



HDC NEWS



New approach to crime prevention

Last week we mentioned the changes in the administration of Safer Community Councils. If you did not read that article, the gist of it was that the Crime Prevention Unit, who funded Safer Hauraki to the tune of \$40,000 per year, is withdrawing that funding for the following financial year. The reason for this is that the unit feels that, particularly in small communities, the money is going to supporting structures and administration with varying levels of efficiency, whereas the funding would be put to better use supporting actual initiatives targeted at crime reduction.

The result of this decision meant that Council had some decisions of its own to make about the functioning of Hauraki's Safer Community Council - Safer Hauraki. Council budgets \$20,000 towards support costs for Safer Hauraki.

At the end of last year Council resolved to evolve into the "community safety forum" process. This option would see the winding up of the SCC in its current form and

the establishment of a committee of council. The council would appoint members to the committee and their key task would be the analysis and approval of projects that have a crime prevention/reduction component. Those projects could then be presented to the CPU for funding. It is not expected that Council would have to budget further money towards this process.

Since its inception, Safer Hauraki has completed a Community Safety Profile and has worked on projects relating to youth alcohol issues in Waihi, Paeroa youth issues and rural and neighbourhood support issues and recently has been working on summer vehicle security awareness and education and awareness of the "P" problem in the community.

As mentioned last week community input is needed towards this transition. If you have anything to contribute or wish to be part of the new community safety forum please contact John McIver at Council - ph 0800 734 834 or e-mail johnm@hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

Pool running swimmingly

In her report to the Paeroa and Plains Ward Committees the Manager of Community Facilities stated that the patronage of the pools has been good with increasing numbers. The addition of a pool toy, hot January weather and free admission in January contributed to extremely heavy use with over 90 people being in the water at the same time on several days in the Paeroa pool.

While the free entry has been seen as successful in one way by increasing pool patronage it has its problems. At Paeroa, it has been seen as contributing towards a marked change in attitude form many patrons, particularly some younger males, who have become uncooperative, disruptive and belligerent. Pool staff members have commented that by not having to pay, for some patrons this has almost devalued the experience of visiting the pool, because they cannot relate it to money spent. While the pool has been free there has also been an increase in children under 8 attending the pool inadequately supervised and also where children arrive with a caregiver but the adults later leave and the children remain. This places additional strain on the lifeguards as they try to keep track of which caregiver is responsible for which child. It is suggested that additional lifeguard supervision will be required to keep a tighter control.

PUBLIC NOTICE



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 March 2004.

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

Monday 1 March 2004 - **Ward Committees**

Plains 9am

Paeroa 1pm

Waihi 3.30pm

Consultative Committee Water and Wastes

Tuesday 2 March 2004 - 10am

Hearings Committee

Thursday 4 March 2004 (if required) 9am

Thursday 11 March 2004

10am - **Works Committee**

1pm - **Planning and Finance Committee**

Hauraki Coromandel Development Group

Tuesday 16 March 2004, 10am

Hearings Committee

Thursday 18 March 2004 (if required) 9am

Western Plains Drainage Committee

Wednesday 24 March 2004, 10.30am

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Thursday 25 March 2004, 10am

HUGH HAYWARD DOMAIN, NGATEA

Winter Allocations - Winter Seasonal Use

Sportsfield and Grandstand

Season commences 1 April 2004 - 30 September 2004

Applications, on the prescribed forms, are called for the Winter Seasonal Use of Sportsfields and Grandstand Facilities located in the Hugh Hayward Domain, Ngatea.

If your organisation wishes to use either/both facilities on a regular basis during the dates detailed above, Applications must be received by:

Friday 5 March 2004.

Application forms are available from Council's Ngatea Service Centre.

CLOSURE OF ROAD TO ORDINARY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that for the purpose of a one-day motorcycle racing event organised by Paeroa Promotions Trust Inc the following road will be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder. During the period of closure the following provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road.

Period of closure: Sunday 22 February 2004 from 6:00am to 6:00pm.

Road to be closed: Belmont Road from Station Road through Normanby Road to Victoria Street; Arney Street from Willoughby Street to Princes Street (State Highway 26); Princes Street; Wharf Street; Marshall Street; Hughendon Street; Francis Street; William Street; Hall Street; Mackay Street; Corbett Street from Belmont Road to Willoughby Street, and Willoughby Street from Corbett Street through to Arney Street.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic: detour via Station Road, Thames Road, Arney Street, Willoughby Street and Victoria Street.

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the period of closure.

L D Cavers
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Paeroa Post Office Purchase

During the consultation round with the public of Paeroa regarding the Paeroa Freshlook project, councillors became aware of a considerable groundswell of feeling regarding the Post Office building, which is privately owned. The main tenant of the building is New Zealand Post. The building is prominent in the town, being of a grand design and is the focus of attention when one drives into the town from the north. Unfortunately, of recent years, it has become scruffy in appearance and is in need of a clean and smartening up. Its central location also makes it desirable for the positioning of facilities such as public toilets, which many people want to be right in the town centre.

Because of its strategic location councillors began to consider the desirability of its being in public ownership. Enquiries were discreetly made and an offer, through a third party, was made for the building. In short, the building becomes the property of the Hauraki District Council on the 1st of April for the sum of \$255,000. The Post Office operation will not be altered, as the lease



remains, and Council will now consider what other compatible uses may be made of other parts of the building and will also consider the possibility of an extension to provide public toilet facilities. The building has a Historic Places Trust Category 2 classification, which means that the outer appearance has to remain as it is.

Waihi drainage issues

Throughout Waihi there are a number of open drains running through private property. These are the responsibility of the private landowners but from time to time requests are made that drains be piped by Council. It has been Council's policy to get as many of these drains piped as funding will allow and considers them from time to time on a cost share basis with the landowner. A request from a land owner in George St has received favourable attention from the Ward Committee with the suggestion that other parts of the drain also be piped at the same time if landowners are agreeable to pay a quarter of the cost associated with the piece that runs through their property. The matter must also be approved by the Works Committee and full Council before it can go ahead.

Elected Members' Diary

For the week of the 16th to the
22nd February 2004
Thursday 19th February - Hearing



Car Park Improvements at Hugh Hayward Domain

Council has \$30,000 in the budget for upgrading and improving the car parking and roadways in the Hugh Hayward Domain in Ngatea. A plan has been drawn up and it is proposed to proceed with stage one

of the proposals in this financial year and to budget for stages 2 and 3 over the next two years. Stage one, which can be expected to be started soon is the area around the War Memorial Hall.