

Mosque closer to Lockridge

ECHO 24/1/09

Dear Editor,

To Mr Henderson I say this, you and your friends are nothing but racists and biggots!

You say you defend the Swan Valley from such

developments, a development I might add that is closer to Lockridge than the Swan Valley.

In the heart of the Swan Valley you have Catholic, Anglican and Christian places of worship and on Campersic Road there is a Buddhist temple, yet you will not let a mosque be built.

To you and your followers I say shame, also shame to the councillors if they do not approve it.

We are all entitled to a place of worship no matter what the religion.

Remember this, there are many colours but we are one people.

To Mrs Sandbach, *Ellenbrook is great - but no bins* [Echo letters January 17, 2009] the council probably would put more bins if the little darlings within the City of Swan did not turn them into melted lumps of plastic by setting them on fire.

Annoyed by idiots, Stratton

* Planning issue, not religion

Dear Editor,

It is amusing to see the vicious attack in, *Mosque closer to Lockridge* [Echo letters, January 24] by such a cowardly person not prepared to sign their name to a letter.

This person obviously doesn't know anything about the issues of the mosque proposal.

This gutless anonymous person seems to be rather opinionated about a number of things and has a preoccupation with religion rather than the question of suitability of urban infrastructure in a rural zoning.

We should all be concerned about someone with such little understanding of the community's grave and strong concerns about urban invasion of the Swan Valley.

The proposed mosque in Caversham is completely out of place with a State Act, designed to promote and develop a great area for everyone.

We need to ensure that Swan Valley businesses can grow without the impact of urban infrastructure slowly eating it away like a cancer.

Get into the car and visit the myriad of complementary destinations the Swan Valley has to offer - it's right on your doorstep and we want to keep it.

Rod Henderson, West Swan

ECHO 7/2/09

Responses to "Mosque Closer to Lockridge" 24/1/09

Objection is not racism

ECHO 31/1/09

Dear Editor,

I would like to reply to *Mosque closer to Lockridge* [Echo letters, January 24].

As I am against the mosque being built in the Swan Valley I take it I will also be called a racist, a bigot and a redneck.

However, I will have no trouble sleeping at night.

Instead of name calling the letterist would be better off stating a few facts. Yes, there is a Christian church in the Swan Valley.

However, when it was built, the building would

have had to comply with the building code of the City of Swan and fit in with the Swan Valley district. This in plain English means that this is Australia and we follow the rules.

Mosques are Middle Eastern inspired and have not one thing in common with the surrounding Swan Valley region.

I would say 80 per cent of a Christian church would be for prayer and service.

Whereas this mosque uses only 225 square metres of a 1356 square metre space for prayer - or about one fifth of the building.

It makes you wonder if the prayer hall was added just to get the building approved.

Who in their right mind would want to see a 22.2 metre minaret in the Swan Valley?

My wife is an Indonesian Catholic, I am a New Zealand Catholic and we go to an Australian Catholic church.

I hope 'Annoyed by idiots' will answer some of my questions. If someone wanted to build a hotel or nightclub next to a mosque or your house and you objected - would that make you a racist and a bigot?

Do you believe in a majority vote or should the minority rule?

If I went to your house

or mosque I would abide by your rules even if I disagreed with them. But if you came to my house, would you abide by my rules or would you ask me to change to suit you?

Another Redneck, Caversham

Why the Valley for a mosque?

Dear Editor,

In response to *Mosque closer to Lockridge* [Echo letters, January 24].

Call us racist, call us bigots, call us what you want but you obviously don't know the Swan Valley boundary well.

The proposed mosque development will be in the Swan Valley - it is not closer to Lockridge!

The *Swan Valley Planning Act* was put into place to protect the Swan Valley and what it is renowned for which is horticulture, viticulture and tourism. Furthermore, the Act is law.

As far as we are concerned this development would do absolutely nothing for the Swan Valley except open the flood gates to allow further inappropriate developments to be built.

Other places of worship referred to have been built previously to the *Swan Valley Planning*

Act coming in to effect in 1995.

These have been built on much larger parcels of land with very few residential properties surrounding them.

Therefore, this has very little impact on one or two neighbours who live nearby.

These other places of worship were also strongly opposed by the residents of the Swan Valley.

The developer himself has admitted at the public meeting that virtually none of the worshippers live in the Swan Valley.

So why build it here? Taking it closer to where the congregation live would make more sense.

We have chosen to live in the Swan Valley for a different lifestyle and we don't need a mosque, especially if it is not going to service the Swan Valley in any way.

The Swan Valley is multicultural and that is the way it has been for years.

Yes we are 'one people' but a mosque does not fit into the rural character of the Swan Valley.

Not Racist, Swan Valley