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MARR – PHILLIPO HOUSE

As the decision from the Planning Committee on the re-location of the Marr- Phillipso house in Ancaster has now come to the full council for ratification, request this decision be rescinded.


At a minimum it should be returned to the Applicant until a full project proposal is submitted including site plans with supporting feasibility and professional evaluations.

Outlined are some of the reasons for this request:

- 1) The contamination survey on the property did not investigate possible contamination beneath the house, so far there is no evidence that this is the case. Until this is accurately established there is no reason to accept the Applicant's request to move the building to allow remediation. The suggestion that there might be contamination has been floated to hide the real reason for the move: to allow a multi-storey commercial & residential development on this lot, unhindered by this heritage building.
- 2) The Application was superficial and amateurish. This Application should contain full details of the planned development, along with the necessary professional reports confirming its feasibility. Only then can Council and staff make a reasoned and correct analysis and decision.
- 3) It is important the house should not be exposed to the risk of damage, unless such a move is essential. In the current location its significance can be widely seen, appreciated and enjoyed by all. It should be proudly displayed as key part of the historic streetscape of the Village of Ancaster.
To consider moving it would be a major blow to the village core, especially as it is proposed to be tucked away in a remote corner of a multi-storey development.
- 4) To enable their voices to be heard, many Ancaster residents submitted objections, either verbally or written, to the recent Planning meeting. These were summarily dismissed by a Councillor, who alleges he is aware of many supporters of the requested application. If these supporters cannot be bothered enough to take time to write or attend the meeting, their support has no credence and must be ignored.
In my travels around Ancaster I have not heard ONE voice of support for the project.
- 5) It is very disappointing to see that a flawed application from a developer overrides the legitimate concerns of a community. This does not reflect well on the Planning staff, the Planning Committee or the City.

I trust this decision will be reconsidered.

R.H. Baker P.Eng


Ancaster.