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ISSUE 93

FROM THE Mayor'S DESK

Kia ora koutou, people in Taihape will be well aware of the bridges that are going in at Hautapu River Parks as part of the walkways and if you don't know about this you really should do the walk to go down and look. Things are at the above water construction stage now and there are a number of people involved who I am looking forward to meeting during the week.



Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitīkei.



The 2024/25 rates have been loaded onto our website. You can now 'search' your current property rates and history. www.rangitikei.govt.nz/rates





Animal Control team out and about in the community

Last week, Kim, Lace, Amy and Aaron (*from left to right*) from our Animal Control team were at the Feilding Farmers Market, talking to dog owners and handing out more information about what Animal Control do. This is a shared service that we provide to Manawatū District Council, which means that there's a total of 7,050km² to cover, with just five officers!

Unlike SPCA and MPI, our Animal Control team are there for the protection of the public and people. They shouldn't be the first port of call for animal welfare issues, but where they have concern, they can share this information with the relevant authorities.

It's a tough job at times, but Lace is a bit of a secret weapon for difficult circumstances. Lace is Amy's dog, a former pound pup, and her calm nature has been able to assist the team when they're dealing with dogs that are distressed or agitated. She's become part of the team, so if you see her out and about you might spot her in high viz next time!

We'll look to hold a similar event in the Rangitīkei in the near future so you can get to know the team as well, and give pats to Lace!

Paraitikai District Council adonts nous draws nolisy.

Rangitīkei District Council adopts new drone policy

At its last Council meeting on Thursday, 27 June, Rangitīkei District Council adopted its new drone policy, which covers the use of drones over Council owned and administered land.

Known as the Operating Unmanned Aerial Systems (drones) on Council Owned and Administrated Land Policy, it covers all Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), including model aircraft, and sets out where users of such systems have permission to use them above our land. Provided they comply with New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) rules, users are given permission to use drones over Council land, except in the following locations:

- Over Council cemeteries, playgrounds, and the Tutaenui Reservoir;
- Over Council land that contains buildings and facilities, including office buildings, libraries, pools, transfer stations, water and wastewater treatment plants, and community housing;
- Over roads, including roads in parks and reserves

Special permission may be granted to those who have a specific request to fly over any of the above locations and will be granted at Council's discretion.

Drones are becoming more popular with recreational users which causes a potential risk to aircraft in the busy airspace around the southern Rangitīkei District due to the proximity of Base Ōhakea to our border. The aim of the policy is to provide guidance on the CAA rules and RDC's code of conduct for flying drones above our land.

Those who operate drones are encouraged to log their flight information into AirShare and Flight Advsior. Anyone who has concerns about drone use over Council land should be reported to Council for us to investigate. However, if you have concerns about illegal drone use, CAA should be contacted in the first instance.

The policy only relates to where drones can be used above Council land, so if drone users would like to fly over private property they must request the permission of the owner. Concerns about drones being used over private property can be raised with the CAA and Privacy Commissioner. Safety concerns should be reported to the Police.

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dronespolicy

Meeting Cancellations and Updates

The following meetings have changed since advertised on 20 June:

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting CANCELLED

Thursday, 25 July at 9.30am

Council Workshop NEW Thursday, 25 July at 9.30am Smokefree and Vape Policy Hearings NEW

Thursday, 25 July at 11.15am

Council Meeting NO CHANGE

Thursday, 25 July at 1.00pm



Time is running out to avoid a late payment fee for dog registration. Pay before 31 July 2024.

You can pay online www.rangitikei.govt.nz/dogs or pay in person at Taihape Library, Marton Office, Hunterville Village Bookshop or Te Matapihi, Bulls.

For more information phone our Customer Experience Team on 0800 422 522



