

MDC has joined with 19 other Councils (with maybe another 5 coming on board), and have employed a lawyer to try to oppose this governmental decree. For the rest of the Councils around the country it is unsure where they stand, but some will have such expensive water issues that they will have no choice but to opt in. Many South Island Councils have employed their own lawyers to address this contentious and covert redistribution of public assets.

(The suggestion was made to Cr. Steve that since the National Council Committee was not representing the desires and aspirations of its members, then perhaps MDC pulls out, or with-holds the \$45K fee that is paid to them)

Creation of a wetland has been approved for the holding and cleaning of wastewater at the Kawakawa Road site which should eliminate any future contaminants flowing into the Oroua River. \$600K has been set aside for this, with another \$500K being provided by Internal Affairs. Bathing and picnics will be available at this exciting new facility – but only for birds!

The revue for Councillor representation has allowed for 5 from each of the urban and rural wards and 1 Maori seat. At present it is 4-4-1, but this will change unless an appeal with enough resident numbers is attained to retain the status quo is achieved.

District Tree Laws were discussed, and fortunately we have Jeremy to provide concise and up-to-date information. A review of the District plan with regards to forestry is underway. Under Horizons One Plan, the NESPF (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) over-rides all forestry rules for plantations over one Hectare – below this, Council rules apply, and as such these rules need to be applied properly.

School: - No School report on this occasion – except that the bike track is up and running;

The Principal – Claire Audier is on leave, with Ali Symonds standing in.

General Business:

Discussion was again held concerning the Hall being on the Council's low-use index despite the fact that it is in regular use by the community, school and playcentre, and a means of tracking use is being instigated.

The heater for the Hall has been purchased by Mary-Anne, and now just awaits a cold Winters day for a decent trial!

A letter is to be written to the School concerning communication with the community.

Community Christmas get together at the Hall is on the last Sunday before Christmas – the 19th December, starting at 5:00pm

Meeting Ended 8:30 pm

**Next Meeting set for Wednesday 7th March 2022 at 7:05 pm
At the Hall**