

I begin with these principles

transparency: so you can see what happens in the council.

accountability: so you don't have to beg the ruling team, the council is accountable to you.

integrity: a council that acts ethically, not simply weaving through the law.

leadership: the Local Government Act requires that councils 'exercise community leadership.' There has been too much gathering of power to the centre. The finest leadership is the kind that encourages leadership at all levels.

community: we are fractured communities, we compete for crumbs from the table. We must re-discover community spirit and we must find better ways of engaging community with processes of council business.

Who am I, what would I know anyway?

Shoalhaven since January 2003. Born 1943.

Seeking no donations. If any arrive they will be public forthwith. Running as an absolute independent.

High level career in public service interrupted by illness. I have managed organisations with about the same number of staff as the Department of Local Government – as Ambassador in Beijing and as head of a research group in the Commonwealth Parliament advising on every government issue.

Lots of negotiation experience. Masters degree from UNSW at the Defence Academy.

Photo: meeting with top Chinese leaders in what was once Mao's bedroom, when I was Ambassador to China, 1985.

— staff member Kevin Rudd sitting out of the photo, to left.

I have also farmed, in a very small way. Established and sold profitably an educational software business.

I have experienced loss of work, savage pain, life as a carer for a dying loving wife... and rediscovery of life.

I cherish private life but in this crisis time I have skills to build a new system of government.

Some specifics

The Elected Council

The elected council is a rowdy place with an insolent majority, interfering with sensible administration and good planning and budget decisions.

We need an elected team which will *behave as the board of a business* with a quarter billion budget.

In the next four years the elected council should:

- ✓ build a new system integrating community into decision processes... we should no longer see community groups (including business) pitted against each other. Let's build local consensus to get real results
- ✓ encourage communities to build their visions and work as a leadership team with communities to get results from ALL levels of government
- ✓ oversee new and improved budget processes focused on strategic objectives and priorities
- ✓ get the infrastructure right for a new kind of



future. The NSW Government is planning to spend \$57 billion on infrastructure, of which \$21 billion borrowed. We must get that spent right too! No, we will not use the credit card to buy the groceries, but we will use reserves and borrowing capacity for social justice and economic efficiency.

It's not about me.
It's about us, our communities, our common future.

Nowra by 2020

- ✓ A live city with jobs, purpose, happiness
- ✓ Get the highway bypass, plan a fast railway south, get the third bridge
- ✓ Re-connect the split CBD;
- ✓ Sustain heritage, build a beautiful waterfront
- ✓ jobs, jobs, families, life!

East Nowra

Start now with East Nowra 2020 – a community process, to build local leadership and ideas for health, youth, seniors, jobs, happiness. Make this an example for others. Care about the weakest.

Ulladulla

Current positive dialogue within the community including business can show us new community-council processes. Jobs. Ulladulla as a hub of information industry, connected to the world. Jobs.

Small communities

The answers to survival must be based in the local community, come from the WHOLE local community. Retain the identity of beautiful places.

Work and the economy

We have to cut down the car use and enable innovative solutions locally. Education is critical.

Seniors

Do everything to link up and provide warmth for all. Listen and care. Treat as we will wish to be treated.

Young people

Young people will be alienated if they do not see leadership they respect. Young people need skills for a world of constant change. Develop mentoring within communities to help young people leave, learn and return.

Authorised by Dennis Argall, PO Box 25, Nowra 2541
Printed by Klimpton Press, Unit 7, Angas Ave, South Nowra