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Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that there is a proposed housing scheme to be put in place at the disused Chartham Mill site, near Canterbury.

The River Stour flows through the site and therefore plays an important part in the suitability of the area for housing. As there are barriers in place there, there is an interruption to the normal flow of the river and thus a flood risk. Were the barriers in place to be taken away, the river could flow though smoothly on its way to the sea without impediment.

The scheme would provide an opportunity to improve the river there by removing the barriers, enhancing the banks and make sure that the area was a safe and pleasant environment for the new residents and local people to enjoy. Barriers and culverts are not only dangerous, but are also an obstruction to fish and wildlife passing along the river, which is classified as a rare Chalk Stream, and also has been found to have salmon and sea-trout in its waters.

It would therefore make sense for the health and safety of the new neighbourhood and environment to have the contractors of the scheme dismantle the current barriers and obstructions currently in place in the river as a condition of the award of the site for development.

Yours sincerely,

Julian Henry,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]