# **Newsline Issue 596 – 13 June 2025**

# Wakefield hub investigations begin

Plans are progressing for a new community hub for Wakefield, but a few decisions need to be made before we start the design process.

The hub will provide a new indoor multi-use community facility which will replace the earthquake-prone Wakefield Community Hall.

The budget is around $11 million, with $6.4 million coming from developers via Reserve Financial Contributions, community co-funding of $2.5 million, and the remaining $2.1 million from rates.

Intentions at this stage include community facilities like room for indoor ball sports in a multi-functional space, as well as a kitchen, meeting rooms, toilets and changing rooms.

The first decision is where will it go?

The first suggested site is Clifford Road, near the tennis courts and adjacent to the recreation grounds.

On the plus side, this is within a very large site with plenty of scope for future development, though it has some areas which are potentially flood-prone, and the access would ideally be from the state highway.

Site two is 52 Edward Street, within walking distance of Wakefield School. Owners of the property have approached us to discuss future development opportunities.

The positives with this site are that it is centrally located in the village and has access to Faulkner’s Bush. This is smaller than option one, though it will allow for some future development.

Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/wakefield-com-hub to provide feedback on which site you feel is best. Feedback is open until Friday 11 July.

This feedback, along with other analyses, will feed into the final report for Elected Members to inform their decision-making.

# Share your thoughts on tent-ative responsible camping bylaw

We are updating our approach to managing freedom camping in the Tasman District to reflect recent changes to the law and improve the experience for local communities and visitors.

Over recent years, the amount of vehicle-based camping has increased dramatically, particularly in Motueka and Golden Bay. This has come with challenges, including littering, noise, access to public areas, and commercial competition concerns.

We want to continue to be welcoming hosts to people wishing to enjoy a unique Tasman experience, and we expect our visitors to respect the special places and communities as they pass through.

The proposed Responsible Camping Bylaw updates how we manage responsible camping across the District by identifying where and how freedom camping can happen in areas, and also enables us to enforce this.

The draft bylaw seeks to protect local areas, the health and safety of visitors, and access to public areas from negative impacts caused by freedom camping.

We’ve taken this opportunity to also make some improvements, like changing rules for freedom camping parking at Decks Reserve and providing freedom camping areas for self-contained vehicles at George Quay in Motueka and Wai-iti Domain south of Wakefield.

We want to know what you think about our draft bylaw. You can make a submission until Monday 7 July. Full details and submission forms are at our service centres, libraries and shape.tasman.govt.nz/camping-bylaw.

# Sharing feedback on alcohol in public places is worth a shot

We are reviewing our Control of Alcohol in Public Places Bylaw, and we want to hear from you.

The bylaw sets rules for where and when alcohol can be consumed in public places – such as streets, parks, and reserves – to help reduce alcohol-related harm and promote public safety.

It does not affect alcohol licences or where alcohol can be bought or sold.

The draft bylaw largely maintains existing settings, with a small number of changes proposed, including a reduced alcohol control area in some smaller townships due to low levels of alcohol-related harm.

Police use discretion when addressing alcohol consumption in alcohol control areas. Officers can assess each situation and decide whether intervention is necessary. This approach enables de-escalation without the need for formal infringements or arrests, unless there is actual or potential alcohol-related crime or disorder.

Submissions can be made online, by email to haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz, by post, or in person. You can view the proposed bylaw, Statement of Proposal, and submission details online at shape.tasman.govt.nz/cappb-review or at our service centres and libraries.

Consultation is open from Friday 6 June until Monday 7 July. Hearings are then scheduled for Tuesday 15 July, and the final bylaw is expected to be adopted in September.

# Deciding Development Contributions

Following deliberations on 27 May, we have now reviewed and updated our Development and Financial Contributions Policy for 2024-2034.

These outcomes considered public feedback and staff recommendations around the proposed changes.

An amendment was also made to the proposed change for stormwater detention discounts in the Development and Financial Contributions Policy, for developments with on-site detention.

Instead of only providing the discount to Richmond’s intensification area, Elected Members decided to keep a 25% discount on stormwater development contributions, except for specific parts of Richmond, Motueka and Māpua where there is significant investment in stormwater networks.

The Development and Financial Contributions Policy outlines our approach to funding development infrastructure via development contributions under the Local Government Act 2002 and financial contributions under the Tasman Resource Management Plan.

In basic terms, the purpose of the Policy is to ensure that those people developing properties and who directly benefit, pay their share of the growth-related costs of that infrastructure.

The reviewed Development and Financial Contributions Policy will be presented for adoption at the Council meeting on 25 June 2025.

# Future fees finally firmed up

Also on the table for discussion in the Council Chamber were deliberations around Fees and Charges for 2025/2026.

The affordability of waste disposal and dog control fees were raised as issues of particular concern by the community.

Our Resource Recovery Centres are receiving less waste than forecast, due to the recent economic downturn, waste minimisation initiatives and some waste being taken directly to York Landfill.

We had proposed an 18% increase in mixed refuse charges but reduced this to 15% to address affordability concerns and try and ensure waste is more affordably managed.

Elected Members also discussed the proposed increase in dog registration fees in response to the submissions opposing this. The fees have only had minimal increases over the past decade so the increase was proposed to recover the costs of providing a sustainable and fit-for-purpose dog control service, and to ensure that those benefiting from the service are the ones paying for it, rather than general ratepayers.

This means that urban dogs will cost $90 for the coming year, rural dogs will cost $70, and a new category for working dogs will be introduced with a $50 registration fee. The resulting fees are comparable with the dog registration fees of many other councils across the country.

The annual monitoring and administration fee for mooring licences was reduced from the proposed $226 to $153 in response to submissions.

All other proposed fees and charges in the schedule were confirmed.

A final Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/2026 will be presented for adoption at the Council meeting on 25 June 2025, before coming into effect on 1 July 2025.

# Breathing easy – your airtime is important

Ever wondered what is really in the air you breathe? The 2025 Richmond air emissions survey, and the results, could make a real difference to your family’s health.

Running from Monday 23 June to Thursday 10 July, this phone survey continues important research on our home heating behaviours that we’ve been tracking since 2005. The focus? Those tiny particles called PM10 that are emitted from wood burners which can seriously impact our breathing.

The survey is a valuable tool in providing a comprehensive understanding of emission sources and guiding effective air quality management strategies in the Richmond Airshed.

Cleaner air means healthier lungs, especially for children and anyone with respiratory conditions. It also creates a more pleasant environment for outdoor activities.

The importance of the survey is that Richmond’s data helps shape both local and national air quality policies and ensures data used by policy makers does not solely rely on information from larger urban areas.

If Symphony Research calls you, taking part is completely voluntary and anonymous.

The bottom line? This is not just another survey – it is your chance to help build a healthier future for our community.

# One year on: Murchison Pump Track still a hit

The Murchison Pump Track – proudly known as the *Four Rivers Flow Zone* – has been officially open for a year now and has already cemented itself as a much-loved part of the town.

From sunrise to sunset, the track – located beside the Murchison Sport, Recreation & Cultural Centre – hums with the sound of tyres, laughter, and growing bike skills, making it a stand-out community asset.

“We’ve had great feedback,” says Michelle from the Murchison Sport, Recreation & Cultural Centre. “It’s used every day, and over summer kids are often down at the river, but now as it cools down the pump track has become the new hangout spot.”

“From my office window, I also enjoy seeing people travelling through Murchison pulling up with bikes for a picnic and a ride.”

Thanks to $250,000 in Better Off Funding from Central Government, we committed to upgrading the existing BMX track and installing some basic playground equipment.

While both elements were considered, the project team and local partners agreed to prioritise delivering a high-quality pump track experience within the available budget. Any remaining funds were allocated towards a playground design and basic equipment. The playground itself will be delivered as a separate project in the future.

In partnership with the Murchison Sport, Recreation & Cultural Centre, the goal was to create more recreation opportunities for young people.

The project was managed by us with the design and construction of the track completed by trail specialists Empire of Dirt.

This was a project made possible by the community, for the community. Local volunteers, businesses, and whānau offered input, ideas, and hands-on support.

# Do you have what it takes?

Encouragement and support are being offered to first-timers considering standing for Tasman District Council in this year’s local election.

Nominations open on Monday 7 July for the October election.

Former two-term Tasman Councillor and four-term Tasman Mayor Richard Kempthorne says now is the time for potential candidates to consider their nomination. He says the role of Councillor or Mayor isn’t for faint-hearted people.

“To be a councillor, you need to cope with processes that often take time, if you’re an impatient person who doesn’t tolerate systems it’s not a job for you, but if you have the District’s wellbeing as a focus, it’s an extremely rewarding and fulfilling role.”

Current Deputy Mayor Stuart Bryant is retiring after 26 years of service and adds that one of the important traits of a councillor is the ability to listen and carefully consider all information put before you.

“You need to use your own life knowledge and skills to make the best decisions for the community that has elected you.”

Former three-term Councillor Judene Edgar says there’s not a single set of skills that candidates need to be good representatives, but being able to compromise is important.

“There has never been a time when everyone in the community has agreed with a Council decision – it’s about finding balance.”

We have a series of short videos featuring Richard, Stuart and Judene offering tips and advice to potential candidates on our website at tasman.govt.nz/elections.

We are also hosting a candidate information session from 6.30 pm on Thursday 26 June in the Richmond Council Chamber.

# Bridge build preparations progress

A few surprises were unearthed during preliminary site works at the Lower Queen Street bridge replacement site last month.

The road was closed for five days in mid-May so contractors could carry out investigations and prepare the area for construction.

Crews identified critical services like sewer and treated water pipes, as well as telecommunications and electricity cables that need to be moved away from the construction zone before work can begin.

Electronic location equipment was used to identify underground services followed by ‘potholing’ which is an investigative method where the utilities are exposed by water blasting numerous exploratory holes at various depths.

An interesting but worthwhile outcome of the potholing was that we discovered a couple of utility lines and other existing underground structures that hadn’t been documented over the years.

We’ve now dealt with these and can move on with the project. The first phase will be the relocation of these underground utilities and preparing for the construction of a temporary road and bridge to bypass the construction zone. This phase will start in mid-June.

The new bypass will be a fully formed road able to cope with the regular Lower Queen Street traffic flows, including heavy vehicles, and work on that is expected to begin in September.

Keep up with the progress at shape.tasman.govt.nz/LQS-bridge.

# Speed management phase two feedback moves into gear

Phase two of our Speed Management Plan consultation is now underway, and we want your thoughts. We are looking for feedback on proposals to lower speed limits for numerous local roads.

The roads are narrow or winding tortuous unsealed roads, rural residential roads and peri-urban streets, urban roads which do not have footpaths, and unsealed roads which include on-road sections of Tasman’s Great Taste Trail. There are also some specific roads with individual requirements that have been highlighted.

The changes on these roads were approved as part of the Nelson Tasman Speed Management Plan at a Joint Council meeting of Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council in August 2024. This was after extensive consultation on speed limits in January and February last year.

In October 2024, the Setting of the Speed Limits Rule 2024 was released which specifies the speed limits that Road Controlling Authorities are able to set for each class of road. However, the rule now requires us to re-consult on most proposed speed limit changes before we can implement our Speed Management Plan and must now include a Cost Benefit Disclosure Statement for each road being consulted on.

We’ve created a comprehensive list of roads in Tasman District and have broken them down on a ward-by-ward basis. You can find lists of roads and maps at shape.tasman.govt.nz/speed-phase-two where you can also have your say.

We are only consulting on local roads and not State Highways. Any changes to State Highway speeds will be done by NZTA Waka Kotahi.

# Time for a new tag for Muttly

Is your furry friend a loyal sidekick, a spoiled lapdog, or a hardworking farmhand? No matter their vibe, all dogs need to be registered before 1 July.

Registration fees:

* $90 for dogs on urban properties less than 1 hectare
* $70 for rural dogs on properties larger than 1 hectare
* $50 for working dogs kept solely for herding and stock droving

If your pup isn’t registered and paid for by 1 August, a 50% late fee will be added. These fees help cover the cost of all dog-related services in Tasman. It’s largely a user-pays system which is only 5% funded from general rates.

Already registered? Great! Keep an eye out – registration forms will be sent out soon. You can also grab a form anytime from our website.

Here’s how to return your registration form:

* Email it to dog.control@tasman.govt.nz
* Post it to Dog Control, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050
* Drop it off at any Council Service Centre

Paying your fee is easy:

* Bank transfer: 12-3193-0002048-03 (use your dog owner number as the reference)
* Online by credit card (small fee applies)
* In person at any Council Service Centre

Moved house? Changed your number? Got a new pup? Make sure you update your details on the form.

For more information, head to tasman.govt.nz/dog-registration. Let’s keep our four-legged mates safe and legal – thanks for doing your bit!

# Mayors for Peace – artists wanted

Peace can mean many things – kindness, calmness, understanding, or simply getting along. We’re inviting the young people of Tasman to share what peace means to them through art, as part of this year’s Mayors for Peace international art competition.

The theme is ‘What Peace Means to Me’, and we’d love to see what our talented local youth come up with! Young artists aged 6 to 15 who live or go to school in Tasman can enter, with drawings or paintings that express their unique perspective on peace.

Last year, we were thrilled to see Shaviva Winslade from Tasman Christian School win the international award for the 6 – 10 year age group – her artwork stood out among more than 2,300 entries from around the world!

There are two age categories: 6 – 10 years and 11 – 15 years. A local judging panel will choose the top five artworks from each group, which Mayor Tim King will announce at the opening of a special art exhibition in October.

The selected artworks will then be sent to Japan for international judging. One outstanding piece will receive the Mayors for Peace President’s Award and may be used in events and materials promoting peace education around the world.

Entries are open until 15 September. To learn more and submit an artwork visit tasman.govt.nz/art-competition. Let’s inspire peace – one brushstroke at a time!

# Keeping the community safe when disaster strikes in our region

Our role as a Council is not just about keeping services, roads and pipes in order – many of our staff are also on hand to help when the worst side of mother nature comes knocking.

In recent years, the Emergency Operations Centre in Richmond has seen multiple small-scale activations as well as the larger responses to the August 2022 floods and landslides, the Pigeon Valley fires, and ex-Cyclone Gita/Fehi.

In close collaboration with Nelson City Council, Nelson Tasman Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) and local agencies, a willing and capable group of people from various backgrounds and skillsets are utilised.

From welfare and logistics to gathering intelligence and providing public communications, there are some long days and extra effort required to ensure our communities are kept informed and safe during these difficult times.

Sometimes this can extend for a number of weeks, meaning a longer commitment to ensure things are resolved in the areas affected.

Our Council Hydrology team are often the first to raise awareness of a situation, keeping an eye on the weather and providing the first indication of any severe weather event, allowing staff to prepare and inform the public in liaison with the local CDEM team.

As well as those who volunteer for shifts during emergency events and in the recovery phases, we also have some in our organisation who are active members of The Nelson Tasman Emergency Response Team, known as NZ-RT2. This is the operational arm of the Nelson Tasman CDEM. While specialising in urban search and rescue work, the team has a role in all types of civil defence emergencies, including collapsed buildings, landslides and floods.

If you would like to get involved and help your community, contact info@ntem.govt.nz to find out about our community emergency preparedness planning.

# Motueka Community Board

The first 30 minutes at our Board meetings provide an opportunity for members of the community to address the Board through public forum, which is later discussed during the Board report part of the meeting.

The risk of impact on services and rate increases have been the recent topics raised in the public forum and discussed around the Board table. We heard from a representative of the rebranded Motueka Aquatic Centre (swimming pool) Fundraising Group, who plan to revamp fundraising efforts especially if $1 million in Council investment is moved forward to the 2025/2026 financial year in the Annual Plan.

At the end of the month, the Board workshopped with the Environmental Assurance Group Manager, General Counsel, and Service & Strategy Group Manager, regarding regulatory and enforcement concerns in the community.

The housing shortage and affordability in this region have been an ongoing matter that needs addressing at central and local government levels. The Board continues to advocate by driving the ‘community wellbeing solutions initiative’, bridging organisations, capturing community voice, relaying concerns to the Council, proposing a review of the TRMP ‘8-week rule’, and requesting enforcement triage complaints focus on serious environmental risks over minor non-impact infringements. The Board is aware of the complexities and requirements but continues to advocate for solutions that support the community while upholding Council obligations.

If you would like to speak at public forum, please visit rebrand.ly/a7c7e7 or the Motueka Service Centre.

# Wha’s On In Tasman

### Matariki celebrations

Community planting day with Battle for the Banded Rail: Sunday 15 June, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm, Research Orchard Road in Redwood Valley.

Kapa haka performances: Monday 16 June at 12.00 pm and 2.00 pm, and Wednesday 18 June at 10.00 am and 2.00 pm, Sundial Square.

Raranga star making: Tuesday 17 June at 1.00 pm and Wednesday 18 June at 12.30 pm, Sundial Square.

Star gazing and sausage sizzle: Saturday 28 June, 6.00 pm, Wai-iti Dark Sky Reserve.

Join us in honouring the Māori New Year with a series of vibrant community events featuring performances, kai, crafts, and more. Everyone is welcome, bring your whānau and be part of something special.

### Mānawatia a Matariki – Happy Māori New Year!

Wednesday 18 June, 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm, Motueka, Richmond and Tākaka Libraries.
Pop into your local library to get crafty and create a Matariki star. You can add this to a collaborative mural or take your star home.

Wednesday 18 June, 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm, Murchison Library.
Your Matariki star craft pack is available to pick up (one pack per child).

### Wellby Talking Café

Wednesday 18 June, 10.00 am – 11.30 am, Motueka Library.

Come along for a relaxed cuppa to start your journey connecting with others who enjoy the same things. You can pop in for a quick chat or stay for a longer conversation with friendly people.

### Motueka Repair Café

Saturday 21 June, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Motueka Library.

Offering free repairs to reduce waste and help the environment. Bring your broken items to be assessed and hopefully repaired by a friendly team of volunteers.

### Community quilt project

Monday 24 March – Monday 30 June, all Tasman District Libraries.

We are down to the final two weeks for you to get your marvellous quilt block to your local library for inclusion in our community quilt (Monday 30 June). All ages, all sewing abilities, all welcome. Pop into your local library to pick up an entry form with everything you need to know to take part in this creative community project. Our theme for this quilt is threading connections/tuia te hononga, a celebration of the connection you feel with Te Tauihu/Top of the South.

# Newsline Notices

### Public holiday hours and services

On the Matariki public holiday, Friday 20 June, all service centres and libraries will be closed for the day. Usual opening hours apply otherwise. There are no changes to the rubbish and recycling collections. All our resource recovery centres will be open as normal. The eBuses on Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be running, but on a reduced timetable. Routes 5 and 6 do not run on a public holiday. When viewing the timetables at ebus.nz select the holidays tab to see the schedules.

### Moturoa / Rabbit Island upland game bird hunt

Public access to the eastern half of Moturoa / Rabbit Island will be closed between 7.00 am – 2.00 pm on Saturday 21 June (rain day Sunday 22 June) while an organised game bird hunt takes place. The closure will include all the beachfront at the eastern end. There will be no hunting on the beach or within 100 metres of the high tide mark.

Fish & Game organises the hunt, which is permitted under the Moturoa / Rabbit Island Reserve Management Plan. For more details, contact Jacob Lucas at Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game on jlucas@fishandgame.org.nz.

### Know what’s the go with Antenno

Did you know we use a free mobile app called Antenno to send you notifications about places and topics you care about? You’ll find reminders about recycling, and updates about road closures, water shutdowns and weather warnings.

There are two ways you can use Antenno: receive notifications from us about the places you have marked as important to you or report issues or feedback to us. Antenno lets you choose the places you want to be alerted about, so you’re not being notified about things that don’t affect you. For reporting issues, the app conveniently adds the location to a photo so we can log the problem, including a description of it and your contact details. Antenno is simple and easy to use, and no personal information or log-on details are required. Download it for free from the app store on your phone.

### Consultation corner

We have a number of topics currently open for feedback. Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz to have your say on:

* Richmond Reserves Management Plan
* Saxton playground
* Alcohol in public places
* Responsible camping
* Speed management
* Wakefield Community Hub

### Alcohol applications

Visit tasman.govt.nz/alcohol-notices to see the latest alcohol licence applications.

### 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 the Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Motueka Community Board
Tuesday 17 June, 4.00 pm. Motueka Library, Wallace Street.

Tasman District Council
Thursday 19 June, 9.30 am.

Golden Bay Community Board
Monday 23 June, 1.00 pm. Collingwood Fire Station.

Tasman District Council (Annual Plan Adoption)
Wednesday 25 June, 9.30 am.

Strategy and Policy Committee
Thursday 26 June, 9.30 am.

Submissions Hearing – Waimea River Park Management Plan
Thursday 26 June, 12.30 pm.