

LONDON ROAD AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



To Inspector Simon Emerson (B&NES Core Strategy)
via Chris Banks - Programme Officer

Acacia Lodge
Kensington Place
Bath BA1 6AP

Re:- Batheaston Compensatory Flood Storage BNES/34

Thank you for the opportunity for further comment on the above document.

If this submission holds water (!) it suggests that flood mitigation works at Bathampton Water Meadows can compensate for virtually ALL riverside development downstream in Bath.

We do not know whether this strategy will be effective, but at least it is upstream of the World Heritage Site. You may recall the historic analogy made with the Maginot Line and our concern that the 'last ditch' flood mitigation could be undertaken WITHIN the World Heritage Site (ie at Kensington Meadows). We ask, therefore, that B&NES and WYG withdraw any reference to, or suggestion that Kensington Meadows as a possible mitigation site be deleted on the basis 1) of Soundness and 2) joined up thinking so as to Conform with the revised CP6 (2) and CP6 Delivery (ref 43 and 44) of CP6.E2.2 and 3) of being no longer necessary.

Furthermore we wish to repeat our previous concerns regarding this strategy –

- 1) Funding – one estimate suggested that tipping 393,000 tons of excavated material @ £80 tonne tipping charge equates to £31.44 million - plus the cost of excavation ! However, at the Inquiry, the B&NES officer assured the Inspector that funding “was not a problem” and had been agreed “last week”. Can we be certain of this ? Is this documented in print or simply hearsay ?
- 2) Costs of maintenance and upkeep remain unanswered.
- 3) The long term issue of siltage is also unanswered. We are not reassured by BNES/34 para 10 assertion regarding “this sort of arrangement”.

Many other concerns are simply “parked” (to use the Inspector’s turn of phrase) by WYG in paragraph 12.

David Dunlop
Chairman LoRARA
Vice Chairman The Bath Society

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