

Vision of bringing life to the main street

Project dresses up CBD

By REN LANZON



A artists impression of the proposed Quarterback development on the corner of Lord and Goondoon Streets.

Picture submitted

THE Quarterback Group has lodged an application to build a nine storey accommodation tower which is expected to dress up the lower end of Goondoon Street.

The site takes in the old RSL clubhouse, the old Customs House and immediate properties along Goondoon and Lord Streets.

The project fits in with Gladstone City Council's vision of bringing life to the main street by attracting a population close to the CBD.

Initial concepts by the company also indicate the company's intention to promote what Gladstone City Mayor Peter Corones has coined as the 'cappuccino-isation' of the main street and the immediate waterfront.

Gladstone City Planner Andrew Kearns said the proposal is for 19 residential units and 46 dual key motel units in the upper levels, a restaurant and a function room as well as office space and retail space.

Street-side dining is expected to be a feature of the building at street level overlooking the waterfront and the harbour.

Quarterback's Darryl Fennell said the project was at the information gathering stage.

Included in the company's plans would be the retention of heritage relics in the former RSL building, including the cellar region that may have been Gladstone's earliest jail cells.

"We have heritage architects looking at that - we envisage something interactive that people can feel and touch."

Quarterback has developed an extensive interest in Gladstone and plans to start construction on another project in the CBD across Central Lane from the Goondoon and Lord Street project.

The project has been approved by council.

Hutchinson builders have been contracted to build 36 prestige units on the former Sams Seafood site next to new Customs House.

The Group also plans a major subdivision at Glen Eden.

City living back in town

GLADSTONE City Council's vision for a well populated CBD is fast becoming a reality.

Developers excited by the region's boom status are committing hard cash to bring projects that have lain on the drawing board for some time to fruition.

Among those projects are:

- The Grand's 96 rooms - work is about to start.

- Quest's 30 two and three bedroom managed apartments - work well underway

- Bluechip's 34 dual key units - work underway

