

Camden Residents' Action Group

Incorporated

Camden – Still a Country Town

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St John's Vote?

Despite an intensive campaign by the St John's leadership to secure a 'Yes' vote to selling a large part of the St John's Heritage Precinct, only 332 people cast votes. Of these votes, 81% voted 'Yes', 269 people.

This means we have 269 Parishioners determining the destiny of a State Heritage listed item and attempting to speak for Camden (55,000 people) and NSW (7.5 Million).

Some only voted 'Yes' knowing the Moran development would likely fail to attract planning approval, giving a windfall gain to the church of \$350,000.

St John's leadership claim that they need to sell our heritage in order to build a new worship centre beside Camden's heritage listed 200 seat Church because it is mostly full for its three services on Sunday.

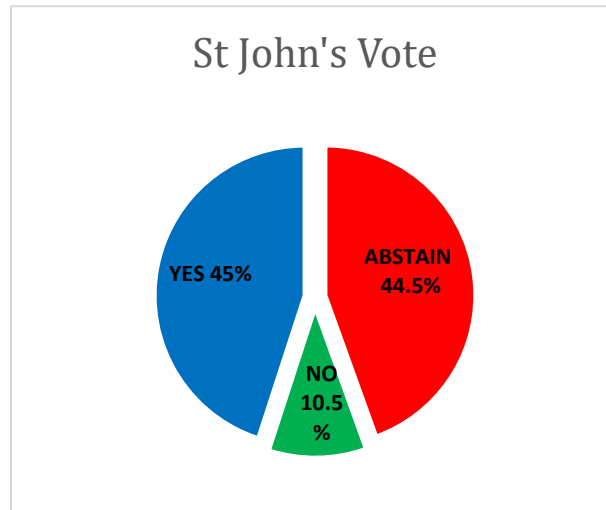
St John's is a multi-church Parish with voters from Mt Hunter, Werombi, Carrington and Women's Church. Only 332 people voted from all existing nine services, suggesting the old Church can comfortably hold the congregation and has plenty of spare capacity for any likely growth.

The St John's Parish roll contains the names of over 500 people with likely voting eligibility, but not everyone is on the Parish Roll, so it is probable around 600 people had eligibility to vote.

However only 332 Parishioners cast a vote on this important issue. Why did Parishioners stay away from services and not vote? Logically the 'Yes' vote might be as low as say 45% of those eligible.

If not why is there such a discrepancy between the number of Parishioners on the Roll and those that attended services on the Sunday that they knew the vote was to be held?

If the abstaining vote is not 44.5% of Parishioners, what is the true number of Parishioner's that needs to be accommodated in the old Church?



With the total % of Parishioners who abstained and voted NO at potentially 55% it seems that even the Parishioners listening to the arguments from the pulpit are not convinced.

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