

TRRA Webmaster

From: Nigel Waters <nigel@watersofthebay.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 24 February 2015 2:37 PM
To: Ken Jordan
Cc: mayor@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; sally.dover@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; ken.jordan@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; steve.tucker@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; christopher.doohan@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; john.morello@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; john.nell@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; peter.kafer@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; geoff.dingle@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; paul.lemottee@portstephens.nsw.gov.au; Bob Baldwin; portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Mistaken identity

Ken

You, and perhaps the Mayor, some other Councillors and our MPs, appear to be under the impression that Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association inc. (TRRA) is some sort of 'front' for political parties such as the Greens or Labor.

Far from it – to the best of my knowledge (TRRA doesn't ask), I am the only Greens member active in TRRA (although not on the Committee), and my impression is that a majority of TRRA members would lean towards the conservative side of politics.

TRRA has worked hard to be non-partisan and has a track record of giving equal opportunities to Councillors, MPs and candidates from all parties at its meetings – it can hardly be blamed if you, and other elected representatives and candidates in the past, have chosen not to attend.

The fact that TRRA is so often critical of Council decisions may have more to do with a persistent failure of the majority voting bloc to take into account the views and address the concerns of residents and ratepayers across the spectrum of views, or to protect our precious environment. Rather, you and your colleagues appear to favour development at any price, regularly ignore professional advice from Council staff and other government agencies, have little respect for proper process and community input, and have severely limited transparency and accountability since the last election.

Our elected representatives could usefully spend more time listening to the message – and being prepared to debate the issues - rather than attempting to shoot the messengers!

I do not speak for TRRA, but cannot let your apparent misunderstanding go uncorrected.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Waters

Active member of Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.
Secretary of Port Stephens Greens and Official Agent for the Greens State Election campaign 2015 for Port Stephens

Nigel Waters

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