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Shortland Waters golf club looks to green future: first stage of \$66 million redevelopment launched

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Shortland Waters Golf Club redevelopment

A first look at the new retirement villas planned for the site.

The \$30 million first stage of the redevelopment of Shortland Waters Golf Club has been launched this week, designed to throw the ailing club a lifeline and boost housing stocks for seniors in the region.

It will see a new retirement village materialize on the site, with 50 two-bedroom independent living units and a three-storey community centre to come online by the middle of next year.

The layout for the golf club's new course is also set to be unveiled in the "next few weeks" after Newcastle Council approved the final piece of the jigsaw this month – the creation of new holes on a former landfill site north of the existing course.

Plans for a new single-storey clubhouse have already been distributed to members.

“The timetable is we're looking for clubhouse to be finished in the middle of 2017 and for the golf course to be completed by the end of next year. So hopefully we'll be in a new clubhouse and playing on a new golf course by 2018,” club treasurer Kerry Duggan said.

Once complete, the \$66 million development by aged-care giant Aveo will see 300 retirement villas and a 127-bed aged care facility established on the golf club site, between the University of Newcastle and the Hunter Wetlands Centre.

The new housing will bankroll the refurbishment of the course and the construction of the new clubhouse for members, who have been running on a shoe-string budget for the last seven to eight years while waiting for the development to receive approval.

The current clubhouse was built in 1935 and was “very much beyond its use by date,” according to Mr Duggan.

Over a fifth of Newcastle's current population is aged over 65 years and Aveo executive general manager of developments Gary Kordic said the project would give retirees “greater choice when it comes to deciding how they wish to enjoy their later years.”

“We've incorporated multiple green spaces within the urban design to build a lively social network of residents amidst the picturesque surrounds of the golf course, including accessible pathways to the neighbouring aquatic centre at the University of Newcastle,” he said.

Each of the new villas will come with car and golf cart parking.



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The Aveo retirement Village Community Building – will be located adjacent to Hawkins Rest site.

The above photos are similar to those displayed by Aveo in their presentation following the AGM.