



Speech by

CHRIS CUMMINS

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MR G. WALLACE; MR J. BLEIJIE

Mr CUMMINS (Kawana—ALP) (6.54 p.m.): I wish to bring to the House's attention a by-election to be held on 28 April for division 5 in the Caloundra City Council. That by-election has been called due to my success in the recent state election and obvious vacating of the division 5 council seat that I proudly held for four years. I hope that whoever is successful on 28 April continues in a positive and constructive way.

Anything that I state here today I will publicly retract if any of the claims that I make can be proven wrong. In the March 2000 council election, I am aware that Mr Gordon Wallace claimed that he had lived in the electorate for 20 years, but in 1997—only four years ago—he was not on the electoral roll. I am not aware of whether Mr Wallace is a member of any political party and to the best of my knowledge there are no ALP-endorsed candidates in this contest. Therefore, I am not here to score cheap political points but purely to state some facts that I believe should be brought to the attention of the House and the residents of division 5, Caloundra City.

On Oceanic Drive, Bokarina, only a short time prior to the March 2000 election, I am aware that one of the candidates, Mr Gordon Wallace of Oceanic Drive, beat a pensioner to the ground in the pensioner's own yard. He was restrained by witnesses and then rode off on a pushbike thinking that, by not giving his name, he would never be found out or recognised. Months later, this thug published his photo, as you do when you are running for public office in an election campaign. Unfortunately, the pensioner who was viciously bashed to the ground had a heart attack after the beating and was taken away by ambulance for medical treatment. Yes, this is all on record. The recipient of this terrible bashing is still too ill to bring the thug to justice.

What was this vicious cowardly attack by Mr Gordon Wallace over? A dog! Everyone should realise that animal control issues are a common occurrence across local governments. So how does this cowardly thug, Mr Wallace, intend to fix solutions if people are silly enough to elect him? I hope it is not by his standover tactics and thuggery. I am aware that in the past he has received local Liberal Party support and that he attended a Liberal Party meeting prior to the March election. I also encourage residents to question Mr Wallace about his encroachment into the dunes, which is public land, from his own backyard.

I also mention—and this will be humorous for the Minister of Health—that in the 2000 election campaign Mr Wallace pledged that, if he was elected, he was going to oversee the introduction of the discarded syringe campaign, using retractable needles or identification coding. I was certainly unaware that councils should do this. He wants to take on state issues.

I also mention another young candidate, Jarrop Bleijie, who in the *Sunshine Coast Daily* said, 'Ever since the State election all I wanted to do was get out and get going.' He failed to mention his tireless work for the Liberal Party and his home address in Little Mountain, which is nowhere near the division. Division 9, where he lives, is many miles away from the area that he hopes to represent. He conveniently forgot to state his Liberal Party affiliation and I believe his only interest in division 5—

Time expired.