

WEST END LAWN TENNIS CLUB CLUBROOMS' OPENING

For: Shale Chambers, Chair Central Facility Partnership Committee

Time and Date: 2pm - 4pm, Sunday 31 July 2016

Location: West End Lawn Tennis Club, Fife Street, Westmere

Contact on the day: Miranda Burdon
Committee Member
0274741019

Order of Proceedings:

2pm – 3pm Arrival and preview
3pm Members and public attend
3.30pm Official formalities begin – Al Monro (President)
3.35pm Speech – Shale Chambers
3.40pm Ribbon cutting – Shale Chambers and Club Patron
3.45pm Mix and mingle

Speech Duration for Chair: 5 mins

Introduced by: Al Monro – President WELTC

Chair's Role: Speech on importance of community partnerships

Acknowledgements

- Club President, Al Monro, and members of the WELT Club Executive
- Waitemata Local Board members
- Members of the Central Facility Partnership Committee (not thought to be attending)
- Representatives of the project's other funders
- Club members, and friends

SPEECH NOTES

Club background

- We've come a long way from when the club was opened, as one of the first tennis clubs in Auckland, on 6th February 1932; on Council land reclaimed from the swampy mangroves of the then Cox's Bay foreshore.
- The club at that stage consisted two bitumen courts and a City Council tin shed as the pavilion. Membership numbers had to be restricted to 50 players including five Juniors.

- By the 1932-33 season, the Club had a two level pavilion, volley-board and four courts. Due to the number of membership applications, a further 2 courts were laid in 1937, making for a total of six courts which still operate today.
- The clubhouse was extended in 1956 to accommodate increasing social activities, especially indoor bowls. The kitchen, bar, and changing rooms were re-vamped in 1992 and a coach's office added in 2000.
- But it was recognised that the 1933 clubrooms were no longer meeting the club's and the community's more diverse needs.

Project key points

- West End Lawn Tennis Club was granted \$250,000 from the 2012/2013 Central Facility Partnership Fund funding round in May 2013; the Committee Chair, and a collective fund of the central and Gulf Island local boards..
- The total project cost of \$1.3M incl fees and professional services; and construction cost \$887, 835 made Council's contribution 28% of the construction costs.
- Other community funders included:
 - Lottery Grants Board
 - Foundation North
 - Infinity Foundation
 - New Zealand Community Trust
 - The Trusts Community Foundation
 - Four Winds Foundation
 - Blue Waters Community Trust

And of course the considerable efforts of the club's Project team itself.

Project scope

Ground floor:

- New stairs to the first floor
- New men's and women's toilets including an accessible toilet
- A new office space
- A new store room
- A new outdoor deck
- A new meeting space

First floor:

- Stairs providing external access to the ground level
 - Increase in open space for meetings
- This new facility has 70% usable open space. It will in the future be able to accommodate two separate groups of up to 70 people and can now handle gatherings of over 120 people in the upstairs space.

- There is a huge storage area of 20m² for club and regular users to use
- Council investment has secured approx. 75 community access hours to the clubhouse per week through to 2031 for community organisations to use.

The Future

- With a club reputation for strong governance, good management systems and a strong community focus, Council had confidence the club could deliver on their vision and knew just how much such a facility was needed for this increasingly intensely populated part of Auckland, with last week's recommended outcomes of the Unitary Plan Independent Panel for Cox's Bay and Westmere only reinforcing this point.
- Today the club is flourishing with approximately 500 members.
- We look forward to the West End Tennis Cup returning as an important part of the community contribution to the Summer of Tennis. In recognition of this, and as the local board's major sporting sponsorship, Waitemata Local Board will be supporting your community event once again this year as a \$10,000 cash core funder.
- So congratulations and well done to the WELTC Committee for the project initiative, the Project group for seeing this project through to a successful conclusion, and the community for getting in behind it.
- You've got a deck roof to complete sometime, so the job doesn't end here, as we know.
- Your local representatives and the community wish the club continuing success in its new clubrooms. We have confidence the community will continue to support this club and to utilise this high calibre facility for a long time into the future.
- So get in quick with your venue booking, and see you at the Cup.