

[Previous Story](#)[Next Story](#)*Article rank* | *2 Jan 2021* | *The Weekend Post* | *GRACE MASON*

TEEING UP A FINAL SHOT

Residents lodge appeal to stop Paradise Palms redevelopment

RESIDENTS who railed against the redevelopment of Paradise Palms golf course are being asked to help fund the last ditch legal fight to get the project blocked.

The Paradise Palms Residents Association has lodged a formal appeal in the Planning and Environment Court after Cairns Regional Council gave the green light to the controversial \$330 million development application in November.

The decision approved the rezoning of the 115ha former Kewarra Beach championship golf course into a residential and tourism precinct.

Save Paradise Palms president Clive Abbott said members were confident they could win the legal battle, but needed those against the project to "put their money where their feelings were". Mr Abbott said the full cost of the legal proceedings could be well over \$100,000, something the non-profit organisation could not fully fund.

"We're up against a well-todo developer and his financiers and everyone else who has pockets full of money," he said.

"And council has very deep pockets when it comes to defending legal challenges."

Almost 5000 residents signed the original position to get the project stopped and Mr Abbott called on them to donate.

The approval of the rezoning application from sport and recreational use to residential, tourist and commercial uses meant separate development applications could be made for a planned tourist park, water park, 330-lot residential estate and Catholic school.

Mr Abbott said both legal and planning advice showed they had a strong case, along with community support.

"The entire approval goes against everything council says it stands for," he said.

The council and developer Darren Halpin's PPNQ Developments have been named as co-respondents in the appeal, which was lodged on December 18.

Both are yet to lodge documents, although the court is currently closed during the Christmas period.

There are 35 grounds of appeal listed in the residents' association's document.

These include that the proposed development "represents a departure from the strategic planning intent identified for the land" and results in the loss of about 70 per cent of "existing and important" sport and recreation zoned land.

"The significant loss of appropriate and usable open space area is detrimental to the local community and the wider Cairns community," the document said.

It further argued it was "not in the public interest and is in direct contradiction of the community expectation" over open spaces.

This article was shared by a user of PressReader - an online source of publications from around the world. PressReader contains copyrighted material, trademarks and other proprietary information. Receipt of this article should not be interpreted as grant of any licenses express or implied, to the intellectual property of PressReader or publishers of publications presented. PressReader, 200-13111 Vanier Place, Richmond BC V6V 2J1, Canada Phone: +1 604 278 4604 © 2003-2020 PressReader Inc. All rights reserved. Terms of Use: <http://care.pressreader.com/hc/articles/206528495-Terms-of-Use> Privacy Policy: <http://care.pressreader.com/hc/articles/205818089-Privacy-Policy>

[Previous Story](#)[Next Story](#)