

Business group hopes to bring people together

By BEN SOMERFORD

TOWN of Cambridge Mayor Simon Withers hopes the new City Beach Surf Club Business Group will help “pull the community together” following its first ever function at Clancy’s Fish Pub last Friday.

Lavan Legal and the City of Perth Surf Life Saving Club formed the group recently to develop networks and business ties in the community.

The group’s inaugural breakfast was attended by about 100 people, including leading business director Tony Howarth as guest presenter.

Mr Withers said the group had great potential.

“It’s a great initiative because the Cottesloe and North Cottesloe surf clubs have integrated really well with their community, which is great for the club and the business community,” he said.

“This is a similar initiative to that.”

Describing the idea behind the group, Lavan Legal partner and City of Perth SLSC member Dean Hely said was about promoting the community spirit within City Beach and the surrounding area.

“The area doesn’t have anything like this – a business association – so this is a good opportunity to create one and use the new club as a hub for this sort of activity,” he said.

The group’s creation coincides with a redevelopment of the City of Perth SLSC and Mr Hely said he



Mayor Simon Withers with guest speaker Tony Howarth, Dean Hely from Lavan Legal and surf club president Grant Trew. Picture: Andrew Ritchie

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hoped it could harness the potential of the club.

“It’s got 1100 members. We’d like to see that facility become a community hub,” he said.

Mr Withers said he hoped the group would result in bringing people together again.

“My view is people are looking to pull the community together again. Something like this is one small component,” he said.

“One of the long-term trends in our community is (that) social structures have broken down, so the local organisations don’t have the old

bonds of the ‘50s and ‘60s when people like I were growing up.”

The business group plans to hold four events a year, such as breakfasts and wine-tastings.

To join or for more information, email Anna Zander at anna.zander@lavanlegal.com.au.