

Date: Wednesday 14 May 2014
Time: 9.00am
Meeting Room: Kaipātiki Local Board Office
Venue: 90 Bentley Avenue
Glenfield

Kaipātiki Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Item 8.1

Attachment A

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Tuesday, 25 March 2014

Kaipatiki Local Board
C/o Evan Hicks
Sports Turf Advisor
Auckland Council - Local and Sports Parks

via email to evan.hicks@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Dear Evan,

Re: Shepherds Park number 4 field renewal

This letter serves to formally outline Auckland Cricket's objection to the sports field renewal works programmed for Shepherds Park number 4 field in 2014/15.

We request that the sports field renewal of Shepherds Park number 2 field be postponed until an appropriate turf block can be provided to cater for the displacement of cricket during the works period. I note that should a suitable location be identified and a replacement turf block be constructed and 'fit for purpose' by October 2014, Auckland Cricket's objection would be withdrawn.

Background

The Kaipatiki Local Board, at a meeting held on Wednesday 26 September 2012, resolved to replace the turf block located on the Shepherds Park lower fields with an artificial cricket wicket. It has been well documented that there was a significant shortfall of facilities in the area at this time and the Local Board's decision has further compounded this short fall.

Auckland Cricket are working with the Local Board and the Council to identify a suitable location for a replacement turf block however at the time of writing this letter no location has been approved.

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Impact on cricket

The works associated with the implementation of the Sports Field Capacity Development Programme (SFCDD) take place over summer and have the potential to severely impact summer sport. In the 2014/15 season the SFCDD works will displace cricket from six grounds in the Local and Sports Parks north area alone. This level of displacement, without the provision of suitable replacement and/or relocation venues, will cause major disruption to our ability to provide sport participation opportunities to meet the demand of the four Principal Clubs and two Community Clubs located in the area. The impact is simply too great for Auckland Cricket to operationally absorb.

For this reason, it is important that one or more of the planned SFCDD projects be postponed.

Shortfall of turf wickets in Local and Sports Parks north

The Kaipātiki Local Board's sports parks currently cater for three Principal Clubs. These cricket clubs, being Birkenhead City, Takapuna and East Coast Bays, have a total of 12 senior men's teams that, under Auckland Cricket Bylaws, are required to play matches on turf wickets. Following the removal of a turf block at the Shepherds Park lower fields there are only three turf blocks available to provide playing facilities these 12 teams.

It should be noted (see appendix 1) that all other Principal Clubs in the Auckland region (excluding Ellerslie Cricket Club which has two) have access to three or more turf blocks.

Auckland Cricket and the clubs concerned already face major capacity issues and teams are already forced to travel outside their local area every week to participate in the sport of cricket. The loss of a further turf block in 2014/15, without the provision of suitable replacement and/or relocation venue, will mean that nine of the 12 teams will be forced to travel outside of the local area every week. Auckland Cricket does not have the capacity in other regions to absorb this displacement and this will have a catastrophic effect on all concerned.

For this reason, it is important that the Shepherds Park number 4 sport field renewal be postponed to mitigate the impact on cricket in 2014/15.

Summary

There is clear precedent for the Local Board and Council to delay programmed works in order to mitigate the impact on summer sport. We request that the sports field renewal of Shepherds Park number 4 field be postponed until an appropriate turf block can be provided to cater for the displacement of cricket during the works period.

Kind regards,



Daniel Farrow
Cricket Operations Manager

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Appendix 1

Appendix 1 outlines the fourteen Principal Clubs located in the Auckland region, the number of turf blocks available to each club and the turf block locations. The purpose of this comparison is to highlight the shortfall in turf blocks in the Local and Sports Parks north area.

Principal Club	# Turf Blocks	Location(s)
Auckland University CC	3	3 at Colin Maiden Park
Birkenhead CC	1.3	1 at Birkenhead WMP, share 1 at Shepherds Park
Cornwall CC	3	3 at Cornwall Park
East Coast Bays CC	1.3	1 at Windsor Park, share 1 at Shepherds Park
Eden Roskill CC	4	2 at KHP, 2 at Walker Park
Ellerslie CC	2	1 at Michaels Avenue, 1 at Orakei Domain
Grafton United CC	3	2 at Victoria Park, 1 at Cox's Bay
Howick Pakuranga CC	6	5 at LEP, 1 at Barry Curtis
North Shore CC	5	4 at Devonport Domain, 1 at Stanley Bay
Papatoetoe CC	3	2 at Papatoetoe Rec, 1 at Barry Curtis
Parnell CC	3	1 at Shore Road, 1 at Bloodworth Park, 1 at Orakei Domain
Suburbs New Lynn CC	6	2 at Ken Maunder, 2 at Eastdale Reserve, 2 at Walker Park
Takapuna CC	1.3	1 at Onewa Domain, shared 1 at Shepherds Park
Waitakere City CC	4	4 at Te Atatu Park

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