

# MAYORAL DIARY

## 4 August 2009 to 8 September 2009

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Bosson Road Residents</b></p> <p>We held a very successful public meeting with the Te Aroha Bosson Road residents. This was in response to the LTCCP submission from Mr and Mrs Crowther to connect to town sewer. I discussed the history of the rural residential zone and why the area was not currently serviced. James Ross advised costs of connection to individual property owners at approximately \$23,000, plus connection to house, plus annual waste water charge. We have agreed to write to all individual property owners to seek their views.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Regional Policy Statement</b></p> <p>We held our second combined RPS meeting with Hauraki and South Waikato districts. The meeting went over our combined concerns regarding the RPS and then discussed in detail the proposed Biodiversity rules. It was felt that all three Councils had a lot in common and a resolution would be brought forward to form a political arrangement for regular meetings to discuss common issues.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Junior Rugby</b></p> <p>Jill and I attended a junior boys rugby tournament held in Cambridge. I carefully managed to stand between supporters of the Matamata v Morrinsville game where Matamata were clearly superior.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Firth Primary School</b></p> <p>Jan Barnes and I met with Firth Primary School Principal, James Eldridge to discuss school dental clinic needs to Matamata. Our MP Lindsay Tisch also attended the meeting. Lindsay has agreed to follow-up the various alternatives for citing the new clinic with the Waikato District Health Board. Lindsay has since advised that the new clinic does not have to be built at Firth Primary.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Te Aroha Hospital</b></p> <p>I met with David Bullen, Trustee of the Te Aroha Community Hospital to discuss issues relating to the services provided by the hospital.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Te Aroha Community Patrol</b></p> <p>I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Te Aroha Community Patrol. Teena Cornes was re-elected as Chair. Senior Sergeant Dana McDonald was guest speaker and gave an informative talk on the differences between perception and fact.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Goldwood</b></p> <p>I met with Steve Papps, CEO of Goldwood. His company currently own some 35 sections at Eldonwood in Matamata. He briefed me</p>

	on some possible marketing strategies that could provide significant financial benefits to community groups in the District.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Matamata A&amp;P Show Association</b> I met with the Committee of the Matamata A&P Society to discuss their need for larger grounds to accommodate their growing annual show. Several options were identified and the Committee will work through these before coming back to Council.
<b>9.</b>	<b>MPDC – 20 Years</b> Don & I met with Pam Ryan and Sarah Ross, the Managers of the Matamata Chronicle and Piako Post. The purpose of the meeting was to have initial discussion about celebrating 20 years since the formation of Matamata-Piako District.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Air New Zealand</b> Bruce Parton, Group General Manager, and Carrie Hurhanganui, Eagle Airways, met with the five shareholding Mayors to discuss Air New Zealand's future plants and intentions with their operations out of Hamilton Airport. The meeting was productive and while operational matters will continue to be managed by the Airport Company, similar regular meetings between Air NZ and the shareholders will be scheduled.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Waipa District Council</b> The CEO of Waipa District, John Inglis, retired after some 37 years in Local Government. I attended his farewell function in Te Awamutu. Don spoke on behalf of the Waikato CEO's acknowledging John's high regard among his peers. Gary Dyet is the new CEO for Waipa.
<b>12.</b>	<b>Stanley Avenue School</b> Stanley Avenue School called a public meeting to discuss their proposal of building an indoor sports/events centre on their school grounds in Te Aroha. I attended the meeting, where I advised that the current proposal is being driven totally by the school. Should any proposal come to Council to provide funding, this will result in separate consultation done by Council in the normal manner.
<b>13.</b>	<b>Fonterra</b> Together with Don and staff I met with the Morrinsville Fonterra Site Manager and other senior factory staff to discuss the upgrade of the Council waste water site at Morrinsville, and other associated issues.
<b>14.</b>	<b>My Tag My Town</b> When Council staff put together a business plan application to obtain funding from Government to reduce graffiti I was skeptical as to any positive outcome. I now admit I was wrong. I attended the My Tag My Town presentation at Morrinsville Intermediate School. Where some 300 young students took part in a one hour presentation on how they could better look after their community, including the stopping of tagging. The whole presentation was put

	together by Daryl Anderson's Alpha Media Group. It was excellent and will definitely result in a reduction in tagging in our towns.
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Regional Land Transport</b></p> <p>I attended the September RLTC meeting in Hamilton. Items of interest included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris Langstaff, Manager Transport portfolio with Environment Waikato, has resigned and returned to Auckland.</li> <li>• The 3 year funding for the Waikato Region has increased from \$710M to \$938M and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest region in the country with dollar spend. Funding has been driven by economic benefit and the Waikato Expressway seen as a major boost to regional economies. Some other funding areas have been reduced; mainly seal extensions, walking and cycling and passenger transport.</li> <li>• The 3 year budgets show a zero increase for local road maintenance.</li> <li>• State Highway maintenance budgets have been reduced.</li> <li>• NZTA is looking at bulk funding TAs thereby giving NZTA better budget control and the TAs certain flexibility with their maintenance budgets.</li> <li>• On Track is reopening a freight facility at Te Kuiti.</li> <li>• The rail new crossing loop at Waharoa estimated at \$1.8M has completed design.</li> <li>• The Motumaoho crossing loop (\$600K) is complete.</li> <li>• The average subsidy for passenger transport is 73%</li> </ul>
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>Morrinsville Fire Brigade</b></p> <p>I attended the medal presentation ceremony for the Morrinsville Volunteer Fire Brigade. I presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals (14yr service) to Peter Cooper and Kevin Hickey. Andrew Martin also received a 7 year Bar to his LSGCM.</p>
<b>17.</b>	<p><b>Kiwitahi School</b></p> <p>I attended a presentation at Kiwitahi School where Kevin Anderson donated three wheelie bins to allow the school to pilot a recycling system. The new system is an initiative of MPDC and if successful will be extended throughout the District. Kevin will service the bins on a regular basis.</p>
<b>18.</b>	<p><b>Central TV</b></p> <p>I agreed to an interview for the new Central News programme hosted by Rexine Hawes and Janelle Burnside, which screens Monday to Friday at 5.00pm. Hamilton Mayor Bob Simcock had earlier discussed Waikato amalgamation on the programme and I was asked for my personal views on this and other topics.</p>
<b>19.</b>	<p><b>Morrinsville Art Gallery</b></p> <p>I attended the inaugural exhibition hosted by the Morrinsville Art Gallery committee at the old Post Office building. The display included exhibitions of photos by a regional schools competition as</p>

	well as some paintings from the James Wallace collection.
<b>20.</b>	<p><b>Pacific Blue</b>  Along with my fellow Tight 5 Mayors I drove to Auckland Airport where we boarded a Pacific Blue aircraft. Flying at 1500 ft we flew past Te Aroha, over to Tauranga where we circled the city, then back to Hamilton where we again flew over the CBD before landing at Hamilton. All Mayors, wearing bright red Pacific Blue T shirts, size small, attended a reception which included the regions tourism operators.</p>
<b>21.</b>	<p><b>Dave Cooper</b>  Jill and I attended the funeral for friend and colleague Dave Cooper. Dave served on the Morrinsville Borough Council for many years and was Mayor from 1985 to 1989. He then served 4 terms as Morrinsville Ward Councillor on MPDC. Dave also served many years on the Morrinsville Volunteer Fire Brigade and he was the current President of the Morrinsville RSA at the time of his sudden death. Dave was a tremendous supporter of the Morrinsville community over many years.</p>
<b>22.</b>	<p><b>Tahuna Public Meeting</b>  Together with staff and Ward Councillors I fronted a public meeting called at the request of the Tahuna residents. The topic for discussion was the new sewerage system currently being installed in Tahuna. The majority of those attending expressed support and thanks to Council for the new scheme.</p>
<b>23.</b>	<p><b>Te Aroha Citizens Advice Bureau</b>  I attended the Te Aroha CAB's AGM. The Te Aroha branch has had a very full and successful year. They continue to provide an excellent service to the community.</p>
<b>24.</b>	<p><b>Loose 3</b>  I met with neighbouring Mayors Neil Sinclair, South Waikato and John Tregidga, Hauraki. They are both very supportive of a more formal and regular relationship between elected members as well as staff. The nickname of the Loose 3 was proposed to differentiate from the Tight 5.</p>
<b>25.</b>	<p><b>Arbor Day</b>  I attended both the Te Aroha and Matamata Arbor days. In Te Aroha the students helped plant shrubs and trees at Kenwyn Reserve and at Matamata we planted at Furness Reserve.</p>