



■ RESOURCE CONSENT HEARING

Tall neighbour to club gets approval

Arwen Hann

Plans to construct a 12-storey building next to the historic Canterbury Club have been approved.

The Christchurch City Council has granted resource consent to investment company Latitude Group to build an office and apartment block alongside the club on the corner of Worcester Boulevard and Cambridge Terrace.

The company bought the land for \$4 million after it was sold by the club in 2005 to fund repairs to its main building.

The club building will now be restored with a new courtyard, bar and gym for members.

Some extensions to the club building and a squash court with a Category Four Historic Places rating are due to be demolished.

The application had been opposed by the Historic Places Trust and the

Civic Trust which argued the plans had significant adverse effects on the heritage value of the site.

However, the three-member council panel decided that these were outweighed by the benefits of the redevelopment.

Canterbury Club president Rick Hill said he was very pleased.

"It has taken a long time but in the end we have got a good outcome," he said. "The building will now be fully restored and really it should now last another 130-odd years."

Hill said the restoration would allow the club to change its focus and attract new members. One aim was to make it more attractive to women.

A spokeswoman for the Historic Places Trust said it would consider whether to appeal the decision.

Barring any further delays, Hill said he expected the new development to be completed by the middle of next year.