Notice to CCBC Members

**Relocation of Bowling Greens to Gungahlin**

Bowling Club Members will be aware of the Ainslie Groups recent (June 2015) sale of the Elder Street site and the commitment to relocate bowling Greens to Gungahlin thus preserving the long history and future of the Canberra City Bowling Club.

It is the aim of the Ainslie Group to relocate the bowling greens to Gungahlin by June 2017. In the interim the conduct of bowls activities at the Elder Street site will continue thus facilitating a smooth transition to Gungahlin.

# Planning to Date

A Planning Committee comprising representatives from the Ainslie Board of Directors, Senior Management, the Gungahlin Golf and Canberra City Bowling Committees has met on 3 occasions to date. Recommendations from this Committee are to be endorsed by the Ainslie Group Board.

The initial priority of the Planning Committee has been to determine the siting of bowling greens at Gungahlin. This work has now been finalised with all in agreement that the location of bowling greens is a “best fit” to the south of the Gungahlin Lakes Club taking up a large proportion of the current 14th Hole Fairway of the Golf Course which will be converted to a Par 3 Hole in lieu of the existing Par 4 configuration. The Ainslie Group Board has endorsed this proposal.

This outcome has been achieved with the full cooperation of the Gungahlin Golf Committee and results in the bowling greens being located close to both the Licensed Club premises and the Club’s existing southern Car Park facilities.

An “indicative” plan of the proposed location of the Gungahlin Greens is shown below. This configuration is subject to ACT Government approval as there are many complex planning/approval and engineering issues yet to be addressed – this may result in some fine tuning of the indicative location. Of particular concern is the need to ensure that the bowling greens are kept above a 100 year flood level, the need to separate greens 1 and 2 (shown on the drawing ) from green 3 to avoid an existing floodway and GPT (Gross Pollutant Trap) which services the suburb of Palmerston. There will also be a requirement for a lease purpose change as the “indicative” siting of the greens encroaches across two separate parcels of land leased by the Ainslie Group.

# Future Planning Deliberations

The objective is to have all of the design concepts and planning/approval processes finalised by the middle of 2016 which leaves sufficient time to allow for the calling of tenders and construction of the new bowling green facilities prior to June 2107. The relocation will be undertaken in two (2) stages with Greens 1 and 2 being completed (by June 2107) in Stage 1 and Green 3 will follow subject to demand.

The full nature and scope of bowling facilities has yet to be determined but it is to be noted that a strong priority of both Bowls ACT and the ACT Government is to have synthetic greens. This preference will be given due consideration by the Planning Committee as will other ancillary bowling facilities to be provided – some of these are most likely to be located within the existing “footprint” of the Gungahlin Licensed Club premises.

CCBC Bowling Club Members will be kept informed of progress in relation to the relocation of greens as significant milestones are achieved.