

# Mayoral Diary

## March 2018

<p><b>Thursday 1 March</b></p>	<p><b>Matamata Citizens Advise Bureau (CAB)</b> I met with CAB chairman Linda Hodge to discuss community issues including emergency housing and key dates going forward.</p> <p><b>Meeting with NZ Police</b> I had my regular meeting with Inspector John Kelly to discuss district issues, and to get confidence on policing going forward.</p> <p><b>Half Yearly Shareholder Briefing</b> Mayors and Chief Executives had an update on the Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) Group. The session covered the half yearly financial results, the outlook for the next six months including an update on our aeronautical, property and tourism initiatives. We are heading in the right direction and confidence in our board.</p>
<p><b>Friday 2 March</b></p>	<p><b>Tuia mentoring meeting</b> I met with one of our former Tuia participants Hapairere King as part of our on-going team building with past Tuia, regarding employment and industry.</p>
<p><b>Monday 5 March</b></p>	<p><b>Regional Transport Committee</b> I attended out standard meeting briefly before attending my districts commitments.</p> <p><b>Te Aroha Grey Power</b> I attended the last half of the Te Aroha Grey Power meeting which had around 100 members in attendance. Thank you to councillors Teena Cornes and Ash Tanner along with council staff Fiona Vessey (Group Manager Service Delivery) for sharing so much information.</p> <p><b>Interview with NZ Herald</b> I did an interview with journalist Hunter Calder for a 'local focus' video piece for the NZ Herald. We discussed what's happening in the regions, how the district is going and what projects are on the horizon. The clip has not been released to date.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 6 March</b></p>	<p><b>Audit and Risk committee</b> This was the first meeting for the year and the first for new Chair John Luxton. The Long Term Plan (LTP) was covered, along with the Six Month report, the Annual Report Audit Plan, Internal Audits, Review of Ecoli Detection, Project Risk Management Review and policy review. Welcome aboard John, our district is so fortunate to have you has our Audit and Risk Chair.</p>

	<p>All of councils minutes and agendas can be viewed on our website at <a href="http://www.mpdc.govt.nz/council-documents/minutes">http://www.mpdc.govt.nz/council-documents/minutes</a></p> <p><b>Meeting at Te Hauora</b> I met with Lianne and Fred to discuss education and job opportunities through the Ministry of Social Development, an opportunity for our district.</p>
<b>Wednesday 7 March</b>	<p><b>Council meeting</b> Council adopted the Long Term Plan and Consultation Document at this meeting. This is in preparation to send out to the public for consultation between 28 March and 29 April. I encourage you all to have your say.</p>
<b>Thursday 8 and Friday 9 March</b>	<p><b>Rural and Provincial meeting</b> Co-Chair Mayor Brian Hanna of Waitomo District Council and I chair this meeting held in Wellington. Items on the agenda at this quarters meeting included the review of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, Freedom Camping, Regional Development, Climate change, Remuneration for Local Government, policy and Review of 3 Waters. Excellent speakers and the delegates were very appreciative of the agenda content.</p>
<b>Monday 12 March</b>	<p><b>Meeting with NZTA and contractor</b> CEO Don McLeod and I met with Karen Boyt and the new contractor for our district – Ken from Higgins. We discussed what our expectation is for the maintenance of our roads and what the scheduled programming is for the coming year and highlighted our district priorities.</p> <p><b>Teleconference</b> We are now four months away from the annual Local Government conference and we went over the programme and confirmed speakers, council has confirmed our delegation.</p> <p><b>Justice of the Peace AGM and dinner</b> Rex and I attending the joint Te Aroha and Morrinsville Annual General Meeting which was followed by a dinner. This was held in the Balance and Seales functions rooms of the Silver Fern Farm Events Centre in Te Aroha. I was able to speak to the JPs present and congratulate and present certificates on long service and retirees.</p>
<b>Tuesday 13 March</b>	<p><b>Meeting with the Hon Kelvin Davis – Minister for the Crown/Maori Relations</b> As a member of the National Council board I was part of a small Local Government group that met with the minister in Wellington.</p> <p>Our brief was how can we support central government more in their</p>

	<p>engagement with iwi.</p> <p>Local government regularly engages with communities, including with Maori. Key information was shared.</p> <p><b>New World staff event</b></p> <p>I was invited to participate with New World staff on a seminar to strengthen financial, environmental and wellbeing in our lives.</p> <p>Thank you Sheree and Matt of New World Matamata. This programme I know will be used in so many applications to grow and strengthen our people.</p>
<b>Wednesday 14 March</b>	<p><b>Council meeting</b></p> <p>During our meeting we had a presentation from the Hauraki Rail Trail manger Diane Drummond, a long service presentation to a council staff member Murray Clayton who has completed 30 years, and acknowledged Ben Huch for his long service also. We had discussion around the Annual Report Audit Plan, CCO Monitoring and Shared Services, Road Naming in Morrinsville, and District Boundary signs.</p>
<b>Thursday 15 March</b>	<p><b>Employment and Training EXPO</b></p> <p>This event was held at the Rukumoana Marae in Morrinsville in conjunction with Ngati Haua iwi Trust. This also incorporated the launch of the Blue Berry initiative with NZ Govt. Dr Steve Saunders completed an initial planting on Ngati Haua land which completed the successful day.</p>
<b>Friday 16 March</b>	<p><b>Tahuna Fire Brigade Honours dinner</b></p> <p>Rex and I along with Councillor James Thomas and his wife attended the honours dinner at the Tahuna Station where UFBA honours were presented as well as NZFENZ awards for service.</p>
<b>Monday 19 March</b>	<p><b>Matamata-Piako Civic and Memorial Centre</b></p> <p>Council staff opened the doors to the public today in our brand new civic centre. A public street party for all will be held on 14 April where tours of the building will be available. Our council staff have done the hard yards in the prefab temporary buildings across the street and I hope they will love working in a modern new workplace!</p>



Raising the flags outside the office for the first time

### **Economic and regional Development meeting**

The Hon Paul Goldsmith MP was visiting the Waikato and I was given the opportunity attend a meeting with him in his capacity as spokesperson for Economic and Regional Development along with Hon Tim Macindoe MP, Mayor Sanson and Deputy Mayor Fulton.

This engagement opportunity was at the invitation of our new MP Tim Van de Molen.

Our discussions were around what is happening in the Waikato on a regional perspective, and it was a great opportunity to be involved in such a discussion.

### **On site meeting**

Council staff member Robert Utting and I met some residents of Meadowview Drive in Morrinsville to discuss a stormwater issue.

**Tuesday  
20 March**

### **Meeting with Bishop David Moxon & Hobbiton**


I met with Russell Alexander of Hobbiton, and Bishop David Moxon to discuss tourism in our district, specifically around Tarore and her legend and the Wairere Falls and our tourist trail development with Ngati Haua involvement.

**Wednesday  
21 March**

### **Council workshop**

Staff lead us through discussions on Stormwater in Morrinsville, Parking

	survey, Representation Review and Levels of Service within KVS.
<b>Thursday 22 March</b>	<p><b>Waharoa Aerodrome Workshop and Meeting</b> Our first co-governance meeting of the year was held at Waharoa, items on the agenda included the Reserve Management Plan update, LTP, Marae Underpass update and Marae entrance and parking arrangements. Our workshop delivered a vision for our airfield, watch this space.</p> <p><b>Matamata Business After 5</b> Hosted by the Four Seasons and attended by Councillor Adrienne Wilcock. A great networking opportunity with good attendance.</p>
<b>Friday 23 &amp; Saturday 24 March</b>	<p><b>National Council meeting</b> We manage to pack a lot of work into our one day meetings in Wellington, and this was no exception. We discussed a wide range of topics including the LGNZ Roadshows, business plan and representation of local boards on the National Council, Water 2050 and Climate Change policies, Finance reporting, health and safety, Zones and other day to day topics of Local Government.</p> <p><b>Matamata College 100 year</b> I attended the cocktail function on Friday night and spoke at the official proceedings on Saturday for the 100 year celebrations of Matamata College. It was an honour to be the current Mayor, speaking on behalf of my community.</p> <p>I spent four very special years at Matamata College that helped shape who I am today. I still look back on my time at Matamata College and remember most of my teachers very fondly.</p> <p>Arthur Lucas (the Principal back then) walked like a Sergeant Major and could see around corners - especially when boys were talking to girls. He was discipline personified - but you knew exactly where you stood. That discipline was one of many strong core values I learnt at Matamata College, which I constantly rely on in my role as Mayor.</p> <p>The message I had for those students still at school celebrating the centenary was, it might not feel like it now, but your time at school is so short – so grab every opportunity with both hands. I was an average student, but school is about more than that - this is your opportunity to grow your skills and equip yourself to be a valued member of your community.</p>
<b>Monday 26 March</b>	<p><b>Thai Student Visit</b> I visited a group of students who are at Te Aroha College for a short exchange. They were lovely well-mannered students and we had a</p>

	<p>great question and answer session, which I enjoyed. Never underestimate these engagements!</p> 
<p><b>Monday 26 March</b></p>	<p><b>Anzac Day pre service meetings</b></p> <p>I met with RSA delegates from Te Aroha in the morning, and then Matamata, Walton and Morrinsville in the afternoon to discuss the proceedings for the four services next month and to make sure everything is in order. Council staff work alongside the RSA for our civic services.</p> <p>RSA dawn services were also discussed and the new Civic Centre fore court was viewed to make some changes to flow on our Anzac Day.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 27 March</b></p>	<p><b>Grey Power Matamata</b></p> <p>CEO Don McLeod and I met with the Grey Power committee members to discuss a range of questions they had presented to me earlier in the month. Councillor Brian Hunter was also in support at the meeting and staff member Sandra Harris was able to promote the LTP consultation document.</p> <p><b>Meeting with NZ Police</b></p> <p>I met with Superintendent Bruce Bird in Matamata. Supt Bird and I have regular catch ups to discuss what is happening in our communities. We will meet again next month for the launch of the Matamata station becoming manned 24/7 where I have been asked to speak.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 28 March</b></p>	<p><b>Corporate and Operations Meeting</b></p> <p>Chaired by Councillor Ash Tanner, we made presentations to staff for Health and Safety and a short presentation from Tuia candidate for 2018 Jahstice Wilson.</p>
<p><b>Thursday 29 March</b></p>	<p><b>Visit by Prime Minister Right Hon Jacinda Arden</b></p> <p>I was delighted to be part of the official welcoming party at Kai-a-te-mata marae in Morrinsville for our Prime Minister.</p>

Matamata-Piako District, and Morrinsville is very proud of our Prime Minister, where her life's journey has taken her, since she grew up and went to College here in Morrinsville.

I presented a gift of a picture of Wairere Falls to Prime Minister Ardern, an icon that can be seen from almost every part of the district. I pledged Local Government support to Central Government for our communities growth.



#### **Volunteer Youth Ambassador meeting**

I met with students of Morrinsville College who will be part of our VYA's for 2018. A fine group of young leaders in the making. We will look at having these meetings around the district.

#### **Meeting with Wintec**

I met with Kim Linklater from Wintec to discuss learning opportunities in our district. Matamata may have opportunities with regards to horticulture. This would link business needs in Wintec's planning for future courses. A great opportunity to be a part of in the planning stage.