



Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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farewell hello


February 2021

www.cluthadc.govt.nz

0800 801 350

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From the Mayor



This years Long Term Plan 2021-31 is a defining document for our District. With so many projects and core service levels to consider, along with the delivery of community plans, like never before, we need to be in sync with our communities and have a mutual understanding of what we are trying to achieve.

I say this because there is a rather frustrating trend coming through, as we go from community to community. We have been overwhelmed with the passion, commitment and vision that so many locals have. They are prepared to roll their sleeves up and dedicate so much on our behalf, and they do it all for the people and areas they love. I'm frightened to name them because there are so many individuals and groups and the time they put in is humbling, for some it's a lifetime commitment, for others it's an all out commitment to a particular project.

But whatever the case they are the ones that go to meetings in the middle of winter at night, or give up their weekends to help out on a working bee. They are

also the ones that have particular skills, qualifications, and experiences that they are willing to voluntarily share as a gift to us all. These people are willing to put their heads above the parapet and make a stand for what they believe in, and it is a privilege as a Council to support and collaborate with them.

Then there is a second group that decided by and large to remain disengaged, to not join in the groups, or attend the meetings, to pursue more personal interests over their weekends. And then after the outcome, they throw their hands in the air in shock and horror at what eventuated from a process they couldn't be bothered participating in.

And finally there is the largest group of them all, the 'silent majority' that are willing and appreciative of what others are prepared and able to do, but for personal reasons would prefer to support at a distance.

So where does that leave Council? In recent times it has left us defending decisions already made and processes that have been underway for years, and honouring the commitments we have made to the groups that have put in thousands and thousands of hours representing and reflecting the wishes of our communities.

And I am proud to say Council has also shown a determination to remain positive and strive to always improve the fortunes of our district. For seven years now we have developed and refined our 'Living and Working' strategy that articulates the hopes and

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From the Mayor continued...

dreams of our district, in tandem with this there has been three Long Term Plans and five Annual Plans to deliberate and consult on. We have actively pursued the establishment of community groups like the team that is working so hard on the Milton community pool project, or the Balclutha community hub, and have totally restructured our investments which has given us the latitude to commit to projects while steadfastly remaining under our 'rates cap'.

The word honour keeps coming to mind, should a council believe,

and fight for the best outcomes for the district. Should it ensure the correct processes are maintained and transparency and engagement is exhaustive, or should they throw all the hard working decent citizens under the bus and enter into a race to the bottom.

I think you know the answer, so please in the next few weeks roll your sleeves up, get excited, be willing to consider all options, and have your input into this years' Long Term Plan. We have achieved so much in recent years and gone a long way to transforming the fortunes of Clutha, and we appreciate the assistance we receive, and the

guidance you provide. This is the time to have your say, and I assure you that your opinion will be valued and taken into the overall considerations – Onward and Upward.

Key Long Term Plan dates in 2021

- 18 March - Council Meeting to adopt for public consultation.
- 26 April - Feedback closes.
- 5 May - Council Hearing, to hear verbal feedback.
- 20 May - Council Meeting to consider feedback and make decisions for final Long Term Plan.
- 17 June - Council Meeting to adopt 2021/31 Long Term Plan.

spotlight on / creative communities...

“funding

Would my project suit the criteria?

Creative Communities offers funding for projects that do the following:

1. Provide opportunities to engage with and increase participation in local arts activities.
2. Support the diverse artistic traditions of our local communities.
3. Enable young people (under 18 years) to engage with and participate in the arts.

So you've got a great idea but you're wondering if it is eligible for funding via the Creative Communities fund, contact our Corporate Administrator Karen Piercy and sound out what you're wanting to do. She will help you with your project and potential funding options.

A project that was a recipient of the latest funding round is an Oamaru Stone Carving Workshop to be held in Lawrence by Robyn O'Malley.

A taster workshop was held recently which had children making marvelous stone creations.

The next funding round closing in March 2021 and there's \$22,000 available to

distribute in the district for creative projects that fit the criteria.

If you think you've got a suitable creative project, round three is now open now and closes on 1 March 2021.

Some recent projects that were successful in receiving creative communities funding included:

- \$905 for the CanInspire Charitable Trust for CanBead workshops to be held in Balclutha.
- \$1,800 to Robyn O'Malley (Lawrence) for the beginners Oamaru stone carving classes.
- \$1,707 to the Lawrence Art Festival for the Celebrating our land, print and book binding workshop.
- \$1,750 to Terewai Cookson for Creative Workshops using various media and techniques.
- \$390 for Margie-Rae Dance 25 Years Celebration Performance.
- \$4,056 for Marie Reid, Young @ Art classes.



- \$2,834 for Robert Fugah – African Drumming & Dance workshops.
- \$1,417 to the South Otago Patchwork Group, for patchwork technique workshops.
- \$1,000 to the West Otago Theatrical Society, for publicity for the Variety Concert.

It's great to have local individuals and groups take full advantage of this funding opportunity.

The application guide and additional information can be read online: www.cluthadc.govt.nz
Give Karen a call with any questions on 0800 801 350.

We're backing Our Place

Kaitangata

How about you?

We're developing the Our Place Kaitangata Community Plan and we're keen to hear your thoughts on which projects should be a priority. Ideas include improving access to the Clutha River / Mata-Au, walking and cycling, improving our parks and reserves, and investing in community facilities such as the pool and playground.

We'll be out and about in February and March 2021 gathering feedback to help inform this plan.

Date	Time	Where	Details
February (date & time to be confirmed)		Victoria Park Sports Ground	Kaitangata School Sports Day - stop by, have a chat, and tell us your ideas on the future of Kai!
Saturday 27 February	11am – 1pm	Kaitangata Community Centre	Drop in to talk with elected members and staff. Free sausage sizzle!
Wednesday 3 March	5pm – 6pm	Kaitangata BMX Track	Catch Mayor Cadogan or Cr. Graham for a chat between BMX races.
Friday 12 March	5pm – 7pm	Crescent Bar & Grill	Catch staff and elected members in the pub carpark to let us know your ideas!
Saturday 13 March	7am – 11am	Water St Boat Ramp	Talk to us about your ideas for the waterfront or any other priority projects. We'll have a coffee cart going, and kayaks for those keen to get on the water.
Wednesday 31 March	4pm – 7pm	Kaitangata Community Centre	Come and have a chat with elected members or staff over a cup of tea.

Come along to one of these locations to talk about your ideas and suggestions for Our Place Kaitangata.



SITE

**Clutha i-SITE
1 John St, Balclutha**

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday/Sunday & Public Holidays 9.30am - 1.00pm
& 1.30pm – 3.30pm

For local and national information and bookings, gift shop and CDC Service Centre

Farewell/hello

Michelle Kennedy resigned in December 2020 having been a West Otago Ward Councillor for the past 10 years. Mayor Bryan Cadogan said Michelle was a much liked and respected member of the team and she always had her beloved West Otago and the Districts best interests at heart.

We farewell the following staff members:

- Valerie Bell - HR Manager (retiring from full time work after 23 years).
- Lorna Ross - Librarian Team Leader (retiring 19 years).
- Pam Whyte - Customer Services Officer (11.5 years).
- Gregory Borichevsky - Infrastructure Strategy Manager.
- Gareth Phillips - Water and Waste Operations Manager.
- Steve Clarke - Water Services Water.
- Clive James - Water and Waste Team Leader.
- Rebecca Shaw - Planner.

We welcome the following new and returning staff members:

- Awhina Roberts - Digital Content and Applications Support Officer and Dalene Breytenbach - Digital

Programmes Coordinator. These are two fixed term digital/IT vacancies in our library team that run until June 2022 and funding for them is provided by the Covid19 recovery work funding package for the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme. The Digital Programmes Coordinator will develop and coordinate digital literacy programmes within the Clutha Community. Stakeholder engagement is a big part of it. The other job in the programme, the Digital Content and Applications Support Officer, is for the development, management and use of our libraries' technical and digital systems and services that we are ramping up for our communities.

- Barbara Belvoir - Operations Engineer.
- Jessie Marsh - Operations Assistant.
- Mandy Finn - Visitor Information Officer.
- Tessa McDonald - Lifeguard.
- Selina Herbert - Visitor Information Officer.
- Calisa McLeary - Summer Student.



Farewell to: West Otago Ward Councillor Michelle Kennedy

- Bernadette van der Lem - Community Facilities Supervisor.
- Chris Till - Human Resources Manager.
- Henri van Zyl - Transportation and Facilities Operations Manager.
- Melissa Ellison - Customer Service Officer, Tapanui.
- Rebecca Begg - IT Projects Manager.

If you are interested in working for the Clutha District Council details of our vacancies are listed on our recruitment hub web page: cluthadc.recruitmenthub.co.nz

Paying by cheque to be phased out by June 2021

Clutha District Council will no longer be able to accept cheques as payment from 1 June 2021.

Several banks, including BNZ and Westpac, have indicated they will be discontinuing cheque usage in 2021.

Council is now looking to encourage other modes of payment at Council including automatic payments, direct debit payments, online bill payments, cash and eftpos.

Council understands that a number of our customers are used to paying by cheque for years and we want to give these people plenty of notice to make adapt to new ways

of paying your rates and other Council payments. If you need help with alternative methods of payment call Council on 0800 801 350.



Alternative ways to pay include:

- At the counter - cash and eftpos at any of Council's service centres.
- Online with a Debit or Credit Card
- Real Time Debit (BNZ or Westpac)
- Telephone and internet payment systems
- Direct debit payments

Summer is the time of year when we ask all residents to play their part in helping us conserve water

As most of you will be aware Stage 1 water restrictions came into effect for the entire district on 1 December 2020. We usually implement Stage 1 restrictions from early December to try and avoid more stringent restrictions as summer progresses.

If we all save water early in the season, we may not need to implement Stage 2 or 3 restrictions.

In previous years more water is used than is being produced, particularly in Tapanui so it's really important that you watch your water use, check for leaks, report any leaks in public places and let us know if anyone is not following the restrictions by ringing 0800 801 350.

Stage 1 restrictions mean you can only water your garden between 8pm in the evening and 8am in the morning - so not during the day. Water systems should not be left unattended, so don't go to bed and leave your sprinkler running at night!

Stage 2 restrictions mean that all sprinklers and irrigation systems are banned and only hand-held watering is allowed between 8pm and 8am.

Stage 3 restrictions mean you can only water ONCE A WEEK between 8pm and 8am.

A huge thanks to all those who are already doing their bit to save water this summer!