# **Newsline Issue 575 – 26 July 2024**

# Feline feedback open now

When we recently asked you about your feline friends and moggy mates we received a good quantity of worthwhile feedback.

Those comments and views have helped shape our draft Cat Management Bylaw which we’re now seeking formal feedback on.

There were a lot of comments related to unmanaged cat populations, such as public health concerns and nuisances from stray cats.

Overpopulation leads to many stray cats suffering from poor health, disease, and malnutrition. Furthermore, unmicrochipped/unregistered pets are harder to reunite with their owners if lost.

To tackle these issues and enhance the welfare of cats, our proposed bylaw focuses on humane and effective population management. The draft was developed with input from animal welfare organisations and the community and had strong public support in early engagement.

Key provisions of the Draft Bylaw:

* Microchipping and registration: All companion cats over six months old must be microchipped and registered on the National Companion Animal Register.
* De-sexing: Companion cats over six months old must be de-sexed, unless the owner is a registered breeder or has a vet-issued exemption certificate.

If you already have a cat you have until 1 June 2027 to meet these requirements.

You can see full details and share your feedback at shape.tasman.govt.nz/cat-bylaw, via email to haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

# A word about water

How we manage and provide public water supply services, protect the water supply network, ensure public health and safety, and provide clear guidelines on water usage restrictions are the focus of our Public Water Supply Bylaw.

The review of this bylaw is needed to address legislative changes and clarify existing clauses for effective management of the public water supply.

There is also a new section to outline regulations at bulk water supply stations.

You can find out more and share your thoughts at shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-water-supply-bylaw-review, via email to haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

# Planning for public places

We want to ensure Tasman District’s public spaces are safe and enjoyable for all residents with our Public Places Bylaw. Key issues include enhancing public health and safety, minimising nuisances, and regulating trading activities.

For some areas, we are aiming to streamline processes by moving away from permits and licenses and instead setting out conditions for each activity.

The Draft Bylaw outlines specific regulations:

* Mobile trading: Conditional permissions for mobile traders, ensuring compliance with safety standards, location restrictions, and waste management protocols.
* Commercial services: Requirements for formal agreements with the Council for permanent or semi-permanent commercial operations in public areas.
* Street fundraising: Guidelines for legally recognised non-profit and professional fundraisers to conduct activities without obstructing pedestrian flow or causing hazards.
* Busking: Conditional permission for busking while keeping pedestrian access and noise levels, with mandatory relocation every two hours or as directed.
* Sandwich boards: Regulations on the size and placement of free-standing advertising signs to prevent obstruction and hazards.
* Outdoor dining: Licensing requirements for businesses offering outdoor dining on public pavements, ensuring pedestrian safety and access.

Get the full rundown and tell us what you’d prefer at shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-places-bylaw, via email to haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

# The future shape of Tasman District Council

Every six years, we must review the way our community is represented by the Council, and we want your feedback.

On 17 July 2024, Tasman District Council reviewed its representation arrangements and resolved that the following proposal applies for the Council and its Community Boards for the elections to be held on 11 October 2025.

Tasman District Council will comprise a Mayor, who is elected at large, and 14 Councillors elected by wards.

Tasman District will be divided into five general wards and one Māori ward with Councillors being elected as follows:

* Richmond General Ward – four Councillors
* Motueka General Ward – three Councillors
* Moutere/Waimea General Ward – three Councillors
* Golden Bay General Ward – two Councillors
* Lakes/Murchison General Ward – one Councillor
* Te Tai o Aorere Māori Ward – one Councillor.

The Council resolved to continue with the existing two Community Board structures for Golden Bay and Motueka.

Copies of the Council’s full resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed wards and communities are available at our service centres and libraries.

You can view the proposal and make a submission at shape.tasman.govt.nz/representation-review. You can also make a submission in writing to Tasman District Council, 189 Queen Street, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050, or email haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz. Submissions open 29 July until 29 August.

# New playground reddy for fun

Richmond’s newest recreation area is open! Ascot Reserve is the first of four spaces that will be developed in the Berryfields area, the other three coming online over the next few years.

Each space will have its own colour scheme, tying in the vegetation with the play equipment and any structures. Ascot Reserve has a predominantly red colour scheme, reflected in the vegetation, including native Pohutukawa trees and fruit trees like feijoas and plums.

We collaborated with the community to understand their needs and believe we’ve successfully met their expectations. The play area is suitable for all age groups and is easily visible to parents sitting on the benches. There is also a concrete path for kids to ride their scooters on.

We’ve planted deciduous trees along the path that will provide shade and add beautiful colours in autumn, enhancing the view of the mountains in the background. The gardens add texture to the landscape with mounds of garden space that will fill in over time to create a cosy atmosphere.

This is a great new community asset, and we look forward to the next one.

# All hands on deck for major Motueka playground upgrade

Exciting things are about to happen to the playground at Motueka’s Decks Reserve.

The fabulous new development for all ages comes thanks to funding input from the Motueka Community Board.

The total project, worth close to $600,000, will see a major redevelopment of the existing play equipment with the addition of numerous new play features.

The plans include a new 3x3 asphalt basketball court, and soft rubberised matting around play equipment with all manner of sensory and passive play elements. There will be multiple swing sets including new basket net swings, accessible swings, and toddler swings, along with a full revamp of concrete pathways, benches, seats and landscaping.

Some existing play equipment will be retained in the new layout, including the popular play tower, see-saw and space net.

The new Decks Reserve playground is expected to be ready to use by this summer.

# Artificial cricket wicket is just the ticket

It might seem like a bit of an off-break to be pondering the summer game in the depths of winter, but we are preparing for the sound of leather on willow by rolling out a new surface for cricket.

If you’ve been past Richmond’s Ben Cooper Park lately, you’ll have seen we are installing an artificial cricket wicket on the western side of the ground.

Artificial wickets cost very little to maintain and are a handy alternative to grass wickets which tend to wear out after even only a few games and require the maintenance of multiple wickets in a ‘block’ across the middle of the cricket pitch.

An artificial pitch offers a great complement to the existing cricket nets at Ben Cooper Park, allowing open wicket practice opportunities without affecting the state of a potential match day surface.

We’ve just completed Phase 1 of the installation – the laying of the concrete. We’re now waiting for it to cure and for the weather conditions to become favourable for the application of the artificial grass covering (Phase 2) – otherwise it might not stick as well as it ought to.

Therefore, the orange fences around the space will be up for the time being.

Ben Cooper Park is also well-used by our junior footballers, and over winter the ground hosts multiple matches for our mini-Messis. We’re pleased to say the installation of the artificial wicket will not intrude on other pitches – rather, it will be located between the sidelines.

# Securing greenspace for Richmond South

We have recently purchased property on Paton Road, Hope – which has been earmarked for reserve development within the next two years.

The $2.5 million land purchase was made using Reserve Financial Contributions, and further developments of the space will be factored into future 10-Year Plan discussions.

Reserves and Facilities manager Grant Reburn said the land, located between the switchbacks section of Paton Road and the intersection with Bateup Road, consists of just under five hectares, combining undulating grounds and elevated scenic views across Waimea and Tasman Bay.

A house on the property was also included in the sale – however this is likely to be sold off, along with an agreed section of the land, at a later date.

Grant said a landscape plan will now be prepared to determine how the reserve will take shape.

“We are keen to continue enhancing the aesthetic created by the previous owners through the planting of native and exotic trees, while also investing in additional fencing, signage and pathways.”

The acquisition of the land has been supported by our Richmond Ward Councillors, who had identified the value of having land of this size and location set aside for the enjoyment of the community.

The land purchase is in line with our open space strategy, while also ensuring a green buffer between existing and future residential development.

# Your rates are a piece of pie

How much you pay in property rates depends entirely on individual properties. Where you live, what services you can access, and the value of your property all affect rates.

Rates go towards funding local services, things like parks, rubbish collection and road maintenance. Everyone contributes, even if they don’t use every service.

A district-wide property revaluation doesn’t change the total amount collected. If you think of total rates as a pie. A revaluation just cuts the pie into different-sized slices, not making the pie itself bigger or smaller. Your slice might be bigger or smaller depending on how your property value changed compared to others.

The average property rates increase in Tasman District is 11.1%. However, this will vary depending on your specific property, and the impact of the property revaluation on your property in relation to others in the District.

Here’s a breakdown of what rates funds go where.

# Find out where Rover can run

Rules about where and when our canine companions can use certain areas change between summer and winter.

But in Golden Bay, there seems to be some confusion about whether dogs are allowed to exercise at Parapara Inlet and our ‘no dogs’ signs have been damaged or removed.

The simple answer is no, dogs are not allowed at Parapara Inlet. This is to protect wildlife, especially colonies of birds nesting in the area.

A full list of where Fifi and Fido can go and when is available on our website at tasman.govt.nz/exercising-your-dog.

# Can you be an alert ninja for wild ginger?

Ginger is a fast-growing, long-living shade tolerant plant. It can form dense thickets and will eventually displace other native species. While the rhizome beds can spread out densely, they are shallow rooted, so when they become heavy with rain they can slip on steep sites and stream banks, causing erosion.

Despite its name, this tall vigorous perennial from India is not edible.

Both wild ginger species – kahili ginger (Hedychium gardnerianum) and yellow ginger (H. flavescens) – are sustained control pest plants in Golden Bay and Kaiteriteri. This means residents in these areas are responsible for control of these pest plants on their land.

Seeds are spread by birds and possibly possums. Rhizomes spread slowly outward from clumps. New plants can establish from rhizome fragments that are spread by dumped vegetation, soil movement, flooding, and contaminated machinery. Rhizomes can survive immersion in the sea, crushing, and years away from soil.

Control of this plant can be done all year, either by spraying or digging/pulling out small plants. For dense patches, keep the spray away from the roots of vulnerable plants. Don’t replant sprayed sites for six months, and don’t compost – leave it to rot down or hang rhizomes in trees, as they survive indefinitely. Dispose of rhizomes at a refuse station or by drying them out and burning them.

If you need help or advice on controlling wild ginger, please contact our Biosecurity Team at biosecurity@tasman.govt.nz.

# Time to trap rubbish

Rubbish in our marine environment is a growing problem. Not only is it visually unappealing, it’s also a serious threat to wildlife and fish. Much of this rubbish is washed out to sea from stormwater systems following heavy rain.

We have started installing litter traps in the sumps in central Richmond to try and control the situation. These sumps catch rubbish that otherwise will be washed into our stormwater system and would end up in the marine environment.

The initial focus is on sites in car parks where large quantities of litter have been known to accumulate, and where they are easy to install.

Our contractor will use the first of these as training for installation and refine a maintenance system before they are rolled out to other areas. Their performance will be monitored to see how much rubbish we can divert from our stormwater system. We are also going to work with a school that will use one on their grounds as an educational tool.

The litter traps we’ve chosen were carefully selected and are known to perform well during storm events without impeding flow even when full.

# Helping nature in Borck Creek

Development of Borck Creek through the Berryfield subdivision in Richmond continues as we work to create a pleasant habitat for aquatic creatures. We’ve dug more channels with a variety of meanders, grades, depths and widths to mimic a natural creek and improve its ecological functioning.

A lack of rain during the first six months of the year meant much of the area remained dry, but recent rain means these have begun to flow and fill. We’ve also deepened pools into the groundwater so there will be fish refuge over the summer, because most years this section of Borck Creek runs dry or close to it.

Carix Secta, also known as Pukio or Swamp Sedge, is the main species being planted which is a hardy wetland and water-loving plant. Further planting will be ongoing this winter so that we can achieve 70 percent shading of the channel once the vegetation matures.

# Cultural connections encouraged

Do you know that 20 percent of Tasman District’s population was born overseas, and our community is made up of people who are from more than 100 different ethnicities? We live in a fabulously diverse community but sometimes there are obstacles in connecting with all sectors of Tasman.

We can help by providing guidance for those wanting to make cross-cultural connections. Cultural Connections Workshops provide opportunities to understand local demographics, population predictions and how to make the most of our growing diversity.

They will share useful resources to inform and include diverse community members by taking part in interactive dialogue, building bridges, and deepening senses of belonging.

If you’re a member of a service group, rural support and community organisation, local interest group, maybe a sports or hobby club, or even a business, and you’re interested in organising or hosting a Cultural Connections Workshop in your community, get in touch.

We can provide advertising, workshop facilitation, food, and some seed funding to plan an inclusive event.

Contact our Welcoming Communities Officer, Birte Becker-Steel on birte.becker-steel@tasman.govt.nz.

Connect for inspiration on how to embrace and engage with our diverse community.

# Calling keen cabinet art creators

Calling all aspiring artists who are keen to help brighten a neighbourhood. Once again, we’re seeking expressions of interest from Tasman residents with a talent for art to join our communications cabinet art programme.

In association with telco Chorus, we’re offering an opportunity to use the streetside cabinets as a canvas to showcase art to our local community. Chorus will pay artists for materials used and a contribution toward their time.

The programme is proving invaluable as a way to help promote a sense of community belonging, identity and pride while also helping to discourage anti-social behaviour like tagging.

Two sites in Wakefield have been selected as cabinet canvases along with one each in Ngātīmoti, Tasman Village and Māpua.

Whether you’re a budding Picasso or a creator of Colin McCahon-like landscapes, each cabinet provides a great entry point to display your creative skills.

You can find out more and apply at chorus.co.nz/community/cabinet-art-programme. Applications close at the end of August.

# Feedback sought on Motueka street safety improvements

Our new layout at the intersection of Pah and Talbot Streets in Motueka has been down for more than six months.

The new pedestrian crossings and intersection improvements were completed last December and casual feedback from parents and students at Parklands School has been positive. But we now want to get input from the wider community. We’ve launched an online survey to gain feedback.

The survey is open until the end of August. Tell us what you think at shape.tasman.govt.nz/pah-street.

# We want to know about Wensley

The final project in our Streets for People programme, Wensley Road, has been down for a month and we now want your feedback.

Over the past two years, thanks to significant government funding, we’ve installed a network for more than 10 kilometres of connected cycle lanes and safety improvements throughout Richmond and this is our final project.

Alterations to Wensley Road include a new zebra crossing, painted cycle lanes, traffic calming speed bumps and a speed limit reduction to 30 km/h for part of the road to improve safety for people on foot or bicycle.

Sections of the road, between Waverley Street and Surrey Road, and West Avenue and Chelsea Avenue, are going to get a major reconstruction this summer which will see full structural replacement and resealing, along with the construction of a zebra crossing on a raised platform.

The post-construction survey is live now, and we’d appreciate your thoughts at shape.tasman.govt.nz/wensley-survey.

The survey closes Friday 30 August.

# Golden Bay Community Board

It was a busy meeting for the Golden Bay Community Board in Collingwood this month. Special Projects funding was a big discussion, with the feedback from the community invaluable in directing decision-making.

The projects that were decided on by the Board were the Rockville Community Pool, Pākawau playground, fencing outside the Dangerous Kitchen, and support for a new tunnel house for the hanging baskets in Tākaka and Collingwood. The projects will now go to Council staff for feasibility studies before returning to the Board for final funding decisions at our August meeting.

The public forum had one speaker, Bruce Collins, who spoke about the Salisbury Swing Bridge. Sadly, the group that formed to save the bridge has decided to pause the project at this time, due to a lack of funding in the current economic climate, and the reluctance of the Council to take it on with increased maintenance and insurance costs. The group understands the reasoning behind the decision but remains hopeful that a solution can be found in the future. The Community Board would like to thank the committee for all their care and hard work on this project.

# What’s On in Tasman

### Second Hand Sunday

Sunday 18 August, 9.00 am – 2.00 pm.

Second Hand Sunday is a fun way for Nelson and Tasman residents to declutter and re-home unwanted household goods for free. If you have items you want to give away, simply register online before 10.00 am Friday 16 August to be included on the list of participating addresses. Print off a poster to put on your mailbox and put your items on your driveway at 9.00 am on the day. A list and map of participating addresses will be available to download from 12.00 pm Friday 16 August. Check out the map to plan your fossicking route and pick up some free second-hand items! For more information and to sign up, go to tasman.govt.nz/shs.

### Community planting day

Sunday 28 July, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm, Bell Island. Access from Best Island Road.

Join the Battle for the Banded Rail in their community planting efforts. Everyone is invited! Please bring gloves, a spade and drinking water. Wear solid footwear and clothes suitable for the weather conditions. Morning tea is provided. For more info, email Kathryn at bandedrail@gmail.com.

### Wet felting workshops

Monday 29 July, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm or 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm, Richmond Library.

Learn wet felting techniques while making your own table mat with Richmond Creative Fibre Group members. No prior experience is necessary. $8 for materials is payable to the tutors on the day. Numbers are limited so please pop into the Richmond Library or phone 03 543 8500 to book your place.

### Winter recipe swap

Wednesday 31 July, 10.30 am – 12.00 pm, Motueka Library.

Come along and share tasty, nutritious, heart-warming recipes for winter.

### Mastering your passwords

Wednesday 31 July 12.00 pm, Tākaka Library.

In this session, we’ll dive into the crucial role passwords play as your first line of defence in the digital world. Whether you’re tech-savvy or just dipping your toes into the online realm, this webinar is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to create robust passwords, and most importantly, remember them!

# Newsline Notices

### Publicly notified resource consent application: Proposed Digital Billboard – RM230535

Proposal by Bekon Media Limited to establish and operate a single-sided digital billboard for off-site advertising at 332 Queen Street Richmond, at the intersection of Queen Street and State Highway 6 (Richmond Deviation).

The application is to place a billboard measuring 3.5 metres high and 7 metres wide above the existing building and facing west across the road intersection. It will display only still images changing with minimum duration of 8 seconds which will be visible outside of daylight hours.

This is a summary notice only. On our website, you will find the full public notice, the application with details of the specific resource consent applied for, the assessment of environmental effects and supporting information. Visit tasman.govt.nz, search “Bekon Billboard”.

Any person may make a submission on the applications under section 96 of the Resource Management Act 1991. You will find submission forms on our website and at our offices. Details of how to lodge a submission are also on our website. Submissions close 5.00 pm Friday 9 August 2024.

### Vegetation control – roadside spraying

#### Roadside spraying on local roads

We are responsible for the chemical and mechanical control of vegetation within the road reserve. The chemical control is split into two main activities, the control of vegetation around roading infrastructure and dealing with invasive pest plant species.

This includes the use of knock-down and residual herbicides to remove problematic vegetation growing in the road reserve and around street furniture. The active herbicides authorised under our resource consent are norflurazon, oryzalin, simazine, terbuthylazine, glyphosate, metsulfuron, haloxyfop, triclopyr and picloram/triclopyr. Methods for treatment are foliar and basal spraying.

Residents can request that their rural or peri-rural property frontage not be chemically sprayed and instead undertake the vegetation control themselves. If you wish to apply for your property to be added to the “no spray” list, please contact Nikki Shepherd on 03 543 7234 or nikki.shepherd@tasman.govt.nz.

#### Roadside spraying on state highways

NZTA Waka Kotahi contractors undertake an ongoing vegetation control programme to ensure roadside vegetation does not affect the safety or operation of state highways.

This programme includes the spraying of chemical herbicides including the following active ingredients: Glyphosate, Metsulfuron, Terbuthylazine and Triclopyr.

You can register your property as a ‘no spray’ zone, which requires a commitment to maintain a property’s highway frontage to specifications provided by NZTA Waka Kotahi, by contacting Mitch Hutchings on 03 373 2036 or mitchell.hutchings@wsp.com.

### Proposed temporary road closure

Applicant: Motueka Events Charitable Trust.

Event: Starlight Christmas Parade.

Location: High Street from Poole Street, down to Whakarewa Street and Wallace Street from High Street end down to the Decks Reserve carpark entrance.

Date and time: Friday 6 December 2024 – 6.00 pm for High Street and 3.00 pm for Wallace Street (to allow for catering trucks to set up), closure finish 9.00 pm.

Objections close: 5.00 pm, Friday 16 August 2024. Please send any objections to tania.brown@tasman.govt.nz.

### Time to pay dog rego

All dogs in Tasman need to be registered every year. Any dogs that are still unregistered and unpaid on 1 August will incur a 50% penalty fee, so there are just a few days left before penalty fees kick in. Visit tasman.govt.nz/dog-registration.

### Last chance for 2024 Community Grant funding

Do you have an exciting community project in the pipeline? Community Grants help get some of our most valuable community projects off the ground, and this round of funding closes on Wednesday 31 July. To find out more and apply visit tasman.govt.nz/grants.

### Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and via Zoom. For details, the Zoom link and recordings of previous meetings visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Tasman District Council
Thursday 1 August, 9.30 am.

Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit
Friday 2 August, 9.30 am. Nelson City Council, 110 Trafalgar Street.

Saxton Field Committee
Tuesday 6 August, 9.30 am.

Creative Communities Subcommittee
Wednesday 7 August, 10.00 am. Motueka Library Community Meeting Room, 32 Wallace Street. No public forum.

Enterprise Committee
Wednesday 7 August, 1.30 pm.

Joint Nelson Tasman Regional Transport Committee
Friday 9 August, 9.30 am.