Dear Phil

I write this email in addition to my previous brief submission I made to Council regarding the proposed application made to hold a produce Market each Sunday at the Harbord Bowling Club.

I am in disbelief with what I have read so far in the way of submissions made to Council from a certain pocket of residents within our community.

Fortunately, we are very lucky to live in a democratic society and I understand that everyone is entitled to their opinion and view but in this situation this clearly has not been the case.

I can only describe the behaviour of some residents as well local business owners within the vicinity of the Harbord Bowling Club as disgraceful, intimidating, bullying and of a pack mentality. Also, in this statement I must include the operator of the pop up stall who trades each Sunday in the Freshwater Village called The Organic Scarecrow.

The operator of this stall over the last couple of weeks has been quite vocal and been openly encouraging his customers to make a submission to Council opposing the idea of a new Market to operate from the Bowling Club. The behaviour of this operator is way out of line clearly worried about himself only and what impact it may have on him and his recently new operation of which to mention he paid nothing for.

Earlier on during this year I recall reading a newspaper article featured in the Manly Daily that a new Market had been given the approval by Council to operate each Sunday in the Oliver Street car park in Freshwater. The Mayor Mr Regan was excited to announce the news that Council had listened to the community and had received overwhelming support for a new market to operate and the site chosen being the Oliver Street car park.

Sadly, this exciting news was quickly met with disappointment as the market was cancelled one week out from commencement.

From what I believe the last minute decision to cancel the market from taking place each Sunday at this location was due to the concerns expressed by the nearby retailers and what impact it may have had on their businesses. Being a local person and now over several years watching the steady decline of the Freshwater shopping precinct I was totally surprised that this opportunity to breathe some type of life into the area every weekend was not welcomed with open arms.

It would appear that the only complainants and objectors to the Oliver Street location at the time was made from the retailers because of the close vicinity to their businesses and the impact it may of had on them.

Interestingly, I now read again new submissions made to Council by the same retailers complaining once again about the proposed Market at the Harbord Bowling Club which now will be no where near them to have any impact or affect on their business.

The Council may already be aware of a leaflet that has been in circulation and has been distributed to homes around the surrounding streets of the Harbord Bowling Club. Clearly the letterbox drop of this leaflet contains misleading information about the Market operation resulting in the witch hunt it clearly has become towards the applicant of the Market.

I also note with interest that several submissions made to Council have been duplicated and have originated from the one address but from different family members. It would also be apparent that possibly some submissions have been re submitted by the same person but from a different email address, not to mention submissions being received from the Central Coast and as far South as Bondi, clearly these people have been coerced into making a false submission to Council. The true number of legitimate concerns over the proposed Market will never be known.

As the Council would be aware there is an abundance of parking for motor vehicles in and around the vicinity of the Harbord Bowling Club not to mention all of the parking only a short level walk away across the playing fields in any given direction.

Confirming Mr Regan's comments earlier this year the community overwhelmingly want a Market and now even more so that we have lost Frenchs Forest to Mona Vale each Sunday.

In closing, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my email and I hope the applicant is afforded a fair process regarding the submissions made to Council.

Kind Regards

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