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LOCATION PLAN



INITIAL SKETCH MASTERPLAN

Client
 Mr P Gilson
 8 Burdett Road
 Southend-on-Sea
 Essex SS1 2TN

Project
 New Marina Development
 Shoeburyness
 Southend-on-Sea
 Essex SS3

Title
 Concept Sketch
 Initial Catalyst Masterplan

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News

7th May

Multi-million pound marina project plan for Southend

By Kirsty Hough | @KirstyBWT Reporter



Multi-million pound marina project plan

A FISHERMAN is working on a project to bring a new multi-million pound marina to Southend.

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Paul Gilson, who is vice commodore of Essex Yacht Club, said he was asked by MP for Southend West David Amess to find a site for a potential marina.

He has identified Gunners Park in Shoebury as a potential site.

He said: "I walked my way from Benfleet to Shoebury and in my opinion, the obvious place for a marina is Gunners Park.

"This development would create lots of jobs for the area, and liven the place up.

Most read Cor

Mr Gilson claims other marinas in the area, such as those in Tollesbury and Wallasea Island, are lacking in facilities and are located in "the back of beyond."

"I have spoken to Belgian and French people who have told me they think it's a wonderful idea," he said.

"Yachts from the continent could dock in Shoebury instead of going all the way up the Thames to London.

"Their passengers could then get the train to London from Shoebury Station, which is just a ten minute walk away."

Mr Amess added: "I am very keen on a marina, I think it would be important for the town."

Gunners Park was historically owned by the Ministry of Defence and then sold to Gladedale Homes.

As part of that development, the council secured land for public use which is now leased to Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT).

The site Mr Gilson is putting forward for the development is next to EWT's Gunners Park and Shoebury Ranges Nature Reserve on several acres of land still owned by the Ministry of Defence, between Admiralty Pier and the Barge Pier.

This is the latest proposal for a commercial marina with several other proposals falling away for 50 years.

Mr Gilson, who has drawn up artists' impressions for the marina, claims Southend used to home to "a huge number of yachts" but these have disappeared.

He said: "They have all now migrated to Tollesbury and Burnham.

"But people in Southend don't want to have to go out in dingys anymore."

He claims the marina would not be designed for "mega yachts", but for 90 footers, "of a substantial size."

He added: "Ordinary businessmen in Southend with 45 foot sailing boats would be over the moon with a marina. Most of the sailing fraternity that I speak to think it's a wonderful idea." He is also confident it could work alongside the nature reserve, similar to one in Belgium. Mr Gilson said a developer has been consulted and it could be built in two years with the right support.

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