

Meeting: Allington Point Design Discussion

Date: 00.00.00

Venue: Board Room (Scratchwood)

Chair: Tarko

Other attendees: Spoon, Richard.



Tarko Right, I am relying on the two of you here really. I did have a crack at it, but I got a bit carried away and it ended up looking like some elaborate moon-base in a James Bond movie.

Richard Can we see it?

Tarko It's on the back of this envelope. Ignore that bit... that was a TV commercial idea that isn't quite there yet.

Richard It's interesting.

Spoon And quite... tall.

Tarko Yes, well this is the first draft.

Spoon As it's in biro on the back of your post, I think we guessed that.

Tarko Not that there will necessarily be a second draft. So what did you come up with?

Spoon Mine is very functional.

Richard Of course.

Spoon To make it efficient I have gone for a long site with an entrance one end and the exit up the other end. The trucks all come in one end and go out the other so there's no congestion with any of them getting in the way of others. Once in, they go into one of these parallel lanes in the centre, in between the snow storage tanks, and then drop off or fill up as needed.

Tarko Okay, that all makes sense.

Spoon Okay, so you like it or...?

Tarko No, I do. I'm just thinking it through. Richard?

Richard It does work... technically.

Spoon Yes?

Richard It's a little... how shall I put it?

Spoon Go on.

Richard Well, maybe a bit like a train station or a giant petrol station.

Spoon It's a place where huge trucks all line up to fill up with different types of snow. It's supposed to be like a giant petrol station.

Richard On a technical level, yes.

Spoon So what's your solution?

Richard This!

Tarko Ooh, that looks good.

Spoon You've made it round.

Richard Duh! It's a hexagon. It's shaped like a snowflake.

Tarko That is very nice.

Spoon But nobody is going to see it!

Tarko I saw it straightaway.

Richard And this is just a rough, we can define it more.

Spoon I mean only people in a hot air balloon or a plane flying over it will see that it's shaped like a snowflake.

Richard I think you're missing the bigger picture.

Spoon You can't get a much bigger picture than that.

Richard Just think how this will look on... Google Earth.

Tarko Oh... my... goodness. Wow.

Spoon But your lanes are all pointing out from the middle in all directions.

Richard Yes, It's like a snowflake.

Spoon But the size of the site you'd need for that would be immense. The turning circles on these trucks are big so to have them all driving out from the middle in different directions would mean you would need far too much room to enable them all to turn around and get back in the same direction to line up with your site exit.

Richard We could squeeze it down a bit, if we must.

Spoon Great. Just jack-knife the entire fleet before they even get to the gate.

Richard This is not necessarily to scale yet.

Spoon You don't say. No, it'd be too big.

Tarko I've never liked that phrase... too big. Big is good.

Spoon And look at your tiny snow storage tanks. They're too small.

Richard No, that's because you're looking down on them, they're up the other way. They're cylinders.

Spoon So you've got a site taller than his one now. Maybe yours was not so far fetched after all, Tarko.

Richard Well actually I was thinking of going for an iceberg sort of thing.

Spoon Iceberg?

Richard Yes, an iceberg to keep with the theme. I was thinking that the storage tanks would be tall but you'd only see the tops at ground level as most of it would

be under the ground.

Tarko Underground? Hmm.

Spoon Underground? The power you'd drain just pumping the snow back up from the bottom would be a huge waste.

Richard Well, no, because the trucks could drive down to the bottom and fill up from there. Gravity would do most of the work.

Spoon You want the trucks to go underground?

Richard Well, obviously via a tunnel. They're not going to have to dig down there themselves. See, you said I was wasting space, but by putting most of the site underground I will save space.

Spoon These trucks are going to be huge and they're not overly dainty or nimble. You don't want one of these things sliding down a steep slope.

Richard We can make it a gradual slant.

Spoon So what with your spider web of roads on top...

Richard It's a snowflake.

Spoon Whatever it is... with all those roads pointing in opposite directions and now a shallow ramp to get you down to the bottom of your underground grotto, your site's going to be too big. You'll be buying up half of Surrey at this rate.

Richard But it's a snowflake shape? Don't you see?

Spoon Mine's not that dull. If you look at the way it spreads out here from the entrance to the central lanes, it's almost like a grand piano.

Richard What's a grand piano got to do with snow sales?

Spoon I am just saying that mine can be interesting too.

- Richard** Tarko? You're the boss at the end of the day.
- Tarko** And at the beginning, too.
- Spoon** So, what's your take?
- Tarko** There are obviously practical things that need to be taken into serious consideration.
- Spoon** Yes.
- Tarko** So, Spoon...
- Spoon** Uhuh?
- Tarko** How big exactly would the site need to be to fit this snowflake plan in and get the trucks underground safely?
- Spoon** You what?
- Tarko** No, look, I just want both plans to be full scoped out in exact technical measurements so we can put them side by side.
- Spoon** There isn't room to put these side by side.
- Tarko** Let's just get it properly plotted and we'll push them both forward.
- Spoon** I can't believe you want to consider the impracticalities of that one.
- Tarko** But IT IS a snowflake. It's what we sell.
- Spoon** You're clearly sold on it. Look, I'll work this out, but I don't want you to think by that that I in any way endorse this.
- Richard** You've made that very clear.
- Spoon** I will just do this so that you can see the reality of how it won't work.

Richard Or how grand a place it will be when it does work.

Tarko Thanks both of you. I think we're done now.

Spoon It will never work.

Tarko Maybe not. We'll see. But IT IS a snowflake.

Spoon So you keep saying.