

Meeting at Onepoto 10 June 2009

The Onepoto Lagoon Co-ordination Committee was invited to a meeting between NSCC Parks and Reserves; Water Works, the installers of the fountains; and a consultant.

The purpose of the meeting was to investigate the problems at the pond and to produce a plan to put before the Community Board to resolve these.

- 1) The pond is silted reducing the depth below that specified by the management plan.
- 2) The fountain intake is becoming blocked by silt, weed and crustaceans. This reduces the flow and overloads the pump.

Desilting the Pond:



The recent rain had raised the pond over the paths and the runoff had made the water very brown and cloudy. This meant that it was not possible to see the silting or how blocked the culverts were. I had a copy of the OLCC Onepoto Manual and this had photographs that illustrated the problem areas and had a map showing the inadequate depths in the pond.

I gave out the OLCC web site address so that this document could be downloaded for reference along with the other documents that are on the site.

The plan for desilting the pond involves pumping the silt directly across the road and into a low-lying area which currently gets water logged during rain, as observed. The area will be prepared with drainage and dam walls to contain the silt and leave it to drain and solidify. It will eventually raise the ground level and, after covering with top soil and grass, will make that area more usable.

The Fountains:



The filters and fountain heads have been removed so that there is no restriction to the flow with the debris being pumped through with the water. The removal of the heads meant that there was no height to the flow.

The current intake is well out from the pond wall and in the deeper part of the pond. This makes it inaccessible but leaves it liable to ingesting silt and rubbish while also allowing mussels and weed to grow around and inside it.

It will be necessary to reconstruct the fountain pump intake with a large pre-filter that is directly accessible. This would give a much larger area of filter making it less liable to blockage while allowing it to be cleaned easily from the bank.



Around the underground pump housing.

The various parts of the pond and storm water streams were looked at: the flap valves need some new chain; the culverts need clearing; a new lock is needed on the weir gate cover.