

Thank you for presenting your concerns about the proposed church build. We are very sorry that you did not get your letter in advance of the meeting. The 23 letters were distributed by the town of Haldimand. We were not in control of who received the letters, or when they were sent out. We definitely want to make sure that we address all the concerns of our community. Sweets Church has maintained a great relationship with the community for the past 142 years, and we plan to continue this tradition. I hope that the following will answer some of your concerns:

(1) Car exhaust.

Nobody has ever complained about car exhaust in our current parking lot. Because of the prevailing winds, this should not be a problem.

(2) Headlights shining into our home.

The eight parking spots that face the back of his property will be lower. Therefore the lights will not be a problem. We will put up a fence and plant cedars to stop light from headlights.

(3) Car noise.

We will tell our church members to be sensitive toward our neighbours when arriving and departing from the church parking. They generally do this already.

(4) Parking lot lights on at night or on all night.

We plan to make sure that the parking lot lights do not spill onto your property.

We don't currently leave the parking lots on all night.

(5) Loss of existing privacy

This is something that we cannot avoid. However, we can take steps to create a barrier between the properties. This can be done with a fence and landscaping.

(6) Instead of looking at trees we will have a fence and parking lot.

We still plan to have a row of trees. The current trees are all Ash, and will eventually die due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

(7) People driving in at night

See (2) and (4).

We cannot gate as it is logistically impossible. Gating the entrance also gives a bad impression to our community and potential visitors.

(8) Kids hanging out

The children, teens and families of Sweets Community that use our parking lot have been respectful of the property in the past. If this changes we will address this issue.

(9) Theft (because of seclusion)

We plan to install a security system with video surveillance (these cameras will NOT capture anything beyond our own property lines.)

(10) ATV's Etc.

No. This will not be allowed. We will have signage posted.

(11) Unsafe for children because it is secluded.

See (9).

We could resolve this with the use of our parking lot lights (at your discretion of course. See (4))

(12) Water retention area. Fence?

Our stormwater retention will stay dry most of the time. It is available for controlling the rate at which water leaves the property during what is considered a 2-year storm. This retention system is only needed for paved parking lots. We decided to pave our parking lot to reduce road noise and dust for our neighbours.