



# Rickmansworth Aquadrome Presentation to Steering Group 15<sup>th</sup> October 2025

# Presentation overview

- Introductions; Meet the Project Team: RSK, Haley Sharpe, LinkyThinks
- Project scope and vision
- Breakout session: Discussion groups
- Refreshments and networking
- Future engagement: Feedback; Summing up and how we will work with you
- Q and A

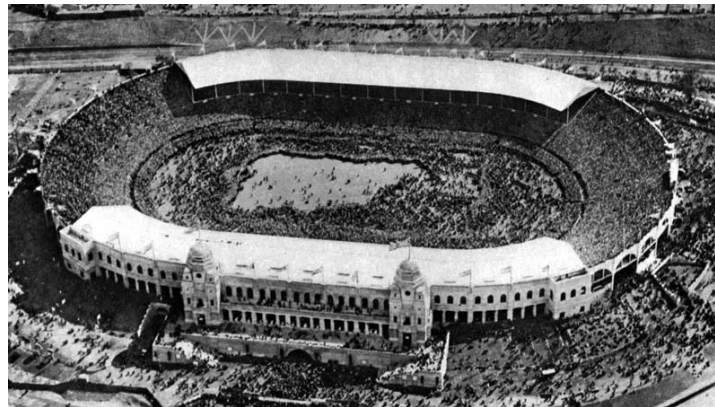
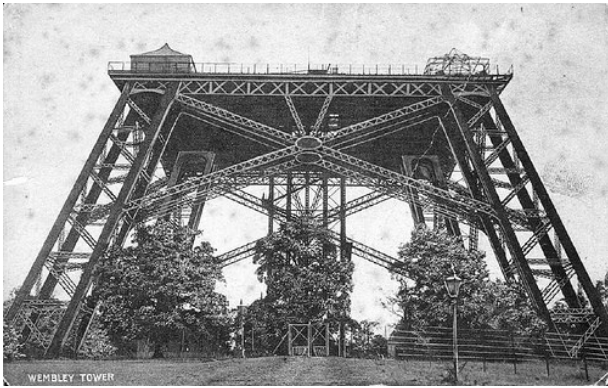
# Introductions: Meet the project team



Haley  
Sharpe



# Connections, stories and circumstances



Images: Watkin's Folly, PD, The original Wembley Stadium PD, The Aquadrome (A Tempamy), Northala Fields (Wayne77, CC-BY 3.0)

# Project scope and vision

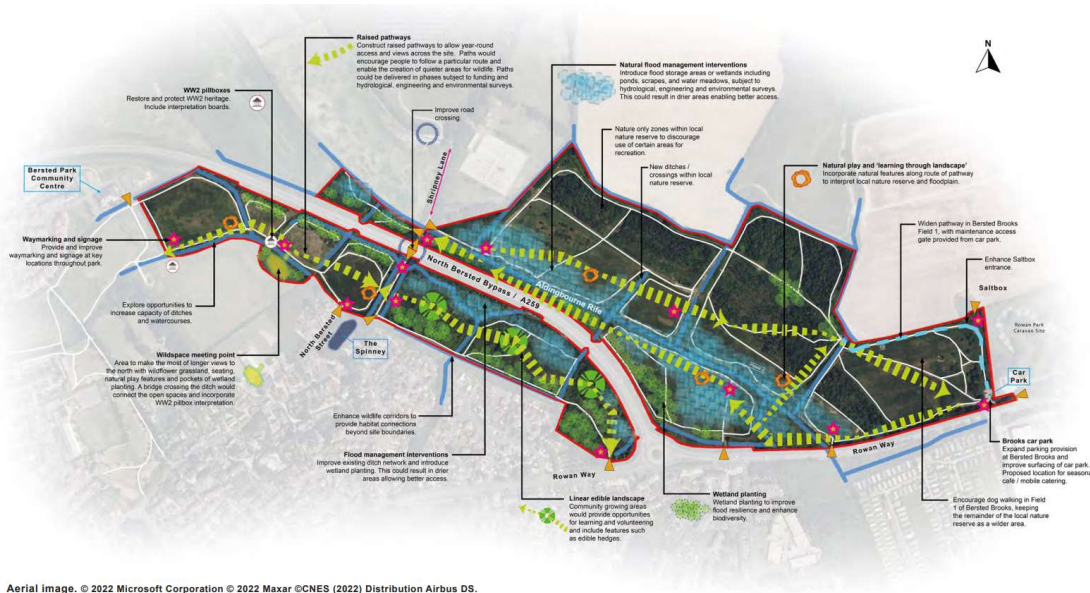
- Key principle: A collaborative, co-design process.



# Project scope and vision

- Site-wide masterplan: A spatial framework to restore and enhance the Aquadrome, its special character, qualities and essence.
- Site wide habitat picture, survey and habitat and management objectives; vegetation management.
- Stakeholder engagement and outreach.

# What a masterplan could look like



Aerial image. © 2022 Microsoft Corporation © 2022 Maxar ©CNES (2022) Distribution Airbus DS.



# n for Watford

## Gallery Two: Sporting Watford

With sporting fans' input, this lively and colourful gallery will showcase the best of Watford's sporting heroes and institutions. Our initial plans include the great moments, legends and diverse fan communities of Watford Football Club, celebrated today as the 'Original Family Club'. We also want to bring the rich boxing heritage of the town to life, along with sporting clubs and people at all levels of professionalism.

Rotating displays will give local grassroots sports clubs, schools and other amateur teams the opportunity to tell their story and achievements.

Boxing punch bag interactive  
Photo opportunity  
Display of Watford FC Legends, who have inspired us to follow their path



Back on the proposals so far! Please fill out a postcard with your own stories and post it in the box provided or use the QR code to find out more information

## A New Museum for Watford

### What's happening?

An inspiring project is underway to create a brand-new museum in the Town Hall that celebrates the vibrant heritage, communities and culture of Watford. We want your help to develop engaging, object displays and interactive exhibitions that bring the history of the town to life. We would love to hear your ideas to help shape the content and design of the new Watford Museum!

### Why is the museum moving?

Moving to the Town Hall is a well-planned project to create a new, fully accessible museum. The old museum is made of our unique stone and is in a very poor state of repair. The new museum will have a range of new spaces for learning activities, varied community display areas, events, and museum storage.

### Ground floor

1. An interactive display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.
2. A permanent display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.
3. A permanent display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.



### Top floor

1. A permanent display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.
2. A permanent display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.
3. A permanent display about the history of Watford, including the town's early history and the development of the town.



# Project scope and vision

- Detailed design for chalk stream restoration, natural flood management, visitor access and enjoyment – boardwalks and trails.
- Visitor welcome hub, contemplative area, new natural play provision, audio poetry trail, interpretive landscape for pinetum.
- Early contractor involvement to enable designs to progress on site asap after Round 2 Lottery pass.







# Breakout sessions



# Breakout session 1: 10 minutes

- Linguistic Framing: How do words reflect and dictate our experience?



## Breakout session 2: 10 minutes

- Content preferences for potential interpretive design for the site



River, Lakes, Woodland, Pinetum, Wildlife, People, Heritage, Now

## Breakout session 2: 10 minutes

- Benchmarking preferences for potential interpretive design for the site



Poetry, Sensory, Discovery, Sculpture, Play, Contemplative

## Slide 16

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**AT1**

Tina, can you add some content here?

Andrew Tempany, 2025-10-06T15:45:51.381

A watercolor illustration of a landscape. A river flows from the top right towards the bottom left. The banks are covered in green foliage. In the bottom right corner, there is a prominent yellow rock formation or cliff face. The overall style is soft and painterly.

## Breakout session 3: 10 minutes

- What matters to you? What do you value most about the site?
- What doesn't work for you? Why?

## YOUR INSIGHT MATTERS

### HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE AQUADROME

We're at the start of developing a new landscape masterplan for Rickmansworth Aquadrome, and your knowledge of the site is invaluable.

This map is a space for you to share your experience; what you love, what could be improved and what opportunities you see for the future. Your comments will directly inform the development of early ideas and help ensure the masterplan reflects shared priorities and local insight.

#### How to Contribute

1. Use a Green Sticker to mark something you feel works well or should be preserved or celebrated.
2. Use a Red Sticker to mark an area where you feel improvement is needed or there is potential for change.
3. Each sticker is numbered. Once you've placed your sticker on the plan, write your comment on a note card and include the matching sticker number.
4. You can write as much or as little as you like. Feel free to write more than one comment and use multiple stickers.

#### Prompt Questions

1. What parts of the Aquadrome do you value most and why?
2. What stories, memories or history should we reflect in the design?
3. What would make the site more welcoming and inclusive for all users?
4. What changes would help wildlife and nature thrive here?
5. Are there places that feel underused or in need of improvement?
6. What do you hope the Aquadrome will offer in the future?
7. Is there anything missing from the Aquadrome experience?



Summing up and future engagement and how  
we will work together



Thank you for all your inputs today, and

