



HDC NEWS



Plan ahead for the special liquor licence

Are you planning a summer event where alcohol would be consumed in a public place? Whether it's a community festival, a wedding, or even a family picnic, don't leave it until the last minute to apply for a special liquor licence!

Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 which came into force last year, the Government requires applications to be made at least 20 working days before an event begins – not counting weekends, public holidays, or any day from December 20 to January 15. Exceptions can only be made in the case of unforeseen circumstances, for instance a funeral.

Get in early

Applications are still submitted to the Council (forms are available from our offices or website). But they are now decided by a District Licensing Committee, which is not allowed to process liquor licenses during the statutory 'shutdown' period between December 20 and January 15. So even for February events, we remind people to get applications in as soon as possible so they can be considered before that time.

The committee has to consider more criteria than under the old Sale of Liquor Act, and may need to set particular conditions. In addition, a full committee hearing is necessary for any application that is opposed.



The new alcohol laws aim to improve the drinking culture in New Zealand – to encourage people to enjoy festivities without drinking to excess.

We at the Council want Hauraki residents and visitors to have safe, happy summer holidays, and we welcome any questions about applying for a special liquor licence.

PUBLIC NOTICES

COUNCIL AND 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 in the Council Office, William Street, Paeroa during the month of November 2014.

Paeroa Rural District Drainage Committee
Tuesday, 25 November 2014 - 1.00pm

Eastern Plains District Drainage Committee
Tuesday, 25 November 2014 - 1.30pm

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 in the Council Office, William Street, Paeroa during the month of December 2014.

Consultative Water and Waste Committee
Tuesday, 2 December 2014 - 10.00am

Ward Committees
Tuesday, 9 December 2014

- Plains Ward - 9.00am
- Paeroa Ward - 12.30pm
- Waihi Ward - 2.30pm

Operations Committee
Wednesday, 10 December 2014 - 9.00am

Audit and Risk Committee
Tuesday, 10 December 2014 - 1.00pm

Judicial Committee (if required)
Monday 8 December 2014 - 9.00am
Monday, 22 December 2014, 9.00am

Ordinary Meeting of Council
Wednesday, 17 December 2014 - 9.00am

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

Dive on in!



It's officially summer! – that is, for our District swimming pools

The heated pools at Hugh Hayward Domain in Ngatea, Princes Street in Paeroa, and Waihi College open to the public tomorrow. Lane swimming and leisure swimming are available daily until March 22 (except Christmas Day and New Year's Day); and during weekends and school holidays our three different whopper inflatable toys are popular with kids and grown-up kids. These floating playgrounds, complete with slides, obstacles, and even palm trees, are rotated around the pools to provide variety and different levels of challenge.

Casual pool entry is just \$2 for swimmers aged 5 and over, and free for preschoolers, though all children under 8 need to be actively supervised by a responsible person over the age of 16 years. During the month of January the entry fee is reduced to \$1 per swimmer. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to dress babies and infants in 'Little Swimmers' – which can be purchased on-site – so nobody has to worry about accidents.

For information about opening times, swimming lessons, and other pool services, pop into one of the pools or visit the Council website.

DIY with Council help

If you're planning to get stuck into a summer DIY project, like building that new deck or renovating the kitchen, we can help! Not with a hammer or saw, but by providing advice on what projects will or won't need building consents and on ways to make the application process as smooth as possible.

The Council can sign off building work such as structural additions and alterations, sheds, decks, retaining walls, fences, and swimming pools. We aim to process building consents within 20 working days – however, because there's a statutory shutdown period from December 20 until January 15, we encourage people to submit applications for December, January and February projects as soon as possible.

For a quick turnaround, make sure the application form is fully completed – with no blank spaces or partial information. Building regulations legally require that all applications for building consents be complete before they can be accepted, so taking a few extra minutes to submit a completed form could save you a lot of delay in the long run! If you're unsure of any information needed, contact us before you lodge the consent application, and one of our staff will be happy to chat with you over the phone or in person.

Under the Building Amendment Act 2013 which became law last November, some types of work no longer require a building consent. For instance, you can build a single-storey garden shed less than 10 square metres, and at least its own height from the property boundary and any residential building. You can also replace or repair all or part of a single-storey privately owned outbuilding.

Other examples of building work that don't need a consent include ground-level decks, attached carports up to a maximum 20 square metres in floor area, fences not exceeding 2.5 metres in height, and home maintenance such as replacing spouting or a section of weatherboard. Likewise exempt are certain plumbing and drainlaying work carried out by tradesmen authorised under the plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers; and building work designed or reviewed by a chartered professional engineer.

However, all work must still comply with the Building Code. To avoid potential future problems, you should check with the council that your project doesn't breach any planning rules. And if you're not certain whether a consent is needed, just ask us.

Sign language spreads the message

It's said that X marks the spot... and 10 Community Patrols signs are about to pop up around Paeroa to identify some of the places that Night Owls volunteers regularly keep an eye on.

The locations include Ngahina Jetty, Primrose Hill, the Taylor Ave BMX track, The Dell off SH2/Normanby Road, Ohinemuri (Bottle) Park, Railway Reserve near the band rotunda, two spots in Paeroa Domain, Te Aroha Road by Paeroa College, and Norwood Road opposite Miller Avenue and Goldfields schools – all on Council land. These were chosen in conjunction with Paeroa Councillors, who considered appropriate sites during a ward tour early this year.

As well as reminding people to lock parked vehicles, the signs will give a message that the Night Owls "will be around", says the community patrol's secretary Andrew Richards. They'll also help raise the Night Owls profile, building on the recent acquisition of a sponsored sign-written car as a result of a campaign set up by Mayor John Tregidga. Awareness and visibility are proving to be effective factors in reducing crime and making our community safer, as patrol members act as extra eyes and ears for the police.

For the future, the feasibility of daytime patrols is being investigated, says Andrew. These would cover locations such as the Karangahake Reserve carpark and other areas where cars are left for an extended period; and from a volunteer point of view, some people prefer to be out during the day.

Anyone interested in assisting with community patrols in Paeroa can contact Andrew on 07 882 6453 for information, or call into the Paeroa police station.



Recycling Hot Tip!



What to do with too much glass

If your glass jars and bottles won't fit into your blue crate, our contractors will accept a second bin of similar dimensions.

Size does matter! Bins larger than 45 litres, such as fish bins, won't be picked up as they don't fit the rack systems on the trucks. If requested, we can supply residents with a second crate for an additional cost.