

MASTERTON MONTHLY WRAP

APRIL 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Kia ora Masterton,

Have you stepped up?

We are now nearly halfway through the month-long consultation on our draft Long-Term Plan – have you stepped up to have your say?

The consultation document is called Stepping Up because the Council is stepping up with some big plans – and we really want the community to step up for our future.

Here are 10 good reasons to make a submission:

1. Your mokopuna will be growing up with the decisions we make today.
2. It's your chance to help build a Masterton everyone can be proud of for years to come.
3. You can nominate a school for the chance to win \$1,000.
4. If there are alternative ideas we haven't thought of, we want to hear them.
5. We can't respond to your ideas if we don't know what they are.
6. If you make a submission, you can then present your ideas to the Council in person in May.

7. You can also make a submission on proposed changes to fees and charges, and our draft significance and engagement policy (this explains how we determine what issues we consult the community on).

8. You could win a \$500 travel voucher.

9. No decisions are set in stone yet.

10. Your submission can make a difference – you'll be able to watch the Council deliberate on submissions in public in June.

I've heard some people say decisions in the LTP have mostly been made already, but that's wrong.

Council staff have to do a lot of work to make sure the proposals in our consultation document are based on fact and sensible assumptions about what the future holds, but that doesn't mean the consultation is a rubber-stamping exercise.

If you don't have your say, we won't hear about it. So, step up – for our community, for our mokopuna, for our future.

Consultation closes at 4pm on 3 May.



STEP UP AND SUBMIT ONLINE!

It couldn't be easier to submit on the draft Long-Term Plan – Stepping Up. Just go to the Council website and you can make your comments online while you're reading the document.

We want to hear your views on our Big Decisions, plans for a new civic facility, the Masterton Revamp, and building more pensioner housing. You can also make submissions on our fees and charges, and significance and engagement policy (how the council determines what it will consult on).

Every submission goes into the draw to win a \$500 travel voucher, and \$1,000 for the school of your choice.

Come and talk to us:

9-11am Saturday 17 April
Farmers Market,
Solway Showgrounds

11:30am-1pm Thursday 22 April
Queen St pop-up, Charlie's Lane

See following pages for more details.



FINAL DATE FOR CHEQUE PAYMENTS

Masterton District Council will stop accepting cheques for payment of rates on 20 May 2021 (the due date for the current instalment).

This follows the decision by banks to phase out cheques.

We have a variety of other payment options available at our office at 161 Queen Street, Masterton, including cash, EFTPOS, and credit card payments. You can also pay online via our website: www.mstn.govt.nz

Our preferred method of payment is by direct debit, and we offer a range of options:

- weekly or fortnightly (on Wednesdays)
- monthly (on the 20th of the month)
- quarterly (on the last day for payment of the instalment)
- annually (on 20 August each year).

We also accept direct credit and automatic payments. Our bank account details, and the required reference, are set out in the box in the top right corner of your rate assessment notice.

For more information call our customer service centre on 06 370 6300.

HE TĀKAI KŌRERO MAI I WHAKAORIORI PAENGA-WHĀWHĀ 2021

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN – JOIN THE GROUP

We're seeking expressions of interest from community members who are interested in being part of co-developing the District Climate Change Action Plan.

We are setting up a community-based focus group and we're looking for a diverse range of people to join us.

This plan, alongside our Corporate Carbon Emissions Reduction Plan, will comprise our blueprint for moving our district towards carbon zero 2050.

Membership of the focus group will be selected based on the following criteria:

- an interest and knowledge of climate change
- diversity of members (e.g. age, gender, background, rural/urban community)
- either live in, or be able to demonstrate a close connection with, the Masterton District
- have a specific interest and/or commitment to the future of the Masterton District.

Register your interest by completing the form on the council website (www.mstn.govt.nz) or emailing: climatefocus@mstn.govt.nz

Registrations close 20 April.



NEARLY \$90K IN GRANTS AWARDED

Nearly \$90,000 in community wellbeing, events, and COVID-19 sports grants have been approved by Masterton District Council's Awards and Grants Committee.

This includes nearly \$50,000 in Community Wellbeing grants, more than \$17,000 in Community Events grants, and \$21,000 in the COVID-19 Sports Grants.

Committee Chair Gary Caffell said the awards were a sign of outstanding work by many groups in the community.

"As is always the case, the committee had to make some tough calls – we had some excellent applications, and presentations by passionate people who have the community at heart," he said.

"It is inspiring to see the great work people are doing, many of them volunteers, to help make life better for others in the district."

Among the larger Community Wellbeing grants, the Shear History Trust received \$12,000 of funding towards the operational expenses of the wool shed tourist attraction, and the Wairarapa Multi-Sport Stadium Trust received \$10,000 of funding towards repairs and maintenance of the all-weather pitch at Memorial Park.

Among Community Events grants, the Wairarapa Film Festival received \$9,710 towards the expenses to hold a Wairarapa Film Festival from 12-6 May 2021 at the Regent 3 Cinema.

In COVID-19 sports grants, the Wairarapa Cricket Association received \$10,000 for provision of sport specific opportunities to the Wairarapa Community, YMCA Central Inc received \$10,000 for staffing costs (sports coordinator, referee costs), venue hire, gear, and equipment, with leagues free in 2020, post-COVID-19. This led to a 50 per cent increase in registrations in terms three and four, 2020.

WHAT'S ON

Sunday 25 April ANZAC Day

Monday 26 April ANZAC Day observed

Wednesday 28 April

2pm Infrastructure and Services Committee
Kiwi Room, Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road

Monday 3 May

4pm Long-Term Plan consultation closes

Wednesday 12 May

1pm Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
3pm Council Meeting

Kiwi Room, Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road

Wednesday 19 and Thursday 20 May

Long-Term Plan Hearings
Kiwi Room, Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road

MASTERTON REVAMP COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

We had a great response to the call for people to be part of a community reference group for the Masterton Revamp project, with more than 50 registrations of interest received.

Applicants were asked for areas of interest and representation and based on the information provided a group of 10 was chosen and has had its first meeting.

The group is made up of: Andy Kerr, Donald Hutchings, Elisabeth Mikkelsen, Mike Allard, Peter Debney, Sam Ewington, Sarah-Ann Grove, Sharna Taylor, Waireka Collings, and Warwick Delmonte.

Information about the group is available on the Council website.

The Masterton Revamp project is one of the key projects we're currently consulting on as part of the draft Long-Term Plan (LTP) in April. The question that we're asking the community is around the scope, level of investment and timing of the project.

While the LTP won't be adopted formally by the Council until June, this group has been established now because we are in early design stages for a number of key areas of the project.

Submissions on the LTP can be made online via the council website (www.mstn.govt.nz) and close at 4pm on 3 May.