


**From:**   
**To:** [SizewellC](#)  
**Subject:** Sizewell C letter to Planning Inspectorate/ Examining Authority  
**Date:** 20 September 2021 10:45:05  
**Attachments:** [Wood far2 Doc PINS ExA 6-9-2021.doc](#)

---

To Sizewell C case Team,  
Please find letter concerning the proposed SZC and the Suffolk Coastline from Southwold to Aldeburgh. Also leaflets of the current situation at Thorpness. The sea defences proposed for Sizewell C over the many years during which they will be needed, will I am sure expose the rest of the coast to greater and further erosion.

Thank you

Yours Sincerely  
Joan Girling No 20026021



From Joan Girling IP 20026021

To Planning Inspectorate and the Examining Authority  
RE Sizewell C DCO

Dear Inspectors,

I have lived in Leiston –cum –Sizewell for almost 60 years. I have known the East Suffolk Coast all my life, and just remember the 1953 floods when so much damage was wrought both on the coast and inland when sadly lives were lost.

The coast is ever changing, eroding in some places and building in others, the sand banks and shingle bars are constantly shifting. You will be aware of this matter as many have spoken of it at the IS Hearings.

I am not a technical person but I know what I see with my own eyes, which is that interference with the natural ebb and flow of the tides imposed by physical structures has the most deleterious affect on the coastal strip the sea bed and the sand and shingle bars.

Therefore in these days of Climate change and the threat of sea level rise I believe there must be a duty of care to ensure all is being done which can be done to prevent unnecessary risk to the coastal processes which may cause flooding and in turn adversely affect peoples lives, property and farm land over a very wide area.

As Leiston sewage works depends on discharging into the sea via the Leiston River and Minsmere sluice one can only consider the consequences of inundation by sea or fluvial flooding on Sizewell Marshes. The small hamlet of Eastbridge has no mains drainage and relies on the marsh drainage system to serve the weepers from the septic tanks. If the marshes are flooded it is obvious the systems will be disabled.

Coastal Thorpeness is just a few kilometres away from Sizewell and is already suffering from loss of cliff and houses are threatened. I enclose copies of their appeal for funding to enable them to defend their village.

I also send a few my personal pictures of the coastal strip and the damage the sea inflicts.

**My three major concerns are**

a) Considering the 50 years of operation of SZC the Bridge / Culvert proposed for SZCs Access road may impair the flow of water from Leiston River to Minsmere sluice which in turn could affect Leiston Sewage Works particularly in times of flood. If another access to the SZC site is not forthcoming the Application should have a recommendation for refusal.

b) Given the predictions of climate change and sea level rise and the need to defend the site for 100s of years I firmly believe the applicants' proposal for building a sea defence wall of such a great height and bulk to protect the proposed SZC so close to the unpredictable North Sea is unacceptable. In defending the applicants' proposed site no considerations are given for the implications for the undefended coast north or south of the site. The experience further up the coast at Bawdsey near Felixstowe indicates what happens when hard sea defences are put in place, the sea just swallows up land further up the coast.

I have no doubt that in engineering terms any SZC could be defended, but at what cost to the remainder of the East Coast.

c) The applicant for SZC has not in my opinion conducted a comprehensive geomorphologic study of the East Suffolk Coast from Southwold to Aldeburgh. To take in the inlet and outlet cooling water pipes, the two jetties, and if considered appropriate the desalination plant intake and discharge area. It is essential to consider the recent situation at Thorpeness which indicate a study of all the predictions of the impacts the applicants' plans will have over the next 50 years. Shingle bars and sand bank give some protection but a wider study is needed to prevent any unforeseen issues. Given sea level rise and unpredictable occurrences in the oceans and weather patterns, combined with the major disturbance expected from SZC to the sea bed, the coastal frontage and the massive flows of water for the plants cooling system. I consider it imperative to undertake such a study to gain a full understanding of the dynamics of the sea and coast, to ensure all is being done that can be done to protect that stretch of sea and coastline, not just to protect SZC, but for all those who have an interest in the area.

Finally considering the long period of time SZC will be in existence and if given consent all the above must be considered as a **Duty of Care** to both the present and future residents of East Suffolk and it is essential that these studies are carried out before any decision is recommended to the Secretary of State.

Yours Sincerely  
Joan Girling

## PLEDGE A FUTURE FOR THORPENESS

### Be a Pebble Pledger:



- Donate £1 a pebble or contribute multiple pebbles to re-build our beach

North End Avenue children have raised funds for 127 pebbles (£127). What can you raise?



### Be a Boulder Pledger:



- We will need hundreds and hundreds of boulders to protect our cliffs. Each boulder in the defences costs £500. Fund one or why not fund one every year?

Mr & Mrs Ansbro from Yorkshire have pledged a boulder a year for 20 years. Why don't you do the same?



### Be a Keystone Contributor



- Can you pledge more? For unique opportunities to leave a lasting legacy get in touch. [info@afutureforthorpeness.co.uk](mailto:info@afutureforthorpeness.co.uk)

### CONTACT US NOW:

[info@afutureforthorpeness.co.uk](mailto:info@afutureforthorpeness.co.uk)  
[www.afutureforthorpeness.co.uk](http://www.afutureforthorpeness.co.uk)



## FUNDRAISING

It will take a village, but together we can do it.

The first phase will cost in the region of £2.5m which we will need to raise in the next 2 years. To fund the future schemes we will need a rolling fundraising campaign.

### MATCHFUNDING OPPORTUNITIES Council & Corporate

Whilst the council can't pay for the plan, we are working closely with them to identify wider financial support in the form of grants and corporate funding.

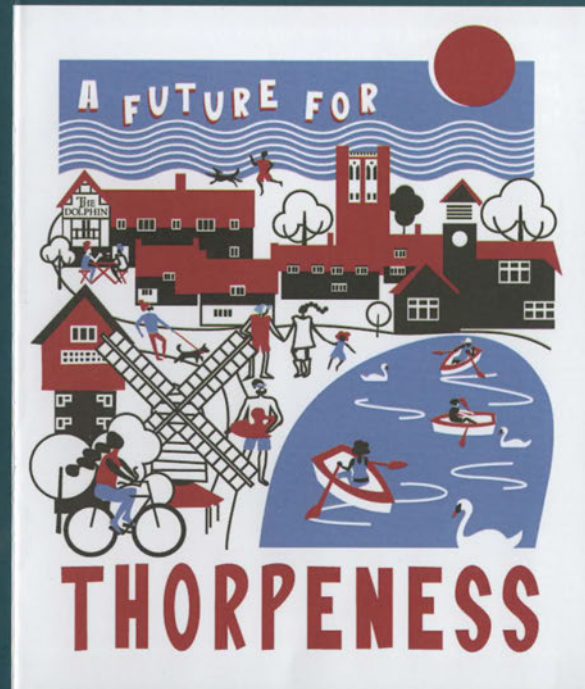
### Land Development

We have been offered a number of sites from local landowners with the intention of putting profits from developments into the defence and improvement scheme.



### WITH YOUR HELP, LOOK AT HOW WE CAN MAKE THE INITIAL £2.5M IN TWO YEARS:

50,000 pebbles =	£50,000
1,000 boulders =	£500,000
30 Keystone Contributors donating £25,000 =	£750,000
Matchfunding top up =	£1.2m



Help preserve our beautiful village

The village of Thorpeness has been a much-loved home and holiday destination to many since the land was developed by Glencairn Stuart Ogilvie in 1910. We have it all: the beach, the sandlings, the meare, the wildlife, fantastical buildings and a fairy-tale feel.

### UNDER THREAT

For all its beauty and charm, our village is under threat from ongoing erosion and flooding. In the last year there has been devastating erosion on the beach and more persistent flooding within the village.

### LOCAL ACTION

A group of local residents and parish councillors have formed a Community Interest Company (CIC) to work with Thorpeness house owners, East Suffolk Council and other local organisations to raise money for and put in place a comprehensive long term coastal and flooding defence scheme.

The plan needs to be agreed by the village and enough funds raised to put it in place but whatever is agreed must include plans to:

- Protect our village heritage and character
- Improve destination spots, pathways, cycleways and overall accessibility throughout the village and maintain beach access
- Enhance Thorpeness for future generations to enjoy

### COASTAL EROSION

In the last 6 months we have lost 10m of cliff at the north end of the village. The land, houses and natural habitats are all threatened.

## PROTECTING OUR VILLAGE



The map shows 3 areas of threat. The red line indicates a threat of erosion, the orange and blue lines, flooding.

The good news is that there is a solution. A rock armour defence spanning the north end will protect the beach, the land and the houses, and give us the opportunity to improve access and facilities for the enjoyment of all.



## FLOODING

Shingle and sand dunes have been built up by the sea but as sea levels rise The Meare will become more prone to flooding. Without protection, the freshwater marshes between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh will be flooded by seawater, destroying the fragile habitat. Land and houses in the area will be threatened. We need to **act now** to protect Thorpeness.



# THORPENESS COASTAL FUTURES GROUP

*protecting Thorpeness for future generations*

NEWSLETTER · APRIL 2021

Thank you to everyone for your continued interest and welcome to our latest newsletter. As a community group, we are committed to protecting and enhancing our village for future generations. This means managing our changing coastline, not just the beach itself. There are areas of marshland that are an intrinsic part of our coast, which of course includes the Meare. We also have the cliffs and sandlings, our byways, bridleways, cycleways and footpaths, and a recreational landscape that includes sports grounds, a golf course and a multitude of outdoor recreational areas. What do we want to see happen to our coastal inheritance? Do we want to protect it? Enhance it? What are the challenges and what are the opportunities? Let us have your thoughts, and your help.

## Battling the Elements: 2021 Damage

Many will have seen or heard that the extreme weather at the start of February and further surges and high winds over the last few days have caused devastating damage to the beach defences.

The cliffs beyond the Red House and the defences at the north end of the beach are now extremely dangerous, walking and cycling along this stretch should be avoided.



## Protecting Our Shoreline: The Next Big Project

TCFG has been working hard over the last few years to develop a long-term sustainable plan for the defence and enhancement of the whole village.

This plan will tackle coastal and Meare defences along with improving leisure facilities by incorporating walkways and cycle paths within the village and along the shoreline and making sure there is access to the beach for everyone.

The TCFG 20 to 30 year plan will enhance and future-proof our village for residents, holiday makers and visitors for generations to come. It is critical that we tackle the dangers of our changing climate now, or we are in danger of losing parts of this unique village.

### Examples of Defences

