

Welcome to new Council



• The new Wairoa District Council, led by Mayor Craig Little.

A fresh perspective tempered by voices of experience are an apt description of the new-look Wairoa District Council. Craig Little took on the chains of Mayor during the inaugural meeting last month, having previously served one term as a councillor. His chosen Deputy is Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, who

has become well-versed in the responsibilities of this position over the past several terms. The pair are joined by new Councillors Mike Bird, Hine Flood, and Chris Joblin, along with experienced Councillors Benita Cairns and Min Johansen. Former Mayor Les Probert

is acknowledged for his 28 years of commitment to the Wairoa District Council, including 12 years as Mayor. Mr Probert leaves behind a legacy of involvement in successful projects, including the formation of the popular walkway/cycleway alongside the Wairoa River, and his advocacy for sealing SH38.

Get on board for Kiwiana Christmas

Polish up your jandals and slice the kiwifruit - you don't want to miss this year's Kiwiana Christmas Lighthouse Festival. The big day is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 7, and will kick off with the annual 'Run-a-muck' walk/run. There'll be plenty of time to grab some lunch before the Christmas Parade at 2pm, followed by a free family concert at 3.30pm. Dressing up for the theme could earn you some great spot prizes, so don't be shy! Float registration forms can be picked up from the library, i-SITE or the Wairoa District Council. Keen performers for the concert can contact Layton Gemmell on 838 7328 or laytongemmell@gmail.com.



FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 12 November 2013
- 10 December 2013
- 11 February 2014
- 11 March 2014

COUNCIL FORUM

- 26 November 2013
- 25 February 2014
- 25 March 2014

MAORI STANDING COMMITTEE

- 29 November 2013

Meetings and Forums are held at the Queen Street office council chambers, and are open to the public unless otherwise specified.



CONTACT US

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ROAD DUST

Tell us what you think



The fight against dust nuisance is continuing in earnest at Wairoa District Council, with a draft list of prioritised sites now available for viewing and comment.

Engineers have taken into account submissions from the public to compile the list and are asking for opinions before moving forward.

Other factors taken into consideration when putting the list together include the number of houses on the road, distance from the road, speed, traffic volumes and environmental exposure.

Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said the list was the result of running each identified site through a series of criteria to make sure limited resources were used in the right place.

“It’s about fairly prioritising a community’s needs, with input from those affected. If we’re going to spend money, we have to get it right,” he said.

The list identifies 57 sites, which will be treated with various methods as and when funds allow.

“It would be great to head out and take care of all the sites at once, but the reality is that we have limited resources. However, we can use the register as a means of applying for funding to get specific jobs done,” Mr Cox said.

The list can be viewed on-line at www.wairoadc.govt.nz under ‘Our Community’, or call into council offices and pick up a copy.

People are encouraged to email aram@wairoadc.govt.nz, complete the online form, phone 838 7309 or write a letter before Friday, August 2.

Wairoa District Council is responsible for the maintenance of around 870km of roads around the district, not including State Highways, which are taken care of by the NZ Transport Agency. Around 50 percent of rates go towards roading.

↓ YOUR SPOT



Work seems that much easier with a view like this. Legacy Maru spent time helping out with a fencing project in the Mahia hills during the school holidays.

If you have a photo or artwork that reflects the Wairoa community, we’d love to print it.

Email tamsyn@wairoadc.govt.nz or post to PO Box 54, Wairoa 4160

↓ Whakatauki/ PROVERB

Whakapūpūtia mai ō tātou mānuka kia kore ai e whati.

Cluster together the branches of our mānuka so that they will not break.

Wairoa District Council supports the goal of becoming an official bi-lingual district by 2040.

Skaters assist staff with plans

Wheels are well in motion for expanding the popular Alexandra Park skatebowl. A Wairoa College focus group have been working with council staff to come up with a design that will meet the needs of skatepark users without blowing the budget.

Engineering Manager Jamie Cox said it had been a valuable experience working with the students, who were far more in touch about what was needed to create a great facility.

“I’ve been impressed by how they’ve partnered up for this project and made a realistic contribution.

They’ve understood the budget constraints and helped us to prioritise our design,” he said.

A \$100,000 spend is set aside for the project, which will build on the existing skatepark.

Additional concrete areas, rails, steps, mini half pipe and a jump are hoped to be included in the final design. Comfort features such as seating, a water fountain, rubbish bin and a toilet have also been discussed as options. The focus group also felt having some kind of lighting in place would also be of benefit.

The current skatebowl was built as a result of a combined funding effort between council and community groups. Since then, it has become a popular place for people of all ages to practice



their skills and burn off energy, whether it be on a skateboard, scooter or bike. It’s also served as a venue for competitions and fun events.

“It’s a small project in terms of spend, but it’s very important for the community.”

Jamie Cox
ENGINEERING MANAGER

Annual plan submissions inspired the extension of the existing bowl, identifying the need for more space and challenges to keep skaters entertained. The enhancement of Wairoa’s park will serve to encourage participation in this internationally recognised activity, which is also a competitive sport. Added to this are the

advantages of encouraging a healthy activity for our youth.

Mr Cox said the site lent itself to expansion, and was part of a larger vision to create a wider recreational area between the Wairoa Community Centre and the skatepark.

“It’s prime river frontage and we have a great opportunity to make the most of it. This project ties in well with the swimming pool extension. It’s a small project in terms of spend, but it’s very important for the community,” he said. There was a possibility of installing barbeques and tables to create a family picnic area to link the two facilities.

The next step is to get the design finalised to fit within the budget, then move ahead with construction.



In loving memory

Beautiful views from a well-crafted perch await those who pay a visit to the new seat on the river walkway/cycleway.

Commissioned by Maureen Caswell in memory of her late husband, John Caswell, the seat was made by Geoff Hole from locally-sourced eucalyptus.

Stunning pua insets enhance the bench - a fitting memorial for the former military man and bridge builder.

Stop by and see the seat near the yacht club, on Kopu Road.



WAIROA QUICK REPORT

Māori Standing Committee confirmed

A new Wairoa District Council Māori Standing Committee has been confirmed to serve a three year term. Each representative was selected by tangata whenua within eight takiwā (areas). Eight representatives were confirmed and a ninth representative was selected from the floor at a hui-a-iwi hosted at Takitimu Marae on Saturday, 19 October 2013.

They are:

Peter Whaanga* (Mahia mai Tawhiti takiwā)

Graeme Symes

(Rakaipaaka takiwā)

Paul Kelly (Wairoa Matangirau takiwā)

Esther Foster* (Wairoa Hōnengenenge takiwā)

Kiwa Hammond* (Wairoa Hōpūpū takiwā)

Hereturikōkā Nissen (Ruakituri takiwā)

Neuton Lambert (Waikaremoana takiwā)

Gaye Hawkins* (Pāhauwera takiwā)

Sam Jury* (Wairoa Whānui)

**denotes new representative*



Staff profile ↓



Sue Clough, Cashier/Creditors Clerk

Time on the job: 26 years

What she does: Takes payments over the counter and starts the process to get the bills paid.

Favourite place in the district: Lake Waikaremoana, although our whole area is a beautiful, wild place.

Census Population Data

People have been on the move. Data from the last Census show that Wairoa's total population has decreased by 591 people since 2006, to 7890. Here's a quick rundown of where people are living:

Tuai	219
Frasertown	252
Ruakituri-Morere	705
Maungataniwha	318
Raupunga	627
Whakaki	732
Nuhaka	261
Mahia	720
Wairoa	4053
Total	7890

Data as presented by Statistics New Zealand

Learning on the land

Dirt has been flying as YROA YNOT participants set to work on a fencing project at Nukutaurua, Mahia. The work is part of a larger goal to get youth out on the land, taking a 'hands-on' approach to developing agricultural skills. Warmer weather will soon see a group begin work on an ocean research project, also based at Mahia. Time is already being spent at the Wairoa Community Centre pool to make sure diving skills are up to scratch.

Mahia Beach wastewater

Construction of property connections to the sewerage scheme is progressing steadily. This work will continue into early 2014. WDC thanks property owners for their patience as this lengthy task is undertaken.

Get consents/licences sorted

If you are considering applying for a building or resource consent, the last date you can apply to ensure it is processed this year is November 22, which is 20 working days before Council offices close. You can still apply after that date but staff cannot guarantee the consent will be able to be processed. The same applies to liquor licences.

A clean set of wheels

Planting season is causing some bumpy problems on local roads. WDC contractors have been busy clearing roads of large clods of dirt left behind by heavy machinery. A clean down before exiting paddocks would help with traffic safety and save on clean-up costs.