

ANGLIAN WATER TALK – 14th SEPTEMBER 2026

Securing Lincolnshire's Water Future- from Source to Tap.

There was a good turnout for our September meeting with many members arriving early to help us get the Community Room set up ready for a prompt start. There had been a late change to the programme as the Regional Manager was unexpectedly unable to attend but the Anglian Water representatives that came in his place proved to be a young, enthusiastic and well-prepared trio from different teams in the company: Stakeholder Engagement (Tom Fenwick); Collaborative Solutions (Julia Watson) and Drainage and Waste Water Management Plan (Kelly Lorking).

They were certainly on top of their brief as they each talked in detail about their areas of responsibility. These included Anglian Water's Strategic Management Plan to address the challenges of maintaining the quality and security of the water supply in the East of England which is considered the largest, fastest-growing and driest region in the country but actually has very varied conditions.

The Raw Water Reservoir planned for the south of our county between Sleaford and Boston was a subject that proved close to the hearts of many in the audience. Still at the consultation stage, there was a lot of work being undertaken to ensure that the communities and businesses in the area were well-informed about the scope of this project, the need for a raw water storage facility to ensure continuity of supply in the region and the opportunities that this would create for the local population.

This naturally led to the work of the third speaker who project managed the Drainage and Waste Water Management Plan which, following recent news of unrepaired leaks locally at a time when ironically hosepipe bans were in place, where polluted water supplies threatened both wildlife and humans alike, where bills were rising etc. could have led to a heated debate. In fact our audience presented their many challenging questions with respect as well as impressive knowledge and understanding of the subject.

The AW team responded to them with equal respect and politeness and with a palpable passion for their work and that of their colleagues. What was planned as a Q&A became a lively, wide-ranging and good-humoured discussion in which unanswered questions were acknowledged by our speakers and taken away to be responded to by their appropriate professional colleagues. Some of our members' proposed suggestions that may be presented to the appropriate team leaders in Anglian Water as potential solutions! We look forward to receiving their replies.

Heather Frier