

Andover Swimming & Water Polo Club

www.andoverswimming.co.uk

Chairman: Nathan Williams

Affiliated to ASA South East Region

February 10th 2017

Dear all,

POOL CLOSURE LATEST

Dear all, you will be aware from previous announcements that the TVBC Leisure contract has been awarded to People for Places (PFP). Part of the contract was to replace the Andover Leisure Centre (ALC). A planning application has been submitted, which the club has made strong comments on, along with many individuals.

A meeting has now been held between ASWPC and TVBC Leisure managers. We have been informed that it is likely although not confirmed that ALC will close on or around April 1st 2017, when PFP take over. It is understood that PFP do not wish to run a building that is apparently sub-standard.

The planning application to replace ALC will be heard at the TVBC Northern Area Planning Committee on March 30th 2017. This is a meeting open to the public and representatives from the club will attend along with anyone else who wishes to do so.

It is the intention of TVBC to construct a temporary pool that will be 25 metres long with four lanes in Andover. TVBC will make a final decision on whether to have the temporary pool at a full Council meeting on February 24th 2017. It is understood that this is a closed meeting. Should TVBC decide to have the temporary pool, the planning application for the temporary pool should also be heard at the committee on March 30th 2017.

It will then take three to five months to construct the temporary pool. We will therefore not have a pool within Andover during this time. This is not an ideal situation for the club to be in but TVBC Leisure will assist us in all ways possible including obtaining time at pools in nearby places. We will aim to run all our usual internal events at an appropriate venue.

At the meeting, we reiterated all our concerns regarding the proposed replacement for ALC.

Going forward, we intend to lobby all TVBC councillors, we have been asked to supply information to TVBC on technical specification for a competitive pool, equipment held and numbers in swim and water polo sessions. We will be making representations to the ASA and Sport England, attending the March 30th committee and exhibitions. Committee members will be available to hear your concerns on the balcony on Monday nights, and all are advised to attend the AGM on March 3rd 2017.

In the meantime, a Public Exhibition is taking place from 3.30pm to 8.30pm on the February 15th 2017 at The Lights. We would encourage you all to visit this and make your comments to the representatives there. This will further amplify the objections on the loss of this facility at such short notice.

Committee
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