

BRUNEL'S OTHER BRIDGE NEWS

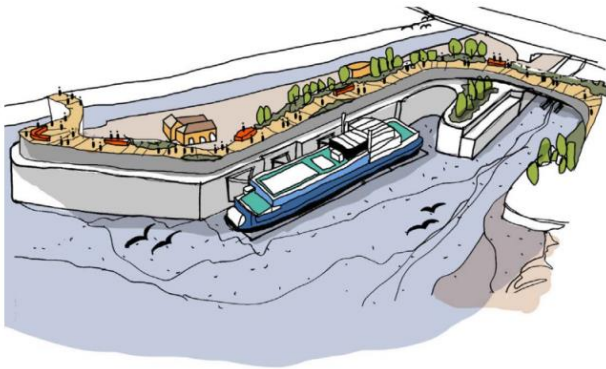
February 2025

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR TWO 'BRUNEL ORIGINALS'



Bristol City's Draft MASTER PLAN has just been release, Click on <http://www.harbourhopes.co.uk>

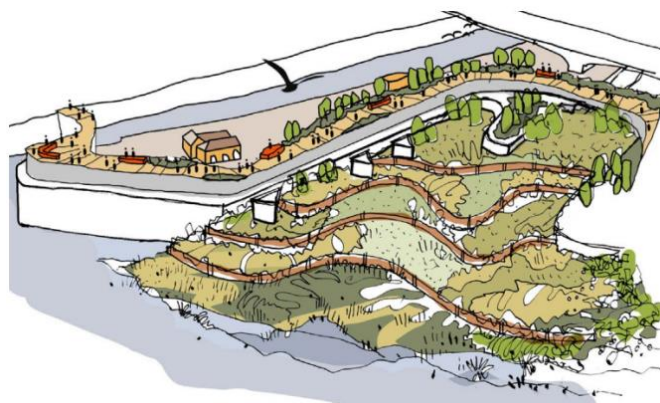
Opportunities for restoring heritage features are highlighted on Pages 7 & 8 but fail to recognise fully the importance of Brunel's Swivel Bridge, now derelict, and Brunel Lock, currently silt-filled.



Silt could be removed economically by providing permanent 'scour pipes' fed from Brunel Lock dam.

SILT - Option 1

The silt is lowered, revealing Brunels iconic Lock dating from 1849, (photo below) and the Grid Iron, both impressive, unique, historic structures.



SILT - Option 2

The silt remains and would be 'terraced', but as the silt moves continuously, building and maintaining terraces would be difficult and dangerous. The existing 'mud-flat' appearance would remain, so, whilst this is the cheapest option, house-holders overlooking the mud would still be treated to the sight of half-submerged traffic cones and other debris, rather than Brunel's elegant stonework. (Photo above)



BRUNEL SWIVEL BRIDGE

Page 5 *Connectivity* shows pedestrian routes over the Entrance Lock Gates **but not the Swivel Bridge (ringed)** which would provide a wider and more convenient crossing and give this Brunel icon a new purpose, increasing its ability to attract refurbishment funding.

Panel 8 'Heritage' refers to historic assets as 'opportunities for refurbishment' *'that can be taken forward more or less independently as funds and champions emerge'*.

SURELY HERITAGE IS NOT JUST AN 'OPPORTUNITY' BUT AN ESSENTIAL FOCUS THAT DESERVES TO BE WRITTEN INTO THE MASTER-PLAN AND FULLY FUNDED ?

MILLIONS OF VISITORS TO THE CITY AND THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS WILL LIVE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE PLAN FOR EVER. WE NEED TO **COURAGEOUSLY COMMIT** TO RESTORING THESE ASSETS !

**DON'T LET THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE OUR HERITAGE PASS.
PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS NOW**

Complete the survey at <http://www.harbourhopes.co.uk> before Sunday 9 March 2025.

CLICK [HERE](#) Then click on '*Have your say*', then '*Give your quick views*'.

You can also:

- Watch an interesting 5 ½ minute explanatory video, preferably on a PC/laptop, not a phone!
- Read the proposals by clicking on '*View the plans on website*' and downloading the .pdf file of engagement information. There is a lot to read, but it is pictorial and easy to absorb.
- Visit the poster exhibition at:
 - The **Create Centre** until 5 March, during the centre's opening hours, or at
 - **Museum Square (beside 'Matthew')** until 9 March
- Meet the regeneration team and share your thoughts:
 - In person at **Underfall Yard** on Saturday 1 March between 10am and 4pm, or
 - join the **online webinar** on Tuesday 25 February (BSL interpreted) from 6.30 to 8pm (sign up via [Have your say](#))

The Bristol Live (Post) offers an article about the proposed development, click [HERE](#)

Note: In the Plan there is some confusion between the Replical Bridge above the sluicagate dam and Brunel's Swivel Bridge alongside the north entrance channel. The Replica Bridge is a late Victorian copy of the original constructed well after Brunel's death. Both Bridges are Grade 2* Listed.

ABOUT THE MASTER-PLAN the Council says:

Your comments are important and will be carefully considered by the masterplan team as they finalise proposals. After a statutory consultation period we will then present the masterplan, shaped by your views and feedback, to the council's Economy and Skills Committee for consideration in Summer / Autumn 2025.

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