



Wimbledon Park Lake Project - (Reservoir Safety and Desilting)

Summary of Technical Steering Group Meeting – 07 August 2018

Programme of Activities

- Ecological Impact Assessment – The Eel Survey has been postponed until the beginning of September due to activity on the lake during the school holidays. Consent from the Environment Agency for the delay and for the survey to be carried out has been obtained,
- Habitat Suitability Index – Note from last meeting amended to read:

“A Habitat Suitability Index Assessment has identified that the lake is unlikely to support Great Crested Newts”

This information will now be included within the Final Revised Edition of the Preliminary Ecological Assessment Index. Once completed this can be published on the council’s website

- Tree Matters – the draft Tree Survey Report has recently been received and this is now with the group’s lead officers for technical review. Once this is concluded and the group it can be returned to the group for sign off for publication. Concern was expressed regarding the self-seeded saplings on the embankment as failure to deal with these could prove more costly in the long-term
- Flood Study – The Stage 2 Flood Study continues to progress. The consultants will be invited to present at the group’s meeting in September. The Environment Agency have confirmed that the discharge certificate of the outstanding Section 10 measure for Wimbledon Park Lake can be published by the council, on the website.
- Water Quality and Pollution – The Environment Agency (EA) noted that one person at the EA (fisheries dept) had been contacted by the Wimbledon Park Angling Club advising that they considered the oxygen levels in the lake to be low. The EA section contacted had checked this out with the EA Fisheries Team reported that they were unaware of any proactive correspondence on this matter
- Site Visits – Visit to Ifield Mill Pond, Crawley took place on 16th July and all who attended found it a very informative and useful visit. Confirmation of a visit to Highams Park on 15th August is awaited and it is hoped that the visit to Hampstead Heath can then be arranged for the same day, subject to the availability and logistics of these both being able to take place on one day
- Archaeological Risk / Heritage and other Surveys - The Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (DBA) is now completed
- Local Plans – The fact that consultation on the local authorities (Wandsworth and Merton). Local Plans consultation will soon commence and all noted that it is important that the Flood Risk and De-silting of Wimbledon Park Lake is included
- Project Scoping Meeting – it was agreed to hold this meeting in lieu of the normal steering group meeting on 4th September
- Finance – Merton and Environment Agency are working together to try to bid for DEFRA funding to support this project and it was noted that we should also look at other funding stream including the GLA’s Greener City Fund, when the timing of the project and scope is better determined.

Next Meeting: Project Scoping Meeting - 4th September 2018