

Item 41.5b

Hi Lauren

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> I don't know if this should be put on the agenda for the next meeting or just brought up at the meeting?

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> It's regarding Kensington Gardens boating lake. We did have some ducklings up there but they couldn't get out of the pond so the seagulls had a snack and now there is no more ducklings. So I wanted to see that when the lake is drained (it needs doing as it's thick with blanket weed) that whilst it is empty a permanent island is put in with some natural grasses and flowers and also giving nesting ducks and ducklings some where to hide. Many years ago when I went to the school next door there used to be a floating island there and plenty of ducklings. The canoe boats are never used and just sit in the middle. I'm happy to don a pair of waders to tidy up the island if it needs be.

>

> Kind regards

>

> Cllr Tara Carlton

Hi Tara,

I did have a member of the public raise this very same issue with me a couple of weeks ago, and he also told me there were newts in the boating lake which were exposed and couldn't get out either. I spoke with Richard Hackney at Norse who was arranging to send someone down there with a ramp to remove the ducklings and newts and move them into the other pond, so I really hope this happened before the seagulls got to them.

Regards,
Lauren

Hi Lauren

As you know I'm up at Kensington Gardens mon-fri and I've not seen the ducklings all week so I think it's to late. I had spoken to Robbie the gardener there and a plank of wood was popped into the pond but I think it's a case of to little to late. My suggestion is a permanent concrete island of fair size with a small concrete ledge to help with ducklings getting in and out but with wild flowers and grasses on the top giving newts and ducklings some protection. It was mentioned to me that they took the original island out as the ducks where making a lot of mess with their droppings but it's now more seagull droppings.

If you could keep me in the loop regarding this it would be very much appreciated

Kind regards

Cllr Tara Carlton