

Māpua and Districts Community Association meeting update – June 2025

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Do you have what it takes?

Encouragement and support are being offered to first-timers considering standing for Tasman District Council in this year's local election. Nominations open on Monday 7 July for the October election.

Now is the time for potential candidates to consider their nomination.

We have a series of short videos featuring former Mayor Richard Kempthorne, current deputy Mayor Stuart Bryant and former Nelson City Council and Tasman District Councillor Judene Edgar offering tips and advice to potential candidates on our website at tasman.govt.nz/elections.

We are also hosting a candidate information session from 6.30 pm on Thursday 26 June in the Richmond Council Chamber.

Fees aiming to please

Also on the table for discussion in the Council Chamber were deliberations around Fees and Charges for 2025/2026.

The affordability of waste disposal and dog control fees were raised as issues of particular concern amongst the community throughout public consultation submissions.

Due to factors such as waste minimisation initiatives, some waste being taken directly to York Landfill, and increased fly-tipping, our Resource Recovery Centres are receiving less waste than forecast.

We had proposed an 18% increase in mixed refuse charges but reduced this to 15% to try and avoid further reductions in waste volumes at the Resource Recovery Centres.

This increase will need to be offset by an increase in rates revenue of approximately 0.215% in the Annual Plan 2025/2026.

Elected Members also discussed the proposed increase in dog registration fees in response to the submissions opposing this.

The increase was proposed to recover the higher costs of providing a sustainable and fit-for-purpose dog control service across the District.

This means that urban dogs will pay \$90 for the coming year, rural dogs will pay \$70, and a new category for working dogs will be introduced with a \$50 registration fee. The resulting fees are comparable with the dog registration fees of many other councils across the country.

The annual monitoring and administration fee for mooring licences was reduced from the proposed \$226 to \$153 in response to submissions.

All other proposed fees and charges in the schedule were confirmed.

A final Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/2026 will be presented for adoption at the Council meeting on 25 June 2025, before coming into effect on 1 July 2025.

Time for a new tag for Muttly

Is your furry friend a loyal sidekick, a spoiled lapdog, or a hardworking farmhand? No matter their vibe, all dogs need to be registered before 1 July.

Registration fees:

- \$90 for dogs on urban properties less than 1 hectare
- \$70 for rural dogs on properties larger than 1 hectare
- \$50 for working dogs kept solely for herding and stock driving

If your pup isn't registered and paid for by 1 August, a 50% late fee will be added.

These fees help cover the cost of all dog-related services in Tasman. It's largely a user-pays system which is only 5% funded from general rates.

Already registered? Great! Keep an eye out – registration forms will be sent out soon. You can also grab a form anytime from our website.

Here's how to return your registration form:

- Email it to dog.control@tasman.govt.nz
- Post it to Dog Control, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050
- Drop it off at any Council Service Centre

Paying your fee is easy:

- Bank transfer: 12-3193-0002048-03 (use your dog owner number as the reference)
- Online by credit card (small fee applies)
- In person at any Council Service Centre

Moved house? Changed your number? Got a new pup? Make sure you update your details on the form.

For more information, head to tasman.govt.nz/dog-registration.

Let's keep our four-legged mates safe and legal – thanks for doing your bit!

Speed management phase two feedback moves into gear

Phase two of our Speed Management Plan consultation is now underway, and we want your thoughts. We are looking for feedback on proposals to lower speed limits for numerous local roads. The roads are narrow or winding tortuous unsealed roads, rural residential roads and peri-urban streets, urban roads which do not have footpaths, and unsealed roads which include on-road sections of Tasman's Great Taste Trail. There are also some specific roads with individual requirements that have been highlighted. The changes on these roads were approved as part of the Nelson Tasman Speed Management Plan at a Joint Council meeting of Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council in August 2024. This was after extensive consultation on speed limits in January and February last year. In October 2024, the Setting of the Speed Limits Rule 2024 was released which specifies the speed limits that Road Controlling Authorities are able to set for each class of road. However, the rule now requires us to re-consult on most proposed speed limit changes before we can implement our Speed Management Plan and must now include a Cost Benefit Disclosure Statement for each road being consulted on. We've created a comprehensive list of roads in Tasman District and have broken them down on a ward-by-ward basis. You can find lists of roads and maps at shape.tasman.govt.nz/speedphasetwo where you can also have your say. We are only consulting on local roads and not State Highways. Any changes to State Highway speeds will be done by NZTA Waka Kotahi.

Let us show you the money

We can show you where you may find funds.

Looking for money for your community group or organisation but not sure where to start? What does it take to apply for grants? Who do you speak to? What's the process?

Together with the Department of Internal Affairs and Rata Foundation, we're running a series of drop-in sessions so you can learn what funds are available, how to apply, and find out about other resources that may be available.

You'll be able to speak to staff from these organisations about your projects to find out how funding may help you and your group make a difference in our community.

If you want tips about making a good funding application or help with your application form, then this session could also be useful to you.

The sessions are;

- Tākaka - Wednesday 2 July 10.00am–12.00pm, 88 Commercial Street, Takaka
- Motueka – Wednesday 2 July, 2.30pm–4.30pm, Motueka Recreation Centre, Old Wharf Road
- Richmond - Wednesday 9 July, 3.00pm–5.00pm, here at Tasman District Council, 189 Queen Street.

These sessions are free, open to everyone, and you don't need to register.

Calling young Tasman artists. An opportunity to paint for peace.

Tasman Mayor Tim King is encouraging young people of our district to join the global art competition to explore and promote peace in our communities by submitting art.

The topic is "What Peace Means to Me"

Art must be drawing/painting and B4 or A3 size see <https://www.tasman.govt.nz/.../mayors-for-peace-art...> for more detail.

For Tasman children aged 6 - 15 years, entries close 15 September 2025.

Winning work from will be sent to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Japan. The artwork that wins the Mayors for Peace President's Award International will be used to promote awareness of the importance of peace education on various occasions.

Shine a light on Tasman's quiet champions

Every community has them – dedicated locals who roll up their sleeves and pitch in without ever seeking the spotlight. They coach our kids' sports teams, plant trees in local reserves, or ensure community groups run like clockwork.

They don't do it for praise – but we think they deserve some. Our Outstanding Community Service Awards are our way of saying thank you to the volunteers who've made a real difference over the years.

If you know someone who's been giving back for 20 years or more – without fanfare or fuss – why not nominate them for this special honour? Let's celebrate the people who help make Tasman such a great place to live!

Nominees must live in the Tasman District and have a long-standing record of voluntary service across one or more community activities.

Nominations close on Sunday 31 August, and the awards will be presented at a ceremony later in the year.

Celebrating Matariki in our community

As winter settles in, we look to the skies to welcome Matariki, the cluster of stars also known as Pleiades. In Māori culture, the rising of Matariki, usually in late June or early July, marks the start of the Māori New Year.

This year, Matariki will be celebrated on Friday 20 June.

While Matariki has long been celebrated by Māori communities, it became a nationwide public holiday in 2022, giving all of Aotearoa a chance to come together in recognition of this important cultural tradition.

In the week leading up to the celebration and the week following, there will be a series of vibrant community events across the Tasman District, featuring performances, kai, crafts and more.

On Sunday 15 June, there's a community planting day with Battle for the Banded Rail from 9.00 am until 1.00 pm at Research Orchard Road in Redwood Valley.

Sundial Square is the focus of kapa haka performances on Monday 16 June at 12.00 pm and 2.00 pm, and Wednesday 18 June at 10.00 am and 2.00 pm, while on Tuesday 17 June at 1.00 pm and Wednesday 18 June at 12.30 pm there are lunchtime raranga star making sessions also at Sundial Square.

On the following Saturday, 28 June, there will be star gazing and a sausage sizzle at the Wai-iti Dark Sky Reserve from 6.00 pm.

This is a special opportunity to pause and reflect, to celebrate with whānau and friends. It's a time to honour those who came before us, acknowledge our journeys and achievements, and set intentions for the year to come.

Cost-cutting refined

We have reviewed and revised some of the cost-cutting measures agreed to by Elected Members in March and decided to wind some back.

Areas of our operations have been under the microscope as we look at ways of reducing expenditure, and at the March meeting, Councillors voted eight to six in favour of recommendations to make changes in some service areas.

Following feedback from many sectors of our community, it's been decided that some suggested savings now won't be included in the operational cost-saving programme.

This means rubbish bins will remain in reserves in the meantime, but we will be rationalising their placement over the next year or two. Doggy doo bag dispensers will also remain as they are at this time.

The frequency of public toilet cleaning will remain unchanged but will be adjusted based on seasonal demand. Public toilets will remain open, with local sports clubs taking over responsibility for them at Wakefield Domain and for one in Jubilee Park.

Our Facilities and Reserves team will continue to evaluate potential cost savings across their activities as part of standard operational management.

Some areas that will change include the frequency of street sweeping to be reduced; for example, fortnightly town centre sweeping will become monthly, and sweeping of other urban areas will generally be twice per year rather than three times.

Rural roadside mowing will be paused except for safety/critical sightlines, and urban landscape mowing will be reduced.

Longer-term changes in levels of service where potential savings can be made are being considered as part of the Annual Plan 2025/2026 deliberations.

