

A vibrant underwater photograph of five children in a swimming pool. They are all smiling and wearing colorful swimwear and goggles. Their hands are raised towards the camera, creating a sense of reaching out. The water is clear and blue, with light rays filtering through.

Building a legacy for Abergavenny

How to become involved in the campaign to restore the open air swimming pool to Bailey Park

The pool in 1994

A pool that was loved
by generations

Help us serve generations to come



Our history, and our hopes

The open air pool in Abergavenny was much used and loved by generations of local people from the 1930s until it was closed in the 1990s. We are determined to achieve its reinstation by encouraging others to join us in making it a reality.

And this time, the pool would be heated for year-round use!





Something for everyone

We want the whole community to get involved with this fantastic project. Abergavenny Lido will be a cultural and recreational asset, which could potentially offer a unique leisure experience, not only for the people of Monmouthshire but for the whole of South East Wales and further afield. Older people and anyone with physical/mental health issues will benefit from the new pool. Children will have fun learning to swim. It will also appeal to athletes who need to train for competitions and events. Abergavenny is also a popular tourist destination and a pool would enhance our attractiveness to visitors.



The demand for swimming

A massive resurgence in interest in outdoor swimming means that open air pools are frequently unable to cope with demand.

Although there are many lidos throughout the UK, Wales falls short. Only Lido-Ponty has returned to use in recent times.

An Abergavenny facility would tap into the growing demand for outdoor swimming which is a suitable exercise for people of all ages. It helps people get or stay in shape, and the benefits also extend to mental health.

The lido would be a unique attraction, creating jobs, training and volunteering opportunities, stimulating investment and the local economy, and improving residents' wellbeing.


The Abergavenny Lido would provide a further attraction for people visiting the Abergavenny Food and Cycling Festivals.

Our first aim is to raise finance for a feasibility study which will help secure larger grants from major funders.



Feasibility study

**Making sure we get our sums right
and the pool is sustainable**



Feasibility study (initial costs)

Description of Expenditure

COST (£)

Consultants' professional fees for the following:

Visit the site and discuss project aspirations with committee members and other relevant parties.

500

Undertake analysis, and liaise with the Local Planning Authority

1,000

Contact specialists so we can provide a high level understanding of construction costs based on the design brief and site constraints

1,000

Coordinate surveys identified by the Local Authority to provide a greater understanding of the project brief and constraints

700

Commission required surveys (eg topographical, ecology, arbocultural, acoustic, ground investigation, utilities)

6,000

Present the site options to the committee and prepare an illustrated feasibility document

800

Specialist surveys

6,000

TOTAL

16,000



Fundraising

Please note that we do NOT intend to apply to MCC for funds. Our plan is to raise all the money we need from community fundraising, grants and sponsorship.

So far:

We have applied to The National Lottery Community Fund for a grant.

We are asking local businesses to sponsor the project, and £2,100 has already been pledged from this source.

The Welsh Church Fund has pledged £500.

An Abergavenny-based rugby player is going to organise a sponsored bike ride. This should raise upwards of £1,000.

Online raffle offers prizes donated by numerous local retailers and hospitality businesses. This should raise more than £500.

More ideas for events are emerging all the time and members of the community are coming forward to organise them.

These activities are aimed at generating community awareness and enthusiasm as well as boosting our bank account.



Contact

The Abergavenny Lido Group is an unregistered voluntary/community organisation formed on 30 April 2021

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