

Anger over 'complaint'

By Pat Stringa

"IT wasn't me!"

That was the cry from a number of councillors at the Rockdale Council meeting last week.

The scene, which was initiated by Mayor Bill Saravinovski's referral to a *Leader* article, was more reminiscent of a preschool than a council chamber.

The November 30 article said the council had received a letter of complaint from Kogarah Council about a Rockdale councillor.

The letter, written by Kogarah's general manager Paul Woods, was in relation to questions that a Rockdale councillor had asked a Kogarah Council officer about a controversial rezoning of land at 524-544 Rocky Point Road, Sans Souci.

At the time, Cr Saravinovski said he could confirm a letter had been received, but would make no more comment until the issue was discussed with the councillor involved.

During the meeting last week, Cr John Flowers interrupted the

mayor's mention of the article by standing up and saying, "I would like to note it was not me."

Cr Gary Green said: "It was not me either."

Cr Michael Nagi, Cr John Ajaka, Cr Shaoquett Moselmane and Cr Lesa de Leau also added their comments, which included saying: "It wasn't me".

Cr Saravinovski said he had received phone calls about the article, asking him who the unnamed councillor was.

"It does not look good on the

organisation and some councillors were offended by the story," he said.

"I have taken it up with the editor of the *Leader* ... in the past there have been other councillors who are under investigation named in stories."

Rockdale Council has written to Cr Liz Barlow to explain the allegations made in the letter.

Cr Barlow said she was "surprised that Kogarah's director was surprised that she had contacted the designated contact person to seek clarification on their submission".