

Solid waste rules to be updated

Council is reviewing its Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw, following Government changes to standardise recycling around the country and introduce food waste collections.

Group Manager Infrastructure Neil McCann said the bylaw was last reviewed in 2018 so it was due for updating, especially after new national rules for kerbside recycling came into force in February this year.

“Councils that provide kerbside collection are now also required to offer a collection for kitchen food waste. This was a topic in our Long Term Plan consultation recently and the community overwhelmingly favoured us introducing a green bin service for both food and garden waste. Council will be starting this service from 1 September 2026 so the bylaw needs to at least reflect that.”

The draft Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw was released for consultation this week and feedback can be made until 29 September.

Mr McCann said there were three main changes proposed.

“The first would require public events on council-owned land to have a plan to help reduce waste. Our Glow in the Park event recently is a great example of this, where 93 per cent of waste generated was able to be diverted from landfill, either by recycling or composting.

“Obviously if it’s a small event, it could be as simple as using the public bins, but for



Waste from building sites is considered in the solid waste bylaw review.

larger events it could require having to separate rubbish, recycling and organics. “This is something that Council has been doing itself for a number of years and it’s the right time to bring other event organisers along with us.”

The second proposed change would enable Council to require a waste management and minimisation plan on construction sites for all projects valued over \$500,000.

“This might mean that builders do some basic sorting of waste onsite or contract a third-party waste provider to sort it, as there’s often materials or offcuts that can be repurposed.

“Obviously we want to be careful that it doesn’t place a burden on builders, so we need to make sure anything we introduce is practical and cost-effective.

We’re looking forward to having the conversation with the construction industry and hearing what ideas they might have.”

The third proposed change would require businesses in the CBD to bring in their kerbside bins on collection day.

Mr McCann said most businesses were already pretty good at bringing their bins in after collection, but some were being left out more than 24 hours after collection.

“This is really about keeping our CBD tidy and easy to navigate, with footpaths that are clear.”

There are a few other minor proposed changes and people can make feedback and find the full consultation document and draft bylaw at itsourplace.nz

Mayor Neil Brown Nothing frilly to see here

There was plenty of noise out of Wellington last week when Mayors, Councillors and community board members from around the country met for Local Government New Zealand’s conference.

You might have heard the Prime Minister telling Councils to concentrate on doing the basics well. Chris Luxon was among a good line-up of speakers, all talking about issues that councils are dealing with at the moment.

The conference was a great chance to connect with other elected local body politicians, and talk about those pressures – as well as the need for central and local government to work together.

The Government’s message was clear: There is no more money, apart from what is in existing budgets and Councils should spend wisely, and not on any frivolous projects.

In Ashburton, we’d already been

hearing that message from residents as the district works hard to put covid in its rear view mirror. We’ve been busy with projects and spending on core infrastructure.

The new Methven water treatment plant came online last year and this week the new Mount Somers water treatment plant is officially opened. Both these plants are big improvements in the drinking water infrastructure for the towns they serve.

Over the past few years we’ve added to our wastewater network, spent more money on roads, and stuck to a programme of renewing pipes and other assets before they break down. We’re also planning to introduce a green waste collection to our kerbside rubbish and recycling service.

It’s all a balance of affordability and making our district an appealing place to live and work in.

I was surprised to hear Government’s plan to remove the four wellbeing provisions in the Local Government Act

– these are economic, cultural, social and environmental. As local leaders, these wellbeings are also important for communities.

I also took a field trip to Transmission Gully, a two-lanes-each-way 27km motorway connecting Wellington with the Kapiti Coast. This road takes 25,000 vehicles per day (compare that with our one-lane-each-way SH1 bridge, that takes 22,000 vehicles per day).

Transmission Gully is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) project and I was interested in how it was built and the issues they encountered while building it. Under this PPP, the road was financed, designed and built by a group of private companies and NZTA is paying the cost back over 25 years, a bit like a loan with interest.

Next year’s LGNZ conference will be hosted by Canterbury and be held in Christchurch.



KEEP NZ BEAUTIFUL

Litter-Free Ashburton is hosting a special community clean-up day on **Saturday 21 September**, as part of Keep NZ Beautiful Week. Those interested in joining the community clean-up can to the West Street car park at 10am, where gloves and bags will be provided. Keep NZ Beautiful Week runs from 20-27 September.

OCEAN FARM GRASS HARVESTING TENDER

Ashburton District Council is seeking contractors to **harvest and remove standing grass** from Council’s wastewater treatment facility, Ocean Farm. This is a three-year contract and will commence 1 October 2024.

The second and third years will be subject to separate negotiation between Council and contractor prior to the harvest periods, which are:

- 2024-2025
- 2025-2026
- 2026-2027

Ocean Farm is a 300ha Council-owned property located on Terrace Road, at Ashton. The design of the treatment and disposal system dictates that pasture is cut and removed from the property to reduce nutrient loading.

The works require close liaison with Council’s farm manager and involves the periodic monitoring of standing grass blocks, harvesting, sampling and testing, pasture maintenance and reporting.

Tenders will be released through TenderLink (tenderlink.com/ashburtondc/). The forum administrator is Bernard.Bataroa@adc.govt.nz

Tenders close at 5pm on Friday 13 September.

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURES

Ashburton District Council gives public notice of proposals to temporarily close roads to traffic for the following community events.

Any person objecting should lodge a notice of their objection and grounds in writing by post or email to the Council, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton by the relevant deadline.

RIDE THE RAKAIA

Road proposed to be closed:

- **Rakaia Barrhill Methven Road, from Baker Road to West Town Belt**

Period of closure:

- **From 6am until 3pm on Saturday 26 October 2024**

Objections by 4pm, **6 September**.

This proposed closures are made under the Local Government Act 1974 – Schedule 10 (11) (e).

NEIL MCCANN
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

Fancy a noodle pie, or noodle pizza?

With just over a week until the Hakatere Noodle Festival, those taking part are getting inventive with their noodle creations.

The event, now in its second year, celebrates newcomers and Ashburton's multicultural community with a range of food from around the globe, including cultures where noodles wouldn't typically be the norm.

"Nearly all of our vendors have risen to the occasion and incorporated noodles into at least one dish," said Council's Group Manager of Democracy and Engagement, Toni Durham.

"We're seeing some really intriguing use of noodles, such as handcrafted satay noodle pies, which sound absolutely delicious."

Toni says there will also be a wide selection of traditional noodle fare ranging from countries such as Japan, Thailand, Singapore and Nepal.

"So, whether you just want to enjoy a really good Pad Thai or to experience something new and exciting, such as Birria Ramen, there will be noodles for everyone."

A new vendor joining the festival this year is Empire Chicken who are famous in the



South Island for their fried chicken and are likely to be a big hit with the crowds.

"There are plenty of options for those who are noodle-negative," laughs Toni.

"We just want to see everyone down at Baring Square having fun, trying something a bit different and striking up a conversation with someone they haven't

met before."

Toni says the festive atmosphere will be enhanced with live music from local performer, Tyrone Schwalger.

The Hakatere Noodle Festival is from 3pm-9pm, Saturday 7 September at Baring Square East (outside Te Whare Whakatere, the new library and civic centre).

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at Hine Paaka (Council Chambers), 2 Baring Square East, unless specified.

Meeting agendas are online at ashburtondc.govt.nz

Tuesday 3 September, **Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee**, 9.30am (Wakanui Room)

Wednesday 4 September, **Council Meeting**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Thursday 5 September, **Reserve Management Plan Hearings**, 9am (live-streamed)

Monday 9 September, **Methven Community Board**, 9am (Mt Hutt Memorial Hall)

Wednesday 11 September, **Council Activity Briefings**, 9.30am

Wednesday 11 September, **Audit & Risk Committee**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Thursday 12 September, **Council Workshop - Public Transport Research**, 9.30am (live-streamed)

Wednesday 18 September, **Council Meeting**, 1pm (live-streamed)

Monday 23 September, **Youth Forum**, 9.30am (live-streamed)

Tuesday 24 September, **Water Zone Committee**, 1pm (live-streamed)

The Hakatere Noodle Festival celebrates the different flavours that make up our community.

We want to hear what style of food best describes you! It could be based on a traditional family recipe, represent your culture or just something you enjoy eating! Share it with us by designing your very own food truck and you could win an awesome prize!

FAMILY PASS

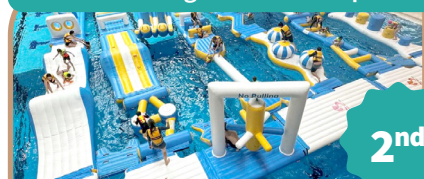
Ōpuke Thermal Pools and Spa*



1st

FAMILY PASS

Waterworld Mega Indoor Waterpark*



2nd

FREE DISC GOLF RENTAL EA Networks Centre

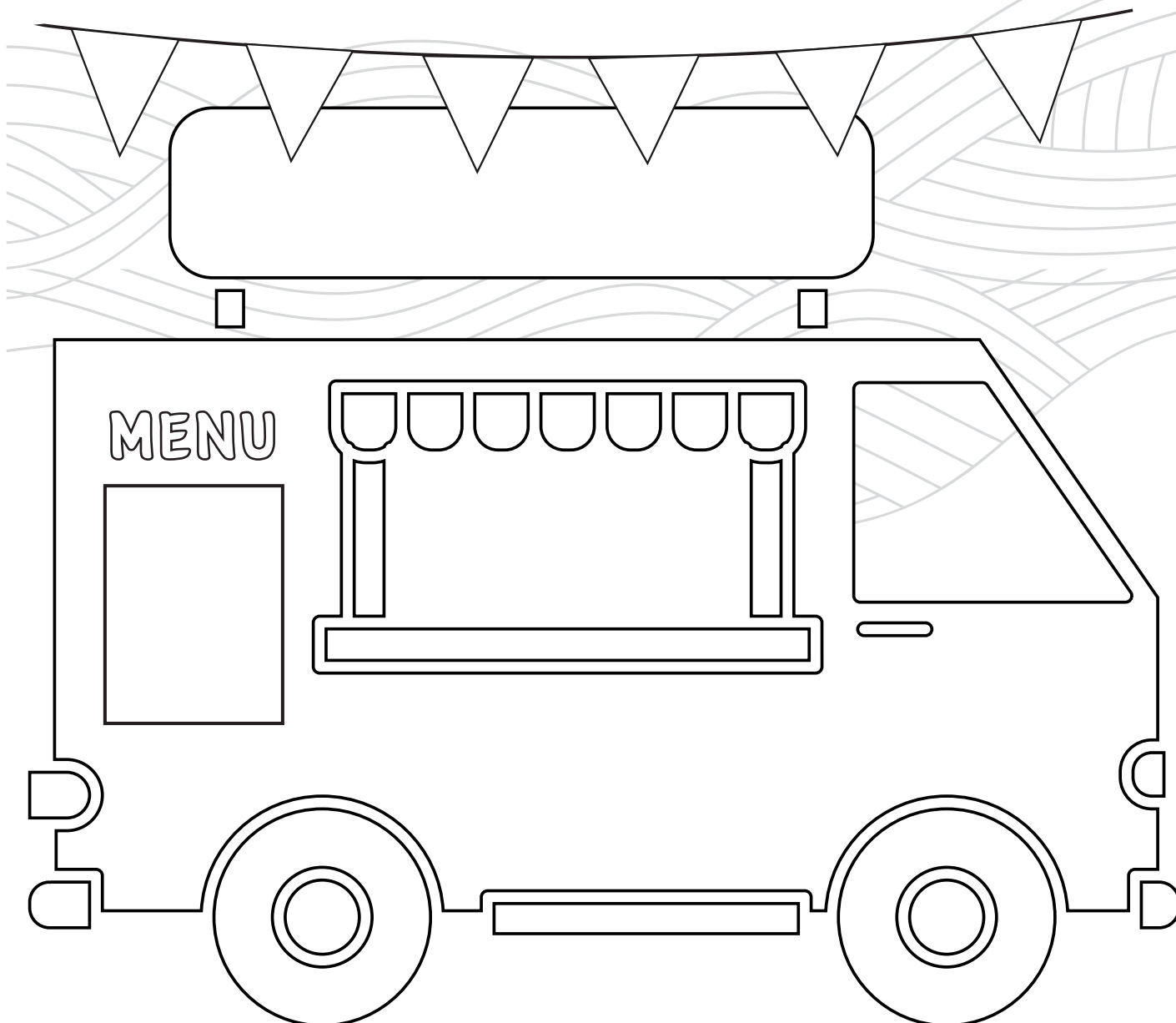


Highly
Commended

Return your completed entry to the Ashburton Library by Friday 6 September or to the Hakatere Noodle Festival on Saturday 7 September.

Additional entry forms available at the Ashburton Library. * Check our website for T&Cs.

DESIGN YOUR OWN FOOD TRUCK!



Name:

Phone:

Age: