



HDC NEWS



LAPP Disaster Protection Fund

Council has insurance from a special fund called the Local Authority Protection Plan or LAPP to provide insurance for our assets from natural disasters. In the event of a major earthquake or other major natural disaster, the government will pay some compensation to local authorities for loss of assets and the LAPP fund will pick up another portion. Not all local authorities belong to the plan but some take the risk on themselves.

Hauraki's Planning and Finance Committee was told at its last meeting that as Council's assets have been revalued upwards our annual contribution to the scheme will increase by nearly \$10,000. Councillors feel that the scheme is well worth the money as we are in a relatively vulnerable position regarding floods and even earthquakes, which have the potential to take out major assets that cannot be otherwise insured.

Social Impact Survey

The most recent Social impact survey on the Waihi Gold Mine has been released. The survey has to be done as a term of the consent conditions for the mine expansion and was carried out by Meritec. The object is to compare the status of the town and community attitudes towards the mine with the previous social impact survey, which was done in 2000. The results can then give information, which will allow the town to work towards a plan for when the mine closes, projected to be in 2007.

While the survey did not reveal any major changes in attitude towards the mine from 2000, there was evidence that some residents in the eastern area of the town were impacted with problems of noise, vibrations and dust. The majority of respondents to the survey, however, were positive about the presence of the mine in the community as well as with the community in general. The main trend that showed up as a difference from the 2000 report was that the town is readying itself for the eventual closure of the mine. A copy of the Survey is available on the Council Web Site.

Those School Sewerage Charges

A letter will be circulated shortly to all schools explaining Council's position re rating of waste water charges. The charges will remain as previously advised but those schools receiving a charge larger than would have been the case under the Council formula will receive a grant so the net amount payable is no more than under the council's formula.

Council's formula bases the charge largely on roll but the Government sanctioned plan, which we are obliged to use this year, also includes the number of pans. This means that those schools with a large number of pans but relatively small roll e.g. those schools with a falling roll are disadvantaged. Schools with rising rolls will pay less under the new system. Next year when the new Rating Law comes into force Council will be able to revert to its own system, which we consider is fairer and more relative to the use that is put to the service.

STAFF PROFILES



Colleen Williams commenced employment as the Telephonist/Records Assistant for the Support Services Team of the Hauraki District Council in June this year.

Previous to this Colleen worked as a temp for Lumley General Insurance Co in Hamilton as a Receptionist. Colleen has a wide background of Customer Services experience where she has worked for WestPac Trust in Paeroa and also the Hauraki District Council Information Centre.

Colleen is responsible for providing an efficient and friendly telephone service for the Council, ensuring members of the public receive immediate attention and an accurate response to their enquiries. She is also responsible for assisting in the completion of other administrative duties as part of the Support Services Team. Colleen lives in Paeroa and in her spare time enjoys gardening, photography and going to the beach. Colleen has a love of animals and enjoys looking after her dog Griffie. She also has a Certificate in Natural Therapies and hopes to pursue this as a hobby in the near future.

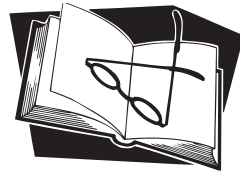


Christine Taylor commenced employment in October 2000 as Community Services Support Officer. Previous to this Christine was employed by the Hauraki District Council from August 1999 temping in the Support Services Department and then assisting in Corporate Planning.

Christine's role is to provide administrative assistance to the Community Services Manager and the Community Services Department in accordance with the standards and policies of the Hauraki District Council.

The key role of this position involves maintaining the property records including schedules and databases, ensuring information is up-to-date, maintaining Cemetery records, undertaking administrative duties and providing administrative support to other sectors of the Community Services Department. Christine lives in Paeroa and in her spare time enjoys reading, gardening, walking and house renovation.

Elected Members' Diary



Week of 23rd to 29th September 2002:

Thursday 26th September - Full Council meeting - all elected members.

Ngatea Subdivisions

The Harris Place subdivision is almost complete and the Planning and Finance Committee has recommended to Council that the extension to Harris Place be given the name of Harris Place. This may sound a bit obvious but there was the possibility of giving it another name. Council is trying, to rationalise the names of streets where possible, as these have not always been terribly logical in the past.

With the approval of the Western Plains Drainage Committee for further development using the existing land drainage system, the first stage of the Kaihere Rd subdivision is able to be planned for. The first stage is expected to be around 20 sections entering off Kaihere Rd.

District Promotion

Council's Planning and Finance Committee resolved to recommend to Council to grant \$500 towards a display by the New Zealand Water Lily Gardens (Waihi) at the Ellerslie flower show. This followed a previous recommendation by the Waihi Ward Committee. The display is planned to promote the district as a tourist destination, focusing on the gold mining heritage of the area.

Toilet Floors

With the huge success of the Karangahake reserve as a mecca for travellers, the toilet block there works overtime and it is noted that the floor is as it was before the upgrade and requires upgrading.

Now that a suitable product has become available for resurfacing the floor it is planned to get the work done using \$3200 from the District Community Recreational Facilities Fund. Comment was made at the Planning and Finance Committee Meeting that should the product prove as successful as expected, it may be useful for other public conveniences.

A Sign of the Times

The contract for traffic services has been renewed for a year's extension. Traffic services involve maintaining signs around the district.

During the last three months vandals in all three council wards have ruined a significant number of road signs. Damage to signs ranges from posts being pushed over or street names being bent or twisted around supporting posts to complete removal of signs to a distance from their location.

It is difficult to imagine the energy and work that must go into removing heavily concreted chevrons from one location to another and one cannot help feeling that such energy could be put to some positive use. Not only is the cost of repairing or replacing signs significant and a waste of ratepayers' money, missing signs can be a safety hazard and an inconvenience to the travelling public and, more importantly, to emergency services when needing directions.

Damage takes place mostly in urban areas but some on rural roads as well. Most damage is done in the dead of night, but if you do happen to see something suspicious going on around road signs, particularly after dark, notify the police immediately.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE OF COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND OF RIGHT TO DEMAND A POLL

Notice is given under section 28 (1) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, (LEA) that the Hauraki District Council has resolved to hold the next triennial general election under the First Past the Post (FPP) electoral system. This electoral system will be used for the next two (2) triennial general elections (2004 and 2007) of the Hauraki District Council. Electors of the Hauraki District Council have a right to demand a poll to countermand the resolution to use the First Past the Post electoral system.

A valid demand in accordance with Section 30 of L.E.A. must be:

- * made in writing
- * signed by at least 5 percent of the number of electors enrolled as eligible to vote at the previous triennial general election of the Hauraki District Council. This will require five hundred and ninety three (593) elector valid signatures.
- * addressed and delivered to the Principal Administrative Officer of the Hauraki District Council, PO Box 17, Williams Street, Paeroa by 16 December, 2002.

Every elector who signs a demand must also set out in the demand his or her full name and the current address for which he or she is qualified as an elector of the Hauraki District Council.

Dated at Paeroa this 17th day of September 2002.

R G Paterson
Electoral Officer for Hauraki District Council.



CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME
FUNDING FOR LOCAL ARTS

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL ART PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES ARE NOW BEING RECEIVED.

THE SCHEME FOCUSES ON PROJECTS THAT INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN THE RANGE AND DIVERSITY OF ARTS, WITHIN THE H A U R A K I D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L AREA.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM COUNCIL OFFICES AT:
WILLIAM STREET, PAEROA
SEDDON STREET, WAIHI
ORCHARD ROAD, NGATEA

APPLICATION CLOSE 4pm
FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 2002

For further information contact:

John McIver
Hauraki District Council
Tel: 07 862 8609
Toll Free within District 0800 734 834

L. D. Cavers
GENERAL MANAGER