

BSPDG Update - July & August 2026

A meeting took place on 27/05/26 between BSPDG and Thames Water. Also in attendance were members of Berrick Salome Parish Council and a representative from the office of Freddie van Mierlo. Thames Water fielded a significant number of staff and ensured relevant representatives from McAllister were also present.

To summarise:

1. The final work on the lining and sealing of the sewer in Roke/Rokemarsh, was planned for the first week of June. This took place as scheduled. BSPDG assumes this completes Phase 1 of improvement works to the parish sewer network – TW has been requested to confirm this.
2. The impact of Phase 1 works will be measured using data from
 - Rokemarsh Pumping Station
 - Flow meter installed close to the T-Junction
 - Previous winters (25/26 still being gathered on meeting date)

Groundwater ingress is the key datapoint.

3. Road and verge repairs were discussed. McAllister has been co-ordinating with OCC Highways on behalf of TW. Jim Whitworth offered his assistance in trying to expedite matters and BSPDG has since been made aware that events may now be progressing. Areas of road in Roke and Rokemarsh have been paint marked, indicating where repairs need to be made. Latest news is that McAllister have engaged a suitably experienced sub-contractor and the appropriate team at TW have been instructed to secure the first possible road closures (which can take time) to enable the work to take place.
4. The lining and sealing completed to-date, covers only 40% of the parish network. TW acknowledged this. There are no firm plans for Phase 2. Any further work requires a business case and funding approved within TW.

BSPDG stressed that:

- The problems faced within the parish are not new
 - Multiple surveys/investigations have been made by TW over the years
 - Our system is self-contained and relatively small
 - As such, it should not take significant resources to line and seal 100% of TW's assets within our network. TW needs to compare that to the ongoing and historical costs of tankering in order to relieve pressure on the system.
5. Phase 1 works have been managed by the Capital Projects Team within TW. With the works complete, that team now moves on and hands day to day over to Operations. BSPDG now has to develop a relationship with new team/contacts.
 6. Another meeting is scheduled during August. BSPDG objectives will be:
 - Push TW for performance data and review
 - Maintain pressure for road repairs if not completed by then
 - Build a case for Phase 2 and working further upstream towards Berrick