
From: DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
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23/02/2023

MR Peter Harley OAM
4 Marmora ST
Freshwater NSW 2085
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2022/2281 - 80 Undercliff Road FRESHWATER NSW 2096

The Friends of Freshwater considers and analyses Development Applications on their merits and whether, in its opinion, they comply or otherwise with planning requirements. We aim to do so for all development applications in Freshwater.

It is our opinion that this Application is compliant with parking, noise, capacity and heritage issues. We are of the view that even though beachside parking is limited, this facility does not cause unnecessary congestion. In fact, our membership observes that many of the patrons arrive and depart via taxis and Uber. The Restaurant is a heritage listed building with a proud history and the proprietors clearly maintain it to its heritage requirements. Our membership, some of whom live nearby, has never registered a concern over noise or civil disturbance emanating from the facility.

Pilu at Freshwater is a treasured amenity for the Freshwater community. It is rare that a consistently hatted restaurant can exist outside the Sydney CBD and thrive. It offers fine dining to the local community and during Covid it offered fine dining food on a takeaway basis to a local community in lockdown. While other hospitality venues closed during this period, Pilu continued to maintain employment for its highly skilled staff.

This DA seeks to formalise an arrangement that has been in place for the last decade. The structure in question has performed many functions for the local community including a site for literary occasions, family celebrations, presentations and weddings. Our local Community Bank, Freshwater held its first Tertiary Scholarship presentation there. There is little or no capacity for similar occasions elsewhere in Freshwater.

We would urge Council to approve the DA allowing this amenity to continue to perform its current roles.

Peter Harley OAM
President
Friends of Freshwater Inc
23 February 2023