

## LETTER OF THE WEEK

### **Dick Gross cuts and runs**

Councillor Gross was presumably referring to Unchain St Kilda and the St Kilda triangle site when he said “they’ve got a single-issue commitment to one hectare of a significant municipality” (*EHW*, July 30-August 5).

The site is important, and we will launch a legal challenge should Port Phillip Council finally approve a development plan dominated by a massive shopping complex and drinking venues.

But it is not true that the triangle is Unchain St Kilda’s “single-issue”. It is the tip of a large iceberg. Our concerns include the mistreatment of public assets such as South Melbourne Town Hall, the selection of an inappropriate part of Albert Park for a skate park and a series of misplaced priorities.

The council’s use of a self-proclaimed “white witch” to provide organisational change and corruption allegations against a project manager are symptoms of poor local governance.

Cr Gross has decided to contest Junction ward in this November’s council elections. For years he has represented Blessington ward. Most of these voters will be in a new ward called Catani, where Cr Gross lives. If Cr Gross is proud of his record, he should defend it in Catani ward. To retreat to a new ward where he is unknown suggests that he is not proud of his record or believes it to be indefensible.

*Peter Holland*

*Secretary, Unchain St Kilda*