

To Members of the Highways and Transport Committee

Cllr. Ruth
Leach

Cllr. Geoff
Holdcroft

Cllr. Tom
Rogerson

Cllr. Simon
Sadler

Cllr. Mike
Sutton

Cllr. Katharine
Turner

You are hereby summoned to **attend the meeting of the Highways and Transport Committee** to be held at the **Shire Hall** on **Monday 13th July at 10am.**



Greg Diaper
Town Clerk
8th July 2026

Public Attendance

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend. The public will be invited to give their views/question the Town Council on issues on the agenda, or raise issues for consideration of inclusion at future meetings. This item will be limited to fifteen minutes duration.

The Town Council, members of the public and press may record/ film or broadcast this meeting when the press and public are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends this meeting is advised that the Town Council cannot control 3rd party recording.

Woodbridge Town Council vision statement

The Council will strive to ensure Woodbridge is a safe, harmonious, and thriving town where all residents and the wider community feel welcome.

We will work to make Woodbridge a place where all generations can participate in a vibrant, inclusive society that is environmentally resilient.

Agenda

1. Apologies.

2. Declarations of Member Interests.

To receive any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Requests for dispensations.

To consider requests for dispensations from Members on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, other registerable or non-registerable interest.

4. Public question time.

For the public to ask questions of the Council or raise issues for consideration at a future meeting of the Council. Fifteen minutes maximum – three minutes per person.

5. To agree and approve the [minutes](#) of the meeting held 10th June 2026.

6. To consider if the Committee wish to send a representative to speak at the Suffolk County Council 'Development and Regulation Committee' meeting on 21st July regarding SCC/0170/25SC – A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

7. To receive an update on the position of the Woodbridge Parking Review.

8. To consider supporting a Woodbridge wide TRO for further double yellow lines and waiting restrictions.

9. To consider the condition of the drains on the Market Hill.

10. Closure.

Item 6

To consider if the Committee wish to send a representative to speak at the Suffolk County Council 'Development and Regulation Committee' meeting on 21st July regarding SCC/0170/25SC – A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Cllr. Leach sent to the Committee the following communication she had received as County Councillor in relation to the Suffolk County Council 'Development and Regulation Committee' meeting on 21st July:

Subject: Development & Regulation Committee 21 July 2026 - considering an item in your division

Dear Councillors Martin Cook, Patti Mulcahy, Elaine Bryce, Ruth Leach and Jonathan Ramsay,

This is to advise you that at its meeting on Tuesday 21 July 2026, the Development & Regulation Committee will be considering an item within your division.

This relates to the proposed transport improvements to the A12 from Junction 58 (Seven Hills, Ipswich) to Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, including the upgrade from a single carriageway to dual carriageway between A12 / B1438 and the A12 / B1078; Construction and operation of a Mobility Hub and Associated Infrastructure; Construction of a new pedestrian bridge and other highways and pedestrian improvements: SCC/0170/25SC – A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

The case officer dealing with this is Andy Rutter; Telephone: 01473 263766; and you can view the application and related materials at the following link:

<https://suffolk.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display?applicationNumber=SCC/0170/25SC>

If you intend to speak at this meeting, please can you let me know by **midday on Friday 17 July**.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes
Rebekah

Rebekah Butcher
Democratic Services
Committee Services Team
Governance, Legal and Assurance
Suffolk County Council

Cllr. Leach has received confirmation from Rebekah Butcher that WTC can send a person to speak at the meeting, the deadline for registration being midday on Friday 17th July:

Dear Rebekah,

I have been asked by the Woodbridge Town Council whether they have an opportunity to speak at this meeting where it relates to the A12 at Woodbridge?

Kind Regards
Ruth

Hi Cllr Leach,

Sorry for the delay in replying to you.

Yes, Woodbridge Town Council would be able to speak if they wish.

They will need to apply to speak by completing the online form available on the SCC website: [Apply to speak at a public meeting](#). The deadline to register is 12 noon on Friday 17 July. I would encourage them to do this as soon as possible to ensure they do not miss the registration deadline.

However, the Planning Officer will contact them around the time the agenda is published to invite them to register to speak if they wish. The agenda and papers will be published no later than Monday 13 July.

I hope this helps.

Best wishes
Rebekah

The Council has already responded twice to the consultation – those responses are provided overleaf. At the time of writing (10 July), no response has been received to the second letter, nor has any communication been received from the SCC Planning Officer.

Cllr. Leach's response as County Councillor is also attached.

Members are asked to consider if the Committee wish to send a representative to speak at the Suffolk County Council 'Development and Regulation Committee' meeting on 21st July regarding SCC/0170/25SC – A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk, and agree the content/ focus of that presentation.

Development Manager, Growth, Highways & Infrastructure
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP1 2BX

09.02.26

Dear Mr Rutter,

RE: CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATION WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED BY SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL – Planning Reference SCC/0170/25SC

Despite the Council's support for the much-needed upgrade to the A12, we **object** to the application as there are severe reservations with the current plans, and we strongly recommend the following issues be resolved:

- 1) We are concerned that the scheme stops at Woods Lane. This natural bottleneck is an area of concern, and we consider this a missed opportunity not to continue dualling up to the Wickham Market bypass, addressing longer term capacity issues. The difficulties and cost of land acquisition are noted.
- 2) Safer access and egress to and from Prentices Lane need to be better considered.
- 3) The tight proximity between Grundisburgh Road pedestrian and wheeling crossing and the A12 roundabout needs to be reconsidered, as visibility lengths are poor for both vehicles and pedestrians. Queuing traffic could cause delay and lane weaving with A12 southbound traffic
- 4) For 2) and 3) and the well-used pedestrian and wheeling crossing of the A12 north of Hasketon Road to Farlingaye School, we recommend a 30-mph speed limit should be incorporated.



- 5) The pedestrian crossing of the A12 at Haugh Lane needs to be upgraded.
- 6) We note the peak evening traffic period considered does not include school leaving times, when large volumes of traffic utilise the roundabout and severe queues develop.
- 7) The summary sheet at page 28 of TA - Appendix I_J_K (1).pdf has a significant number of errors on the location of bus stops - there are no bus stops shown at Cross Corner, St Johns Street, Warren Hill Road, Pytches Road, only one on Bredfield Road; and it shows non-existent bus stops on Manor Road (!), Bullards Lane, Newnham Avenue and along Peterhouse Crescent.
- 8) We are concerned that traffic management has been disappointingly poor on some recent local highways works and during the emergency works on the A12 for Cadent in December 2023, resulting in traffic displacement on some of our narrow local roads such as Angel Lane, Chapel Street and Bredfield Street. We consider the proposals fail to present how Suffolk Highways will seek to limit displacement on these roads, and others in Woodbridge and Melton, during the works and particularly during diversions when the A12 is temporarily closed. We recommend that the proposals include mandatory consultation with both the County Councillor for Woodbridge and Woodbridge Town Council when diversion routes are planned.
- 9) At Seven Hills the projected delays and queue lengths at peak times on the A14 E slip to turn into the A12, even with the works proposed, are unacceptable as queuing traffic extends back onto the dual carriageway. We presume this is due to no proposed control on the entry of A12 S to A14 W traffic leading to inadequate gaps. Could peak time traffic signals be introduced on the A12 S to better manage this issue.
- 10) We are not convinced the minor bus travel saving time stated warrants the expenditure and delays incurred by the Portal Avenue improvements and traffic light junction onto the A12.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G E Diaper', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr G E Diaper
Town Clerk

Development Manager, Growth, Highways & Infrastructure
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP1 2BX

19.06.26

Dear Mr Rutter,

RE: CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATION WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED BY SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL – Planning Reference SCC/0170/25SC

Thank you for your letter dated 29 May and subsequent email communication ref. the re-consultation of Suffolk County Council Planning Application SCC/0170/25SC – *Transport improvements to the A12 from Junction 58 (Seven Hills, Ipswich) to Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge including the upgrade from a single carriageway to dual carriageway between A12 / B1438 and the A12 / B1078, Construction and operation of a Mobility Hub and Associated Infrastructure, Construction of a new pedestrian bridge and other highways and pedestrian improvements.*

The Council stated in its original response that it supports the much-needed upgrade to the A12 but objected to the application due to severe reservations with the plans.

After consideration of the latest plans provided as part of the re-consultation, we are disappointed that none of our concerns have been considered and therefore affirm our **objection** to the planning application. We have no comment to make on the additional documents provided.

In our original response to the consultation, Woodbridge Town Council (WTC) identified ten issues of concern. None of these issues have been taken up in the re-consultation. We would ask



WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk: Mr G E Diaper

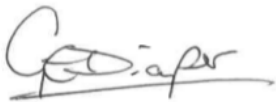
Shire Hall, Market Hill, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4LP

Telephone: 01394 383599 | Email: townclerk@woodbridge-suffolk.gov.uk | Website: woodbridge-suffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk County Council (SCC) to provide us with the reasons why our issues were not deemed sufficient to be acted upon. We request that this response is provided in time for consideration at the Council's meeting on 19 July.

Additionally, WTC request that SCC prepare further re-visions of the plans to accommodate a 30mph zone between the Woods Lane roundabout and the proposed crossing south of the Grundisburgh Road roundabout – without such a speed restriction in place it cannot be considered safe to encourage the public to cross the road at the locations specified within that stretch as is proposed in the current plans. Such a restriction will also provide safer access and egress from the service stations located on both sides of the road at this location, as well as for residents who live in the adjacent housing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G E Diaper', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr G E Diaper
Town Clerk

Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

3/2/26

To whom it concerns

Re: planning application SCC/0170/25SC - Comments

I write to respond to application SCC/0170/25SC relating to the A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

I welcome and support the proposed scheme's objectives, in particular; the dualling of the stretch after the Seckford roundabout, the improvements at the Grundisburgh and Wood's Lane roundabouts, and the improved connections between the communities on either side of the A12.

In my response I wish to provide the following detailed comments with regards to:

- Proposed **Toucan crossing** at the junction of Grundisburgh Rd and the A12 – the positioning of this crossing appears to be very close to the junction with the roundabout. As this is on the route to five busy local schools, all within approx.1 km distance from this point, I am concerned that the short sight line to the toucan crossing, if turning left from the A12 Southbound, and distance to the crossing from the lefthand lane, could result in emergency stops and **increase the risk** for both drivers and pedestrians. To add to this I believe the visibility of approaching traffic in the lefthand lane of the A12 Southbound will also be limited to pedestrians and cyclists waiting to cross due to foliage, street furniture and the fence.

Currently this crossing point is rarely used to cross from Bilney Rd to the cycling lane opposite because of the perceived safety risk and cyclists and pedestrians prefer to cross further down Grundisburgh Rd as it is perceived to be safer.

I am concerned that the peak traffic (as a result of school drop off and collection) may not have been considered in the traffic assessment and projections for this crossing.

Traffic already queues heavily in this area during peak times and the positioning of this crossing may exacerbate this, meaning that vehicles are forced into A12 Southbound righthand lane causing queues and delays. Outside of peak times this roundabout is much quieter and if taken on average the traffic survey could present a misleading picture. If the positioning of this crossing was based on traffic surveys that did not include the school drop off peaks, I hope it would be considered worth reviewing.

- **Reduction in community severance** – I welcome the connections that this scheme will create between communities on both sides of the A12. Should future development take place on the west side of the A12, I believe that there should be an assessment of the capacity and safety of the two existing crossing points at **Grove Rd** at the level of the Hasketon Rd junction, and at the barely visible crossing at the **Haugh Lane junction**. (I could find no reference to this in the documents).

Even without any development, this scheme presents an opportunity to carry out a **safety assessment**, as crossing at both of these points is a cause for concern to residents on the west side of the A12.

Under the Active Travel Woodbridge improvements there is an increasing number of cyclists exploring these routes and the pupils crossing to Farlingaye School from being dropped off in the vicinity of Russell Close are very concerned that currently the traffic lights at the Grove Rd crossing are ignored by some drivers. Pedestrians have asked that there could be a speed limit of 30 mph along this stretch which I would support.

At the Haugh Lane junction, residents cross (or attempt to cross) to enjoy a walk on the footpath that leads out into the fields. This crossing is not signposted and is not visible to drivers and this would be an opportunity to remedy this and create a safer crossing.

- **Prentices Lane** - furthermore, turning into and exiting from Prentices Lane at this point is considered difficult and dangerous by local residents especially during peak times. As the number of heavy vehicles increase along the A12 servicing the various NSIPs, local drivers expect this to get worse. I would ask that consideration be given to improving safety here.

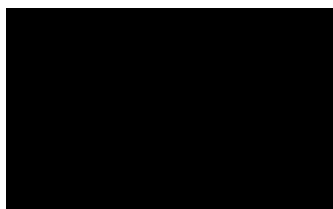
During construction and once the proposed communications mast base station is installed at Manor Farm (Plan ref DC/26/0130/TEL) access for works vehicles will be along Prentices Lane which is going to add some construction and maintenance traffic and increase risk when turning into or exiting this unadopted and very narrow lane.

- **Buses Queueing** at the entrance to **Farlingaye School bus park** – I see no mention of this being addressed although, while the A12 is wide enough to accommodate it, it contributes to in a small way to traffic queueing Southbound when the buses arrive for school drop off and collection times.
- **Attenuation Pond** – would this water be available to local amenities to use for watering, such as the adjacent Woodbridge Town Football Club which has substantial fields that need to be maintained? Use of harvested rainwater from an attenuation Pond in this manor would support recycling of this precious resource.
- **Limitations of project** - As I have already expressed, it is disappointing that the works stop at Woods Lane and don't continue up to Wickham Market so that the entire length could be dualled. I accept and understand the reasons given for this but I wonder whether this is a chance to engage with SZC and offer them the opportunity to make an improvement to the A12?

Finally, Traffic management during these works is going to have to be robust and informed and I would urge the team to commit to consulting with representatives from the Woodbridge Town Council and the Suffolk County Councillor for Woodbridge when designing detours.

I wish the team well with this planning application and look forward to the 'spades in the ground'.

Yours sincerely



Ruth Leach
County Councillor for Woodbridge Division

Item 7

To receive an update on the position of the Woodbridge Parking Review.

The Council have been informed that there is going to be a Parking Review for Woodbridge and have been advised that the Parking Services Manager at East Suffolk Council is the lead Officer at the organisation working on the project.

A request for a report or attendance at this meeting has been submitted to the new ESC Parking Services Manager, Eamonn Cullinan.

Cllr. Leach has provided the following proposal for consideration at this item:

- *Woodbridge Parking review - receive an update and consider whether to submit Seckford Street and Castle Street forward as phase 1 recommendations within the next month.*

Members are asked to receive an update on the position of the Woodbridge Parking Review.

Item 8

To consider supporting a Woodbridge wide TRO for further double yellow lines and waiting restrictions.

The Committee agreed at it's June meeting to support the investigation of a Woodbridge-wide TRO to enable the installation of double yellow lines within the parish:

14. To consider supporting a Woodbridge wide Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for further double yellow lines and waiting restrictions.

The Committee agreed it supports the investigation of a Woodbridge-wide TRO to enable the installation of double yellow lines within the parish. The following roads are proposed for inclusion at this time:

- Grove Road (layby)
- Naverne Meadows j/w Castle Street
- Collingwood Road
- Deben Road
- Seckford Street (Fen Meadow access gate)

Cllr. Leach has provided an updated list of roads for potential inclusion in the project:

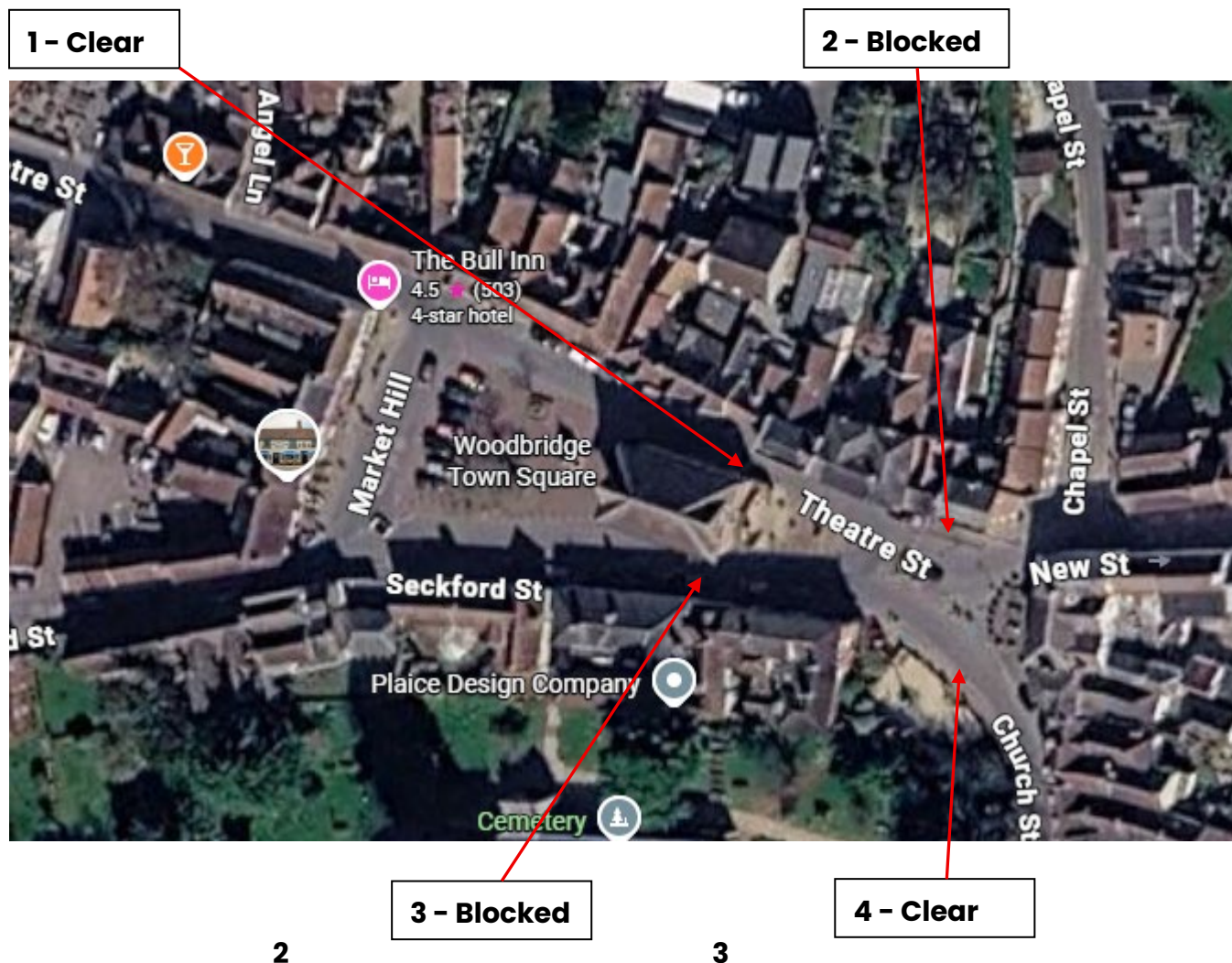
- Grove Road - waiting restrictions to 1 hour
- Little St John's Street - Double Yellow lines
- Deben Road outside entrance to no 48 - Double yellow lines
- Naverne Meadows and Castle Street junction - double yellow lines to protect entrance
- Lockwood Close - double yellow lines to protect entrance
- Morley Avenue - double yellow lines to protect entrances
- Westholme Close - double yellow lines to protect circle
- Consider a 7.5 tonne weight restriction on town unless making a delivery
- Consider Buttrums Mill carpark
- Market Hill in front of the Shire Hall for Market days

Members are asked to consider supporting a Woodbridge wide TRO for further double yellow lines and waiting restrictions.

Item 9

To consider the condition of the drains on the Market Hill.

There are four surface water drains on the Market Hill; two are currently blocked and two are currently clear:



There is some concern that the blocked drain to the south of the Shire Hall is impacted upon the building – the stairs at the Bull End of the building have deteriorated in recent year. Cllrs. Leach and Phipps did report this to an SCC Highways engineer and could report on any responses received.

What we do understand is that SCC focus on the cleaning of drains of the main arterial roads in the County – a town centre road such as the Market Hill is low on their list of priorities.

The CEE Committee has recently considered the contracting to a private firm the task of jet cleaning – item 10 from their June meeting provides:

Item 10

To consider the costs received from a local company to undertake cleaning of storm drains in Woodbridge.

The minutes from the March meeting of the Committee state that *‘the Town Clerk should seek quotations from local companies who may be able to undertake the jet cleaning of storm water drains in Woodbridge’*. This request was predicated on the idea that as part of the Committee’s concern about surface water flooding in Woodbridge, would it be possible for the Committee, via the Estates Resilience budget, to fund the cleaning of storm drains which are not cleaned by Suffolk County Council Highways.

The Town Clerk has spoken with Woodbridge based company Dream Drains, and the following is an email sent to the Chair further to that call:

Ellie,

I had a good chat with Paul from Dream Drains today ref the Committee proposal to do some drain unblocking in Woodbridge.

He said on residential roads he’s fine and happy to do it – busier sites he might need some traffic management.

We used Deben Road as an example, and he said that’d be a day’s work – so according to the attached (insert – price list uploaded to SharePoint) a max. of £600 – the biggest challenge is getting access to all the drains on the same day.

Lets get this back on the agenda and think of how we might move it forward – an audit of roads/ drains with an urgent requirement or how to bring along the public – we’ll need resident support to make it work.

Best

Greg

To consider the costs received from a local company to undertake cleaning of storm drains in Woodbridge, and how to proceed with the idea of cleaning drains in Woodbridge.

The decision:

10. To consider the costs received from a local company to undertake cleaning of storm drains in Woodbridge.

Members noted the quote and asked the Deputy Town Clerk to formally approach East Suffolk Council and Services to clear the drains that have become blocked with surface debris, as they have a statutory duty to keep the drains clear.

The H&T Committee conceivable have two options:

1 – Report the blocked drains on the Market Hill using the SCC online reporting tool and put pressure on the authority to clean them accordingly.

2 – Contract a private company to undertake the drain cleaning. Due to the location of the drain to the south of the Market Hill, a road closure or traffic management may be required.

The Committee has £2,748 left to spend this financial year.

Members are asked to consider the condition of the drains on the Market Hill.