

Bowls club redevelopment set to start



A BOWLS club which five years ago faced closure is preparing to move into a plush new \$70 million complex.

Taylor Bridge Bowls Club had a dwindling membership, a dilapidated clubhouse, and a bleak future.

But Arden Property Group became the 70-year-old club's saviour, and work is now under way on a mixed-use development on its Indooroopilly site.

Once complete, Ciana Indooroopilly, on the corner of Allwood St and Clarence Rd, will comprise 134 residential units, two new bowling greens and a clubhouse featuring a bar and restaurant.

Taylor Bridge Bowls Club president John Larsen said as membership dropped, the old clubhouse needed a major redevelopment.

Club member James Hamilton said: "We were asset-rich and cash-poor; we didn't have the funds to continue what we'd like to do."



■ Above: Playing bowls at Indooroopilly in the 1960s. Top left: John Larsen and Andrew Sly . . . Below: What the future holds.

The club, tried unsuccessfully to merge with Chelmer Bowls Club – which has since closed – and the Western Bulldogs football club.

"Eventually, we negotiated with Arden Property Group and we're now doing business," Mr Larsen said.

Arden Property Group's Andrew Sly said the redevelopment had surprised

many residents.

"A lot of people didn't expect to see the bowls club back," he said.

The 110 members of Taylor Bridge have relocated to Toowong Bowls Club but plan to return to their new club at the end of next year.

Mr Larsen said he hoped membership would more than double when that happened.

