



# HDC NEWS



## Waihi Rubbish Collection

Problems, experienced recently with the Waihi refuse collection, surfaced at the recent Works Committee meeting. Briefly, the contractor has been having difficulty getting through the volume of work he has to do on a Wednesday as his staff have been running the risk of exceeding the maximum number of hours they can drive in a day. This has been made worse over the summer months because of the thrice weekly collection at Whiritoa.

The solution recommended to Council by the committee was that over the six weeks of the summer Whiritoa's normal refuse collection should be twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays. Secondly, that the collection for the north-eastern area of Waihi should be changed to Monday. This area will include all properties east of Walmsley Rd between Barry Rd and Oldfield Rd (SH 25). Affected properties will be notified by flier when this is about to take effect. Council will make a final decision on the matter on 28th March.

## Hauraki Plains Water Supply

The last Works Committee meeting heard about an independent review that has been completed on whether the current strategy for the future upgrading of the Plains water supply is appropriate and where there may be any weaknesses in the present approach. The report endorsed the present strategy of basing the supply on both the Kerepehi and Waitakaruru treatment plants and identifies the need for off-stream storage for Waitakaruru. The use of the present quarry pit for off-stream storage appears to be the best option but the report calls for investigation of other possible alternatives.

Consideration needs to be given as to whether the level of service to the rural community on the Plains needs to be altered. The current water supply system was not designed as an on-demand system, especially near the extremities of the supply, and 24-hour on site storage is a necessity for all properties. Planning for an upgrade will depend on whether this level of service is to continue or be improved. The fact that the present system works better than originally planned and, therefore, almost gives an on-demand service, gives rise to expectations from consumers. Costs to upgrade to "on-demand" could be prohibitive. Cost implications must be considered before any decisions are made. Urban supplies must be on-demand because of fire fighting requirements.

Four reports are to be commissioned:

- Defining the projected water demands and growth areas
- Defining the levels of service for the supply
- Options to improve the Waitakaruru Treatment Plant
- Possible alternative off-stream storage for Waitakaruru

Meanwhile investigations into the suitability of the Hikutaia cut as a storage facility continue.

## What all those Letters Mean

Before we go any further in describing the changes that are taking place with the new Act it is important to define some of the jargon and acronyms. An interesting article in a recent Local Government magazine tells of a teen-aged submitter to Kaipara District's Annual Plan who was not only complaining about the state of the road he lived on, but with the use, throughout the Plan, of acronyms, which nobody understood. The one that concerned him was NAASRA, which is a roading standard. As he did not know what it stood for he decided it must mean "not as awful as some roads are". So before you all start inventing meanings for the many acronyms used in the new Act and in other council matters we will provide a glossary. If you are really interested perhaps you should cut it out for future reference.

AP - annual plan  
 AMP - asset management plan  
 CEO - chief executive officer (general manager)  
 CO - council organization (one on which council has representation but not a controlling interest)  
 CCO - council controlled organization (one in which council has a controlling interest)  
 EEO - equal employment opportunity  
 FIS - funding impact statement  
 LGA - Local Government Act  
 LTCCP - Long Term Council Community Plan  
 LTFS - Long-term financial strategy  
 PPP - Public Private Partnership.  
 RMA - Resource Management Act  
 SCP - special consultative procedure  
 SOI - statement of intent  
 TLA - Territorial Local Authority (council)  
 UAC - Uniform Annual Charge  
 UAGC - Uniform Annual General Charge.

This is not an exhaustive list but it should help. Come to think of it, it is probably more fun to make up your own!

## Hauraki Plains Memorial Wall

Construction of the wall has already started and it is intended to have the initial engraving completed for a proposed unveiling on ANZAC Day. The deadline to get applications for this unveiling is **31 March 2003**. Applications received after that date will be engraved next year.

## Historic Video

A request for funding for a video production of the history of the Karangahake region, using the memoirs of old identities in the area, met with a mixed response at the Planning and Finance meeting recently. In a split decision the Committee recommended that \$5,000 be made available for the production but this decision was overturned at the full Council Meeting. It was not that councillors had worries about money being spent on recording the history of the district as this is considered a legitimate part of Council's social responsibility but it was more that the recording of history should be done in a systematic manner and should be over the whole district.

The final motion was to include a sum in this year's estimates to record interviews with long-term residents to produce an oral history of the district. Councillors were aware of a very successful project recording the stories of Waihi women, which was undertaken during the Women's Suffrage year in 1993. It was felt that a similar undertaking throughout the whole district of both men and women would provide a valuable record of the social history of the area for future generations.

## Consultation

Each year when the draft annual plan comes out we talk about the nature of consultation on this page but there still seems to be a misunderstanding among some of the population as to the nature of consultation.

Firstly, what consultation is not:

- It is *not* negotiation.
- It is *not* a referendum or a numbers game.
- It is *not* just communication.

It is;

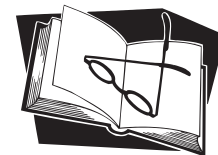
- "Taking counsel, seeking information and advice".
- Providing information to the public so they can understand the issue.
- Encouraging the public to express their views.
- Giving people an opportunity to express their views.
- Listening to the views with an open mind.

The final decision on any matter consulted on must be the responsibility of the elected members having taken into account all reasoned arguments and the maximum benefit for the whole community. In other words the "views" expressed by the community must be backed up by reasoned argument not just "I want it this way".

## Transfer Station Hours

Discussion at the Waihi Ward Committee Meeting and the Works Committee meeting on the use of the Waihi Refuse Transfer Station resulted in the recommendation to Council that hours of the station be cut back by starting later in the morning. Vehicle movements at the station between the hours of 8:00am and 10:00am are only about 3 per hour on average. The Utilities Manager reported that by delaying the starting time to 10:00am on all days Council would save around \$10,400 per year. Although Sundays and Mondays also have little use not as much could be saved by closing on these days and it was decided that the station should remain open for the five days (normally closed Tuesday/Thursday) but to open at ten instead of eight.

## Elected Members' Diary



Meetings for the Week

**Week of the 24th to the 31st March 2003:**  
**Thursday 27th March: Full Council meeting followed by continuation of the special meeting on the estimates - particularly to consider targeted rates and differentials.**

## PUBLIC NOTICES



Pursuant to Section 230 of the Local Government Act 1974, Council hereby gives notice that it intends to sell the following property situated at Moore Road Paeroa.

Sec 56 BLK XVI Waihou Surv SO 56695. Council will confirm that intention at an ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Thursday 24th April 2003 in the Council Chamber, William Street, Paeroa.

## 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 Thames Valley Car Club Inc, 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: no traffic shall be held up for a period exceeding 30 minutes.

Any person objecting to the proposal is called upon to lodge notice of his objection and grounds thereof in writing before **11 April 2003** 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:

\* Taieri Road, Waihi (from Pukewera Road junction to the top end)

Period of proposed closure:

\* Saturday 11 May 2003 from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

L.D.Cavers  
 GENERAL MANAGER