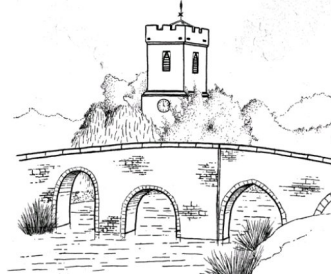


# BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

## In the County of Warwickshire



To all Members of the Planning Consultative Committee of the Council:

You are hereby summoned to attend a Consultative Planning Meeting of the Parish Council to be held in the Parish Meeting Room, Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7.30 pm to transact the following business

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

Elisabeth Uggerløse  
Clerk to the Parish Council



**Public Forum** - questions from members of the public. Please be aware that, although members of the public can raise any question concerning Planning issues, Council will only be able to respond to issues relating to the business to be transacted at the meeting. Approx. 15 minutes in total; 3 minutes per person. (Public Participation at Council Meeting Guidance Notes apply). Please note that this is the **only** opportunity members of the public have to raise issues as, once the meeting has started, all discussions are limited to the Council and Officers.

Plan Agenda June 2026

## AGENDA

1. **To receive and accept apologies**
2. **To receive declaration of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
  - i. All members of the Council are respectfully reminded that in order to comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022, and reviewed in May 2025, if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have declared an Interest, which could be personal or prejudicial, they should declare so and leave the room.
  - ii. Written requests for Dispensations for DPI should be received by the Clerk no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.  
Dispensations will be granted as appropriate.
3. **To approve** Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026
4. **To consider** the proposed Arrow Valley Solar Farm – report enclosed
5. **To consider** contracting consultant to assist in the response to Regulation 19 of the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP). Proposed cost £5,000 to include a potential heritage consultant.
6. **To note** the following replies to planning applications
  - i. **26/00566/FUL C/O Agent NCR, Unit 31B Bidavon Industrial Estate, Waterloo Road,**  
Retrospective application for the installation of an ATM and associated signage  
No Objection
  - ii. **26/00567/ADV C/O Agent NCR, Unit 31B Bidavon Industrial Estate, Waterloo Road**  
Retrospective application for the installation of 1 illuminated surround sign and 1 illuminated logo panel  
No Objection
7. **To consider** the following planning applications
  - i. **26/01085/FUL Mr and Mrs Aaron Middleton, 2 Cleeve Road, Marlcliff, B50 4NR**  
Change of use only of first floor, room above garage for commercial (Air BnB) tourist/holiday accommodation for maximum periods not exceeding two weeks (retrospective)  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/5b29569c-f0de-ce21-3b3a-08dea6adf287?route=/Home>

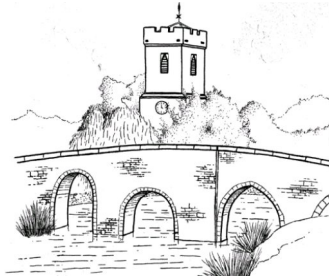
- ii. **26/01183/FUL Mr Carl Varney, Varney and Varney Homes, Land off Queen Elizabeth Way Bidford on Avon**  
Erection of 2 no detached dwellings with associated garages, access, parking and landscaping  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/db4c809f-26ae-c401-9577-08deb00a767a?route=/Home>
  - iii. **26/01355/TPO Mr Martin Wyatt, Pandora, Victoria Road B50 4AS**  
T1 Horse Chestnut: fell and replant nearby with a native British species. Dead with large fungus at base, peeling bark and little to no new growth from crown  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/2166cca3-93f2-ce70-a249-08debbf8f961?route=/Home>
- 8. To note** the following planning decisions
- i. **2600339?FUL Squires, 7 Howard Close, B50 4EL**  
Proposed ground and first floor side/rear extensions  
Permission granted
  - ii. **26/00475/TPO 5 Old School Mead, B50 4AW**  
T1 Lime – Reduce to height by 2.3 metres, reduce lateral limbs by 2 metres  
Permission granted
  - iii. **00632/FUL Mr David Haerle, Bramley Cottage, 23 High Street, Broom B50 4HL**  
Construction of new single storey rear extension  
Permission granted
- 9. To consider** River Avon water condition and purchase of testing equipment  
Reports enclosed  
Details of test kit cost  
[HANNA INSTRUMENTS Water Analysis | CPC UK](#)  
[HI-717 High Range Phosphate Colorimeter - Checker HC](#)
- 10. To note** updates on Local Nature Recovery Strategy

**Due to the sensitive nature of this item, the Council may resolve to exclude the public (Public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings Act) 1960 s1(2))**

- 11. To consider** full implications of SWLP

# BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

## In the County of Warwickshire



Minutes of the Consultative Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 @ 7.30 pm at the Parish Council Meeting Room

### **PRESENT**

Chairman	Cllr Cullum
Councillors	Barry, Bloor, Hopcraft, Lewis
In attendance	Mrs Elisabeth Uggerloese, Clerk to the Parish Council
Also present	District Cllr Fleming Approx 20 members of the public

**PUBLIC FORUM** - questions from members of the public. Please be aware that, although members of the public can raise any question concerning Planning issues, Council will only be able to respond to issues relating to the business to be transacted at the meeting. Approx. 15 minutes in total; 3 minutes per person. (Public Participation at Council Meeting Guidance Notes apply). Please note that this is the **only** opportunity members of the public have to raise issues as, once the meeting has started, all discussions are limited to the Council and Officers  
*Issues raised are noted after the signed Minutes*

### **1. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES**

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Hiscocks and Williams

### **2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

- i. All members of the Council are respectfully reminded that in order to comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022, and reviewed in May 2025, if any matter arises during the meeting in which they have declared an Interest, which could be personal or prejudicial, they should declare so

and leave the room.

None

- ii. Written requests for Dispensations for DPI should be received by the Clerk no more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Dispensations will be granted as appropriate.

*None received*

### **3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

Cllr Hopcraft proposed the Minutes be accepted as being accurate

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes be approved and be signed by the Chairman

### **4. TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING REPLIES TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- i. **SDC/26CM003** – installation of two Motor Control Centre (MCC) Kiosks and one Sludge Thickening Unit (STU) to house equipment for sewage undertaking, South of Salford Road B50 4EU  
No objection
- ii. **24/03145/FUL Petrol Filling Station 95 High Street Bidford-on-Avon Alcester B50 4BD**  
Maintain objection to ingress and egress points of the site/request modelling due to the high level of vehicle movements on Salford Road.

### **5. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- i. **25/00415/OUT Land North of Salford Road**  
Outline Planning application with all matters reserved except access to the site, for up to 110 dwellings and associated green space, biodiversity enhancements and associated works; and demolition of properties related to Marriage Hill Farm and No. 26 Salford  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/44d537df-2920-c1d6-97b0-08dd5bf02133?route=/Home>  
Please refer to Highways reply  
**RESOLVED** to maintain the objection on the grounds of loss of agricultural land and traffic concerns
- ii. **EN0110033 Arrow Valley solar Limited**  
This application for Scoping consultation has been sent by the Planning Inspectorate  
Application for an Order granting development consent for the Arrow Valley Solar (proposed development)  
Details can be found on applicant's website  
<https://arrowvalleysolar.co.uk/>  
After some discussion, taking into account comments made by attending members of the public, it was  
**RESOLVED** to work with affected neighbouring local councils to reply to the scoping report

- ii. **26/00503/FUL Agent Louna Properties (Warwickshire) Ltd Avon House, Bidavon Insustrial Estate, Waterloo road**  
change of use from Public worship (Class F1(i) to Class B8 (storage and distribution) and Class E (commercial Business and Service)  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/66f1f5ce-3e5a-cc52-3ff6-08de79e64974?route=/Home>  
**RESOLVED** no objection
- iii. **26/00561/LDE Mr Nic Allen Avon Estates Ltd, Dovecote Riverside Caravan Park, Welford road, Barton**  
Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development of “continuous use of the site for boat moorings”  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/6235e31f-c9c6-c486-e6b8-08de80ea1d6e?route=/Home>  
**RESOLVED** no objection
- iv. **26/00632/FUL Mr David Haerle, Bramley Cottage, 23 High Street, Broom B50 4HL**  
Construction of a single storey rear extension  
Link to application  
<https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanningv2/AppDetail/Index/f7990a4c-0774-c9c8-a2c4-08de7f7f9a51?route=/Home>  
**RESOLVED** no objection

## 6. TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING PLANNING DECISIONS

- i. **25/0`1340/FUL Greenacres, Waterloo Road, B50 4JP**  
Use of land for stationing 10no residential park homes for persons 55 and over with associated landscaping and ancillary development  
**Permission Refused**
- ii. **25/02335/OUT Glendale Nurseries, Bidford Road, Broom B50 4HF**  
Outline planning permission with al matters reserved except access for the demolition of existing buildings and development or commercial units in a mix of Class E(g) (Offices Research and Development and Ligh Industrial Processes) Class B2 (general Industrial) and B8 (Storage and Distribution) uses, car parking, hard and soft landscaping and associated works  
**Permission refused**
- iii. **25/02616/FUL Mrs D King, 29 Cleeve Road, Marlcliff B50 4NX**  
Proposed rear 2 storey extension and internal alteration  
Permission granted
- iv. **26/00593/AGNOT Mr Daniel Broadhurst Mill Cottage Farm, Mill Cottage, Bidford Grange, B50 4LY**  
**Prior Approval of Permitted Development refused**

**RESOLVED** to note

**7. TO NOTE UPDATES ON LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY**

- i. B50 Wild Life Summary – circulated  
**RESOLVED** to note

Meeting ended at approx. 8.10 pm

Chairman .....

Date .....

**Public Forum issues**

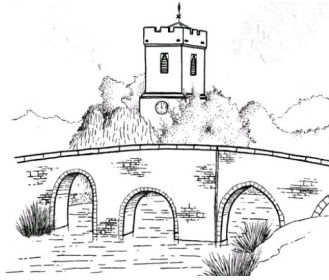
Issues were raised regarding the proposed solar farm which would be affecting residents of Broom.

Main concerns were:

- Proximity to dwellings
- Wildlife
- Size
- Loss of agricultural land
- Flooding

# **BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **In the County of Warwickshire**



### **ITEM 4 – ARROW VALLEY PROPOSED SOLAR FARM**

The Parish Council website has a dedicated site to this issue, which can be found at <https://bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk/arrow-valley-solar-farm/>

This includes Council's reply to the Scoping report as well as an Assessment of the Planning Inspector's Report.

As resolved at the April meeting, the Parish Council is working closely with neighbouring local councils that are also effected by this proposed development, specially Salford Priors: Broom, Bidford PC and Dunnington, Salford Priors PC, are particularly affected.

A meeting took place on 12<sup>th</sup> May with Salford Priors, Arrow with Wheetley and Abbots Morton parish councils during with formative discussions were held and detailed observations were provided regarding solar panels.

The PINS Report has identified a number of unresolved environmental, technical and cumulative impact matters, including (though not limited to) flood risk and water environment, ecology and biodiversity, agricultural land classification and Best and Most Versatile (BMV) soils, landscape and visual impacts, human health consideration, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) safety, tourism and recreative impacts and construction related traffic and emissions. It was also noted that PINS frequently identified "insufficient information" in the applicants submission, requiring further details assessment during the Development consent Order (DCO) process.

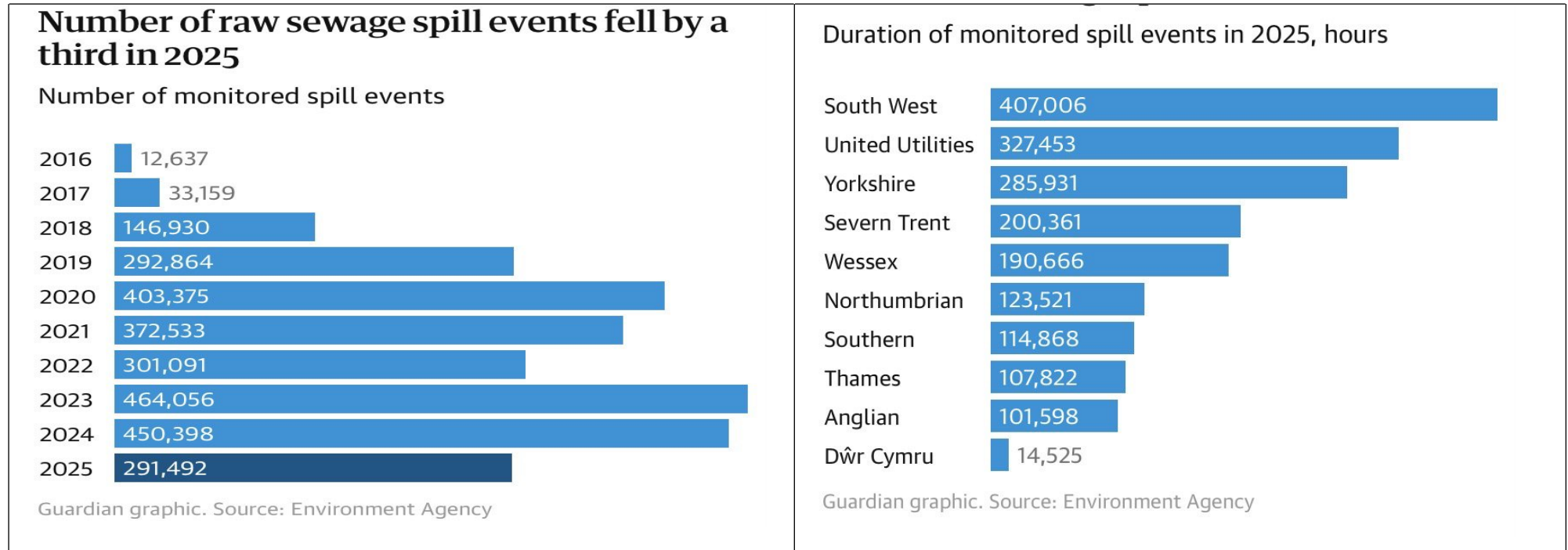
To note

- Bidford on Avon is one of the affected authorities within the NSIP boundary and is already recognised within the process through reference to its Neighbourhood Development Plan

- The technical complexity of the NSIP process requires specialist professional input to ensure effective representation
- A coordinated approach with neighbouring local councils would strengthen cumulative impact arguments and improve efficiency
- There is a risk that inadequate technical representation could weaken the collective position of those communities that will be affected by this development

**This council consider the following proposals**

- :
- i. To support a strategic approach for a coordinated evidence led response to the Arrow Valley Sola Farm NSIP
  - ii. To agree in principle to appointing specific consultants to cover
    - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and fire safety risk
    - Agricultural land and agri-economy impacts
    - Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)
    - Public health and wellbeing impacts
    - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
  - iii. To support engagement with neighbouring parish councils to establish a shared commissioning and evidence sharing arrangement
  - iv. To allocate funds, in principle, to support the appointing of specialist consultants as above – costs to be advised once indicative quotations have been obtained
  - v. To support the exploration of supplementary funding mechanisms, including community fundraising, subject to appropriate governance controls
  - vi. To nominate 3 councillors as a Arrow Valley Solar Farm WG
  - vii. To confirm Salford Priors Parish Council as the lead coordinating authority for inter-parish liaison on this matter



Raw sewage was discharged into rivers and seas almost 300,000 times last year after the driest spring for more than 100 years and the sunniest and warmest year on record in [England](#). Water companies released raw sewage into rivers and seas from storm overflows – designed to be used in extreme wet weather conditions – 291,492 times. This was a 35% reduction on record spills in 2024. Average discharges were 20.5 spills for each overflow, compared with 31.8 in the previous year.

### Severn Trent Spills 2012 - 2025

Location Overflow	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Severn Trent	59,662	461,119	44,751	249,111	60,253	440,446	62,085	454,155	36,471	200,361

**River Avon (based on overflows with monitoring: STW / The rivers trust 2019 - 2025)**

Location Overflow	2019 spills	2019 hours	2020 spills	2020 hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Warwick (Longbridge)	X	X	51	560	71	737	50	444	96	1,171	87	840	29	215
Wellsbourn	X	X	62	679	84	1655	-	-	-	-	224	4,007	87	1509
Tiddington	42	94	20	16	4	2	1	1	9	5	7	22	3	5
Stratford-Shipston road	6	4	0	0	5	1	-	-	2	2	7	31	7	24
-Stratford-Banbury road	6	4	2	4	1	1	-	-	2	2	11	109	-	-
Stratford-Bridgeway	7	36	11	24	8	13	8	6	14	18	22	162	-	-
Stratford-Paddock Lane	23	72	X	X	42	175	35	108	62	253	58	325	20	142
Milcote	74	1206	49	583	33	372	5	19	45	480	36	489	26	193
Weston on Avon	X	X	X	X	56	490	40	112	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lower Binton Evesham road	0	0	18	150	45	578	29	169	66	778	88	1062	-	-
<b>Welford on Avon- Boat Lane</b>	35	174	34	135	49	259	-	-	-	-	61*	613*	30	175
Barton road	22	67	6	17	14	56	8	10	19	53	22	71	14	17
Bidford on Avon-High St.	44	925	X	X	4	3	49	26	45	192	61	422	-	-

<b>Location Overflow</b>	<b>2019 spills</b>	<b>2019 hours</b>	<b>2020 spills</b>	<b>2020 hours</b>	<b>2021 spills</b>	<b>2021 Hours</b>	<b>2022 spills</b>	<b>2022 Hours</b>	<b>2023 spills</b>	<b>2023 Hours</b>	<b>2024 spills</b>	<b>2024 Hours</b>	<b>2025 spills</b>	<b>2025 Hours</b>
Merryfields Farm	60	1099	26	385	0	0	-	-	14	123	52	861	-	-
<b>Bidford on Avon Treatment works</b>	130	2013	162	2249	163	3204	31	49	77	615	192*	3,040*	6	29
Evesham-Burford road	10	2	8	1	10	4	7	2	2	0.1	4	0.3	4	0.5
Evesham-Lower Leys	6	12	4	13	22	56	11	3	10	5	6	1.12	9	2
Evesham-Battleton Park	28	48	30	139	20	125	20	18	20	35	39	206	17	48
Evesham-Waterside	7	15	7	11	2	1	10	16	8	12	2	4	9	8
Evesham-Abbey road	30	159	22	138	32	154	31	44	18	45	35	153	10	66
<b>Evesham-Hampton syphon</b>	30	121	17	160	28	131	7	17	-	-	30*	172*	6	58
Evesham-Pershore road	39	376	31	129	30	71	29	36	39	58	45	71	30	17
Evesham-Avon St.	66	131	61	107	62	101	60	78	10	16	58	152	43	72
Evesham-Hampton Park	71	445	56	404	44	302	37	123	36	192	54	607	20	183
Crothorn	31	186	2	27	8	43	4	4	15	127	32	302	6	44
Lower moor	117	1795	136	2299	103	1536	103	995	198	3,063	225	4,428	18	313
Pershore-Wyre road	60	959	119	2447	32	462	30	266	54	700	86	553	21	187

Location Overflow	2019 spills	2019 hours	2020 spills	2020 hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Pershore-Defford road	1	6	7	20	16	12	26	26	44	103	52	134	34	118
<b>Defford</b>	63	254	47	270	38	146	35	188	36	150	34*	252*	26	202
Eckington-Mill Lane	6	47	13	107	21	175	5	8	21	60	36	156	13	38
Bredon	6	4	5	14	6	7	2	2	-	-	6	25	4	18
Twyning	117	2159	88	1453	133	2696	82	1229	91	1,340	149	1,883	49	533
Tewkesbury-Red lane	0	0	9	66	2	0	3	1	2	0.5	8	10	-	-
Tewkesbury-Tolsey lane	3	18	11	98	5	1	6	21	2	0.3	10	6	2	1
<b>Tewkesbury-Lower Lode SPS</b>	139	2312	99	1304	81	816	73	529	86	965	110	1,292	61	551
<b>Tewkesbury-Lower lode STW</b>	60	1100	56	1137	51	884	37	558	57	1,020	41*	551*	36	669

- \*Welford on Avon- Boat Lane; This monitor only operated for 68% of the year
- \*Bidford on Avon Treatment works; This monitor only operated for 81% of the year
- \*Evesham-Hampton syphon; This monitor only operated for 63% of the year
- \*Defford; This monitor only operated for 73% of the year
- \* Tewkesbury-Lower Lode 2; This monitor only operated for 44% of the year

## River Isbourne

Location Overflow	2020 spills	2020 Hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Vineyard St	12	37	2	2	0	0	1	1	4	3.6	1	0.2
<b>Winchcombe STW</b>	68	675	23	221	12	84	40	206	56	<b>421</b>	29	142
Toddington STW	66	546	68	426	44	1532	24	112	74	478	18	113
Wormington STW	45	222	20	6	2	1	18	15	--	-	4	4
4Sedgeberrow STW	4	37	1	8	0	0	2	5	4	14.7	3	11
Hilton on the Green STW	114	392	161	196	227	1314	0	0	100	591	15	71
Pershore rd. CSO	31	129	30	71	29	36	39	58	45	71	30	17

**Winchcombe STW;** This monitor only operated for 53% of the year

### River Stour

Location Overflow	2020 spills	2020 Hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Clifford Chambers							8	73	28	272	10	87
Mill House PS (Crimcot)	18	76	24	99	23	56	45	236	76	828	17	119
Mill Lane PS Halford	7	68	8	47	2	5	18	135	22*	190*	11	71
Cadlewell PS Sipton	9	59	1	1	1	4	33	273	51	538	29	304
Cherington	80	1233	119	1929	84	1010	173	3,558	131*	2,397*	44	568

- \*Mill Lane PS; This monitor only operated for 86% of the year
- \*Cherington; This monitor only operated for 80% of the year

**Carrant Brook**

Location Overflow	2020 spills	2020 Hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Gt Washbourne	42	356	45	441	34	178	44	219	128	1,088	33	306
Beckford	107	2061	88	1297	67	835	56	410	61	510	37	521
Kemerton PS (Brook)	26	259	73	655	41	163	92	739	118	1,725	44	534
Kemerton Mill	8	26	24	29	13	6	21	27	30	64	19	50

**Tirle Brook**

Location Overflow	2020 spills	2020 Hours	2021 spills	2021 Hours	2022 spills	2022 Hours	2023 spills	2023 Hours	2024 spills	2024 Hours	2025 spills	2025 Hours
Woolstone			125	605	33	90	79	349	105	735	28	129
Teddington			135	1128	51	423	112	988	145	1804	53	342
Ashchurch			4	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



## SafeAvon.org.uk Update Spring 2026

### Why SafeAvon?

In 2025 there were over 386,000 discharges of untreated sewage into UK rivers, totalling over 2,651,969 hours of pollution. Despite drought conditions across the country, this dumping of raw sewage highlights the impact of Water Companies failure to invest in infrastructure over the long term. The Environmental Agency (EA) said much of the reduction was down to the dry weather and emphasised that sustained maintenance and investment in water industry drainage networks was needed to bring lasting improvements. The UK is consistently ranked as one of the worst countries in Europe for water quality, over three quarters of our rivers fail to meet required health standards and face multiple threats.

The poorly maintained sewage system uses Storm Overflows from treatment works, pumping stations and combined sewer overflows from the sewer network to dump raw sewage into our rivers. Lack of investment by water companies means the existing infrastructure can't cope, which leads to the dumping of untreated sewage into our waterways on a regular basis.

Treated and untreated sewage is the greatest threat to river biodiversity and according to research causes more damage than runoff from farms (Ref. the combined effect of treated sewage discharge and land use on rivers; Albin, et.al.).

### What are we testing

- **Electrical Conductivity (EC):** Conductivity is the ability of water to conduct electricity, which depends on the impurities in the water and is affected by temperature. When a sewage leak or agricultural runoff occurs, it increases the EC because of additional ions such as chloride, phosphate, and nitrate.
- **Nitrates:** High levels of nitrate in water can be a result of runoff or leakage from fertilized soil, wastewater / sewage, landfills, septic systems, or urban drainage. Nitrate is an essential nutrient, but high concentration in rivers cause serious damage to aquatic ecosystems.
- **Phosphate:** Excessive phosphorus in water can cause explosive growth of aquatic plants and algae. Leading to a variety of water-quality problems, low dissolved oxygen concentrations causing fish to die & harm other aquatic life. Phosphate (a good measure of sewage pollution) is an essential nutrient, but high concentration cause's serious damage to aquatic ecosystems.



## Interpreting results

### Phosphate\*<sup>1</sup> – Orthophosphate (PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>) as measured by Hanna Colorimeter

<b>High</b>	<b>Good Ecological Status</b>	<b>Moderate/ Poor</b>
<b>&lt; 0.077 ppm</b>	<b>0.077 – 0.306 ppm</b>	<b>&gt; 0.306 ppm</b>

### Nitrate\*<sup>2</sup> – as measured by WaterWorks/Haan Nitrate Test Strips

<b>Natural</b>	<b>Elevated</b>	<b>Excessive</b>
<b>&lt; 1 ppm</b>	<b>1 – 4.9 ppm</b>	<b>≥ 5 ppm</b>

ppm = parts per million

### Why are we testing

**Treated sewage released** by water companies into rivers and untreated effluent / sewage that is dumped in rivers via storm overflows are the primary drivers of increased nutrients, algae, and sewage fungus in rivers. Poorly, or untreated sewage cause digestive problems. Linked to the transmission of diarrhoea, dysentery, hepatitis A, and typhoid. Inadequate, or inappropriately managed water and sanitation services constantly expose individuals to preventable health risks

**River ecosystem and its biodiversity:** *Eutrophication*: excessive richness or nutrients in a body of water cause a dense growth of plant life. This deprives species of oxygen, with knock-on effects for other species. Rivers are a naturally low nutrients environment, excessive nutrients lead to excessive growth in invasive species, damaging the natural environment.

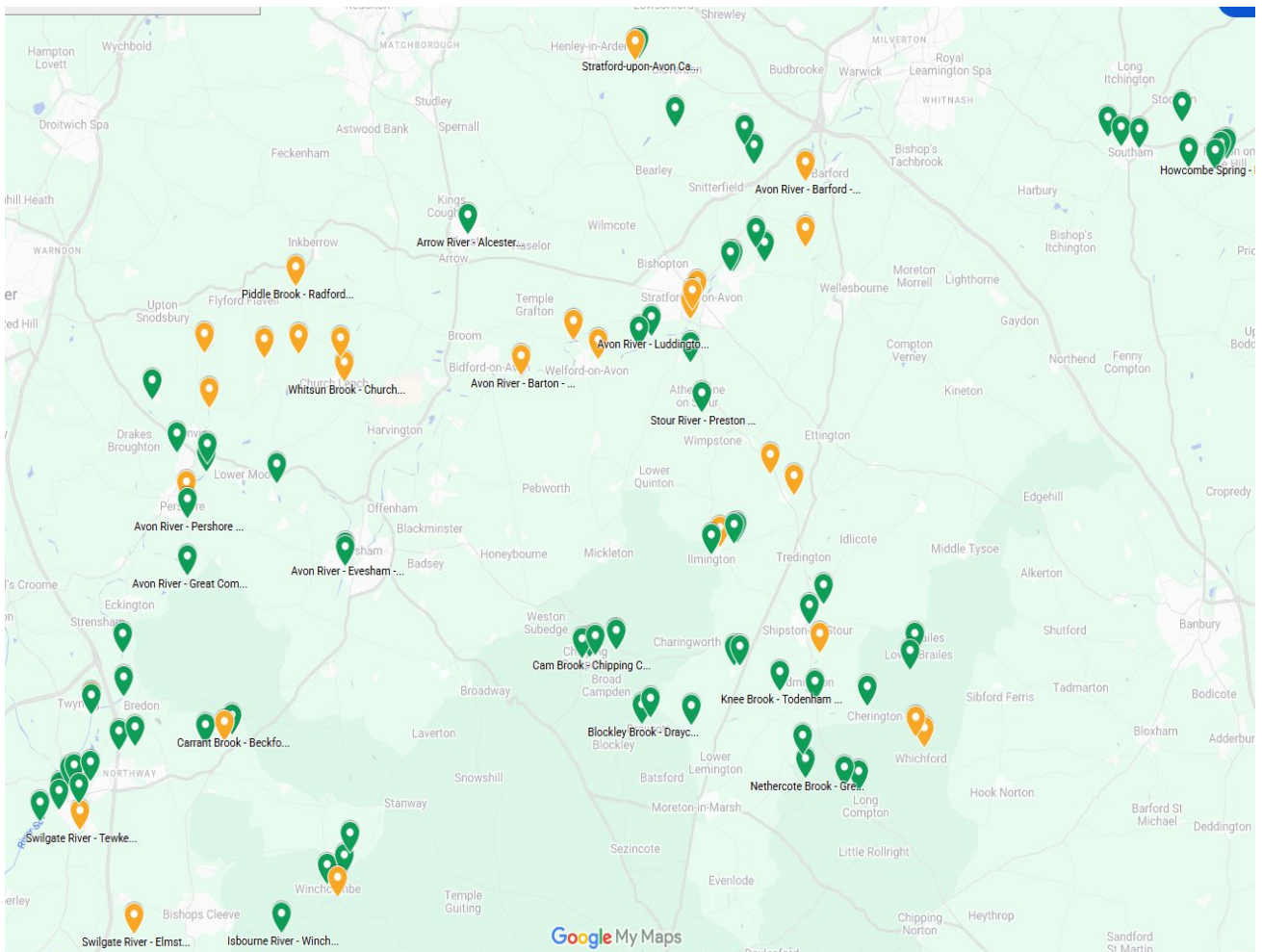
**Bacteria and parasites:** Antimicrobial-resistant (AMR) infections currently claim at least 700,000 lives globally– with an estimate of global mortality from AMR across the world by 2050 a staggering 10 million per year. This would represent a greater death toll than cancer and diabetes combined. [Health and Social Care Committee, Antimicrobial resistance, Eleventh Report of Session 2017–19]. Once we have superbugs which are resistant to all known drugs - and we are fast approaching that point - safe surgery, and safe childbirth, will be impossible. even a scratch, can become fatal.

**Farm Pollution:** Agriculture is a major source of diffuse water pollution (non-point source) because it covers a large area, and the pollutants are essential parts of livestock and arable farming. The farming rules for water focus mainly on the storage and distribution of animal waste and fertiliser to prevent damaging pollutants from farms running into rivers where they can cause algae blooms that lead to oxygen depletion.



## SafeAvon Summary

Headline Statistics		Further Statistics	Count	% of entries
Number of entries	4129	Phosphate measurements	4089	99.0%
Number of sites sampled	108	<i>of which low range meter</i>	4010	97.1%
Number of active sites (<6mo ago)	52	<i>of which high range meter</i>	79	1.9%
Number of contributors	95	<i>no measurement taken</i>	40	1.0%
First entry	Wed 5 Jul 2023	Nitrate measurements	4081	98.8%
Most recent entry	Thu 9 Apr 2026	<i>no measurement taken</i>	47	1.1%
Project span	2 years 279 days	Conductivity measurements	4048	98.0%
		<i>no measurement taken</i>	81	2.0%
		Temperature measurements	4100	99.3%
		<i>no measurement taken</i>	29	0.7%





### **What needs to be done:**

- Water companies need to provide full transparency of their data and methods, and to allow independent scientists access, as no one knows for sure what they are doing and how they go about it.
- Stop the spills of raw sewage, 100%. Fix the leaks in the pipes and tanks at the sewage works. Hugely increase the holding capacity of the ponds -as has been done with the super sewer in London. Make sure that the discharge monitors and the control gates are all working - as they are frequently broken.
- Fully fund and ensure the Environmental Agency enforce current environmental legislation (\*OEP report Dec. 2025).
- **Longer term:** Treatment of effluent with UV or ozone – as they do in Switzerland and in the EU by 2035.

### **How can you help**

Write to your MP and tell them how you feel about your Water Companies polluting your communities for high shareholder dividends and bonuses.

If you would like to know more [SafeAvon.org.uk](http://SafeAvon.org.uk) or [geoffsallis@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffsallis@btinternet.com)

\*The Office of Environmental Protection (OEP) December 2025 says that the law is clear - but Defra, EA and Ofwat have not applied the law. The OEP has clarified that exceptional circumstances mean ...you guessed it ...exceptional; not as interpreted by Defra and the regulators to date which is that exceptional circumstances are reached when there is a lack of capacity in the sewage system.

*"Our investigation found that there had been failures to comply with environmental law by each of the three public authorities relating to the regulation of network CSOs. Decision notices were issued to them setting out the actions required to address the non-compliances. We welcomed responses from them which showed positive action to address the concerns raised and significant progress being made. "* <https://www.theoep.org.uk/report/oep-reports-investigation-regulation-combined-sewer-overflows>

**Environment Agency 24-hour Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60**