

# Public Meeting 8th August 2022

## Questions raised and answers provided

Following an introduction by Roderick Off-Ewing, Paul Lacey provided an overview of the work undertaken that led to the proposals for work on the B1125.

Paul advised that in early May he attended Sizewell b1125 working level party. The either two villages involved in the working party are Walberswick and Westleton.

On the 13th May – Paul hosted a site visit for the working party of B1125, The Street and Church Rd

On the 30th May a zoom meeting was held with all parties. The two options were put on the table by Sizewell C, there were options for Westleton, but these are not relevant to Blythburgh.

Subsequently to the circulation of the documents to residents on the electoral role in the village, Sizewell C have confirmed that they will not be involved with traffic calming measures on the A12

### Questions and Answers:

*(please note only relevant comments, questions and answers included: comments that pertain to how dangerous the B1125 is, and has been in the past, are not included as this was not in dispute and not under discussion in the meeting)*

- 1) How many have voted to block the B1125?

Answer: The votes will not be counted until the earliest tomorrow 9<sup>th</sup> August

- 2) Can we insist all Sizewell traffic can't use B1125?

Answer: it may be the case that such a solution could be offered but Blythburgh already has a problem on the B1125 and there is no guarantee that such an agreement would be adhered to

- 3) Are there any figures to show the difference to traffic flow between option A and B

Answer: No there are no figures to show the difference between the two options

- 4) For information – a traffic survey in 2020 showed 3,400 vehicles both way per day both ways on B1125

- 5) Comment: The rejigging of the water tower in Option 2 will not cut the traffic but it is understandable that Option A is disadvantageous to some people in the village

- 6) Can Blythburgh, legally, introduce other calming measures and extend the speeding limit legally.

Answer: Subject to SCC Highways and police we understand there is no legal restriction to extend the speed limit up to the water tower, but any chicanes would need lighting which would be difficult and expensive. Speed humps are not popular with emergency services The report by Alan Mackley is still on the parish council website and looks at all these options

- 7) B1387 quality of the road is very poor

Answer: It is agreed that the state of the road is appalling and Sizewell C will look at improving the B1387 as part of the plans under Option 1 and 2

80 Why are there two options?

Answer: These are the options offered by Sizewell C

- 8) If EDF gets funding and it goes ahead - what is the process?

Answer: SZC Co. is legally committed, by the Deed of Obligation that it has signed with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council, to deliver the scheme that is agreed through the B1125 Working Group. SZC Co. has committed to deliver and fund the scheme, but will work closely with SCC Highways to appoint an approved contractor to undertake the works

- 9) If option 1 is the way forward have they committed to purchasing land for the turning circle?

Answer: So far they have only committed to using highways land - but this needs to be checked

- 10) If the the B1125 road is closed does it make the B1125 one way?

Answer - No and the road will have signs saying the road is blocked off. Sizewell C have committed to extra signage

- 11) So cars approaching from Westleton will have to go round in order to enter the B1125?

Answer: Yes they will. That is why there are two options, one of which is not to block the road.

- 12) Have any studies been undertaken between the water tower and the A12 and are we going to create another problem?

Answer - not that we are aware of (Comment from attended at the meeting: A traffic survey was produced for EDF some time ago - the surveys have been done)

- 13) Angel Lane is very dangerous - whatever we do to divert traffic will become an SCC problem The question is how do we make the B1125 safe? And that is what we need to concentrate on. We need a plan and the diversion through an agricultural area that is then an SCC problem

- 14) If you block the B1125 – that's 25% increase on A12 traffic which raises questions about joining the A12 and also for people crossing the A12

Answer: the traffic joins the A12 anyway, just elsewhere. During Latitude the A12 through Blythburgh coped with a much larger increase in traffic. With regard to crossing the road - SCC have not been able to find a safe place for a crossing

- 15) There is a problem accessing the bus stops and crossing the road

Answer: no solution at present for a safe crossing on the A12 but we will make a note of this as an issue

- 16) Can we have an island with bollards on the A12 to allow crossing?

Answer: this is outside the scope of this meeting as it's SCC and we are only dealing with Sizewell. So it is something to approach SCC about

- 17) The Walberswick road surely must be improved?

Answer: This is part of the Sizewell C proposal but since we are an unlit village SCC have said they can't introduce traffic calming

- 18) The two options are Sizewell and the third is offered by the parish council - does the parish council have another preferred view?

Answer: no we don't which is why we are sounding out the village. We know it's emotive but we wanted to get as democratic and quick answer

- 19) Option 2 can you clarify?

Answer: Under this option gives priority to the Walberswick road and requires traffic crossing the Walberswick road to slow and turn through a chicané

- 20) Option 1 & 2 are a lot of money may not get done - wouldn't it be better to start with signage and the A12 junction as that is less work?

Answer: These options are dependent on funding from EDF as SCC Highways has no money and they will not be spending money in Blythburgh so although this idea makes sense it can't happen like that - it has to be Sizewell led

- 21) Could Latitude be used as a funder?

Answer: Latitude feels they have paid their dues through the ticket scheme and this would too expensive for them

- 22) Signage won't change things as people ignore them and use sat nav, but people will only try to go down the no-through-road once

- 23) Under option 1 - will there be an actual barrier?

Answer: Yes but with a turning circle

- 24) Will cyclists be blocked?

Answer: Pedestrians and cyclists will be able to access the B1125. Walberswick council favour cyclists and they support cyclists having access

- 25) Is there a window of opportunity for the money - if we don't take a decision will we lose the option?

Answer - EDF have said they have signed a legally binding doc. SZC Co. would like to commence detailed design work on the B1125 scheme as soon as possible, with a view to implementing the agreed scheme at the earliest opportunity following the commencement of construction on SZC. SZC Co. is currently aiming to reach a Final Investment Decision on the project in 2023. At least three months before the commencement of construction on SZC, SZC Co. will need to submit to Suffolk County Council a detailed implementation programme that covers the B1125 scheme and the other local traffic and transport schemes to which SZC Co. is committed.

26) Do Walberswick and Westleton have a say in our decision?

Answer : no

27) There is concern about Chapel Road and The Street being used - Option 1 would be the only option to address this. With Option 2 concern is that drivers get used to staggered junction so this could increase danger and unlikely to reduce traffic

Answer: This is a valid point

28) Have emergency services been approached?

Answer: not yet as it's too early