

4th June 2021

Chief Executive Officer
Willoughby City Council
PO Box 57
Chatswood NSW 2057

Dear Ms. Just,

The Artarmon Progress Association and Willoughby South Progress Association (“the PAs”) wish to lodge a complaint regarding the handling of **DA-2021/5 – 1A Burra Road ARTARMON NSW 2064** based on the following:

1. The PAs’ view was misrepresented in the Council Officer’s report.

As stated in their submissions and at the Willoughby Local Planning Panel meeting, the PAs support the proposed adaptive reuse approach, but **objected** to the DA on the grounds that the design is not fit for purpose, the building has accessibility constraints, and the community hall is too small for many of the purposes the community wants to use it for.

2. The Council Officer’s report misrepresents the availability of alternative local venues.

According to WCC’s website:

- a. Artarmon Kid’s Cottage is available for child related activities only and has restricted hours; and,
- b. 139 Artarmon Rd is only available when not being used for fitness classes run by Willoughby Leisure Centre and has restricted hours.

This significantly limits venues available for indoor meetings and activities in Artarmon.

Within its boundaries, Willoughby South only has limited access to the minimal space described as the "kids' room" at the Willoughby Leisure Centre.

3. Significant changes made to plans without an opportunity for the community to comment.

Council distributed a document titled “Council response to recommended conditions DA-2021-5” less than 2 hours before the meeting. This document appears to include some significant changes to the building, and it is unclear from the sketches and plan included what the final form of the building will be. For example, the plan in this document shows no access to the internal toilet. The PAs are of the opinion that Willoughby Local Planning Panel should have deferred its decision until Council had provided updated detailed plans of the building and the community was given the opportunity to review, understand and comment on these.

4. Willoughby Planning Panel recommendation ignored.

The Planning Panel that heard Council’s application to demolish the clubhouse made an additional recommendation that “Council implement a design excellence process in designing the new facility”. It is evident that this process was not followed when amendments are being proposed at the last minute.

5. Community feedback ignored.

The PAs have engaged extensively with the community to shape a facility that meets the desired uses today and into the future. The PAs were given an opportunity to comment on the design, but the key changes needed to meet community requirements were ignored.

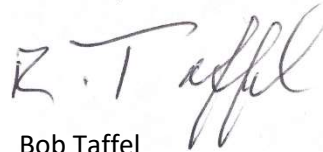
The PAs request that Willoughby Local Planning Panel review its determination of the DA considering the above concerns and ask Council to review its plans for the Artarmon Bowling Clubhouse to ensure the functionality and access requested by the community is provided.

Please advise if there is anything more that the PAs are required to do to facilitate a review by the Decision Review Panel.

Yours faithfully,



Georgina Roussac
President
Artarmon Progress Association



Bob Taffel
Vice President
Willoughby South Progress Association