

Mixed reactions to marina plans

THERE was mixed reaction from the big crowd at the Cruising Yacht Club last Sunday for presentations on the Port Rockingham Marina proposal.

The developers and consultants said the marina would be a similar development to the Hillarys Boat Harbour and marina, but only 30 per cent of its size.

Concerns from people who live nearby focused on environmental, visual and noise effects associated with the jetty and moorings and increased traffic movement.

A consultant said it was envisaged that not a great deal more passing traffic would be generated, and traffic-calming measures treatments would be considered as part of the overall traffic plan.

One resident said his property overlooked the proposed development. He said the plans were "fantastic" and the only problem was that it was 30 years too late.

Businessman and former Rockingham councillor David Winter, whose property would directly overlook the jetty, said it was an exciting development, but he wanted to see how his vista would be altered and assur-

ances that no B-grade licensed premises such as those already in Rockingham would be established on the jetty.

Developer Paul Ogilvie said family-friendly outlets were envisaged such as Little Creature in Fremantle and similar food and beverage businesses at the Mandurah Ocean Marina.

There was also concern at the meeting from swimmers who have used that area of beach for years.

They were told their activities should not be affected by the development, except perhaps the water would be calmer because of the sheltering breakwater.

Preserve Point Peron Group members were out in force at the meeting.

Group chairman Bob Goodale said afterwards the group supported the current process and the Port Rockingham Marina project.

"We can see only some social implication which needs to be addressed, but as long as government marine regulations are implemented we can see no environmental issues," he said.