



Save Mayfield Swimming Pool Campaign

A Community Group Supporting Community Resources

www.mayfieldpool.com

Council Elections 2012 Ward 4 Candidate Surveys Compiled 30/8/12

Survey Responses

Ward 4 Candidate	Party or Group	1. If elected will you work as an advocate in Council to ensure the long term future of Beresfield, Mayfield, Stockton and Wallsend Pools?	2. If elected will you propose and/or vote in support of a motion ensuring free entry to Beresfield, Mayfield, Stockton and Wallsend Pools for at least a three year trial period?	3. If elected will you propose and/or vote in support of a motion ensuring that promotion of Beresfield, Mayfield, Stockton and Wallsend Pools is equal to that of promotion of Lambton pool, including very large signs on nearby arterial roads?	4. Will all other councillors elected from your party/group of independents answer the above questions in the same way as you?
Bob Cook	Your Independents	Yes	Undecided	Did not respond	Did not respond
Clarice Hamling	Community 1 Independents	Yes	No (but will support 1 year trial)	Yes	Yes
John Sutton	The Greens	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Milton Caine	Christian Democratic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jason Dunn	Labor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Allan Robinson	Buman Independents	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
David Compton	Liberal	Did not respond	Did not respond	Did not respond	Did not respond

Additional Comments

Bob Cook	I do support retention and development of all pools, the funds are needed for that. The issue of entry charges of all facilities (not just pools) is uncertain, but I think that can be agreed as the plan evolves. Promotion is not as simple as signs, there are many ways to promote pools. I support council spending at least \$26million on providing better aquatic facilities in Newcastle. As you know council has put this in the 10 year plan and when the plan is implemented by whoever is part of the new council, there will be plenty of discussion about how, what, where and when to do this. Now is not the time to make decisions, lets discuss how to do it best when the time comes. I certainly want to do more not less, and quickly.
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Clarice Hamling	<p>The Community 1 Independents feel at a bit of a disadvantage regarding the other candidates you have spoken to as they have been on Council and have more information etc. None of us has been on Council and therefore don't have the background they do regarding a range of issues that will have some bearing on this matter. We don't have any information about planned developments at any of the pools, for example. We accept that the current admission prices are too high for local communities. We also accept that full or significant cost recovery is not an option for community pools nor should it be. We've agreed that it's reasonable to have a one year trial of admission free entry (rather than three years) to Mayfield, Wallsend, Beresfield and Stockton swimming pools. We assume this will include school carnivals, group bookings etc including those from outside the area. We think a one year's trial will be enough to base permanent policy on. We're not ready to apply free admission to the Lambton Pool given the development that has taken place but would be open to a review of admission charges, including the option of free entry. In fact, we're in favour of having a review of charges right across all of Council's services, not just pools.</p>
John Sutton	<p>Newcastle Greens stand on a principle of social justice, which would see us support equal access to services and facilities across the community. On this basis we would be supportive of the concepts expressed by your group.</p>
Milton Caine	<p>We shall do all we can as it is the role of local government to find a way to retain these resources open to the public. The plan you have highlighted is in my view responsible and worthy of support. There are some things that the governance decisions must include some things that are supplied free of direct service fees, though this is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain, it is the job of decision makers to identify those things that will not attract a fee service. The consumption of scarce funds on some staff functions should be cut back before services to the community that the council has been put in place to serve. We must establish a strong code of ethics on expenditure remembering we are here to firstly serve and not to be served. It is my opinion that as we do not charge people who use our libraries, neither should we charge our people for using our pools. The council has some things that are not user pays and that the community benefit must outweigh the need for full financial recovery, as it ought to be for many of the services supplied by council. I must disclose my interest in this area of swimming pools; I do not swim as I never learnt how to relax while swimming and so I will receive no benefit from this position that I take on this matter. But I see the value for all to become totally relaxed in water for their own safety and the safety of other water users.</p>
Jason Dunn	<p>I understand the importance of our local pools. I will defend public pools and intend to deliver a more sustainable model that includes free entry to all our pools, not just our ocean baths</p>
Allan Robinson	<p>If elected you can be certain of my personal support of free entry to public pools. As part of Cr Buman's team we will be strongly advocating and voting this way for all public pools in the city of Newcastle.</p>
David Compton	<p>None</p>