



Wimbledon Park Lake Project - (Reservoir Safety and Desilting)

Summary of Technical Steering Group Meeting – 04 September 2018

Project Scoping Meeting

- The purpose of today's meeting was to consider a number of options that the project's consultants (BWB) working on the Stage 2 Flood Risk Report were developing, so that they could take on board comments and observations as they worked to finalise the stage 2 report
- The consultants (BWB) gave a presentation on their work to date and their thoughts on potential solutions. Key observations and comments were:-
 - Extent of flood mitigation works required including inflows and outflows – agreed to commission a site investigation and structural condition survey of the course of the dam and the sheet piling. This survey should also take account of any archaeological findings and therefore work with the Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) should be included
 - Flood Mitigation – Desilting of the lake has minimal benefits in terms of meeting the required reservoir safety standards. An engineering solution including a secondary spillway along with erosion matting and/or raising of the dam via an engineered wall could be a method to bring the lake up to the Reservoir Safety Act requirements. Works would also be need to reduce water levels and to improve the existing sluice/overflow weir.
- Ecological Priorities – All ecological surveys have been completed or are underway (Eel Survey). It was noted that the optimum timeframe to carry out works from an ecological perspective is between August and February as this would negate any issues with bird or amphibian breeding. Issues to minimise disruption for fish and eels and it was noted that the preferred method is to capture and hold in sealed off area of the lake. Unless there is serious disruption, work on the bank of the lake, if handled sensitively, should not impact habitat creation. The contractor awarded the works would be required to provide method statements for bio-security, etc.
- Heritage Priorities – the designs would need to conserve and enhance the lake's historic significance and address issues associated with the registered park and garden's 'Heritage at Risk' status, e.g. striving to improve the overall 'condition of lake' in terms of water quality, appearance and setting. Any further condition and structural surveys work of the lake/dam should consider archaeology, and a method statement should be drawn up to record anything uncovered. Consideration should be given as to how some element of tree cover can be retained along the dam south of the Bowls Pavilion
- Planning – it was noted that the project implementation will be subject to gaining planning approval
- Operational Management – it was noted that any works including surveys will need to take account of existing day to day uses of the park.

Next Meeting: 2nd October 2018