
From: Simon Barlow
Sent: Monday, 13 December 2021 8:34 AM
To: Planning Panels - Northern Beaches
Cc: pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Subject: re DA2020/1756 from Simon Barlow Newport

Categories: DA2020/1756

Application No. DA2020/1756

Address: 351 Barrenjoey Road Newport & 353 Barrenjoey Road Newport

Description: Demolition works and construction of a mixed use development (Shop Top Housing)

Dear Local Planning Panel Members,

The applicant may have satisfied all of the requirements according to the NBC planning staff, who have assessed the application, but he has by no means satisfied the Newport community, who will be living with this development if it proceeds, for the next century.

The unimaginative, soulless design and bulk of this proposed building does not acknowledge in any way the significant site on which it may stand. The site is one of only 4 blocks that front onto Robertson Road, arguably the most important street, off Barrenjoey Road, in Newport. Robertson Road provides the last opportunity for a well planned hub to serve as a business and community heart of the village. This poorly planned application promises to be similar to several recent developments on Barrenjoey Road, that have proved to be disastrous for their inability to activate the street frontages they occupy. This development will adversely affect future plans for Robertson Road. Amongst many disagreeable elements of this plan is the carpark entrance on Robertson Road, which will remove the opportunity to close RR for events and gatherings. The proposed condition 37, which allows for access to Foamcrest Ave in the future comes with no guarantee. For instance, the Auspost site may be developed as an open community area in the future, and thus the condition should carry no favourable weight.

Since the application has been lodged in February, this community has in large numbers expressed its opposition to this application.

One of the results of this campaign was a Mayoral minute in March which resulted in an online meeting of State minister Rob Stokes, the NBC Mayor, CEO, directors, councilors, senior staff, landowners and their representatives, local residents and business owners. The result of the meeting was a general favourable response to the potential coordination

or amalgamation of the sites on Robertson Road and the precinct West of RR, including the Foamcrest Ave carpark. NBC have not pursued this endeavour to it's full potential .

The residents ran a survey earlier in the year that resulted in 1300 returns, more than 1000 from Newport area alone, which showed overwhelming support for Robertson Road to be closed on occasion or permanently, and serve as a pedestrian plaza in some form.

The campaign opposing this development resulted in 300 + submissions rejecting the application on the grounds referred to above. It has generated constant local media attention and support.

This application should be assessed by this panel, not according to the DCP and LEP conditions, but by the overwhelming reaction to it by Newport residents. It should also take into account the significant site and position, which is not acknowledged in the planning laws.

This application should be rejected outright, and the applicant encouraged to join with the residents and NBC to contribute a better outcome for this site and the Newport community for the next century.

Yours sincerely

Simon Barlow