

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

9 APRIL 2021



## from the Mayor

We presented the annual 2021 Community Awards last week after our Council Meeting.

This year's worthy recipient of the 2021 Volunteer Group award was the Friends of Stoneham Walk that has made a significant contribution in a short time.

On behalf of all the Councillors, we wish to congratulate and acknowledge the efforts and ongoing work by this group of volunteers who have been working on making Stoneham Walk even more beautiful.

Thank you and we encourage others who enjoy gardening to join this group. Council staff will also continue to offer support and assistance.

In the lead-up to the Long Term Planning process, we have been discussing many initiatives and issues facing the district.

These options will be outlined in the Long Term Plan consultation document that staff are now working on. During the consultation period, we will be asking residents to provide feedback and give submissions. We look forward to talking with you about options for our district for the future.

With a heavy heart, I wish to acknowledge the sad passing of Chris Jensen, Council's Manager Planning, Compliance and Capability. After a short illness, Chris passed away on Wednesday, 31 March.

Chris has made a significant contribution to local government and to Kawerau District Council during his 18 year tenure. Chris will be remembered for his knowledge, experience, robust processes, leadership and quick wit.

On behalf of all the Council, we offer our heartfelt condolences to Chris' family, work colleagues and team members at this very sad time.

- Mayor Malcolm Campbell



The Late Chris Jensen

### IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Friends of Stoneham Walk
- ▶ Long Term Plan
- ▶ Dog Registration
- ▶ Waka Kotahi funding reallocations
- ▶ Green Waste Checks

### Friends of Stoneham Walk



The Friends of Stoneham Walk group receive the 2021 Kawerau Community Award from the Mayor, Councillors and Parks and Reserve staff.

## Long Term Plan



Council is currently putting together the 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan. As part of this process Council is required to consult with the community using the special consultative procedure which includes preparing a consultation document.

The consultation period has been moved to the 14 May 2021 to 14 June 2021

The draft consultation document will be adopted by Councillors after the Audit opinion has been received. The Hearing and Deliberations will be held on 22 June and 29 June.

## Dog Registration Fees



The annual dog registrations are being sent out to owners by post and email.

Council resolved to accept the 2021 dog registration fees that are set as follows:

The Dog Registration Fees were set at the Council Meeting on 30 March for 2020/21 as follows:

Neutered Dog \$35.00

Entire Dog \$70.00

Late payment penalty 50% addition to the fee charged



## Time to Cheque out



This will be the last time dog registrations can be paid by cheque as from 1 July 2021, Council's bank, BNZ will no longer accept or process cheques.

If you any payments to Council by cheque, we encourage you to think about other payment methods in the future. A range of options are listed on the Council website including automatic payments, direct debits, online banking or via the website [www.kaweraudc.govt.nz](http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz)

## Waka Kotahi funding reallocations

The District received \$250,000 funding from Waka Kotahi (New Zealand Transport Agency) for stormwater renewals and maintenance in the 2020/21 financial year that ends 31 June 2021. Funding was for three projects:

- ▶ \$50,000 for stormwater renewals in the Town Centre (\$47,012 spent);
- ▶ \$100,000 for renewing cesspits (on schedule to be completed); and
- ▶ \$100,000 to replace the stormwater lines in the Town Centre.

However, due to the pending Three Waters Reform, there have been delays in contractors being able to carry out the pipe evaluations which means the work cannot be completed before the end of the financial year.

Therefore, at the Council Meeting on 30 March elected members approved that the funding be re-allocated to clear stormwater cesspits \$10,000, street cleaning \$15,000 and the footpath replacements \$75,000.



## Green Waste Checks

Spot checks of the district's green waste bins are continuing with the aim of reducing contamination. An increasing amount of general rubbish such as plastic, clothing and old electronic appliances are being put into green waste bins. This creates a costly problem to sort the rubbish before the green waste can be composted and used in the district. Alternatively, contaminated green waste bins can cause the entire truckload to be dumped as general rubbish, which also creates additional cost as Council is charged for every tonne of rubbish that is trucked out of the district to the Tirohia Landfill.

Residents will be given one warning and the next time contaminated items are found in a green waste bin, it will be removed.

Residents who wish to purchase a bigger general rubbish bin such as a 120L can contact the Council to purchase one on 07 306 9009.

These photos show the issue of general rubbish being put into green waste bins.

