

# Candidate Questionnaire and Answers

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<b>COUNCIL</b>	Bass Coast Shire Council 2020
<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Bunurong Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	TESSARI, Brett

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

To continue the good work started four years ago, more upgraded sporting facilities, better facilities for the arts and culture, continue to push for emergency and affordable housing, continue to advocate for environment issues effecting the whole shire, continue to represent my community I have lived in all my life

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I have the experience of being a Councillor for the last four years which is invaluable. I have sat at the table with Federal and State Ministers and advocated and won for Bass Coast, the community trusts and knows me, I live amongst them, they know my family, I care

Have you read the current Council Plan for the council named above?	Yes
Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
Are you endorsed by a registered political party? <b>Note:</b> Registered political party has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Electoral Act 2002. If yes, provide the name of the registered political party.	No
Are you currently a Councillor?	Yes
If yes, what has been your attendance record at Council meetings during your current term of office? <b>Note:</b> Council meetings means Council meetings referred to in section 61 of the Local Government Act 2020 but does not include meetings held for which a Councillor has been granted leave from attending by the Council.	>90%
What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> I am always contactable on my mobile 0409722661 or by email brettteessari@y7mail.com. People have known me all their lives they know how and where to find me, I work in the main street of Wonthaggi. I am easily approachable either in person, phone or email.	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Bunurong Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	BROWN, Julian

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

My vision is to see in Bass Coast a balance between community, the environment and business. I want to see people free to pursue their own interests and dreams for the future

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I am a sitting councillor. Relevant expertise includes understanding council's finances and policies, input into formal council meetings, engagement with residents and community groups and the chairing of committees.

I am a centrist and a moderate. I am good at listening others and also capable of acting decisively when required.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> julianforbunurong2020@gmail.com	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Bunurong Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	LARKE, Les

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Bass Coast will be known as a region that supports a sustainable and healthy community, and values and protects its natural assets, through equity and balance between liveability and environmental protection and accountability for financial management.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

Certified Practising Accountant with extensive expertise to ensure public money is used responsibly in line with community expectations. Also, former General Manager State Trustees, with understanding for the need to support people experiencing personal, family or financial hardship. I will be a genuine and fair representative of this great community.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Telephone: 0450475134 Email: leslarke@bigpond.com	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Bunurong Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	LAING, Leticia

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Our regional centre will be vibrant, new cultural and education hub. Local projects and upgrades will boost local jobs. Post - Covid, council will responsibly adapt to support our local businesses. Our natural spaces will be enhanced with stronger protections, sustainable and compliant planning. Council will be responsive, accessible and transparent.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

As a Law / Arts graduate I value research, rules and accountability. I was a regional journalist for many years. These skills will help me communicating and dig deeper for council transparency. I am an active member of community groups including Wonthaggi Primary School Council and Bass Coast Climate Action Network.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Mobile: 0475 757 953 Email: leticia4bccouncil@gmail.com Website: www.leticialaing.com.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/leticia4bccouncil	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Bunurong Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	NUGENT, Michael

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

For Bass Coast to continue offering the very best of regional living. A caring, connected community that is economically prosperous, prevents inappropriate development and treasures its beautiful natural environment. A community that builds back better as it recovers from Covid-19 and implements its climate emergency plan.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I'm a community minded chartered accountant. For over 20 years I've specialized helping organisations combine financial performance with care for their communities and the environment. I'm active in many local groups including Wonthaggi Food Collective, Bass Coast Climate Action Network, Cape Paterson Residents & Ratepayers, and Save the Holden Bushlands.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Phone: 0416 039 933 E-mail: michaelnugent@fastmail.fm Facebook: www.facebook.com/NugentForBass/	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	BELSAR, Ash

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Efficiency, family-friendly, and keep our coast special. A strong interest in promoting local business in balance with our pristine natural environment. Encouraging community values.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

Business owner-operator working in outdoor adventure activities throughout the Bass Coast. Background in tourism and wildlife working at a number of locations both within and outside our locality. Volunteer safety officer for The Great Victorian Fish Count held annually in the Bass Coast. Keen surfer, diver, and general outdoor enthusiast.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> 0412852291 0359523695 ash@outthere.net.au	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	SILVA, Darrell

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

My vision for Phillip Island in Bass Coast Shire is to create sustainable commercial, social and natural environments by listening directly to the ratepayer. Phillip Island contributes much today and I intend to see the contribution is recognised and made sustainable

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I am engaged across different global and social cultures because of my profession, and negotiate successful outcomes within those sometimes conflicting groups. I have financial expertise with a post-grad Masters in Applied Finance

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> darrellwaynesilva@gmail.com	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	ROOKS, David

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

My vision for Bass Coast is, all residents feel fairly and capably represented, that local business and the community continues to thrive, and that the environment of this special place, is recognised for its importance and wisely managed for the future.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

After 20 years living, working and volunteering locally, I understand the Island community and local economy. My candidacy is supported with a calm and consultative style, a work background in Events, Tourism, Human Resources and Teaching, and 14 years voluntary leadership roles in community groups.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Email: david@eventsupport.com.au Phone: 0418 115 935 Website: david-rooks.webnode.com/ Facebook: David Rooks Island Ward Candidate	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	JOBE, Jeni

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

To support volunteer organisations operating in our communities, create maker spaces for Arts'n'Health programs, improve roads and pathways within our townships and throughout the Island, use waste streams to generate usable materials for infrastructure projects, remove single-use plastics, make businesses feel supported by council and demand transparency of governance.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

A career working in the communications industry, ongoing volunteer work with Totally Renewable Phillip Island that allows me to understand the transport, energy, food and waste, carbon insetting and education needs of Bass Coast, and an ability to work with and respect the views of a group of diverse professionals.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> PO Box 900 Cowes, 3922 jenijobe@internode.on.net	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	WHELAN, Michael

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

That Bass Coast will be a leader in innovation and sustainability in business and community lifestyle, achieving its community wide target of zero carbon emissions by 2030 and become a well adapted community able to meet the challenges that climate change will present.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

Bachelor of Economics, Master of Environmental Science  
Senior roles with Cain and Kenneth governments  
Private business, Community engagement experience  
Firefighter - operational, research and technical roles  
Managed major multi agency government project; established a national emergency advocacy group  
Musician with Bass Coast Pickers  
Interest in current affairs and writing

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Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Mobile 0418356301 email: michael.whelan3922@gmail.com Website: <a href="https://michaelwhelanforislandward.weebly.com">https://michaelwhelanforislandward.weebly.com</a>	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	BARLOW, Mikhaela

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

My Vision for the Island Ward and the wider Shire is one of empowerment, sustainability and community networking, where the environment is seen as the driving force behind our economy, not a hindrance to its progress, and where our artists are valued and recognised for their contribution to our Island.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I'm good at going to the heart of a matter to find the source of the actual problem. I'm friendly and trustworthy. I always follow through, and due to my upbringing, I understand Local Government Workings so I can hit the ground running.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> I'm always available over the phone: 0473 490 050, through my email: mbarlowbasscoast2020@gmail.com or through my website: www.blueskyfuturesresearch.com	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	BAUER, Ron

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Effective erosion measures  
Accountability for rate increases  
Collect the red bin weekly in summer  
Better public transport and signage  
Construct the sports hub including the aquatic centre and skate park  
Interconnected safely lit bicycle and walking paths  
Off-leash runs for our four-legged friends  
Build an iconic jetty for Cowes.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I am jewellery industry leader representing Australia internationally and serving on the Australian Jewellers Association board. I have been the director of my family jewellery business for 45 years. I was the president of the Reason Party (Victoria) 2017 - 2018. I am a good negotiator. I understand the political process. .

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Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Web ronbauerforbass.com email rbauerbasscoast@gmail.com Facebook Ron Bauer for Bass Coast Shire 2020 Mobile 0419654151	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Island Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	CERINI, Trish

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

My vision is for a transparent council group to grow and encourage the municipality of our Island Ward to embrace change, encourage each other in this change to be a bright, vibrant and thriving community.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I believe I have the skills to encourage and listen to the community about the needs they want heard. They deserve honesty and transparency.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Trish Cerini 0408 024 714 trish@cerini.com.au	

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<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Western Port Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	KENT, Bruce

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Covid-19 has changed the direction of all communities. The council will have a responsibility to assist in the recovery of all of our community including commercial enterprises, tourism, employees and residents. Must also continue with our prime ratepayer / resident responsibilities as well as current and emerging environmental issues.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

Forty years of policing experience including current management roles.  
Four years experience as a current Councillor of Western Port Ward.  
One year experience as Deputy Mayor.  
Chairperson experience of community committees.  
Currently working within the local community.  
Proven past leadership roles with strengths in communication, conflict resolution and teamwork.

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> brucekentbcc@gmail.com www.facebook.com/brucekentbcc	

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<b>COUNCIL</b>	Bass Coast Shire Council 2020
<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Western Port Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	LE SERVE, Clare

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

That Bass Coast is a thriving municipality with local economic development, tourism, local businesses and employment. That we get our fair share of funding, that Council delivers projects and environmental protection programs, that our way of life is enhanced and that it remains a great place to live and visit.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

I have strong leadership skills and years of valuable experience to offer voters, with the necessary attributes to be an advocate, a spokesperson, to participate in community engagement and to fiercely represent the best interests of Bass Coast utilising all my skills and past experience to lobby for better outcomes.

Have you read the current Council Plan for the council named above?	Yes
Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
Are you endorsed by a registered political party? <b>Note:</b> Registered political party has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Electoral Act 2002. If yes, provide the name of the registered political party.	No
Are you currently a Councillor?	Yes
If yes, what has been your attendance record at Council meetings during your current term of office? <b>Note:</b> Council meetings means Council meetings referred to in section 61 of the Local Government Act 2020 but does not include meetings held for which a Councillor has been granted leave from attending by the Council.	>90%
What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> Clare Le Serve 0414 639 427 clare.leserve@gmail.com PO Box 2050, Corinella, Vic, 3984	

*Note: Answers to questions contained in lodged candidate questionnaires are provided by candidates. Any enquiries about a candidate's answers should be directed to the relevant candidate. Answers to candidate questionnaires are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.*

# Candidate Questionnaire and Answers

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<b>COUNCIL</b>	Bass Coast Shire Council 2020
<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Western Port Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	ELLIS, Geoff

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

A vibrant, inclusive community living in well serviced towns surrounded by bushland, farmland and protected coastline. Sustainable, regulated development that meets the needs of our community. Relevant services provided by a cost effective and agile Council organisation that is customer focused and respects it's residents and ratepayers.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

A professional communicator I am highly skilled in listening to people, learning what they know matters and reporting back to them as we progress to achieve the community and locality the people of Bass Coast aspire to. Four years as a councillor mean I understand the inner workings of council.

Have you read the current Council Plan for the council named above?	Yes
Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
Are you endorsed by a registered political party? <b>Note:</b> Registered political party has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Electoral Act 2002. If yes, provide the name of the registered political party.	No
Are you currently a Councillor?	Yes
If yes, what has been your attendance record at Council meetings during your current term of office? <b>Note:</b> Council meetings means Council meetings referred to in section 61 of the Local Government Act 2020 but does not include meetings held for which a Councillor has been granted leave from attending by the Council.	>90%
What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? <i>Provide details</i> geoff2020wpw@gmail.com	

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# Candidate Questionnaire and Answers

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<b>COUNCIL</b>	Bass Coast Shire Council 2020
<b>WARD</b> (if applicable)	Western Port Ward
<b>CANDIDATE'S NAME</b> (as on ballot paper)	HALSTEAD, Rochelle

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council?

*(maximum 50 words)*

Bass Coast to retain, build on, and care for our natural assets and through sensitive planning provide a built environment bringing opportunity for local small business and offering local employment. A community well connected through community programs, sport, arts, festivals and events. An inclusive, transparent Council committed to good governance.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor?

*Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

My employment history is executive level administration, I have worked for Parliament of Victoria and have held the position of an elected Councillor / Mayor in 2003 before having to withdraw for personal reasons. I have knowledge of legislative requirements, an understanding of process and an ability to get things done.

Have you read the current Council Plan for the council named above?	Yes
Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
Are you endorsed by a registered political party? <b>Note:</b> Registered political party has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Electoral Act 2002. If yes, provide the name of the registered political party.	No
Are you currently a Councillor?	No
If yes, what has been your attendance record at Council meetings during your current term of office? <b>Note:</b> Council meetings means Council meetings referred to in section 61 of the Local Government Act 2020 but does not include meetings held for which a Councillor has been granted leave from attending by the Council.	
What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)?  <i>Provide details</i> Postal Address: PO Box 90 San Remo Vic 3925 halsteadrochelle@gmail.com Social media: @rochellehalsteadforwesternport Phone: 0409 535 619	

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