



THE ARUNDEL HILLS
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

Thursday 7 March 2024

URGENT: Action needed now

(We really mean now! If you put this aside to deal with it in a few days it will be too late)

POP-UP EVENT: 23 Torquay Place, Arundel

Sunday 10th March - 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dear Members

The fight to protect our Green Space and its wildlife is moving on to the next stage. As a community we worked together extremely effectively, resulting in the City of Gold Coast Council issuing one of its longest and most comprehensive refusals of any Development Application. But we always knew this would be a marathon and not a sprint. And right now we need to put in some extra effort to keep ourselves in the race.

The developer, Arundel Estate Developments PTY LTD., lodged an appeal with the Queensland Planning and Environment Court. The developer is the Appellant in the case and they are appealing against the Council's decision. So the Council is the primary Respondent in the case. Everyone who lodged a submission in objection to the Development Application has the opportunity to become a Co-Respondent, alongside the council. The Arundel Hills Community Association itself will become a Co-Respondent but it is just one voice. As with the submissions to Council, there is enormous power in each and every one of us becoming a Co-Respondent individually as well.

WHAT are we asking you to do? We need each of you who submitted an objection to the Development Application to become a Co-Respondent in the court case.

HOW do you become a Co-Respondent? By completing a form called "Form 6: Notice of Election" and registering it with the court. The form needs to be **signed in person**. The Association has organised ways to help you complete and register your form, with a Pop-Up event this Sunday and a letter-drop for those who cannot make it to the Pop-Up (there are more details below of both of those).

WHY is this important? Becoming a Co-Respondent is the only way to ensure that your voice will continue to be heard in the forthcoming appeal. We have it on good authority that the number of Co-Respondents is **very influential** in how the court evaluates the strength of community feelings about each appeal. **You need to be a Co-Respondent to have your say and to be heard.**

Does it **COST** anything to become a Co-Respondent? **No.**

Does becoming a Co-Respondent place me under any **OBLIGATIONS**? No. But, if at any stage you no longer want to be a Co-Respondent, you can withdraw, again at no cost.

Why the **RUSH**? Before issuing this letter, the Association needed to take legal advice. We did not want to spend money on doing that until we were certain that there was an appeal to respond to. But now we all have only 10 business days from being notified of the appeal in which to register as Co-Respondents. For most of us, who were informed by e-mail on February 28th, that means we need to get our documents to the court by the **DEADLINE of March 13th**.

The Association is here to **HELP**. In order to complete the process of becoming a Co-Respondent your Form 6 needs to be stamped and filed by the court by the deadline. Members of the committee will be traveling to the court to submit any individual forms that have been completed in time so they can be registered.

The Association has engaged Hickey's Lawyers to act on the Associations behalf and they will be lodging a Notice of Election to the Planning Court on our behalf. The Arundel Hills Community Association Inc will become Co-Respondents to the appeal and be represented by Hickey's Lawyers.

A Pop-Up event is being held at the home of Adrienne and Glenn Pearson, 23 Torquay Place, Arundel **THIS SUNDAY March 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** If you can make it to the Pop-Up we will help you to complete the form in triplicate and ensure it gets to the court on time.

If you cannot get to the Pop-Up event, you can download a copy of the form by following this link https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/88257/pe-f-06v3.pdf You can then fill-in the form yourself in triplicate and drop it into the letterbox at 22 Jarvis Place, Arundel **by 5 p.m. on Monday 11th March** and we will make sure it gets to the court on time.

Our Neighbourhood Champions will also be knocking on your doors to offer assistance in the process of becoming a Co-Respondent. But given the limited time available, they are unlikely to get to everyone, so please take this as your personal invitation to either attend the Pop-Up or use the letter drop.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Pop-Up on Sunday.

P.S. For those who are interested in the whole appeal process and how to represent yourself in court once you have become a Co-Respondent, we recommend visiting the web site of **Environmental Law Australia**, http://envlaw.com.au/edo_workshop/ It provides a guide to the whole process. And, of course, as things progress the Association will be helping members with further advice.

Kind regards,
Jason Young (President)