

3. DEPUTATIONS

3.1 PROPOSAL FOR ARTIFICIAL REEF AT NEW BRIGHTON

Jonathan Ogden was in attendance to request that a feasibility study be carried out for an artificial reef at New Brighton.

Jonathan Ogden spoke about the proposal to build an artificial reef in Christchurch and the possible sites at New Brighton and Sumner. He noted that the purpose of a reef at Sumner would be to replenish the sand on the beach while a reef at New Brighton would be a recreational facility. He called for a feasibility study to be done on the placement of a reef at New Brighton.

The building of a reef involves depositing giant geotextile bags filled with sand in a shape and location designed to produce a desired wave pattern. The reef would offer recreational opportunities for water sports such as surfing, bodyboarding, windsurfing and diving. Mr Ogden believed there is strong support from recreational users and the local community for a reef and fundraising and sponsorship possibilities.

Mr Ogden suggested that a reef would also have aesthetic benefits and provide an economic boost to the local community. The cost of a reef has been estimated at \$500,000 for New Brighton. A location close to the Pier would add to the attractions in the area and enable the research done for the Pier and wastewater outlet to be utilised.

The Board's decision is recorded under Part B, clause 10 of this report.