

To:
Penrith City Council
PO Box 60
Penrith

14 December 2017

Subject: Integrated Development Application Number: DA17/1092

Proposed Staged Construction of Wallacia Memorial Park including Cemetery for 88,000 burial plots, chapel and related Crematorium and Function Rooms, Administration Building, Services Outbuilding, Parkland areas, Internal Roads, Car Parking and Associated landscaping and site servicing works. Lot 2 DP 1108408 and Lot 512 DP 1079728 Wallacia Golf Course site 13 to 15 Park Road, Wallacia NSW.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this submission to you in regards to the above application. Put simply I do not want this development to go ahead.

I am a long time resident of Wallacia and have enjoyed very much living in this quiet rural setting on the outskirts of Sydney, indeed it is the main reason I came to live in Wallacia.

Surely the demand for cemetery space could be accommodated by the acquisition of undeveloped (and possibly crown) land and not an existing beautiful 18 hole golf course / club already an integral part of the social life of the local and rural community.

The land that the Golf Course stands on was bequeathed to the Penrith City Council by the Fowler family as a gift to the Wallacia people over 80 years ago. Although there appears to be some lack of clarity I am sure it was not bequeathed so that it could ultimately become a necropolis. Supposedly, at least in the perception of the local community, it was always to remain as a golf course.

The air quality around Wallacia village will undoubtedly be reduced due to the retention within the Wallacia basin of emissions from the crematoria.

In addition if this proposal goes ahead Wallacia will be detrimentally impacted by the pollution arising from the growing numbers of vehicles. Park Road; which provides the only access, is already busy with traffic. We have noticed increasing truck movements. In the near vicinity of Wallacia there are five schools. Traffic accident fatalities have occurred on both Park Road and Mulgoa Road even with the relatively smaller numbers of vehicles now using those roads. I'm sure this development will add to the hazard of travelling on Park Road especially on the down hill slope approaching the proposed entry point, resulting in increased traffic accidents on this road.

The local area is a valuable market garden producer of food for Sydney. The inevitable increase in air and ground pollution from this development will negatively affect the quality and flavour of the food produced in the future.

The Nepean river is a valuable source of water for the Sydney basin, down river from Wallacia. The increased pollution arising inevitably from decomposing bodies, through local ground seepage, will ultimately degrade the quality of the water from the Nepean.

The local community, through its local representatives on the Penrith Council, voted unanimously on the 29th August to support a planning proposal that will prohibit the development of cemeteries and crematoriums in the Mulgoa and Wallacia valley. The chambers were packed to overflowing with supporters as an indication of the local community feeling aroused by this matter.

Given this democratic mandate can the council not now decline or reject this proposal outright since it demonstrably does not meet with local community approval.

The overall impression we have as a community is that it is extremely difficult to discover the nature of proposed developments in our area. Most of what is proposed is not the subject of any formal community consultation process as is the case with this development.

Why is it not possible to change the planning process so that community consultation outcomes are part of any future development application, thereby enabling an assured community consultation process BEFORE development applications are submitted.

Wallacia should remain what it has always been a small rural village.

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R/MGT
21 DEC 2017
PENRITH CITY COUNCIL