



**Warrington Dolphins**  
**Long Distance Swimming Club**  
[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

**Newsletter – May 2010**

Recently I've only produced 2 Newsletters in the year, one in April and the other in October. However, Warrington Borough Council has proposed changes to the way the Dolphins and all other swimming clubs use their swimming baths. As this may have some quite striking changes, I've drafted this Newsletter to keep everyone up to date.

As you may be aware Warrington Borough Council has historically allocated time slots to swimming clubs and the members of that club get exclusive use of the pool at that time. Swimmers then pay the council at the door to use the pool. You are probably aware that the council is in a dire financial position and are looking for all ways to save money.

We have been contacted by the Leisure Services Department and they have informed us that they intend to change to the more widely used system of pool hire. It would mean that the club will be allocated a slot and would then be invoiced for that slot. Swimmers would not then pay the baths to enter. As you can imagine the club would then have to collect this money from swimmers.

At present the details have not been finalised, but rest assured we will do whatever is possible to get the best deal for the club and its members.

Additionally the council management team have reported that they are looking at pool usage and are to reallocate slots to swimming groups. Apparently they have no issues with the Dolphins but some user groups have been using the facilities at some session where only a couple of people are present. These sessions are unlikely to continue and they will be reallocated to other users. From our initial meeting our Friday night session will remain ours as it has been for over 40 years. Our current understanding is that we will not lose any water time in this process.

Moving into the future you will probably be aware of the new pool development now started on Winwick Road, (Orford Park Complex). This will be an eight lane pool and again we have been informed that there will be a smooth transfer of allocated time from the current pool at Fordton to Orford Park when it opens. Fordton will close at this time.

So to summarise there are changes ahead which will have some impact upon the Dolphins. All details have not been finalised by the council. In the next Newsletter I'll be able to report fully on what they are and that hopefully they have little financial impact on the club and its members.

**Andy Wright**  
**President**