



6 April 2003

Dear Member

The Future Of The Lido - An Update

Many thanks to all of you who attended our meeting on 15 February or sent us comments on the three proposals for long term management of the Lido. Approximately 100 people attended our meeting and a further 27 people sent in comments.

The proposals are summarised on our Web site at www.brockwelllido.com and the council made full copies available in Brixton Library.

The overall views of BLU members who commented on the proposals and members of BLU Steering, who examined them in detail, were:

- *Whippersnappers* proposal was most likely to preserve the spirit and atmosphere of the Lido, but there were concerns over the financial credibility. Some people liked the idea of heating the pool and an extra paddling pool.
- *Fusion* has the advantage of experience in managing similar facilities, but there was some concern about the programme and ambiance being unimaginative and too much like other leisure centres with emphasis on fitness machines rather than alternative health activities.
- There was also concern about the size and ethos of *Baylight* proposals and about Baylight being given peppercorn rent for land in the park for 99 to 125 years. It appeared that insufficient funds were coming back to the Lido with no capital investment after the first year.

BLU took these views back to the Lambeth Steering Committee, which also has representatives from the Friends of Brockwell Park, the Herne Hill Forum and the MAC (the Management Advisory Committee for Brockwell Park). Lambeth officers are now in discussions with bidders to reach agreement on a modified proposal that meets our major concerns and builds in a representative structure for users to influence the management of the Lido. BLU continues to be actively involved through the Lambeth Steering Committee.

We are hoping a decision will be made and ratified by Lambeth councillors by the end of May. We shall let you know by e-mail as soon as we have definitive news.

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