

## Food scraps a focus in new waste plan

A new kerbside collection for household food waste is among key actions in a proposed new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for the Ashburton district.

A waste audit undertaken in November 2021 identified that approximately 40% of our kerbside rubbish collection is food waste, which is transported to landfill for disposal at significant cost.

Although the food waste collection could cost about \$50 a household per year, based on the experience of other councils, it would divert food waste from landfill and thereby reduce transport and disposal costs. Also, when food ends up in landfill, it decomposes without oxygen and releases methane, a harmful greenhouse gas.

Ashburton District Council Infrastructure Services Group Manager Neil McCann said the food waste collection service could be extended to businesses on a user-pays basis.

“Our surveys of rubbish sent to landfill show that there is a large percentage that doesn’t need to go there and could instead be recycled, composted or reused in some way.

“Diverting household food waste is the single biggest opportunity to increase diversion rates, decrease greenhouse gases and reduce costs.”

Council has this week launched community consultation on the draft new waste plan and people have until 23 June to give feedback.

Other key actions of the draft plan include more education, diverting green waste from landfill, extending kerbside recycling



for businesses, providing a new transfer station in Methven and improving the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park.

“In 2020, nearly 4000 tonnes of material was diverted from landfill in our district but we still sent just over 13,000 tonnes to Kate Valley which works out to about 370 kilograms per person.

“Our focus in the next six years is to increase the amount we divert and play our part in working towards regional and national plans to manage and minimise waste.”

If the community supports a food waste collection, Council will investigate further and report back with more information about how it will operate. This would likely be during consultation on our 2024 Long Term Plan.

Mr McCann said feedback from the

community would let Council know it was on the right track and the easiest way was for people to go to the online form at [ashburtondc.govt.nz/haveyoursay](https://ashburtondc.govt.nz/haveyoursay).

“Managing waste and ensuring good outcomes for the community can be complex. We need to look after the environment, take care of people’s health, and make sure this is done at an acceptable cost to the community.

“To achieve these outcomes, we all need to work together.”

In the consultation process, people can indicate their support for a kerbside food waste collection service and offer their thoughts on other parts of the proposed action plan.

Paper copies of the consultation document will also be available at Council’s office and can be mailed out on request.

## Trading in public spaces under review

A bylaw that regulates mobile shops like food trucks and coffee carts is being refreshed by the Ashburton District Council and will include more spots for people to set up temporary shops, as well as a new name.

Council is reviewing its Mobile Shops, Stalls and Hawkers Bylaw and proposing to introduce more permitted and discretionary sites around the district.

It’s also proposed to change its title to the Trading in Public Places Bylaw, which will better reflect the activities it regulates. It was not originally up for review until 2026, but has been brought forward by the need to look at sites near the new library and civic centre.

Strategy and Compliance Group Manager Jane Donaldson said that mobile shops and stalls added character to the district and attracted visitors when well-managed, but a bylaw was needed to manage any nuisance factors and maintain public health and safety.

“The current bylaw has been working well so it’s mostly unchanged, however we have made some tweaks to ensure it is relevant for today and into the future.”

Ms Donaldson said another focus of the review was ensuring the bylaw will not adversely affect existing businesses.

The draft bylaw is out for consultation until 23 June. Go to [ashburtondc.govt.nz/haveyoursay](https://ashburtondc.govt.nz/haveyoursay).

## Neil Brown, Mayor

## Adversity can also bring opportunity

**We will mark two special events in the coming week, both which demonstrate the remarkable ability of the Ashburton district to recover from adversity and prove its economic resilience.**

On Friday, the ANZ Business of the Year Awards will conclude with a gala evening at the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall in Methven. There, some outstanding businesses will be recognised – outstanding because they have survived covid by using their talent to grow, pivot or recreate themselves in a time that has been universally bleak around the world.

All those who entered deserve congratulations and I know the judges had a very difficult time when it came to choosing finalists and then ultimately winners.

It is timely to thank all our local

businesses for choosing to trade right here in this district. Our communities need you and should be supporting you.

The second event marks the one-year anniversary of the May 2021 floods, when we hit the national headlines because of a weather bomb that effectively cut the South Island in two.

This time 12 months ago, 540mm was falling out of the sky at Mount Somers, resulting in record flows in the Hinds and Ashburton Rivers and a state of local emergency being declared.

Around 1500 people living in Allenton and Netherby were warned they might need to evacuate but the Ashburton River breached upstream and relieved pressure on the river closer to town and this was avoided.

Others living much closer to the Ashburton River, and the Hinds, self-

evacuated.

Several key roads were closed, KiwiRail halted trains, boil water notices were issued for Methven, Montalto, Methven-Springfield and Mt Somers; schools closed. Then, on 1 June, a pier of the Ashburton River State Highway 1 bridge slumped and the bridge was closed; traffic was re-routed via the inland route. Suddenly, this was an event that affected everyone in the district and the wider South Island.

It is fair to say though that farmers and people living by the rivers were hardest hit where floodwaters escaped and spilled gravel and debris onto farms, and a few houses were flooded.

Nearly 280 properties were affected, with uninsurable damage up to \$14m.

While Civil Defence and the usual helping agencies came together to assist where they could,



individuals also stepped up offering physical and emotional help. This was hugely appreciated.

Our Council infrastructure was also damaged and roads in particular took a hammering. While emergency repairs got under way as soon as possible, the work took priority over regular maintenance and that has had a knock-on effect.

However, out of adversity brings opportunity. Covid and the floods have presented challenges that have tested us but we will look back in time and see that we have performed very well under pressure ... after all, that’s how diamonds are made.



# Keeping our watermains in good order

Ashburton District Council has spent around \$2 million in the past 12 months renewing drinking water pipes around the district and one of the latest renewal projects is on the side of a very busy urban road.

Hundreds of orange road cones have been separating traffic from diggers and work crews on Moore Street/State Highway 77 as the southern side of the road was dug up and new water mains installed.

Another team is replacing water mains on Allens Road.

Infrastructure Services Group Manager Neil McCann said traffic management is always very important when working on well-travelled roads, but especially so when work involves open trenches in the road corridor.

“We thank those motorists who are reducing their speed in the work zones to keep workers safe and we hope to be finished soon.

"Another tricky aspect of works in town is locating and avoiding other services like fibreoptic cables. The contractor has to be very careful.”

Water main renewal is programmed every year and pipes for replacement are chosen based on their age and maintenance history. The oldest water pipes in the district are around 80 years old.

Mr McCann said the timing of



Crew from contractors ACL have been replacing water mains in McDonald Street, Methven.

replacement was not an exact science but regular renewals reduced the ongoing maintenance burden and the risk of a burst pipe.

“We take the same approach with wastewater pipeline renewals and we will have spent about \$2.8 million on renewals and relining in the wastewater network at the end of this financial year.”

The Moore Street and Allens Road pipe renewals involve installing new polyethylene and PVC pipe, new valves and household tobies (connections).

Mr McCann thanked residents for their patience during the work, which

sometimes affected access to homes.

“This is important work and as the pipes near the end of their life we need to replace them, ensuring a reliable drinking water service for years to come.”

Watermain renewal work that has already been completed this year includes Hanrahan Street, McDonald Street (Methven), Pitt and Dunford Street (Rakaia), Archibald Street (between Johnstone and Grahams Road), Chalmers Avenue (between Dobson and Wellington Streets), McKerrow Street (Forest Drive to Main Street, in Methven), Delamaine Street (between Hinds Arundel to Rodgers Road), Reed Street (Hinds).

## What's happening at the Art Gallery and Museum?

Everyone who visits the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum over the next few weeks will be invited to make an origami crane for peace.

A project to make 1000 cranes started on 9 May and will continue to 13 June, when the cranes will be gifted to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima, Japan, to celebrate Sadako Peace Day.

About 500 cranes have been made so far and according to Japanese legend, any person who folds 1000 origami cranes will be granted a wish.

The Sadako Peace Day originates from Sadako Sasaki, who was two years old when a nuclear bomb was dropped on the city on 6 August 1945.

Sadako later developed leukaemia, caused by radiation exposure, and died. Throughout her illness, Sadako, her friends and family folded more than 1000



origami cranes.

Paper and folding instructions are supplied if you want to make a crane at the art gallery and museum, or you can make some at home and drop them in.

A public origami crane folding session will be held at the art gallery and museum on Wednesday 1 June, between 5pm-7pm.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are at Council Chambers, 137 Havelock Street, unless specified

**Council meeting**, Wednesday 1 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

**Submission hearings (Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy)**, Wednesday 8 June, 9am (live-streamed)

**Methven Community Board**, Monday 13 June, 10.30am at Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

**Council meeting**, Wednesday 15 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

**Council Activity Briefings**, Wednesday 22 June, 9.30am

**Audit and Risk Committee**, Wednesday 22 June, 1.30pm (live-streamed)

**Ashburton Water Zone Committee**, Tuesday 28 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

**Council meeting**, Wednesday 29 June, 1pm (live-streamed)

## RUBBISH AND RECYCLING

### QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY MONDAY 6 JUNE 2022

There will be **no changes to the kerbside collection** on Monday 6 June, so put your wheelie bins out at usual by 7.30am.

The **Ashburton Resource Recovery Park** will be closed on Monday 6 June.

The **Rakaia Resource Recovery Park** will be closed on Monday 6 June.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that the Ashburton District Council, for the purpose of allowing Ashburton Event Centre to hold the **Ashburton College Ball**, proposes to close the following road to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

Road proposed to be closed:

- **WILLS STREET, from 211 Wills Street (Event Centre - Cass Street end) to 197 Wills Street (Neumanns Tyres – East Street end).**

**Period of closure: From 7pm until 9.30pm on Thursday, 23 June 2022.**

Any person objecting to the proposal is called upon to lodge notice of their objection and grounds thereof in writing or email to Council by 4pm on Friday 3 June 2022.

**NEIL McCANN**  
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

### ALCOHOL ON LICENCE: THE GREEN PARROT

**The Brazilian Limited** has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Ashburton for an issue of an ON licence in respect of the premises situated at **36 Forest Drive, Methven.**

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is Restaurant. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is sold under the licence are: **Monday to Sunday; 8am to 1am.**

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the Ashburton District Licensing Committee at 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton. Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the grant of the application may, not later than 15 working days after the date of publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with:

The Secretary, Ashburton District Licensing Committee, PO Box 94, Ashburton District Council.

No objection to the issue of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in Section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

**Objection period closes 10 June 2022.**

## BIKE SAFETY TIPS

**Shine bright at night: Be visible from the front and the back.**



Make sure you have a white light at the front and a red at the back and turn them on when the light gets low. Reflective clothing and accessories increase your visibility.

# Winter Driving

Be alert.  
Slow down.



### COUNCIL OFFICE

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

### ASHBURTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

180 Havelock Street, Ashburton 7700  
Mon - Fri 9.00am - 8.00pm  
Sat 10am - 1pm | Sun 1pm - 4pm

### EA NETWORKS CENTRE

20 River Terrace  
Mon - Fri 6am-9pm (pools 7pm)  
Sat & Sun 7am-7pm (pools 5pm)

### ASHBURTON ART GALLERY & ASHBURTON MUSEUM

327 West Street  
10am - 4pm daily. Closed Public Holidays.