

COMMUNITY UPDATE

23 JULY 2021



▶ From the Mayor

We are preparing to adopt our Long Term Plan 2021-2031 on Tuesday on 27 July.

Considerable work has gone into all aspects of the 10-year plan, including the replacement of infrastructure, the renewal of assets and the future growth of the district.

Feedback from the community during our early engagement and formal consultation processes has been positive. This flowed through to a good number of submissions and overwhelming support for the three major consultation items. In addition, we received constructive feedback and ideas to enhance the district across a wide range of areas including access to parks and reserves.

In parallel, we are working through the challenges of the Government's Three Waters Reform.

At a workshop earlier this week, Council agreed that our first priority is to confirm whether the community will be better off or worse off if the District's Three Waters assets and ownership are transferred to one of the four entities being proposed under the reform.

As part of that due diligence, we are commissioning an independent review that is due in mid-August. This will assess the impacts of maintaining the Three

Waters assets in its current community ownership, which are managed by Council; and the impacts under the control and ownership of the Government's proposed Three Waters entities.

Once we have this data we will be sharing this with you, and gathering your feedback about what is best for the district. The challenge will be doing so within the new condensed timeline, but we will be working hard to make time for these discussions with you.

Next week we are looking forward to hosting a celebration for World Hepatitis Day in Kawerau on Wednesday 28 July. This recognises the great work by the foundation to roll out a community-funded world-first low dose hepatitis B vaccination programme.

The success of this programme led to the Government's decision to vaccinate all New Zealand children.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that we have secured \$500,000 of Government funding for the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs to get more young people into local jobs. Our first step is to employ a coordinator for the programme.

We look forward to kickstarting this Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs initiative.

Mayor Malcolm Campbell

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CELEBRATE OUR RANGATAHI ACHIEVEMENTS

Nominations are open for the 2021 Kawerau Young Achiever Awards.

Nomination forms are on the Council website and hard copies are also available at the Council Offices.

Last year 127 youth received awards in the first-ever virtual awards ceremony staged due to COVID-19. This year, the Kawerau Youth Council are planning for the usual event in person at the Kawerau Town Hall on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 at the Kawerau Town Hall.

Nominations close on 14 August 2021.

THREE WATERS REFORM UPDATE

Council is working through the challenges of the Government's Three Waters Reform.

At a workshop earlier this week, Council agreed that our first priority is to confirm whether the community will be better off or worse off if the District's Three Waters assets and ownership are transferred to one of the four entities being proposed under the reform.

As part of that due diligence, we are commissioning an independent review that is due in mid-August. This will assess:

- The impacts of maintaining the Three Waters assets in its current community ownership, which are managed by Council;
- The impacts of Kawerau's Three Waters assets under the control and ownership of the Government's proposed Three Waters entities.

Once we have this data we will be sharing this with you, and gathering your feedback about what is best for the district.

Last week at the Local Government NZ (LGNZ) annual conference the Prime Minister announced a funding package for all Councils. For Kawerau this would be a package of just over \$17.2 million in exchange for the Three Waters assets.

How this money could be utilised to assist the district is still being finalised by the Government. Council will consider this package as part of the better off/worse off analysis.

The challenge is ensuring that Council has enough time to discuss and consult with our community with the new condensed timeline. But we will be working hard to ensure that we can do this to get the mandate from you – our community.



REPORTING A PROBLEM, ISSUE OR FIX-IT REQUEST

Council operates a Request for Service process to ensure that issues and problems raised by the public are logged and actioned.

To ensure we can keep you updated about the progress of request for service, please ensure you leave your name and contact details and let our customer services team know.

To report an urgent issue with water, waste, trees or any other Council service you can action a Request for Service by phoning 07 306 9009.

You can phone up anytime 24/7 and go through to the Duty Manager on the after-hour service.

If the issue needs reporting but can wait:

- Email: kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz
- Website: www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/contact-us/fix-it-and-report-problem
- Facebook: Direct Message

POOLS' GEOTHERMAL LINE REPAIRS

The Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex has been closed as a build-up of silica in the bore was obstructing the steam line.

This week after a day of preparation, where thousands of litres of water were pumped into the 70m borehole eventually stopping the steam, Work Safe gave approval to start drilling.

The following day, the well drillers started drilling; removing the build-up of silica and other debris from the bore shaft. This was a long day, and a large amount of silica, sand and dirt was extracted.

On Thursday, the bore was vented for over an hour to flush all other sediment out of the line. At near 140 degrees Celsius this steam comes out with serious force and created a large steam cloud behind the Kawerau Rec Centre.

After several hours on bypass as debris continued to work its way out of the borehole, the team was planning to reconnect the line to the heat exchanger at the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex when this issue went to print. There are still other issues to sort and more testing required but Council is hopeful of reopening the pool complex next week.

DOG REGISTRATION FEES ARE DUE

REMINDER - Please ensure you have paid your dog registration fees by close of business at 5pm on 30 July 2021. You can pay:

- Online via the Council's website www.kaweraudc.govt.nz
- At the Council Offices
- By credit or debit card over the phone 07 306 9009

REMINDER - Late payments incur an additional 50% penalty fee.



KAWERAU HEALTH SHUTTLE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED



This new service requires at least 20 volunteer drivers to help transport people from their home to their medical appointments and back home again.

Nine people have signed on to become volunteers at the first recruitment sessions, but the service needs at least 11 more people to be viable.

Volunteers can offer as much or as little time as you can spare.

The working group is looking to launch the Kawerau Health Shuttle service in Spring 2021.

To learn more about becoming a St John Health Shuttle Volunteer please contact: Angela Bryan on 027 220 3376 if you are interested.

Visit the website and register your interest
join.stjohn.org.nz/role/siid/j5ll9/125

Or contact Council on 07 306 9009 and leave your name, contact phone number and email address.

Note: Prospective volunteers need to bring two forms of ID (including your driver's licence) and your email address.

WANT TO KNOW IF YOU NEED A BUILDING CONSENT?

Check www.buildit.govt.nz

Recently changes to the Building Act were made to allow certain work to be completed without a building consent.

To assist with this there is a new online tool to help homeowners find out if the building work needs a consent and what you need to do before starting physical work.

It is important to note that all building work, whether or not it requires a consent, must be done to meet the standards of performance set by the Building Code.

The Council encourages people to use this interactive tool and make contact with our team for more advice on 07 306 9009.



COUNCIL VACANCIES

WATERWORKS OPERATOR / ASSISTANT / TRAINEE

The Kawerau District Council has an opportunity for a Waterworks Operator / Assistant / Trainee to join our Three Waters Team. This is a permanent full-time position reporting to the Three Waters Team Leader.

The successful applicant will support the operations of the various water supply and wastewater treatment plants, and reticulation, and assist in the maintenance of storm water systems.

Hours of work 8.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday. The position includes stand-by duties on a rotating roster.

Ideally, the successful candidate will have completed a NZ Apprenticeship in Water Treatment Level 4, and have five years of applicable experience or equivalent. Lesser-qualified candidates may be appointed at the Assistant or Trainee level with the expectation to complete the apprenticeship in-house.

If you are physically fit and have applicable experience and qualifications, or a desire to learn and develop into a Waterworks Operator, please apply.

Council operates a Drug and alcohol Policy. Candidates will be required to undertake pre-employment testing.

Applications close 5.00pm Tuesday 10 August 2021.

LIBRARY CADET AND COUNCIL CADET (2 POSITIONS)

Fixed Term, Full-Time to 30 June 2022

Opportunities for two entry-level positions that would be suited to school-leavers or those entering the workforce. As a result of receiving funding, two new Cadetships have been created, one based in the Kawerau District Library, and the other working across the Council groups and services. These roles are designed to provide work experience to the Cadets, and to assist various managers with their day-to-day operations and services. Responsibilities include: Library work; Customer service; Admin and clerical work; Working with the teams and services in our gardens, pools, solid waste; Regulatory and Planning; Assisting with community events and Civil Defence.

Applications close at 5.00pm on Tuesday 27 July 2021.

The Position Descriptions and Application Forms are available on the Council website www.kaweraudc.govt.nz (vacancies) or contact:

Telephone: 07 306 9009 during normal office hours.

Email: vacancy@kaweraudc.govt.nz



TASMAN PAPER MILL CELEBRATION

The Tasman Paper Mill celebration was a fantastic event celebrating Tasman Paper being part of the Kawerau community for the last 68 years.

Norske Skog Tasman hosted the event at the Kawerau Town Hall on Saturday with the support of the Kawerau District Library and Sir James Fletcher Kawerau Museum and the Events team.

Photos and videos from the Kawerau District Library, Sir James Fletcher Museum and mill library were on display featuring the life of the paper mill and its people from construction to closure.

Hundreds of people turned up to catch up with past and present friends and workmates.

TASMAN PAPER MACHINE NUMBER 3 EXHIBITION

The Sir James Fletcher Kawerau Museum and Library are pleased to present a new exhibition entitled Tasman Paper Machine Number 3.

The exhibition explores the history of Paper Machine Number 3 from its commission in the mid 1970's through to the final jumbo reel on June 29, 2021, signalling the end of newsprint production in Kawerau.

Visitors will learn about the early developments of the mill site including the expansion programme called Project Tane, which included the installation of paper machine number 3.

It also offers visitors the opportunity to view images of the rebuild of PM3 following the 1987 Edgecumbe earthquake and of those people who have recently worked on the machine.

The exhibition is a family friendly experience which encourages you to explore not only the story behind the machine but also the paper making process and to even take home one of our activity sheets to have a go at making recycled paper yourselves.

A video accompanies the exhibition, situated in the inner Museum Gallery (inside the Kawerau District Library) and the Museum display windows in Jellicoe Court.

The Museum Curator Kerry Powell and Museum Technical Assistant Huong Nguyen have developed this new exhibition with enormous support from members of the Norske Skog Tasman team for which we are grateful.

The Kawerau District Library and Sir James Fletcher Kawerau Museum are open weekdays from 10am until 5pm and on Saturdays from 10am until 1pm.



Council staff Huong Nguyen and Wendy Montrose.

