

# Murupara

## COMMUNITY BOARD NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 68 – FEBRUARY 2025

### Extraordinary Board vacancy

In January, we received Board member Memory Edmonds' resignation. We'd like to acknowledge Memory's contribution to the Board – we really appreciate the skills and experience she brought to the table. Kāore e āriarika ngā mihi ki a koe i whakapau kaha mō tō tātou hapori Memory!

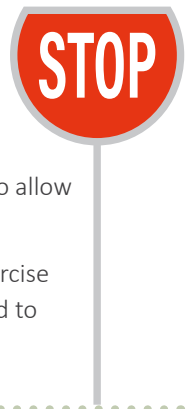
As a result, we now have an extraordinary vacancy to fill. A by-election is not required as it is within 12 months of the Local Body Elections, which are scheduled for October this year. We're looking to directly appoint a new member and should be able to confirm this appointment in the next edition of this newsletter.

### Construction begins on Te Whāiti retaining wall

Construction of a retaining wall has commenced on Te Whāiti Road around the fifteen-kilometre mark. Contractor, Tracks Concrete, began the work on February 17, following a karakia.

The project, which includes installation and reinstatement of riprap and gabion baskets, is expected to take three weeks to complete. During this time, one lane of Te Whāiti Road will be closed with stop/go in place during daylight hours, and traffic lights operating in the evening to allow for continued traffic flow in both directions.

Motorists and other road users are advised to exercise extra caution when traveling through this area and to expect minor delays.



### PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 4 – Building Platform Level

#### Managing Flood Risk

#### *E whakahaere ana i ngā Tūraru Waipuke*

We want to make some changes to the Whakatāne District Plan ('our rule book') to help manage flood risk and simplify the consenting process. But, before we do, we want to know what you think.

scan me



#### What's proposed? He aha te tono

We want to change the wording of the existing rule so piled foundations can be used to raise building platform levels.

We want to make it easier to add small extensions to buildings and build attached garages below the flood level.

A resource consent will be required whenever the predicted flood level is over 300mm depth.

#### *Kōrero Mai*

Tell us what you think by  
5pm Friday, 13 March 2025

Scan the QR code or go to  
[whakatane.govt.nz/plan-change-4](https://whakatane.govt.nz/plan-change-4)





## Murupara Aquatic Centre

The Murupara Aquatic Centre team has been very busy with lots of people enjoying the facility and heaps of local schools coming through for some fun, including Te Kura Toitū o Te Whāiti-nui-a-Toi, Kāingaroa Forest School, and Murupara Area School.

The pool will be assessed this Thursday afternoon by Poolsafe. This assessment ensures our pool meets best practice standards for our hapori.

## New basketball hoop for Oak Street playground

Late last year, Council staff applied to Basketball New Zealand’s Hoops in Parks project, which is expanding in 2025 with support from Schick. The aims to bring more basketball hoops to communities across 10 regions in New Zealand.



Whakatāne District Council’s application was successful, and the Oak Street Playground in Murupara received the most votes for our region – whoop whoop! Basketball New Zealand and Schick will supply and install a new hoop and line-mark the existing half-court over the next few months – watch that space.

## Ka nui te mihi *Thank you!*

Maramena Vercoe recently stepped down as CE of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa after 20 years of leadership. Thank you for your tireless, patient, and passionate years of service to your people and the betterment of Ngāti Manawa.

Enjoy the time to now focus on yourself and your whānau. E te māreikura, e kōrengarenga ana te puna o mihi ki a koe.

*Apply now!*

## Community funds now open for applications!

Four community funds are now open for applications until Sunday, 2 March 2025 via the Whakatāne District Council website. These include the Reorua Contestable Fund, Te Pūaha General Fund, Te Pūaha Scholarship Fund and the Community Matching Fund.

Visit [whakatane.govt.nz/community-grants](http://whakatane.govt.nz/community-grants), phone 07 306 0500 or email [grants@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:grants@whakatane.govt.nz) for more information.

# LOCAL WILD FOOD FESTIVAL

**MAHY RESERVE, ŌHOPE BEACH**  
Saturday, 22 February 12pm - 6pm

**Tickets: online \$15, gate sales \$20.**  
**Children 15 and under FREE!**

**For the full line up and more info head to [whakatane.com/wildfood](http://whakatane.com/wildfood)**