

Mini golf hole themes revealed

The final concept designs for the new 18-hole mini golf course at EA Networks Centre have been signed off by Mayor Neil Brown, with a November opening date pencilled in for the project.

Mayor Brown and Cr Leen Braam gave their tick of approval last week to designs by play space specialists Creo.

The Mayor said inspiration for each hole came from a unique feature of the Ashburton District, which was one of the goals of the project.

“The designs look awesome and the project is ready to move into the manufacturing and installation stage. The work will be done over the coming months and that will involve two small retaining walls as the course will be on three levels.

“Holes one to 11 are on the flat and will be accessible for people pushing a pram, or those with limited mobility or in a wheelchair.”

Hole 12, the Rakaia Bridge, leads up to the embankment where holes 13-18 are – these holes are planned to be installed during July. Local sub-contractors will support the work.

The mini golf course will be free for players, who can bring their own equipment or hire a ball and putter.

Council’s People and Facilities Group Manager Sarah Mosley said the holes would be made from synthetic turf and recycled rubber, with a range of natural



An artist's impression of part of the mini golf course for EA Networks Centre.

and built theming objects.

“The materials are robust and will stand up well to high temperatures in summer and frosts in the winter.”

She said the trickiest hole was likely to be hole 18, Mt Hutt, at the top of the course on the embankment.

Other holes feature the town clock, a combine harvester and braided rivers.

Ms Mosley said the holes would be manufactured in Oamaru, where the contractor is based, and transported to

Ashburton for installation.

“It’s been great to be able to unveil more detail about the mini golf course this week as the sport and recreation centre marks its 10-year milestone and we think this is a great additional offering for the centre and community to enjoy.”

Just over 1100 people visited the centre last Sunday to take part in free birthday activities. There were plenty of extra swimmers in the pools, and visitors were keen to try their hand at new indoor sports, like pickleball.

CE Hamish Riach Milestones in sight as focus continues on water work

This week marks an important milestone in our work to implement Government’s Local Water Done Well programme.

Councillors will consider all 234 submissions received from the community when Council consulted on how it would deliver drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services in the future.

They will hear from submitters, look at all the feedback, then decide on a way forward.

It might look straightforward, with 88% of submitters supporting Council’s proposed inhouse model (a Stand Alone Business Unit) to run three waters operations, but it is a big decision and Councillors will carefully consider the work done to this point and the thoughts of the community.

After deciding on a delivery model, Council must then prepare a Water Services Delivery Plan that must be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs by 3 September.

This is important work about essential services and I want to thank all those involved in the process - community and staff - for their input.

Two other notable pieces of work will go before Council next week - the Annual Plan and an issues and options paper on the water quality at Lake Hood.

Council opted not to consult the community over its Annual Plan 2025-26, given the forecast 7.3% rate rise is lower than set out in the Long Term Plan and levels of service are not changing dramatically.

The work programme ahead is very much focussed on core services like

rubbish, roads and three waters and the plan is on track to be adopted next week, with the new rates applying from 1 July.

The Lake Hood report will be of interest to those who live at and use the lake, as well as the wider community – though it will not contain any silver bullet that will deal with the lake’s algal bloom problems now and in the future.

The report will canvas what’s been done so far to improve the water quality, what new things we are looking at and how to manage the algae long term. Lake Hood is not the only waterbody to have algal blooms and we are looking to scientific experts to support and inform how we manage it going forward.

The full report will be available to the public as part of the agenda for next week’s Council meeting.



SHORT AND SWEET

PUP-DATE DETAILS

Dog registration month is coming in July. If your dog’s registration details have changed, such as a new address, ownership or they are now deceased, you will need to contact Council by email or phone, and staff will update your changes before you can then re-register your dog online. Dogs that have not been registered with council before are classified as a new dog.

MARKET GARDENS

Ashburton’s Ng King Brothers Chinese Market Garden Heritage Park will soon be recognised as part of a national heritage trail. It will become a Tohu Whenua amongst 10 others in Canterbury to form a free itinerary of places to visit and explore history where it happened. The gardens on Allens Road are open to the public.

SLICK BUS SHELTER

The bus shelter on East Street has had a makeover, thanks to Council and the Pakeke Lions Club. Council supplied images from its tourism promotion files and some other resources, and the Lions members gave their time and skills to give the bus shelter a facelift. The club was involved in building the original shelter years ago, and has renovated it to fit with the revitalised CBD. The shelter now features a town map and images of local attractions.



WASTE GRANT

Do you have a project aimed at lowering waste? Fund it with a Canterbury Waste Minimisation Grant! The grants are open to groups and residents in the Ashburton District and you can find out more at ccc.govt.nz/waste-minimisation-in-canterbury-grant

Feedback sought on Bushside intake future

Council is seeking the views of the wider community on the future of the Bushside stockwater intake.

Property owners or occupiers that pay for stockwater from the intake have already been surveyed and now is the opportunity for the wider community and district to give feedback on the intake.

The Bushside intake supplies stockwater to about 14 users from Taylors Stream, and its future is being considered as part of Council’s decision to exit the stockwater delivery service.

The feedback and information from the users is being used to see who still needs stockwater.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said the wider community had until 4 June to have its say, via the online survey.

“Bushside is a small intake, but we know there are people across the community with views on it.”



Council’s work to exit the stockwater delivery service involves the separate consideration of 17 intakes. Each is considered in a two-stage process – stockwater users of the intake will be surveyed first, followed by the wider community.

The next intake for consideration is Stoney Creek and letters are being sent to those who pay for stockwater from this intake.

Take the Bushside survey at itsourplace.nz

Bridge St water upgrade

Council contractors will begin upgrading the Bridge Street water treatment plant on 26 May.

The plant is one of four treatment plants on the Ashburton community supply and it is being upgraded by adding a UV disinfection step, as now required by national drinking water assurance rules.

Group Manager of Infrastructure and Open Spaces Neil McCann said the existing building was being strengthened as well

as altered internally to accommodate the new UV equipment and instrumentation.

“There will also be some pipe alterations to include the UV step in the water treatment process, and we think the whole project will take about six months to complete.”

Residents who live in the Bridge Street area may notice an increased number of vehicles parked on or the near the site, but disruptions and noise while the work is under way is expected to be minimal.



Councillors inspect the new sludge-drying beds at Rakaia.

Pipes, plants and sewers

Councillors spent a morning last week checking out essential three waters infrastructure that is being upgraded.

On the itinerary was the new sewer main that runs from Trevors Road to Milton Road, the Wilkins Road wastewater treatment plant, the Hinds water treatment plant and the Rakaia

wastewater plant's new sludge drying beds. Sludge is pumped onto the beds and left to dry, then scraped off and sent to landfill - Rakaia township fills up about one bed per week.

Councillors also visited the inhouse accredited laboratory that tests drinking water for ecoli.

ROAD CLOSURE

Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1974 - Schedule 10 (11e), Ashburton District Council gives public notice of a temporary road closure to enable the holding of a community event - **Ashburton Car Club's standing quarter mile sprint.**

Road to be closed:

- **Blands Road, from the intersection of Dip Road to Methven Highway**

Period of closure: **From 9am until 4.30pm on Saturday, 17 May 2025**

NEIL McCANN, Group Manager Infrastructure & Open Spaces

ICE ON YOUR WINDOW?

There have been a few frosty mornings this week and if you park your car outside, then ice on your windscreen may be an issue.

Drop into our Customer Services counter at 2 Baring Square East and grab a free ice scraper.



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at Hine Paaka (Council Chamber), 2 Baring Square East, unless specified.

Wednesday 21 May, **Council Meeting** (live-streamed), 1pm

Monday 26 May, **Methven Community Board**, 9am, Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

Wednesday 28 May, **Council Activity Briefings** (live-streamed), 1pm

WORKS NOTICES

King and Alexander Streets, Chertsey - Closed until 13 September while a new water treatment plant is built. The road closure will not impact Chertsey School access.

Trevors Road - One way (northbound traffic only) between Beach Road and Wellington Street from 7 April to 27 June for work related to lifestyle village development.

Blands Road - Closed on 17 May from 9am until 4.30pm for the Ashburton Car Club's standing quarter mile sprint. Detours available.

SH1 to Moore Street - NZTA is undertaking a major asphaltting job on this section of road, detours and traffic management will be in place until 15 May. Delays expected.

Full details of local road closures are on our website, ashburtondc.govt.nz

FREE

EA networks
connecting our community

ASHBURTON GLOW
in the park

30 MAY - 1 JUNE

Event Hire

HHS

Courier

The New Zealand Herald

Ashburton District Council

glowinthepark.nz

Public Notice

Rating Information Database

The Rating Information Database of the Ashburton District Council is now available for inspection on our website ashburtondc.govt.nz at any time.

Any other queries regarding the Rating Information Database can be made by calling our office on (03) 307 7700, emailing info@adc.govt.nz or visiting the Ashburton District Council at 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton, during our office hours (Monday to Wednesday, 8.30am – 5pm, Thursday 9am – 5pm, Friday 8.30am – 5pm).

The Rating Information Database contains information required by Council to set and assess rates on each rating unit within the Ashburton District. Details include the name and postal address of the owner of the rating unit, rating valuation, services available or connected to the rating unit, the legal description, and the area of the rating unit.

This is as per Part 2 Section 27 and Section 28 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and the Local Government (Rating) Amendment Act 2004.

Hamish Riach, Chief Executive Officer

COUNCIL OFFICE

2 Baring Square East
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 8.30am-5pm
Thursday 9am-5pm

ASHBURTON LIBRARY

2 Baring Square East, Ashburton 7700
Mon & Fri 8.30am-6pm, Tue-Thu 8.30am-8pm
Sat & Sun 10am-4pm

EA NETWORKS CENTRE

20 River Terrace
Mon - Fri 5.45am-9pm (pools 8pm Mon & Tue, 7pm Wed-Fri; gym 8pm). Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 6pm, gym 6pm)

ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

327 West Street
10am-4pm daily (late night Wed)