



Lisvane and Llanishen Reservoirs

Update Newsletter



March 2018

Hello.....

We've been busy over the winter months with our work at Lisvane and Llanishen reservoirs. Our project to bring the reservoirs back into use has continued to progress, and there has been lots of activity on site recently.

In this newsletter you will find out a bit more about the work that has been taking place and what is planned for the next few months. We hope you find the information useful.

Draining Llanishen reservoir

Since the autumn we have been draining Llanishen reservoir so that we can clear the vegetation that has grown underwater over recent years, and so that we can access the reservoir bed.

We needed to do this to check the condition of pipes underground, using CCTV surveys, and fully repair the stone pitching on the embankment.



Llanishen reservoir on 22 February: almost empty

Fish rescue

While draining the reservoir at Llanishen, we have taken care to ensure that all the fish have been properly rescued and released into Lisvane reservoir.



Fish rescue expert from APEM

In February, a team of experts from APEM – a leading independent environmental consultancy – visited the site to capture all the fish, mostly sticklebacks, from the reservoir humanely using the latest surveying techniques such as electric-fishing.



Fish rescue taking place as the reservoir levels get lower



Lisvane and Llanishen Reservoirs

Update Newsletter



March 2018

Pump house

We have recently demolished one of the old pumping stations at the edge of the reservoir, which was found to be derelict and unsafe. The building was checked for bats and other wildlife before being taken down, and the process took three days.

The pumping station housed an old diesel engine, likely to be from the early 1950s, which would have pumped water from Llanishen reservoir to other areas across Cardiff. We plan to restore this engine, and display it as a working exhibit at the renowned Internal Fire Museum of Power, near Cardigan in West Wales.



Pump house demolition



Pump house demolition

ahead of the bird nesting season to avoid affecting any potential nests in the spring.



Tree and shrub clearance

You may have noticed that we have also cut back the hedge along our access track to Rhyd-y-Penau Road during February.



Hedge cutting on Rhyd-y-Penau Road

Ecology

We're working closely with Natural Resources Wales and ecological specialists to ensure we protect the site's valuable wildlife while we work.

We have been clearing some shrubs in the Nant Fawr meadows, along a route where we are planning to carry out work to some water pipes, and the scrub and trees have been cleared well

Future facilities

While we are busy working to restore the reservoirs, we are also identifying the facilities we may be able to offer in the future. Since we took on the site, we have been clear about our intention to open it up, and offer recreational facilities, and we have been contacted by local people and organisations with ideas for activities at the site.

There are limitations to what can be supported and no firm decisions have been taken yet, but we are investigating the potential to provide:

- Visitor centre with café
- Water based activities
- Environmental and Bio-diversity projects

Over the coming months, we will be out and about in your communities, so you will have the opportunity to chat with us about future facilities. If you have any ideas, queries or concerns, please get in touch with Megan or Gwyn on 01443 452452 or email

lisvaneandllanishen@dwrcymru.com.