

# AELTC Wimbledon Park development - The latest Legal situation

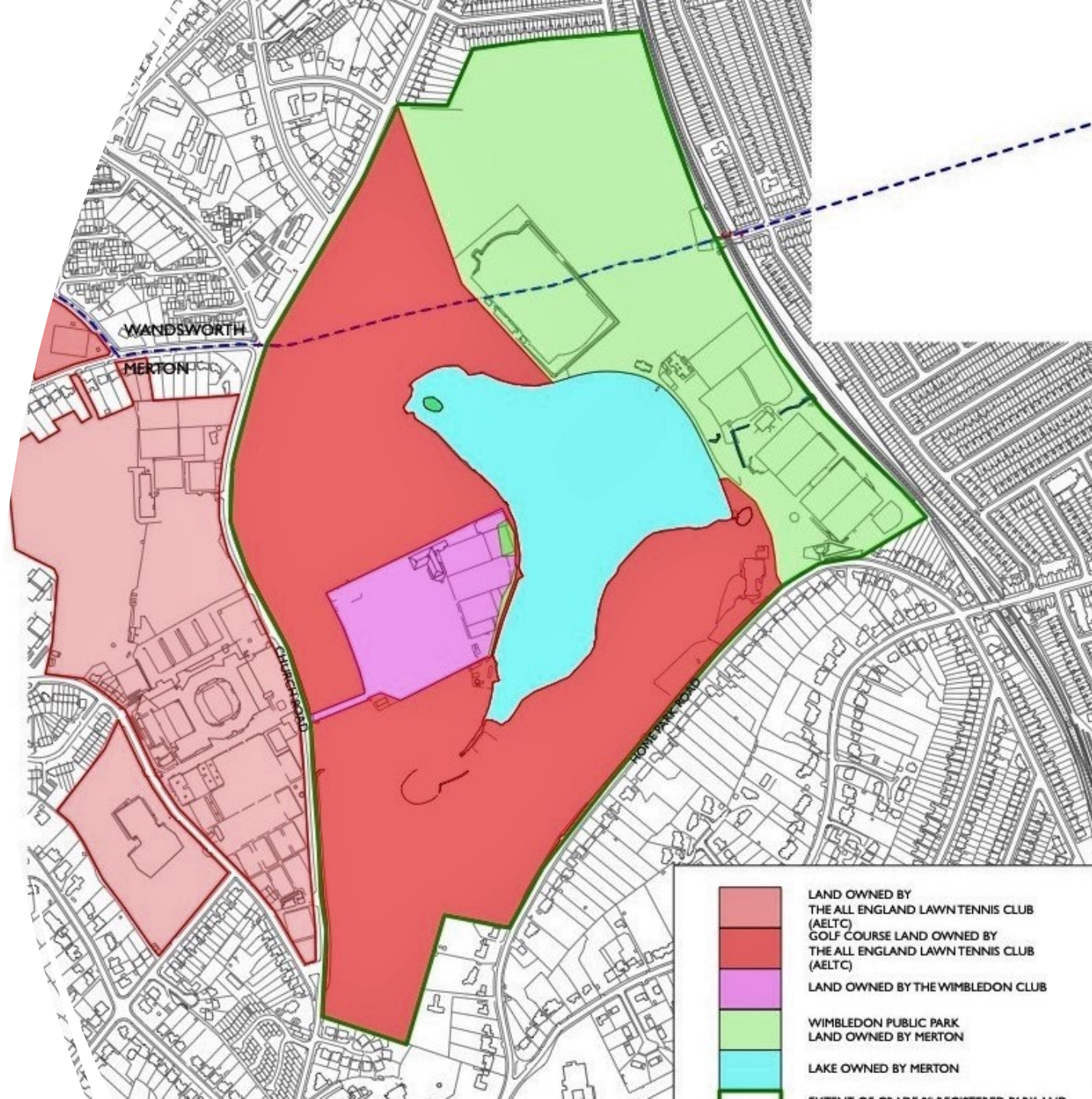
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**Christopher Coombe**

**September 2023**

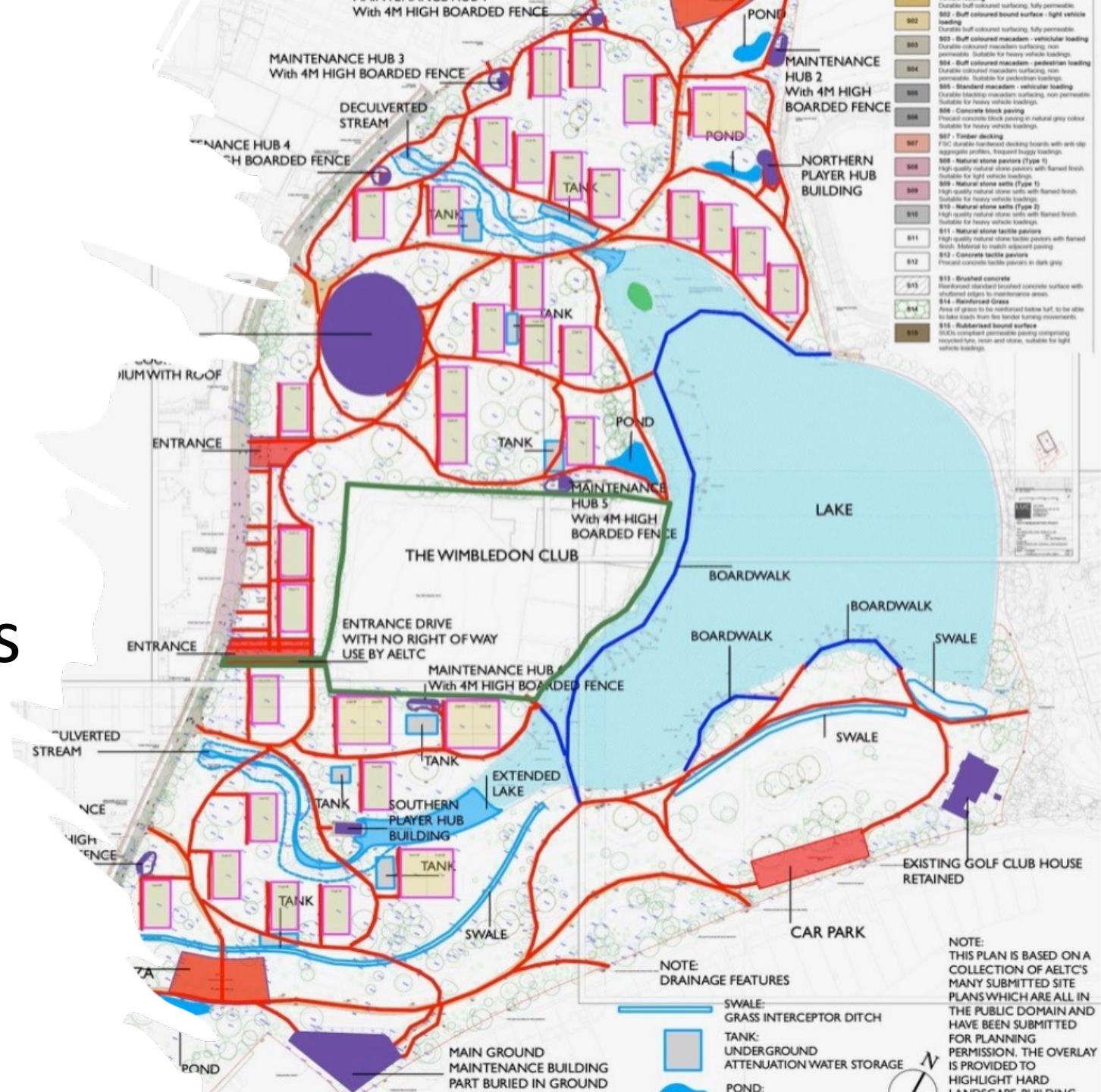
# Existing AELTC site & Heritage Wimbledon Park

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# AELTC Proposal

Stadium & tunnel  
Maintenance buildings  
Hard-standings  
38 courts  
9.4kms roads



# Planning application: progress?

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Three attempts, 186 documents

July 2021, May 2022, October 2022

2000+ Planning Objections

12,500 petitioners

Committee dates?

GLA?

Secretary of State?



# 1993 Covenants: Leisure, recreation, open space

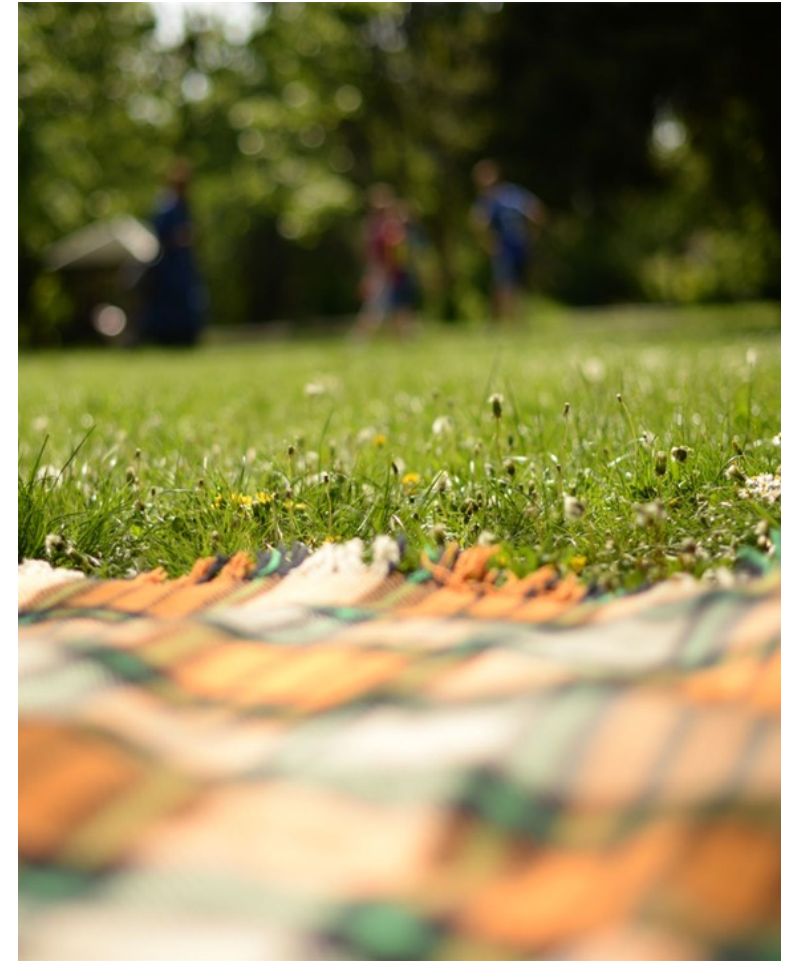
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## **Tony Colman, Merton Council Leader:**

“Respecting the wishes of local people, this council is resolute that the land will be retained as open space. All England has bought knowing this is our policy, and we would not allow development of the site.”

## **John Currie, All England chairman:**

“We completely understand and support everyone’s determination to keep the land open and we purchased the land on that basis.”



# Wimbledon Park Estate: Public Trust Land

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**1898 Golf course saved it from development**

**1915 Wimbledon Corporation bought it for open space and as municipal golf course**

**1965 Merton Council was established, and entire Estate declared to be Public Trust Land**

**1993 Sold to AELTC as open space**

**2023 Supreme Court in Day v Shropshire:**

“ ... the land is subject to a statutory trust for the public, and members of the public have a right to go onto the land for the purpose of recreation.”



# With thanks to:

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Russell-Cooke, solicitors

Tim Mould KC

George Laurence KC

Wimbledon Society and WPRA

