



Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

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19th October 2024

Mayor and Councillors

I am writing to you on behalf of the Vincentia Residents and Ratepayers Association, the Community Consultative Body for Vincentia.

There are currently urgent issues threatening the economy, environment and character of Vincentia, that require the Council's urgent intervention, specifically pertaining to the opening of Vincentia Golf Club and grounds after its sudden closure on the 26th August.

Over recent months a dispute has existed between the members, residents and other users of the Vincentia Golf Club (VGC) and the Country Club St Georges Basin (CCSGB) - its partner since the 2016 merger (amalgamation) of the two entities.

The dispute is around the means of accounting for costs and charges by the CCSGB against the VGC operations. The CCSGB claim the results of its accounting indicate the VGC is a financial liability. CCSGB entered into discussions with a Seniors Living developer to sell & develop part of the golf course.

The proposal for a development was dependent on the CCSGB members agreeing to transfer a parcel of land from 'core' to 'non-core' in terms of its usage. Of the 538 CCSGB members who voted, 415 to 123 rejected the land transfer proposal.

Instead of recognising the democratic process and the voice of its members, the Board immediately closed the Vincentia club and course down, affecting the whole of the Vincentia community.

Businesses, accommodation outlets, and citizens of the community are justifiably distressed at the sudden closure. The effect of the loss of this major facility for Vincentia that provided recreation, sport, dining and a place for community meetings and social gatherings, has been devastating for many, and the mental health of some has been negatively impacted.

We need common sense and consideration toward health and well being to be at the forefront of every decision within our community, followed by the influence to the economy of the area. The decision to suddenly close the whole of the premises down, failed to recognise the importance of the tourism industry and the damage to our local economy - especially to the businesses reliant on the tourism sector over the coming summer months that supports many hundreds of people.

Vincentia Residents and Ratepayers Association, the Community Consultative Body request the immediate advice of Shoalhaven City Council on action it will take and what support it will provide to Vincentia residents and the broader community to have Vincentia Golf Club and

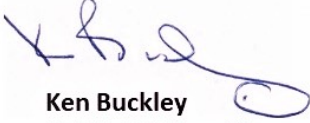
Course reopened. The community dispute the reasons for the sudden closure of Vincentia Golf Club and the loss of related infrastructure from member, visitor, holiday makers and public use.

This single issue has divided our once harmonious Bay and Basin communities. An iconic Vincentia asset has been closed, to further the interests of another community asset.

In conclusion Vincentia Resident and Ratepayers Association request the Council's urgent attention to facilitate in reopening the Vincentia Golf Club. The reopening is important for the welfare of our citizens and the economy of the Bay and Basin area.

We are available to discuss the matter further with you if this will assist the Council's deliberations.

Sincerely



Ken Buckley
VRRRA-CCB President