

You may have received the attached questionnaire from Liberty Aldenham Limited about the future of Aldenham Lake (Reservoir).

From the point of view of the Aldenham Country Park Trust, It is very important that the local community gives them the full feedback requested.

As you know Aldenham Country Park Trust exists to ensure that the local community can enjoy the long-term use of the Country Park and lake for leisure, sport and education. This long-term use is under threat.

Hertfordshire County Council owns the Country Park but only has a lease on the lake and its surrounds. This lease ends next year. The private owner proposes to secure the lake's long-term use for the community by rebuilding the dam and, we believe, gifting the additional money to pay for future maintenance costs. They are also suggesting they will set up a trust to run it with the local community and stakeholders involved in this trust, once the rebuilding of the dam has been completed.

In return they are seeking permission to develop land on the other side of Watford Road between the Fisheries pub and the office units that lead up to the A41 roundabout. Whilst this land is designated greenbelt, it is of very poor quality, has limited public access and is rarely used if at all by the local community.

As part of the planning process the private owner would like to obtain the views of the local community and users of the park on the future of the lake.

We understand that the cost of rebuilding the dam will be significant and if the private owner cannot fund the cost from the proposed development it is unlikely that the rebuilding will take place. As a result the future of the lake and public access to it would be very uncertain.

To assist with the removal of this significant uncertainty, we need to ensure that the views of the local community and users of the Park are clearly heard. We strongly encourage you therefore to feed in your comments on the attached questionnaire, share it with others and help to raise wider awareness of these developments.

Please note the easiest way of responding is probably to go online to their website (www.aldenham4you.co.uk) Alternatively you can print off the question sheet and return it to the address on the questionnaire.