

Cllr Jim Hanley
Chair of Planning
Reading Borough Council
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Ref: MJS/RD/AMM

8th July 2008

Dear Jim,

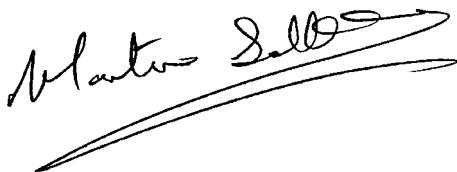
Bath Road Reservoir

I am writing to alert you to my continuing concerns over plans by Thames Water to develop the Bath Road reservoir site in my constituency. I understand that a formal planning application will be submitted by the end of the month along the lines indicated to ward councillors at the briefing meeting last week.

Thames Water have scaled back their original plans for 110 homes to 101 with some adjustments to the proposed wildlife corridor but they have not gone nearly far enough to satisfy either the concerns of the residents or the requirements of the original planning brief. I have enclosed a copy of my letter to the company of 26th March which outlines an alternative proposal in response to a residents' survey that I organised with Minster councillor Paul Gittings. I am aware that Thames Water prepared a scheme which would have saved the rear reservoir as a wildlife site but this was rejected on grounds of a loss of potential value. In other words Thames Water are pressing ahead with their intention to develop the whole site and putting profits before the environment.

My purpose in writing to you is to inform you that I intend to campaign against any proposals that do not seek to protect the rear of the site as a wildlife reserve. I will be in touch again once a formal planning application is received.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Salter', with a long, sweeping underline stroke extending to the right.

Martin Salter MP

Cc: Councillors Gittings, Watson & local residents.