

## Friends of Ruislip Lido 28th January 2010



Dear Friends,

Can I begin by thanking Martin Cartwright who came to our meeting last week and gave a presentation to the members about the history of both Ruislip Lido and other Lidos across London? It was both informative and entertaining and as you will see by the rest of my letter became very poignant. When looking at the future proposals it is important to see how the Lido has developed over the years.

For those who could not make the meeting let me outline what has been happening. Hillingdon Council is investigating into the feasibility of a number of projects at Ruislip Lido with a total investment of £1.5 million. Our initial view is that the Friends of Ruislip Lido would welcome some potential investment but would like to ensure that the investments are consistent with the Friends' primary objective:

***“Protect and improve the natural beauty and facilities of Ruislip Lido for the peaceful enjoyment of all.”***

You will see we have included a stamped addressed envelope for you to respond. We cannot stress enough how vital it is we get your views so that we are confident that we as the committee are reflecting your opinions.

On the form (included with this letter) is a list which is a direct lift from a leaflet the council handed out at the Management Advisory Group (MAG), next to each topic you will see a FOR or AGAINST. Can you please indicate your general opinion, so that if for instance every one is against the toilets being improved (unlikely I feel) we know that this is a topic to focus our attention on? I know there are no details around the proposals but the Council were very vague about the “details”. I can add that the extra parking suggested would be at the end of Reservoir Road through the gate along the track, in the area at the back of Willow Lawn by the “new” railway station.

Some of these proposals would require extensive work at the Lido but the council has said this will be completed by 2011. I know that sounds like a long time but the council has stated there will be no further public consultation or public meetings with regards to this, although they state they wish to work with the Friends and other members of the MAG. So if we do have a fight on our hands we need to get to grips with it as soon as possible. Or if you as the members are for the proposals ensure that we are involved in the planning stages from the beginning.

It would be fair to say that a number of residents are very concerned and our membership has grown to the extent we had to turn people away at the meeting. This gives us a very strong voice. We are after all residents, dog walkers, joggers, parents and grand parents of the children who use the Lido. In short it is **'OUR LIDO'** and I and the committee are resolute that your voice will be heard (as you know I have a very loud voice). I have sent all of the questions raised by members so far to the council and they have been posted on our website, as will the council's replies. Please do keep your eye on the website as it will be updated with any developments.

Lastly can you please use the back of the form for any other comments you wish to make about these proposals and pop it back to us by the **14th February 2010** so we can begin dialogue with the council. Even if you are unsure how you feel about it please let us know your views

Vicky Brownlee - Chair FORL

***On behalf of Friends of Ruislip Lido***

**07804 626 007 or [contact@friendsofruisliplido.net](mailto:contact@friendsofruisliplido.net)**

The form below is only available to members. If you would like your opinions to be incorporated please become a member by visiting <http://www.friendsofruisliplido.net/membership-donate>

Please tick the box for the option you agree with.

Question	FOR	AGAINST
• Improved and additional car parking		
• Raising the water levels		
• Fishing facilities		
• Improved toilet facilities		
• Changing facilities		
• An outdoor swimming area		
• Boating for adults		
• A new paddle boating area for children		
• Improvements and investment to the miniature railway		
• Improved catering facilities		
• Improved access to the site		

Lastly although not on their list it was mentioned by them

• Charging for non Hillingdon residents which would be controlled by turnstiles		
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Please add any comments here and on the reverse of the form and return it ASAP in the SAE.  
Many thanks for taking the time to give the FORL committee your views.