

## Environs Kimberley questionnaire for candidates for the Broome Shire Council election 2017

This election presents an opportunity to promote the outstanding values of the Shire of Broome.

Below are the responses to five questions for candidates for the Shire of Broome election.

**Catherine Marriot – No response**

**Desiree Male – No response**

**Mark Harris**

### *Question 1*

*There is currently no overarching plan to manage water and drainage in the Shire of Broome, nor in the Broome Townsite. Would you support a catchment management plan for the town?*

**Answer**

YES

The Shire needs a water management and drainage plan for the townsite of Broome, and I would support such a move if the process is inclusive of the Traditional Owners of Broome and surrounds.

### *Question 2*

*The Dampier Peninsula is about to be opened up through a new sealed road section. This will bring thousands of extra visitors to this sensitive location. Do you support the development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and management plans?*

**Answer**

YES

I support development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and a management plans for the Dampier Peninsular. The Traditional Owners should be guiding in all aspects of access and environmental monitoring through their

prospective Ranger programs. in the further development of the Dampier Peninsular for all tourism and further economic benefits.

**Question 3**

*There is a significant push by agri-business to bulldoze large tracts of woodlands in the Shire of Broome for irrigated agriculture. Do you think limits should be placed on land clearing in the Kimberley?*

**Answer**

YES

Land tenure within the Shire of Broome and Kimberley region is complicated and can include many layers such as native title claims, negotiation and agreement of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) and related corporate projects. Each land holding's stakeholders should be assessed in light of Traditional owners historic and contemporary communities economic and social needs to develop land. Each community is different and each community needs to make their own decisions with regards to how they alleviate poverty and unemployment. I would also encourage Traditional owners to look at community gardens, and the development of local food production through training and employment.

**Question 4**

*Do you support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government?*

**Answer**

YES

Joint Management plans are essential in ensuring a balance outcome for conservation of country.

**Question 5**

The WA State government has put a moratorium on fracking. Do you support fracking for gas in the Shire of Broome?

**Answer**

I personally do not support Fracking as I would also like to see more information about

more recent studies on fracking in Australia. Once again, land tenure within the Shire of Broome is a complicated issue and can include native title claims, negotiation and agreement of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) and related corporate projects. Each land holding's stakeholders need to be assessed in balance of traditional owners historic and contemporary communities economic and social needs to develop land along with any developments broader environmental impacts.

**Harold Tracey – No response**

**Greg VanDam**

***Question 1***

*There is currently no overarching plan to manage water and drainage in the Shire of Broome, nor in the Broome Townsite. Would you support a catchment management plan for the town?*

**Answer**

YES

This is important to Broome as the population grows so does the pollution. We need to manage the catchment areas in old Broome so we don't destroy our creeks and Roebuck bay this is also tourism hotspot so we must look after it.

Broome Nth is a good example of the catchment areas it works well so there less water is flowing to the bay and creek.

So this can be done successfully with the correct planning and management.

***Question 2***

*The Dampier Peninsula is about to be opened up through a new sealed road section. This will bring thousands of extra visitors to this sensitive location. Do you support the development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and management plans?*

**Answer**

YES

This is what I'm pushing for, to open Broome up to the world and Australia.

Broome and the Dampier Peninsular are one of the natural wonders that Western

Australia we all should be able to enjoy the natural beauty.

We will see International and Australian tourist come and visit Broome and the Dampier Peninsular for what it is, Tourists will visit and spend dollars which will help the communities and all business in the remote areas and the town of Broome.

This will have a flow on affect for all from employment to infrastructure and of course the tourist industry.

Broome need to push for tourism and this will be a main draw card for Broome it's a gateway to Western Australia and the Kimberley.

If it is managed correctly the environment and indigenous heritage will stay the same and we will be able to promote our indigenous culture for all to experience.

**Question 3**

*There is a significant push by agri-business to bulldoze large tracts of woodlands in the Shire of Broome for irrigated agriculture. Do you think limits should be placed on land clearing in the Kimberley?*

**Answer**

YES

I'm all for Irrigated agriculture in the woodland of Broome this has the potential to be a fruit bowl. Broome has the climate to produce all types of agriculture this will increase employment in Broome this will also bring in new business that Broome currently needs.

As per previous comments if it is managed and limiting the clearing this can be only be a win win situation for the town of Broome.

**Question 4**

*Do you support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government?*

**Answer**

YES

Broome has always been a multicultural community, we need to work together to preserve the land and manage it appropriately. Multicultural is a big part of Broome tourism, that why so many people visit Broome for that reason.

With land conservation and the traditional owners, the state government need to work together and Broome will succeed for the future.

### **Question 5**

The WA State government has put a moratorium on fracking. Do you support fracking for gas in the Shire of Broome?

### **Answer**

UNDECIDED

I think Broome should focus on the tourism and what we have to offer to the world if we open our doors it will bring in the tourism and the flow on affect will be enormous.

I don't want Broome to become another Mining town but we do need Mining/oil and Gas.

We need to have some industry in Broome and at present we have the Browse basin this a positive for Broome business.

We must think about how we live. Every item that we touch from day to day comes from the ground so there is an argument for the mining and fracking and yes if managed properly this may not be an issue.

My campaign is to push tourism and showing off Broome and for what a beautiful place it is, and if managed right our tourist can leave Broome and tell their friends and family that Broome is a place that they need to visit and as a resident we can hold our chins up high.

**Graeme Campbell**

***Question 1***

*There is currently no overarching plan to manage water and drainage in the Shire of Broome, nor in the Broome Townsite. Would you support a catchment management plan for the town?*

**Answer**

YES

It is logical in the long term that a plan exists for the future to ensure that development is environmentally sound.

***Question 2***

*The Dampier Peninsula is about to be opened up through a new sealed road section. This will bring thousands of extra visitors to this sensitive location. Do you support the development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and management plans?*

**Answer**

YES/NO

I believe that management plans are very important and if done properly will cover off on the other points.

***Question 3***

*There is a significant push by agri-business to bulldoze large tracts of woodlands in the Shire of Broome for irrigated agriculture. Do you think limits should be placed on land clearing in the Kimberley?*

**Answer**

NO

Economic rationale will dictate the amount of land to be cleared as will the amount of water to be made available

***Question 4***

*Do you support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government?*

**Answer**

YES

**Question 5**

*The WA State government has put a moratorium on fracking. Do you support fracking for gas in the Shire of Broome?*

**Answer**

YES

I don't support coal seam gas fracking but as long as proper controls are put in place have no issue with tight gas.

**Johani Mamid**

**Question 1**

*There is currently no overarching plan to manage water and drainage in the Shire of Broome, nor in the Broome Townsite. Would you support a catchment management plan for the town?*

**Answer**

YES

A "catchment management plan" for Broome town would be in the best interest of environmental protection for Roebuck bay and all of its inhabitants including marine flora and sediment (mud and sand).

I remember during and after the development of Broome North there was a major distribution of pindan into Dampier Creek which then flowed into the bay all at once after a big rain.

The energy breakers in the new swales (ditches) were not enough to slow down the rain water flow. To avoid future possible incidences like this is why I think we would need an overarching catchment management plan.

The Broome North incident was just one example of how Roebuck Bay is negatively affected by rainfall. In addition to new development of subdivisions there's always

everyday litter, street chemical waste and seeds from introduced species of weed from all over the town flowing into the bay whenever we have a heavy rain fall. This has always been a concern of mine and this is why I would support an overarching catchment management plan.

### **Question 2**

*The Dampier Peninsula is about to be opened up through a new sealed road section. This will bring thousands of extra visitors to this sensitive location. Do you support the development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and management plans?*

### **Answer**

YES

An environmental impact assessment should always be conducted before any major development and the new section of Cape Leveque Road sealing is definitely a major project.

The development of easy access into such a unique and beautiful region will attract so many tourists and other visitors which I think will be too much to handle at once for the region's current established visitor management ability.

How do the locals control a major influx of visitors in their area if there isn't a proper visitor management plan in place? This needs to be the question answered before this project is completed rather than the influx of visitors occur to create new issues to address that could've been prepared for in the first place.

The influx of visitors and easement of access to the region for locals will certainly bring new social and community concerns in addition to the already existing issues. But, such a big change of circumstances in the region will not only bring negative changes. It will also bring opportunity and other positives changes as well.

I fully support that a social impact assessment be conducted to analyse, monitor and manage the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative.

Let's be on the front foot of this matter with an action rather than the back foot waiting to react. To me, this is common sense!



**Question 3**

*There is a significant push by agri-business to bulldoze large tracts of woodlands in the Shire of Broome for irrigated agriculture. Do you think limits should be placed on land clearing in the Kimberley?*

**Answer**

YES

Land clearing for any purpose has a negative impact on the environments inhabitants including potentially unique flora and fauna. I believe a full biodiversity survey and an appropriate water supply assessment should be conducted before any land clearing occurs. Once this and other environmental impact assessment checks are completed only then should you decide just how much land can be cleared and in what areas.

I'm not saying that land clearing simply cannot happen but we need to somehow ensure that there's plenty of "environment" left for its inhabitants wherever it does happen.

One way we can ensure this is to possibly place a limit on land clearing in the Kimberley. This is a reason why I may support a limit. I can't think of a reason not to as yet...

**Question 4**

*Do you support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government?*

**Answer**

YES

For approximately 3 years in total I've had the privilege of being a Yawuru Country Manager. In my experience as a Yawuru Country Manager I've first hand experienced the joint management that Nyamba Buru Yawuru has with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

There has been many positive outcomes for people and country from our joint management arrangement which is why I do support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government.

**Question 5**

The WA State government has put a moratorium on fracking. Do you support fracking for gas in the Shire of Broome?

**Answer**

NO

As most of you know; I'm a Yawuru man and a Yawuru PBC Director. The Yawuru Native Title Determination is within the area of Broome's Shire.

I support the Yawuru community's position on fracking which has always been "against fracking until it's scientifically proven to be safe". This has been our decision well before the State Government's new moratorium on fracking!

**Graham Chapman - no response**

**Tony Hutchinson****Question 1**

*There is currently no overarching plan to manage water and drainage in the Shire of Broome, nor in the Broome Townsite. Would you support a catchment management plan for the town?*

**Answer**

YES

Water runoff can pollute Roebuck Bay and cause such issues as algal blooms impacting seagrass etc. Water should be retained where practical on land to boost the aquifer.

**Question 2**

*The Dampier Peninsula is about to be opened up through a new sealed road section. This will bring thousands of extra visitors to this sensitive location. Do you support the development of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment and management plans?*

**Answer**

YES

Many areas are already experiencing impacts of increased visitor numbers which require management of rubbish, camping areas etc. It pays to plan ahead.

**Question 3**

*There is a significant push by agri-business to bulldoze large tracts of woodlands in the Shire of Broome for irrigated agriculture. Do you think limits should be placed on land clearing in the Kimberley?*

**Answer**

YES

The Kimberley is a large area and each proposal should be looked at closely on its merits and impacts.

**Question 4**

*Do you support the management of conservation lands by Traditional Owners jointly with the State government?*

**Answer**

YES

Traditional Owners have insight and knowledge of what came before and should be involved.

**Question 5**

The WA State government has put a moratorium on fracking. Do you support fracking for gas in the Shire of Broome?

**Answer**

NO

Not until it can be proven that the process is totally safe and will not impact our precious groundwater aquifers.