

Email to Developers from SPC – 17 September 2020

RE: Ganges development- Swimming Pool enquiry

Dear

Hope you are keeping well.

May I please ask if you are in a position to provide a response to our previous e-mail please? Our parish council meeting is this evening and I had hoped to be able to provide an update so that the parishioner heading the enquiry would be able to either pursue matters or look at reasonable alternatives, or abandon the idea.

It would be most helpful if you could also let us have some detail about the survey which was carried out many years ago and placed costs of refurbishment at £1.2M and anything else you may be able to share with us to support the developer's position.

I don't know whether you made any further enquiries about my suggestion of an alternative solution within the site for a smaller pool as a compromise but if the responses to the previous enquiry were to be negative, this may go some way to appease that part of the population who are still keen to see such a facility in our village.

Looking forward to hearing back from you, as always,

Previous email

Sent: 01 September 2020 10:06

To: Haylink representative- details removed due to GDPR >

Cc: Richard Wrinch <Richard@shotleyparishcouncil.org>

Subject: Ganges development- Swimming Pool enquiry

Dear

I hope you are keeping well.

Following the recent updates shared with our parishioners on Ganges matters, it appears that a proportion of the parish was not aware of the discussions and agreements reached in 2017 with regards to the swimming pool.

Following requests from members of the public, this matter was placed on the agenda again in order to allow members of the public an opportunity to voice their opinions and members of the Council to have a brief debate.

As a result, the Parish Council has been asked to approach the developer with a request, and this is whether they would consider putting the demolition process on hold for a period of time, enough to give the community time to look into whether they would be able to prepare a business plan, carry out feasibility studies and raise sufficient funds to refurbish the swimming pool as the heritage/community asset that many feel it is (or has the potential to become).

There is a certain amount of hope that the recent pandemic could result in a shift of priorities and that government/external funding may well be available to make it happen, as well as a belief that advances in alternative power technologies and solutions may facilitate its sustainability in the future.

The Parish is aware that legal agreements have just been finalised (July 2020) and that demolition orders have been approved but the developer is kindly being asked to give the community the opportunity to explore whether the asset is salvageable and whether this can be realistically achieved.

As someone who has previously worked with the Parish Council in terms of community/developer cohesion, may I please ask if you could bring this request to Haylink's attention.

We look forward to hearing back from you.