



HDC NEWS



The Democratic Process

The decision on the structure of Council at the next election (wards, numbers etc) will not be made until the middle of next year but it is important for both councillors and public to be thinking of the possibilities and discussing the matter. It is hoped that this article will prompt debate in the community so that people are able to make informed judgments when the time for a decision comes around. This decision has to be made every three years in the middle of the electoral term of office. The new Local Government Act, which is likely to come into force early next year, could well change some aspects of this decision, councillors were told at a recent planning workshop.

As the Bill stands at present, it is likely to become mandatory that Council decides every six years whether it should have Community Boards or not. The other change is the possibility of electing some or all members at large in the community to represent the whole district rather than just a ward.

Some of the possible options that could be considered by Council are:

- * Return to community boards on a ward basis.
- * Return to community boards on some other basis.
- * Abolish wards altogether.
- * Retain wards as at present.
- * Reduce the wards to two.
- * Increase the wards to four.
- * Have some members elected to wards and some at large throughout the district.
- * Etc, etc...the possibilities are numerous.

The number of councillors have to be decided and if wards are retained the number of councillors for each ward has to be considered. The primary basis of making this decision has to be on population although some other factors may be used. All these considerations and proposals have to be put to the public for their comment and consideration. The Council will then make a decision after this consultative process has been gone through.

These decisions on the electoral make up of Council do not include the committee structure of the next Council. After the next election, the newly elected Council will decide on its committee structure. This may or may not include Ward Committees even if the ward structure remains the same. There is no consultative process on this matter. It is simply a decision of the newly elected Council.

Discussion arose at a recent special meeting of Council on the appointment of members to Ward Committees. There has never been any legal obligation on Council to have Ward Committees nor to appoint the ward councillors to them and so councillors have to be officially appointed to the committees at the start of each term. It would be a bit silly though to appoint someone from another ward to a Ward Committee as it would take away the whole point of the committee, which is local knowledge for local issues. It should also be noted that when the former Community Boards voted to abolish the communities and thus the Community Boards, the Council undertook to implement a system of Ward Committees comprising the elected ward members and the Mayor. In considering the submissions it received on the subject when the process was put out to public consultation, Council again reiterated "The Council is committed to the concept of Ward Committees to provide continuing accountability within each ward." So while each new Council could change the committee set up there is certainly no present proposal to do so. If you look at the committee structure of other Councils you will find about as many different systems as there are councils so who knows what Hauraki's next group of elected members will decide.

Meanwhile give some thought to the electoral structure, remembering that there are many factors to be taken into consideration - cost, efficient decision making, district perspective, local knowledge and spread of representation. We would be happy to hear your views at any time. Drop a line to council or phone your elected members to tell them your views.

Funding Policy Debated

The funding policy review, which was started at a special meeting early in October was, as usual, the cause of much debate among councillors. Every time this comes up for review some aspects get changed which is probably a fair indication that there is really no 'right' answer. The problematic aspect is in deciding the split of public and private benefit from each activity Council carries out.

Public benefit is when it is difficult to identify the individuals who benefit, where you cannot exclude people from the activity and where one person's participation in the activity does not exclude others. The example usually given is that of streetlights. These are 100% public benefit as you cannot stop anyone from benefiting from them and one person's use of a streetlight does not stop anyone else from also using them. On the other hand something such as a water supply is largely private as it is clear who is using it and who is not and if someone uses all the water there may not be any left for anyone else.

Most activities, however, are a mix of both public and private benefit and it is determining what is the percentage of each that presents the problem. Many of these mixes were changed at the most recent meeting and councillors feel that the present mix is perhaps more consistent than previously.

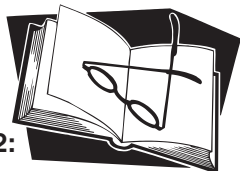
While you may feel that this is a fruitless exercise it is an important first step towards determining how things should be funded. An activity which is largely of public benefit should be funded by general rates and activities which are private benefit should veer towards user pays if this is feasible. This part of the exercise will be determined at the final session of the special meeting, which will be held at the end of the month. When it is finalised the draft of the funding policy and long term financial strategy will be available for public comment and submission before a final decision is made so if you think we have got it wrong you can tell us and convince us why it is wrong.

Elected Members' Diary

Week of 14th October to 20th October 2002:

Thursday 17th October: Morning Works Committee - Don Challis, Ian Troughton, Sel Baker, Bryan Dunn, Keith Trembath, Bronwyn Wightman, Basil Morrison.

Afternoon Planning and Finance Committee - Mary Carmine, John Tregidga, Bruce Gordon, Mike Hayden, Valda Laurich, Don Lockwood, Gil Munro, Basil Morrison.



PUBLIC NOTICES



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL PROPOSED CHANGE NO. 5 TO THE OPERATIVE DISTRICT PLAN

In accordance with its obligations under the Resource Management Act, the Hauraki District Council hereby gives notice that the Proposed Change No. 5 to its Operative District Plan and the assessment carried out under Section 32 of the Resource Management Act, will be available from 15 October 2002 onwards.

The Proposed Change No. 5 comprises 2 parts:

- * Change to activity status of noxious industries in the Industrial zones.
- * Change zoning from Rural to Industrial (Heavy) for one block of land at Kerepehi.

Copies of the Proposed Change may be obtained from the District Council Offices at William Street, Paeroa; Orchard Road, Ngatea; Seddon Street, Waihi or any of the District's Libraries. Copies of the submission form are also available.

Any person or body may make submissions on the Proposed Change or any part of it. Submissions must be in writing, in the prescribed form and should be addressed to the General Manager, Hauraki District Council, Post Office Box 17, Paeroa.

Prior to making submissions, those interested may wish to discuss matters with Planning Staff who can be contacted at the District Council Offices, William Street, Paeroa in person or by telephoning 0800 734 834 (if you live within the District) or 07 862 8609 (if you live outside the District).

Submissions must be received at the Council's offices by **4pm on 15 November 2002.**

Once the submission period is closed a summary of all submissions will be prepared and advertised for further submission in support /opposition to those already made. At a later date a public hearing will be held. Every person or body who made a submission and indicated a desire to be heard will be notified and have the opportunity to attend and speak in support of their submission.

A staff report addressing the issues raised in the submissions will be circulated prior to the meeting. Council decision making will take into account the issues raised in submissions, at the hearing and within the staff report.

All parties to the hearing will receive written advice of the Council's decision and have the opportunity to appeal to the Environment Court if they are unhappy with the outcome.

This advertisement replaces the one of 1 October 2002.

Date: 15 October 2002

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of October 2002.

HEARINGS COMMITTEE

Waihi Academy of Studies
Friday 25 October 2002, 9.30 am
at the Hauraki District Council Chambers, William Street, Paeroa

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of November 2002.

All meetings are to be held in the Council Chambers, Williams Street, Paeroa.

MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2002 WARD COMMITTEES

PLAINS 9.00 AM
PAEROA 1.00 PM

WAIHI 3.30 PM

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WATER AND WASTES

TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2002 10.00 AM

HEARINGS COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2002 (if required) 9.00 AM

THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2002

9.00 AM WORKS COMMITTEE

1.00 PM PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEARINGS COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2002, (if required) 9.00 AM

EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2002, (if required) 10.00 AM

WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2002, 10.30 AM

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2002, 10.00 AM

L D Cavers
GENERAL MANAGER

TENDER



Tender - Turua Church and Section

Council wishes to call for tenders for the Turua Church and Section at 9 Matai Street, Turua.

The tender calls for three options.

- * For the Land and Building
- * For the Building removed from the site.
- * For the Land only.

Details of the tender are available from the Hauraki District Council Office at William Street, Paeroa or by phoning Dennis Lees on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 with the district.

The last date for the receipt of tenders is 4.00pm on Friday 25th October 2002.

Council reserves the right not to accept any or every tender submitted.

L D Cavers
GENERAL MANAGER

PUBLIC NOTICES



PROPOSAL TO CLOSE ROAD TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that the Hauraki District Council, for the purpose of an event organised by Commerce Paeroa, proposes to close the following road to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

During the proposed period of closure the following provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road: divert to Station Road and Arney Street.

Any person objecting to the proposal is called upon to lodge notice of his objection and grounds thereof in writing before 30 October 2002 at the office of the Hauraki District Council at William Street, P.O. Box 17, PAEROA.

Road proposed to be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic:

- * Normanby Road and Belmont Roads between Arney Street and Station Road Paeroa, Mackay Street, and Willoughby Street between Mackay and Arney Streets. Period of proposed closure:

* Saturday 30 November 2002 from 11.00am to 12.00pm.

LIQUOR BANS 2002

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 709A Local Government Act 1974 that the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the bringing of liquor or of empty liquor containers and the possessions of liquor or empty liquor containers in the public places identified below is hereby prohibited during the periods identified below.

LIQUOR BANS

Whiritoa

- * All Beach and Reserve areas.
- * The roads - Fishermans Bend, Kon Tiki Road, Tuna Place and Moray Place.

Dates and Times

LABOUR DAY WEEKEND 2002.

During the Labour weekend public holiday period being Friday 25th October 2002 to Tuesday 29th October 2002 inclusive, and the hours of 4.00pm to 4.00am daily.

PENALTIES: ANY PERSON WHO COMITS AN OFFENCE AGAINST THE PROHIBITION MAY BE CONVICTED AND FINED UP TO \$500.00.

POWERS OF POLICE: ANY CONSTABLE MAY ARREST ANY PERSON ACTING OF ABOUT TO ACT CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PROHIBITION.

ANY CONSTABLE MAY SEARCH ANY PARCEL, PACKAGE, BAG, CASE OR OTHER CONTAINER IN POSSESSION OF ANY PERSON INTENDING OR ABOUT TO ENTER ANY PLACE DESCRIBED IN THIS PROHIBITION.

LD Cavers
GENERAL MANAGER