

# Consultation delay frustrates pool campaigners

SAVE Oakleigh pool campaigners have been left high and dry, with consultation on the pool's future pushed back until February.

Monash Council promised to discuss saving the pool with residents this month, but now says figures won't be ready in time to proceed with consultation as planned.

Pool campaigner Julie Clearwater said the council's delay was unacceptable.

"I'm really dismayed and upset; it feels like it is a delaying tactic," Ms Clearwater said. "I don't know why it has taken so long."

Councillor Stephen Dimopoulos, who is chairman of the Oakleigh pool steering committee, said the costings for repairing the pool or putting in a "splash pad" were not ready.

He said council officers would have the figures ready within two weeks, after which the steering

committee would take another four weeks to work out the options.

Cr Dimopoulos said he understood pool campaigners would be disappointed with the delay but didn't want to start consultation over the Christmas and New Year period.

"This is not a pool for a day or a week, it's a pool for at least 25 years," Mr Dimopoulos said.

"A two-month wait is not a lot to

ask for when you are talking about a 25-year project."

Council staff have drained the Oakleigh pool and engineers will check the pipes.

The pool will remain closed this summer despite the council's decision to consider reopening it at its August meeting.

Cr Dimopoulos said the community consultation would be done in a "clever" way and would include public meetings and surveys.



Darcy, Jack, Michael and Ellen are selling posters to help save the Oakleigh pool.

Picture: MARTIN REDDY N11W1210

# Siblings' cool idea

OAKLEIGH MONASH LEADER  
17 OCT 2006

Steve Drill

TWO Mt Waverley children have come up with a way to save the environment and the Oakleigh pool at the same time.

Jack and Michael Miller were worried about the blue plastic bags - put up all over their neighbourhood to raise awareness of the pool campaign - blowing into Monash creeks, parks

and gardens. So now the primary school students are selling blue Save Oakleigh Pool posters for \$1 each at the Oakleigh market each Sunday to replace the bags.

Jack said he and his brother came up with the poster idea after they saw blue plastic bags blowing down the street. "We were brainstorming about where the bags would go and how we could fix it," Jack said.

"So we laminated signs with Oakleigh pool on them so they are environmentally safe."

The boys will give money raised from the pool posters to the Community Life Action Group, which is behind the pool protest campaign.

Monash Council voted to close the pool at its June meeting, but reconsidered the plan in August after a public outcry. It is investigating the cost of repairing the dilapidated pool.

# Consultation delay frustrates pool campaigners

SAVE Oakleigh pool campaigners have been left high and dry, with consultation on the pool's future pushed back until February.

Monash Council promised to discuss saving the pool with residents this month, but now says figures won't be ready in time to proceed with consultation as planned.

Pool campaigner Julie Clearwater said the council's delay was unacceptable.

"I'm really dismayed and upset; it feels like it is a delaying tactic," Ms Clearwater said. "I don't know why it has taken so long."

Councillor Stephen Dimopoulos, who is chairman of the Oakleigh pool steering committee, said the costings for repairing the pool or putting in a "splash pad" were not ready.

He said council officers would have the figures ready within two weeks, after which the steering

committee would take another four weeks to work out the options.

Cr Dimopoulos said he understood pool campaigners would be disappointed with the delay but didn't want to start consultation over the Christmas and New Year period.

"This is not a pool for a day or a week, it's a pool for at least 25 years," Mr Dimopoulos said.

"A two-month wait is not a lot to

ask for when you are talking about a 25-year project."

Council staff have drained the Oakleigh pool and engineers will check the pipes.

The pool will remain closed this summer despite the council's decision to consider reopening it at its August meeting.

Cr Dimopoulos said the community consultation would be done in a "clever" way and would include public meetings and surveys.



Darcy, Jack, Michael and Ellen are selling posters to help save the Oakleigh pool.

Picture: MARTIN REDDY N16WG702

# Siblings' cool idea

OAKLEIGH MONASH LEADER  
17 OCT 2006

Steve Drill

TWO Mt Waverley children have come up with a way to save the environment and the Oakleigh pool at the same time.

Jack and Michael Miller were worried about the blue plastic bags - put up all over their neighbourhood to raise awareness of the pool campaign - blowing into Monash creeks, parks

and gardens. So now the primary school students are selling blue Save Oakleigh Pool posters for \$1 each at the Oakleigh market each Sunday to replace the bags.

Jack said he and his brother came up with the poster idea after they saw blue plastic bags blowing down the street. "We were brainstorming about where the bags would go and how we could fix it," Jack said.

"So we laminated signs with Oakleigh pool on them so they are environmentally safe."

The boys will give money raised from the pool posters to the Community Life Action Group, which is behind the pool protest campaign.

Monash Council voted to close the pool at its June meeting, but reconsidered the plan in August after a public outcry. It is investigating the cost of repairing the dilapidated pool.