

New water reservoirs on firm footing



Steel panels for two new reservoirs for Methven's drinking water scheme are expected to arrive this month, marking a new stage in a project that will provide highly resilient water storage.

Concrete foundations for the two large reservoirs have been laid and the steel panels will be assembled over the coming months; underground pipes linking the new reservoirs to the existing plant and a new future membrane treatment plant to be built nearby are currently being laid.

The reservoirs are being constructed by Reliant Solutions, which has comprehensive experience in liquid containment solutions across New

Zealand and Australia. The reservoirs will have a combined capacity of 1128 cubic metres and help manage peak demand on the town's drinking water scheme.

Infrastructure Services Group Manager Neil McCann said the reservoir project was on track, now that contractors were back on site following some delays because of Covid-19.

"We are looking forward to seeing the reservoirs assembled and will be working closely with the contractor during the planned water pipe cut-in. We'll be advising the community if they will be affected during certain periods of this work."

After the new reservoirs are completed, the old concrete reservoir will be drained to allow a comprehensive structural

inspection to determine if it can still be used safely for storage.

The reservoirs are the first stage of a wider upgrade of Methven's water supply. A contract for the supply of new membrane treatment equipment has been awarded and consultants are finalising designs for how the plant will look.

The reservoirs and treatment plant have a combined cost of \$9.4 million. Construction of the membrane plant is planned to start later this year and could take nine months; it will include improved pre-treatment and then filter the water to a much higher degree.

The new treatment plant is designed to provide effective treatment even under extremely poor weather conditions.

Gala dinner to celebrate business winners

The ANZ Business of the Year Awards and gala dinner have been rescheduled to Friday 27 May and a sparkling night to celebrate the best businesses in the district is planned.

Ashburton District Council has partnered with ANZ Bank and Ri Ra Events to run the inaugural awards, and the gala dinner will reveal winners of eight categories and an overall supreme winner chosen by Ashburton Mayor Neil Brown.

The awards attracted around 70 entrants and the judging panel has been hard pressed to pick winners.

Community Services Group Manager Steve Fabish said the gala dinner on 27 May was a black tie affair to be held at the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall in Methven and it was a fitting finale to the awards.

"We have seen some amazing businesses talk about their journey and we have been impressed by the quality of what they do and how they do it.

"Many also talked about how they look after their people and that was prominent across all the different categories. What really stood out was how world-class some of our businesses are and this is something we should all be proud of."

About 250 tickets at seated tables have been sold so far; gallery tickets are also available.

The gala dinner begins at 6pm and after an entrée, the winners of the primary industry, export, tourism and manufacturing categories will be announced. Following the main course, winners will be revealed in the not-for-profit and technology and innovation categories.

Food on the night will be supplied by Fern and Feta Platters, and Foothills Catering.

The winners of the Bevan Rickerby Future Business Leader award and the People's Choice for Retail will then be revealed, followed by the supreme winner.

Mr Fabish thanked the awards' sponsors, including primary sponsor ANZ Bank, for their continued support and said the longterm goal was to run the awards every two years.

"While our district and the whole of the country has been through some tough and fairly unusual times because of Covid-19, we need to support and celebrate our businesses, and acknowledge the economic good they bring to our communities."

For tickets and more information about the finalists, go to businessoftheyear.nz.

Hamish Riach, Chief Executive Your views are important

If you've been thinking about giving us your feedback on the draft Annual Plan, now is the time to do it, with submissions closing at 5pm tomorrow (Friday 6 May).

Some key themes are already starting to emerge. A lot of submitters have commented on our plans for roading and there is general support for Council using \$1.7 million from forestry reserves to do more maintenance and improvements on our roads in the next financial year.

We plan to spend around \$18m on roads and footpaths, which is almost a quarter of our total expenses over all Council activities.

We have received a range of views to our question about further reviewing our levels of service, to help reduce the 9.4 per cent average rate rise planned.

We're keen to hear from as many of our residents as possible before we begin

our decision-making, so please make sure you visit itsourplace.nz and have your say.

As of Wednesday morning, there had been 93 submissions, with some people indicating they want to speak to their submissions at public hearings on 24 and 25 May.

The hearings will be held at Council chambers and livestreamed, and then Councillors will be discussing and making decisions on the final form of the Annual Plan, which will be adopted on 29 June.

Another plan that is being drafted is the development plan for Lakes Camp and Clearwater. As part of that process, Councillors and staff visited the lakes last week on a research trip to view how the settlement area had grown and what its challenges were.

Earlier this year, we asked the community what they valued about the area and how we could protect it for

generations to come.

The lakes are a popular place for fishing, boating, cycling and hiking but increased use over the years, plus changes to surrounding land, have had an impact on water quality, particularly in Lake Clearwater. There is also more demand for public toilets and camping facilities.

Around 150 people supplied feedback and there was strong support for Council to prepare a draft development plan.

The draft should be finished by early June and then key stakeholders, like iwi, the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury and hut holders, will be consulted again.



Survey to shape EANC's future services

EA Networks Centre has launched a survey to collect people’s thoughts on the facility and look at how it might serve the needs of the community in the future.

The Council wants to hear back from those who use the facility, as well as those who don’t. The responses will help staff review what services the community want to see on offer from the EA Networks Centre.

Council Community Services Group manager Steve Fabish said the sports facility was well equipped and the survey was about understanding the patterns of utilisation of the community as well as identifying any new services could help attract more users.

“It’s really about gathering information on how people use the facility and how we can develop new opportunities for the community. It’s been seven years since the centre opened and so it is timely to take a close look.

“It doesn’t matter if you are a regular or occasional user, or don’t use it at all, we want to know your thoughts.”

EA Networks Centre was opened in 2015 and includes swimming pools, fitness centre and indoor courts used by many local sports teams. It’s also houses a café,



community meeting rooms and sells swimming equipment. The centre is well-known for learn-to-swim classes and offers specialist programmes for people recovering from illness or injury.

Council Community Services Group manager Steve Fabish said Covid-19 had had a big impact on the fitness and recreation sector and many people had changed the way they exercised.

“We want to make sure we are still offering services that the community expects and wants, so we really value people taking the

time to give us feedback.”

The survey is being conducted independently by Visitor Solutions, on behalf of Council, and takes 5-10 minutes to complete. The Ashburton District Council is also consulting residents on a draft Play, Active Recreation and Sport strategy.

All responses go into the draw to win one of 10 one-month platinum memberships (full access to all facilities for one month).

You can take part in the survey until 5pm, Monday 16 May.

Safety work at Middle Road intersection



Contractors are creating centre islands on Middle Road as part of road safety improvements at the intersection of Middle Road and Belt Road.

Give way signs at the intersection were changed to stop signs after four crashes there in six months during 2020, and tubular delineators were installed as a temporary measure to calm the traffic and make the intersection more visible.

The permanent concrete islands on Middle Road should be finished soon.

Another spot to be improved this month is the intersection of Racecourse Road and Hepburns Road. This work will involve seal widening and a right turn bay.

BIKE SAFETY TIPS

Bike tip: Know when to take the lane - there are times when the safest position on the road is in the middle of the lane.



Taking the lane at roundabouts puts you in the best position to be seen by drivers. It also helps prevent drivers from passing you unsafely or crossing your path when they exit.



Taking the lane at intersections increases your visibility and reinforces the message from your arm signals. It also helps prevent drivers from passing while you approach or ride through the intersection.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Meetings are at Council Chambers, 137 Havelock Street, unless specified
- Council Activity Briefings**, Wednesday 11 May, 9am
 - Audit & Risk Committee**, Wednesday 11 May, 1.30pm (live-streamed)
 - Council Meeting**, Wednesday 18 May, 1pm (live-streamed)
 - Annual Plan Submission Hearings**, Tuesday 24 May, 9am (live-streamed)
 - Ashburton Water Zone Committee**, Tuesday 24 May, 1pm (live-streamed)
 - Annual Plan Submission Hearings**, Wednesday 25 May, 9am (live-streamed)

PUBLIC NOTICES

ROAD CLOSURE FOR STREET SPRINTS

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of road closures for the purpose of allowing the Ashburton Car Club to hold “**Wheels Week Street Sprints**” (with the exception of emergency vehicles) for the period indicated hereunder.

Roads to be closed:

- SMALLBONE DRIVE, from RIVER TERRACE to ROBINSON STREET**
- ROBINSON STREET, from SMALLBONE DRIVE INTERSECTION to MCNALLY STREET**
- WATSON STREET, from RANGE STREET to ROBINSON STREET**
- MCNALLY STREET, from RANGE STREET to the end of the street**
- RANGE STREET, from ROBINSON STREET to WATSON STREET**

RANGE STREET: From 6pm, Friday 6 May 2022 until 6am, Sunday 8 May 2022

Period of Closure: From 7.30pm, Friday 06 May 2022 until 8pm on Sunday 08 May 2022

This notice of closure is made under the Local Government Act 1974 - Schedule 10 (11 (e)). It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised permit to use the roads / streets for ordinary vehicular traffic during the period of closure.

NEIL McCANN
Infrastructure Services Group Manager

ALCOHOL LICENSING: APPLICATION FOR OFF LICENCE

The Blue Pub: Public notice of application for an OFF licence.

Methven Pubs Limited has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Ashburton for an issue of an OFF licence in respect of the premises situated at 2 Barkers Road, Methven.

The general nature of the business conducted under the licence is **Bottle Store**. The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is sold under the licence are: **Monday - Sunday: 7am - 9:30pm.**

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 9 May 2022.

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.