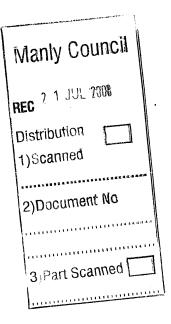
9th July,2008

Mr. Stephen Clements Executive Manager Environmental Services Manly Council PO BOX 82 MANLY NSW 1655

Dear Mr. Clements



Re: Proposed Development: Alterations and Additions to the Ivanhoe Hotel and Part of 19-29 The Corso, including new façade, coffee shop, poker machine area, bottle shop and TAB

I am writing to make a very strong objection to the above proposal.

I have read many articles (in particular the Manly Daily, the Sydney Morning Herald, and other publications), that Manly, specifically the Manly Corso area, has one of the worst records for drunken, abusive and dangerous behaviour in the state of NSW. While Manly Council, the Metropolitan Police and other concerned bodies are trying to reduce these problems, we now receive a proposal from one of the local Hotels to increase their stakehold on the Corso, and thus contribute more alcohol and drunkenness to an already serious problem.

Our concerns are, in brief:

I am convinced, along with the authors of these publications and researchers, that the last thing Manly needs is a larger pub/hotel to exacerbate the problem.

This proposal does not address the State Government and Manly Council's policy for the opening up and diversity of the Market lanes around Manly CBD, and appears not to have 'shopfronts' opening onto the library precinct.

There is a real and current problem for both commercial and residential bodies of urinating, vomiting, bottles (often broken) strewn around after alcohol bingeing, destruction of Parks, gardens and surrounding neighbours and properties. I would recommend an early-morning walk around some of Manly's parks to see the evidence first-hand.

The consequences of this behaviour are borne chiefly by the Manly residents and the Council, with little responsibility, it appears, taken by publicans or their staff

The idea that families might be attracted to this type of venue is flawed, socially irresponsible, and ludicrous, as it only confirms the hotel's desire to sell as much alcohol as possible to make their business viable and growing, by capturing an under-age market: not in any way socially responsible. It does not seem sensible that 'families' would go to a known 'difficult' area at night.

The poker machine and TAB areas will only exacerbate what is already a current problem with gambling and, combined with alcohol, are more than likely to contribute to further social breakdowns.

In short, the proposal flies in the face of current community attitudes and a strong push by the federal government, in particular, to lessen the effects of alcohol and binge drinking on the community at large.

I hope these comments will be seriously considered by Council, and I am happy to contribute further to the debate, should you require me to do so.

Yours sincerely,

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