

From: NicolaHobson <nerang@inspire.net.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 April 2022 10:23 am
To: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>
Cc: Gill Duncan <Gill.Duncan@rangitikei.govt.nz>; manston@inspire.net.nz
Subject: Fwd: Mangaweka bridge - Andy Watson reply

Good morning Andy and RDC councillors,

Could my letters dated 11th 12th 13th April 2022 be tabled at tomorrow's Assets and Infrastructure meeting please. With weaner fairs in Feilding on 21st, 27th, 28th April and May 5th, we are desperate to have access across our new bridge and ask that this is given your urgent attention.

Had the bridge been operational it would take Ray Coles transport 6 minutes to reach our Kawhatau Valley cattle yards to collect stock.

With the current access via Toe Toe Rd it now takes 45 minutes.

I look forward to your decision and reply.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Hobson

Begin forwarded message:

From: NicolaHobson <nerang@inspire.net.nz>
Subject: Re: Mangaweka bridge - Andy Watson reply
Date: 12 April 2022 at 8:06:32 PM NZST
To: Fred & Sue <lockerley@xtra.co.nz>, ben dalgety <ben.dalgety@icloud.com>, Bronwyn Stratton <bgstratton8@gmail.com>, Bunny Gorringer <manston@xtra.co.nz>, Diana Deighton <ddeighton@inspire.net.nz>, Diana Turney <grandob@gmail.com>, mark mccoard <m.mccoard@hotmail.com>

Thank you Andy for your prompt reply and for explaining the situation.

What an unbelievable position to find oneself in. Sadly this is another example of the tail wagging the dog.

It is a frustrating end to a project our community has waited so patiently for and the iwi antics have left a sour taste in many local's mouths.

Can I suggest that the council permits temporary use of the bridge until such time that it can be officially opened by RDC, MDC and iwi alike.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Hobson

On 11/04/2022, at 8:40 PM, NicolaHobson <nerang@inspire.net.nz> wrote:

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Mangaweka bridge
Date: 11 April 2022 at 7:57:06 PM NZST
To: NicolaHobson <nerang@inspire.net.nz>

Hi Nicola,

Thankyou for contacting me. I am aware of the extra costs that are being faced with the bridge not being open to the public. I have taken those concerns to the relevant Iwi and they are still being discussed within that wider Iwi space. When the sod turning happened at the start of the bridge construction there was an agreed process and timeline with all parties including Iwi. That timeline included an opening in June including the installation of an appropriate carving which has yet to be finished. Our relationship with all of the Iwi has taken years to build and is still a work very much in process. I am hopeful still some form of compromise can be achieved.

Yours sincerely Andy Watson.

-----Original Message-----

From: NicolaHobson <nerang@inspire.net.nz>
Sent: Monday, 11 April 2022 3:43 pm
To: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>
Subject: Mangaweka bridge

To Mayor Watson and Rangitikei District Councillors

We the undersigned are writing to express frustration, disappointment and disbelief that the new Mangaweka Bridge is still not operational.

As you are well aware of, this bridge is the vital link for rural businesses within the communities of the Kawhatau Valley, Rangiwhia and beyond, connecting them to SH1. Everyone agrees the bridge is a fantastic structure and we are grateful to have it. However things have come to a standstill...

As you are well aware of, the old bridge has been closed since 2016 to heavy vehicles, including stock, logging and general freight trucks, meaning these vehicles have had to access our rural businesses via Toe Toe Rd, adding huge cost to contractors and farmers alike and impacting our roads and environment. It is a small wonder there hasn't been a serious accident on these narrow roads. Finally we have our long awaited for new bridge. Emmetts have packed up and gone home ahead of schedule. It has already operated as a functional bridge in January, albeit for 2-3 days.

We have spoken with a RDC councillor about the unoperational state of our new bridge and have been advised it will be discussed at the next 'full Council meeting' at the end of the month. We are asking you to consider a special meeting before then to discuss urgently opening the bridge.

We are not interested in the fact it has been completed ahead of schedule. Well done Emmetts we say.
We are being held up by red tape. We will take a guess and say that if the bureaucrats lived in our 'neck of the woods', appropriate communication would have happened and we would all be using our wonderful new bridge.
Please open our bridge.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Hobson
Mark Hobson
Fred Dalgety
Sue Dalgety
Ben Dalgety
Gordon Stratton
Bunny Gorringer
Diana Deighton
Diana Turney
Mark McCoard

(Business owners and ratepayers Kawhatau Valley)

----- If you have
received this email and any attachments to it in error, please take
no action based on it, copy it or show it to anyone. Please advise the
sender and delete your copy. Thank you. -----

From: Tony Waugh <outlook_E730F24B2B0E43BD@outlook.com>

Sent: Monday, 18 April 2022 12:47 pm

To: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>

Subject: Mangaweka bridge

To the Mayors and Chief Executive Officers of the Rangitikei and Manawatu District Councils,
The Kimbolton Community Committee would like to express our concern that the opening of the new Mangaweka bridge to traffic has been delayed until July despite work on the bridge being completed ahead of time and that there is no apparent reason that the bridge cannot be open to traffic.
Having a bridge across the Rangitikei River with no weight restrictions is vital for farmers in the northern region of the Manawatu to move stock, produce and harvesting equipment on and off farms without undue extra costs and delays, especially at this important time of the farming year.
We urge the Manawatu and Rangitikei District Councils to resolve any outstanding issues preventing the opening of the bridge to traffic as soon as possible to ensure that this vital lifeline can be used immediately.

Kind regards

Tony Waugh

A D Waugh

Kimbolton Community Committee Chairman

06 328 5708

027 974 5649

tony.waugh@slingshot.co.nz

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: ben dalgety <ben.dalgety@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 April 2022 2:24 pm
To: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>
Cc: Gill Duncan <Gill.Duncan@rangitikei.govt.nz>
Subject: Mangaweka Bridge

hello Andy,

We live on the lower Kawhatau road, & this Rangitikei river bridge is making a mockery of the powers that be & decision makers. Did you attend the opening of the old bridge ceremony? 111 years after the bridge opened?. Honestly I think we've let you get a little too PC, to the point that you don't care for vehicles carbon footprint travelling the extra k's because of a small group. Please consider the ozone layer, the RUC's & wear & tear on operators vehicles, also safety; I saw yesterday, a very large Truck & Trailer using the old bridge, it was definitely overweight. I think we should use the new bridge because Trucks will flaunt the law & those that complain are not actually affected by the lack of being able to use the new bridge.

Ben Dalgety

[202 Kawhatau Valley Road](#)
[Mangaweka](#)
[Via Palmerston North](#)
[4797](#)

Ben 021 119 1744
ben.dalgety@icloud.com

From: Diana Deighton <ddeighton@inspire.net.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 12 April 2022 8:04 pm

To: Andy Watson <Andy.Watson@rangitikei.govt.nz>

Subject:

Dear Sir re Mangaweka bridge it is hard to believe that 16% of the population can hold the rest of the country to ransom over the opening of the bridge, I thought we lived in a democratic society but obviously not...It is time the council stopped courting "the iwi" and got on with the business of supporting the ratepayers..

Yours Diana Deighton..

Incidentally I am part Maori..