

# More opinions on Tinside

## Don't privatise it

I WAS saddened to read of the financial problems faced by Plymouth's beloved Tinside Lido. In 1999 I was among the campaigners who fought to save, restore and reopen the pool.

I also urged realistic modernisation to attract 21st-century clientèle, even building a model to suggest how this might be achieved. My original ideas included fun flumes and slides, a paddling pool with young children's slide and sandpit, toddlers' trike track and ball fun pit, a poolside Jacuzzi - accessed from the changing rooms so it could close at night - and access bridges to straight-edged 'islands' to enable swimming lanes.

An extra floor on the existing building (if possible) would allow for indoor facilities such as a sauna, snooker room, playroom and two restaurants - one of which could be hired for parties etc. A balcony and a sunroom could run along the fronts of the upper floors, the lift be extended, and a bridge-link built to the promenade. A Golden Hind model, artificial palms and decorative lights would grace the poolside.

Although much of this would require special permission, the fact that the pool appears to be operating at a loss would surely substantiate this. Year-round functions at the restaurant alone would help subsidise the pool.

Privatisation or a private-sector partner should not even be considered. The Tories gave the pool a chance, but in my opinion the present council has not used one of the city's greatest assets to its full potential.

V SHADDICK  
Peverell

## A second Dome

THE answer is to cover it with a very large dome or domes. It can be of the same design as the Plymouth Dome, as was, large enough to not only cover the pool, but the audience as well, seated in the 'cliff' between the pool and the road above. The pool can host concerts, plays, ballet and so on. The Plymouth 'domes' could become as well known as the Theatre Royal as a high-quality entertainment complex. Alternatively, if you want to keep the pool we can turn it into a dolphinarium to complement the National Aquarium.

DES MAPPS  
Plymouth

## Disaster looming

IN 2004, Defra estimated that the expected rise in sea levels will mean annual average flood damages could increase by between two and 20 times by the end of the century. Its 'Flood Maps' show areas of Plymouth expected to be flooded. Plymouth University and the Maritime Studies Centre have predicted how Plymouth will suffer.

As the sea level rises, the effectiveness of the Breakwater will diminish, hence larger waves will reach the shore. The Lido problem will be solved, as it will be flooded, along with many other foreshore locations - unless, of course, the city council really thinks ahead and starts a 10-year flood protection project for Plymouth now.

RAY GLASSON  
Plymouth

## Make it modern

UNTIL Tinside is moved out of its 1960s time warp it will continue to run at a loss. Tinside Pool should become a modern water park, like the Spanish and American way of doing things.

Private investment is the only way forward: water chutes, high diving boards and decent food and drink. Today people want more; they holiday abroad, and basic swimming and paddling pools with sub-standard facilities are not tolerated.

Karen Gillard is right to ask for a debate on Tinside's future. I for one will be happy to put my ideas forward.

VINCENT HARRIS  
Peverell

## Hidden wastage

IF THE council thinks Tinside's running costs are too high then it's about time they started to charge for Mount Wise Pool. Perhaps the cost of running it could be made public, including the costs of vandalism clean-ups.

At the same time, can the council disclose the cost each year of bailing out The Pavilions? Before it suggests Tinside is too expensive, it should look at other areas of wastage that are not brought to the public domain.

JO JONES  
Plymouth

## Give a discount

HANDING the pool over to private operation is the only solution. Put a plastic bubble over the top. However, the pool must remain accessible and affordable for all who grew up with Tinside, learned to swim there and see it as part of their home. So how about a discount for all permanent residents, not just students, the elderly, unemployed or those on benefits? Let's give something back to the citizens who have given the city so much.

BERT SYMONS  
Mount Gould

## Working it out

WHY not cover Tinside and also include a gymnasium? Then the public and schools could swim and work out all year around.

AVIS CROOK  
Plymouth

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