

Letters to the Editor

Two local voices have picked up on our offer to present their views on Saturday's State Election. Neither would appear to be supporters of our incumbent member - Ed.

Dear Editor,

It was interesting to read in last week's Mouth the views of the various candidates on Bastion Point. All expressed concerns about the planned development, with three being very explicit in their opposition to it. These candidates had visited the site and spoken to stakeholders from both sides of the debate. Unlike our current local member, Mr Ingram, they actually listened to the community with an open mind, and found the project wanting.

Mr Ingram has never listened to expressed concerns from members of the community and has continued to voice unsubstantiated claims about the supposed benefits. He refers to it as "just a boat ramp" when it is clearly much more, and he claims to speak for the people of Mallacoota, when he does not.

Mr Ingram has relentlessly pursued this development for reasons best known to himself. It certainly is not in the community's interest: the independent Inquiry found the project failed on economic, safety and social grounds. So why pursue this over-engineered project that is unsafe, destroys our beach and will continue to be a drain on the public purse when there is a better, less damaging alternative.

Why has Mr Ingram chosen to foster community division, and bulldoze ahead with this damaging proposal, rather than work with the community for an acceptable alternative? Perhaps his interests in this project won't let him.

We need honest politicians with integrity and vision. We need politicians who listen to their constituents, and genuinely represent their interest.

It is time we had another local member.

Jenny Mason

Dear Editor,

The full page spread of Mr Ingram's achievements of the past defies logic, as the Mallacoota Surf Life Saving Clubs New Building and Equipment does not exist. I am a committee/ active member of the Mallacoota Surf Life Saving Club, and am disappointed that his campaign has come down to telling open lies to make the point of his governance, when in fact he isn't a representative and doesn't respect the Club's knowledge on safety, volunteer time and community commitment and service it provides.

It's an embarrassment that Craig denies the emotional intelligence of the community in a manner that seems democratic, when in fact it's all about his own personal needs. Independent or not he is in a race against himself and his political ego. The current methods of promoting ones campaign should inevitable come down what they have done and the system in place. It's hard to expect a small community to feel like it has a voice, when its been effectively silenced by personal, business and greedy directives.

For all we know Mr Ingram's campaign could be funded and managed by the Victoria Labor Party, and deals done already with proper community consultation/ democratic process and good governance.

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