

Lido in Brief – DECEMBER 2020

Update on all things Lido from our trustees.

Refurbishment Progress

Work has progressed extremely well on the office and changing room refurbishment, which is repairing flood damage from February! Where has the time gone? The contractors are optimistic that they will complete their work early in the New Year; this will allow us to start replacing office equipment and furniture and move towards operational readiness in 2021.

The perimeter fence has been replaced with high grade marine ply and repainted – the weather has been difficult in terms of drying out, but overall the Lido is beginning to look much more like its old self. Unfortunately the ‘Many Hands Make Lido Work’ boards, with volunteer handprints on them from 2018, had weathered and started to rot so had to be removed. It is hoped we can repeat the exercise with volunteers again in March/April 2021, but look at something more permanent such as a hand print on a tile that can be saved to a wall.

The flooding added a big layer of mud and sand to the plant room floor and backwash storage areas, so a small team of elite diggers has been removing the deposits prior to the arrival of specialist suction equipment to complete the job. Other work is in hand to repair the Ultra Violet Treatment unit, install a new dosing system, and flood protect the electrics and chemical storage units. Once these are completed the installation of (another) new pump should see the water treatment system ready for testing in March and fully operational for an end of May opening.

We are also looking at external flood protection measures in conjunction with TDC to mitigate against future tidal breaches.

Trustees will be advertising for a new **Site Manager** early in the New Year – and will be hoping to get the café operational as soon as practical to start generating some income.

We will also be looking for new **Trustees** in the new year.

The operation of the pool next Summer will be dependent to some extent upon national developments but **because outdoor swimming is good for the body and mind** we are confident that the situation will have improved by May and we will be able to open.

Re-engaging volunteers and recruiting staff will be a priority for our new manager so there will be lots of opportunity for qualified staff and accredited volunteers to make a contribution to getting our Lido up and running again. Hopefully we will be able to organize some social events and fund raising get togethers around Easter to rekindle our affection and enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Thank you to our core group of volunteers who have kept the site tidy and ticking over during the year and to everyone who has contributed financially – through crowd funding, raffles and donations – unless specified otherwise this will all be spent on flood protective measures for 2021.

Finally, Trustees would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable festive season, and we look forward to seeing much more of each other in the New Year.

Mick Barry

On behalf of Lido trustees

20.12.20