

TOWN FACELIFT IS GOING NOWHERE

I READ in disbelief your feature regarding council leader Roderick Bluh.

He is obviously under a great deal of pressure with regard to the number of buildings that have been demolished within the town centre and appear to be going nowhere.

He appears to be deluded that Swindon is missing the credit crunch, and points out two developments that have taken place recently. One being the new library and the second being so called up-grading of Wharf Green.

The new library has been on the cards since the temporary one was erected many years ago, and if I had paid the reputed amount of money that is being bandied about for the so called up-grading of Wharf Green, I would be asking for a large refund.

These two items can hardly be classed in the re-development scheme as proposed.

I was also shocked to hear that Oakfield may also need to be demolished, which will leave a further derelict site.

On a positive side, being involved with the partial redevelopment of Reading town centre, I travel regularly and



COMING DOWN Davis House being demolished in February as one of the sites for the regeneration project

walk over the free running canal, which has been so architecturally woven in to the shopping complex known as The Oracle.

I am really excited by the prospect of a free running canal down Westcott Place.

In order to move on with these increasing vacant sites I do feel that it is time to bring in

external planning consultancy to draw the whole scheme together, and approve the outstanding planning applications so that the town can move forward and aim towards city status.

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