.		
4	Questions Regarding Presentations		

Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
4.01	Pat Hogan asked if parking notices would apply to Sizewell Beach car park and what can be done to deal with the ongoing issue of unauthorised overnight parking. David Peacop responded that they would. Pat Hogan highlighted the marine side of the beach and referred to the harbour area had been imposed. SZC had stated that it did not intend to use the frontage portion within the harbour area. In response, she had requested that the frontage portion be removed from the harbour area, but it had been stated it could not be removed. On 14 April, it had been communicated that no boats could launch due to works that would take place on the weekend. It had also been stated that the swing mooring buoy would need to be moved to the north of the harbour area. While sterling work was taking place, the town felt it was constantly on the backfoot. Rick Watler agreed to take this away. Marjorie Barnes highlighted the beach users working group and Sizewell residents' group as the specialist groups that could address issues relating to the beach. There were several communication channels, and it appeared that Pat Hogan was not content with the action taken. SZC would flag and review this. ACTION: Rick Watler to ask an SZC representative to discuss the harbour area with Sizewell residents. Afternote: monitoring of SZC beach carpark by SZC parking team, SZB CNC, engaging with those thought to be overnight parking. Advising reports are shared with ESC Parking Enforcement	RW	
4.02	Cllr Stephen Brett noted that an area on the Theberton side of Moat Road, parallel with the B1122, had been fenced off for archaeology works. David Seal agreed to review this. ACTION: David Seal to check whether an area on the Theberton side of Moat Road, parallel with the B1122, has been fenced off for archaeology works.	DS	
4.03	Cllr Stephen Brett noted that he had received reports of SZC lorries parking near Pump Cottages. He requested a sign. David Peacop agreed to this. ACTION: Signage to be erected in the lay-bys near Pump Cottages.	DP	
4.04	Cllr Maureen Jones requested an assurance that the coastline in Thorpeness was continually monitored. Richard Bull said there was ongoing monitoring of all coastal processes and specific governance to oversee the area. He would ask the formal governance groups to provide a reassurance to that effect. ACTION: Richard Bull to confirm the monitoring and oversight of coastal processes being undertaken.	RB	
4.05	Responding to Cllr Maureen Jones, David Seal outlined an intention to complete the Friday Street roundabout project by the summer. However, some of the planting would likely take place in the autumn.		
4.06	In response to Cllr Nicky Corbett, David Peacop agreed to set out the proposed use of Lover's Lane and Sizewell Gap during the construction of the power station. ACTION: David Peacop to set out the proposed use of Lover's Lane and Sizewell Gap during the construction of the power station.	DP	

Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
4.07	Responding to Cllr Steve Thorpe, David Peacop agreed to ask Darren Benford-Brown to investigate reported rat running down Fordley Road. ACTION: David Peacop to ask Darren Benford-Brown to investigate reported rat running of SZC vehicles down Fordley Road.	DP/DBB	
4.08	Cllr Steve Thorpe highlighted Middleton oaks at the end of the B1125 and noted that SZC's road architects had been due to review ways to preserve the oaks. It had been stated that the last two, with the yellow ribbons tied around them, could not be saved. He was of the view that more work could have taken place to assess the area. David Seal agreed to discuss this with Cllr Steve Thorpe offline. ACTION: David Seal to discuss the Middleton oaks with Cllr Steve Thorpe offline. Afternote: A brief meeting was held following the forum, previous slides that covered the process and decision making of the Middleton oaks, were shared via email.	DS / RK	
4.09	Cllr Steve Thorpe remarked that reports had emerged earlier in the day suggesting that some of the yellow-ribboned oaks were about to be cut down. David Seal responded that he had not expected these trees to be cut down this week, but this was the period that tree felling would be undertaken.		
4.10	Cllr Sarah Whitelock requested that the landscaping for Friday Street roundabout take place in late autumn to allow planting the best chance to establish.		
4.11	Cllr Sarah Whitelock suggested that SZC submit a request to install additional masts. David Peacop explained that the issue pertained to the dishes placed on the masts. It had been extremely challenging to get the four major mobile phone companies to install dishes on the mast. SZC was attempting to address this as quickly as possible.		
4.12	Cllr Sarah Whitelock welcomed parking enforcement and asked how vehicles belonging to SZC workers were being identified. She also asked whether the enforcement measures could be coordinated with other energy projects. Ollie Fordham responded that parking enforcement notices were purely for SZC employees.		
4.13	Cllr Kerstin Davey highlighted that Volker, a subcontractor, was running its own minibus and collecting workers in Aldeburgh, who were subsequently parking their vehicles in the town. David Peacop agreed to investigate this. ACTION: David Peacop to investigate if Volker is running its own minibus and collecting workers in Aldeburgh. Afternote: Ollie Fordham speaking with contractors to support the parking of 4x4s within Aldeburgh	DP	
5	Roadworks and Diversions		
5.01	David Seal reported that the Friday Street and Yoxford roundabouts had opened to traffic. There were upcoming closures on Moat Road, Pretty Road, Fordley Road and Hawthorn Road.		
5.02	Regarding road schemes for the main development site, bridleway 19 works had been split into two parts, and both the north and south parts would be completed by late autumn. Abbey Lane would open once the bridle works had concluded. Access into the TCA had been simplified. Local road, utilities and rail works were being undertaken in Leiston, and a mini plan would be developed to ensure a continuous flow through the town.		



Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
5.03	B1122 early years work would soon commence during nights, from 19.00 to 05.00. The A1094/B1069 junction works would take place in Q3 2026. Road closure dates for the B1122, Lover's Lane, rail works and A12 were outlined.		
5.04	Richard Knight remarked that various changes would be implemented within the SZC works tracker, including the addition of the Causeway one.network at the end of April. A link would be circulated once the works tracker had been updated.		
6	Rail Update		
6.01	Stephen Keighley presented the rail update.		
6.02	The first engineering train had entered the ACA on 23 February. Track installation for the green rail route (GRR) had commenced. Buckleswood Road had closed to allow for the construction of the new level crossing. The track would be laid on 20, 22, 24 and 28 April, connecting Buckleswood Road to the TCA. Abbey Road would be closed for short periods during the works.		
6.03	New tracks had been installed across the Abbey Road level crossing. Progress had been made on the TCA sidings; all TCA track work was scheduled for completion by the end of May. Stephen Keighley presented an indicative schedule for the branch line level crossing upgrades.		
7	Traffic and Transport		
7.01	Richard Bull reported that the Transport Review Group (TRG) and Delivery Steering Group had granted SZC permission to increase the number of bus services and movements held within the HDV cap, from 300 to 329. This will ensure that a reliable bus timetable can be run in order to reduce vehicle movements and congestion on local roads and in Leiston.		
7.02	Rebecca Quigg presented the transport monitoring report for Q4 2025. Maximum daily HDV movement had slightly exceeded the target. The issue had been rectified, and movements had dropped back to normal levels in November and December. The directional split of HGV movements had shifted slightly further towards the north; LGV movements remained low.		
7.03	The TRG had reviewed the latest round of traffic monitoring trends, identifying further investigation points. Funding had been provided to Knodishall for a traffic mitigation feasibility study; freight welfare provisions had been implemented at the NPR. Routes and HGV limits for OSI sites had been agreed. Parish workshops would take place in May.		
8	Q&A – via Town and Parish Council Representative		
8.01	Middleton Parish Council – Media (BBC) and yourselves report the timeframe for completion of SZC as mid to late 2030. The second reactor, Sizewell D, is never mentioned. Is Sizewell D included in the same timeframe for completion as SZC or are we to expect a later timeframe for completion of Sizewell D, and if so, what is that timeframe? Richard Bull stated that both units of Sizewell C were scheduled to be completed and commissioned by mid 2030's. What provision is being made to ensure the combined stored radioactive waste as will be from Sizewell C and existing Sizewell B is environmentally isolated against the coastal erosion that is predicted will in time encircle the existing Sizewell site?		

Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	Richard Bull said an interim storage facility would be constructed, and waste would be able to remain there indefinitely or moved to a Geological Disposal Facility should a suitable location be developed in the future.		
8.02	Pat Hogan – EDF have now announced another year of free parking at Sizewell Beach car park. Can you please now outline the definite plans you have agreed with ESC on managing the monitoring of the Sizewell Beach car park in order to prevent the resulting problems we are continuing to have of overnight parking there, and use of the car park all day for SZC workers? Over the past 18 months, we have repeatedly been assured that effective signs and monitoring would be in place, and this has not happened. Please explain. Marjorie Barnes stated that SZC had taken several measures, such as developing new signage, a worker code of conduct and patrolling the car park. The worker code of conduct would apply to any workers found using the car park. SZC was addressing the issue, but she understood that Pat Hogan felt it was not being addressed fully. She acknowledged the sentiment and agreed to review the signage with Pat Hogan. ACTION: Marjorie Barnes to review the Sizewell Beach car park signage with Pat Hogan. Afternote: ESC continues to be responsible for enforcement of the Sizewell Beach Car Park. SZC parking team monitor area and investigate reports to identify vehicles associated to the project adhering to the WCoC	MB	
8.03	Knodishall Parish Council – We appreciate SZC commissioning a feasibility study for a possible pedestrian crossing and/or safety measures through Knodishall. Please could we have an indication as to when this study will take place? Rebecca Quigg reported that SCC was working with Richard Bull to develop the study. An update would be provided once timescales had been agreed. Is there an update/timeline on roadworks or road improvements on the A1094/B1069 junction originally planned for Q2 2026? Cllr Ruth Hardy noted that TJ Haworth-Culf had advised that multi-way traffic signals would be in place at the junction from 27 April to 12 June, with works taking place between 20.00 and 05.00. Steve Merry confirmed that this was correct. Confusion had arisen due to there being two phases of the works. The first part would address the oversailing area on the B1069, and following this there would be some resurfacing and changes to speed limits.		
8.04	Leiston-cum-Sizewell – ESC owns a sizable plot of land in King George's Avenue, west of Eastlands Industrial Estate (formerly a caravan park). This land has remained derelict for decades and has encouraged antisocial behaviour in the past. Although earmarked in the Neighbourhood Plan under a number of categories, as far as the Council is aware there are no immediate plans to develop this land. In light of the current parking issues in the town (which are likely to worsen) would it not be a good idea to negotiate with ESC its temporary use as a parking facility, or have these negotiations already taken place? Richard Bull said discussions had taken place with ESC regarding the site, and SZC had no intention to use the site for parking. Cllr Nicky Corbett remarked that contractors were parking their cars on the periphery of the town and being picked up by vans. Ollie Fordham reported that SZC had identified one contractor that had employed a third-party transport company to pick up contractors, and this agreement had been removed. He was aware of the situation and new locations, and		

Main Development Site Forum

Minute Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	he and Zoe Botten would undertake a walk within town to identify the new areas and subsequent action.		
8.05	Cllr Sarah Whitelock asked if workers would be penalised if they did not register their vehicles. Ollie Fordham responded that they would not be, as SZC was unaware of these vehicles. As part of procedural changes, there would be a physical presence in the site induction area to ensure that every individual completed a parking registration form. However, this would not prevent some individuals from withholding information.		
8.06	Cllr Nicky Corbett extended an invitation to SZC to visit Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council and present the Leiston works plan.		
8.07	Cllr Nicky Corbett asked whether there would be further occurrences of idling diesel engines within the town. Stephen Keighley confirmed that trains would be held within the ACA until there was an available route for them to travel right through Leiston.		
8.08	Cllr Maureen Jones highlighted the road closures and asked if work was taking place with SZB workers travelling from the north to mitigate the impact. David Peacop said extensive work had taken place with SZB.		
8.09	Cllr Stephen Brett remarked that tourist businesses would struggle to survive due to the number of road closures. Rebecca Quigg explained that she had engaged with the contractors to ascertain whether there was any flexibility regarding when the works would commence. She would update him as soon as possible.		
8.10	Cllr Stephen Brett queried why Abbey Lane would open in July/August rather than June. David Seal stated that Abbey Lane would most likely open in June.		
8.11	Cllr Kerstin Davey reiterated that high street businesses in Aldeburgh were encountering several issues. Business support that had been previously outlined appeared quite opaque. Marjorie Barnes highlighted the tourism fund, which was managed by ESC. She and a tourism officer had visited a local establishment to ensure the right marketing and support, so that visitors to the county were aware that businesses were open and trading. Businesses could also sign up to the Suffolk Coast Destination Management Organisation (DMO) free of charge. She offered to provide a briefing to Aldeburgh. ACTION: Marjorie Barnes to provide a business support briefing to Aldeburgh.	MB	
8.12	Cllr Nicky Corbett proposed a business support programme for Leiston businesses. Marjorie Barnes said SZC wanted to do as much as possible to attract visitors to the town. It was important for information and resources to remain available.		
9	Dates of Future Forums		
9.01	The next MDSF would take place on 8 July at 18.00.		
9.02	The Chair closed the meeting at 19.59.		