

**Copy of Letter sent To Gloucestershire County Council communications and sent to Richard Trelfa  
Chairman of Gloucester City Environment and Ecology Forum by Brian Furnis. December 4<sup>th</sup> 2014.**

*This is a typed version of the original hand written letter.*

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11.7.13

Dear Sirs

**LFRMS Consultation**

Regarding your flood risk strategy form I feel I am not qualified to judge your plans but for a long time I've harboured some of my own and would appreciate your response to my ideas.

1, A rectangular area of land cornered by Tewkesbury, Coombe Hill, Cheltenham plus one. I believe this could be a site for a water park similar to that at Somerford Keynes. Once the area has been defined excavation and digging would provide the lakes and sluicing system. The Cheltenham sand and gravel deposits could be used later and surplus soil and clay could provide some undulating surface area; possibly landfill waste could be added if needed to provide some artificial hills similar to the one at Aztec West Bristol by the M5.

The scheme would endeavour to prevent flooding in the Tewkesbury, Forthampton, Chaceley Bishops Norton, Wainlodes, Longford, Alney and Plock Court areas. Aids would include River Swilgate, Dean Brook, Tirl Brook, Coombe Canal and Carrant Brook. Road access is good and M5 motorway close. Birmingham is in easy reach. Work would provide jobs during implementation; all earth can be deposited on site with no other disposal journeys necessary.

**Gains and Spin Offs**

- a) Tourism.
- b) Watersports, fishing etc.
- c) Stables and equestrian facilities close to Cheltenham Racecourse.
- d) Hotel (s), Restaurants and sports shop(s).
- e) Holiday and other property lets and sales.
- f) Wildlife and horticultural activities.

g) Business rates and council tax generated for councils.

h) Increased value of nearby properties.

i) Possible additional reservoir for Cheltenham water supply.

None of my ideas is invention. I am plagiarising a created park from gravel pits. The required work has been performed before as at Sandgate Marshland for Eurotunnel .These notes are outline but experts could develop this scheme.

2, Frampton area on A38 south of Gloucester similar to Cheltenham but much smaller scale. A series of lakes, to complement the one already at Frampton, and interconnecting canals and sluices joined to those existing and possibly the river Severn.

Financial outlay for this scheme would not be excessive. The land is gravel pits and marsh in quite virgin condition.

Removal of gravel could be accelerated; the surplus being used for construction on site and or sold to developers for use on housing schemes nearby.

Again this plan is not a new one; it copies the gravel pits transformation at Cerney Lakes. Here we could encourage canal boat activity connected to Saul Junction and Gloucester Sharpness canal. Proximity to the Severn could be useful.

In simple terms my intentions are;-

1. Flood alleviation
- 2, Productive use of surplus water
- 3, Balancing the situation of; a) too much and, b) to little water.
- 4, Creating beautiful rural areas desirable to both visitors and residents.
- 5, Bringing money to Gloucestershire.

I would appreciate your views on my scheme.

In passing, I would mention that I was inspired by William Dregghorns's book "Geology explained in the Severn Vale and Cotswolds". It was recommended to me by Bristol University "Fossil Hunters" on Robinswood Hill Quarry.

Robert Burns

