



HDC NEWS



Water Supply options for HAURAKI

Council was presented with numerous options for the various water supplies throughout the Hauraki District at a workshop recently. The supply of water is one of the core functions of Council, although, oddly enough, it is not mandatory for Councils to provide a water supply. However, if they do, there are laws to govern the water quality.

There are two main reasons why our water supplies need careful review at present. Essentially, these are to do with quality and quantity. The first of these two issues is that the law has changed to make it mandatory, as from the 1st of July 2010, for medium sized water supplies to comply with the national drinking water standards. While people may be quite happy with the quality of their water, the national standards consider risk factors for supplies to ensure that the water is not going to be a risk to health.

The second issue is that consents from Environment Waikato require less water to be taken from streams than was formerly allowed. Some of our smaller supplies take virtually the whole stream volume in dry months. This problem is more important the higher up in the catchment the water intake is.

It was explained to Council at the workshop that it will take in excess of \$3 million to upgrade the Paeroa treatment plant to meet the drinking water standards. When this is done it is likely that small supplies such as Ohinemuri and Kaimanawa will also be supplied by the Paeroa system.

Council will have to give consideration to the issue of stream flow in the Waihi/Waikino area as both of these areas get their water from small streams. Various options are being considered with some favour being given to the use of the upper Waitawheta or the Waitekauri streams as raw water

sources. An upgrade of the Waihi treatment plant to meet the national drinking water standards is likely to cost around \$2.4 million.

The Plains supply has a greater complexity of issues, including the fact that most of the water is supplied to the dairy industry rather than households. It seems likely that the Plains will retain both Kerepehi and Waitakaruru supplies with the quantity problems (which are mostly associated with the ability to process enough water at times of low flow rather than not having enough water available) being solved by using one or more options such as:

- Upgrade clarification process of the Kerepehi treatment plant.
- Upgrading the Pekapeka intake to pretreat the water.
- Using the Steen Road Quarry for raw water storage.

Capital expenditure for these options varies from just over \$12 million to around \$27 million.

Take a deep breath after all that and be assured that Council is still working through these issues using professionals in this field to report on the long-term options that will give the best value for the dollar. Affordability is clearly a real issue in all of this and Hauraki is not on its own here as every council in the country grapples with the problem of upgrading to meet these standards. Clearly, the smaller the council the harder it is going to be to come up with an affordable option. Prioritising is likely to be necessary and the work may need to be phased in over a longer period of time than was formerly anticipated.

Elected Members Diary



Meetings for the week of the 26th November to the 3rd December 2008:

Wednesday 26th November – Full Council Meeting

Monday 1st December – District Plan Committee workshop

Tuesday 2nd December – Ward Committees.

Public Notice



COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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 December 2008.

All meetings are to be held in the Council Chambers, William Street, Paeroa* unless otherwise advised.

Hearings Committee

Monday 1st December 2008, 9.00am (if required)
Monday 15th December 2008, 9.00am (if required)

Ward Committees

Tuesday 2nd December 2008
Plains 9.00am
Paeroa 12.30pm
Waihi 2.30pm

Extraordinary Meeting (LTCCP 2009-19 Workshop)

Wednesday 10th December 2008, 9.00am

Extraordinary Meetings (Consideration of Estimates)

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th December 2008, 9.00am

Council Meeting

Wednesday 3rd December 2008, 9.00am
Wednesday 17th December 2008, 9.00am

Eastern Plains District Drainage Committee

Council Office, William Street, Paeroa
Tuesday 23 December 2008, 1.30pm

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

'SUPER HEROES READ' this summer with Hauraki District Libraries

This summer's reading programme will be held at Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi Libraries. It will run from the 8th December to the 16th January and is designed for primary school-aged children.



'Super Heroes Read' is an incentive based reading programme that promotes books and reading. Each child receives a folder to record their reading, with incentives and certificates awarded to children who complete the programme. Several activity days are planned, not to mention a massive Grand Finale Party at the end for all those who complete the programme.

There are a limited number of places, so please register early to guarantee your child's place. If enrolments exceed our registration numbers, those children will be placed on a waiting list as spaces may become available later in the programme.

Enrolments will be accepted until Saturday 6th December. To enrol, or if you have any questions please phone Ngatea Library on 867 0000, Paeroa Library on 862 7194, Waihi Library on 863 8316, or come in and talk with the Library staff.

We look forward to seeing all you 'Super Heroes Reading' in Hauraki!

2007/08 Annual Report Summary

Each year, Council is required to produce an Annual Report on the previous financial year. At the Council meeting on 29th October 2008, Council adopted the Annual Report for 2007/08.

During October, auditors were on site at Hauraki District Council to audit the actions of the Council for the period of 1st July 2007 to 30th June 2008. Council received a clear audit opinion from Audit New Zealand and this opinion is presented along with the years financial statements and performance measures in the Council's Annual Report for 2007/08.

In summary some of the key happenings that occurred during the year that readers may have read about already in the HDC news page include:

- Accreditation from the Building Control Authority providing ratepayers assurance that Council's building activity processes are sound
- Review of all Council bylaws
- Management of the water restrictions during the summer drought
- Review of key policies such as Dog Control, Gambling and the Sale of Liquor
- Introduction of kerbside recycling initiative

A full copy of the Annual Report 2007/08 or a more detailed summary, are downloadable from www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or available by calling 07 862 8609, or 0800 734 834 from within Hauraki District.

Noxious Weed Removal

Council has approved the clearing of woolly nightshade from its copping block at Whiritoa.

The block is an area used for the irrigation of the sewerage effluent from the Whiritoa sewerage treatment plant and is planted with eucalypts.

The trees are coppiced regularly to keep the trees actively growing so that they take up nutrients from the irrigated soil. In the coppiced area there has recently been an infestation of woolly nightshade.

Council's construction and maintenance unit is to undertake the removal of the weeds at a cost of \$6,900.

