

Submission to the Christchurch City Council

Burwood\Pegasus Community Board

Regarding the Re-Development of Sporting Facilities servicing the Western side of the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board

I WISH to be heard in support of this submission.

Submitter: Mr Philip Haythornthwaite
Address: 160a North Parade
Shirley
CHRISTCHURCH 8013

Pages: 2 + Cover Letter

Proposal: **THAT** The Burwood\Pegasus Community Board urgently review the provision of Bowling Greens and all other sporting facilities especially at the western end of the Boards area of coverage and jurisdiction.

Reasons in support of the above proposal:

- A) I am very heavily involved in playing Lawn Bowls since taking up the sport in the late 1970's starting in Cheviot in North Canterbury and then as a member of the Shirley Bowling Club after moving into Christchurch in September 1989, as well as being a registered umpire and a member of my Bowling Clubs Executive Committees for a very long time.
- a) After the September 4th 2010 earthquake and following on from the February 22nd 2011 earthquake and those following after this number of the bowling clubs in the immediate area of The Palms Mall in the Shirley Area have been severely damaged to the point that the following bowling clubs have decided to close completely. These Bowling Clubs are:
 - b) Burwood Park Bowling Club - Located in Burwood Park on New Brighton Road.
 - c) Shirley Bowling Club - Located in Richmond Park at the top of Woodchester Avenue.
 - d) Christchurch Richmond Bowling Club - Located in Petrie Street, Shirley - *This club has now re-located to the Edgeware Bowling Club Site **but** the Petrie Street site is closed.*

COMMENT

As a consequence of these decisions the provision of the sport of bowls to the people living in the area serviced by the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board area has been severely diminished to the point where considerable travel has to be undertaken to participate in the sport.

The nearest bowling club to anybody who now lives at the Western End of the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board is Parklands Bowling Club or New Brighton Bowling Club if you want to be a member of a bowling club inside the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board Ward Boundaries.

If you are happy to go outside the ward then your Bowling Clubs are:

- a) Christchurch Richmond Bowling Club - Located at Forfar Street, Edgeware.
- b) Linwood Bowling Club - Stanmore Road, City side of the Avon River.
- c) Dallington Bowling Club - Located in Avon Park, Dallington, City side of Avon River

It is my belief that the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board should look at whether or not it is possible to re-establish a bowling club on the old Burwood Park Bowling Club site and look at the re-development of the Burwood Park North Site so that the old Burwood Park Bowling Club Pavilion is demolished and

re-built on the eastern side of the Bowling Club grounds so that it can be used by other sports as their base as well. It should also be noted that the Burwood Park Bowling Club Site is on major Bus routes such as the Metrostar, the Orbiter (currently diverted down North Parade while Gayhurst Road is out of action), Route 7 to Queenspark, Route 46 to Marshlands and is only 50 metres from the Windsor House Bus stop.

One of the reasons I feel needs to be looked at by the Community Board and the Council is how a pavilion is located and placed in relation to the public view of the sports taking place from the roadway. The pavilion of the old Burwood Park Bowling Club virtually blocked out the public's view of what was going on unless you actually stopped and went into the Bowling Club grounds. Only then did you get to see what went on.

Bowls Canterbury as the regional administration body for Bowls New Zealand in the Christchurch and Canterbury area needs to explain why nothing is being done to promote bowls in this part of the City.

While it is acknowledged that the earthquakes have had a substantial effect on all sports by damaging the Buildings, Bowling Greens, Rugby Grounds, Cricket Fields, Tennis Clubs to name just a few sports in Christchurch only the bowling clubs seem to be closing greens and not looking at the overall impact the closure of a bowling green would have on the sport in its community and the surrounding area.

It is very obvious that Bowling Greens damaged to the extent that they were at the Burwood Park Bowling Club site and the Shirley Bowling Club site was very severe at that ONE of the two bowling club sites had to be closed because of the lack of numbers of Bowlers in the Shirley and surrounding area both clubs were not viable in the Shirley area. However, to close BOTH Bowling Club grounds is a serious error and a significant backward step for the sport of bowls in Christchurch.

Of the two sites the Shirley Bowling Club site is the one to let go and close because it is so well hidden at the top of Woodchester Avenue that unless you know where you are going it is a very hard site to locate.

B) CONCLUSION

It is my request to the Burwood\Pegasus Community Board of the Christchurch City Council that the whole issue of the provision of sporting facilities provided to people living in its area of representation be immediately and urgently re-viewed to ensure that people in the community are not seriously and permanently disadvantaged for many years to come, especially to those people living in the western area of the wards.

Yours Sincerely

.....
Philip Haythornthwaite