



Summary of decisions from Mackenzie District Council meeting on 29 September 2026

At the Council Meeting on 29 September 2026 the elected members made a number of key decisions.

User Pay Toilets and Koha System

Council approved the development of a district-wide Public Toilet Strategy to provide a long-term framework for the provision, location, funding and management of public toilet facilities across the Mackenzie District.

In addition, electronic koha/donation technology would be introduced at appropriate public toilet, responsible camping and visitor facility locations across the district to replace coin donation boxes.

An electronic solution would be introduced to accept donations / koha at the following Responsible Camping Areas:

1. Ruataniwha
2. Edwards Stream;
3. Punatahu / Pines;
4. Lake Wardell

An electronic user-pays solution would be introduced at the following public toilet facilities:

1. Fairlie main block;
2. Burkes Pass;
3. Tekapo Footbridge toilet (renewal), Lakeside Drive and Main Carpark in Tekapo (as part of full replacement of the main block);
4. Twizel main block

The Council was recently (July 2026) been awarded \$2.5 million from the International Visitor Levy to support improvements in public toilet infrastructure and staff have been asked to liaise with MBIE to recovery of the costs of this project before work commences.

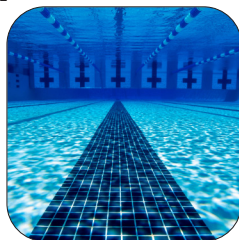
Council staff will bring a subsequent paper back to Council for approval providing estimated revenue, full costs and details about the preferred supplier, proposed hardware to be installed alongside future contractual arrangements, including how support for toilets (during and after working hours) would be handled. Council also requested that officers provide regular progress updates to key project milestones and a post-implementation review, with a prompt reporting of any material changes to cost, scale, and timing or risk.

Re-Opening Dates for Swimming Pools

Strathconan Pool in Fairlie recently reopened for the 2026-2027 season.

Twizel Community Pool will reopen in mid-November..

Check the mackenzie.govt.nz website, [Strathconan Pool-Fairlie Facebook page](#) and [Twizel Community Pool Facebook page](#) for the opening hours.



Council also approved in principle the installation of a turnstile user-pay system at the Pukaki toilet facility, as long as there are no technical impediments to the proposed installation, including confirmation of the required technical specifications, compatibility with a Payment system, and appropriate accessibility provisions for accessible users.



Paid Parking

At the meeting, Councillors approved the next steps to introducing paid parking in Mackenzie. Specifically, they:

- Approved a paid parking pilot programme in Lake Tekapo, with implementation targeted before Easter 2027.
- Approved progressing the necessary review and amendment of Council's Parking Bylaw and existing schedules to provide the regulatory framework required for paid parking.
- Approved further data collection and analysis to establish baseline parking information and support evaluation of the pilot.

They asked that staff bring a follow-up report back to Council by 30 November 2026 with details of the project, including a detailed project plan and budget.

They also noted that the outcomes and data from the Lake Tekapo pilot would inform decisions regarding permanent paid parking in Tekapo and expansion of paid parking to other areas of the Mackenzie District no later than August 2027.

Alpine Shares

Councillors considered whether to dispose of its shares in Alpine Energy Limited (being 2,049,870 ordinary shares, representing 4.96% of Alpine's issued capital).

They agreed that community consultation on this matter should be undertaken and that the final decision would be made after consideration of submissions received;

They also agreed that if a sale of the shares was progressed, the proceeds would be invested in a professionally managed investment fund and intend that the returns from the investment be utilised as may be determined by the Council.

Boil Water Notices Reminder

As of October 2026 the following notices remain in place:

- Allandale Water Supply
- Albury Community Water Supply



View the full Boil Water notices at mackenzie.govt.nz > Services > Water > Water Alerts

News & Information - Continued



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If you miss the livestream, you can find the videos and catch up on our website. Look for the meeting details on our Meetings and Agendas section of the website at mackenzie.govt.nz > Council > Meetings and Agendas



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Mackenzie Grant Finder

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Mackenzie County Scholarship

The Trust has Scholarships available for the first year tertiary education of post Year 12 NCEA Level 2 level.

Applications are invited from students currently attending Mackenzie College or Twizel Area School; or who are residents of the Mackenzie District; or one of whose parents (or the student's principal guardian / caregiver) is a permanent resident of the Mackenzie District.

Applications close 31 October 2026 at 5:00pm.

Please visit mackenzie.govt.nz > Community > Grants and Scholarships > Mackenzie County Scholarship for more details and to fill in the online application form.



Dates of upcoming meetings

Date	Meeting	Time*	Location
Friday 30 October	Council Meeting Council Chambers	Fairlie	9:00am
Tuesday 3 November	Finance Committee Meeting Council Chambers	Fairlie	9:00am
Tuesday 3 November	Water Committee Meeting Council Chambers	Fairlie	11:30am
Tuesday 10 November	Council Workshop Council Chambers	Fairlie	9:00am
Tuesday 17 November	Council Meeting Council Chambers	Fairlie	9:00am

The public are welcome to attend meetings. Occasionally times and venues change so please call and check beforehand. There is a public forum at the beginning of each Council and Community Board meeting and members of the public are invited to address Elected Members on relevant matters.

Agendas for scheduled meetings are available two days before the meeting (with the exception of late papers, which are added to the agenda when available). Agendas for extraordinary meetings are made available as soon as practicably possible. (Extraordinary meetings are meetings held outside the published meeting schedule and are called when a decision cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting).

Once published, agendas are available at mackenzie.govt.nz > Council > Meetings and Agendas



* The length of the meeting will depend on the agenda.

Current job openings

Position	Part time/Full time	Location	Applications Due
Financial / Systems Accountant	Full-time	Fairlie	Friday 30 October 2026
Planner / Senior Planner	Full Time	Fairlie	Monday 2 November 2026

Please visit careers.mackenzie.govt.nz for more details and to apply.