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Subject: Online Submission

02/11/2020

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RE: DA2020/1233 - 68 - 90 Evans Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

3 November 2020

OBJECTION TO DA 2020/1233
68-90 EVANS STREET, FRESHWATER 2096

I am a resident of Watermark Freshwater and I would like to lodge an objection to the alterations proposed within DA2020/1233. In deciding to become a resident of this village, I was attracted not just to the retirement lifestyle offered, but also to the prospect of living in a complex that provided a safe and secure environment for people over 55 like myself.

For the two and a half years I have been here, this has been the case. We have a very attractive complex with six apartment blocks, linked by landscaped garden pathways and including a common natural grassed area that provides a number of benefits to residents of our village. We are a community now of some 150 residents aged over 55 years, many of them much older than the average age of 70 years - our oldest resident is almost 90 years old.

Talking to some of my older neighbours in particular about this proposal to replace our village green with a bowling green, I am concerned at the stress it is causing them. Their concerns relate to:

- Security and noise - with the prospect of significant numbers of members of the public coming on a daily basis into the area concerned, which has until now been restricted to residents.
- Privacy - the changes proposed will see parts of the proposed bowling green coming within a few meters of apartments in many cases, and directly beneath the windows of many others. In both cases, the privacy of these residents will be directly affected.
- Alcohol - the DA proposes that the area be licensed, which just adds to their concerns.

I share these concerns.

We are advised by the CEO of the Mounties Group, which owns our Watermark village, that this proposal is being pursued because of "his personal promise" to a group of elderly lady bowlers, made many years ago, that he would provide them with a new bowling club at the new Diggers Club. However, that CEO left his job at the Diggers Club before the Watermark complex was even completed, to further his career elsewhere. He returned 12 months or so later to take up the role of Mounties CEO, well after completion of Watermark. In my view any obligation to honour his "promise" lapsed when he left the Diggers Club. It is difficult for me, and for many of my fellow residents that I have spoken to, to accept that this "promise" is more important than the wellbeing of Watermark residents.

Kind regards

Sandra Keogh
Watermark
80 Evans Street