

**Ruislip Lido**  
**Management Advisory Group Meeting (MAG)**  
**Winston Churchill Hall**  
**19<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**MINUTES**

**MAG Members :** Peter Lansdown (Chair), David Seaman (FoRL), Lindsey Hannigan, (FoRL) Nicky Saragossi (FoRL), Andrew Riley (Northwood Hills Residents Association), Roy Shuttleworth (RLRS), Stuart Hunt (LBH), Paul Richards (LBH), Miles Gilman (Northwood RA), Peter Collins (Eastcote residents Association), Cllr John Reilly (LBH), Deborah Garrard. (DASH),

**In attendance:** Cllr Ray Puddifoot (LBH), Alan Dalton (LBH), Sean Barr (LBH), Lyn Summers (LBH), Richard Hutton (LBH)

		<b>Action</b>
	Peter Lansdown, the Chair of the Management Advisory Group, opened the meeting. He said that the Leader of the Council, Ray Puddifoot, and Alan Dalton, Interim Deputy Director, Planning and Community Services, were in attendance to present proposed improvement plans for the Lido and that they would be happy to respond to questions at the end of the meeting.	
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Apologies were received from Cllr Philip Corthorne (LBH), Vicky Brownlee (FoRL), Ian Cantley (RWMG), Terry Scott (Waters Edge).	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>	
	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	<u>Splash Pad Cleaning</u>  SH advised that site meetings had taken place since the last meeting and that alternative cleaning materials are now being used. 5% retention will continue to be held until issues are resolved.	



		Action
<b>2.2</b>	<p><u>Circulation of Minutes</u></p> <p>DS reiterated concerns regarding the delay in circulation of minutes. He said that Mary Worrell had advised that she thought about 3 weeks after a meeting was acceptable. PL advised that Lyn Summers from LBH would be taking notes at future meetings and that therefore this issue should now be resolved.</p>	
<b>2.3</b>	<p><u>Lack of response to emails/calls/concerns</u></p> <p>DS made reference to the minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 in relation to LBH officers not responding to emails and telephone calls. DS asked Cllr Puddifoot if he would like to respond. PL advised that Cllr Puddifoot was not in attendance to respond to questions in relation to MAG issues. PL asked DS to refer concerns through the Chair who would, if necessary, pick up with SH.</p>	
<b>2.4</b>	<p><u>Current Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle Racks/Bird Recognition Board – currently on hold while improvement proposals are discussed.</li> <li>• Waste Bins – will be moved by the Summer.</li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Management Plan</b>	
	<p>SH gave an update on work undertaken in the previous quarter and plans for the coming quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous quarter – nothing outstanding. Rangers continue to monitor ice/snow impact on site</li> <li>• Next Quarter – continue to cut back trees, clear paths, install viewing platform, remove saplings around willow lawn</li> <li>• Diary of Events – discussed.</li> </ul> <p>LH asked whether there were any plans to provide food for the wild fowl during the cold weather. SH advised that the Rangers would continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and inform relevant agencies (RSPCA/Swan Sanctuary) of any concerns as and when necessary.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Financial Report</b>	
	Report tabled – no concerns.	
<b>6</b>	<b>A.O.B</b>	
	Future meeting dates – PL advised that it is planned to incorporate the proposed improvement programme agenda into future MAG meetings as the plans progress. Therefore dates will be discussed and MAG Members advised accordingly.	

		Action
7	<p><b>Ruislip Lido Improvement Programme Presentation</b></p>	
	<p>Cllr Puddifoot, Leader of the Council, explained the background to the proposed Ruislip Lido Improvement Programme. He said that it was one aspect of the Council's Civic Pride Initiative and that over the next two years the Council will be investing resources to improve and develop facilities at the Lido.</p> <p>He said that while making the improvements, the Council will ensure that it will maintain the 'look and feel' of the Lido and preserve the wildlife and the natural environment.</p> <p>The Improvement Programme will be considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Options for increasing car parking facilities within the grounds of the Lido are being explored</b> – proposed plan for using scrub land on the site to provide an additional 200 spaces on land previously used for car parking.</li> <li>• <b>Raising the water at a higher level than in previous years</b> – proposed plans to increase and maintain the water level by 6 to 8 inches. Engineers have been asked to undertake a topographical survey and a flood risk assessment to establish whether Environment Agency criteria can be satisfied.</li> <li>• <b>Identifying areas where fishing facilities can be improved</b> – at creating a sustainable approach to fishing which does not impact on other facilities such as public bathing.</li> <li>• <b>New/upgraded toilet and changing facilities</b> – to be installed by the beach area.</li> <li>• <b>Public Bathing</b> – water quality has been tested and has proven suitable for public bathing. Installation of demarcation buoys being investigated to provide an outdoor swimming area. Beach and planted areas to be improved.</li> <li>• <b>Adult boating and children's paddle boating</b> – proposals to provide non-motorised adult boats being explored as well as children's paddle boats in a safe contained area.</li> <li>• <b>Miniature Railway</b> – discussions to be had with the Ruislip Lido Railway Group around enhancement of the miniature railway.</li> <li>• <b>Woodland Centre</b> – installation of a new Woodland Centre building being considered</li> <li>• <b>Improvements to the current refreshment facilities</b> – review of current concession site to increase refreshment facilities being considered - discussions to be held with Ruislip Lido Railway Group to ensure no impact on their revenue.</li> <li>• <b>Improved access to the site with user friendly signage</b> – to include consideration of bus services via Transport for London, user friendly signage.</li> <li>• <b>Security</b> – review of security to include appropriate CCTV and staff resources</li> </ul>	

		Action
	<p>• <b>Contact details</b> – Lyn Summers on 01895 556640 or on <a href="mailto:Ruislipdoenquiries@hillingdon.gov.uk">Ruislipdoenquiries@hillingdon.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Questions from the floor:</b></p> <p><b>Q - Will the boating proposal include sailing dinghies?</b>  <b>A -</b> Sailing is possibly better placed at Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre but sailing dinghies could be a possible option.</p> <p><b>Q - Will the new parking area be closed at night?</b>  <b>A -</b> Yes, and lighting/CCTV will be installed on the car park access road</p> <p><b>Q – Are there any plans to upgrade the bridleways?</b>  <b>A -</b> Advice needs to be sought before work can be carried out in the woodlands but the whole site will be considered.</p> <p><b>Q – How are you sure that the water is good enough to swim in?</b>  <b>A –</b> The water is tested on a regular basis and officers have advised that raising the levels will improve the quality further.</p> <p><b>Q – The Northwood sewer system overflows in heavy rain and dispels sewage into the streams which feed the Lido. How will you prevent this happening?</b>  <b>A –</b> These issues will be addressed with the water companies directly.</p> <p><b>Q - Will you charge for car parking?</b>  <b>A -</b> Initial views are to make the facility free to residents via the Hillingdon First Card and charging non residents for parking and admission.</p> <p><b>Q - Will you be holding a public meeting?</b>  <b>A –</b> This is a possibility as the Programme is developed. In the meantime residents will be updated via Hillingdon People and public events like the Cabinet Roadshows.</p> <p><b>Q – There are problems already with the pub clientele such as anti-social behaviour, inconsiderate parking, broken glass, noise until the early hours, trespassing and litter that need to be dealt with. Are the Council going to deal with these now?</b>  <b>A –</b> Protecting residents from anti social behaviour is paramount and Officers will be working on an enforcement agenda with appropriate partners to ensure that these issues are investigated and dealt with.</p> <p><b>Q – How are the Council going to deal with car parking problems that residents of Reservoir and Lakeside Close are already experiencing such as blocked drives, blocked access for buses and emergency vehicles</b></p>	

		Action
	<p><b>A</b> – Parking control issues will be investigated and discussed with residents, Emergency Services and Transport for London to ensure appropriate solutions.</p> <p><b>Q</b> – <i>The existing Rangers are doing a wonderful job. Is it within the budget to support the existing staff?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> – Appropriate staffing will be reviewed throughout the Improvement Programme to ensure adequate resources are in place to maintain and support the increased facilities.</p> <p><b>Q</b> - <i>Are you envisaging closing off the gates in the woods?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - No decisions have been made but all areas will be looked at as part of the security review.</p> <p><b>Q</b> - <i>What will the perimeter be and what will be fenced off?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - The boundary at the beach area already exists. Any changes to the boundaries will be looked at as part of the security review.</p> <p><b>Q</b> – <i>Is this a proposal or a decision – what if we don't want the improvements?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - The whole of the programme is about improvement and we have an opportunity to make this an excellent facility for all residents of the borough. A careful approach is needed and it is obvious from the concerns voiced this evening that there are major problems with parking and anti-social behaviour that we need to fix now but we have to be clear that this facility is here for all residents and not just those that live in adjacent roads.</p> <p><b>Q</b> – <i>What about consultation?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - These proposals are part of an ongoing Improvement Programme to upgrade much of our Green and Open spaces and water features. We would appreciate expertise and local knowledge as we progress and updates to the Improvement Programme will be published in Hillingdon People</p> <p><b>Q</b> – <i>Maintaining the balance of wildlife is a real dilemma – we don't want it so full of people that the wildlife is affected so how will you make sure this doesn't happen?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - Appropriate advice will be sought to ensure the balance in respect of wildlife is maintained.</p> <p><b>Q</b> – <i>If boating is provided on a concession basis how will you control prices?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> - The Council is not proposing these improvements to make a profit and any provision of service will need to go through a rigorous procurement, open tender process, before any decisions on suppliers are made.</p>	

		<b>Action</b>
	<p><b><u>Suggestions from the Floor:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The four Residents Associations represented on the MAG are happy to take forward any resident's concerns.</li> <li>• The Council should allocate more staffing to the site</li> <li>• Implement a traffic survey in the summer</li> <li>• Invitation to Cllr Puddifoot to join a litter picking day to see the extent of the problem.</li> <li>• Look at noise and pollution impact from more cars and buses</li> <li>• Look at putting a barrier up in Lakeside Close</li> <li>• Limit numbers</li> <li>• Segregate the pub clientele from the rest of the site.</li> <li>• Ensure controls are in place</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked those attending and closed the meeting</p>	

**Next meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010, 7pm, Winston Churchill Hall**