

FROM THE

Mayor's Desk

The new year is upon us. I trust you all enjoyed a relaxed and restful Christmas break with family and friends.

The work that we are concentrating most on at Council at the moment is the significant contract we have with our community – the Long Term Plan or LTP. This will take up most of our time between now and June. This is where we set our aspirations and aims in the vision of Council, work out the work programme and the budget that's required to drive it. The Long Term Plan is a 10 year document that is reviewed every three years. The challenges in the LTP are vast. On the positive side our district is changing dramatically. We are getting industry wanting to come here, we have hundreds of new houses going in and the much needed increase in population will make the rates affordable in the future. In the short term there comes some pain with this in terms of making sure that the infrastructure needs to support the new communities of people are up to speed.

There will be an extensive public consultation month during mid-March to mid-April with many community meetings scheduled for myself, Councillors and Executive Team members to join, to talk to you all about your concerns and seek your input into that document.

There are a number of other significant contracts that we have. This year we will see the Mangaweka Bridge being replaced. This is a major project that is funded both by Manawatu District Council and Rangitikei District Council together with the NZ Government through Waka Kotahi (the old NZTA or Transit). We will use the public consultation process going around the district to engage with people over the future of setting up a Trust for the retention of the old bridge, the only cantilever road bridge left in New Zealand.

Other contracts will see the Putorino Landfill being remediated which involves digging out all the old historic rubbish and reforming the riverbank. This is not a problem unique to our district but to me it is a sign of things to come for New Zealand.

This year will also see the construction of the new amenity block on Taihape's Memorial Park. I understand the need for the wide public consultation that has occurred but it will be fantastic to finally have a decision and get a facility that will enable sport to continue on the park.

Everyone in Marton has been watching the development of the new playground at Memorial Park and our thanks go to Lucy Skou and Brenna O'Neill and the Committee that have made this possible. We have other groups throughout the district that are interested in doing similar projects, groups in Taihape looking to upgrade the playground there, we have a group working on the Papakai Park Memorial Park Walkways and we have groups looking at Wilson Park in Marton and the Ratana Playground. As a Council we need to support these groups in their desires and commitment to improve our communities for sport and recreation.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson - Mayor of Rangitikei District



Marton Junction School children with Peaches, Lou (RDC Animal Controller) and their books from Kelsview Dog Safety Education.

Dog Safety Education

Each year Kelsview Kennels with support from Rangitikei District Council visit local schools to provide dog safety education training.

Each student receives a lovely book and safety education with Peaches and Rangi. Last year, 660 books were given to students who had completed the training.

Schools visited included;

- Bulls School
- Clifton School
- Whangaehu School
- Turakina School
- Rātana school
- Mangaweka school
- St Josephs Taihape
- Marton Junction School
- James Cook School
- South Makirikiri School
- St Matthews School
- Moawhango School
- Taoroa School
- Pukeokahu School

More schools are planned to receive training in 2021, with the intention to include kindergartens, playcentres and kohanga.

Papakai Park Update

On 2 November 2020, Rangitikei District Council (RDC) met at Papakai Park with representatives of the Friends of Taihape Society to discuss possible future solutions for the wastewater overflow structure in the park.

An agreement was made to fill the existing overflow hole in the park. The hole was then backfilled and re-seeded in mid-January 2021. The boulders were repositioned along the gravel drive/carpark area to restrict vehicular access to the grassed area.

The existing overflow pond was to be moved towards the embankment just south of the new overflow tanks, however this location was found to interfere with existing storm water management. A new storm water solution will be designed and installed to accommodate this difficulty. The design will have a suitable slope to allow mowing of the area inside the pond, and will be grassed and usable during times of no overflow.

Construction will start soon, we will keep you up to date as the work progresses.

Putorino Landfill

On Monday 18 January 2021 our contractor, Central Demolition, began establishing their worksite for remediation of Putorino Landfill.

The first three weeks of work will involve moving their plant and equipment to site, installing site offices, erecting fencing and implementing other safety precautions.

Once the resource consent applications are approved, sheet piling will be installed to protect the river and cliff face while the landfill material is excavated, tested, sorted and transported for disposal. We are expecting the resource consents to be granted on 9 February 2021. The remediation is expected to be completed at the end of April 2021.

Marton Memorial Hall

Asbestos removal from Marton Memorial Hall has been completed. The building is being made ready for the shearing sports this weekend, and then the remaining works to the Hall will be finished.

Taihape Amenities Building

The plans for the Taihape amenities building have been installed on the fencing at the Taihape Memorial Park for interested parties to view. This is following on from the endorsement of funding for the project by Council in December 2020.

Change of Meeting Date

The Taihape Community Board meeting will now be held at 5.30pm on Thursday, 11 February 2021.

Any queries, please phone 06 327 0099 or 0800 422 522.

Help us plan for a bright future in the Rangitikei District.

We are thinking about our plans for the future and how we're going to move our district forward. Soon, the Rangitikei District Council will start consultation on our Long Term Plan for 2021-2031, and we want to know your thoughts.

Everyone within the Rangitikei District is invited and welcome to participate in Framing Our Future during the Consultation period that begins in April. Community Meetings start soon. If you want to be the first to hear about the Consultation and the topics we need feedback on, sign up at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/framingourfuture/signup or scan the QR Code.



Community Meetings	Date	Time
Marton – Project Marton Office	16 Mar	6pm
Bulls – Te Matapihi Town Hall	17 Mar	6pm
Mangaweka – Town Hall	19 Mar	6pm
Scotts Ferry – 1946 Parewanui Road, Bulls (Gibbs House)	21 Mar	2.30pm
Pukeokahu – Community Hall	22 Mar	6pm
Koitiata - Hall	23 Mar	7pm
Hunterville – Town Hall	24 Mar	6pm
Taihape – Town Hall	29 Mar	6pm
Mataroa – Community Hall	31 Mar	6pm
Moawhango – Hall	13 Apr	6pm
Papanui – School Hall (to be confirmed)	12 Apr	6pm
Turakina – School Hall/Library	1 Apr	6pm
Tutaenui – Hall	8 Apr	6pm

Tirohanga Whakamua - Look to the future

EVENT SPONSORSHIP SCHEME 2021



OPENS 16 JANUARY - CLOSES 11 FEBRUARY 2021

FOR CRITERIA, INFO AND TO APPLY
WWW.RANGITIKEI.GOV.TZ
OR PHONE 06 327 0099