

Ms Porter
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works
And Territory and Municipal Services
committees@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Ms Porter,

I am writing in reply to your letter dated 6/10/10 re Adverse reflection- Seeking Comment on Draft Variation to the Territory Plan No 298 – Holt.

The extract has 2 concerns:

1. The Magpies Board is predominately football orientated and
2. No evidence the redesign of the course has been carried out with significant input from the golf committee.

1. The Magpies Board.

The Belconnen Magpies Sports Club Ltd has 8 Directors elected by the Belconnen Magpies Football Club Inc (5 Directors) the Magpie Junior Football Club Inc (1 director) and by the general membership (2 directors). The main object of the clubs' Constitution is to foster Australian Rules Football.

However, the Club realises that to meet our main objective we have to support the Belconnen area and to this extent we also support local schools and charities and sports including cricket, baseball, softball, basketball, hockey, soccer and golf.

It is correct the Club constitution does not specify a Director is elected by the golf members. We took over the management of the Belconnen Golf Club in March 2002 the Board realised the importance of having a golf representative as a Director and at our AGM held 17/12/2002 the then Golf Captain was supported to stand for a vacant position as Director and he was elected. Each year we ask the Golf Committee to nominate a representative and the number of golf members has ensured this person is elected.

Accordingly, the Belconnen Golf Club Captain has been a member of the Magpies Sports Club Board since 2002.

The Board has also considered “what if” the golf representative was over-thrown at an AGM. Under the Constitution the Board can appoint additional Directors for a one year period (until next AGM) and the Board would invite the golf representative to the Board as a Director.

2. Redesign of Golf Course.

The Board has relied on the comments from the Golf Committee to advance discussions with the developers on the course redesign. The golf 'Professional' at the time was also involved in these discussions. There have been numerous meetings with the developers on course design since March07 and the Golf Captain/Director has been at every meeting.

In March 08 the club displayed to the members the plans that had progressed from these meetings. The plans were on display for approx 2 months and the Golf Committee asked for comments on the course design.

On 7th April 2010 the Club held a member information night on the proposed re-development. The developers were not invited to this meeting so members could talk freely. The developers held a public meeting at the golf course on 27/4/10.

On 7th October 2010 a sub-committee of the club met with the developers. It was decided a steering committee will be formed if changes to the Territory Plan are approved. The Club representatives on the steering committee will be the General Manager and Golf Captain/Director.

Therefore, Magpies Sports Club supports the claim that the redesign of the golf course has been carried out with significant consultation with the Magpies Sports Club Board and Golf Committee.

If any further information/comments is required on the Adverse reflection-Seeking Comment letter I can be contacted on 62788708 or by email.

Regards

Jon Burrows
General Manager
Magpies Club Group
18/10/10