

12. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

(b) FREE STYLE BMX PARK

Tom Grogan and his mother, Mrs Pauline Grogan, presented a proposal on behalf of the Burnside BMX group for the construction of a freestyle BMX facility, similar to the new skate park at Jellie Park.

A facility was sought for several reasons including:

- There is currently no freestyle BMX facility in Christchurch.
- Such a facility would be well supported because the sport is growing in popularity.
- The existing BMX tracks are not suitable for this style of riding.

At the conclusion of the presentation the Committee was advised that an on-site meeting had been held with BMX riders at Bottle Lake Forest Park to discuss the issues and find solutions to some of the problems that had arisen.

The Committee was advised that, as an interim solution, the existing dirt facilities at Bottle Lake Forest Park, Flay Park and Craighead Reserve will be improved and a new area for dirt riding will be provided for BMX at Nepal Reserve in Burnside. The Parks Unit is also investigating a site for a new specially designed BMX facility in the Burnside/Papanui area. The first step in the process will be to report the issues and possible sites to both the Fendalton/Waimairi and Shirley/Papanui Community Boards.

The Parks Unit will also review the signage at all existing skate parks to provide safety information, behaviour code and the types of activities that are acceptable at the facility. It is likely that only mountain bikes and 10 speed bikes will be discouraged from using skateboard facilities.