

## Brethren expands

KEN GRIMSON

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THE Exclusive Brethren is planning to build another worship centre in Wagga.

An application is with Wagga City Council to build the centre on a double block of land at 128 Fernleigh Road.

A house on the land would be demolished to make way for a modern design building where up to 50 people could worship, said the man behind the proposal, John Davis.

"It's not a huge conglomeration," Mr Davis said.

Mr Davis said the building would be similar in scale to existing Exclusive Brethren centres in other Wagga neighbourhoods, excepting for the larger City Room in Tolland.

The site is opposite the Charles Sturt University campus and diagonally opposite the Catholic Henschke Primary School.

"The site is more central for parishioners who live in that area," Mr Davis said.

Council last night agreed to endorse an amendment to its development control plan to allow for the worship centre on land zoned for residential purposes and will now refer the application to the Wagga Planning Panel.

A development application will need to be submitted if the land use is allowed.

The church group has submitted a review of environmental factors (REF) to support its proposal for the corner block.

The REF says there will be a "substantial distance" of 24 metres between the worship centre and the property's southern boundary and 8.5 metres between the centre and a house to the west.

It says this will ensure "adequate separation to mitigate any potential negative impacts".

There will also be attractive landscaping on the southern boundary.

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