
Sent: 27/01/2020 7:39:43 PM
Subject: Application No. DA2019/1447

SM Kotecha
25 Alan Avenue
Seaforth NSW 2092

27th January 2020

**Re: Proposed Development at 27 Alan Avenue, Seaforth
Application DA2019/1447**

I live at 25 Alan Avenue, Seaforth, on the eastern boundary of 27 Alan Avenue, and have been living at the property for over 14 years with my family.

On examining the proposed dual occupancy plans for 27 Alan Avenue I have 5 major concerns:

1. The significant size of the construction proposed, significantly beyond the existing footprint of the current house, will have a detrimental impact on my privacy in the swimming pool, entertainment and kitchen areas where I spend most of my family time.
2. Some blockage/shadowing of the afternoon sun in the outdoor entertainment area during the summer months.
3. A permanent alteration of the nature of the street being the first dual occupancy block developed which is not in keeping with the other buildings, particularly on the proposed length of the development, which extends well beyond where other properties sit in the surrounding area close to our home. The bulk and scale of the development will have an excessive and unreasonable impact on the amenity of our property. The proposed developments appears to be more of a medium density residential than a low density residential.
4. The proposed development is not being built within the Manly DCP requirements with regards to both the Side Setback, which is significantly smaller than the minimum 1/3 of the height of wall, and the maximum floor space ratio, which is higher than the maximum FSR of 0.45:1 allowed. This is unreasonable given the overall bulk and scale of the proposed development.
5. The extent of the excavations and risk of structural damage to our property

I strong believe all of these factors, in combination, will also be aesthetically detrimental to the value of my family home.

1. Loss of Privacy

-

a. Outdoor Area

The proposed development is being extended significantly further down, beyond where the existing house sits, to the end of the swimming pool area. Building a 2-level home, where the windows from the second level of the development, will have a clear view of an area where I spend a significant portion of my family time and will

clearly lead to a significant loss in privacy and quality of my family's personal private space.

The photographs below show both my outdoor family/entertainment area with the swimming pool and the current footprint of the house on 27 Alan Avenue, on the other side of the fence.

The proposed new development is significantly extended to the left beyond the current footprint, to where the swimming pool area almost meets my garden. You can see the major loss in privacy as well as a change in the natural aesthetics where we will lose our outlook.

Photograph 1 – Outdoor area of 25 Alan Avenue



Photograph 2 – Swimming pool area of 25 Alan Avenue



b. Outlook from our kitchen window

Likewise, the windows from the second level of the proposed new construction, which is being extended beyond the current footprint of the house on 27 Alan Avenue, will create major privacy issues into my kitchen area.

Photograph 3 – View from the kitchen window to the existing house on 27 Alan Avenue



These photographs show the very significant loss of privacy from the proposed new development.

2. Blockage/Shadowing of the afternoon sun

Whilst there have been no shadow diagrams provided for the summer solstice my view is that in the summer months the size and closeness of the new development to my property will lead to a loss, for a number of hours, of the late afternoon sun.

3. Streetscape

The new proposed development is not consistent and sympathetic with the rest of the street and all three neighbouring houses. In particular, the length of the property is not consistent with other houses on the street as shown in the photograph below. The extension of the proposed development extends beyond where the current house sits and is not in line with the existing houses in the immediate surrounding area. This would be the first development of its type on the street and could not be considered to complement the existing streetscape and surrounding properties.

27 Alan Avenue SEAFORTH NSW 2092



4. Council Guidelines

The proposed development is not being built within the council rules with regards:

- Based on the Manly DCP requirement the Side Setback should be a minimum $\frac{1}{3}$ of the height of the wall, therefore the proposed Setback of 1.559m should correspond with a wall height of only 4.677m. The wall height along the Western boundary with our property is significantly greater in the proposal.
- The maximum floor space ratio which at 0.5:1 is over 10% higher than the maximum FSR of 0.45:1 allowed. This is unreasonable given the overall bulk and scale of the proposed development.

I believe these non-compliances are major and does result in a significant loss of privacy.

Considering the very large size of the development very close to my boundary, and the significant privacy concerns, it seems the owners are having little regard for their neighbours and council guidelines. The following is stated on the council website for developments - "whether it's a major project, a new house, or an extension, you need to follow the rules".

5. Excavation/Vibrations

I am concerned with the risk of structural damage from the extent of the excavations and vibrations to accommodate the basement garages and swimming pools as highlighted in the Geotechnical report. I request that the applicant prepares a dilapidation report as a condition of the report and agreements by me and the applicant be required as part of the approval process.

In considering any potential development, with the significant loss of privacy, I would be grateful if the owners were to set-up a privacy screen between our building and the proposed building on 27 Alan Avenue:

- By planting maturing trees of 2.5m high that will grow to a 8-10m height
- Windows on top (skylights) of the house and not to the side overlooking our house, especially the swimming pool and outdoor entertainment area. This ensures they have light coming into their house but not visually directly looking into our swimming pool, outdoor entertainment area and kitchen area. An alternative may be privacy windows using opaque glass that allows light to come into the house but not be able to look out.
-

I would appreciate your consideration of my concerns for this proposed development and would welcome the opportunity to discuss my concerns with the council. If you require a site inspection please kindly contact me on 0413768480.

Kind regards,

Sejal Kotecha