
Sent: 25/10/2020 1:52:39 PM
Subject: DA 2020/1233 Mounties alteration to bowling green

Dear Council

As an over 55s resident at Watermark Freshwater, I am concerned about DA 2020/1233 being submitted by Mounties for the following reasons:

1. While a bowling green was proposed initially when we purchased our apartment, we were led to believe it would be used by the Ladies Bowling Club 2 mornings per week with the remaining time given to residents to enjoy. A number of Watermark Freshwater residents are very happy playing for Harbord Diggers at the club in Manly and spending this amount of money seems so unnecessary as in non-Covid times, a Harbord Diggers bus makes the trip to and from Manly so easy. .
2. We have recently found out that this is a licensed area which implies that a bar could be set up at any time by Mounties. We always assumed that the drinking area of the club was on the lower ground level and the upper ground level was reserved for leisurely living, mostly for our over 55s community. The fear is that opening up a bar on this level will completely change the ambience for the many people whose home sits so close to this bowling green area - a drinking zone can so easily lead to excessive noise and rowdy behaviour that residents definitely did not buy into.
3. Security has been an ongoing issue for residents who live in this community. Opening up this area to Harbord Diggers members and guests and setting up a bar area will greatly increase the security risk for Watermark residents and the space that was offered to us on the upper terrace for leisurely living.
4. There has been no consultation by Mounties with Watermark Freshwater residents and yet the DA maintains that consultation with residents has taken place. If consultation had taken place, this would have enabled people to voice their concerns and have an input. Consultation in a timely, respectful way would have given people greater confidence that their welfare was being seriously considered. As over 55s residents who have been sold properties with a promise of "leisurely living", Mounties have an obligation to listen carefully and take action to address concerns.
5. In living at Watermark Freshwater, we are bound by the Retirement Villages Act. We have been given rules to abide by that include such issues as minimal noise and the need to respect our neighbours. Mounties are trying to introduce something that goes against these rules. Can the operators of a retirement village be allowed to open a bowling green within the same grounds of the retirement village to potentially hundreds of people (Harbord Diggers members and their guests) and apply their liquor licence for the enjoyment of all who come?

I am looking forward to these issues being seriously considered in respect of the DA that has been lodged.

Kind regards

Jill Wrathall
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Freshwater. 2096