



Speech by

CHRIS CUMMINS

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard 18 June 2002

CALOUNDRA CITY COUNCIL

Mr CUMMINS (Kawana—ALP) (12.16 p.m.): Residents of Kawana have requested that I raise some issues which will need to be addressed by the Minister for Local Government, the Minister for Natural Resources and the Minister for Environment. I am told that the House will soon be presented with a petition, an unsigned copy of which I will table along with other relevant documents, including photos. I seek leave to table these documents.

Leave granted.

Mr CUMMINS: Many residents are concerned about allegations that not only has a local councillor encroached on public land, that being the sand dune behind his own property, but has also influenced a consultation process that could see a dune walkway built through the dunes behind the majority of homes, excluding his. I have listened to claims of a typically conservative, born-to-rule mentality that may see the values of neighbouring properties decrease, but due to an elected representative's influence his own property may substantially increase in value; thus a request for an independent valuer's opinion within the petition. Photos may also indicate a picnic table, chicken wire fence and stairs that connect his property encroaching outside his property boundary onto public land, clearly against directions issued by Caloundra City Council and the Department of Natural Resources. I will forward relevant accusations and photos to the relevant ministers.

Residents are also concerned about numerous encroachments, including water sprinklers, compost bin and fences. I trust that these issues will be investigated. I have been asked to request the Minister for Local Government to consider notified motions carried by a majority of the Caloundra City Council on 25 May 2000, namely, resolution 6.01 in relation to a meeting of Sunshine Sports Complex Pty Ltd, and a motion on 25 January 2001, namely, resolution 6.01 regarding alternative power supplies in relation to Caloundra City Council's ability to install and utilise alternative power. If these notified motions and resolutions of Caloundra City Council have not been addressed, has the Local Government Act been breached and, if so, what consequences will follow?

I will also table relevant emails that have been sent to me via my old council email address that have links to pornographic web sites. I have raised this issue with the Caloundra City Council CEO and have asked to be removed from this porn mailing list.

Recently, I was also accused by Caloundra City Council of showing no interest in relation to unexploded ordnances in the Kawana, Currimundi and surrounding areas. This is simply not the case. Caloundra City Council did a report alleging that I did not respond to literature sent to me. The CEO said that Australia Post may not have redirected my mail, that it may not have worked on this occasion and that this is called Murphy's Law. I was supplied with a letter that was allegedly sent to me without any address. It is quite disappointing that a Caloundra City Council report would imply that I had no interest in the unexploded ordnances and their removal. I have strongly advocated that the federal government is the body solely responsible for this. On previous occasions I have assured councillors in writing, including councillor Elaine Darling, a former federal member for Lilley and now very active participant in lobbying for the removal of these unexploded ordnances. I have written proof that I will do everything I can to assist. A meeting was called last Friday that the council decided to postpone.

In closing, I also seek the House's permission to table the relevant documents—emails where I have tried to remove myself from the pornographic web sites, and also the letter from Caloundra City Council regarding an invitation to the meeting about unexploded ordnances which was never received by my office. I seek leave to table these relevant documents.