

Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators
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Wimbledon Common
London SW19 5NR

Chief Executive: Simon Lee



MEDIA RELEASE

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Damage to Wimbledon Windmill – remaining sails removed

The skyline on Wimbledon Common changes again as the sails are removed from the Windmill, a Grade II* listed structure which has stood on the site for almost 200 years.

Following the recent damage to the roof of the iconic Wimbledon Windmill, caused when a sail sheared off on the 2nd of August, the remaining three sails were removed on Tuesday 11th August, to allow for inspection by millwrights, Owlsworth IJP, of Berkshire.

Repairs to the roof will begin on 19th August and the Conservators of Wimbledon and Putney Commons and the Trustees of the Windmill Museum are hopeful that the roof repairs and internal decoration will be complete in time to allow the museum to re-open to visitors for the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Open Day on Sunday 13th September. The repair and replacement of the sails will commence later in the year.

Keith Luck, Chairman of the Conservators (Trustees) said: *“Once the initial repairs are completed, and the Windmill has been made safe to allow it to reopen to visitors, the Conservators and the Trustees of the Museum will turn their thoughts to how best to fund the repairs to the sails and other necessary renovation. We are currently liaising with our insurers but it is possible that a fund-raising appeal will be launched for this much-loved building.”*

ENDS

NOTES for Editors

Wimbledon and Putney Commons is a charity managed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators. It was established under the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act of 1871. The Commons comprise some 1,140 acres across Wimbledon Common, Putney Heath and Putney Lower Common.

The Wimbledon Windmill was a hollow-post mill built in 1817 to serve local people who were still growing their own wheat. The Mill ceased working in 1864 and, following a major restoration in 1975, a Museum of Windmills was created. The Windmill Museum is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers and is generally open at weekends.

Wimbledon and Putney Commons Website: www.wpcc.org.uk

Wimbledon Windmill Museum Trust: www.wimbledonwindmill.org.uk

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The sails being removed from the Windmill



The new Wimbledon Common skyline