

# About Bruns Eco Village

*We are a group of local residents from the Byron Shire region. We're designing a new way of living - an eco village that will provide homes for people high above Brunswick Heads in Byron Shire.*



## ALTERNATIVE OWNERSHIP MODEL

**The dominant worldview in Australia is the success = ownership model. We aim to challenge this view by presenting a real and plausible platform for community living while providing the security of tenure that ownership brings.**

We have developed an innovative Alternative Ownership Model where people can rent and invest simultaneously. This model will remove village homes from the speculative real estate market. Long-term leases will allow residents similar rights as ownership on the use of their home.

Bruns Eco Village will provide 100% affordable homes in a co-operative owned and run eco village. The land is intended to be what is known as a Community Land Trust (CLT) that will be run and maintained by the co-operative.

Many people are disillusioned with isolated modern living and are looking for an interdependent lifestyle. They are hungry for community; hungry to live more in harmony with nature and with each other. Bruns Eco Village is a demonstration of how integrated community living can be. The eco village is open to all and will be an inclusive multi-cultural, multi-ethnic community.

**Anyone with a vision can form an idea, but it takes a collaboration of many people to make it a success.**

## BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH THE VDP

To date 150 people have participated in the Village Development Program (VDP), a series of gatherings and workshops that allow the collective creation of the eco village, forms community and social structures and educates prospective residents on the skills needed to live in community. All residents on Bruns Eco Village participate in this program.

## DESIGNED TO RENEW

It is simply not enough to conduct our lives and business sustainably. We see the need to create in a way that restores and renews the resources available to us. We are adopting the One Planet Living framework, a structure built around 10 principles that inform truly holistic action.

## SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC STRENGTHS

The eco village will be a multi-use site with an integrated combination of:

- Residential clusters which will meet an affordable housing need and provide nurturing social connection;
- A food producing and renewable energy precinct to achieve food and energy independence;
- An educational facility and workshop space that allows for lifelong learning;
- A light commercial area creating much needed employment; and
- A wellness facility that provides a holistic health foundation for the community.

<sup>1</sup> Housing is affordable when households, rented or purchased, are able to pay their housing costs and still have enough income to meet other needs.

