



Lawrence Tuapeka News

a newsletter from Lawrence-Tuapeka Community Board



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New Fountain

We're sure many of you will have seen the new filtered drinking water fountain that's been installed on Lawrence's main street. It was the idea of Waitahuna resident Tim Dickey (pictured right with Garry McCorkindale), which was approved by the Community Board.

Chairperson Garry McCorkindale said Tim had prepared a comprehensive proposal, including how the fountain could fit in with the town's gold mining theme.

The fountain is in place for the busy summer season and includes a place to

fill drinking bottles and a bowl for thirsty dogs. The fountain was funded by the Community Board from its projects fund and Clutha District Council was happy to support the project. Mr McCorkindale said it was great to see someone from the younger demographic initiating a project like this, especially one that gave visitors another reason to stop in the town. Residents with ideas to improve the area are welcome to present them to the Community Board, during the public forum section of the meeting.



Parking in Lawrence

To cope with the increasing amount of visitors to Lawrence, the Community Board has reviewed parking availability in the town. At peak times, parking on Ross Place is often full, which the Board felt may deter visitors from stopping in the town.

To ease congestion, P60 parking restriction signs are being installed on Ross Place, with P15 sign outside the chemist. A "parking" sign will be installed at the intersection of Ross Place and Gabriel's Gully Road to inform people of the parking area at the entrance to Gabriel's Gully.

In Colonsay Street, a series of parallel parks will be marked on the playground side and a series of angle parks will be marked on the opposite side. These will be suitable for all vehicles, including larger vehicles such as camper vans. A parking sign will be installed at the intersection of Whitehaven St and Colonsay Street.

Stopping Speedsters

Community Board members are aware of the concerns expressed by many residents about the speed of vehicles travelling through the Lawrence township and failing to slow down to the legal speed requirement. At the Board's request the NZ Transport Agency reviewed the location of the 50km signs at the entrances to the town, but advised they felt there was no need to move the signs from their current locations at this stage. However, at its last meeting, the Board asked Council staff to liaise with the NZ Transport Agency to determine whether or not 'Electronic Speed Advisory' signs could be installed at both entrances to Lawrence. These type of signs indicate how fast a vehicle is travelling by a flashing number and a message to slow down if needed. Staff will keep the Community Board informed about progress with this. The Board's concerns about speeding (in particular by logging trucks) have also been passed on to local police.

Your Community Board

We want to ensure our area continues to be a great place to live! Residents are welcome to approach the Board with concerns or suggestions.

Garry McCorkindale (Chair) - 485 9727 or glenside@rivernet.co.nz

Liz Ritchie - 485 9362 or elizabethanne.ef@gmail.com
Cr Geoff Blackmore - 485 9503 or g.c.blackmore@xtra.co.nz
Geoff Davidson - 485 9628 or gtdavidson@xtra.co.nz

Mel Foster - 485 9040 or melinda.foster@zensolutions.co.nz
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Remedial work after flooding

The severe weather and subsequent flooding in July had a big impact on the Lawrence township and Tuapeka area. Three months later, it is heartening to see the main street businesses starting to get back on their feet, the Clutha Gold Trail re-opened in time for the tourist season and many of the badly damaged roads repaired.

The Community Board was keen to identify the triggers of the flooding and look at ways to reduce the impact of such weather events in the future. Firstly though, the Board acknowledges the fantastic efforts of locals during the event, including the sandbagging, which prevented much worse damage.

At its August meeting, the Board met with District Council representatives, Otago Regional Council (ORC) representatives and civil defence representatives. The Clutha District Emergency Management Officer was also present and advised of the problems civil defence staff and volunteers faced, including being unable to access Lawrence due to road slips. As with any civil defence event, there were valuable learnings and as usual staff would be looking to make improvements.

Since then, Clutha District Council, the ORC and the Department of Conservation (DoC) have reviewed the vegetation that is potentially constricting water flow on Wetherstons Creek and Hospital Creek, and DoC have already addressed the issues they are responsible for within Wetherstons Creek. The ORC has also arranged for a natural hazards team to look at making Wetherstons Creek wider and deeper to try and alleviate the issue of debris building up. The ORC will also look at Hospital Creek in conjunction with Clutha District Council, however

this is a natural watercourse on private land, and as such is generally the responsibility of landowners. Over the past few months, Council has addressed the significant damage to numerous local roads in the Lawrence-Tuapeka area. Remembering, the NZ Transport Agency is responsible for state highways. Badly damaged roads were closed for short periods of time due to safety concerns and to allow council staff and contractors to inspect the damage and commence a work programme of repairs for local roads.

The majority of damage to the local roading network consisted of slips (both major and minor), washouts, scouring and seal loss. Roads identified as priorities for repair included:

- Waitahuna Gully Road – slips, rockfalls, scouring, seal loss
- Tuapeka Flat Road – washouts, scouring, significant gravel loss
- Matheson Road – significant washouts
- Crowley Road – significant washouts and scouring
- Roughan Road – significant scouring
- Murray Road – significant washouts and scouring
- Franklin Road – significant scouring
- Reserve Road – scour, washouts and slips
- Athenaeum Road – scour
- Hunt Road – slip
- Skinner Road – scour and washouts.

The roading contractor had three crews working on the priority one sites in the Lawrence/Tuapeka and numerous repairs have been undertaken.

State Highway 8 also suffered from surface flooding, scour and slips and cracks in some paddocks above the Highway may require some remedial work. If there are any other issues not highlighted above that you want Council to be aware of, please place a service request via 0800 801 350, www.cluthadc.govt.nz, or ring the Lawrence Service Centre on 03 485 9909.



Reserve Road



Millers Flat/Beaumont Road