

## What is Happening?

On the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011 the solicitors for Gympie Regional Council wrote to all the parties in the Rainbow Shores Stage 2 appeal:

“On this basis, the Respondent's position in the appeal is that it is supportive of the proposed development subject to the imposition of appropriate approval conditions”

I forwarded this to the Gympie Times and was interviewed for quite a while by Arthur Gorrie who was very supportive and indicated that he would seek an explanation from the Mayor Cr Dyne.

Later the editor Nev Mc Harg indicated to me that the engineer had explained to him that council was not really withdrawing from the case but just continuing the fight in a different forum. I said that I was amazed and disappointed.

On Saturday March 19 the Gympie Times published an article. The article was a disgrace. It put in the withdrawal from opposition to the development by the council as my claim which Council Planning Committee chairman Ian Petersen denied. It didn't quote from the letter from the solicitor, above, that makes it clear that my claim is fact and Cr Peteresen is not reflecting the facts.

Further Cr Petersen said that council only had the right to object to the project on specific grounds which it then had to be able to justify in court. That's true of every case in every court but the grounds available for council currently include everything but waste disposal and traffic. Certainly council can make a contribution on town planning grounds which are their prime responsibility.

Why are the Gympie Times giving coverage so much in favour of Rainbow Shores?. This isn't the first time I've had trouble getting a reasonable coverage. I must have been in to the Gympie Times at least three times with a story that has never got a run although the paper acts interested and takes copies of documents but it never gets a run.

For example: I think it is news that the Gympie Regional Council adds to the issues in dispute- the failure of the proposed development to comply with its planning schemes - but then fails to nominate an expert witness. They have several experts on staff but Greg Wood has to seek donations to employ a planner. This planner and Rainbow Shores' planner then find that the council have been sitting on an incompetent Plan of Development from Rainbow Shores for years without noticing. I thought t that this was news but the Gympie Times didn't.

So we need a large number of letters to the paper on different subjects relating to RS2 as soon as possible. If people are willing to help please let me know and we can discuss outline topics.

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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011