

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2022/2452/P	Adam	12/09/2022 19:32:14	OBJ	<p>As a regular swimmer at the ponds, I wish to object to this application. The ponds are an important tourist attraction for the borough which the City of London Corporation is steadily ruining through their mismanagement, particularly over the last three years by restricting swimmers to a one hour session which must be pre-booked a week in advance and restricting numbers (eg 120 swimmers at the Mixed Ponds). The proposed steward's hut is in fact a pay booth which is designed to help them enforce these restrictions and extract payment from swimmers, going against the whole ethos of the Ponds.</p> <p>What is needed at the ponds is more space for swimmers to sit in the sun and dry off after their swim. At the Mixed Ponds the vast men's changing area rarely has more than a couple of people in it at any time. In the latest email to swimmers, the City of London Corporation congratulates themselves on "avoiding over-crowding" at the Ponds when in fact they have disappointed huge numbers of swimmers who were not able to pre-book one of the very over subscribed sessions and those that did were summarily instructed to get out of the water and get out of the area after just one hour.</p> <p>If any change is needed at the Ponds it is this: stop excluding women from the so called "Men's Pond" and make it into another Mixed Pond. Currently the Mixed Pond is the smallest of the three even though these days most people do not want to be subjected to gender apartheid. A forward thinking Borough like Camden should not support this illegal and discriminatory exclusion of women which is an outdated hangover from the 19th century. This would allow many more people to swim at the ponds.</p> <p>Any works at the ponds should only be permitted to take place during the winter in order to inconvenience the least number of swimmers.</p> <p>Please Camden, take the management of the Ponds away from the incompetant and money grabbing City of London Corporation and let it be run by the council - by the people for the people, Save Our Ponds!</p>
