

From: lisa cullumbine
Sent: 08 November 2017 14:00
To: Customer Services
Cc:
Subject: Complaint and Appeal letter

To whom it may concern

Following the full council meeting on the 2nd of November at 7.30pm we are putting forward this letter of complaint, and we would like to request an Appeal as we provided the councillors with 20 attachments which ranged from the Inland bathing guide from the Outdoor Swimming Society, legal duties as a landowner and case studies of other outdoor swimming lakes that are run by councils with safety signage and therefore meet all health and safety legalities and negate legal prosecution.

The committee had to prove to them that if they did consider to run a swimming lake facility again that they would not be prosecuted both as a council or individually for any future accidents that may occur.

Rising to the challenge, we did indeed prove that MDC would not be prosecuted for any accidents that may occur if they carry out an honest risk assessment of the lake & install safety signage warning users of the risks associated with swimming in the lake.

We had 5 minutes to put our petition to the council, which reminded them of what we had sent them, The leader of the council Cllr Mark Durham outlined the petition and **unprofessionally** gave his opinion before any debate or voting had taken place.

The Councillor Bob Boyce then took 7.46 minutes of the 15 to put his objections forward, which repeated the reasons they shut the lake in the first place, and did not take into consideration any of the proven facts and documentation that had been provided prior to the meeting.

In the Council papers the agenda item 9 was a report of the Director of Customers and Community.

The purpose of the report was to consider the petition.

The recommendations were as follows:-

- 1 That members note the petition as submitted by the Prom Swimming Committee.
- 2 That a promenade lake working group of the council be formed to consider the response to the petition
- 3 That the draft terms of reference for the working group appended to this report be agreed
- 4 That the promenade lake working group reports back to the council in December with recommendation for the council to consider.

Instead Bob Boyce moved proceedings to a no vote, and he managed to persuade the council to not even consider the above 4 recommendations; but to not accept the petition; the only councillor to support the petition was Cllr Mark Heard.

670 signatures were not counted due to them not being from within Essex, these should have been considered as those signatures are from former residents of Maldon who used to swim in the lake, and still care about their towns future. Also Maldon and the district rely upon visitors from outside Essex to bring tourism to our area. If we have no visitors then the town will eventually die. Maldon is

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well known world wide for their Mud Race, Thames barges and Maldon Salt, we find it impertinent to say that the signatures should not be considered.

We the committee believe that we did not receive a fair hearing for the petition and that the council should give the petition the consideration it deserves, as there are over 4,000 signatures (10% of the district) and to have a working party to consider the opportunities of bringing the lake back to its former glory.

Regards

Lisa Cullumbine/Marie Ellis