

**Candidate ----- Richard JAMES**

1. Clarence Action Network is concerned that under the current Council's administration, community members have been given limited opportunities to express their views on the use and development of land owned or controlled by Council until well after developers have become involved. If elected, what steps will you take to ensure that community consultation about the divestment of public land becomes a permanent and essential part of the planning process in Clarence, before development proposals are fully formulated?

**I would initiate community consultation/forum/information sessions prior to the lodgement of the formal Development Application process.**

2. At a packed public meeting about the proposed hotel development for Rosny Hill Nature Reserve, a motion to establish a dedicated public consultation unit within the Clarence Council was unanimously carried. Do you support this as a priority for the new Council? What do you believe should be the priorities for such a unit to improve council/community consultation processes across all of its activities and responsibilities?

**Yes I would support a dedicated public consultation unit as a priority for the new Council.**

**With respect to any proposed development of Council/public/ Crown land within Clarence, community must be advised of developers intention, circulate a concept plan and draw community attention to the specific reference to development and zoning provisions of the planning scheme. A Public Consultation unit can initiate discussion, circulate information and draw public attention to a proposed development well in advance of the Statutory process and assessment of projects.**

3. Clarence Action Network supports the establishment of a long-term strategy to protect, conserve, and manage public land and facilities across the municipality to enhance the health and well-being of residents and maintain habitats for significant flora and fauna. Do you support this objective? What action would you take to propose and develop strategies to achieve this goal?

**Yes I support a long term strategy.**

**An examination of the provisions of new State-wide Planning Scheme to ascertain measures for the establishment of a long-term strategy across the Municipality. Also Council as the Planning Authority can initiate amendments to its Planning Scheme/ Local Provisions at any time as well make Policies in accordance with the provisions of Local Government Act and Land Use Planning Approvals Act. I believe Council can therefore establish long-term strategy(ies) to protect, conserve and manage Council/public land/facilities in cooperation with owners of Crown land.**

4. 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?

**Preserve the city's skyline, cultural and heritage characters.**

**Promote low-rise small scale development on urban and natural areas along Clarence's shoreline and coastline.**

**My Vision: "Encourage, Engage and Join with Council to Achieve better Planning and Policy Outcomes"**

**Strike the right balance for maintaining neighbourhood amenity and meeting demand for sustainable on-going development.**