Meeting Note

Sizewell C The power of good for Britain

Main Development Site Forum (16 July 2024)

Meeting Type:	Main Development Site Forum	Meeting held:	Tuesday 16 July 2024 at Leiston Town Athletic Association
Chair: Sizewell C Attendees: External Attendees:	Christine Abraham, Chair David Peacop - Site Operations Director Rick Watler - Site Delivery Lead Richard Bull – DCO Lead Stephen Mannings – DCO Delivery Lead Marjorie Barnes - Head of READ Jez Porter - SPM Associated Development- Highways Zoe Botten – Community Relations Manager Luke Stevens – Land Management Lead Stephen Keighley – Rail Project Manager Tim Newton - Site Security Manager Robyn Evans, SEC Newgate Drew Aspinwall, SEC Newgate Perry Miller, SEC Newgate	Invited Representatives: Apologies:	Cllr Nicky Corbett representing Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council Cllr Stephen Brett representing Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council Cllr Charles Macdowell representing Middleton-cum- Fordley Parish Council Cllr Maureen Jones representing Aldringham-cum- Thorpe Parish Council Cllr Marianne Fellowes representing Aldeburgh Town Council Cllr John Staff representing Knodishall Parish Council Pat Hogan, Sizewell Village Cllr Richard Smith in place of Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf, representing Suffolk County Council Cllr Sarah Whitelock, representing East Suffolk Council Sgt Rebecca O'Neill Steve Merry, Suffolk County Council, Highways

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Meeting note and matters arising from Main Development Site Forum (16 April 2024)
- 3. Report back from: Northern Transport Forum (8 May 2024) and Southern Transport Forum (15 May 2024)
- 4. Sizewell C Project Update and Overview
- 5. Main Site Update
- 6. Green Rail Line Update
- 7. Footpath and Rights of Way Update
- 8. Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative
- 9. Chair's Concluding Remarks
- 10. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15th October 2024, 18.30 at Leiston Town Athletic Association

Meeting Note 16/07/2024

Item Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introductions – (Chair)		
1.01	Christine Abraham, 'The Chair', opened the meeting, welcomed attendees and ran through the venue's housekeeping arrangements.		



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2	Meeting Note and Matters Arising from Main Development Site Forum (16 April 2024) – (Chair)		
2.01	Item 3.12 – CIIr Marianne Fellowes had asked if it would be possible to receive answers from the previous forum before the next meeting as she felt three months was a long time to wait to receive the meeting notes. CIIr Fellowes had also suggested that some kind of action log would be helpful as a lot of information is still not available.		
	A slide was shown in the presentation with a summary of requests made by Forum members at the last MDSF meeting and the actions that had been taken by SZC in response. Hard copies were available for attendees. ACTION: The Chair said Richard Knight is looking at a more detailed action log and agreed that it would be helpful to have a timeline on this.	ZB and RK to update	
2.02	Item 9.01 – Cllr Fellowes had asked about marine works and the impact on tourism and the timeline for the sea wall, calling for this to form part of the July MDSF agenda.		
	The Chair confirmed that there would be an update at the meeting and that this topic also forms part of a pre-submitted question.		
2.03	Item 9.03 – It had been reported that tracking of HGV data was not current and up to date. The Chair confirmed that this is now updated online up to April 2024.		
2.04	Item 9.04 – Cllr Maureen Jones had asked a supplementary question relating to tree work and when the re-planting of the trees will be taking place.		
	Rick Watler (RW) said this covers a large area, but SZC's intention is that where they take out any trees, they will be looking to implement the landscape scheme as soon as possible, particularly for the area by Lover's Lane. He said SZC are currently out to tender for works and once the contractor is on board, they will be looking to adjust the phasing to put this back in at the earliest opportunity during these works.		
2.05	Item 9.08 – Cllr Nicky Corbett had asked about the rail works between Buckleswood and Sizewell holt and when works would start.		
	The Chair confirmed this was on the meeting agenda.		
2.06	Item 9.13 – Cllr Marianne Fellowes had raised the fact that there are 450 – 500 workers on site, proposed to reach 1,500 by the end of the year, and asked when there are plans for a GP to be onsite.		
	Cllr Fellowes confirmed that she had received an email regarding the medical services - which are due to commence in September 2024.		
2.07	Item 9.14 – Cllr T-J Haworth-Culf had requested more information on the traffic in Leiston.		
	The Chair confirmed a meeting took place with Leiston Town Council in June.		
2.08	Item 9.16 – Cllr Maureen Jones had said the road signage is not a sign to direct traffic up Abbey Road in Leiston.		
	It was confirmed that this was reviewed and that a sign has been made and installed.		



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2.09	Cllr Marianne Fellowes had a correction for item 3.07, clarifying that she was referring to the office, rather than the visitor's centre, and her point was about raising awareness of the provision of the office in terms of people being able to ask questions.		
2.10	Cllr Fellowes argued that 13 weeks between meetings is a long time and that she would expect the meeting note to be shared sooner. She said the MDSF members waited 11 weeks before receiving the most recent note, which does not leave much time before the next meeting. She looked to the Chair to see if the timeline for publication of the meeting notes can be considered going forward.		
	ACTION : The Chair said this was a valid point and agreed that it would be helpful to issue the meeting notes sooner. She agreed to speak with Richard Knight on this.	The Chair & RK	
2.11	Cllr Fellowes asked how much influence the Chair has in the drafting of the meeting notes, as she reported that a major point was mentioned during Item 4.03 at the last MDSF (16 th April 2024) and that this was not recorded.		
	She said members had raised the point that the minutes of the Northern Transport Forum on 6 th February 2024 could not be agreed by members because they did not think they were a true reflection of the meeting. She said this was not included and was an example of where an important point had not been captured in the minutes.		
	The Chair said that she was not aware of this as she does not chair the Northern Transport Forum.		
	AFTERNOTE: It was clarified after the meeting		
	that the discussion at the NTF (on 8 th May 2024) took place after the last MDSF on 16 th April therefore there could be any reference to it in the meeting note.		
	For completeness: In the meeting note from NTF (8 May 2024) Item 3.07 says: "The Chair said the draft meeting note can be noted rather than agreed"		
2.12	Pat Hogan said on item 9.6 there was no mention of the SZC residents in finding out about the extent of the harbour area. She said it was an important point that was missed.		
	ACTION : The Chair said it would be added to the previous meeting note and that she would also ensure it was answered in the current meeting.		
2.13	There were no further comments and the meeting note was agreed.		
3	Feedback from other Forums – (Zoe Botten)		
3.01	Zoe Botten (ZB) gave an update on the most recent Northern Transport Forum (8 May 2024) and Southern Transport Forum (15 May 2024).		
3.02	 Northern Transport Forum The last NTF was held at Darsham Village Hall with approx. 20 members of the public attending as observers. 		



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	 Richard Bull addressed the drafting error in the Deed of Obligation which stated that the NTF should have a Sizewell C representative chairing the meeting, which differs from the approach for the Main Development Site Forum, Southern Transport Forum, and Annual Community Forum. The Sizewell C team have engaged with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk Council and drafted a letter for agreement, to rectify this error. This will bring the NTF in line with the other forums to be chaired by independent representative, Brian Stewart. The Chair welcomed Josie Bassinette, representing Walberswick Parish Council, and Nicky Corbett, representing Leiston Town Council as new members to the Forum. A project update and overview from Marjorie Barnes detailed some of the key milestones reached since the last meeting. Richard Bull detailed the key principles of the Construction Traffic Management Plan which is part of the Deed of Obligation and sets out how Sizewell will manage traffic throughout the construction period, explaining these principles have been agreed by SCC and ESC. Richard Bull advised The Transport Review Group (TRG) is live and will be monitoring SZC's performance on all transport matters including the Transport Contingency Fund which can be utilised to manage any transport impacts that may arise throughout construction. Steve Merry wort on to give an overview on the role of the Transport Review Group, including the attendees, meeting frequency, purpose relating to data and outcomes of the Transport Working Groups and Forums. Further updates were presented by David Peacop and the site team on the Northerm Park and Ride, Yoxford Roundabout, Sizewell Link Road, Other Highway Improvement Works, Minor Works, and rail. Stephen Keighley gave an overview on the delivery of rail infrastructure including Saxmundham Junction, Saxmundham to Leiston branch line, New Green Rail Route, and Temporary siding to connect the branch line to the Ancillary		
2.02	AFTERNOTE: Please see Item 2.11 above regarding the meeting note point.		
3.03	 Southern Transport Forum The STF took place at The Riverside Centre Stratford St Andrew. Attendees were welcomed by independent chair Brian Stewart before a project progress update and overview was shared by Marjorie Barnes. Steve Merry from Suffolk County Council reiterated the purpose and provided an overview of the Transport Review Group, and offered guidance as to where the data can be located on the East Suffolk Council website. The Site Operations and Delivery Leads provided updates on the Freight Management Facility, Southern Park and Ride, Two Village By-pass, and A12 Improvement schemes, with a commitment to attend additional parish council meeting once at the detailed design stages. The forum welcomed Daniel Fisk and Stephen Deaville from Network Rail to support Stephen Keighley. An overview including impact mitigation measures, level crossing upgrades with a focus to improve safety and the rail infrastructure. Pre-submitted questions covered HGV movements, Traffic Incident Management Plan arrangements, rail line works and signage. 		



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4	Sizewell C Project Update and Overview – (Marjorie Barnes)		
4.01	Marjorie Barnes (MB) gave an update on the project.		
	 Community Communication MB reported the following: Enquiries this month – 84 June to date 1092 enquiries YTD – 38% of enquires are of a positive sentiment (with 45% neutral and 17% negative) Enquiries this month have maintained a positive focus on jobs and accommodation For June - 41% of enquires are of a positive sentiment (with 44% neutral and 15% negative) There has been a small number of complaints regarding the new B1122 speed limits. Monthly coffee mornings with Sizewell residents continue, with the latest session focused on transport. MB said these are well-attended and the SZC team are looking at topics led by the community to ensure they discuss matters important to them. 		
4.02	Sizewell C Forums MB said SZC are progressing with the forums and are continuing to make improvements and respond to feedback. The dates for future forums were shown and it was announced that there would be an additional SZC Community Forum on Wednesday 9 th October at High Lodge Leisure, Haw Wood, Hinton, Nr Darsham, Suffolk, IP17 3QT. Further details on this meeting would be shared closer to the time.		
4.03	 Community Engagement MB outlined community engagement efforts. The team have sent mailings to: 700 residents regarding B1122 speed limits 84 residents along the B1122 regarding vibration surveys 55 Sizewell village residents Weekly wide-load updates to 27 subscribers. 		
4.04	Sizewell Creative MB said Sizewell Creative is supporting events across the county, outlining a series of events taking place throughout the summer.		
4.05	Sizewell C Community Fund The Community Fund is open, which is a £23m pot open for the community throughout the construction period of the project and £2m available this year. This is being administered by the Community Foundation. The Community Foundation has held a number of 'meet the funder' events and MB said it has been encouraging to see the breadth of local organisations represented at these events.		
5	Main Site Update – (Rick Watler, David Peacop)		
5.01	Main Development Site – Works Rick Watler (RW) and David Peacop (DP) gave an update on the main development site works. Site Establishment is continuing including:		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	 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 		
5.02	Coastal Footpath Diversion		
	 Work has commenced: New 3m wide coastal footpath route by mid-September 2024 (increased from 1.5m) The existing path remains open until the new footpath is open Public access to the beach and coastal path will not be affected The public will be safeguarded from the works area by a heras fence The consent to implement this new path has been authorised by Suffolk County Council Main work should start next week (w/c 22nd July 2024). 		
5.03	Site Establishment Images were shown to highlight the progress that is being made on the enabling earthworks and the Ancillary Construction Area (ACA).		
	 ACA Office Access from Sizewell Gap only No right turn to Leiston when leaving Bus Service to the Main Development Site. 		
5.04	Site Delivery – Off-Site Infrastructure The programme timeline was shown and RW said the project is largely on target with the programme. He outlined key activities commencing at the moment, noting that SZC have started on site access works for the two park and ride sites with enabling works due to start there shortly which will enable them to set compound works up for the archaeologists.		
5.05	Countywide Highways Signage DP gave a transport overview. A map was shown with the direction sign locations.		
5.06	Traffic Routing Around Leiston DP said the team are concerned about traffic going through Leiston and are now imposing that all people that go into that office go through the permitted route, offering assurance that SZC will be measuring and marking this. He said the team are now looking at what they are doing with the ACA and will remove the caravan site off the ACA site as discussed with council representatives a few weeks ago.		
5.07	Driver Rules		



Item Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	 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: 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. 		
5.08	Site Access Signboards and Vehicle Markings DP said the site access signboards are being put up and that SZC are also now putting signs on the back of vehicles. He said there have been people excluded for not having vehicle markings this week. He encouraged people to speak to him if they notice any issues.		
5.09	Average Speed Cameras		
	 Average speed camera enforcement 1. B1122 from Yoxford to Eastbridge Road / main site access 2. B1125 through Westleton 		
	DP gave assurance that the average speed cameras are up in the above locations.		
5.10	Minor Roads Schemes		
	 Typical improvements New and enhanced pedestrian footways and crossings New road surfacing Village gateways Safety improvements and side road visibility 		
	DP confirmed that SZC are out to tender on these works and will be starting these in Q2-3 next year.		
5.11	Vehicle Messaging Signs DP said these have been moved around and are working.		
	Site 1: Blythburgh VMS Sign relocated on A12, north of River Blyth overbridge Site 2: Darsham VMS Sign installed on A12, near junction with The Street Site 3: Junction of B1122 and B1125		
5.12	Sizewell Gap – New Deer Avoidance Signage DP said there is existing deer signage in place and that SZC will upgrade this and ensure it is consistent.		
6	Green Rail Line Update – (Stephen Keighley)		
6.01	Stephen Keighley (SK) gave a brief overview on the rail project.		
	DCO Requirements:		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	 Rail infrastructure works to enable delivery of materials to SZC site by rail, thus reducing number of HGVs and impact on local community Journeys from Ipswich to site and back only Overnight trains to avoid disruption to other rail services Rail noise mitigation plan acceptance by local authority 		
	 Noise & Vibration Impact Mitigation: Designed 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) 		
	 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.) start date * Each train removes 46 HGVs from local roads 		
6.02	Rail Scope Overview East Suffolk Line Upgrades: • Level Crossing Upgrades • (Due to increased LX risk – long slow trains) • Track Works (Noise & Vibration mitigations) • Flighting Signals (headway reductions)		
6.03	Core Scope Overview 1. Saxmundham Junction: - Renewal of existing connection from ESK to SIZ branch line - Installation of new powered crossover		
	 Saxmundham to Leiston (SIZ) branch line: Track renewal – Jointed track replaced by CWR Signalling system upgrade, including interlocking upgrade Upgrade to 8Nr level crossings 		
	 New ACA siding (2tpd): Temporary siding to connect the SIZ branch line to ACA 		
	 4. New Green Rail Route / Kenton Spur (4tpd): Temporary railway to connect the SIZ branch line to TCA railhead (freight unloading facility & concrete batching plant) Installation of 2Nr new level crossings Buckleswood Rd Compound 		
6.04	Overview: Strategic hub for rail construction works Accommodation for 100 personnel		
	Logistics Centre:		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	 Shift sign in / briefing Personnel transported to worksite by minibuses Railside access to minimise road deliveries 		
	 Operations: Access / egress via Saxmundham Rd level crossing (NOT Westward Ho) Diverted footpath remains open 		
	Indicative Schedule: • Land acquired by SZC – June 2024 • UXO & Ecology clearance – July 2024 • Site Access construction – August 2024 • Archaeology clearance – September 2024 • Main Compound Construction – November 2024 • In use from Jan 25 for approx 2 years		
6.05	Rail Delivery – Construction Phases 1. Saxmundham Junction 2. Sizewell Branch Line 3. ACA Siding 4. Green Rail Route 5. TCA Siding		
	Phase 1 – Saxmundham Junction May 2025 Completed in a 9 day blockade of the ESK line • Track • 3 Nr. S&C units at Saxmundham Junction • 900m Plain Line on the Sizewell Branch Line • Signalling commissioning		
	 Phase 2 – Sizewell Branch Line (Stage 1) May – Sep 2025 Priority elements along the Branch Line to allow Signalling works to follow; Level Crossings GRR & ACA junctions Foundations, Cable troughing Road closures minimised during level crossing construction 		
	Phase 2 – Sizewell Branch Line (Stage 2) May - Dec 2025 Renew Plain Line sections: Track / bottom ballast installation Top Ballast & Tamping Signalling, telecoms & power upgrades		
	 Phase 3 – ACA Siding Oct 25 – Jan 26 All construction materials delivered by rail. 		
I	Phase 4 – Green Rail Route		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	Oct 25 – Mar 26 • All construction materials delivered by rail • GRR Level Crossing construction • Earthworks / drainage • Track installation • Signalling installation		
7	 Phase 5 – TCA Siding – Stage 1 Dec 25 – Apr 26 All construction materials delivered by rail. Footpath and Rights of Way Update – (Steve Mannings, Luke Stevens) 		
7.01	Steve Mannings (SM) and Luke Stevens (LS) gave an overview of footpaths and PRoW.		
	 DCO/DoO provide framework for consented changes in PRoWs/permissive network "Rights of Way Access Strategy" is the key document setting out the details. Temporary PRoW diversions require approval of SCC under Requirement 10, upon submission of "Implementation Plans". Strategy also obliges SZC to enhance the permissive network/access to green space. DoO establishes "Rights of Way Working Group" and £2.5m PRoW Fund to further enhance the PRoW network in East Suffolk. 		
7.02	A slide was shown on the Existing Public Rights of Way / Permissive Paths. It showed that the permissive footpaths on the map have been closed and SM said these paths will remain closed for the duration of the construction phase of the project		
7.03	 A slide was shown on the PRoW / permissive paths closure which will be put in place over the coming years. Coast path realignment – diversion planned for September / October 2024 (indicative) Bridleway 19 diversion – planned to start Q4 2024 and complete Q2 2026 Rowley's Mews to Abbey Road diversion – diversion planned Q4 2024 – Q1 2025 Buckleswood Road diversion – diversion planned Q1-Q2 2025. 		
7.04	Wild Aldhurst Images were shown of Wild Aldhurst. SM said SZC have submitted a planning application to East Suffolk Council which provides for some further enhancement of the Wild Aldhurst site, including a visitor and education centre. SM said SZC are looking to make a start on these enhancements later this year.		
7.05	Proposed Informal Recreation and Green Space Plan SM discussed some proposed enhancements SZC are looking to deliver within the southern half of the estate, south of the construction site. SM explained that there are enhancements set out in the Deed of Obligation and SZC have submitted proposals to East Suffolk Council for these works, which includes introducing new permissive paths to the southern part of the estate, some new grassy paths within the vicinity of Leiston Common, as well as improving signage across this area.		
	SM discussed the improvements SZC are looking to make to Kenton Hills. He said there are plans to improve tracks and create a nature walk and a cycle track, improve facilities for		



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	equestrians for hacking, as well as a running track and creating new signage. He said they are aiming to start on the car park in January / February time. He said these proposals are being secured under the DOO and the application submitted will be put on the public portal and gave assurance that the public will be able to make representations should they wish.		
7.06	Slides were shown on the Construction Masterplan and Operational Masterplan.		
8	Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative – (Chair)		
8.01	Submitted by Middleton Parish Council "What enforcement measures, in detail, are currently being undertaken to enforce the 30 mph speed limit on the B1122, and with what results?		
	Answer : DP said the police are undertaking enforcement on this but that he would need to ask the police for further detail on the measures.		
8.02	Cllr Charles Macdowell asked for more detail on enforcement measures.		
	ACTION : DP reiterated that this was a matter for the police and said he would speak to Sgt Rebecca O'Neill after the meeting to get more detail on this.	DP	
8.03	Submitted by Middleton Parish Council "How can the promised average speed camera system for the B1122 be accelerated so that it is in force significantly earlier than a full year after the start of the 'Early Years' phase?""		
	Answer and AFTERNOTE : DP said the temporary speed limit was in place in May 2024, 5 months post first commencement of the DCO. Generally, drivers are observing the speed limit and it will be enforced initially through spot checks by the police and subsequently by average speed cameras. To date, SZC has engaged with Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Constabulary as part of the concept design of the average speed camera schemes for the B1122 and B1125 through Westleton. The police require written confirmation from the parish councils that the average speed cameras are supported by the local communities before the design of the schemes can progress. Once this has been received, SZC will instruct Jenoptik to undertake the detailed design and implementation of the scheme. The scheme will require technical approval by Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Constabulary and necessary road space permits to install the cameras and associated infrastructure. SZC are striving to implement the average speed cameras by Q1 2025 or earlier.		
8.04	Cllr Charles Macdowell said this would be a full year since the early years started. DP said SZC are striving to improve that, but this is the date they currently have.		
8.05	Submitted by Pat Hogan, Sizewell Residents "Residents, visitors, and fishermen (both commercial and hobby boats) are very concerned regarding the extent encompassed by the southern boundary of the Harbour Area, that is, the whole village beach and inshore marine area right up to Beach View Caravan Site when this seems totally unnecessary, and an excessive intrusion, especially as all the work for the project is to take place north and east of the A station.		
	Would you please do all you can to reduce the extent of the Harbour Area Southern boundary?		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	When I asked the reasons for the extent of the Harbour Area to the south, I was told the decision was based on Hinkley experiences and that here at Sizewell there are no visual markers for ships to know whether they are in the Harbour Area or not		-
	The coastline at Sizewell is very different from Hinkley as regards local usage as an important amenity, i.e. the extent of the area mattered less at Hinkley. In addition here at Sizewell all shipping /traffic from the south has to stay 3 miles out in any event due to the sandbanks etc, and then approach in a westerly direction, and therefore no extended Harbour Area is required for that.		
	As regards there being 'no visual markers' we do have a massive A station and B station, as well as there being the A station rigs, both of which are also clearly marked by Trinity House approved lit buoys. All shipping presumably will also have the use of GPS.		
	It is also bewildering that no specific consultation regarding the extent of the Harbour Area or appointment of a Harbour Master seems to have taken place, nor any specific information given out locally. We of course realise that a certain safety zone has to be in place and respect that, but we understood this area to be the Main Development Site Boundary marked by a heavy red line on all the information we had, with possibly an extended area to the north and east, but certainly had no inkling that this would extend south of the A station, right across the main amenity of beach, all the leisure boats, and inshore area, as far south as Beach View Caravan Site – this was presented as a fait accompli, and is causing great upset.		
	So, my question is:		
	Can you please look again at the exact situation here at Sizewell and do all you can to reduce the extent of the boundary to the south - making the Harbour Area southern boundary to be the A station southern rig and buoy, and leave the village beach and inshore frontage without the unnecessary intrusion and excessive jurisdiction (and accompanying loss of freedom of movement, particularly for the small inshore boats at Sizewell) that comes with the nomination 'Harbour Area' with a 'Harbour Master'? It would help us enormously."		
	Answer : MB said that Dr Stephen Roast had provided an answer and had also spoken directly to Pat Hogan on this. She explained that on the Harbour Limits, it is not practical to reduce it to north of the A station because to include all of our works the shape of the harbour would be very irregular and not easy to manage. To change the limits is not simple in planning terms and would require a change to the DCO approved by the Secretary of State. However, SZC are confident that the actual management of the harbour area would not extend south of the A station for the majority of the time as we would not have our own vessels in that area.		
	MB summarised that Dr Roast is happy to discuss this further and could set up a call/meeting to get the harbour master to run through this with Pat Hogan.		
8.06	Pat Hogan said it does not make sense to have a huge harbour area with a harbour master having total say over what can go in that area. She asked why the boundaries cannot be at the southern end of A station where there are buoys marking the rigs. She said that she had not heard the extent of it until the last MDSF meeting. She said there are a lot of angry boat owners and enquiring residents and visitors.		
	ACTION: MB suggested holding one of the Sizewell residents' meetings dedicated to this topic and asking Dr Roast to attend to discuss this fully and report back at the forum.	MB	



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8.07	Pat Hogan welcomed such a meeting and called for an update at the MDSF on marine works. She said communication on the marine works is not satisfactory and called for this to be improved. She also criticised a lack of consultation and information on the harbour area.		
	ACTION : MB said SZC will address this and will ensure residents meetings concentrate on this subject.	MB	
8.08	Submitted by ClIr Maureen Jones, Aldringham cum Thorpe PC "Can something be done to slow down the Traffic on the road into Sizewell as the turning to the Caravan Site/Sizewell Hall Road/Ness House etc., is becoming very dangerous when you turn into this and the situation has worsened in the last few months."		
	Answer : RB said it was unfortunate that Steve Merry was unable to attend the Forum as it was a highways issue and SZC have no legal way of changing the speed limit on this road. He suggested that SZC re-engage with Steve Merry and his team, noting the question raised. If the concerns are on speeding, then RB suggested the possibility of undertaking some speed surveys which might provide a body of evidence to back up concerns on cars speeding along there. He said there are ongoing briefings to staff within Sizewell C and B team about managing their speeds along this road, but recognised that more may need to be done. He could not give a definitive answer but committed to take this away and come back with an explanation on what could be done to provide some sort of mitigation. He added that there is a deer issue and therefore from an ecological and safety perspective there is a good argument to manage speed along that road.		
	ACTION : RB said the SZC team need to discuss this with the county highways team and come back on this.	RB	
8.09	Cllr Jones said one of the biggest problems is that there are a lot of caravans turning into the road that go up to the caravan site and it has been reported that there have nearly been some serious accidents there. She said that letting all sides of the roads grow up so much is impacting people's vision. She said it has become dangerous and called for this to be looked into and for action to be taken.		
	ACTION: RB agreed to take this away and look at it.	RB	
8.10	Submitted by Aldeburgh Town Council "Aldeburgh is a town with an economy firmly rooted in Tourism. It is imperative that towns such as Aldeburgh continue to thrive. Not only for the benefit of the various businesses and their employees but for all the residents, the holidaymakers, the day visitors, the second homeowners and of course all the employees of and visitors to Sizewell C and the surrounding area including Snape Maltings, Minsmere RSPB and many other places of interest.		
	This vital economy is likely to be negatively affected because of the exaggerated pay rates for on-site staff and the inflated long-term and short-term rental offers being made to homeowners, which is amounting to unfair competition.		
	Local businesses can only survive if they are able to recruit and retain the staff they need, and if rental accommodation (for workers and customers) is available. They also have to remain competitive in an increasingly difficult trading situation, and in an area of relatively low unemployment. Businesses simply cannot match the offers being made by SZC and have		



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	already lost staff to higher paid opportunities – this was also experienced during the construction of Sizewell B		
	It is vital that a balance is found between the needs of Sizewell C and the needs of the surrounding communities and businesses for the future prosperity of all. Aldeburgh Town Council understands the criteria and objectives of the Tourism and Accommodation fund, however would you please advise what steps you will be specifically putting in place to ensure that the surrounding communities and businesses are not negatively impacted as a result of these exaggerated pay rates and rental offers?"		
	Answer : Richard Bull responded to the question on the evening and a detailed afternote capturing these points is below.		
	AFTERNOTE : Sizewell C Project's effect on job creation is overwhelmingly positive and we are working with regional stakeholders through the Deed of Obligation governance groups and funding to enhance existing skills pipelines and generate a positive legacy. Many of the people who work on the project will not leave existing jobs - our focus on maximising the use of the local supply chain will mean that many people who take up jobs at Sizewell C will do so through their existing employer, while our skills and education measures will target people new to the jobs market e.g. through Young Sizewell C, and those who are currently unemployed or economically inactive, creating sustainable employment and upskilling linked to improved social mobility.		
	In terms of wages, the government is a majority shareholder, and the costs of construction will be passed to customers through the Regulated Asset Base model, so Sizewell C must ensure that pay levels are fair and reasonable, in collaboration with our Trade Union Partners and supply chain. It is not correct to say that pay levels are "exaggerated" but we will be looking to create well-paid jobs and apprenticeships with the opportunity for career progression for local people and the local economy.		
	However, we recognise that some stakeholders are concerned that the economic activity generated by the Sizewell C Project may make some vacancies harder to fill. The Sizewell C Jobs Service is open to all local employers to access the skilled pool of labour generated by the Sizewell C Project to assist in backfilling and to advertise any vacancies. The Chamber of Commerce SZC Supply Chain team are also available to support business interested in getting involved in the project.		
	SZC submitted an Accommodation Strategy with the application for development consent and this sought to strike a balance between the economic benefits of workers using existing local accommodation and avoiding adverse effects on the local accommodation market – particularly where there may be sensitivities in terms of private rented households at risk of housing need or homelessness, and the important tourist sector. As the Parish Council notes – measures were put in place through the Deed of Obligation to support Accommodation and Tourism.		
	One of the commitments in the Deed was for SZC to provide an Accommodation Management System and this was launched at commencement. Initial usage of this system is indicating that workers cannot afford most tourist accommodation, particularly hotels and holiday cottages in popular locations such as Aldeburgh, so we are surprised at the suggestion that workers are making inflated offers, particularly over and above what tourists would pay. We'd be grateful if any evidence of this could be shared with our accommodation		



ltem Ref	Actions/Comments	Who	By when
	 team so we can check whether this is indeed SZC workers, rather that e.g. SZB outage workers. Also in terms of the Deed, it may be helpful to know that: The Tourism Working Group has just approved the first Annual Tourism Fund Implementation Plan and this includes provision for a marketing campaign to attract tourists outside peak season. The Accommodation Working Group has just approved the first Private Housing Market Supply plan and this is focused on bringing new accommodation into the market through renovation grants to support the letting out of spare rooms and bringing empty homes back into use. RB said communication will be key to understand where there are issues and to then mitigate them. 		
8.11	Cllr Marianne Fellowes said Aldeburgh Town Council was specifically asked by local businesses to raise awareness at this Forum that they are already seeing a negative impact. Cllr Fellowes said there are examples of businesses where staff have left to work at Sizewell for increased rates. She said it is great to produce job opportunities but that the area does not have an unemployment rate where it can 'staff up', as seen during the pandemic when many businesses couldn't get workers. She reported that this is happening to the extent where some businesses are wondering whether they can continue. Cllr Fellowes said there is funding for tourism and accommodation but asked whether EDF will be compensating businesses and paying part of their staff's salary with the inflation to match what they are paying at Sizewell, arguing this is the only way for many businesses suffering as people in the area are not buying the same things that visitors would.		
8.12	Cllr Fellowes said it is not just tourist accommodation, but local families in local rental which are seeing the greatest difficulty, with workers going into the lower price rentals which are now not available for local people. She asked whether SZC will offer householders a premium not to come on board with them. Cllr Fellowes expressed gratitude for the accommodation and tourism funds but said these won't touch the service in keeping businesses up and running. She argued that SZC should be looking for to have a better legacy for the project and that she is worried that they are already seeing the impact of these issues as the project is only in the first nine months of work.		
8.13	Submitted by Aldeburgh Town Council "Impact of construction on the beach (widely enjoyed by local residents for their health and well-being, and our many visitors as part of the tourism offer) and impact on coastal processes as an example of communication and involvement of Town and Parish Councils. From the Agenda it is not possible to understand if our request to discuss beach closures and diversions as a standing item (previous minutes 9.01 & 9.02) has been included. Aldeburgh Town Council would also request more communication regarding matters considered by the various working groups. There have been examples since the last meeting whereby websites have not been kept updated promptly with minutes or notes, such as of the Transport Working Group and PRoW working group which considered the beach path diversion.		



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	Would it be possible to have a focus group to discuss communication and governance regarding how local authorities (town and parish councils, local ward members and other ClIrs of East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council) can be effectively involved and kept updated?		
	ATC would also formally request to become members of either the Northern and Southern Transport Forum (as residents and visitors use both the Yoxford and Friday Street junction to access North and South, along with adjacent roads).		
	If the update on beach closure and footpath diversion is included in the agenda we would still request to ask about communication & governance."		
	Answer: RB said he sits on the Public Right of Way working group which has been discussing the most effective way of notifying the public of Public Right of Way closures, the dates, re-opening times, and making sure it is accurate and live. He said there is a need to accurately communicate the status of PRoW across the whole project area and find the right platform to make this public, whilst also ensuring its accuracy.		
	With regard to focus groups, RB said SZC have a clear hierarchy of how the project has been set up, highlighting the DOO governance groups and membership. He said the project also has very effective local community engagement and a way for people to communicate back into the project through council representatives. RB said he does not think there is a need for another focus group. However, he encouraged people to raise issues with the SZC team and they can engage on this basis. RB reiterated that he personally feels the right structure is in place but that if people feel it is not effective as time goes on then SZC may need to consider additional focus groups.		
8.14	Cllr Fellowes said in terms of communication, the websites are not up to date with notes from meetings, and went on to list a number of issues. Cllr Fellowes said she knew that SZC were not going to use the caravan park several weeks ago, but it was only announced tonight. She stressed the importance of making sure information is available as representatives want to work with SZC. Regarding marine works, Cllr Fellowes said members heard that work would not start until August at the April meeting but that tonight they have found out that this work started in July and they were not made aware of this. She said the communication is not right and urged SZC to take up the offer of a focus group.		
	RB said in terms of notes being published on the portal, SZC have been discussing this with East Suffolk Council and SEC Newgate and are endeavouring to get them published on the website within 5 weeks of the meeting. He said the minutes must be recorded, drafted and agreed by all internal attendees, before going through a formal document control procedure and then on to East Suffolk Council to be uploaded on the portal. He said this may be subject to slight changes, but they will endeavour to make sure the notes are updated and made public as soon possible.		
8.15	In terms of the caravans, RB said the formality is the decision had to go through the accommodation working group and the decision was only recently agreed, saying the formal note will go on the website in due course. RB said he thinks the appropriate communication lines are in place on focus groups, but encouraged ClIr Fellowes to meet with Marjorie Barnes to discuss improvements, offering assurance that the SZC team are happy to engage.		



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8.16	Regarding impact on the beach as a result of works, RB said SZC has and will continue to notify the local residents, relevant parish councils and stakeholders in advance of works that will take place, whether this impact results in a closure for a period of time or not. SZC also updates a works tracker with information regarding its works.		
	He said the current work on the beach is the preparation and construction of a footpath ahead of the closure of the current footpath to enable SZC to create the temporary sea defence. SZC have worked with Sizewell Park Run as a key stakeholder which is hugely impacted by these works and have made amendments to the design to ensure that the diversionary route is suitable for their needs to continue to use the beach as a location for their weekly run. SZC are happy to include interested stakeholder and parish councils in this distribution list if they are not already receiving these notifications. Please contact the community relations team.		
	With regard to the Northern and Southern Transport Forum, he said ATC is very welcome to attend these Forums as an observer to receive project updates first hand. Membership of the Forums is set out in the Deed of Obligation and specifically focussed on the Parishes most local to the new road schemes or HGV route.		
8.17	Submitted by ClIr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk Council on behalf of resident, Mike Taylor, who asked: "Please can you give an update on the cut off wall to be constructed near the perimeter of the nuclear licenced site boundary I understand this is a 2 km long wall to a depth of 50 metres and around 1.5 metres wide to create a watertight box around the main construction site. Is it possible to see precise drawings and timescale for this work?"		
	Answer: DP said there are lots of earthworks trials taking place at the moment to prove the design. Once the design and the trials are complete, the team will show people what they look like.		
	Cllr Whitelock said lots of people were surprised that the design was not already in place given how far SZC are getting with construction. DP reiterated that they are going through the detailed design at the moment through the trials.		
8.18	Submitted by Cllr Stephen Brett, Theberton and Eastridge Parish Council: "When will construction of the roundabout at the top of Eastbridge road on the B1122 start, and during construction of the roundabout will you ensure that the road to Eastbridge will always be open so that local businesses will always be able to receive deliveries and go about their daily business ?"		
	Answer: DP said the main plaza roundabout at B1122/Eastbridge Road is expected to be constructed Q2 2025 – Q2 2026. There will be a need for temporary closures of Eastbridge Road over short periods to tie the new carriageway into the existing carriageway. Access will be provided by temporary diversions agreed with the local highway authority to minimise disruption to the local community and businesses.		
8.19	Submitted by Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council "HGVs delivering to site are still regularly parking in lay-bys on the B1122 and are being reported by residents. This will deter tourists during the summer months. When will there be facilities on site to cater for the needs of lorry drivers (both men and women) who need to stop for a comfort break and refreshments and equally importantly, are legally restricted to the number of miles they can drive before taking a break? Parking in lay-bys will no doubt result		



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	in anti-social behaviour and we are disappointed that facilities like portaloos and parking bays for short stops were not placed on site in time for the early years.		
	When might we see a site plan for the layout on the MDS?"		
	Answer: DP said the team will show the drawings of the design at the Transport Forums. DP also said facilities exist on site for handling of HGVs as well as welfare facilities. Drivers will be discouraged from using laybys through the 'Driver Rules'.		
8.20	Submitted by Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council "It has been rumoured locally that there have been a further number of interesting finds during recent excavations by Cotswold Archaeology. Last year, there was an exhibition of finds to date.		
	Please can you let us know when the next exhibition might be and whether a different venue might be found to allow more room for visitors to gain better access to the exhibits."		
	Answer: MB said SZC are very much planning to share the finds and are working with their archaeologists to agree an outreach plan and will be in touch.		
8.21	Cllr John Staff said there has been a noticeable number of vehicles in Knodishall. He asked what SZC's car share policy is.		
	RB said this is a good challenge. He said that in the DCO they have have committed to 1.1 average for home-based workers and that it is higher than that for non-home-based workers, possibly up to 1.6. He said SZC need to be monitoring this and it is a valid challenge.		
	ACTION : RB said the team would report back on whether there is any data for car share and how they will try to meet or exceed these targets.	RB	
8.22	Cllr Nicky Corbett spoke on the rail works, saying the upgrade works are extensive and likely to be more disturbing than the trains. She sought assurance that this heavy work will not be taking place overnight as Network Rail tend to do this. She asked what the route will be from the Buckleswood compound. Cllr Corbett also said that she had previously raised at the NTF that the rail head will not be operational until 2037, so the rail head will be in use throughout the construction period, which she said was a surprise as many thought it was just for the rail years.		
	SK said he cannot guarantee there will be no night working but that generally speaking, the current plan is that works will be done on the branch line to avoid the need to work at night. SK said the route to and from the compound will be from the Saxmundham Road Level Crossing.		
	Cllr Corbett urged SZC to ensure Network Rail improve their communication, particularly with regard to letting people living in Leiston know about works taking place overnight.		
8.23	Cllr Charles Macdowell sought clarity on the minor road schemes. RW said the minor road works are due to start in Q2 2025. Cllr Macdowell said the early years phase will be halfway through by the time SZC have improved the roads to mitigate the impact that the early years traffic is having. He urged SZC to press on with this, saying it has been a long and ongoing process and very slow progress has been made.		



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	RW said SZC know how important this is to people and they are going through the consultation process and once they have the detailed design, they will then have to go out to tender the works.		
8.24	Cllr Whitelock asked about accommodation, highlighting the Hinkley scheme whereby residents can access a grant to improve a bedroom which could then go on a database for rooms available to rent. Cllr Whitelock praised this initiative and said it would be an advantage for people in Leiston wanting to benefit from this scheme. She asked for an update on this scheme for SZC.		
	RB said it is covered in the accommodation working group and the housing fund within this but that he would need to give an update on the status of this. ACTION	RB	
	Cllr Whitelock said homeowners who are struggling financially are very interested in this scheme. RB said the accommodation working group has just approved the first private housing market supply plan which is focused on bringing new accommodation into the market through		
	renovation grants to support the letting out of spare rooms and bringing empty homes back into use.		
8.25	Cllr Corbett asked for SZC to speak to Leiston Town Council about this as well.		
	MB said that SZC will be looking to market this offer now it has approval. With the cost-of- living crisis, she agreed that it is an opportune way for people to benefit, whilst also leaving the legacy benefit of improved properties. ACTION: MB committed to speaking to Leiston Town Council, and others, and doing all they can to market this offer.	MB	
8.26	Cllr Fellowes said it has been reported that there would be no right turn to Leiston and also that the bus service would go to the MDS. She said both of these things do not help as everyone is turning to go to the Co-op after work. Linked to this, she asked whether the purchase of Pontins will affect where people live, saying this is far more than just the caravan park numbers. She asked whether SZC will be able to reduce the accommodation in the hostel, saying she has always advocated for the legacy project of a hotel somewhere. Cllr Fellowes said she was told during the DCO that they could not do this and bus people to site, but that it seems that the project will be doing this as they will be busing people to Pontins.		
	On using the co-op, MB said it is about balance. She said SZC are putting in place measures not to overwhelm local roads but equally they want to ensure a positive impact on the local economy. She said this needs to be monitored locally but said SZC do not want to stop the workforce from using local shops.		
	On accommodation, MB said Pontins has enabled SZC to release the caravan usage at Leiston. She said SZC want to leave an improved site at Pontins for the future as a legacy benefit. She said that during the consultation, SZC responded to comments from Theberton and Eastbridge regarding the accommodation campus and reduced its height and size at the time, so they have responded and listened throughout the consultation period and continue to do this.		
8.27	Cllr Brett said there was an enormous amount of slide content and it would be helpful to have copies of the slides. Cllr Brett also asked for an update on fibre broadband.		



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	MB explained that as part of the project SZC have had to upgrade broadband for the site, and have taken the opportunity to work with BT to increase fibre to properties, with around 5000 properties benefiting from having this extra infrastructure in place. She said SZC are working with BT and Openreach on a communications plan for this, which is progressing well and they will keep the forum updated on this.		
8.28	Cllr Maureen Jones said a good job has been done with the temporary deer signs. She said that whilst this work has been going on, the deer population has moved further along, and there are now immense problems along the Aldringham - Thorpeness road and the Aldringham - Aldeburgh road. She said there was an unfortunate accident where two deer were killed. She called for signage along both of these roads. ACTION : DP said the team would look into this.	DP	
8.29	Pat Hogan said she thinks it is good news not to have the caravan site on Lover's Lane. She asked whether SZC are progressing with the main entrance to Sizewell site. RW said this is picked up in the MDS roads which is out to tender at the moment and will be starting in Q2 next year.		
8.30	Cllr Richard Smith asked what heras fencing is and encouraged the team not to use such terms without an explanation of what they are. RW said heras fencing is a brand name of fencing panel, He said heras fencing tends to be aluminium and that the fencing is temporary but secure.		
8.31	Cllr Smith said Suffolk County Council has a major responsibility for social care. He raised concerns that people working in the sector on low wages will be attracted to the Sizewell C site where they can earn more. He said there is a probable job displacement problem and asked how SZC's funds will be used to tackle this.		
	RB said that within the deed of obligation there are a number of working groups sitting across a range of topics and they all have significant funds to mitigate the impacts of the project. He spoke on the importance of understanding impacts, getting communication into the project as quickly as possible, and escalating this to the working groups so they can review it and make a decision and allocate the funding to an agreed mitigation.		
8.32	Cllr Smith asked for an example of how SZC will mitigate such a problem. RB said there is a specialist team of individuals representing each working group. He said the social review group would deal with carers and would deal with escalated matters and payments of contingencies. He said that if it were a social issue, it would need to be directed up through the appropriate group.		
8.33	Marianne Fellowes spoke about the diversion of the footpath and the impact on the beach, local people and visitors. She was pleased about the increase to 3 metres which came about as a result of public comments but said there are still outstanding issues. She said it is not wide enough for proper two-way traffic of all users, suggesting there should be a pedestrian one and one for cyclists, horse riders, buggy's etc.		
	Cllr Fellowes said providing Wild Aldhurst is great but does not substitute for walking by the sea. She said there is not yet a footpath and cycle path along Lover's Lane so SZC have taken away a fair bit of the leisure walking in this area, and that this has happened quite suddenly, ahead of when it was promised, and without much communication. She also said the heras fencing is quite unsightly on the beach and she is surprised a better solution for the		



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	beach was not put in place given the funding that is available. Cllr Fellowes said she would share the email outlining the residents' concerns on this.	RW	
	ACTION: RW said the team would take this away to respond.		
9	Chair's Concluding Remarks – (Chair)		
9.01	The Chair informed members that the team had produced a feedback form on the forums and encouraged members to provide their comments. The chair thanked the representatives, the panel and members of public for attending the forum		
10	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15 th October 2024 – (Chair)		
10.01	The dates of future Forum meetings were provided.		
	Main Development Site Forum Tuesday 15th October 2024		
	Northern Transport Forum Wednesday 7 th August 2024 Wednesday 6 th November 2024		
	Southern Transport Forum Wednesday 14 th August 2024 Wednesday 13 th November 2024		
	SZC Annual Community Forum Wednesday 9 th October 2024		
	The Chair noted that the meeting notes will be posted on the East Suffolk Council webpage.		