

# SWAFFHAM SWIMMING POOL

The Swaffham swimming pool committee are committed to 'getting Swaffham swimming' and see the council's purchase of the barn and swimming pool site as a real opportunity to finally make this a reality. Since discussions in December committee members have travelled to Billinghay lido in Lincoln to talk to the committee there and make comparisons. We have also made a site visit to the pool in Swaffham. Enclosed is a comparison chart with our findings as well as a general update and skeleton timescale of how we see the project developing.

Swimming pool committee update                      March 2022

1 Refurb – sort tasks into **professional** – plant, pool, utilities

and **volunteer** – pool surroundings, buildings, decoration

Priority is to make plant shed weatherproof – ASAP

2 Timetable

**2022** – Initial work, essential upkeep, public Open Mornings organised by Swimming pool committee

**2023** – Trial sessions with limited opening with external lifeguards – Lifeguarding for 2024 promoted within the town for young people

Try out different length of sessions, different times etc contacting as many groups as possible and making sure pool is accessible to all those who want to use it.

Trial online/cash free booking.

**2024** – full opening to coincide with Olympics year.

This timescale will give time for the pool to be fully refurbished to Sport England requirements and promote fund raising events.

3 Lifeguards - **the pool must always have qualified lifeguards on duty**

An essential part of the pool's role will be to provide training and skills to enhance job opportunities for young people. The Lifeguarding process will be modelled on successful scheme seen at Billinghay. This will give young people an opportunity to obtain a recognised qualification and gain paid work within the town. This is not a **volunteer** role.

4 Access for all

Work is ongoing regarding access to the pool for all. A survey will be undertaken to establish accessibility as soon as possible so that the necessary work can be undertaken. Grant funding is being investigated,

5 Safeguarding and Mental Health

Work is ongoing in both these very important areas. An outdoor swimming pool can contribute greatly to Mental Health within the town. Breckland DC is currently championing Mental Health through its Mindful Towns project. Training for volunteers in both these areas will be promoted.

6 Raising the pool's profile within the town – to begin ASAP

Social Media campaign

Open Mornings at the pool to allow residents to see the pool and facilities for themselves. Listen to the public's views and encourage people to volunteer.

Stall at the Market, and other public events to promote the pool.

