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Anger over redevelopment

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Mail Reporter

THE REPLANNING and redevelopment scheme implemented in Evaton recently was strongly condemned at the weekend as the first move in depriving Evaton residents of their freehold rights, to be replaced with the 99-year leasehold scheme.

Mr Petrus Mokoena, the secretary of the Evaton Ratepayers Association, spoke at a meeting held in the Evaton Roman Catholic Church on Sunday.

He vehemently attacked the Evaton Town Council, the Orange Vaal Development Board and Dr Piet Koornhof, the Minister of Co-operation and Development, accusing them of implementing a township scheme rejected by the majority of residents.

He said property owners were requested to subdivide their properties on the freehold system, the portions of which were divided and then sold on a 99-year leasehold scheme to tenants.

By doing so, the property loses its freehold rights and thus deprives residents of their freehold rights as well. The council agreed to the subdivision system on the instruction of Dr Koornhof and the board. They are not aware that by doing so, they are selling out the residents," he said.

Mr Mokoena, a former community councillor for Evaton, criticised the subdividing of the properties for the widening of roads in the township.

He said it was unlawful as the property would be deprived of its rights. He warned property owners not to sell their properties to any person because they would be sold to the board.

Ultimately, he said, nobody would own any property in future. He also attacked leaders of opposition groups who accused him of using double-standards.

Mr Mokoena appealed to residents not to pay their residential permit fees, for they would be "selling their right" to live in the township. He said the monthly permits, which cost R10, were illegal.

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