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CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Draft LTCCP 2009-19

- Received via Web

Submissions close on 16 April 2009

I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered

Are you completing this submission:	On behalf of a group or organisation
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If you are representing, how many people do you represent?	1,100
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Name:	Michael Jamieson
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Organisation Name:	Halswell United Association Football Club (HUAFC)
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Organisation Role:	Vice President
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Date:	30 March 2009
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Your Submission:	<p>What do you want the Council to consider?</p> <p>To rectify the extremely poor drainage at the Halswell Domain and to allocate funds for ground lighting at the Warren Park. What specific action you think the Council should take?</p> <p>The Halswell Domain requires significant resurfacing to improve the water flow away from soccer pitches and nova flow drainage across the entire domain.</p> <p>Lighting Warren Park would relieve the intense pressure on the Halswell Domain for football practices which are carried out 4 afternoons and evenings per week and games on Saturdays and Sundays.</p> <p>Why should this be done? Halswell Domain Over a period of at least four years, since 2004, the Halswell United AFC has repeatedly requested the Council to attend to the ongoing drainage problems at the Halswell Domain. A small, but insignificant amount of remedial work has been completed which included the replacement of a field drain that the Club initially installed many years ago.</p> <p>Large increases in players has followed the significant increase in housing in this part of Christchurch, but the Council has not allocated or increased the size of the footballing infrastructure to support this growth.</p> <p>With increases usage and as the Halswell Domain continues to be unusable</p>
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for long periods during the winter as a result of poor drainage the Council seems to be unable to remedy this significant and ongoing problem due to the lack of committed financial resources.

As a Club, we believe we have taken all reasonable steps to advise the Council of this matter, and in reading through the LTCCP, there still does not appear to be any funds allocated to the Halswell Domain drainage problem.

The effects on the Club when the grounds are closed are severe, as it means fund raising activities of around \$400 to \$500 a week are curtailed as players and supporters stay away from the ground. Given that we have costs of around \$100,000 a year to run the Club, this represents a significant loss of revenue to the Club in which we struggle to find alternative replacement funding.

The effects on players is also significant as ground closures result in practices and games also being cancelled. The Halswell Domain drainage is now an urgent matter requiring attention and the Club feels it has waited long enough. Our large constituency of around 1100 players and 600 families in the Halswell, Hornby, Hoonhay, areas is also aggrieved at the ground closures which disrupts sporting events, for which they have paid fees.

We would strongly urge the Council to invest in the Domain and improve the Ground and playing conditions.

Warren Park Lighting

The Club is very conscious of the impact of heavy wear and tear on the Halswell Domain, especially for practices. Funding for capital works of this kind is very difficult to source and the Council has also advised that the Strengthening Community Fund is not available for this purpose. of around 1600 players and 1000 families in the Halswell, Hornby, Addington, Hoon Hay, Islington areas

We are therefore seeking lighting at Warren as was submitted to the Council on 15 July 2008 which includes the lighting for three senior fields and an intermediate field.

Without this additional facility, football as a sport will become increasingly limited as we will need to begin limiting the number of teams which can practice in the evenings. This will likely result on some teams not being able to practice at all.

Further investment in ground lighting infrastructure at Warren Park is therefore essential if the Club is to continue to grow and provide an acceptable footballing experience to all our players. This includes having the opportunity to have team practices.