



Sounds' recovery meetings



Marlborough's Recovery Team has finished its round of community meetings held to discuss the recovery effort with impacted communities.

Meetings were held with the French Pass, Okiwi Bay, Rai Valley, Moetapu Bay, Linkwater, Waitaria Bay, Portage and Port Underwood communities.

The purpose of these meetings was for Council to listen and gain a better understanding of the issues facing each area.

The themes emerging centred around the timing and programme of repairs, the level of funding Council hopes to attract from Waka Kotahi, the potential impact on local industry and the resilience of the roading networks.

Some of the main issues to come out were roading, accessibility by water, forestry, tourism and concerns about visitors during the forthcoming holiday season.

Residents at the meetings had the process toward long term recovery from the August storm event outlined to them by Council's Manager of Strategic Planning and Economic Development, Neil Henry.

Before Waka Kotahi and Council approve any funding for repairs, a full investigation of a range of complex issues needs to be prepared and this will be carried out by Stantec - a consulting, engineering and construction company with experience of Marlborough's roading network.

This will involve full community and stakeholder engagement which is hoped will start this side of Christmas.

The investigation will include geo technical and hazard assessment and an analysis of the frequency and intensity of weather events that cause damage.

"Key will be looking at the economic and community impacts of the flood damage as well as an assessment of the infrastructure," Mr Henry said.

"A range of costed options will be developed for Council and Waka Kotahi to consider and the investigation phase, already underway, is expected to be complete by July next year."

During the process there will be opportunities for communities to be informed and to engage with the assessment.

Ideas from communities will be sought and a list of options then developed.

Havelock happenings

Sounds' residents affected by the August storm event have access to a car loaned by the Marlborough Community Vehicle Trust (MCVT).

The car, for residents to use for trips into Blenheim, is parked next to the Harbourmaster's office at Pier C in Havelock Marina and available on a first come, first served basis.

Simply contact Ian Cameron on Ph: 03 574 2558 or email: ianc.cameron@xtra.co.nz at least 24 hours ahead.

Drivers must be aged over 25 and must show their licence. The car is automatic and when it is driven within the conditions of the individual's licence, it is covered by MCVT's insurance. The car must be refilled with petrol on its return.

Sounds' residents will also receive ongoing assistance when it comes to parking. Marlborough Sounds Marinas will continue to help permanent Sounds' residents by offering a concession, fully subsidised by Council, available until September 2023. The concession entitles permanent Sounds' residents to park as follows:

- May to September: in the main marina in Pay by Plate parks

- October to April: residents' cars will need to be relocated to the gravel area near Compound B in Havelock Marina

A maximum of 50 concessions will be issued on a first come, first served basis. Terms and conditions apply.

Sounds residents who wish to have their car parked in a more central area all year around are required to pay the \$6 per day and park in the Pay by Plate area in the same way as bach owners and marina users.

Please contact Steve McKeown to apply for your parking concession on 03 574 2366 or 021 242 9165.

St John is reaching out to assist people affected by the August storm event. Next Thursday 24 November a Mental Health First Aid course will be held at the Havelock Community Pavilion.

This course will equip those attending with skills to support work colleagues, friends and family who may be experiencing mental distress. Attendees will also learn how to build their own mental fitness.

Places are limited to 20 people and the course, which is free, includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

To book for this course contact Tania Nash on Ph: 027 246 4495 or email: tania.nash@stjohn.org.nz



Ian Cameron with the car available for Sounds' residents to use



Council's Harbours team - working to ensure our waterways are safe for everyone to enjoy.

Contact the Harbourmaster's Office if you need advice or information about Marlborough's harbours.

03 520 7400 | HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ