

Council is ignoring community

I AM a recent arrival in Bellerive, having bought a house in November. I love it here. The Kangaroo Bay foreshore is a fantastic community asset, and the new parklands along its edge are wonderful. Our first walk along the shore to Bellerive village was memorable. Subsequently, to my dismay, I have realised the extent of the Clarence Council's disrespectful treatment of its own community, by approving a totally inappropriate and oversized set of buildings for the site, without anything like proper public consultation and subverting its own planning scheme. I have read the council's 20-page public consultation policy on their website. Was it followed? No. How can a council, and the State Government, allow such a thing? How can our public foreshore be sold (or given – we are not to know, apparently) to a foreign developer to construct such an inappropriate development for this beautiful area? It seems that the planned hospitality college is only loosely associated with our local TAFE system and that it, and the enormous hotel/apartment complex may be largely for the use of foreign fee-paying students rather than locals. I hope I am wrong. It should be located elsewhere. Like 170-200 others, I was at the public meeting at Bellerive on June 4. I soon became concerned and angry too. The mayor was there and heard very clearly why his public were angry and I fail to see why he was "confused" by the adverse public reaction to this development, as he stated in the *Mercury* recently. There are more proposals to come for more crown land along Kangaroo Bay. Is the same foreign developer involved? Very possibly yes. I am sincerely hoping that sanity, not greed, and the wishes of the local community, are taken into account

for any further developments, and that the lovely village feeling of Kangaroo Bay is retained. Once gone of course, we can't get it back.

**Jenny Scott
Bellerive**

Not in my front yard

JAN Smith's comment (Letters, June 24) regarding approval of the Kangaroo Bay development is naive in the extreme. The Cambridge Road development is not "NIMBY". It is in our front yard ruining one of the most stunning outlooks in the state. Has Jan even bothered looking at the plans? The residents did not "miss it", this development was covered in a cone of silence by the council and the State Government for 18 months before the development was lodged. If you are that enamoured with this development you should be lobbying to build it on Blackmans Bay Beach. According to Mayor Doug Chipman as you do not live in Bellerive, or for that matter the Clarence municipality, your opinion is irrelevant. As far as the letter from David Blackburn (June 24) goes, this smacks of Doug Chipman writing under an assumed name. If this person was actually at the meeting, did he not hear every speaker say they were not opposed to development at the Kangaroo Bay site but the 20m high, 83m long Cambridge Rd development is totally out of character for the area. I am constantly amazed at the development-at-any-cost brigade. "Go big or go home" just doesn't cut it in this instance. If that is the mantra of Jan Smith and David Blackburn, do us a favour and move to Sydney.

**Clint Ayers
Lindisfarne**

Silent majority

DAVID Blackburn summed up and put so succinctly the silent community view regarding support for the proposed development at Kangaroo Bay which actually resonates with residents of the Eastern Shore rather than those emanating from a small group of mainly senior citizen negative voices which have merely been the loudest and purely of self interest.

**Brett Hall
Tranmere**

Kangaroo Bay

WHEN did councillors stop acting for their ratepayers? Many residents of Bellerive are made unhappy by yet another ill-considered decision by our council to allow an unnecessary building and its height variations in such a valued area.

I applaud most of the redevelopment of Kangaroo Bay but the approved building is so out of touch. The process lacks social acceptance by many ratepayers. They change legislation, do things quickly and at inopportune times and then wonder why? They clearly have no understanding of the Bellerive community, where many are fed up arguing with an unresponsive council. Then, as defenders of our community, we are seen as the problem. The Mayor won't even walk the beach because he has so many questions posed to him. Of course others will sign a petition, it's a popular photographed vista of Hobart and kunyani with the yachts in the background from Cambridge Rd. However to give away the water front crown land is unforgivable.

**S. Neill
Bellerive**