



Candidate Information for the Meet the Candidates Evening

Friday 2nd October - Hills Community Church Auditorium
122 Aranui Road, Mapua.

9pm - 10pm

Thank you for agreeing to joining our community to represent yourself in your bid to become the West Coast Tasman electorate MP in the November 2026 General Elections.

There is huge interest in our community and beyond to what your regional vision is on our behalf; what you consider is important; how you plan to deliver the promises you will be advocating for in front of our audience and within your campaign; and how you will deliver your promises, if you are successful in winning the West Coast Tasman seat.

The Mapua and Districts Community Association (MDCA) committee respect you as a candidate and your right to be heard fairly and equally.

In return, we expect you and any of your party supporters present on the night to show equal respect towards the rights of others to be heard and be heard, including candidates, the audience, and the facilitator.

Eight West Coast Tasman candidates have accepted our invitation to participate in this event, which means, we have a very tight timeline to get through the order of events listed below.

To complete the Order of Events as planned the timeline will be very tight. Hence, please familiarise yourself with the 'Order of Events'; 'Speakers Expectations'; and the Candidate and candidate supporter expectations'.

After consultation with MDCA member and the wider community please see five pre-set questions below that are related to the time slot of 7.35pm – 9pm within the 'Order of Events'.

Order of Events:

6.30p – Suggested time for candidates to arrive to get settled in before we kick off at 7pm.

7pm - A brief welcome, order of events, expectations, and housekeeping

7.05p - Each candidate has 3 mins to speak on any topic you choose.

7.35p - Each candidate has 2mins to respond to the 5 preset questions.

9pm - 9.30p - Questions out of the biscuit tin. 2 mins for each question.

These will be spontaneous questions received from an attendee as they enter the venue and placed into a biscuit tin for random selection.

The attendee may direct their question to all candidates or selected candidate/s.

10p - Doors close

Speaker Expectations:

- Keep to the speaking time allocated, either 2 or 3 mins.
- A timer will commence at the beginning of each speaker, with no pre-warning of the finish.
- No speaking overrun will be permitted. Please plan your responses well to avoid being shut down.
- As soon as the timer sounds please pass the microphone immediately to the candidate next to you.

Candidate and candidate supporter expectations:

- Be respectful of other candidates with no interruptions or side comments.
- No party advertising – ie. No, posters, banners, flags etc will be prohibited on the premises.
- Accepted - Small handouts (business card or A5 max) and/or promotion on the clothes you maybe wearing. There will be a promotions table for the business cards etc set up in the entry. Please take away any surplus. Items left behind will be binned.
- Candidate supporters (and the audience), will be expected to be silent and respectful listeners of others in the audience, all candidates, and the facilitator. So, **NO** heckling, verbal disagreements etc. to avoid being asked to leave. The audiences and supporters role is to listen silently and be respectful of each candidates right to be heard.

Preset Questions – in order of delivery on the night:

1. Accountability

What are some of the steps you would take to increase the accountability of public servants at both national and local levels?

2. Amalgamation at Local Government Level

What is your party position on the amalgamation of councils & the rhetoric on forcing amalgamations?

3. Artificial Intelligence i.e. AI.

Have you personally studied the subject of AI enough to understand it and to discuss this with your Party Colleagues, to the point that you and your Party are informed enough to put a concise view of AI and your response to it, to the voters?

4. Productive Land Use

What is your party policy on the ongoing planting of pinetrees on crucial sheep & beef breeding country and planting housing subdivisions on sheep & beef fattening country?

5. Biscuit Tin

What is the bill that you would draft for the biscuit tin?

We look for to seeing you on the 2nd October

Kind Regards

Marion Satherley (Chair)

Henk Vermeer (Vice Chair)