

Mixed feelings about marina

By ANITA McINNES

COMMUNITY reaction to the Port Rockingham marina is divided between those who want to moor their boats there and those concerned with parking and traffic problems.

Developer Rosewood Grove presented the findings and conclusions of the environmental impact assessment undertaken for the Wanliss Street proposal at a meeting last week. Former Boating WA president Rodney Greville-Collins spoke in support of the marina proposal, saying there were about 100,000 boat owners in WA and the

boating industry was worth a lot of money to the State.

“WA has the highest boat owning capacity in Australia and many of them live close to Rockingham,” Mr Greville-Collins said.

“Hillarys is WA’s number one tourist attraction and there has been no new boating infrastructure (apart from Mandurah) in the metropolitan area in the past 20 years.”

However, Jecks Street resident Steven Butler was concerned about parking, especially at peak holiday times.

“In summer and peak times

there are cars parked on the grass and verges now in Victoria and Alexandra streets,” Mr Butler said.

“I don’t see (how it will work) when there’s not enough car parking bays now.”

Residents also asked what type of commercial developments would be allowed in the marina, whether the area could support them, whether the marina would devalue homes in the area and if the proposal provided for a boat ramp.

Rosewood Grove director Paul Ogilvie said traffic management and parking issues were still under discussion.