

Joel Herbert

From: a.butterfield6@bigpond.com
Sent: Tuesday, 28 August 2018 8:30 PM
To: Joel Herbert
Subject: FW: Response to your letter and Capital Bluestone leaflet

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Sir

Email attached as mentioned

Avona Butterfield

From: a.butterfield6@bigpond.com [mailto:a.butterfield6@bigpond.com]
Sent: Monday, 27 August 2018 1:54 PM
To: 'glenntownend@adventist.org.au'
Subject: Response to your letter and Capital Bluestone leaflet

Glenn Townend
SPD President

Sir

In your letter of 21 May 2018 you state that consultations continue and options are being explored in regard to the Wahroonga Estate Residential Development. I am not aware of any consultations involving the local community.

Capital Bluestone's dismissive response to all the objections raised by residents in this area shows no evidence of exploring any options. Modifications to the Concept Plan show continued demands for changes advantageous to the Proponent, not to the school or the community.

What are you doing to WAS? In my long professional life I have taught in several state high schools and advised in others. I know schools and I know what makes a good school environment where staff and students can be at their best. In all my years I have never seen anything as mean and horrible as this part of the Concept Plan. Where are the vistas of playing fields and open spaces? Where are areas for play and recreation? There are none. Instead there are huge, towering buildings restricting students' use of playing areas and open spaces and forever keeping them, like Macbeth, "cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd, bound in". The fact that residents of those towers will be able to observe the students will be unsettling and unpleasant for the students and will deny them the privacy that schools should provide. I have found in my long years in schools that not all observers of students wish them well.

No consideration has been given to the physical, psychological, emotional and, as WAS purports to be a religious school, spiritual needs of the students. There is nothing there that reflects any of the teachings of your church. All the students will see is that money - and making as much as possible - has determined the use of the land which should be used for their wellness or whatever name your church gives to that wonderful sense of space, freedom and wholesomeness which means so much to growing bodies and minds.

Because the Wahroonga Estate Concept Plan was approved in the dying years of a corruption-riddled government, its approval is suspect. Which Minister for Planning granted approval? Tony Kelly and Frank Sartor were both planning ministers in the period 2009-2011. Both left Parliament under very dark clouds: Kelly for corrupt conduct involving property deals and Sartor for the scandal involving sex-for-development deals in Wollongong which

occurred on his watch. Two other ministers involved in development deals during this unsavoury period are now serving long prison sentences.

You state that you want "a good outcome for all involved". That, sir, is an impossibility. What your church is planning, apart from destroying the very essence of the WAS, will make traffic congestion on Fox Valley Road absolutely horrendous and will ruin forever this treasured, low-density residential area where I have lived for more than forty years. Traffic figures, based on modelling on one day, quoted in Capital Bluestone's response to community objections are years out of date and do not take into account the scale of the already-approved DAs. There will be thousands of extra vehicle movements from the church's huge, ostentatious specialist centre on the corner of Fox Valley Road and The Comenarra; the 127-place child care centre on the opposite corner - and the one you are planning on the former primary school site; WAS when the buildings are completed; the seniors' apartment complex on 46 Fox Valley Road; the 96-place child care centre planned for 44 Fox Valley Road; the six townhouses behind 'Rothemay'; and whatever is planned for that ominously vacant site near the pre-school.

There is no infrastructure to support this residential development. Its distance from train stations, shopping centres and other facilities means that all residents will have to travel everywhere by car. It does **not** meet the criteria for such developments. There are no parking stations at any of the local stations and the congestion on all roads in close proximity is increasing daily as major residential developments on the Pacific Highway and Pennant Hills Road are completed.

I note that Dr Leon Clark jumped ship and sold his house in Seymour Close before these unacceptable plans were announced, and I'm sure that you and the CEO of Capital Bluestone do not live on Fox Valley Road. I do live in the area, in The Broadway, the upper part of which - along with all the roads just south of the Fox Valley Road/Comenarra intersection - have become a free parking lot for the hospital. Several of the streets are parked out on both sides, becoming single-lane streets and restricting the movements of residents and service vehicles.

You will have noted the signs and posters along Fox Valley Road. They are just the tip of the iceberg and do not fully reflect the feelings of betrayal and despair - and white hot anger in some quarters - that you and your church are creating. The community has always been very supportive of your church and those with top health cover have used the medical facilities in the grounds of the SAN, but this is very different. On land-tax-exempt land you are planning to build a huge commercial residential complex - nothing to do with medical or church facilities. If you need the money for your expansion and other works, then I suggest you cut your garment to fit your cloth. Ensuring any residential development is of the highest quality means nothing. It is unfortunate that the staff at the SAN are feeling the hostility that you have created. They say that they are not to blame and indicate privately that they are not in support of your actions, but perhaps, as members of your church, they could have protested about plans being made in the name of their church, and consequently in their name.

May I remind you that the IHAP panel which approved the above-mentioned 127-place child care centre earlier this year stated in its decision:

Generally, the future traffic implications for this vicinity in the light of the scale of the proposed developments in the locality will need to be carefully monitored by all relevant authorities to take account of community concerns.

You and Capital Bluestone are not taking account of the traffic implications, nor are you taking account of community concerns. Where is a rigorous, independent report monitoring all these implications?

You thank me for my ongoing prayers and support. You do not have either. You have lost my support forever. What you are planning will destroy this area and that destruction can never be undone. In these circumstances, sir, your *Blessings* are an affront.

Y. A. Butterfield

Please note: I assume that you meant to say: this will take consultation, negotiation and understanding on everyone's part. What you have said does not make sense.