

Wendy Kennedy

### 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?

Answer: Coming from a Communications background, as soon as I was elected, I worked with Councillor Luke Edmunds to ensure a dedicated Communications 'Expert' was employed. While I believe that there has been a marked improvement, I'd like to involve community members in discussions as to how consultation can be improved. The perfect example of how consultation could have saved a lot of stress and angst right across the community was the review of the Dog Policy.

Listen to community and involve them in the process.

### 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?

Answer:

Climate Change is front of mind in everything I do! Especially with Council decision making. It was one of the reasons I stood for Council four years ago when so many people seemed to be ignoring the science. I also listened to the concerns of the younger rate payers in Clarence who like me are very concerned about Climate Change. I live in an area where the water never drains away anymore. The coastal areas (and we have approx. 197 klms of coastline in Clarence) must be protected and future proofed before it's too late.

### 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 Councils control, how would you act on it?

Answer:

Kangaroo Bay and Rosny hill were both motivating factors in my seeking election four years ago. My position hasn't changed during this time - my voting record supports this. Elected Members must listen to their community – that's their job!

### 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?

Answer: While there will be many challenges as growth predictions are significant – managed carefully, council can also assist in creating opportunities, especially for those trying to secure their first home. The community must be involved in shaping the future of Clarence. Two-way consultation is paramount to good planning.

### 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?

#### Answer:

I have only used the ferry service once – just to try it out. Like most commuters that live in the coastal beach communities, there is no parking and most of us can't ride bikes to the ferry terminal. While I love the idea of ferry travel, I'm also aware of how much angst the additional parking requirements is causing many residents and businesses. We need to get the parking sorted – right across the city.

### 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?

It's very simple. I want to continue working with our community and for our community on every issue that comes before us. I now have the experience and knowledge to represent Clarence in a leadership role.