

He kōrero nā te Kaunihera o Wairau. News from Marlborough District Council.



Hockey Marlborough's new home on Nelson Street next to Marlborough Girls' College opens soon - credit: Mark Watson

Marlborough sport the winner in dry turf decision

Marlborough sporting codes, including rugby and football, will benefit from Council's Economic Finance and Community Committee decision week to back a 'dry turf' for Blenheim.

Subject to full Council approval on 16 May, Council will enter a new lease agreement with the Marlborough Boys' College Board of Trustees for College Park in Stephenson Street, Blenheim. The area will be offered as a 'dry turf' facility for other sporting codes rather than a dedicated hockey turf although Hockey Marlborough was likely to still use the facility, Council's Property and Community Facilities Manager Jamie Lyall told the committee.

Hockey Marlborough has a recently completed hockey turf and pavilion on Ministry of Education land in Nelson Street at the Marlborough Girls' College.

Mr Lyall said football and rugby have always had challenges finding a suitable facility for training on wet winter nights. "A dry turf will provide a solution to this. It makes sense to use this facility as much as possible in conjunction with the Marlborough Boys' College," he said.

College Park is an extension of the boys' college sports fields with the hockey turf, a large green area with synthetic cricket strip used by Marlborough Cricket, one football pitch and one rugby field. The park is also home to the Blenheim Roller Skating Club with

a banked track and a concrete arena for in-line and roller skating.

Council agreed in 2021 to surrender the current lease of College Park with the Ministry of Education as part of the Combined Colleges Project - Te Tātoru o Wairau. In January 2024 the Combined Colleges Project in its proposed form was cancelled by Central Government.

The change in turf use at College Park also aligns with Council's Sports Facilities Strategic Plan 2021 which identified the need for additional flood-lit sports field capacity and an artificial surface.

Seagrass critical to estuary health

Seagrass is a positive indicator of a healthy estuary and the Marlborough Sounds has many productive intertidal areas, where seagrass beds of varying health and extent can be found.

Council's Environment and Planning Committee heard recently that seagrass beds carry a number of important ecosystem functions including providing habitat for juvenile fish, shellfish and other species.

Coastal Marine Scientist Jorgia McMillan outlined the importance of seagrass beds as an "incredibly effective" carbon sink, able to capture carbon at a rate 35 times faster than tropical rainforest, providing a powerful nature-based solution to tackle climate change impacts on marine life.

"The Marlborough coastal marine area includes more than 65 estuaries across Te Hoiere/Pelorus and Tōtaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound, where our Coastal Science team monitors seagrass abundance and health" she said.

As well as providing a nursery habitat, seagrass helps to stabilise the benthic substrate and acts as a buffer between land activities and intertidal areas.

In the Marlborough Sounds many seagrass beds are found in sheltered areas with low currents where sedimentation run-off and warming ocean temperatures can severely impact them.

"Although providing multiple ecosystem benefits, seagrass itself is very vulnerable to changes in its environment and human-caused stressors," Jorgia said. "Trampling, anchoring and dredging can cause degradation to mass die-offs."

Council's ongoing estuary monitoring programme showed healthy and productive

seagrass beds in areas including Umungata Bay, Fence Bay and Mistletoe Bay while there are some areas with lower seagrass extent including Kaiumu Bay, Mahakipawa Arm and Ohinetaha.

The Coastal Science team plans to provide more education to landowners and community groups and create more awareness around estuary and intertidal health as a whole, Jorgia said.

"It's important to better understand how we can start using nature-based solutions such as seagrass to help protect our marine areas from climate change impacts."



Healthy seagrass beds in Bottle Bay in the Marlborough Sounds

Last chance to have your say on LTP and RLTP

Submissions to the Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034 close at 5pm on Monday 13 May.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024-2027 also closes for public submissions at the same time. LTP hearings are timetabled for 10 to 21 June with councillors considering all submissions in the week beginning 24 June.

To make a submission go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> or visit one of Council's Customer Service Centres.



Spring Creek community meeting

Eighty locals turned out last week to hear from Council's Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager Andy White, who outlined his team's plans to increase flood protection in the Spring Creek area.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said she was very grateful to the community for coming along and asking questions about the upgrade.

"There are a number of challenges ahead for this project, including sourcing enough rock to rebuild the stop bank and deciding on a final design. However, there were good suggestions from community members at the meeting about how we could bring forward some parts of the upgrade and begin work sooner in some areas," she said.



Council's Andy White talking with Spring Creek locals



Eighty locals came along to the meeting

Dam safety regulations coming into force

Do you have a dam on your property and if so, does it meet safety regulations? The new Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022 come into force on 13 May 2024, covering dams of a certain height and volume threshold.

All dams will need a Potential Impact Classification (PIC) to assess what impact a dam failure could have on the community, major infrastructure, historic or cultural places and the environment.

The regulations have been made to increase dam resilience and safety, Building Control Group Manager Dhyanom Gala said. The regulations also provide a nationally consistent risk-based approach to dam safety.

"The Government has recently made a change to the thresholds to reduce the number of dams that need to be classified," said Mr Gala.

It was important that specialist engineering resources were focussed on dams that represented the greatest risk to people and property downstream, and that owners of classifiable dams could meet their obligations under the regulations, he said.

Under the revised regulation, dams only need to be classified if they are four or more metres in height and store 20,000 or more cubic metres. Implementation timeframes for submitting documentation are not changing.

Dams that are one or more metres in height and store 40,000 or more cubic metres volume of water or other fluid, no longer need to be classified and are not impacted by the regulations.

Dam owners must provide their dam's potential impact classification certificate to Council by 13 August 2024.

Information and resources are available on Council's website or MBIE's building performance website and include a detailed guidance document and resources to help owners calculate the height and volume of their dam, to see if it is impacted by the regulations.

For more information visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/building-services/dam-safety or email damsafety@marlborough.govt.nz



Does your dam meet new regulations?

McLauchlan Street water works on track

McLauchlan Street's \$1.7 million water main upgrade is well on track to be finished ahead of time.

Contractor Fulton Hogan installed the difficult section in front of Marlborough Girls' College and Bohally Intermediate during the school term break to cause minimum disruption to students, parents and teachers, Council's Three Waters Project Engineer Graeme Jackson said.

"They are currently working on installing the last 200 metres of pipework between Fulton and McCullum streets and hope to have this completed within the next two weeks," he said.

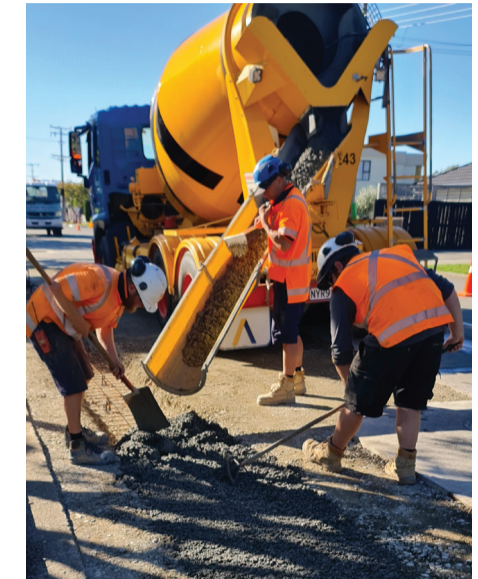
The work, which began in January, is to replace the existing old and undersized water mains that run the full length of McLauchlan Street from Nelson Street to Old Renwick Road and extends 800 metres along Old Renwick Road to the west and 200 metres to the east.

There will be disruptions for residents over the coming months with a series of water shutdowns, the first was scheduled for last Tuesday 7 May.

All affected residents will be notified by letter drop and Antenna alerts.

"After this there will be a series of minor excavation works and water shutdowns to swap over to the new pipework over the coming few months," Mr Jackson said.

"At this stage we hope to be finished by mid-August."



Contractors working in McLauchlan Street

Keeping wallabies out of Marlborough

Council's Senior Biosecurity Officer Liam Falconer recently attended a training event in South Canterbury.

Put on by the Environment Canterbury Wallaby Team, its aim was to gain more experience and knowledge to prepare for a wallaby response in Marlborough.

Liam said it was great training which made it clear to the attendees that wallabies have a devastating impact on the environment, destroying productive farmland as well as forest and native bush.

Bennett's Wallaby was introduced to South Canterbury from Australia in 1874 and by the 1940s had become a significant pest with no natural predators.

There have been several reported wallaby sightings in Marlborough in recent years; however no evidence has been found, with the most likely scenario being mistaken identity.

"Wallabies are unlikely to make it to Marlborough on their own," Liam said.

Council has previously removed an adult wallaby in Marlborough that was adopted as a joey from the South Island population and raised as a pet. It is an offence to keep a wallaby in Marlborough.

A combined response with Nelson City Council to a reported sighting in the Rai Saddle earlier this year found no sign of wallabies' presence.



Council's Biosecurity team at the wallaby training event in South Canterbury

Call for Sister City Sub-Committee nominations

Council is calling for nominations for community representatives on its Sister City Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee manages Council's sister city activities and strives to involve community participation and sponsorship in the programme, especially in relation to business and economic relationships.

Council has two sister cities in Japan, Tendo and Otari, with which there is an

annual education exchange, and a sister region relationship with Ningxia in China.

Nominations must be signed by a nominator and seconder and be accompanied by a brief resumé. Nominations close on Monday 27 May and should be addressed to Mike Porter, Marlborough District Council, PO Box 443, Blenheim 7240 or email: mike.porter@marlborough.govt.nz or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Public Notices

Meet your Council



Mayor Nadine Taylor leads a team of 14 elected councillors. They are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that will help shape our province into the future.

Council's vision is that Marlborough is a globally-connected district of smart, progressive, high-value enterprises, known for its economic efficiency, quality lifestyle and wellbeing, caring community, desirable location and healthy natural environment.

For more information or to contact one of your elected representatives, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Dog registration fees for 2024/25

The dog registration year runs from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. All dogs over three months old must be registered with Animal Control. A form for the 2024/25 dog registration year will be sent to the owner's last known address by the start of June.

The 2024/25 fees are:

Category	Annual fee
Category One - non-working dog must be desexed and microchipped and have no infringement notice for the last two years i.e. since 1 July 2022	\$65
Category Two - non-working dog which does not meet Category One criteria and includes menacing dogs	\$96
Old dog - new category for dogs over 12 years old as of 1 July 2024	\$48
Dangerous dog	\$144
Working dog	\$23
10+ working dogs - for each extra dog	\$12

You must notify Animal Control if:

- Ownership of your dog changes
- Your dog leaves the district
- You have a change of address
- Your dog dies

Animal Control, 58 Main Street, Blenheim,
Ph: 03 520 9033 or email animalcontrol@xtra.co.nz

This public notice is in accordance with Section 37(6) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Dates to remember:

- End of May/early June - registration renewal form sent
- 30 June - 2023/24 registration expires
- 1 July - payment due for 2024/25 year
- 1 August - penalty of 50% added to unpaid registrations
- 1 September - unregistered dogs liable for penalties, infringements and seizure

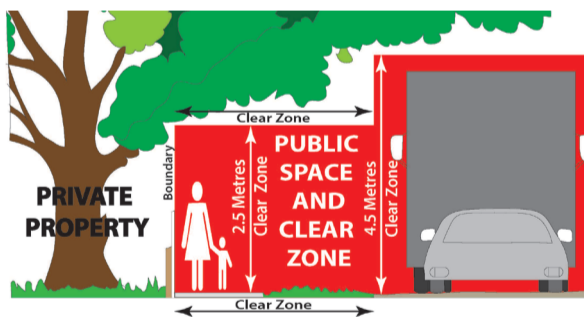
Check your hedge

Now is a good time to get the clippers out and prune back any branches overhanging the footpath from your property.

This is required to keep our footpaths safe and accessible for all users, be it the postie or someone with a mobility scooter or push chair.

If you rent, check with your property manager or the owner as to who is responsible.

Thanks for looking after footpath users and keeping Marlborough safe, tidy and accessible.



Proposed road closures, navigation warnings and alcohol licensing

For the latest public notices, please go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/latest-news-notice-and-media-releases/all-news-notice-and-media-releases

Awatere and Dashwood rural boil water notice

Water from Council's reticulation network to the Awatere and Dashwood rural areas should be boiled.

It does not currently meet the NZ Drinking Water Standards and may contain bacteria or protozoa that are harmful to human health.

All water used for drinking, food preparation or cleaning teeth should be boiled before use.

Treated water is available at the public taps on Marama Road, outside Seddon School. For further information contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.



Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 4.30pm

Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm

1.30pm - 4.30pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

Picton Library & Service Centre

2 Dublin Street, Picton 7220

Ph: 03 520 7493

pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Tues 8am - 5pm

Wed 9am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat 10am - 4pm

Sun 1pm - 4pm

Council & Committee Meetings

The following meeting is open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agenda will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

Council

Thursday 16 May at 9am

The time and date may be subject to change; please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.

Temporary alcohol ban - Renwick

Annual Woody Pig and Deer Hunt at the Woodbourne Tavern - 2/3 June 2024

A temporary alcohol ban is to be in force over the public areas of High Street, Renwick (from the intersection of Anglesea Street in the west to the eastern side of the intersection of Alma Street in the east), Inkerman Street (from the High Street intersection in the south to the driveway of 31 Inkerman Street in the north), Uxbridge Street (from the High Street intersection in the south to the Renwick Fire Station and extending around the skatepark and tennis courts in the north) and Alma Street (from the High Street intersection in the south to the southern boundary of 4 Alma Street in the north), for the 24 hours from 6am on Sunday 2 June 2024 to 6am on Monday 3 June 2024.

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