

Dear Councillors,

I'm writing to request that you take into consideration for your next budget the redevelopment / rebuilding of Highfield Skatepark.

The skatepark has served so many young people over the twenty-one years it has now been open, it's a very well used facility and accommodates riders of all ages and abilities.

Unfortunately, due to years of use the skatepark is in a bad state of repair, there are holes in the surface of the skatepark where the ground meets the ramp take off making it dangerous to use. The metal ramps also require regular maintenance, there really hard to ride in bright sunshine due to the glare from reflection of the sun, I am aware that certain types of paint can be used to stop this, and if it's possible to have a new skatepark built feedback from local children shows that they would love to keep the halfpipe if possible, this ramp could also be improved by extending the width of the decks.

The space at Highfield Park that is currently used as the skatepark has not been used to its full potential, there is so much space wasted just by the placement of the ramps, the choice of ramps also play a big part in using a space to its maximum capability this has not been achieved at Highfield.

There is also a lot of extra land north of the skatepark west of the bike dirt jumps, could this land be made available to extend the foot print of the skatepark? If this is possible the space could accommodate something in addition to the ramps it would open up the option to build a bowl as there a popular asset at skateparks if there built correctly.

There are three main materials used to build skateparks which are Metal which I have already motioned is used at Highfield, Wood which is used to build the frames of the ramps however the ramps need to be skinned with marine plywood, or concrete is the last option.

The safest option is the wood with marine plywood finish if it's used throughout the park including the skatepark surface because it's the smoothest surface to fall off on when learning new tricks.

Thank you all for reading my letter and I hope that you will take into consideration my request.

Yours Sincerely

Gary Newton