



Harmers Haven Residents and Ratepayer Group: Friends of Harmers Haven (HHRRG)
2020 Bass Coast Council Election
Candidate Questionnaire
Julian Brown

1. What do you consider the single most important Bunurong Ward issue that Council should address:

Immediately

Over the next 6-12 months

Over the next 4 year term

Important issues include:

- Supporting businesses to recover from Covid-19
- Funding and completing important infrastructure projects
- Appropriate development
- Funding more footpaths through the urban footpath gap program
- Preserving the character of townships
- Preserving liveability and the environment



2. How important do you consider the following issues to be for small coastal communities in Bunurong Ward

	Not very important	Important	Very important
Town expansion			The current ward councillors have allowed some new housing in Wonthaggi which has stimulated the creation of new jobs and services while respecting the character of the smaller townships
Infrastructure quality			In the last 4 years there have been countless projects completed at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve, The Inverloch Netball Courts, new footpaths, improvements to Apex Park, the Wonthaggi Historical Society and the Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club
Preservation of existing local character			The current ward councillors have maintained the settlement boundaries in townships such as Inverloch and Cape Paterson
Native vegetation/habitat depletion			I have a proven record of voting in support of council's Biolinks program
Coastal erosion			As an Inverloch based councillor, I am well versed in this issue and played an important role in



			securing significant funding to address coastal erosion
Wildfire threat			Council has a Municipal Fire Management Plan. Planning applications often require bushfire defensible space assessments and I am open to suggestions from the community
Invasive species eradication (flora & fauna)			I have a connection with farming. This is an ongoing issue for farmers and I will continue to support them
Other (please specify)			

- 3 (a) Do you consider current planning policies and controls in Bass Coast Shire are adequate for addressing the issues you regard as important to Bunurong Ward?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

- (b) If no, what changes would you propose.

I think that we need to explore all options so that industrial wind turbines are not allowed in urban, residential areas

Question continues over page ...



(c) Would you support a policy that would require Council always to notify affected residents/landowners of a planning application?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

4. The Victorian government is currently developing a plan for an extended coastal walk through the newly created Yallock Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park, running from San Remo to Inverloch. The HHRRG believes that the main route should not come through Harmers Haven for foreshore protection and community amenity reasons, a view supported by the Bass Coast Coastal Alliance (representing some 1,000 members from Bass Coast resident groups & associations).

Do you agree with this position?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

The state government (via the local member) needs to be asked exactly where the trail is proposed to go. I don't know exactly where it is proposed to go but I would like to know.

- ☐ **5. The Bass Coast Shire Council is supporting a proposal for the creation of a Dinosaur Trail running between San Remo and Inverloch. It will involve the creation of seven (7) art works and related information centres/points. Where do you think these works would be best located?**

As close as possible to actual dinosaur sites i.e. at the coast?

I support in principle the idea of a dinosaur trail. Mike Cleeland should get a very big thank you for driving this project. I think that it would be a great tourism asset, but also showcase our local (ancient) history. I understand that we have the most diverse concentration of polar dinosaurs in our backyard. I wouldn't pre-empt at this point exactly where these works should go, but I would expect that level of detail to be worked out with community consultation



Away from the coast at central locations?

Other (please specify):

- ☐ 6. The HHRRG has expressed an interest in seeing a walking/cycling lane created along Berry's Road to increase safe options for pedestrian/cyclist movement between Wonthaggi and Harmers Haven.
- ☐ Would you support such a proposal?

Yes

No

Not sure

- ☐ 7. Harmers Haven is currently experiencing increased traffic volumes and speeds as residential density grows. Would you support the reduction of speed limits along Berrys Road, Old Boilers Road, Viminaria Road, Oleara Street and Wares Lane to help mitigate the impacts of this trend (protected species road kill, dust, risks to pedestrians - particularly children - and pets).
- ☐
- ☐

Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

- ☐ I have no doubt that more and more people are travelling on these roads more often. My understanding is that VicRoads is in charge of speed changes. I would support Council advocating for VicRoads to do a study/assessment if they haven't done one recently. But I think it is important for all candidates to upfront with residents that VicRoads hold the final say on that one
- ☐

8. Do you support Bass Coast Shire Council's Climate Emergency declaration?

Yes

No

Not sure



I recognise that climate change is real and I think we need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and transition to renewable energy in a responsible way.

If you do support the Climate Emergency declaration, what do you think the Council's top priorities should be to reduce carbon emissions? If not why not?

The reality is that council transitioned many of its operations to renewables even before the Climate Emergency declaration. I don't know if many residents are aware, but under the Climate Change Action Plan adopted by council most of the burden for CO2 emissions reduction is on them as households and businesses. So the question is, what are you going to do?

End.