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Cr Klisaris said the council

South Oakleigh Bowling Club. Details: 9570 6227.

The Journal

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Pool comments get lukewarm response



OAKLEIGH pool supporters have poured cold water on comments by former Monash mayor Peter Vlahos that the pool should remain shut.

Last week Mr Vlahos slammed the planned \$9.21 million redevelopment of Oakleigh pool and the proposed sale of three council-owned blocks of land to pay for the project.

One block, at Lesay Court, Mt Waverley, was set for auction last Saturday. Mr Vlahos, who in 2001 voted in council to close the pool, said the site would be better used as public open space.

Oakleigh Ward councillor Stephen Dimopoulos said Mr Vlahos' comments sounded like an election campaign.

"I think because Peter is not getting any publicity, his motivation might be any publicity is good publicity.

"He lives in the street where one of the blocks of land was sold [to fund the pool]. He led the charge not to sell the block of land.

"I don't think Peter's voice really matters into the equation, he's not a councillor and he has a particular view and a particular agenda in my view."

Cr Dimopoulos said the redeveloped pool would be "a destination for recreation".

Community Life Action Group president Julie Clearwater said most people in Oakleigh believed the pool would be an asset.

"People were upset that the land was going to be sold but they weren't upset that the pool was going to be re-developed.

"It's an important community asset and it's going to become more and more important. It will be a meeting place for summer, a reaction area, a lovely bit of open land that people can get out and exercise in."

Mayor Paul Klisaris said the start of reconstruction at the pool had been long awaited and anticipated by many.

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someone in my own family."
foundation's education,

Picture: Rob Gunstone