

Mayoral Diary June 2017

Thursday 8 June	Meeting with Audit and Risk Chair CEO Don McLeod and I met with Sir Dryden Spring to discuss upcoming Audit and Risk agenda items.
Friday 9 June	Zone 2 meeting Councillor Adrienne Wilcock and I attended the meeting which was hosted by the South Waikato District Council at the Sport and Events Centre in Tokoroa. Zone meetings include Mayors, CEO's, Councillors and community board members. Mayor Jenny Shattock welcomed everyone in attendance before we got onto the agenda items. Presentations were made from the Packaging Forum, Civic Financial Services, and Safer Communities. We then had a site visit to the Tokoroa Trade Training Centre and the Freight Hub. Zone 2 concluded with discussion on the Elected members remuneration review and an update from LGNZ from CEO Malcolm Alexander.
Monday 12 June	Meeting with Te Wananga o Aotearoa Council staff member Ann-Jorun Hunter and I met with Angeline and Rich who are representatives of Te Wānanga o Aotearoa. We discussed the opportunity to deliver their program in our area and potential venues for delivery.
Tuesday 13 June	NZTA function The NZ Transport Agency invited Council to join a conversation with their Chief Executive, Fergus Gammie, Board representatives, and Director Regional Relationships, Parekawhia McLean, to hear about the future of transport and the direction NZTA is heading in, including their new strategy and operating model. They also wanted to hear from us about how we can work together to create a transport system that will deliver outcomes for our community and help create a better New Zealand. Waikato Mayoral Forum – MP's briefing and Strategic Review Workshop The first part of the meeting involved a briefing to MPS. We had the Hon Anne Tolley, Minister for Local Government Hon Scott Simpson, MP for Coromandel and Minister of Statistics, Nanaia Mahuta, MP for Hauraki-Waikato and Sue Moroney, List Member – Labour Party attend this meeting. Key points discussed were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved joint planning • Shared services • Economic development • Cutting red tape • Major water services savings • Efficiencies in infrastructure

	<p>Following interviews with mayors, the regional council chair and chief executives, consultant Peter Winder did a presentation on opportunities going forward to build on the collaborative work already undertaken regionally through the forum and other mechanisms.</p> <p>In introductory remarks, the forum chair noted how the region was diverse with further potential opportunities for co-ordinated sub-regional initiatives generally, as well as joined up work at a higher regional level, and also highlighted the ongoing need to speak with one voice as a region, particularly in dealings with central Government.</p> <p>Various points raised during the presentation and discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How strong political leadership would help drive initiatives • The need to prioritise what should be done next • What 'speaking with one voice' entails at a practical level
Wednesday 14 June	<p>Volunteer Youth Ambassadors (VYA) meeting</p> <p>Co-ordinating the finer details of the Mike King event being hosted the following week is still the primary focus of the VYA. I am very proud of the way this group of future leaders are working together.</p> <p>Meeting with Council staff</p> <p>Council Meeting & Field Days</p> <p>I opened the council meeting and we heard from presenter Karen Remetis. She discussed the concept of Business Improvement Districts (BDI) and what kind of structure provides advantages for businesses and council.</p> <p>I then headed over to Mystery Creek to attend the opening of the health hub and official opening of the annual Fieldays event. Deputy Prime Minister Paul Bennett was in attendance.</p> <p>At 4pm, at the invitation of Tim Vander Molen, I had the opportunity to be part of a select group to network with the Deputy Prime Minister Paula Bennett. I discussed with Paula the tourism funding particularly Wairere falls.</p>
Thursday 15 & Friday 16 June	<p>Rural and Provincial meeting</p> <p>At this meeting which I Co-Chair with Mayor Brian Hanna, we discussed the recent enquiry into the Havelock North Drinking Water, The CouncilMARK Excellence Programme (of which MPDC was one of the pilot councils assessed), the Tourism Infrastructure Fund, and Rural connectivity addressing mobile blackspots and broadband coverage.</p> <p>Presentations were made from Mike Bush, the NZ Police Commissioner, Hon Roger Sowry on the Civil Defence Management Review, Rob Beaglehole from the NZ Dentist Association to name a few.</p> <p>The value of these regional meetings with CE's and Mayors from similar sized Councils is great and I value the opportunity I have to engage with them.</p>

<p>Sunday 18 June</p>	<p>Te Aroha Women's Section – 75th Birthday</p> <p>I was delighted to be an invited guest at the Te Aroha RSA to recognise the role of the Women's Section and how it has developed and changed over the years as society's needs have developed and changed.</p> <p>One thing that remains consistent and strong for the Women's Section is their role of supporting families and their community. The Women's Section of the RSA offers friendship, help, and support to its association, its members, and the community. It is a very active and important part of Te Aroha RSA.</p> <p>I had a wonderful afternoon engaging with the members and hearing some of the Women's Section memories.</p> <div data-bbox="397 508 818 1090" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="879 517 1378 1090" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Women's Section President Marg Dickson, RSA President Owen Passau and Mayor Jan</p>
<p>Monday 19 June</p>	<p>Waikato Plan Joint Committee - Hamilton</p> <p>The main discussion point was around the updated Leadership Group Agreement for approval. Full minutes from this meeting can be read online by clicking here.</p> <p>Meeting with Morrinsville resident</p> <p>I met with a young woman who approached me who wanted to discuss the role of an elected member. We also talked about the Volunteer Youth Ambassadors and how she may be able to use her connections in the community to benefit the group.</p> <p>Meeting with Council staff</p> <p>I met with council staff to discuss the Volunteer Youth Ambassadors and other youth initiatives.</p> <p>Phone conference call</p> <p>Council staff and I had a conference call with consultant Andrew Green from Brookfields lawyers to discuss hearing protocols, Andrew also run a workshop on this topic for the full council.</p>
<p>Tuesday 20 & Wednesday 21 June</p>	<p>Plan Change 47 Hearing</p> <p>Day one consisted of Council hearing from submitters on Plan Change 47 – Plan Your Town. For the first hour of day two we heard from remaining submitters before moving into right of reply and deliberations.</p>

Council is currently undergoing deliberations and a decision will be made in due course.

Volunteer Youth Ambassadors – Mike King event

Council received \$12,000 from Ministry of Youth Development for the establishment of a Volunteer Youth Ambassador group (VYA).

One of the projects the VYA has embarked on was to bring Mike King to the district to speak to each of the three colleges as well as giving a community presentation on the topic of mental illness, depression and youth suicide. Mike King doesn't charge for doing his speech, but asks for donations to his charity The Key to Life Charitable Trust.

The VYA asked for gold coin donations on the night of the community presentation, and sought sponsorship from local businesses to support getting Mike to our district. This included free accommodation, food vouchers and fuel vouchers for Mike.

The VYA made a donation of \$3,000 to The Key to Life Charitable Trust to acknowledge and thank Mike for coming to our district. The \$3,000 is made up of \$1,100 sponsorship, \$327.00 donations and \$1,573.00 from the MYD funding that Council received.

This inaugural Volunteer Youth Ambassadors have set up an amazing template for future youth to use. Special thanks also to MPDC staff member Ann Jo-run Hunter who is the key liaison between Council and the ambassadors.



**Thursday
22 June**

Phone Interview with Nga Iwi FM

Rino and I discussed the Volunteer Youth Ambassadors who organised the Mike King event in the three colleges this week.

Volunteer thank you morning tea

This year we hosted our volunteer celebration at the Wallace Gallery in Morrinsville.

Our volunteers and the groups they are involved with bind our community together and make our district a great place to live.

The history of this celebration started with a Volunteer Awards event, where public nominations saw just some of the volunteers in our district recognised. Last year the format was changed to include volunteer organisations across the district so we could celebrate more of our

volunteers, ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

We had representatives of over 30 volunteer organisations many of whom were familiar faces, having given service to the community for a number of years.

On behalf of our three communities I congratulated and thanked all our volunteers for the help they offer to the people of our district.

Volunteers deliver critical services — from saving lives and fighting fires, to organising community events and tidying gardens for all to enjoy. Volunteers are, in my opinion, one of the most important resource a community can have.



Community meeting – Morrinsville

In response to the recent spate of theft and burglaries in Morrinsville a community meeting was arranged by Councillor Paul Cronin, and held at the Westpac Events Centre.

It was well attended by residents who are passionate about their community and want to see how they can assist in any way.

Our night patrols have certainly been strengthened from this community. Our communities can be the eyes and ears for police; don't forget to ring 111 with information, don't wait.

<p>Friday 23 June</p>	<p>Volunteer Excellence Awards</p> <p>The Waikato regional volunteer awards were held at the Atrium at Wintec where the guest speaker for the evening was Dr Assil Russell (founder of Iraqi Children's Aid and Repair Endeavour Founder of Revive a Smile NZ Dental Charity).</p> <p>Te Aroha resident Ann Norton was nominated by the Waikato/BOP Cancer Society. She received a commendation for her work and efforts</p>
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	<p>to ensure a better quality of life for those on a cancer journey. Well done Ann we are very proud of you.</p> <p>Morrinsville resident Peter Van Veen was a finalist and nominated by Hospice Waikato.</p>
<p>Tuesday 27 June</p>	<p>Audit and Risk Committee Another full agenda, this committee is reviewing so many valuable pieces of work that council staff are undertaking which is giving great confidence to elected members.</p> <p>Matamata Historical Society I was invited by the society to be the guest speaker at their monthly meeting held at Firth Tower. I spoke about waste minimisation, the Volunteer Youth Ambassadors, and other points of interest. Plenty of time for questions and answers.</p> <p>Matamata Rotary Change over evening The new president for Matamata Rotary is Peter Vossen. His daughter entertained us with her flute playing. This is a very strong service club in our community and I wish Peter well for his year ahead.</p>
<p>Wednesday 28 June</p>	<p>Corporate and Operations meeting Chaired by Councillor Ash Tanner.</p> <p>Meeting at Te Aroha College I met principal Heather Gorrie with Jeremy, one of our core Volunteer Youth Ambassadors, to talk about our young ambassadors next project which will involve intermediate aged children. The ambassadors wish to bring these students together at our colleges with the Waikato sports foundation course on leadership.</p>