

CHRONOLOGY OF THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE VICTORIA BATHS FEB 08 – APR 09

2008					
January					
February	18	Exec board decides to close VLC subject to ‘Tell us your views’ consultation			Concern over consultation methods used. Misleading photos/info.
	19	Demonstration Market Square			
	28	Complaints to ombudsman re. consultation procedures. Schools not consulted. DDA used as an excuse for closure.			
March	1	Demo march from Market Square to public meeting at VLC			
	4	Area 6 committee opposed to closure			
	8	David Trimble announces it would be prohibitively expensive to bring the current facilities up to scratch.			
	18	Public Demo, Market Square. Decision to close confirmed by Exec Board. £5.7m pledged by Council for replacement facilities (refurb not ruled out- commitment by Jon Collins)			VICTORIA LEISURE CENTRE - "TELL US YOUR VIEWS" PUBLIC FEEDBACK ANALYSIS
April	30	First meeting of VLC Working Group- concern that Councillors have decided fate of the facilities (pool only, no dry facilities- no plan to consult).			
May	31	Fun Day at Sneinton Market: Consultation questionnaire approved by Working Group and funded by Area 6 but results not officially acknowledged.			http://www.savevictoriabaths.org.uk/vb-surveyresults.pdf
	28	2nd Working Group meeting- visit to VLC with slide show of a demolished building and minimum footprint new leisure centre on the site. 1st draft development brief presented. Misleading comments on cost of refurbishment.			No minutes?
June		Neighbourhood Development Plan launched (“Gehl Report”)			
	12	Working group meeting- Headline results from May 31st consultation, campaign response to Draft Development Brief and report on refurbishment feasibility presented.			No minutes?
	23	Working Group meeting- Campaign work on refurb vs new build presented and well received			No minutes?
	30	Sub group meeting to considered technical pool related matters			

July	3	2nd draft brief issued- No sports hall. 3 options (in terms of facilities) mentioned. Working Group not named as client or partner. No intermediate consultation stage.	No minutes?
	9	Working Group meeting. Full condition survey information requested (agreed by Nigel Hawkins)	
	11	3rd draft brief issued. Several aspects not as agreed in the meeting.	
	13	Listing fails	
	20	Rumours about pressure/backhanders to put VLC on the Brook Street site, not adjacent to market.	
	23	Wendy replaces Ellie on the Working Group	
	24	Announcement that NRL to lead appointment of design team for feasibility. 4th Draft brief circulated- still contains different requirements to those agreed eg for swimming pool.	
	28	Another message from the campaign group to complain about understaffing and running down of the centre. Dave Trimble cites 'recent structural problems'.	
August	6	Appeal against refusal to list	
	20	Final brief requested and reminder about issuing condition survey information to Nigel Hawkins. Transpires that a brief is being developed by NRL, and the Council will be the client for the work (not Working Group)	
	28	News that NRL is having to insist that the principles of the Gehl report are implemented through the brief.	
September	4	Reminder to NH about condition survey work review.	
	6	Appeal against refusal to list has failed. Campaign press release aimed at getting refurbishment taken seriously.	
	8	Final development brief issued. Tip off from an Architect that this brief had already been released as part of a tender document seeking design teams for the project (prior to final approval by Working Group)	
	10	Working group meeting. No condition survey information. Unhappy that brief has gone out without the 2 pools as agreed, or connectivity to the Market. Working Group/SVB not to be part of the panel selecting architects.	
	13	Heritage open day	
October	13	Another reminder to NH to release the condition survey information.	
	14	Design Team interviews. TH attends as an observer only.	

		20	Another reminder to NH to release the condition survey information, otherwise Freedom of Information	
		22	Condition survey information released. Contains 'updated' figures but this consists of 4 major items totalling £1.18m buried in the middle of the text. Calls in to doubt the Council's original decision to close the centre on the basis of refurbishment cost. Levitate confirmed as Design Team.	
		29	Anne Bethell fobbed off again at Coucillors' surgery- no reply to her questions.	
	November	1	"Trees" consultation at Sneinton Market	Results of our November 2008 consultation >
		13	Working group "special meeting" . . . Campaign delivers a report on the condition survey info. First Levitate 'consultation meeting' at VLC with stakeholders, shown model of a new build 2 storey leisure centre on the site. Consultation exercise results in strong support for refurb- outcomes were issued but not referred to again. SVB has to fight to get Jan 5th consultation made public rather than 'stakeholder only'.	
			Anne Bethell get replies from Jon Collins indicating VLC needs to be demolished, that is what people want.	
	December	12	Letter from Jon Collins confirming original statements on refurbishment costs.	
2009	January	5	Working Group meeting shown Levitate initial proposals. It transpires later that this will be the last Working Group meeting, with no final view of the Design Team proposal or reaching of a Working Group position. Public consultation on Options, Carlton Road Library. For results see Think Tanc report.	
	February			
	March	2	Campaign discovers that another consultation is being conducted- apparently on the agreement of the Working Group chair but not passed by the group. The consultation text is biased towards Option C (eg gives lengths of new pools but only says that existing pools are 'not to Sport England standard) and method flawed (random answers would statistically result in support for option C). Since the preferred option is already supposedly chosen (Mid Jan), this 'consultation' cannot possibly be feeding in to the process, misleading respondents in to thinking they are being listened to. Consultation not available in alternative formats to be accessible to disabled.	
	April	7	Area committee meeting- Option C selected	