

Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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plan

May 2019

www.cluthadc.govt.nz

0800 801 350

help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz

From the Mayor

Autumn is fast morphing into winter and it is a time to reflect on the year just gone and what prospects lie on our horizon. This year has seen a continuation of prosperous times for our District; Nature may have intervened late in the season to pose some challenges to our rural communities but overall prices were firm and the outlook is encouraging. Elsewhere there are so many positive economic indicators for the South, so good

in fact that they are creating new dynamics that are not easily solved. Take employment for example, it was only a handful of years ago that we were actively seeking people to shift to our district. Possibly we are a victim of our own success, because now we have the 'full up' sign out and we must solve the accommodation issues, before we address further employment prospects and all the time the ramifications of limited housing



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cemetery records & RTD online



Online cemetery record searching and Real Time Debits (RTD) are two new features available to residents and ratepayers from Council's website www.cluthadc.govt.nz. The online cemetery search allows people to locate the burial records of people buried in cemeteries managed by the Clutha District Council. All burials from July 2017 are now available online as well as historic records from before July 2017 for the Balclutha, Kaitangata, and Tapanui cemeteries.

As this is an ongoing process records for the remaining cemeteries (before July 2017) are continuing to be added until all records are available online. We also have added online records for Owaka Cemetery, which is a trustee operated cemetery in our district. RTD is a new way for ratepayers and residents to pay their rates, water, dogs and infringements. RTD uses BNZ and Westpac bank accounts only at this stage (other banks will follow

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new features available on council's website

this month

council website continued

in the coming months) and allows you a direct connection to your bank.

You can make a payment using your own funds straight from your own bank account so there is no additional cost. When you pay this way online, the money is taken out of your account and goes directly to Council's without any delay. RTD is securely hosted by Datacom. Datacom never has access to your internet banking or password details. You are safely redirected

through to your own bank's online environment. As more banks come on board with the RTD payment then more people will have the convenience of paying that way. Please contact us regarding refunds for overpayments or incorrect payments or if you require assistance with an online payment. You can also pay by credit card (online only) where a 2% surcharge is applicable. www.cluthadc.govt.nz

hello/farewell

We welcome Ian McCabe who has joined Council as Group Manager of Planning and Regulatory Services. Ian's extensive experience in both central and local government, including resource management and transport planning and regulatory activities, will be an asset to the Clutha District Council. He has previously worked at the Otago Regional Council and Dunedin City Council, spent nine years at Transit New Zealand/NZ Transport Agency and has also worked for LINZ, the Department of Conservation and in the private sector.

Rachel Harrison is our new Road Safety Coordinator since February. Previously Council's road safety work had been contracted out. Angela Sanderson is our new Customer Service Officer at the Rosebank Terrace Office. In this role, she is one of our first points of contact for customers, both face to face and telephone response. Angela brings experience in the tourism industry to Council. Mary-Jo Tohill has been filling in as Human Resources Assistant since

February, on a fixed term basis to provide cover for parental leave. The swimming pool team has two new lifeguards, Jody Ward and Olivia Stewart-Groot who are based at the Balclutha Pool. Debra Tobin-Alexander is Council's new Operations Administrator in our Service Delivery team and part of her work is to help monitor various customer and contractor service requests. Eileen MacLeod has come on board as Council's new cleaner at the Rosebank Office.

A new Project Engineer for our Capital Delivery team is Nathan Bullin. He holds his Diploma in Engineering (Civil) and NZIHT and has a work background in the private sector on a variety of engineering projects for roads and other infrastructure construction. There is also a new face at the Clutha i-Site/Balclutha Service Centre. This is Melissa Sheppard, our new Visitor Information Officer. She holds a Certificate in Tourism and brings lots of experience in the tourism/customer service industry. We have farewelled Ben

from the mayor continued...

and pressure are manifesting themselves in new and increasing social challenges. I highlight the speed of change that is occurring in our district in the context of our need to move with the times and 'hold hands' with our communities, as the awareness is not always in line with the changes. This has been born out in consultation where on numerous occasions it is apparent that vast numbers of our population are not fully aware of the evolution taking place, and are making decisions that aligned more with where our district was at 10 years ago.

That said we value everyone's input, and acknowledge that we are a conservative district that is not accustomed to fast change.

I have been proud of the extent we have consulted on issues of late. It is imperative that the dialogue continues because this is a time that we must maximise our chances, a time to repair a generation of decline and lock in gains that replenish our schools and shops, revitalise our communities and transform our collective wellbeing. The potential trajectory of our district has numerous roads to follow, and now as we move faster than ever we need your help in getting the balance right. With positive, forward thinking, and all-encompassing decision making, together we can make the changes required that reflect our districts most pressing needs – onwards and upwards.

Bryan Cadogan, Mayor



Ian McCabe, Group Manager Planning & Regulatory Services.

Gold from our Service Delivery team. Ben is now applying his knowledge and experience of water services to the private sector. We also farewell Morgan Ramsay. During her 4.5 years at Council, Morgan has made a valuable contribution to Council in her work as Planning Officer and like Ben, is heading to employment in the private

sector. Council wishes Ben and Morgan well for this new stage of their careers. It was also goodbye to Paige Win, our summer student intern who has headed back to Otago University. Congratulations to Adam Durston, Building Control Officer, for gaining his Level 5 and 6 Diploma for Building Surveying.

// roadsides



Council is reminding people to keep up their maintenance and tidy up any fallen autumn leaves on roadsides.

We have noticed an increase of flax seed heads falling and building up on the roadsides causing issues for the motorists using the roads.

It is the responsibility of the land owners to maintain these roadsides as they had these planted to use as shelter for stock.

As the flaxes multiply in width every year, in places, the roadside has narrowed significantly.

Council can remove these but the cost to the landowner is expensive.

Please note baleage is not to be stored on roadsides.

And if you see a drain blocked please rake the leaves out.

At the Balclutha and Milton Swimming Pool:

All children under the age of eight need to be actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or older.

This means you are watching your child/children at all times (not the occasional glance while you read, text or relax) and are able to provide immediate assistance.

Children under the age of five need to be kept within arm's reach and actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or older.



kaitangata hall

You have till May 6 to give your feedback on what we are doing with the current Kaitangata Hall.

Clutha District Council has acknowledged that the building is past its use-by-date and is uneconomical to fix. Council has approved funds for the demolition of the existing hall. Council will try to salvage what we can given that there are asbestos concerns with the building.

Council will salvage the Memorial outside the building but we want to know whether it should be left in place with or without the steps or moved to a new

location like the Memorial Gardens. Council also wants to know your thoughts on the old borough building. Should we demolish it or is there interest in someone purchasing it? Feedback forms to tell us your thoughts regarding these matters are available from Council Offices or online at: www.cluthadc.govt.nz/consultation Later this year consultation will take place to find out your thoughts on a plan for the future of Kaitangata. Council looks forward to hearing from you then.



Pictured: Mayor Bryan Cadogan welcomes Matthew Little to the Lawrence Tuapeka Community Board. Matthew has been appointed by the board to replace Elizabeth Ritchie who had resigned as board member.

Service Requests

If you need to report any problems with Council services, for example road damage or water leaks. It's easy to get in touch, just ring 0800 801 350 and lodge a service request or visit the Contact Us section on our website: www.cluthadc.govt.nz

From Council's Community Plans Project Manager

It has been a very busy few months and some even busier ones ahead.

Lots of activity is going on in the background to ensure that the "Our Place" gains traction. These projects were identified during the consultation processes.

Remember all these projects will have different funding sources, from corporate donations, sponsorship, grant funding, central government, other agencies and the plan is to have a minimal impact on our rates.

Balclutha

- Balclutha War Memorial Hall: There is a great group of volunteers who are steering this project, they have formed a Trust for funding purposes and are in the process of collating concepts and forming the business plan. This is a huge project for this committed group of volunteers.
- Naish and Centennial parks: Once again a great group of volunteers. They are now in the process of taking the ideas that you all shared in the original consultation process and are getting conceptual plans for the Centennial Park space. A landscape gardener is working with the group on Naish Park, so watch this space.
- Lighting of the bridge: We are working with New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), Otago Regional Council, Department of Conservation and other affected

parties to formulate a plan and looking at compliance to be able to achieve this. It is an icon of our district and a very important structure.

- Destination playgrounds: Lots of behind the scenes compliance work happening in this space and I will be contacting those community groups that have indicated they would like to be involved, when a plan has been formed.
- Cycling and Walking: We are calling for volunteers and businesses that would like to be involved. If this is you, please call me (contact details below).
- Destination toilets: Planning and concepts are being formed.

Milton

Annual Plan 2019-20 consultation has just closed and there has been a lot of feedback about what could be next for Milton. Councillors are in the process of meeting to hear the submissions on this to help finalise the the Annual Plan 2019-20.

Waihola

- Speed limit: It has been identified that the residents would like the speed limit through Waihola reduced. The last update from NZTA was that it is with their board and they hope to have a decision in the near future.
- Cricket ground: Investigations are happening to see if there is a



Aileen Clarke,
Community
Plans Project
Manager.

- drainage solution for the ground.
- Pipeline: Lots of background work is happening on this to come up with the best options.
- Walking and cycling: We are waiting on a central government decision for funding from the Provincial Growth Fund.

The Catlins

Consultation has closed and staff are collating data to develop a plan. Thank you everyone for taking the time to come to the caravan or send in your submissions.

Where to next for consultation?

- 2019/20 - Kaitangata, Lawrence-Tuapeka
- 2020/21 - West Otago
- 2021/22 - Clinton and coastal communities and Clutha Valley
- 2022/23 - Stirling and Benhar
- 2023/24 - Waipori, Mahinerangi, Berwick and rural Bruce.

If you would like to talk about any of these community projects or are interested in volunteering please call Aileen Clarke on 0800 801 350.

CLUTHA DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

Need some \$\$\$ to help make things happen for you or your group?

Are you:

- ✓ A resident of the Clutha District?
- ✓ Aged between 12 and 24?
- ✓ An individual or part of a group that needs money to help you make an event, trip, project, course, training opportunity etc happen?
- ✓ Prepared to come and talk and tell us about it to see if you are eligible?

The Youth Council has set up a \$2,000 annual fund that aims to help young people in our district. The project/activity should not have started before 1 July 2019.

For more details and an application form, go online to www.cluthadc.govt.nz or ring 0800 801 350.

Applications close Friday 31 May 2019

CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Do you know of an individual working hard to make a difference in your community?

Nominations are being sought for the 2019 Clutha District Community Service awards which replace the Trustpower Individual Awards, discontinued in 2018.

To nominate an individual, collect an entry form from your council service centre, go online to www.cluthadc.govt.nz or contact Karen Piercy, Corporate Services Administrator on 03 419 0261 for more information.

Entries close on Friday 24 May 2019