

Bring back greens flavour

By **Amanda Carlin**

ROCKDALE Council is considering an application to hold a farmers market in Bay Street.

The council voted at its July 5 meeting to hire a consultant to prepare a feasibility report.

This will include information on whether local shopkeepers and shoppers will benefit, how often the market should be held and what day and trading hours are best. It will also consider the involvement of retailers, potentially with discounted stall hire fees.

Cr Gary Green said such markets had become more popular throughout Australia and overseas and would bring the community together.

He said that the ability to buy produce direct from the grower brought shoppers back to their

grassroots and encouraged personal interaction, which was once commonplace.

“Apart from freshness and quality, shoppers look for a return to the flavour and taste that is so sadly lacking in commercially grown crops.”

Cr Gary Green

“How wonderful to discuss with the person who grew the product the methods used, if it was sprayed or not, how best to prepare and cook it, and to be able to buy something within hours of it being picked or produced,” Cr Green said.

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look for a return to the flavour and taste that is so sadly lacking in commercially grown crops.”

Cr Bill Saravinovski said residents wanted an alternative to Coles but that the nearest fruit shops were in Kogarah and Kyeemagh. He said previous market attempts proved it would be popular.

The failed St George Farmers Market at Club Brighton attracted 1000 people on its first and last day in February but could not continue because a development application was not able to be completed and submitted before the opening date.

Cr Liz Barlow agreed that the market should be considered but said she was concerned because ratepayers were “forking out for a consultant” – a move she did not consider necessary.