

**From:** [REDACTED]  
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I live next to the canal at Chalford and have done for some 40 years. I revel in the beauty of this end of the canal and the enjoyment and inspiration of seeing how Nature thrives in this more or less unkempt environment. It fills me with dread how all this would be lost by trying to reinstate the canal and make it prosper. The canal was poorly constructed in the first place and difficult to maintain. I read the strategy from the team in Exeter and could make little sense of it with so much jargon. It seems to say that the wild state of the canal should be acknowledged and respected in the canal past Brimscombe. The obstacles in this part of the canal are expensive and numerous; maybe unsurmountable. This should be a good argument for leaving this length, from Brimscombe to Daneway, well alone where possible. It can remain a most beautiful resource where people may walk and be part of the great complexity of the world we live in, so easily lost.

The work on the urban development of the canal through Ebley and Stroud is impressive. It will be interesting to see what happens at Brimscombe. Any development in character with what exists and presenting homes where people want to live, and use the eco technology, insulation and heating, and where people can rely on a decent bus service or indeed reinstated train station, is going to be a success. Developments which only benefit the developer must be avoided. Difficult to please all the people but it is an exciting and important development.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

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