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Emergency Consultation Needed in New Suburbs

Tuesday, 4 June 2013

Hobsons Bay Leader
3 June 2013

<http://leader.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

“EMERGENCY services have urged developers and planners to consult them when building new suburbs.

Firefighters Union national secretary Peter Marshall said it was sometimes hard for fire trucks to get through narrow streets in emergencies.

“Any inhibiting factors like cars parked in narrow streets are a problem. They do these things without consultation,” he said.

He said there should be a mandatory requirement in any design for emergency service vehicles....”

SW COMMENT:

I wonder what they really think about 2000 people too close to a Major Hazard Facility. The redevelopment of the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mill Site may not be a “NEW SUBURB” but it is more compact with residential density 7 times Hong Kong and Manhattan.. Also there are huge implications for safety in a peninsula.

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**RED SPOT DAY
Saturday 15th June 2013
9am - 3pm HUGE GARAGE SALE
9am to 5pm SILENT AUCTION - Pre-bidding
6.30pm - 9pm Soiree at Osborne House
9pm Successful Bids Announced at
Osborne House**

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BIG FUNDRAISING DAY for Save Williamstown

Saturday, 15 June 2013

15 June 2013

A day of Events for Save Williamstown - helping with fighting the high rise high density proposals on Pt Gellibrand.

9am to 3pm - **HUGE Garage Sale** - STARTING in Cecil St (at bay end) /

Ann St / Kanowna St / Aitken St with most of the streets having house after house taking part in a Communal Garage Sale to raise funds/ Every purchase will help with 50% of sales going to Save Williamstown for our legal fighting fund

9am to 9pm - **12 Hour Silent Auction** of items some worth thousands of dollars. Such as: a Barrister appearing for you in the Magistrates courts; a weekend in Point Lonsdale for the whole family; artworks and more.....
Auction results will be announced at the Soiree in Osborne St at 9pm but the community and anyone who isn't attending the Soiree can send in a written Pre-Bid as long as it is emailed before 5pm.
Auction items viewing at the Soiree
Information about how to do an Auction Pre-Bid is available here [Silent Auction Pre Bidding](#)

6.30pm to 9pm - **Soiree at Osborne House** hosted by Rae and Bill Szuch - a fantastic fundraiser for Save Williamstown with food and music in the elegance of a heritage home in Osborne St.

Join Save Williamstown Inc as a Member or an Associate - ask for information at the events

SW COMMENT:

Come and join in with a fun and bonding day for members of Save Williamstown

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COUNCIL refuses the permit for 178 dwellings

Thursday, 20 June 2013

Hot off the press

Tonight Hobsons Bay Council Special Planning Committee agreed with the Council Officers that the 178 dwellings including a 40 metre high rise high density tower should never be built in Pt Gellibrand.

They spoke about the lessons we learned from West, in Texas when an explosion devastated the place and how we need to always be aware that Major Hazard Facilities do have hazards. They also questioned the audacity of putting for a plan which is part of an 800+ dwelling site and would house up to 2000 new residents, without at least considering some real community infrastructure input on the site. Mobil's barrister explained clearly at the meeting that Mobil must have the right to operate its refinery in the interests of the people of Victoria and not have the safety compromised. He reminded the SPC that the motto of Mobil is NOBODY GETS HURT and putting residents in the Worksafe Advisory Area was not best practice. He also reminded the hearing that Mobil uses international standard of 400 from the tanks as the distance for explosions and that putting high rise towers only a couple of metres from the advisory area ignored the fact that one metre away things do not suddenly change to a safe zone. There was far too much glass in the design and the developer hasn't taken obvious dangers into account.

So a very good decision by Mayor Angela Altair, Councillors Peter Hemphill and Paul Morgan.

BUT in the cynical exercise to beat it all, before the council had made a decision, the developer has taken the matter to VCAT and even obtained a date in September for the hearing. How can the 60 days rule apply when the developer didn't even meet the criteria for the Emergency Evacuation Plan that the Operator of the MHF Mobil had to be consulted. Surely that is why the clock stops so that Developers with incomplete documentation can't go willy nilly to VCAT - they should have to meet bare minimums before they are allowed to apply to VCAT.

Picture above - The hard hats say it all.

The "draft" emergency evacuation plan would require residents to appoint Area Wardens, Wardens etc as Safety Personnel and require training.... etc. So 4 bedroom houses where there could be elderly parents, children arriving home from school etc would have these requirements.
"Residents are not an entity capable of organising in an emergency"

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Williamstown tower knockback, 'catastrophe' alert

Wednesday, 26 June 2013

Hobsons Bay Weekly
26 June 2013
By Goya Dmytryshchak

"AN 11-storey tower proposed for Williamstown has been knocked

back as an oil giant warned of the potential for a catastrophic disaster. Mobil barrister Peter Willis said the company's ability to operate in the interests of the state – supplying half Victoria's fuel – would be affected if a 137- dwelling tower planned by Evolve Development went ahead.

Mobil's Point Gellibrand tank farm is next door to the site of the proposed development.

Evolve's plan for 41 three-storey townhouses on the Port Phillip Woollen Mill site was also rejected by Hobsons Bay council last Thursday.

The applications for 2-10 and 339 Nelson Place and 16-20 Kanowna Street form part of a much larger development that would add about 2000 people to Williamstown's population.

A special planning committee meeting of the council, attended by a packed public gallery, unanimously rejected the development applications, part of which would fall inside a 300-metre safety buffer from Mobil's tank farm and supply ships.

Evolve managing director Ashley Williams did not attend. His agent Lloyd Elliot told the panel that his client was not there because of "personal reasons".

Mr Willis said Mobil operated for 96 to 110 hours continuously, and from 2015, when bigger ships would arrive, operations would increase to "170 hours continuously or just over seven days, day and night".

Mr Willis told the panel Mobil's motto was "nobody gets hurt".

"If things go wrong, they could go wrong catastrophically," he said.

He said a pressure wave could be set off as a result of a disastrous event and all windows of a high rise would be susceptible to being blown out....."

<http://www.maribyrnongweekly.com.au/story/1598693/williamstown-tower-knockback-catastrophe-alert/?src=rss>

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Guy blunder to cost state heavily

Sunday, 30 June 2013

The Age
by ROYCE MILLAR - 27/06/13, 3:00 AM

“Victorian taxpayers are facing a costly compensation bill as the Napthine government seeks to keep its most damaging planning

blunder out of the courts.

The government is in confidential negotiations over compensation with Carley Nicholls, the woman behind a contentious housing subdivision proposed for Ventnor on Phillip Island.

Fairfax Media understands escalating offers, now at more than \$1 million, have been made to settle the matter, set for the Supreme Court on August 20.

Government insiders say they expect the offer to continue to increase as concerns mount about the possible airing in court of Liberal Party manoeuvring over the proposed development of the picturesque property that overlooks Western Port.

In late 2011 Planning Minister Matthew Guy approved rezoning of the 24-hectare farmlet for housing and then scuttled the approval amid protests from within his own Liberal Party, the local community and celebrity tweeter Miley Cyrus.

Ms Nicholls, the buyer of the site, is suing Mr Guy and the government over its backflip and she is seeking the reinstatement of the minister's initial rezoning approval.....

.....Her claims are at odds with Mr Guy's recollection of events leading to his September approval of the rezoning

In his defence detailed in documents lodged with the court, the minister acknowledges the meeting at Ms Nicholls' seaside home but denies the Ventnor proposal was raised or even knowledge of Ms Nicholls' interest in the property.

The documents say Mr Guy acted "in error" in **rezoning the land but had relied on the advice of ministerial staff.**

Ms Nicholls told Fairfax Media she believed Mr Guy overturned his decision at the direction of the office of then premier Ted Baillieu, not on planning grounds.....”

<http://m.theage.com.au/victoria/guy-blunder-to-cost-state-heavily-20130626-2oxlr.html>

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