



Full Council

Members are invited to a **Meeting of the Full Council** to be held in the Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House, Melton on **Wednesday, 27 September 2023 at 6.30pm**

This meeting will be broadcast to the public via the East Suffolk YouTube Channel at <https://youtube.com/live/aSHNkIPwTE4?feature=share>

Members:

All Councillors

An Agenda is set out below.

Part One – Open to the Public

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence
To receive apologies for absence, if any. | |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest
Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of interests, and the nature of that interest, that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the Meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered. | |
| 3 | Minutes
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2023. | 1 - 10 |
| 4 | Announcements
To receive any announcements from the Chair, the Leader of the Council, members of the Cabinet, or the Chief Executive, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.1(e). | |

5 Questions from the Public

The following questions have been submitted by the public in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 8:

a) Question from Joan Girling to Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of the Council

In the light of the recent policy consideration by Central Government that on shore Wind turbines may win support and possibly gain Planning Permission. Would East Suffolk Council look favourably on a proposal for a Community Wind Project such as the Bristol Community Energy Scheme?

b) Question from Jenny Kirtley to Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of the Council

In view of the duty of care that the CROW Act 2000 places on the Council to conserve and enhance the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and the power that section 84 of that Act gives to the Council to ensure that the attributes of the AONB are conserved and enhanced, we hope the Council share TASC's grave concerns regarding the damage already being inflicted by SZC's preliminary works on the landscape quality and biodiversity of the AONB before a Final Investment Decision for the project has been made and before a Nuclear Site Licence has been granted. Current works include the felling of over 100 acres of woodland, grubbing out miles of hedgerows, cutting reedbeds in the Sizewell Marshes SSSI, vast soil excavations and transfers, and the construction of a 2.8km temporary Highways' Standard roadway 14 metres wide that runs through the AONB.

TASC ask East Suffolk Council for confirmation that, if for any reason construction of the SZC nuclear power station does not proceed, there are adequate legal conditions in place and that SZC Co have sufficient funds, to ensure the total restoration of the AONB to enable the AONB to maintain the integrity of its designation for the benefit of future generations. Will the Council also outline its engagement with SZC Co that is designed to get them to refrain from further AONB damaging work until the financing and licencing has been agreed.

c) Question from Michael Mahony Chairman, Friston Parish Council

This community has already endured applications for four nationally significant infrastructure projects, namely Sizewell C, East Anglia One North, East Anglia Two and the National Grid connection hub at Friston.

Currently National Grid is promoting three interconnector projects in this area, Sealink, Lionlink and Nautilus, all three of which are to connect at the proposed National Grid connection hub at Friston. Currently National Grid is proposing to pursue three separate planning processes for the projects despite the likelihood that the onshore elements in East Suffolk will be very similar. This means the local community will have to engage in three further processes, involving three separate consultations, three separate sets of representations and written submissions and separate hearings etc. This is oppressive not least because members of the community can only participate by giving up their own free time and at their own expense, Given such an intolerable burden, this inefficient approach will have an exclusionary effect and render the processes unfair.

It should be noted there was such a single process for Scottish Power's EA1N and EA2 projects and the National Grid connection hub.

Will the Council strongly support (writing to all relevant parties) a process whereby these three processes are conducted at the same time so that effectively there is a single process significantly reducing the burden on the local community in East Suffolk?

d) Question from Alison Downes

In light of the recent confusion following the meeting at Aldringham cum Thorpe Parish Council (4 September), when attendees were erroneously told by the Sizewell C communications team that the Sizewell Link Road was a temporary feature and would be taken up after construction, how can local people believe a word they say? In the circumstances, does the Council agree that Sizewell C's dogged refusal to reinstate the Community Forum is totally without justification?

6 Questions from Members

The following question(s) from Members has/have been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 9:

a) Question from Councillor Janet Craig to Councillor Caroline Topping, Leader of the Council

In response to a Labour Motion from November 2022, the Chair wrote to both Anglian Water and Therese Coffey MP about the raw sewage discharge occurring in our rivers and coastal waters.

We received a very thorough letter from Peter Simpson, the Chief Executive Officer at Anglian Water, in January 2023 and a much less informative reply from Rebecca Pow MP, Minister for Environmental Quality and Resilience.

Can you advise if the Council took up the offer from Anglian Water to discuss the issues raised, and given that we are still recording sewage discharge along our coast can we have an update on what has been achieved?

b) Question from Councillor Jenny Ceresa to Councillor David Beavan, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Housing

During my time as Chairman, I regularly promoted “debate not hate”.

It was regrettable that a report was brought to Full Council on 15 March 2023, by the Audit and Governance Committee and further to independent lawyer investigation, they determined that Cllr Beavan had breached the Code of Conduct. In his email of 30 May 2022, he publicly accused officers in the Housing Team of ‘fiddling the figures’. At that full council meeting it was reported that the requested apology had not been given.

Has Councillor Beavan since given that apology to the Housing officers?

c) Question from Councillor Craig Rivett to Councillor Topping, Leader of the Council

I’m aware of several instances where residents and fellow councillors have contacted Members of the Cabinet with queries / requests, and they have been subjected to lengthy waiting times for responses and in some instances, no response at all.

What timeframe does the leader think would be reasonable to wait for a response?

7 Petitions

No petitions have been received as provided by Council Procedure Rule 10.

8 Notices of Motion

The following Motions have been submitted in pursuance of Council Procedure Rule 11:

a) Motion from Councillor Tom Daly, to be seconded by Councillor Sarah Whitelock

That this Council believes:

That truly renewable energy, such as offshore and onshore wind, solar, community energy schemes and micro generation, alongside the reduction of energy use and better design provide a better long term answer to the energy security of and carbon reduction future of the UK rather than Sizewell C.

That offshore options for connecting offshore renewables into an existing brownfield location have not been sufficiently investigated and provide a better long-term more cost effective and sustainable solution to the UK's energy supply and security challenges.

That the Council resolves:

(a) that should the construction at Sizewell C proceed, we will strongly represent our East Suffolk communities to maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts and that development should only commence once long-term solutions to the issues below have been identified by Sizewell C Ltd in conjunction with all stakeholders.

- water supply;
- sea defences, coastal dynamics;
- long term local storage of highly radioactive spent fuel;
- marine biosphere impacts;
- satisfactory confirmation of the size of the development site with associated impacts on Minsmere and other precious habitats.

(b) To write to the SoS with these views and ask government :

- to carry out a full cost-benefit analysis of options for connecting all electricity generation to users in the UK rather than the current piecemeal approach
- to mandate a direct community compensation scheme for those directly impacted by hosting the energy infrastructure as a matter of urgency as per their recent consultation in addition to provisions in the DCO process.

b) Motion from Councillor Peter Byatt, to be seconded by Councillor Mike Deacon

This Council recognises that there has been concern for some time about the generally shabby state of some parts of East Suffolk.

This is the culmination of factors that includes frequent fly-tipping (on public and private land); littering in public spaces (streets and parks); dog-fouling; weeds growing out of every possible crevice; overgrown shrubbery ; potholes of every size and shape; dirty, unreadable road signs and gull excrement etc. Together, these have created a general feeling of untidiness and a lack of care in a significant number of areas in the District.

This is unacceptable as East Suffolk should be clean and inviting for all.

Although we welcome the formation of East Suffolk Services Ltd (ESSL) with its new Strategic Waste and Contract Management Team, we believe improved liaison is required with other tiers of Council and interested bodies to achieve a satisfactory outcome of acceptable standards of cleanliness for our residents and visitors alike.

Improvement in our surroundings cannot be achieved by East Suffolk Council alone. This has to involve those other bodies and requires closer, more formal

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partnership working with them.

To achieve this, this Council will establish a time-limited Task and Finish Group that will:

- 1 Facilitate a more effective working partnership with all organisations concerned with our public spaces
- 2 Create a plan of action to deal with this embarrassing situation and
- 3 Ensure East Suffolk never reaches this state of dilapidation again.

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| 9 | CIL Reporting and Governance ES/1666
Report of the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Planning and Coastal Management. | 11 -
145 |
| 10 | Cabinet Members' Report and Outside Bodies Representatives' Reports to Council ES/1664
Report of the Leader of the Council. | 146 -
165 |
| 11 | Exempt/Confidential Items
It is recommended that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act. | |

Part Two – Exempt/Confidential

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| 12 | Port Health and Implementation of Border Target Operating Model Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). | |
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Close



Chris Bally, Chief Executive

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