

The new Planning Administrator, Jim Waugh, appointed an acting manager to oversee the operations of the Council during the time that Council's planning powers were removed, and this was a further career bureaucrat, Mr Ray Rawson.

Mr Rawson was one of the several persons that I personally chose to point out the dangers associated with the closure of the flood outlet and non compliance with the consent conditions for the construction of the canal.

As a result of complaints, including my own, Mr Rawson appointed a retired engineering acquaintance of his, Frank Cranston, to investigate all planning issues associated with the development of Ocean Shores, which was covered by a Deed of Agreement between the Government of the day and the developers to ascertain if Bond's company owed any monies on work already completed before approval could be given to proceed to develop the remainder of the undeveloped 2000 acres.

All work stages were bonded by this Deed of Agreement which included the flood outlet for which Council has held a bond of \$130,000 since the early 70's.

Mr Waugh was given a copy of the Deed of Agreement by myself in 1985 when he was appointed as Administrator to the Council as I was told by him that he could not locate a copy when I told him also of the danger.

The subsequent report issued by Cranston found areas of development that required bonding payment but most importantly highlighted the Council's liability for flooding caused by the closure of the flood outlet.

On the 2nd December 1986 Rawson gave copies of the Cranston Report to Councillors with a cover note headed *STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL* and a warning that the report "**contained potentially damaging material**" and in the circumstances, the contents of the report were not to be released or discussed.

I obtained a copy of the Report from the engineer in charge of the development by the new developers, Mr Lee Pilkington, as he was concerned that his version of the Report **had been heavily censored with black pens through several paragraphs that absolved his company from further penalty bondings.**

It was possible however, to clearly read through the crude marker pen censoring on the pages by holding the paper up to light.

Paragraph (d) Headed Flood Outlet of a section titled Northern Divisions in Cranston's Report reads: