



'Bring Back Bruce'

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Media Release – For immediate release

New mayor must be team player

Dunne warns voters to choose mayor carefully

As the local government election gains momentum, candidate for Division 9 Bruce Dunne is warning voters to choose their new mayor carefully.

With the announcement of yet another potential mayoral candidate, the list has grown to eight, and Mr Dunne said voters should become well informed before making a choice.

“For example, if we elect a mayor who is overconfident, full of self-importance or rules with an iron fist, he or she will lose the support of the Councillors and be incapable of doing the job effectively,” Mr Dunne said. “Without that support, a mayor has nothing.”

Mr Dunne said he would support and work with whoever the public chooses as their new mayor – but he warned that he expected the mayor to do the right thing by residents.

“My promise to voters is to help Council get back to basics and maintain a clear focus on core responsibilities and services. And I expect the new mayor to do the same,” Mr Dunne said.

“Ratepayers want value for money. They want to know the Council is working on sealing roads and road maintenance, rubbish collection and tip vouchers, footpaths, park upgrades and streetscaping, and lowering rates.

“As Councillor for Division 9, these are the core functions that I would work hard to provide for my division. And, as a fellow Sunshine Coast resident, they are the core functions that I would demand that the mayor work hard to help provide for the entire region.

“I have full confidence that the new council will comprise mature, worldly people who have their constituents’ better interests in mind. And, as such, they will not tolerate being dictated to. The new mayor will need to realise that, under the Local Government Act, he or she is in effect another Councillor but with some additional duties,” Mr Dunne said.

“So I find it amusing when some mayoral candidates stand up and proclaim that they are *going* to do this and they *promise* to achieve that. There needs to be a spotlight on their ability as a team player because, without the majority of support from the 12 other elected councilors and without a team mentality, they wouldn’t be able to achieve any of it.”

Mr Dunne said a successful mayor needed to be a good team leader and exhibit expert people skills.

“He or she needs to unite the many personalities that will form the new 2012 Sunshine Coast Council and appreciate the value that each one will bring to the table.

“Over time, there will always be some personality conflicts when you get a group of individuals together and it’s the same with a large group of Councillors. And, of course, the Councillors themselves will need to remain professional while still enjoy healthy debate within the chambers.”

Mr Dunne said elected Councillors must be capable of remaining focused in their decision making, despite the likelihood of personality differences.

Find out more about Bruce Dunne and his vision for Division 9 at www.brucedunne.com

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