

19 November 2020

**The Councillors
Rangitikei District Council**

- Proposed Squash Club Extension -

The membership of Taihape Squash is expanding year by year. Tennis and netball are also experiencing increased numbers and demand, particularly at junior levels. This paper summarises our plans in the context of the Council's upcoming decision on the location of the new amenities block. As a group, we are not advocating for one position over another, but we believe it is important for you to understand our exciting new initiative when making your decision.

Taihape Squash has acquired land from the recent closure of the Bowling Club. We have decided to extend our building into this space to allow for growing membership and popularity.

The plan is in its infancy, but includes:

- Two new squash courts, with a moveable centre wall for a doubles court and/or a multi-use training area.
- The kitchen/bar/lounge area will be extended and upgraded for club purposes and be available to the wider community.
- The old lounge area will be upgraded to become a meeting room with functional media capability, allowing for workshops and conferences.
- These facilities will allow the club to host provincial and national events.
- A lift will be included to allow for disability access.

At this early stage, we have invited Taihape Tennis and Netball to be involved in re-designing the facility so that it would be suitable for their netball and tennis competitions and events. This has been very well received. We will be inviting other organisations to provide their views and/or be involved. We will be seeking Council support and input once our plans are further developed.

We see some synergies with possible upgrades around the Bowling/Croquet Club area which we would like to discuss with Council in the short term. These include:

- Upgrade and possible integration of Bowling Club building
- Additional tennis / netball courts
- Court resurfacing
- Landscaping Campervan parking with power points.
- 24 hr toilet/shower facility
-

A representative from Taihape Squash requests the opportunity to speak on this paper and answer any questions at the Council meeting on 26 November 2020.

Taihape Squash Club

(with the support of Taihape Netball and Taihape Tennis)



DARYL OHARA

President Taihape Squash Club