

**All Stretton Flood Forum
Meeting at the National Trust, Cardingmill Valley
Tuesday 16th September 2025**

1 Present

Mike Goode
Chris Naylor
Steve Burrows
Andy Munro
Janet Ferguson
Caroline Crump
Lesley McIntyre
Kate Hunter
Patrick Edwards
Roger Eyre
Sandra Baker

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dominic Bowyer and Simon Barber.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

4. Finance Update

Steve B gave an update on the current financial position, which can be summarised as follows;

- £2100 has been raised, and banked, as our contribution towards the consultants study,
- £50 has been raised, and banked, to cover the costs of the web site for the first year,
- £50 has been secured to cover bank charges for the first year,
- About £100 will be needed to pay for the water monitors in the Batch stream, and the All Stretton Village Society have agreed to meet this cost.
- £450 will be needed to cover the cost of the tree removal in Batch Valley. This has not yet been formally secured, and is covered in item 10 on the agenda,
- It is not anticipated that any further projects will require funding in this calendar year.

Over the Autumn and Winter, further research will be carried out into external sources of funding for the 'next round' of projects, likely to include further work on the Batch stream, and Natural Flood Management measures, further up the valley, subject to the recommendations of the Consultants study.

Andy M indicated that it may be possible for the Town Council to make an allocation in next years budget towards future costs, and that this may be extremely valuable if match funding is needed for external bids.

Steve B also confirmed that the Donate page on the web site is now active, and can accept payments through BACS, or debit and credit card payments through STRIPE.

5. Progress with survey

Andy M confirmed that the Town Council have instructed the consultants to proceed. The day to day contact with the consultants will be by the chairs of the three Flood Groups, (Mike Goode, Simon Barber and Peter Howarth). It was agreed that Mike G requests an update on progress from the consultants.

Lesley M asked if the survey would address the issue of flooding on Hall Meadow, and if this would be a recommendation of the study. Mike G confirmed that the study would not be recommending Hall Meadow as a flood plain.

6. All Stretton stream clearance

A working party has cleared a great deal of the overgrown and overhanging vegetation in the Batch Stream, between the Yew Tree Bridge and Dirty Lane. Although there is still some further work to do, the majority of the vegetation has been cleared.

Caroline C highlighted the need for Riparian rights and responsibilities to be clarified for the different watercourses in All Stretton. Steve B agreed to look into this.

7. National Trust Update

Patrick E gave an update of the works the National Trust have been undertaking in Batch Valley, including the installation of rock armour to repair the erosion damage near to Batch Cottage, and the work still to be done, including repairing the access to the National Trust field, near to the second ford.

8. Strettons Flood Forum Website

It was agreed that excellent progress had been made on creating the website, which is now live, and that thanks were due to Helen Stowell for the considerable amount of work she has put in. Mike G invited everyone to have a good look at the web site and come forward with comments, ideas, and suggestions. Andy M agreed to supply further photographs of flooding in All Stretton for the web site, and that the web site would be referred to in the next Stretton Focus. The web site has been publicised through the Village Hall newsletter, but it was agreed that further publicity was needed. It was agreed that we should also ask Abby Langley, at the National Flood Forum, to help publicise the web site.

9. All Stretton bridge clearance

The bridge clearance works had started at the time of the meeting, and were completed within three days. Before and after photos were taken, and will be added to the web site. Thanks to all those who have worked with, and lobbied, Shropshire Council for these works to be done. This is a significant achievement for the Forum, and local partners.

The issue of the damaged retaining wall further upstream, adjacent to Paroma, was discussed. Mike G agreed to contact Giles Beaumont to ensure that the correct consents were being obtained for the retaining wall to be repaired. It is understood that quotes for the work have already been obtained by the insurers.

10. Tree removal plans

Steve B confirmed that planning consent was granted on Tuesday 9th of September for the two trees to be felled. The decision can be seen on the planning portal (Number 25/03039/TCA).

Steve B also confirmed that, to date, the £450 needed to cover the costs had not been secured. It was believed that Margaret and Roger Stokes had 'informally' offered to cover half the cost, but this had not been formally agreed. Lesley M indicated that she could pay half the cost, although Mike G stated that this should be confirmed after the National Grid issue was resolved.

The various consultations with National Grid were discussed, although it appeared that conflicting messages were being received. Mike G agreed to contact National Grid to clarify the situation. It was agreed that, if possible, this should be in writing.

Once this was clear, the financial contributions could then be formally confirmed and the contractor appointed.

11. Any other business

The next Multi Agency meeting is scheduled for the 1st October 2025.

Janet F thanked the Committee for all their time and effort. This was appreciated.

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th October 2025, at 3.00, at the National Trust Tearoom, Cardingmill Valley.