

BUSINESS

Pool builder goes into administration half-way through job



Bill Hoffman | 10th Nov 2015 6:00 PM

A PELICAN Waters family has been left ruing its decision to choose the most expensive quote for a swimming pool based on the company's 25 years of experience.

Noosa Cooloola Pools has been placed in voluntary administration leaving an as yet unknown number of clients and creditors in its wake.

Chris Fuller of Pelican Waters said what was supposed to by now be a completed pool ready for summer is a concrete pond with only half the plumbing done, and none of the filtration equipment, coping glass fencing, lights or covers fitted.

"We went for the dearest quote because we wanted a good job, a quality job done and the builder could do the whole lot," she said.

"He had 25 years in the industry."

Ms Fuller had tried repeatedly to get in touch with Noosa Cooloola Pool proprietor Brett Thomas to no avail.

Administrator Dane Hammond of Worrells Maroochydore said it was too early to tell the full extent of the debt left in the company's wake.

"We're attempting to piece together the creditor situation," he said.



John Fuller has been left with a half pool after the company building it went into voluntary administration.

Warren Lynam

"We have a list rather than the amount."

Mr Hammond said another list of affected clients who had contracted to Noosa Cooloola Pools would also be created and those involved would be

Commission licence suspended," he said.

"There is no capacity for the administrator to complete the work."

Ms Fuller said she estimated it would cost at least another \$25,000 to get the contracted work done elsewhere.

She had already paid the builder \$36,700 of a total contract price of \$46,000.

"We signed a contract early August," Ms Fuller said.

"The work stopped a few weeks ago. We have tried getting in contact with the builder by email and phone. He has not responded to either.

"I have been in touch with the Building Construction Commission. They cannot do anything to help us. If we wait at least eight weeks for one of their inspectors to inspect the job, then he has to write to the builder to rectify and there is another month gone.

"We have been advised to seek legal advice and to terminate the contract. Once again another cost to us. If we take the course through the QBCC the builder will only get a \$2300 fine.

"I have heard he has many pools on the go and all these people will lose thousands."

The Sunshine Coast Daily has attempted to contact Mr Thomas but has received no reply.

The QBCC said it did not provide insurance for pools.

The Daily is awaiting further information from the building industry regulator.

MENU

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