

Deputation to CCC by Sachie

Today is a sad day. You are about to betray the very community you are charged to represent and protect.

First settled in the 1820s and originally known as Kangaroo Point, in the 1830s it became Bellerive meaning "beautiful river bank".

This area has been appreciated by some of the great figures of history. Charles Darwin traipsed these shores when he stepped from the Beagle, and the view of Hobart Town has been captured by Henry Gritten, Eugene von Guerard and John Glover and these works remain amongst their most celebrated.

It beggars belief this public land in our Kangaroo Bay has been sold by Council for an under-valued (and until recently secret) price to an foreign owned company who plan to build a great wall that will obliterate this classic, iconic, and celebrated Australian view.

Do you remember this document? It is the Urban Design Concept Plan. It's not worth much now. All discussed and planned, before the community had any idea changes had been made to it.

Council have refused to release information regarding the contract and negotiations with Chambroad Petrochemicals. So what is there to hide? A deal done behind closed doors with the community shut out and when we have lodged Right to Information requests you will still not make the information available! How can we trust you?

Peter Partridge wrote recently in The Mercury "by all means a hotel and training establishment in Bellerive, but surely as a community we can find a site that will not cost us so dear in the future".

Why do Leigh Woolley's paid words grasping at reasons to say this development is okay count for more than the wisdom of someone like Peter Partridge?

How can you say "there are no other uses which might be adversely impacted" by the development. Have you forgotten the yacht club, cricket club, bowls club, footy club, local café and restaurants, and Blundstone Arena – all in the immediate vicinity. How can you prioritise developers over local residents, clubs and small businesses that form the very fabric that makes Bellerive a community?

Just about every concern in the DA has been swept away with cheap bureaucratic nothing words.

While changes have been made as a result of community perseverance, with no support from the people we were naive enough to think are representing us, this development remains inappropriate. Chambroad have held us to ransom with the threat of reverting to the first approval if this second one is appealed.

We cannot believe you would be so complicit as to hand over this most historic and valuable community asset and enable such an organisation to desecrate it with this monstrosity.

We, the community, object to developers who only value their own needs.

We, the community, object to architecture that is all about the architect.

We, the community, object to our Council pandering to developers.

We, the community, want appropriate development not overdevelopment.

This is not an appropriate development for the most definitive urban view of Australia's most beautiful capital city. I remind the Aldermen, that you have the power to approve or reject this application and I hope you have the courage to remember why you are here.