

# Letters to the Editor

## Pumping water down

Sir,

Residents may be wondering what has been happening about the Akaroa treated wastewater reuse options which were part of considerable community discussion and consultation last year.

The Akaroa Treated Wastewater Reuse Options Working Party and the community were informed in June last year that the instrument used to measure wastewater flow was faulty and was under-reporting flow.

Effectively this means the options presented to the community in April 2017 was based on faulty data.

This has resulted in a need to re measure flow and rainfall data so that options being explored are based on these updated figures.

While this news at first seems discouraging it has provided the Working Party with new, alternative options to consider which may turn out to be more appealing in the long run.

The Working Party has been reconvened and has had two meetings.

At our last meeting on February 22 we received an update on the results of the re-measured flow and rainfall data.

The good news is there has been a lot of rain over the last six months which gives a good idea of likely peak flows for the options being developed.

The Working Party was also briefed on a very interesting new option based on deep bore injection.

This concept was floated during the community consultation process last

year and the Working Party feels it is well worth exploring.

Over the next few months the Working Party will continue to meet to consider options for the community to consider.

From my perspective it continues to be a real pleasure to facilitate discussions in a group of very committed community members, Runanga, Council, Community Board and technical advisers.

Discussions are robust and well supported by very interesting leading-edge research and technical developments.

An information session to update the community on the Akaroa wastewater project will be held at 5pm on Wednesday April 4 in the Akaroa sports complex.

This will be followed by a session on the draft Long Term Plan at 6pm in the same venue.

I will update the community on important milestones on the project as we move towards a community consultation process later in the year.

Penny Carnaby  
Independent Chair  
Akaroa Treated  
Wastewater Reuse Options  
Working Party