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Voluntary Administrator Appointed To Willetton Sports Club

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton and Patron of the Willetton Sports Club, said the appointment of a Voluntary Administrator to the Club was inevitable after the City of Canning knocked back its request for assistance.

“Appointing a Voluntary Administrator is a serious step. It was a decision that the Board of the Willetton Sports Club had to make given that the Council was reluctant to act,” said Dr Nahan.

“Hopefully, the administrator will be able to identify what can be done, if anything, to resuscitate the Club in some form or fashion. At the moment, the Club is continuing to operate, although on a limited basis.”

Dr Nahan said when he became involved with the Club more than two years ago, he and the existing Board at that time were aware that there could be hidden liabilities.

“I worked with the existing Board back then to help them put in a new commercial Board, which looked for the assets and liabilities and tried to put it in a positive operating position,” said Dr Nahan.

“At that time, I asked the Chief Financial Officer from the Council to join the Board and he did so willingly. One of the reasons I did that was for his financial expertise and his ability to report back to council on the Club’s position.”

“We also asked him for Key Performance Indicators so the Board could know what they needed to do to help the Club move forward. The Club was started 30 years ago as an integrated unit with seven clubs using the facilities but the assets are old and in need of refurbishment, and now the kitchen has packed it in.”

“Although the Mayor has said that the sporting side of the Club could be divorced from the business side, I don’t think you can separate the two. The Club is the hub of our community. Last year 30,000 people used it and there are 1,200 forward bookings for the next 18 months.”

“The Council has to step up to the mark and work with the Voluntary Administrator to get the Club re-cashed and re-furbished so that this important community facility can get going again.”

Media Contact: Dr Mike Nahan 9457 1282 or 0412 911 969