

Canal idea nice, but water task ahead

A CANAL through Swindon?

I see from your paper today that the new council leader wishes to re-open the canal through Swindon.

If it can be done it would be most attractive.

Newbury, a smaller town, benefits from the water frontage in the centre of the town.

The practical problems are

immense, and expensive, if the canal passed through the Brunel Centre and out towards Covingham.

How are the property owners going to react?

David Murray John once discussed the canal with me.

He said: "It was stagnant, smelly, and full of rubbish - I had it filled in."

He took the decision in good faith in the light of the conditions at that time, and with many other pressing problems for the council's finance and resources.

So it might be premature for the residents to invest in narrowboats!

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