At Long Last . . .

It is said that “good things come to those who wait” and, in the coming weeks, members and visitors alike will witness major renovations to the Nambour Bowls Club. The changes will not only raise the bar in terms of amenity standards but they will rejuvenate the Club and open up many new opportunities for business success.

Background

The existing clubhouse was officially opened in 1953 and extended in 1966 to accommodate growing membership. It is thought that the present toilet amenities date back to that period so it could be said that an overhaul is long overdue. The stumbling block has always been the cost factor perhaps with a touch of the “too hard basket”. After more than two years of hard work and perseverance, and many more years of “Holdin On” for those with disabilities or short on staying power, the back has been broken and the iconic club is ready for a real facelift.

Project Overview

The project involves co-locating both the male and female amenities on the northern (Showgrounds) side of the building with additional facilities for each. A unisex disabled toilet will also be installed alongside. External ramp access to the new amenities will also be a feature of the new design.

A separate unisex toilet with external access only will be provided adjacent to the undercover area. A permanent barbeque facility is also planned for the undercover area in conjunction with the project.

The existing male amenity area will be refurbished to become the new records and storage area. Spare sets of lawn bowls, large signage etc plus the cleaner’s facilities will be housed there.

The adjacent disused shower room/facilities will also be refurbished for reuse as unisex shower / change-room amenities.

The external landing and stairs on the southern (School) side will be replaced and repositioned slightly to address security, access and flash flooding concerns. In conjunction with this work, upgrading of the stormwater catchment design and associated lines servicing the building will be undertaken.

Financial Implications

With a total project cost nearing $200,000, the Nambour Bowls Club is deeply indebted to the following government agencies for their acknowledgement of need for change and financial support under the respective community grants schemes. Their combined funds will enable us to achieve the long awaited objective. Thank you.

Queensland Government’s Department of Sport

Jupiters Casino Community Benefit Fund

Sunshine Coast Council

Gambling Community Benefit Fund

Sunshine Coast Councillor Greg Rogerson

Start Date

Contractual arrangements are currently being finalised and a start date is expected by the end of May.

Impact on Operations

The existing male toilets will remain operational until the new amenities are ready for use.

The existing female toilets will be decommissioned at the commencement of the project. Temporary facilities with sewerage connection will be provided on the southern (School) side of the clubhouse until the new amenities are ready for use (about 3 weeks).

No major disruption to normal bowls operations is expected. Safety screens will be mounted around the northern side of the clubhouse during construction and care will need to be exercised throughout the grounds and carpark at all times. Restricted access to the southern side will apply in the latter stages of the project when stairs and drainage works take place.

Project duration of 8-10 weeks is anticipated and regular plans / updates will be available at the Club.

Site Preparation

In coming days, equipment will be removed from the impacted areas and stored elsewhere until the project is completed. Members are asked to refrain from leaving personal items at the Club during this time.