

UNION***SOLIDARITY***

Rally to defend democratic rights

9.00am-9.45am Monday
October 1
Sunshine Court
10 Foundry Road
Sunshine (Melway 26 H10)

Community activist and key Union Solidarity supporter Ken Mooney will appear before the Sunshine Magistrates Court on the 1st of October. Ken is contesting a fine imposed by the Brimbank Council for allegedly interjecting from the public gallery during a meeting considering the future of the site of the Sunshine Swimming Pool.

Mr Mooney was dissatisfied with the Council's handling of this issue, in terms of consultation with and due regard for the views of the affected community and appropriate decision-making processes within the Council. He intends to contest the charge against him on the basis that subjecting him to a fine for commenting on matters of legitimate political concern, which were being considered by his political representatives, is inconsistent with the general freedom of communication necessary for the maintenance of democratic government.

Ken Mooney has been fined for failing to comply with the direction of the Chair at a Meeting of the Brimbank Council after having been called to order by the Chair; in alleged breach of Section 53 of the Meeting Procedure Local Law No: 1 of 2002.

Background:

After years of neglect and disuse the Brimbank Council proposed destroying an outdoor 50meter pool as part of an upgrade to the Sunshine Leisure Centre. Community and Union action successfully forced the Brimbank Council and the State Government to retain outdoor aquatic facilities at the leisure centre. Community activists such as Ken Mooney exercised their democratic rights and attended council meetings to voice opposition to the council's plans.

Union Solidarity calls on its supporters, union members and community activists to attend the rally. The ability of local activists to defend the local community is a vital right to retain.

For more interest or comment contact 0412 484 094 and visit the Union Solidarity website.

www.unionsolidarity.org****