



Project Data Sheet



Project

Review of condition of ornamental lakes

Client

Chicksands Estates

Project

Two lakes within the Chicksands estate are fed by the River Flit. It is possible to control flow through the lakes by adjustment of a penstock located a few metres upstream of the upper lake. By opening the penstock, part of the river flow can be diverted into the original river channel, which passes to the north of the lakes. However, in times of high river flow the local drainage board close the penstock, thereby forcing all flow through the lakes. This is done in the belief that by so doing the risk of flooding to the village of Shefford downstream is reduced.

The river carries a significant sediment load, particularly at times of high flow. Because of the relatively still water within the lakes, these act as settling ponds and a significant proportion of sediment suspended in the river flow settles from suspension resulting in the accretion of sediment within the lakes. This has been remedied in the past by periodic dredging campaigns.

ADBP's work involved reviewing the condition of the lakes and the risk of flooding. Also provided were possible solutions and the additional information that was needed to be collected in order that the risk of flooding may be more accurately assessed and the alternative methods and costs of remedial works, if deemed to be necessary, may be assessed.

Dates

2007

Capital Value

N/A