

All Stretton Severn Trent Meeting and Walk Around **Notes 23rd February 2026**

Present:

Andy Munroe (Mayor) Mike Goode (flood forum) Steve Burrows (flood forum) Micheal Basnett (flood forum) Caroline Crump (All Stretton Village Society) Mary McKenzie (resident) Danny Robinson (resident) Jeremy Charlton (resident) Gwyneth Jones (resident) Lesley McIntyre (resident) Nicky Simcock (resident)

Representing Severn Trent: Jessica Hamlett (catchment network lead Shropshire) Andy Bradford (waste water) Micheal Keenan (regional wastewater lead).

Brief background: The pumping station at Farm Lane All Stretton has been emptied by tanker or tractor and tank for a period of around 4 months. Depending on the water levels the station has been emptied multiple times during the day and night. This caused significant disruption to the residents living on Farm Lane, Highways Lane and in the immediate vicinity. In addition damage to property, roads, verges etc occurred as part of the process. A meeting was called with Severn Trent to gain an understanding of the cause of the problem, how to improve the situation and plans for the future with a view to resolving the problems with the pumping station.

Problems with the Pumping Station

- Prolonged wet weather saturates the grounds and the water table rises. Ground water from around the local area e.g. Batch Valley infiltrates into the combined water system (ground water and sewage) causing an overload at the pumping station. If not emptied by tankers flooding and spillage of sewage would occur.
- The pump has not failed; it simply cannot manage the volume of water entering the pumping station following prolonged periods of rain.
- The electrical supply at the site is only sufficient to power the existing pump size.
- The pipes between All Stretton to Church Stretton are 150mm in width. This limits the capacity that can be pumped to Church Stretton.
- Larger pipes would increase the pressure in the wider system and would potentially cause flooding/spillage in Church Stretton.
- The treatment works are based in Little Stretton. Increased flow of water/sewage to the treatment works would potentially increase risk of flooding and spillage in Little Stretton.
- A whole system solution has to be taken in order not to move the problem from one part of the Strettons to another part of the Strettons.

Solutions

1. Keep ground water out of the whole system.
2. Severn Trent have over recent months undertaken to find where ground water is infiltrating into the system and has been sealing these off. 6 manhole covers in Batch Valley have so far been sealed.

3. Pipes along the Batch Valley have had lining inserted to prevent ground water infiltrating into the system.
4. An additional 480 meters of pipe lining is scheduled for Batch Valley on the 15th March. The road will need to close for this work.
5. Severn Trent is putting monitoring processes in place to record the water levels to better understand when the water table has risen to levels which puts the system under pressure.
6. Understanding what has changed with the local water levels/flow over recent years will help with solutions and plans for the future. It currently does not have this data.
7. Monitoring of water/sewage levels in the system have to be carried out in wet weather.
8. The pump at All Stretton will be replaced with a new pump on 25th February. Although the pump has not failed a newer version may be able to discharge more efficiently.
9. Severn Trent will share the pack of information it currently holds on water tables Including a geological study of the area.
10. Jessica Hamlett (catchment network lead) will be the communities main point of contact for Severn Trent.
- 11.. Jessica Hamlett will attend the next CS town council meeting on the 24th March to share progress and any updates.
12. Regular communication to go through CS town council and floodforum. This will be shared with the community.
13. Flooding/spillage occurring in private gardens/land will be addressed by Severn Trent with the property owners on an individual basis.

Walk Around

Severn Trent staff and representatives of the meeting walked and inspected the site and damage raised as part of the questions put to Severn Trent.

- The weight load capacity of the bridge on Farm Lane will be investigated by Severn Trent to understand if the bridge has been overloaded.
- Severn Trent will review the road on Starr lane and work with highways.
- The grit box will be replaced.
- The lanes were cleaned of mud on the 22nd February.
- If more pumping is required Severn Trent will try to ensure that a tanker not tractor is sent.
- They will let residents know when tankers are being sent out.
- Tankering was stopped on the 23rd February.
- Severn Trent is investigating installing an overflow tank which would relieve some of the pressure on the pumping station during high water times.

Plan B if the measures don't work

- A larger investment for the Stretton's would need to be put in place. This would be informed by a risk assessment based on the impact on customers and the environment.
- Severn Trent expressed an interest in working partnership with the local council and groups.