

**From:** Rachael Followell-Mattin  
**Sent:** Monday, November 1, 2021 07:44  
**To:** David Watson (Cllr) <David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>; Stuart Wilson (Cllr) <Stuart.Wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Customer Feedback <customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Little Marlow STW - Pipes into Country Park Lakes

[Please note this has been sent from an external source - treat with caution and do not open attachments / use links until you are sure this is a trusted communication see intranet/IT for advice.]

Morning David

Hope you are well?

After speaking with the "older" members of the team at Little Marlow, they informed me the pipes were used to remove ground water from the site in order to construct the new works approx. 20 years ago. These pipes were left in. The pipes are capped off at both ends so they are not discharging into the lake.

Photos from Friday of the secure pipes from inside the Sewage treatment works and to the Lake.



Figure 1, Image of two pipes taken on public footpath.



Figure 2, Image taken from Little Marlow site and shows proximity of pipes to footpath.



Figure 3, Image taken from Little Marlow STW site shows two pipes are secure and blocked off. (I'm unsure when they were made secure but it might be worth stating how many years ago)

If you then walk along the footpath to find the previous access point of the pipes into the Spade Oak Nature Reserve.



Figure 4, Image of the two pipes old access point which is covered in vegetation.



Figure 5, Image of the two pipes old access point zoomed in. (Dry leaves further suggest there is nothing coming out).

I hope this answers the question?

We also saw the notices about the algae bloom on the Spade Oak reserve signs, I hear it is a problem in a number of places around the country at the moment.

We do not pump anything into the lake, we discharge to the River Thames and the River Wye up at High Wycombe from Little Marlow Sewage treatment works.

David do you know if the investigations into the wildlife has been concluded, it would be good to understand, it is terrible.

Kind regards

Rachael

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**From:** David Watson (Cllr) <[David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:David.Watson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 27 October 2021 22:51  
**To:** Rachael Followell-Mattin <[Rachael.F.M@thameswater.co.uk](mailto:Rachael.F.M@thameswater.co.uk)>  
**Cc:** Stuart Wilson (Cllr) <[Stuart.Wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:Stuart.Wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Little Marlow STW - Pipes into Country Park Lakes

Dear Rachael,

I would be grateful if you could assist my councillor colleague with his question as detailed in the attached email.

Thank you in anticipation.

Regards  
David Watson  
Flackwell Heath, Little Marlow and Marlow SE

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**From:** Stuart Wilson (Cllr) <[Stuart.Wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:Stuart.Wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:20 pm  
**To:** David Watson (Cllr)  
**Subject:** Little Marlow STW - Pipes into Country Park Lakes

Hi David,

Obviously a lot of interest in sewage in recent days. I will be interested to see what transpires in the Commons vote this evening.

I have received some questions below - I wonder if your knowledge of the site or contacts can provide a quick answer please?



We went for a family walk alongside the Treatment works yesterday in Little Marlow and came across these x2 pipes which feed into the Spade Oak Nature park lake.

They come out from the fence which runs alongside the path (which we were informed by local residents also out walking gets flooded with sewage when it rains heavily), the area which I have highlighted in red on the picture. Then when you look out onto the lake you can clearly see the water being moved where liquid is coming out onto the lake (I presume from the pipes).

We know where the outlet pipe that comes out into the Thames is located but did not know that they also 'possibly pump out liquid into the lake.

Also, we noticed just how much algal bloom there is on the lake, and found out that Lake Windermere at the Lake District has the same issue:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/oct/08/sewage-could-leave-windermere-lake-ecologically-dead>

**Are you aware of these pipes? Could you be so kind as to confirm what they are?**

Because to have sewage pumped into a nature reserve surely can not be good for the environment, especially after reading about this story from the BFP recently:

<https://www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/news/19592532-huge-death-toll-wildlife-spade-oak-nature-reserve-little-marlow/>

Kind regards, Stuart

Clr Stuart Wilson  
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