



Candidate questionnaire – Sunshine Coast Regional Council Election 2020

Surname:	Barry-Jones	Given name:	Alison
Position contesting:	Division 5		

Governance, Transparency and Ethical Behaviour

Q 1 Are you aware of the Principles listed at the beginning of the Local Government Act 2009 and will you commit to abiding by these principles?

YES/NO Yes	How do you see them influencing your decision-making? A Councillor code of ethics and moral fairness is vital when making decisions on behalf of the community on every issue. Open, transparent decision making for outcomes that best serve the broader community is what we must aspire to.
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Q 2a What are the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of councillors and the activities of council?

Response: Local Government Act 2009, and Local Government Regulations 2012

Q 2b How will these impact your decision-making?

Response: Clearly all decisions we make in Council must be lawful and in keeping with the prescribed Act and regulations.
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Q 3 Do you or your immediate family have assets, interests or affiliations which might be likely to present you with potential conflicts of interest in carrying out your tasks as a councillor?

YES/NO No	If YES, how will you deal with these?
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Q 4 As councillor/mayor you will regularly meet to vote on various matters. Some of these votes may be passed by a majority decision, yet there exists aspects which indicate some or all of the following: improper due process, breaches around what might be deemed ‘reasonable action’ according to duty of care, statutory instruments, local government legislative provisions, by-laws, policies, procedures and responsibilities. What action would you take?

Response: Firstly I would raise the issue in Council as a matter of concern. If I felt the matter was in violation of a Councils duty of care there are other associated government agencies outside of Council to which these matters can be referred to for resolution.
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Q 5 Do you believe that all Council meetings should be open to the public?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, then what circumstances might justify a closed meeting?
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Q 6 Do you support providing requested information to the community without the need for individuals and organisations having to resort to Right to Information applications?

YES/NO Yes

Q 7 Will you commit to voting to implement the live streaming and video recording of council meetings at Caloundra, Nambour and subsequently Maroochydore by 30 June 2020?

YES/NO Yes

Q 8 Do you support that, once the previously published reasons for confidentiality have passed, the live recording, related documentation and information of the confidential meeting should immediately be made public?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 9 Do you support all financial dealings of Council in relation to major projects such as, but not limited to, the Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion, The Maroochy CBD, the Broadband Cable, the City Hall and the Solar Farm being made fully available to ratepayers once a decision to proceed has been made?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 10 What do you mean by, and how would you measure, sustainable development?

Response: Sustainable development is understanding and planning a region's maximum capacity to accommodate human occupation in a way that is not detrimental to the natural environment so vital to our long term survival and enjoyment. With modern technology these capacities will change as we become more efficient. However we should not be developing mindlessly without the appropriate infrastructure in place to accommodate population growth and the negative impact on every day living for humans and the environment.

Q 11 Are you endorsed or supported by any registered political party?

YES/NO No

Climate change

Q 12 Do you accept that:

(a) as the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases the proportion of the sun's radiant energy that is retained by the earth increases?	YES/NO Yes
(b) consequences of the increase in the retained energy include rising average temperatures and major changes in weather patterns that can result in drought and heavy rain in areas where such weather events had not previously occurred?	YES/NO Yes
(c) the combustion of fossil carboniferous fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas has been a major contributor to the increase in the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that has occurred since industrialisation began?	YES/NO Yes
(d) clearing of forest for agriculture and housing has also contributed to the increase in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere?	YES/NO Yes
(e) the major source of greenhouse gas emissions for local government comes from the decomposition of organic residues in landfill?	YES/NO Yes
(f) maintenance of biodiversity as close as possible to what it was before human intervention is essential for the healthy survival of the human species?	YES/NO Yes

Q 13 What do you see as the key impacts of Climate Change on the Sunshine Coast?

Response:

Susceptibility to fire and floods and rising sea levels along with being more vulnerable to melanoma cancers.

Q 14 How should the Sunshine Coast Regional Council deal with this now and into the future?

Response:

I have already spoken with an emergency service coordinator who is in the process of connecting all the agencies to prepare a regional emergency action plan. Council must become a part of the process and be willing to invest resources and expertise to work in with these organisations to better prepare for the impacts of Climate Change. Global heating is a real issue and sadly it is the susceptibility of Queenslanders to the propaganda of the coal lobby and the Murdoch press that has held Australia back from taking the urgent measures needed. It is ironic that the state with the so much sunshine is the one that wants to hang on to the old fossil fuel energy sources rather than have more solar and wind and hydro combined with storage. That's where the jobs of the future lie and every year we delay the transition, irreversible changes are underway. When the population realised what is actually happening, it will require a stupendous and disruptive effort to try to reverse the damage. Prevention is better than cure. We have solid science to provide a very realistic view of the looming catastrophe, but the forces of big business and vested interests want to prevent us seeing this reality. The citizens of Sunshine Coast should take a strong stand and lead on this matter. Its up to everyone to take responsibility not just the politicians.

Q 15 Do you support the SCRC in joining other councils in signing a Declaration of Climate Emergency?

YES/NO Yes

Q 16 Will you advocate for the SCRC to have a moratorium on any development proposed in areas vulnerable to the impact of climate change such as in flood-prone areas and coastal zones until such time as the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy is completed?

YES/NO Yes

Planning issues

Q 17 Do you agree that:

(a) development applications that conflict with the relevant Planning Scheme Acceptable Outcomes and other planning instruments should be refused?	YES/NO Yes
(b) genuine community consultation should be undertaken in the early stages of a Proposed Planning Scheme amendment and prior to being progressed to the state?	YES/NO Yes
(c) applicants wishing to lodge a Development application that substantially does not comply, or seeks to over-ride the Planning Scheme should be advised to await the formulation of the next planning scheme when they can lodge a submission on that new planning scheme during the public consultation period?	YES/NO Yes
(d) that development that is vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change, flooding, and inundation be prohibited?	YES/NO Yes

Q 18 Do you agree that:

(a) Planning Scheme provisions regarding density, site cover, height and parking requirements must comply with the Acceptable Outcomes in the Planning Scheme?	YES/NO Yes
(b) financial contributions in lieu of the provisions of onsite parking should not be allowed unless improvements are provided within 200 metres of the development?	YES/NO No
(c) greater enforcement is needed where a developer constructs (or private certifier signs off) other than what has been approved, particularly in relation to height and density of development?	YES/NO Yes

Q 19 What is your understanding of when it is appropriate to override the Planning Scheme, when there are conflicts?

<p>Response:</p> <p>My understanding is if there is an overriding need for a facility considered to be necessary or for the greater community good then there is a pardon for that development to have extraordinary exemption for deviate from the existing town plan. In saying that all necessary impact assessable obligations must be addressed and adhered too.</p>

Q 20 Would you support extending submission timeframes from the statutory minimum in relation to Planning Scheme amendments?

YES/NO Yes

Q 21 The floodplains of the Sunshine Coast have been extensively filled primarily for urban development. This has increased the risk to people, property, infrastructure and the environment from coastal inundation and flooding and contributes to greater exposure to extreme weather events associated with climate change. Planning instruments, State Planning regulation and various reports give regulatory and guidance material regarding floodplain management with land-use one of the key areas to avoid and manage risk. Will you act to prohibit further development on the floodplains?

<p>Response:</p> <p>Not acceptable to build commercial or residential development on these sites and surly we have learned from previous mistakes the reasons why. However open parklands or recreational fields doggie runs ...whatever user friendly service that space can provide is welcome.</p>

Q 22 With respect to the South East Queensland Regional Plan (Shaping SEQ) that was given effect on 11 August 2017, do you support the Plan in its current form relating to the Northern sub-region, including designation of the Urban footprint and population targets?

YES/NO No

Q 23 Do you support the proposed Coolum West intense residential/mixed use development and wave pool proposal on significantly constrained land, which is also outside the urban footprint?

YES/NO No

If NO, will you, if elected to council, support SCRC advocating to the State Government against this proposal? YES/NO Yes

Q 24 What is your view in relation to this statement:

“ALL mixed-use multi-residential buildings requiring a Material Change of Use (MCU) must be “impact assessed” except where compliance is achieved with all relevant SCPS “Acceptable Outcomes” in the codes applicable to each development application. Community notification and rights of appeal in the P&E Court will therefore be restored for all non-compliant applications simply by this change”

Response:

Agree with statement.

Q 25 The coastal hazard and “erosion prone area” is defined by the Queensland Government and State Planning Policy Guidance states redevelopment is to “avoid urban footprint expansion into erosion prone areas (3.2)”.

How will you participate in supporting a change to limit or avoid increases in the footprint and density of medium and high rise mixed use -residential buildings in these designated coastal hazard areas to reduce overall risk?

Response:

Do not support encouraging development on erosion prone areas and I understand these areas are already identified. If modern technology has capabilities to address any negative impact and it is in step with community wishes moderate low-key development could be considered.

General

Q 26 The Sunshine Coast Regional Council ratepayers have been consistently hit with annual rate increases much higher than the region's CPI. How would you address this?

Response:

Annual rate rises should be in keeping with the CPI. Council needs to cut their cloth to measure and not burden the ratepayer so much. A certain amount of debt is healthy as we are investing in the future for infrastructure that benefits the community. I feel with the current financial climate perhaps to pause for 12 months on certain expenditure would be frugal. I feel council is taking on initiatives which belong to private enterprise at the dollars could be better spent on rural roads and discretionary funds to help out those volunteers maintaining and operating community sporting and cultural facilities which keep the community families healthy and working together.

Q 27 Would you support a proposal that all Statutory Community Engagement exercises either by Council or other parties (including developers) must be carried out by a demonstrably independent and professional third party organisation according to specific pre-determined parameters?

YES/NO Yes

Q 28 Do you support the Environment Levy and its policies, including continued acquisition of land for conservation, partnership funding for Land for Wildlife and other environment programs?

YES/NO Yes

Q 29 Do you live in the division for which you are standing as a Councillor?

YES/NO/NA Yes

Q 30 If elected, how do you intend to engage with your community?

Response:

I will attend as many community organisations as I can as often as I am welcome. Grass roots interface with community groups and organisations is the best way to learn about their needs and for them to appreciate the services Council can offer. If there are issues which will impact on anyone then there must be good communication with those affected and an opportunity to be fully informed and open discussion facilitated.

Q 31 If elected as a Divisional Councillor how will you advance the specific needs of your Division?

Response:

Having a mandate as an elected representative gives the Councillor the opportunity work directly with the community regarding their wishes or concerns. Having researched all the options with various departments and community I will then on behalf of the community in Council negotiate for the best outcome for whatever the request or issue might be.

Q 32 Why do you think that you are the best candidate for your Division or as Mayor?

Response:

I believe my experience as a Councillor, Mayor, successful community leader, businesswoman and manager , I have a proven track record which confirm my capabilities to deliver on my promises and vision for the area. My values are very much in sync with the mood of Division 5. I understand and have identified their problems and feel their frustrations at being overlooked when it comes to receiving their fair share of the financial cake. Being the biggest and most diverse division in the Sunshine Coast Council with a wide range of interests and needs it will require knowledge, experience and a seven day a week commitment to do all that needs to be done. I work closely with people on matters big and small all of which are of equal importance to those seeking my assistance.

I'm a hard worker, good team player and willing to fight hard for the people who place their trust in me. Most importantly I am a very kind woman and easy to approach.