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Death notices

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BREWERTON, Douglas James

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Council grants consent for new 13-storey hotel

John Cousins

EXCLUSIVE

A 150-ROOM international hotel is planned to be built on a prime Tauranga downtown site, boosting hopes it will underpin the revival of the city centre.

The development on the corner of Spring St and Durham St would replace the 57-year-old former Public Trust Building and add to the momentum already under way with the nearby construction of Trustpower's new $25 million head office.

Tauranga City Council has issued a consent for the 13-level building which will feature a tower and podium.

The applicant is Spring Street Holdings Ltd, a company registered in October last year and whose sole director and shareholder was Jonathon Brett McColl.

Mr McColl said he was fronting for a consortium but would not comment further until he had consulted with the other parties to the development. He indicated the project had been undergoing due diligence.

It will be the second development proposal for the site which was bought by Barrie Harnett in 2010 for $5 million. Mr Harnett's original plan for the 2300sq m site was for a three-storey office and retail development.

Tauranga Mayor Stuart Crosby did not see the project as competition for the council-owned site opposite Baycourt, which had been the subject of two unsuccessful proposals for an internationally-branded hotel.

"It's all good, whether the council facilitates a hotel development or it is all done by the private sector."

Mr Crosby said a hotel would bring more people, vibrancy and confidence into the central city.

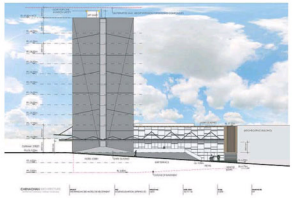
The difference with this project was that the applicant had reached first base by investing in getting a resource consent," he said.

"They would not do this unless they were reasonably confident."

He said there had always been interest in the council's Durham St property and a development would happen sooner or later.

The consent said the tower section of the development would align with Durham St and contain the hotel rooms, suites and penthouse apartments. It would be finished in dark grey with bronze facades, with recessed balconies.

AWAITING REDEVELOPMENT: Nearly 60 years has passed since the Tauranga Electric Power Board constructed this building. PHOTO/ANDREW WARNER



HOTEL HOPES: An artist's impression of the international-branded hotel proposed for the corner of Durham St and Spring St.

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW: An aerial perspective of the site of the planned hotel.

SOARING SKYWARD: An example of the bronze and grey laminated glass facade that will be a feature of the tower portion of the planned hotel.

Tauranga's planned new hotel

- 150 rooms, nine suites and eight penthouse apartments
- Bar and restaurant
- Conference facilities for 600 people
- Spa, gymnasium and indoor pool
- Basement parking for 102 cars

Land-use consent was needed because the application did not fit some council planning rules. The lift shafts exceeded maximum heights by 2m and it fell about 7 per cent short of the 75 per cent glazing requirement.

The council was satisfied that the blank wall along Spring St associated with the raised terrace would be treated in a way that ensured interaction with the pedestrian environment.

Boffa Miskell consultants handled the consent on behalf of Spring St Holdings.

It said the new hotel represents a significant investment in Tauranga's city centre and a positive contribution to the area.

The application listed the property owners BG and KL Harnett and JRF Trustee Company Ltd, a Tauranga-based investment company.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Email:
editor@bayofplentytimes.co.nz

Briefly

Tornado wreaks havoc

A mini tornado is thought to have ripped through Mount Maunganui about 8.45 last night. Fire fighters received numerous calls about roofs being ripped off houses around Lodge Ave and Links Ave. A tree was split in half and debris was strewn over the road opposite the Links Ave Reserve. A fire service Northern Communications spokeswoman confirmed the destruction appeared to have been caused by a mini tornado. Power was also cut to houses in Omanu about 8.30pm last night. See bayofplentytimes.co.nz for updates.

AOS callout

The Armed Offenders Squad were called to a property in Tauranga last night. Northern police communications spokesperson Chris Tate said armed police were called to a Ohauiti property between 6.30pm and 7pm. Mr Tate said the callout was for a warrant of arrest. Tauranga station shift manager confirmed armed police were called but did not give further details.

Police Twirl with cars

A team of NZ Transport Agency staff and Bay of Plenty police inspected cars, vans and other light vehicles on Wednesday, on SH2 in Katikati. Drivers had a breath test, licences were checked and vehicles were given a TWIRL inspection — Tyres, Windscreen, Indicators, Rust, and Lights. More than a quarter had some form of defect. The most common safety issues were lights and indicators that didn't work, broken windscreens that affected visibility, and bald tyres.

Complaints

The *Bay of Plenty Times* is subject to NZ Press Council procedures. A complaint must first be directed in writing to the editor by emailing complaints@bayofplentytimes.co.nz. If a complainant is not satisfied, it may be referred to the Press Council, PO Box 10-879, The Terrace, Wellington 6143, or use the online complaint form at presscouncil.org.nz Please include copies of the article and all correspondence.

Early-morning fright for woman out

By Sandra Conchie
news@bayofplentytimes.co.nz

A hooded, disguised man "came out of the darkness" and flashed a Papamoa woman while she was running after an earlier incident in which she believed a man took a photo of her.

The first incident happened on May 5 and the second on Tuesday this week — prompting the woman to warn other women in Papamoa to take care.

She told her story to the *Bay of Plenty Times* on condition she was not identified.

In the first incident she said she was running with her dog on Papamoa Beach Rd heading towards Mount Maunganui about 6am on May 5 and as she reached the section of the road just after Douglas Pl she passed a man wearing a beanie, shorts and light-coloured hoodie.

"Not long after I passed him I saw a flash behind me. While I can't be 100 per cent sure, I think he took a photograph of me."

The woman said she did not think much about it until she was out running again on Dickson Rd about 6am this week and a hooded man came "out of the darkness" from a beach accessway and exposed himself to her from across the road.

"On my run I ran down Papamoa Beach Rd, cut across Douglas Pl and into Dickson Rd and was going to carry on running past the beach accessway but fortunately decided to cross the road because there was far more light. This guy just came out of the darkness," she said.

"I could see this guy standing on the opposite side of the road, he was about 6m away. It was more frightening than the first incident because he was quite a big guy, possibly six foot. He was wearing a dark hoody, dark trackpants, and possibly a dark T-shirt wrapped around his face.

"He suddenly knelt down, pulled down his pants, lifted up his top and exposed himself to me.

jogging as 'flasher' in disguise appears

"I got out of there as fast as I could and ran home and called the police, who were at my door within five minutes."
Victim

"I got out of there as fast as I could and ran home and called the police, who were at my door within five minutes," she said.

The woman said she was speaking out to alert other women after she had been told by police there had been reports of similar incidents.

"I can't be 100 per cent sure that the two men were the same person but they both had the same light-coloured skin."

The woman said it was disturbing and upsetting the man had "taken advantage" of her like this.

"This person must be caught before he does this to someone else or even worse," she said.

Papamoa Neighbourhood Support co-ordinator Lorraine Stevens said she had been unaware of the incidents but would follow it up.

Police area commander Inspector Clifford Paxton confirmed Papamoa police were investigating the woman's complaint but said he was unaware of any other similar incidents in the area.

"I urge people out running or exercising in the early hours of the morning or late at night to keep themselves safe, including making sure they do so in well-lit areas."