

An aerial photograph of a swimming pool with several lanes. A swimmer is visible in the top lane. The pool is divided by dark blue lane lines, and there are floating lane lines with buoys. The water is clear blue.

Stanhope Heated Outdoor Pool Project Outline

Introduction

Purpose of our meeting is to

- Introduce you to the current management committee
- Update you on the current situation
- Gauge public interest
- Galvanise community support

All with a view to moving things forward and planning the future of the pool

An aerial view of a swimming pool with several lanes. A swimmer is visible in the top lane. The pool is divided by dark blue lane lines, and each lane is further marked with a white and blue floating lane line. The water is a clear, light blue color.

Where we're at!

Current Position

Pool closed since Sept 2022

- Mainly due to:
 - Plant failure and funding constraints due to tenure
 - General Ageing – 20 years beyond its design life
 - Lack of volunteers and practical community support
 - Operational staffing challenges
 - Rising costs

Current Position Wider Context

- Long term tenureship is required beyond 2024
- Governance and management require refreshing and strengthening
- Mechanical, Electrical and Pool require refurbishment
- Customer facilities require modernisation
- Risk of permanent loss to the community

Draft Mission

To ensure that Stanhope Outdoor Pool reopens as a community facility providing a sustainable heated outdoor swimming provision for educational, leisure and tourism for both residents and visitors to Weardale by 2026.

.... And we believe its possible because

- Funding Opportunities exist
- there's community support
- Outdoor Swimming becoming increasingly popular
- and others have done it

Other Lido/outdoor Pool schemes

- Helmsley



- First Opened in 1969
- In 2019 received funding to replace pool lining with a new tank
- Fundraising continued to provide new showers and changing rooms
- In 2024 extended opening until end November for first time

Other Lido/Outdoor Pool schemes

- Askham
- Haltwhistle
- Ilkley
- Ingleton
- Greystoke Pool, Penrith



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A Stanhope Project

To achieve this in Stanhope we need to.....

1. Establish Robust Governance Arrangements
2. Develop a sustainable Business Plan
3. Secure tenure of the Land
4. Ensure all Mechanical & Electrical plant is fit for purpose
5. Enhance the Customer/User experience through the facilities and programme
6. Secure funding to achieve all the above

Project Outcomes

- An active enthusiastic group of volunteers and trustees
- A Sustainable operating model
- Community ownership of all assets
- Vibrant programme of activities and new ways of using the pool
- Wider and increasing usage of the pool
- More involvement with the local community and businesses

Costs & Funding

COSTS

- Potential costs of assets
- Mechanical and Electrical refurbishment
- Pool Tank remedial works
- Customer Service Improvements
- Project Development
- Others to be determined by the project group

Costs & Funding

POTENTIALLY FUNDED FROM

- Community Ownership Fund
- Lottery Funding
- Area Action Partnership
- Durham County Council
- Community Fundraising Events
- Commercial Sponsorship/ Philanthropy/Endowments
- Community Crowd Funding
- Charitable Trusts & Foundations
- Others to be explored with potential to meet what's required

An aerial photograph of a swimming pool with multiple lanes. A swimmer is visible in the top lane. The pool is divided by dark blue lane lines, and a floating lane line with blue, white, and red floats is visible in the middle lanes. The water is a clear, light blue color.

Shaping the Future: Community Support and Involvement

How can you help?

- Join the Project Group
- Become a volunteer at the pool
- Become a Trustee

Come and talk to us about getting involved

We need all kinds of skills and help

- Press & Media
- Odd Jobs
- Marketing
- Business Planners
- Fund Raisers
- Finance
- Energy
- Building Maintenance
- Health & Safety
- Swimmers
- Cleaners
- Gardeners
- Administrators
- Receptionists
- Coffee-makers
- ... and many more

Joining the Project Group

- Looking for a wide range of skills and community representation
- Require 6 – 9 members
- Time limited involvement
- Regular meetings over 1 to 2 years
- Opportunity to shape the project

Volunteering at the Pool

- Huge range of roles – skilled and unskilled
- Able to offer some time – from now and again to regular
- Chance to help the community
- Admin roles from home too!

Being a Trustee

- Providing overview and strategy for the Charity
- Ensuring good governance
- Approximately 4 meetings a year
- Welcome a wide range of skills particularly legal, finance, business, charity and community involvement
- Does have responsibilities but these are not onerous
- Happy to discuss further with anyone interested

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Next Steps

Next Steps

- Does the Community want the pool to continue?
- Please fill in the form to give us your feedback

Our Next Steps

- Secure Tenureship
- Strengthen Governance arrangements
- Establish the Project Group
- Liaise with local key stakeholders
- Community Fund Application - Expression of Interest already submitted and agreed
- Further explore/research other funding options

An aerial view of a swimming pool with several lanes. A swimmer is visible in the top lane. The water is blue, and the lane lines are dark blue with white and red floats. The text 'Q&A' is overlaid in white, and a large red question mark is overlaid in the lower right.

Q&A

