



## *Discussion Forum*

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The comments and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Retirement Village Residents Association (RVRA) or its Members.

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### **STOCKLAND/AEVUM**

Comment: At a meeting Stockland held with residents of The Village Swansea on 29th November 2010 following the Aevum takeover residents were assured there would be no changes made to staff. A letter sent to residents indicated Stockland's record demonstrated that they understood how important stability, lack of disruption and keeping promises was to their residents.

However, Stockland have now changed their mind!

Residents received a letter from Management advising a review of village staffing structures had been undertaken taking into account the needs of the village and the feedback from its residents. The outcome of this review at Swansea is to make the role of the Maintenance Supervisor redundant and the holder of the position would no longer be working at the Village.

Following an outcry regarding this decision a meeting of residents called by Stockland was held on 11th April that was attended by about 70 residents who made known their anger at the decision that had been made without consultation. Residents had been blamed for the decision following the completion of a survey by them, adding to their angst.

The Maintenance Supervisor, John, had been with the village for 21 years and was a very hard-working employee, not just a Supervisor but a Worker who knew the "ins and outs" and idiosyncrasies – the best employee the Village has ever had. Some years ago Residents voted for pay rises for John - he was held in such high esteem. At the meeting Residents called for John to come back but were told this wouldn't happen.

We are now stuck with the prospect of Contractors and Casuals coming into the Village. We've experienced Contractors before – they pulled out the plants and left the weeds. Concerns were raised about Security issues in the Village and some indicated they did not want these people coming into their homes.

Another case of the "little people" being stamped on by big business.

**SCR**

17th April 2011

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