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I write as a layman but like many people I am finding it very difficult to find my way around this massive collection of documents. I am not a Town Planner nor am I paid to present this response and like many other members of the public I find it nearly impossible to find the time to be involved in what is alleged to be a public consultation. Public Consultations no longer take place in Ipswich. We once had Area Community Committees but these have now been taken over by councillors who merely close down any discussion they do not like so there is no Public Consultation in Ipswich. The time and expense of producing this response must indicate how strongly I feel about what is being done to my home town. It is being destroyed by government policy to keep on jamming more and more people into what is just a small town which is divided by a tidal river running through the middle of it. It is apparent these documents have been written by people whose grandparents were not born in Ipswich. The lady presenting this document councillor Carole Jones even comes from another country, Wales. The authors just do not understand Ipswich nor the people of Ipswich who have now become a very miserable people compared to 30 years ago. The town is so congested and cramped people are put into an unhappy mood at the thought of travelling into or even just around the town. The mood of the people is generally unhappy and frustrated by the environment and this has completely changed the town for the worse but this aspect does not seem to have been addressed in any document at all. This is the result of councillors only talking to each other or to political party activists. Unfortunately this consultation is exactly the same as all the others. It will be boycotted by the general public and only Town Planners who are paid to be involved and those with business interests will take the slightest interest in these alleged consultations. The general public just do not have the time to read the massive documents or even take part as they have to work while consultations are happening without them. This is why this consultation will fail to be a public consultation and is more likely to finish up as a Human Rights issue in the Court System where a handful of people with vested interests will seek justice as they see it. All that is wanted by IBC is to fill in the dock and river so it can be built over eventually.

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The history of Ipswich is not understood by IBC personnel. The River Orwell and the River Gipping which are the oldest highways in town which my family arrived upon over 1,000 years ago but which have sadly been terribly abused in the name of expansion starting with the dock.

The dock was built out into the river and the island site is manmade again out into the river which is tidal. The flow of the original river was diverted by the Ipswich Dock Act 1937 but it was not extinguished and should still be available to store water or even be used to relieve the flood plain in emergencies. It has in fact been built over mostly.

In 1953 I lived in Duke Street and I was flooded out but I also saw where the excess water was coming from which was not all tidal surge. Much of the water was fluvial caused by pluvial conditions. Similar conditions (tidal surge, high pressure in the Atlantic combined with Low pressure in the North Sea, fluvial and pluvial conditions and a North Easterly wind) would overwhelm any proposed flood protection easier than in 1953 because the health of the rivers has not been taken care of, indeed IBC has contributed to the danger of floods by allowing massive parts of the River Orwell to be filled in for profit without concern for the consequence. The Environment Agency has built walls along the New Cut which would funnel flood water into the town instead of allowing minor flooding around the dock. For instance the West Bank of the river has been filled in to make quays. The North and Eastern Quays have been built into the river by about 20 feet and further down the river beyond Patterson Road, Cliff Quay has been built out into the river by much more. After Bourne Bridge Fox's Marina has unlawfully been built out into the river and is now an unlawful obstruction to navigation on a tidal river and of course it contributes to the flood danger as water cannot go where it used, to right up to the roadway. This is a massive land mass that is now in the river and thereby compressing the water making it deeper and faster flowing. In 2013 as the Environment Agency completed agreed flood protection around Fox's the surge tide overwhelmed it and flooded roads around the area by merely surging up Bourne Creek. The EA staff involved then are the same people wanting to build the flood barrier now. This is nonsense. It is our town they are playing with.

Houses along Wherstead Road had toilets and drains backing up and in College Street water leaked through the road surface and eventually a water main cover blew flooding even more water into St Peter's to join water running down from New Cut East. The Environment Agency failed completely.

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December 6<sup>th</sup> 2013 days after EA completed the flood protection at Fox's. EXHIBIT 1.

<https://picasaweb.google.com/peterturtill/6thDecember2013?authuser=0&feat=directlink>

Ctrl+click the above hyperlink please.

PLEASE PRINT THESE PICS OUT FULL SIZE FROM THE LINK. I CANT AFFORD TO.

Further down the river at Woolverstone a marina has been built out into the river and further down still the Royal Harwich Yacht Club has a system of fixed gangways built out into the river which again are all unlawful obstructions to navigation in tidal waters. It must be remembered the High Court ruled in 2000 the river bed up to high spring tides belonged to IBC so IBC must be responsible for these flood making unlawful obstructions to navigation. The issue of the river walls is not relevant as these were placed by the landowners at the time and are actually on the river bed in many places such as at Fox's. Across the river at Levington beside the Loompit, Suffolk Wild Life are being used to fill in an area of river bed which is used by waders and rare plants!!! I have notified IBC of this and they claim Suffolk Yacht Harbour Ltd are claiming adverse possession. It is not possible to claim adverse possession of a river bed on a tidal navigable waterway especially as nobody has exclusive possession. The river bed has had thousands of tons of fly ash and builders waste dumped onto the river bed and the marina carved out of it at Levington 40 years or so ago. This area is a massive part of the flood plain the river used to be able to expand onto during exceptional tides. This water is now forced up the river towards Ipswich at exceptional tides. The proposed flood barrier may stop some water getting to the Island site but it will cause massive flooding elsewhere especially at Pin Mill and at Fox's which has always been at risk of flooding if the tide is high and the wind is from the North East. Another EA failure.

Another problem is Felixstowe Port which again is built out into the river but so huge is it the river can become tide locked which is dangerous. This is when high tides cannot ebb because the wind is holding it in and so the river is still full when the next tide arrives and floods everything downstream of the proposed flood barrier which itself is the subject of contention from Fox's who now want another flood barrier around their site as the last one which cost half a million pounds failed within days of the so called experts at EA

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completing it. Both Fox's and Levington Marina dredge and dump the spoil on the bed of the river where I can show anyone wanting to listen. It is amazing to me and hundreds of other sailors that IBC didn't object to the construction of Felixstowe Port and furthermore it appears nobody at IBC even looked at a maritime chart all sailors use. The Shotley Spit is opposite the Felixstowe Quays and it is a massive area of very shallow water marked out on maritime charts. Water flows over it into the River Orwell at high tide but it holds back the ebb now the port quays are built out into the river. Big planning error there which can only be cured by dredging away the massive Shotley Spit at an enormous cost.

These are issues hundreds of local people know of from birth but they are never consulted but just over ridden by these massive reports and councillors who only take notice of issues that may hold up IBC plans to enlarge our town. To build a large estate on the Northern Fringe will completely overwhelm our town and facilities such as sewage, drainage (SUDS are no use during pluvial conditions) and of course most excess water will drain into the River and flood the town as the proposed flood barrier is down stream of the enormous development. The roads are already too congested to use during the day time and this enormous development will just destroy our town. IBC have been told this for years but just don't want to hear Ipswich people. They have even raised the quay level using S.106 agreements and apparently IBC and ABP money which is extraordinary as the quays belong entirely to ABP. IBC have no ownership at all of any of the dock quays/wharves/roads and definitely should not have paid our money out.

I sail on the river as an RYA Instructor and I know other sailors some of whom are based at Fox's. IBC must know Fox's are objecting to the barrier unless they are given another flood wall. This is common knowledge and if Fox's don't get another much higher flood wall they will take the Environment Agency through the court system and probably win. If they do get another higher wall I will object and take the issue through the court system and I will probably win.

[https://ppc.ipswich.gov.uk/appndetails.asp?iAppID=13/00406/FUL&sType=APP&search\\_params=pageNumber%3D1%26txtAppNum%3D13%252F00406%252FFUL%26pnIAdvancedOpen%3D1%26&prev\\_search\\_params=&det\\_search\\_params=](https://ppc.ipswich.gov.uk/appndetails.asp?iAppID=13/00406/FUL&sType=APP&search_params=pageNumber%3D1%26txtAppNum%3D13%252F00406%252FFUL%26pnIAdvancedOpen%3D1%26&prev_search_params=&det_search_params=)

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This shows the complete disregard of rights of way shown by IBC. They have given planning permission for an unlawful obstruction of Restricted Byway 36 only listed in 2011 after a Public Inquiry. This is not only unlawful but against IBC lately stated policy and demonstrates why the general public is so disillusioned with IBC and their policies. IBC only respects the policies it wants to obey. Most planning applications ask if the proposal will affect a right of way as this one does yet IBC went ahead and allowed it as they seem to have an un-declared policy of closing rights of way around the dock.

There are now probably 50 recent obstructions which SCC is claiming are covered by a planning law which just doesn't apply and will be challenged in the Magistrates court along with the above eventually by me.

I have lived here 73 years and it is now too miserable and frightening for some people. Many people will no longer walk along Norwich Road near the town end. Ipswich has become a miserable and aggressive place because it is overcrowded and the streets are jammed up with traffic causing road rage. There should be no vehicles allowed in town except blue badge holders, between 6am and 8pm including buses, taxis and delivery lorries. Buses should have trailers for bicycles so people get off the bus and cycle into town. All vehicles including shop fitters and money collections should be after 8pm.

This is a massively important issue as exhaust gasses in parts of Ipswich are so high they already cause lung problems for some people and maybe damaging young people in ways we don't yet understand.

I feel it is very important to discover why people have become unhappy and to discover if exhaust gasses from vehicles are the cause as Ipswich is so polluted atmospherically. A town that depresses people and makes them ill is a disaster and soon only the deprived will enter the town especially with the advent of online shopping. This town is definitely making people ill and yet that aspect has never been investigated and it should be now.

Blue Badge holders should be allowed everywhere in town including the pedestrianised areas but not bicycles in pedestrianised areas. Ipswich is dying. It is over populated and developing even more of it will slowly choke it to death. Ipswich should not pretend to be a city nor should it ignore that major parts of it are governed by Suffolk County Council and they are very obstructive towards Ipswich as they want IBC to fail so they can take over. This appears to be the plan for SCC. Deprivation is the result of overcrowding. That will

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get much worse if the Northern Fringe is developed and services become even more limited.

The dock is now crowded out with leisure craft mostly belonging to people from elsewhere and can no longer be used as a dock. All the leisure craft have onboard toilets that can empty straight into the dock as nobody gets out of bed to walk up the quay to a toilet block. One major vessel Suntis brings in wood to keep Anglo-Norden alive while it sits on a development site where already there are negotiations to build over 550 flats. The boat is so big it can only enter the dock at high tide as it cannot fit into the lock. The lock gates cannot be closed around it and any misfortune in the lock could end in the town being flooded if the barrier is being deployed. Surely the EA can see this or maybe they want the dock flooded!

The only way for Ipswich to survive is to stop anymore developments especially the Northern Fringe and IBC know this but they have to follow government guidelines. We need all the marinas removed (including the dock marinas) and the river needs to be recovered where the marinas have encroached especially at Levington and Fox's. The Shotley Spit needs dredging away so the river can drain. Ipswich doesn't need to expand and grow as that is the way to disaster as can already be seen by the congested roads and empty flats and houses. Ipswich has already started to die and that is evident to all who were born here. I know this town very well and I know the rivers and there is no way this town will not flood given the conditions experienced (but forgotten about) in 1953. Ipswich Village is at particular risk and that affects everyone because the electric supply would fail throughout other parts of the town.

The dock and river system are major drainage systems and should be maintained and kept clear all the way back to Stowemarket. The River Gipping used to be a major route into Ipswich known as the Stowemarket Navigation before the docks were ever built. It is a main highway.

Open fields around the Gipping should be used to accept flood overflow and not be banked. The raising of the level of the roadways around the dock should be reversed so flood water can flow into the dock easier. Parts of the river which have been filled in should be reclaimed so water can flow out easier and of course Shotley Spit should be removed. Ipswich is completely lacking in having no Heritage Department staffed by local people

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who know the town and rivers and who love the place rather than just doing a job for wages or profit.

The development of the Northern Fringe will completely strangle Ipswich. The road system cannot cope and nor can the sewage system and drainage system. The local health services cannot take more people nor can the constabulary deal with more people. The government will have to be shown we cannot keep developing the same piece of England as it is already choked with too many residents and cars. No new development should be allowed with less than one off road parking places per potential adult.

The development of the dock is a complete disaster. Many buildings are not complete and demonstrate the folly of building even more. It seems IBC, SCC and the government are only interested in giving Associated British Ports loads of money. IBC/SCC have poured money into paving what is actually privately owned land. Around the dock paving is paid for by S.106 agreements and IBC which seem unlawful to me as it is in effect just raising the height of the land around the dock so lower floors can be used for residential purposes. The flood barrier if it ever materialises is solely to allow the Island site of the dock to be developed as residential land meaning even more millions of public funds being spent to improve a commercial concern that tries everything to restrict people walking, cycling or driving on their property. It is farcical to give public money to an organisation that seeks to steal public access away from the public. Worse still IBC and SCC are complicit in this. If the flood barrier sticks shut during a fluvial flood the town will be flooded including the dock area but then they will have an excuse to fill in most of the dock which they will do eventually. Ground levels have been raised all around the dock by paving and this will prevent rain water draining into the dock. S.106 agreements and IBC funds have been used to raise the level of the route around the dock. This route is privately owned by ABP and I do not understand how money raised by S.106 agreements can be lawfully expended on private property. This was started by the previous administration and has virtually tied the present administration to the same policy.

Over 50 items of street clutter have been added to the routes around the dock. This is intentional I believe as both IBC and SCC want to close the rights of way around the dock.

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I have read all the documents produced by expensive consultants Buchanan, Lewellyn and Atkins. These expensive consultants have produced the back ground to these documents over the last decade or more and yet none mention rights of way. I do not believe expensive consultants could miss this vital issue yet they have and I can only conclude they were instructed not to mention rights of way. It is not possible these experts can study our town and not discover the Ipswich Dock Acts 1805-2012 and again I can only conclude they were instructed not to mention them. There isn't a single mention of IBC owning the bed of the River Orwell from Stoke Bridge to Shotley Point and again I conclude IBC was seeking to hide this which is unbelievable considering the value of this property. If consultants have not been instructed to hide stuff and have just failed to uncover fundamental issues then we should have our money back off them. This is an issue that must be raised at this Inquiry so the Inspector can place a value on the information the consultants have supplied over the last decade at least. The public should know too. IBC have recently granted planning permission for IP/13/00406/FUL to enable the erection of a memorial smack bang in the middle of a right of way RB36 and they have ignored all my attempts to rectify this obstruction and still are. IBC is terrible at looking after rights of way and I have successfully prosecuted them via a private prosecution. I have 3 convictions against them which cost IBC tax payers £1000 compensation and £750 in fines. They have colluded with SCC to block RB 36 and Byway 38 with as many obstructions as they can get away with and are again facing legal action from me via the Magistrates Court. Our town should have had a definitive map 20 odd years before an embryonic DM was produced by SCC. I do not believe there is no historic DM nor List of Streets, which is another legal obligation. Of course it could be claimed IBC are purposely breaking the law because it is worth it as the officers pay the fines with residents money, to gain more developments at the expense of Ipswich people who they are supposed to be serving, not the developers or landowners.

I recently had to tell IBC of a proposal to move Cliff Quay 10+ feet out into the river. They never knew anything about it until I informed them. So much for their claim here to be looking after the river. I had to lodge an Objection with Marine Management Organisation. The river banks should be re-instated and banking and walls removed so the river can expand again and stop tidal flood water even reaching Ipswich.

The river is a valuable asset IBC is supposed to protect on behalf of the people of Ipswich but they refuse to. That shows they are not up to the job and these documents are nothing



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but meaningless words produced to ensure few people actually read them and even less take part in any discussion.

I have taken the time and made the effort to reply to these massive documents and I ask to be allowed to address the Inspector.

I am also emailing this to Annette Feeney so the hyperlinks can be seen.

**I would like to give evidence orally please.**

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