

All Stretton Flood Forum Minutes

230pm Monday 10/3/25 at the National Trust Tea Rooms, Cardingmill Valley

Present:

Mike Goode (Chair), Chris Naylor (Secretary), Janet Ferguson, Simon Barber, Dan Robinson, Sophie Davies, Patrick Edwards, Judy Winkworth, Kate Hunter

Apologies: Richard Bebb, Gill Campbell, Roger Eyre

1. Discussion of details and outcomes from the Multi Agency Meeting

Sophie fed back on this. Key points:

- In general agencies unable to help with survey funding, except for Network Rail (if survey was of benefit to them). Environment Agency to consult catchment co-ordinators about possible involvement/support. However there might be more help forthcoming for subsequent capital works.
- Shropshire Council reported their last major highway maintenance had been 2022/23. They had now moved to a reactive not proactive approach, informed by 'Fix My Street'. They were considering using this data to identify 'hot spot' areas where drains/gulleys etc were at higher risk - and which might be relevant to flood management.
- Severn Trent had reported on their sewer lining project

2. National Trust field flood plain construction

It was agreed that before the survey project progressed the suggested BV flood plain on NT land should be highlighted as a possible mitigation opportunity, and design needs identified. It was felt that the suggested plain area might not mitigate a major cloudburst but could help buffer heavy rainfall.

Mike also flagged past 'Stretton Surface Water Management Plan' from AECOM Hyder, however this didn't include Batch Valley. Mike can share by email.

Mike expressed hope that the survey would be completed by the autumn. Patrick offered to notify Commoners as a courtesy, before the survey got under way. Relevant landowners (eg Sue Gent, Richard Williams...) would need to be identified and notified too.

3. Fund raising and targets

Simon updated the meeting:

- NT had offered £500
- CSTC and Focus had both been applied to for £1000 (each)
- Agilent and Millichope Foundation were being researched
- The timing was wrong for approaching the Co-op.

Upper Batch Valley Residents Group, Stretton Hall Nursing Home, Britpart, Montgomery Water were all suggested too.

It was felt that as we neared our target more individual donations would be forthcoming.

The plan was still to commission through CSTC so VAT could be reclaimed. Mike advised against making a Lottery application at this stage.

4. All Stretton Flood Forum website, bank account and constitution

Several options were discussed to progress a website including Tim Goodwin, and Sophie kindly suggested her partner might be able to help too. It was agreed the brief needed to be clarified to indicate target audience and purpose.

Mike was progressing a bank account for the All Stretton Flood Forum with Lloyds, as the primary account for the Strettons. A double signature would be required on all cheques. Mike Goode, Steve Burrows, Simon Barber were approved by the meeting as signatories.

5. Any other Business

In the first half of the meeting there was a discussion about the Batch Valley brook between the B road and the Cound.

Shropshire Council had indicated they would clear the culvert and 5m either side. It was agreed that ideally the stream bed east of the culvert should be lowered to match the new level resulting from the Council's work. The approach would depend on adjacent landowners' riparian responsibilities, any EA concerns about the Cound, and the requirements of watercourse consent. Kate, Dan and Caroline (Crump) were nominated to consider further, with a photo survey, and report back. Sophie offered to advise re EA and SC.

6. Date of next meeting

230pm Monday April 7th; venue tbcf (NT TRoom or chez Janet Ferguson)