

## ST PETER'S CHURCH THEBERTON

SIMON ILETT I AM CHURCHWARDEN OF ST PETER'S CHURCH THEBERTON HAVING BEEN RE- ELECTED YESTERDAY FOR MY 21<sup>ST</sup> YEAR. I SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)AND CONCERNED PARISHIONERS OF THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE.

ST PETER'S CHURCH THEBERTON IS A GRADE 1 LISTED BUILDING STANDING ON A BANK SOME 20 METERS FROM THE EDGE OF THE B1122 ON THE BEND ADJACENT TO PRETTY ROAD. ST PETER'S IS ONE OF JUST 38 ROUND TOWER CHURCHES SURVIVING IN SUFFOLK. THE NORMAN TOWER IS CONSTRUCTED OF FLINT PROBABLY ORIGINALLY BUILT FOR DEFENCE AS WELL AS WORSHIP.IT HAS AN EXCELLENT PEAL OF 6 BELLS WHICH ARE RUNG EVERY SUNDAY SERVICE AND

PRACTICE NIGHTS DURING THE WEEK. A  
QUINTESSENTIALLY ENGLISH VILLAGE SOUND.

GARGOYLES GRIN DOWN FROM THE MEDIEVAL SOUTH  
ISLE AND THE WHOLE CHURCH IS PROTECTED BY A  
THATCH ROOF. IT HAS BEEN INTEGRAL TO THE  
COMMUNITY FOR A 1000 YEARS

IT IS A PLACE OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY DESPITE ITS  
PROXIMITY TO THE B1122. WE RECEIVE MANY  
VISITORS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND INDEED  
THE WORLD THEBERTON BEING TWINNED WITH  
THEBARTON IN AUSTRALIA. THE VISITORS BOOK IS  
FULL OF COMMENTS ON THE WONDER AND BEAUTY  
OF WHAT WE HAVE AROUND US.

CHRISTIAN LIVES ARE BEGUN HERE WITH BAPTISMS,  
NEW BEGINNINGS TOGETHER AT WEDDINGS AND  
LIVES CELEBRATED AT FUNERALS. ALL THESE SERVICES  
FILL THE CHURCH WITH HOPE AND RENEWAL.

THE CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE PACKS THE CHURCH AND WE HAVE OUTSIDE SERVICES DURING THE YEAR CELEBRATING ANIMALS, HARVEST FESTIVALS, AND REMEMBERANCE DAY SERVICES REMEMBERING THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FROM THE VILLAGES IN 2 WORLD WARS. THIS SERVICE IS HELD AROUND THE LISTED WAR MEMORIAL ON THE JUNCTION OF CHURCH ROAD AND THE B1122 AND THE CONGREGATION SPILL OUT ONTO CHURCH ROAD TO STAND AROUND THE MEMORIAL. I AM NOT SURE HOW WE ARE GOING TO KEEP THE DIGNITY OF THE 2 MINUTE SILENCE OR MAINTAIN SAFETY WITH EDF'S TRANSPORT POLICY THUNDERING PAST.

ST PETERS IS PART OF THE YOXMERE BENEFICE WHICH COMPRISES OF 8 PARISHES. WE ARE ON THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE BENEFICE WHICH INCLUDES MIDDLETON, WESTLETON DUNWICH TO THE EAST, DARSHAM AND THEN 3 PARISHES TO THE WEST OF THE A12 YOXFORD, SIBTON AND PEASENAHALL.

SERVICES ARE HELD AT MOST OF THE CHURCHES EVERY SUNDAY AND ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH WE HAVE A BENEFICE SERVICE AT 1 CHURCH AND THIS ROTATES AROUND ALL 8 DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR. THIS SERVICE ENTAILS THOSE WHO WISH TO ATTEND TRAVELLING TO THE HOST PARISH. A MAJORITY OF THE CONGREGATION ARE SENIOR CITIZENS AND AT THE START OF CONSTRUCTION WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL WITH THE CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC TO AND FROM CHURCH HAVING TO CROSS THE A12 AT YOXFORD DEPENDING WHICH SIDE OF IT THEY LIVE. IF THE SLR IS BUILT THEN THIS WILL SEVER OUR PARISHES AND WHAT WAS A PLEASANT, SHORT WALK OR CYCLE RIDE TO CHURCH WILL BECOME A TORTUOUS CAR JORNEY HAVING TO JOIN THE SLR AND COME OFF AGAIN JUST TO REACH THE VILLAGE. OUR RECTOR WHO LIVES AT DARSHAM HAS PASTORAL CARE FOR ALL 8 PARISHES TRAVELLING TO EACH TO TAKE SERVICES, ATTEND MEETINGS VISIT

THE SICK AND BEREAVED. HE IS ASSISTED BY NON STIPENDARY PRIESTS – VOLUNTEERS WHO GIVE UP THEIR TIME FOR THE LOVE OF GOD AND PARISHIONERS AND TRAVEL TO ALL THE PARISHES TO TAKE SERVICES. 2 OF THESE HAVE BEEN RETIRED FOR MANY YEARS AND ARE ELDELY WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS THEMSELVES. ONE TRAVELS THROUGH LEISTON AND WILL HAVE TO GO PAST THE SITE ENTRANCE AND ALONG THE SLR TURNING RIGHT ACROSS TRAFFIC TO REACH THE BENEFICE AT ALL. IT IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH FOR THEM DURING THE SUMMER, BUT DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IN FREEZING CONDITIONS THEY CONTINUE VALIANTLY TO DO THEIR DUTY. HOWEVER TO EXPECT THEM TO TRAVEL AMONGST THE MASS OF EXTRA LORRIES BUSES AND CARS ON DARK, FOGGY AND SOMETIMES ICEY MORNINGS MAY MAKE THEM DECIDE THAT THEY CAN NO LONGER CONTINUE. THE RESULT IS THAT SERVICES COULD NOT BE HELD AT ALL CHURCHES AND

PARISHIONERS WILL BE FORCED TO TRAVEL EVERY WEEK TO OTHER CHURCHES TO CELEBRATE THEIR FAITH.

BEING THE BIGGEST PUBLIC BUILDING IN THE VILLAGE IT ALSO HOSTS MAJOR EVENTS FROM CONCERTS COMPLETE WITH A BAR IN THE BELFRY TO MEETINGS REGARDING THE PROPOSAL OF SIZEWELL C AND D. THESE MEETINGS ARE SO IMPORTANT THAT THE CHURCH, WHICH CAN HOLD 180 PEOPLE, HAS BEEN FULL TO CAPACITY OVERSPILLING OUTSIDE. PEOPLE CAME FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY TO HEAR THE PROPOSALS TO RAISE THEIR CONCERNS AND UTTER DISBELIEF AT WHAT COULD HAPPEN.

WHEN ST PETER'S CHURCH WAS BUILT REGULAR TRANSPORT WAS HORSE AND WAGON, INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES WERE CENTURIES AWAY AND FOUNDATIONS WERE NONEXISTENT.

WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL FOUNDATIONS THE FABRIC IS VULNERABLE TO DISTURBANCE.

IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE BUILD, ALL THE CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC FOR THE POWER STATION AS WELL AS OTHER MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, IF APPROVED, WILL PASS WITHIN METERS OF THIS ANCIENT BUILDING.

HEAVILY LADEN LORRIES WILL LABOUR AROUND THE BEND TRAVELLING SOUTH TOWARD THE SITE AND EMPTY LORRIES WILL BOUNCE BACK AROUND THE BEND GOING NORTH IN ADDITION TO THE HUNDREDS OF BUSES VANS AND CARS DAILY.

VIBRATIONS FROM THESE VEHICLES WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TRANSMIT THROUGH THE GROUND THE SHORT DISTANCE FROM ROAD TO CHURCH AND WILL AFFECT THE STABILITY OF THE CHURCH AND IT'S TOWER WHICH IS AT THE CLOSEST POINT TO THE ROAD.

THE PCC HAS GREAT CONCERN THAT THIS PROJECT'S TRANSPORT POLICY WILL NEGATIVELY IMPACT ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH AND THAT THERE WILL BE HUGE REPAIR BILLS TO PUT RIGHT THE DAMAGE THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE HAVE HAPPENED.

WE INVITE EDF TO VISIT THE CHURCH SO THAT WE CAN AGREE THE CURRENT STATE OF GOOD REPAIR OF THE BUILDING AND SO THEY CAN TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUTURE REPAIRS SHOULD THE WORST HAPPEN.

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY TO VISIT ST PETERS TO SEE AT FIRST HAND THE BEAUTY, PEACE AND TRANQUILITY THAT MAKES THIS BUILDING SO SPECIAL TO THE MANY VISITORS AND THAT WILL BE LOST SHOULD THIS PROJECT PROCEED. THEIR COMMENTS IN THE VISITORS BOOK SAYS IT ALL.

THE VILLAGE BOASTS A RECENTLY REFURBISHED VILLAGE HALL THAT IS REGULARLY USED FOR ART



CLASSES, SEWING, YOGA AND LINE DANCING AS WELL AS SOCIAL GATHERINGS. WE ALSO HAVE A PLAYING FIELD WHICH JUST LAST YEAR RECEIVED FUNDING TO UPGRADE THE PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN. PARISHIONERS LIVE BOTH SIDES OF THE B1122 AND IN PARTICULAR [REDACTED] [REDACTED] WHERE THERE ARE FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN - 17 CURRENTLY. MANY RESIDENTS HAVE GRAND CHILDREN WHO REGULARLY VISIT. WHILST IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO CROSS THE ROAD AT PRESENT IT WILL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO DO SO SAFELY PARTICULARLY WITH CHILDREN IN TOW MAKING A SIMPLE TRIP TO THE PLAYING FIELD NECESSITATE USING THE CAR FOR SAFETY.

PEOPLE DRIVE TO SUFFOLK AND NOT THROUGH IT. THAT IS WHY WE HAVE NEVER HAD A GREAT ROAD NETWORK. IT IS PART OF THE CHARM OF THE COUNTY. ONE PARISHIONER WHO HAD MOVED HERE FROM KENT TOLD ME THAT HE HAD DRIVEN TO SAXMUNDHAM

GOT HIS NEWSPAPER AND RETURNED HOME WITHOUT HARDLY SEEING A VEHICLE AND IN LESS TIME THAN IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN HIM TO GET OUT OF HIS DRIVEWAY IN KENT. HIS WORDS RESONATE WHEN I CONTEMLPATE WHAT MIGHT BE ON THE HORIZON FOR US.

THE ROADS IN THE AREA ARE USED BY HORSE RIDERS, CYCLISTS AND WALKERS, WITH NO PAVEMENTS AND IN PLACES, WITH STEEP BANKS GIVING NO OPTIONS TO GET OUT OF HARMS WAY. MOST OF THE TIME THIS IS NOT A PROBLEM AS TRAFFIC IS GENERALLY LOCAL PEOPLE THAT KNOW THE ROADS AND ARE CONSIDERATE. MANY DRIVERS ARE HOLIDAY MAKERS ENJOYING WHAT WE TAKE FOR GRANTED EVERY DAY.

THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE DO NOT GET INCIDENTS OR NEAR MISSES BUT THESE ARE USUALLY CAUSED BY DRIVERS LEAVING TOO LITTLE TIME TO GET TO WHERE THEY NEED TO BE. THERE IS A NOTABLE INCREASE IN

VOLUME OF TRAFFIC AND ITS SPEED THROUGH THEBERTON VILLAGE AT TURNOUT TIME FROM THE EXISTING POWER STATION.

THE A12 NORTH OF WICKHAM MARKET IS NO BETTER THAN B CLASS ROADS IN OTHER COUNTIES AND YET IT IS THE MAIN ROUTE UP TO NORFOLK. IT BEGGARS BELIEF THAT IT IS EXPECTED TO CARRY A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF THE MATERIALS AND LABOUR REQUIRED FOR THIS MASSIVE BUILD. STRINGS OF LORRIES WILL CAUSE DELAYS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES COMING TO THE AID OF THOSE IN NEED IN THE PARISH. THE GOLDEN HOUR FOR TREATMENT IS WELL KNOWN AND AS IT ALREADY TAKES 40 MINUTES TO GET TO HOSPITAL, LIVES WILL BE LOST.

SINCE PLANS FOR THE POWER STATIONS WERE REVEALED, LIVES HAVE BEEN BLIGHTED. MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH HAS BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE THOUGHT OF WHAT MIGHT COME AND THE

HELPLESSNESS THAT MANY FEEL AT NOT BEING ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. THEBERTON RESIDENT'S WILL HAVE THE IMPACT OF TRAFFIC, POLLUTION AND NOISE WHILST PARISHIONERS OF EASTBRIDGE WILL HAVE TO ENDURE LIGHT NOISE AND DUST POLLUTION FROM THE BORROW PITS FURTHER IMPACTING ON OUR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH.

YOU HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT EDF'S UNWILLINGNESS TO LISTEN TO CONCERNS. FOR YEARS IT INSISTED THAT THE B1122 WAS QUITE ADEQUATE TO TAKE ALL THE TRAFFIC WITH SOME IMPROVEMENTS. THE CURRENT PROPOSED SIZEWELL LINK ROAD SUDDENLY APPEARED A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO. A ROAD THAT WILL DIVIDE PARISHIONERS FROM THEIR CHURCHES, AND FRIENDS FROM EACH OTHER. WHERE ONCE IT WAS POSSIBLE TO WALK TO THE PUB OR CYCLE TO SEE FRIENDS, NOW IT WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE BY GETTING OUT THE CAR AND DOING BATTLE WITH THE LINK ROAD.

THE SLR WAS FIRST SUGGESTED AT CONSULTATION 3 AND AT CONSULTATION 4, EDF DID NOT EVEN HAVE THE COURTESY TO BRING THE EXHIBITON TO THEBERTON OR MOST OTHER VILLAGES AFFECTED. INSTEAD THE WHOLE BENEFICE HAD JUST 5 HOURS TO SEE ALL THE CHANGES PROPOSED AT YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL. WHILST VISITING THE ROADSHOW, I HEARD A CONVERSATION BETWEEN A CONCERNED RESIDENT WHO WAS FACING THE PROSPECT OF THE ROAD ON THE EDGE OF THEIR PROPERTY AND AN EDF REPRESENTATIVE. THE RESIDENT REMARKED THAT THE SLR WILL RUIN THE REST OF THEIR LIVES AND THE RESPONSE WAS 'YES I AM AFRAID THAT IT PROBABLY WILL'. THIS CONVERSATION STICKS WITH ME BECAUSE I CANNOT BELIEVE THE LACK OF EMPATHY THAT ANYONE COULD HAVE FOR ANOTHER'S DISTRESS. PARTICULARLY SOMEONE TASKED BY EDF TO ENGAGE WITH THE LOCAL POPULATION.

THE MAJORITY OF MATERIALS AND WORKERS WILL COME FROM THE SOUTH. IT SEEMS BIZARRE THAT THE SLR ROUTE WILL FORCE ALL THIS TRAFFIC TO TRAVEL NORTH OF KELSEA TO RETURN SOUTH TO THE SITE ENTRANCE INCREASING TRAVEL MILES, TIME AND POLLUTION.

AS I SPEAK IT IS A WINDY DAY IN SUFFOLK GREAT FOR WIND GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY NOT SO GREAT FOR THE A14 CROSSING THE ORWELL BRIDGE. RIGHT NOW IT IS SUBJECT TO A 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AS WINDS ARE 45MPH. SHOULD THEY REACH 60MPH AND HIGHWAYS ENGLAND DEEMS THERE IS A SAFETY RISK, IT CAN CLOSE THE BRIDGE ALTOGETHER GRID LOCKING THE COUNTY TOWN OF IPSWICH AS ALL TRAFFIC INCLUDING LORRIES BOUND FOR THE PORT OF FELIXSTOWE ARE DIVERTED. EDF'S LORRY FACILITY IS AT TRIMLEY AND SO ALL TRAFFIC BOUND FOR THE SITE WILL EITHER DIVERT THROUGH THE TOWN OR USE RAT RUNS ELSEWHERE TO GET TO THE SITE. WHAT

ARRANGEMENTS DOES THE APPLICANT HAVE TO MITIGATE FOR THIS AND ALSO THE SUBSEQUENT GRID LOCK AROUND THEBERTON WITH THE CATCH UP OF DELIVERIES THAT WERE DELAYED?

YOU HAVE HEARD MUCH THIS WEEK ABOUT THE SPECIAL QUALITIES THAT MAKE THIS AREA SO UNIQUE. RESIDENTS CHOOSE TO LIVE HERE AND PEOPLE VISIT FOR THE GENTLE WAY OF LIFE THAT WE ARE PRIVILIDGED TO HAVE. WHILST WALKING ON ONE OF THE FOOTPATHS THAT WILL BE LOST TO THE CONSTRUCTION LAST WEEK, MY WIFE AND I ENCOUNTERED A HUSBAND AND WIFE WHO HAD TRAVELLED FROM HERTFORDSHIRE JUST FOR THE DAY TO UNWIND AND SEE THE WILDLIFE.DURING THE CONVERSATION WE WERE EXPLAINING THAT THIS ROUTE WOULD BE LOST AND THEY COULD NOT BELIEVE THE SCALE OF WHAT WAS PROPOSED FOR SUCH A PEACEFUL PLACE. I RAISE THIS BECAUSE YOU WILL HAVE HEARD THIS WEEK FROM MANY WHO ARE

EQUALLY CONCERNED. YOU WILL NOT HAVE HEARD FROM THOSE WHO SIMPLY DON'T REALISE THE SCALE OF WHAT COULD HAPPEN TO A PLACE THAT THEY REGULARLY VISIT AND LOVE FOR THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NATURE'S COVID 19 PANDEMIC. IT NEEDS A VACCINE NOW AND SIZEWELL C IS NOT THAT VACCINE. INDEED IT WILL ONLY ADD TO THE VIRAL LOAD BEFORE IT CAN MAKE ANY CONTRIBUTION TO PAYING BACK IT'S CARBON DEBT IN 20 YEARS TIME. WITH ENOUGH SUN AND WIND ENERGY IN THE WORLD TO POWER ALL THAT WE NEED AND WITH TECHNOLOGY ON STORAGE BECOMING MORE VIABLE EVERYDAY, THESE ARE THE FUTURE TECHNOLOGIES TO BACK NOT MORE OF THE SAME.

THESE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE NOW. SIZEWELL B IS CURRENTLY ON AN EXTENDED OUTAGE FOR ADDITIONAL REPAIRS AND SAFETY CHECKS. I HAVE



NOT NOTICED ANY POWER CUTS OF TALK OF SUPPLY CONCERNS WHILST THIS IS OFF GRID. WE NEED TO GET AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS THAT ARE POLLUTING THE ATMOSPHERE AND MAY BE HELPING TO PLUG THAT GAP. TECHNOLOGY THAT WE KNOW WILL LEAVE A MASSIVE BILL FOR CLEARING UP FOR GENERATIONS TO COME IS NOT THE ANSWER.

AS WE COME TO THE END OF THIS THIS PROCESS WE ARE ALL DRAINED PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY. IT HAS BEEN LIKE DAVID FIGHTING GOLIATH- THE WEAKER OPPONENT FACING A MIGHTY ADVERSARY. WE HAVE OUR SLING OF RESOLVE AND DETERMINATION WHICH WE HAVE BEEN WIELDING ABOVE OUR HEAD FOR THE LAST 8 PLUS YEARS. WHEN YOU COME TO YOUR DECISION, WE ASK THAT YOU ARE OUR SHOT TO PUT AN END TO THIS PROJECT WHICH HAS BLIGHTED THE LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS OF SO MANY FOR SO LONG AND WILL DESTROY THEM COMPLETELY IF ALLOWED TO PROCEED.



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Dear Panel Members of the Examining Authority.

I apologise for my emotions getting the better of me at the end of my open floor hearing. It had been a long week at the end of a gruelling 8 1/2 years of literally feeling we were fighting Goliath and not being listened to or taken seriously by EDF.

The PCC extends an invitation to the ExA to visit our wonderful church.

Yours sincerely

Simon Ilett