



2 November 2011

## **Willetton Sports Club In Receivership**

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton urged the City of Canning to keep the Willetton Sports Club facilities open now that the Club has gone into receivership and is no longer able to operate or offer its services.

"This is a sad day for the community. The benefits of the Willetton Sports Club and its facilities went far beyond just being solely for sports. Many other community groups, like Probus, Rotary, Lions and Apex, regularly used its facilities and it often hosted events like school functions, local weddings and 21<sup>st</sup> Birthdays," said Dr Nahan.

"Over the last three decades, the Club and its facilities have had wide appeal. There simply are no other meeting facilities like it of that size in the Willetton area and as such, its demise will reverberate throughout our local community."

"It is vital that the local community continues to have ongoing access to these facilities with as little disruption as possible. I urge the City of Canning to act prudently to ensure that this valuable community asset remains available."

Dr Nahan said the Club's Board made the difficult decision based on advice given to them by Insolv, an experienced Perth-based company.

"Although the Club initially went into Voluntary Administration through Insolv several weeks ago, it was discovered that the legislation that applied to their 30-year old constitution did not allow for that," said Dr Nahan.

"The combined weight of the Club's past debt and the need for extensive repairs and an upgrade were beyond their means and as a result, insolvency was their only option. The Council, as the landlord, has now taken over the premises, changed the locks and is looking at ways to move forward."

"I stand by ready to work with the Council, the sporting clubs, their members and community groups to assist in any way I can to ensure that the facilities remain open."

"I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has supported the Club over its lifetime, and particularly acknowledge the dedication, services and assistance that the volunteers, staff and members have provided – without it, the Club would have folded long ago."

"The facility has always been hub of our community and I hope that will continue again once the dust has settled on the insolvency and the Council has been able to put in place alternative arrangements for its future."

For information on how to access the facilities now that the Willetton Sports Club has closed, contact Geoff Moor, City of Canning's Manager Recreation Services on 9231 0618.

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