

**Kate Rainbird**

### **Community consultation**

Council has been conducting community consultation on several issues and this has been done through 'Your Say' and other more active methods such as surveys. Many in the community feel that even though the consultation is conducted, the input from it is not considered since many decisions made more recently by the Council seem to be at odds with community wishes.

If elected, what would you do to ensure that the community consultation conducted by Council had more influence on decision making?

Genuine community consultation is the most critical factor for council decision making and ensures better outcomes. Social media questions and surveys play a role, but they are no substitute for best practice, broad and accessible consultation where issues can be considered more comprehensively.

As a councillor, I would engage more directly with community members on key issues. Council's transparency has improved over the last 4 years, but there is always more that can be done.

### **Climate Change**

Every year we are seeing increasingly devastating impacts of climate change across Australia and the world. Many councils have declared a "climate emergency", along with delivery of Climate Emergency Plans which include actions such as 100 percent renewable energy, zero net emissions, divesting finances and pledges to lobby state and federal politicians for stronger action.

What are your views on this and in your role as councillor what sort of actions would you support to mitigate or adapt to climate change?

I was disappointed that some votes on the current council failed to recognise the need for action on climate change. I hope after this election we can get people who take climate change seriously around the table. If I am one of those people, then I am open to considering a range of initiatives and actions and to make climate mitigation and adaptation key elements of planning, development and operational decisions.

### **Public Land**

In the last 10 years we have seen proposals put forward or invited by Council for the building of private developments on public land (such as Arm End, Kangaroo Bay, Rosny Hill). These proposals have been controversial suggesting that they will have significant impacts on community.

If you were elected and you received evidence of significant community opposition to a proposed development on public land under Council's control, how would you act on it?

I would like to see council engaging with community members earlier in the process to help ensure that proposals have greater community input, and therefore support. We need infrastructure and amenities to support our growing population, but public benefit should be a central consideration in the development of public land.

### **Urban Growth**

In the last ten years, the Census shows that the population of Clarence has increased by almost 10,000 people, and there has been a corresponding increase in dwellings of 3,500. With new suburbs still being developed, further growth is underway.

What challenges and opportunities do you think this level of growth presents to Council?

Clarence is growing because people want to live here. We need a clearer understanding from the State Government on its strategic plans to deal with a growing population. The shortage of social and affordable housing and increasing numbers of people on waiting lists and experiencing homelessness are key issues for council, which need to be addressed with due consideration to the impacts of growth and development on local communities.

**Ferry service**

The new ferry service between Hobart and Bellerive is anticipated to continue. The current patronage of the service is already putting pressure on the parking around Bellerive, and this will only increase if the service grows.

Do you support the service and, if you do, what would you do to address the parking pressures especially if the service was to be expanded in the future?

I support the ferry service and have enjoyed using it. It is disappointing that the state government, when making ferry promises, has not worked with the council so that issues around parking can be dealt with before the horse has bolted. Currently the council and the state government have parking studies in motion, and I look forward to seeing what they say.

**Your key issues**

What new initiatives are you eager to champion if you are elected and why do you see these as important to the future of the Clarence community?

I am keen to look at how council can improve access to child care services. Council runs a number of services including a long day care centre and outside school hours care at several schools. These are heavily oversubscribed and parents often scramble for access or alternatives when they miss out.

I also want to prioritise upgrading our parks and playgrounds, which are used by people of all ages and abilities.