

NEWSLINE

12 OCTOBER 2023



Waimate
District Council

MAYOR'S COLUMN



Mayor Craig Rowley

The fact that we live in a democratic society is something that is easy to take for granted. To make the most of the power it gives to the people, those people need to take the opportunity to let us know what it is they want changed.

Last month, a meeting was held at the Event Centre so the community could raise issues and discuss ideas with the Waimate Ward's elected members. There were more councillors there than members of the public.

The recent resident's satisfaction survey highlighted how residents wanted the Council to engage more with the community so I would ask, if you have issues or queries, to meet us halfway. I understand people are busy with their lives but if people are upset, under-informed or think that things could be done a different way – come and let us know. We provide many opportunities to meet with residents – our elected members are here to represent you and their contact details are on our website. Ordinary Council meetings open with a public forum, and we will have upcoming community meetings which will be advertised once dates are confirmed.

On a brighter note, nominations for the district's Civic Awards are now open. It is one of the highlights of the year to present these.

Volunteers are the backbone of our community, often they stay behind the scenes and do not seek the limelight, so I would urge you to have a think about whether you know someone who is deserving of recognition.

The Council's website has nomination forms, and they are available in hard copy at Council's main office and library.

Until next time, take care.



WAIMATE TENNIS CLUB COURT RESURFACING

There will be a bit more zip to the ball next year at the Waimate Tennis Club.

A joint venture between the club and the Waimate District Council will result in freshly resurfaced courts for the first time in nearly 50 years.

Council voted last month to grant up to \$52,000 to renew the playing surface at the public courts in Seddon Square. The tennis club has also been allocated \$20,000 each from the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury and The Lion Foundation. The new asphalt surface will be laid by MCM Contracting of Oamaru.

Waimate Tennis Club President Des McMaster, who was the president last time the courts were resurfaced in 1976, said the project was an exciting one for the club. "It's something we can leave as a legacy. It is better to do it now before it turns into an even bigger job."

The courts have been in place since 1887, making it one of the oldest in New Zealand.

The current arrangement for the courts in which the Council owns, and the club maintains, will continue. The Council will use the money from the Subdivision Recreation Reserve Contributions Fund.

ECOSANCTUARY WALKWAYS

The process is underway for Council to guarantee public access to the walking and biking tracks within and adjacent to the Point Bush Ecosanctuary in perpetuity.

At a meeting last month, Council agreed in principle to become the controlling authority of the Whitehorse Walkway, the Big Easy, and the proposed Ko te Ara a Taane (Pathway of Taane) Walkway which is to be constructed along a paper road linking Point Bush Road and Centrewood Road.

Point Bush Ecological Restoration Trust, Waimate Trackways Incorporated and QEII National Trust have been working closely with the Outdoor Access Commission Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa to formalise public access in the area.

Following Council's decision, Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa will consider the request to make Council the Controlling Authority and formally create the tracks under the Walking Access Act 2008.

Waimate Trackways Incorporated will maintain the Whitehorse Walkway, while it is anticipated the Waimate Mountain Bike Club will continue to manage the Big Easy tracks.

Should those organisations cease to exist, Council would be able to take over management of the tracks and continue to provide public access to the iconic area.

As part of the discussions, Council considered the ongoing responsibility and funding of track maintenance, and the need for a future conversation as part of next year's Long Term Plan process.

Let's chat

About the Draft Glenavy Recreation Reserve Management Plan

Help us shape the future of the reserve. Tell us what you think.

Submissions close 12pm, Wednesday 18 October.

Download the Consultation Document at waimatedc.govt.nz/current-consultations, or collect a copy from Council's Main Office.

Let's chat

About dogs

Have your say on the proposed changes to the Dog Control Bylaw.

Submissions close 12pm on Tuesday 7 November

Download the Consultation Document at waimatedc.govt.nz/dogs, or collect a copy from Council's Main Office.

Let's chat

About the Interim Speed Management Plan

Have your say on Council's proposed speed limit changes.

Submissions close 12pm on Monday 13 November

Download the Consultation Document at waimatedc.govt.nz/current-consultations, or collect a copy from Council's Main Office.



2024 WAIMATE DISTRICT CIVIC AWARDS



The search is on for Waimate District's 2024 Civic Award recipients.

These prestigious awards recognise community service in the voluntary sector.

Nominations are being accepted in the following categories:

- Individual (Adult)**
- Group/Organisation**
- Young Person**

Nomination forms are available from the Council's main office, Waimate Event Centre, Library, Council's website: waimatedc.govt.nz or by emailing karalyn@waimatedc.govt.nz, and close at **12pm on Friday 10 November 2023**.

For more information or to re-submit a previous nomination please call **Karalyn Reid** on **03 689 0038**

ROAD CLOSURE TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1974 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Waimate District Council for the purpose of permitting Waimate 50 Motorsport Inc. to hold hill climb events will close the following roads to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

Mount Shop 'Horsepower Hillclimb'

Period of Closure: Friday 20 October 1pm to Monday 23 October 12pm

- Parkers Bush Road:** Mill Road to Centrewood Park Road
- Centrewood Park Road:** Entire length

COMMUNITY, SPORT AND RURAL SPORTS GRANTS

Waimate District Council invite applications for financial assistance from clubs, groups and organisations within the Waimate District. Each grant is currently funded at \$10,000 per annum with 2 funding rounds.

Community Grant. This fund is open to all organisations that do not qualify for funding under the Creative Communities NZ Scheme.

Sports Grant. Eligible projects include coach or volunteer training, equipment purchase (excluding uniforms) and new initiatives or activities.

Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund. This fund provides a travel subsidy for sports clubs and schools competing in local sports competitions.

Eligibility criteria and application forms are available at waimatedc.govt.nz, and from the Waimate Information Centre, 15 Paul Street.

Specific enquiries can be made to the Grants Administrator at info@waimatedc.govt.nz or phone 03 689 7771.

Applications close 12pm on Thursday 19 October.



SEASONAL WATER USE

Waimate urban water supply

With warm temperatures and below average rainfall forecasted for Canterbury over the summer this year, residents on the Waimate Urban Water Supply are asked to look at their water needs and usage.

Council wants you to enjoy summer activities and ask you to be mindful of water usage. This can be as simple as checking to see if your taps, toilet cisterns and hoses are not leaking or left running overnight.

If you're interested in some useful water conservation ideas, please see the LAWA website for tips on conserving water.

We also encourage you to understand your water usage by reading your water meter at the boundary. Please see our website for further information (waimatedc.govt.nz).

If you do find a leak on your property, please ensure it is repaired as soon as possible.

If you notice a water leak in the footpath or road, or any other Waimate District Council water lines, please report this to Council immediately on (03) 689 0000.

Responsible water practices help minimise wastage, or the chance of water shortages in the supply, and means that Council can continue to sustainably supply water to your property over the summer.

Waimate District rural water schemes

With warm temperatures, wind, and below average rainfall forecasted for Canterbury over the summer this year, Council asks that rural water scheme consumers review their water needs, systems and usage.

Early preparation and good maintenance practices are encouraged. Repair any leaking pipes, taps, toilet cisterns, hoses, and other associated plumbing, as well as keeping an eye on any troughs required for stock.

As a lot of Council rural water scheme pipe runs across private property, as well as in the road reserve, we would ask that you please report any water leaks on scheme pipes immediately.

Reviewing your water storage is important too. Council requires all rural water consumers to have storage capacity of no less than four times your daily water allocation. Please see the Rural Water Scheme Four Day Storage Policy Brochure on Council's website.

To help monitor your onsite storage and water usage it is recommended to install a 'Tell Tale' water level indicator to show you how much stored water is available in the tank. It also gives warning of issues when there may be water loss through leaks or pipe damage on your property.

Preparing now helps to minimise the effects of water shortages to you and the district and means that Council can continue to sustainably supply water to your property over the summer.

TWO-MINUTE AGENDA Council meeting 19 September

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Council endorsed the Strategic Framework for the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan. The plan lays out a general framework for how to best respond to a changing climate. The non-binding agreement will allow for greater climate-related information and resource sharing with other Canterbury councils. The next step for the partnership is to draw up a series of common goals, targets and actions, which will begin early next year.

HANG GLIDERS AND PARAGLIDERS GROUNDED

Council have tightened a 2018 ruling which prohibited hang gliders and paragliders from launching from the top of the White Horse Monument. Prior to last month they had been able to apply for a consent to jump, however no applications had been received, although some jumps had taken place. It was decided the status quo was creating a liability risk for Council as well as a potential animal welfare issue on neighbouring land, and a blanket ban has been issued.

JOINT LOCAL ALCOHOL POLICY

The Mackenzie, Timaru and Waimate District Councils have a Joint Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) which is required to be reviewed every six years. Timaru District Council is running community consultation for the LAP on behalf of the three councils. Submissions are open until 5pm on 30 October and can be made electronically via the Timaru District Council website, or by completing a submission form which are available at the Waimate District Council main office and library.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 3 October, 9:30am

Open Workshop and Long Term Plan Workshop

Tuesday 17 October, 9:30am

Ordinary Council Meeting, commencing with Public Forum

Tuesday 31 October, 9:30am

Extraordinary Council Meeting (to adopt the 2022/23 Annual Report)

Meetings are held in the Council Chamber, 125 Queen Street, Waimate, unless stated otherwise.

Agendas are available on waimatedc.govt.nz at least two days prior to a meeting.

To receive a Microsoft Teams link, or to arrange to speak at the Public Forum, please contact the Committee Secretary on karalyn@waimatedc.govt.nz or 03 689 0038.



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