

Morden Leisure Centre

This is the fourth Morden Leisure Centre newsletter. We said we would produce newsletters as the project progresses, and here is the next one.

EXCITING TIMES! DESIGNS READY FOR CONSULTATION

“I am delighted that Merton Council’s Leisure Team has developed the Morden Leisure Centre so well and so quickly to date, and I’m really glad that we’ve had the support of so many local people when we’ve consulted with you.

As this newsletter shows, we’re reaching the stage when we can share with you our design of what the centre will look like and what it will provide. Building is always complicated and details might need to change along the way, but I’m confident we will open the doors of your new leisure centre on 1st January 2018, ready to use and within budget.”

Cabinet Member for Community and Culture, Cllr Nick Draper



CONCEPT DESIGN (without sports hall)

As mentioned in our previous newsletters, all designs will have to take into consideration the available budget and the community consultations which took place in 2014.

YOU ASKED FOR

	Designs include:
Café	A café area in the leisure centre foyer with views across the park and into the main pool hall. There are accessible toilets and you will be able to get hot and cold drinks and snacks.
Diving facilities	Diving has been retained with a moveable floor in the smaller pool, allowing for a variety of swimming lessons and activities for all the community including our local diving clubs.

You asked for:	Designs include (continued.)
Main pool - 25m, 6 lanes with extra 2 lanes to give you more water space	A 25m x 13m pool with 6 lanes, because we have included a larger 'small pool' to increase the available water space by 29%. Timetabling of both pools will give greater use and flexibility for all.
Small pool	A 13m x 15m pool with moveable floor will allow for a greater range of activities for all ages and abilities, including the potential for inflatables and water play.
Gym	There is a 100 station fitness suite on the first floor, an increase of 60 stations over existing Morden Park Pools.
Community space	A large studio/community space is included on the first floor.

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Come and hear about and see the proposals on:

Thursday 4 February, 7.15pm

Morden Area Forum, Council Chamber, Civic Centre, London Road, SM4 5DX.

Thursday 11 February

Civic Centre Merton Link – 11.30am – 2pm

Morden Park Pools – 4.30pm – 7.30pm

PARTNERS

We have been working with the Morden Park Playing Fields Community Trust over the last 18 months to firstly bring your family friendly leisure centre together and secondly, to realise their vision of a new pavilion to serve the sports fields and introduce two floodlit artificial grass pitches. Neither partner wants to duplicate facilities and now we know what is possible with Morden Leisure Centre we will work to supplement this with the Trust's own pavilion.

"We're delighted to be working in close cooperation with the London Borough of Merton on this project. Morden Park Playing Fields Community Trust has been aiming for more than ten years now to bring back outdoor sport to the Playing Fields and for this to be a binding force to bring together the different local communities, especially young people. This announcement is an important turning point, and we are happy to say that we can now see a clear way forward."

Simon Davison, Chair of Morden Park Playing Fields Community Trust

Greenwich Leisure Limited have been involved in the detailed design and technical aspects as well as ensuring that operationally the design works best both for the operator and for the users.

“Leisure Services in the London Borough of Merton are continuing to grow from strength to strength and this project promises to really complement recent developments within the other local centres. GLL’s leisure team are very excited to be involved with such a fantastic project, which will bring state of the art of leisure facilities to the surrounding community in the Morden area.” **Greenwich Leisure Limited, partner and operator**

YOU ALSO ASKED FOR:

	Current Position:
Sports Hall (4 badminton court size)	Included in the overall design and in the planning application but the timing of the sports hall will be dependent on contractor prices and other fund-raising.
Climbing Wall	This was not possible to include in this facility, but is available elsewhere in the borough at Wimbledon Park Watersports Centre.
Spa and Sauna	This was not possible but Wimbledon Leisure Centre recently opened their superb London Spa which is just two stops on the tube and a short walk away.

We have designed the new Morden Leisure Centre with a 4 court Sports Hall and a Spinning Studio and we will be submitting a Planning Application with the full design, however we have to wait until the contractor prices are received to see if we have sufficient funds to build the whole facility at the out-set. If not, we will build the centre in two phases with the Sports Hall and Spinning Studio being added when funds become available.

As well as going out to contractors to get the best prices possible, we are also looking to see how else we might be able to raise additional money. We will keep you up to date as the project progresses.

CONCEPT DESIGN (with sports hall)



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