

Developers, residents deadlocked over Invergowrie dog kennel proposal

By PETER BARRETT

THE PROPOSAL for a complex of 24 dog kennels at Invergowrie is deadlocked as the applicant seeks legal advice and neighbours continue their opposition.

In February, Leisa Payne and Beverley McRae lodged a development application with Uralla Shire Council for 24 kennels, 12 indoor and 12 outdoor, in Adina Rd.

Council considered the issue in March, when general manager Tom O'Connor recommended approval, subject to 34 conditions.



But council deferred a decision pending the applicant providing more information, including an environmental impact statement on the effect on the environment, wildlife and amenity of the area, and a professional assessment of the change in restricting noise to five decibels at the boundary.

Mr O'Connor said that information is still to be presented to council.

Ms Payne told *The Express* that 'we've put it in the hands of

solicitors'.

Meanwhile, a group of Invergowrie people calling themselves the 'Residents for Rural Character', are calling on council to make a decision on the issue.

Spokesperson Adam Blakester said the proposed dog kennels were 'completely out of character with the rural residential area and inconsistent with the zoning'.

"From every angle, dog kennels would have significant negative impacts on surrounding residents, the social amenity of the community and environmental qualities of Invergowrie," he said.

Mr Blakester said the most significant challenges dog kennel businesses must address are noise from dog barking and waste & odour management.

"The proposed dog kennels would be located a mere 70 metres from neighbouring residences and home based businesses," he said.

"The social and economic impacts of these issues alone are clearly going to be negative and big."

Mr Blakester said that environmental issues also needed to be considered.

Mr O'Connor said the issue would not be on the agenda for council's meeting today (Monday), but would most likely be discussed at the June meeting.