

MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL TO HEAR SUBMISSIONS ON THE
DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FAIRLIE
ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2011 AT 9.30AM****PRESENT:**

Claire Barlow (Mayor)
Crs Peter Maxwell
Annette Money
Graham Smith
Evan Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Glen Innes (Chief Executive Officer)
Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)
Bernie Haar (Asset Manager)
Garth Nixon (Manager Community Facilities)
Paul Morris (Manager Finance and Administration) 11:30am
Keri-Ann Little (Relief Committee Clerk)

I OPENING:

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting thanking the submitters for taking their time to come and speak to their submissions. She said the Council valued the community's input into its decision making. The processes for presenting submissions were then explained.

II APOLOGIES:

Resolved that apologies be received from Crs Graeme Page and John Bishop.

Peter Maxwell/Annette Money

III DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cr Maxwell advised that his wife had submitted on the Targeted Tourism Rates but he felt that there would not be a conflict of interest nor would there one be for being a Bed & Breakfast owner. The Mayor asked the Chief Executive Officer for his view. He believed there was not a conflict of interest and that the Council could proceed.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was briefly adjourned until 9:45 am whilst Council awaited the first submitter.

V HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS ON THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012:

1. ALAN KERR:

The Mayor welcomed Alan Kerr to the Meeting.

Mr Kerr spoke to his submission on Solid Waste. Mr Kerr expressed his concern about the direction the Council was taking with regard to Solid Waste and suggested the following:

1. Look at using volunteers and a community trust to run the system.
2. Continue with the black, white and green bag system as present.
3. Use an education officer to better effect.
4. Recognise that the greatest monetary return for recyclables is achieved by diverting them from landfill. It makes no sense to transport them anywhere if they can be disposed of near each depot.
5. Rural residents should be encouraged to use the recovery park facilities at no charge.
6. Solid waste disposal should be funded from general rates.

In response to questions about the availability of volunteers, Mr Kerr suggested the willingness of persons like him to contribute their time had never been tested.

2. JAMES ALLAN:

The Mayor welcomed James Allan who made the following points in relation to his submission on solid waste

1. Mr Allan noted that his family's residual waste was less than 20 litres per week. The provision of a 140 litre bin was more than was needed and would discourage waste reduction.
2. He believed composting was best done by each householder on their own properties and subsidised compost bins could be considered.
3. Separation of recyclables should take place at source and this could be encouraged with the right incentives.
4. Mr Allan advocated that on-going and cost-effective education on waste reduction was essential. Fines and charges should be used to penalise non-compliance.
5. Mr Allan felt that the make-up of the Solid Waste Subcommittee was incorrect and suggested more input should be sought from ratepayers on properly costed alternatives.

In response to a question< Mr Kerr suggested Councillors should look at the composting arrangements in Ashburton and Timaru.

Cr Maxwell suggested that the solid waste needs of both Tekapo and Twizel would be harder to meet than those of Fairlie due to the numbers of holiday home owners and tourists.

3. PETER BELL:

The Mayor welcomed Peter Bell who expanded on his submission opposing Council's direction on solid waste.

Mr Bell suggested that the new direction for solid waste ran counter to earlier efforts to achieve less waste and failed to support Council's goal of "Fostering Our Community".

He believed wheelie bins would encourage waste generation and a throw-away mentality.

He was also concerned over the funding burden the new regime would place on the townships if they were meeting the full cost of collection. Use of rubbish bags that you paid for meant the more you produced the greater the cost which was a fair user-pays system.

He was concerned that the management of the Council's waste would pass to a multi-national company with limited commitment to the District.

The vastly increased capacity for residual waste generation was also criticised; a 20 litre bag per week versus a 140 litre wheelie bins collected fortnightly.

Mr Bell also expressed concerns about rising Council overhead costs and the potential linkage with declining township population and the number of houses for sale.

4. MARK ADAMS AND STAN TAYLOR – FAIRLIE FEDERATED FARMERS

Mark Adams and Stan Taylor were welcomed by The Mayor and they spoke to their submission on behalf of the Fairlie branch of the Federated Farmers.

Mr Adams made the following points on behalf of the Branch:

Solid Waste

The Branch was pleased to see the Council tackling the rising costs of solid waste and believed that behavioural change would be dependent upon costs being borne by the generator of the waste. The Zero Waste goal would not be achieved without government and business support.

Drinking Water

The Branch expressed concern about government-imposed water quality standards and was happy with current quality, especially with the Allandale scheme.

Tourism Trust

The Branch agreed the Trust should live within its means and not become a committee of Council. It commented that local business development had not been a focus for the Trust.

Lake Alexandrina Reserves Fund

The rural ratepayer had spent significant sums in improving access to the Lake. It argued that any surpluses should first be spent on rural reserves especially Lake Opuha.

Mackenzie Sustainable Futures Trust

The Branch was concerned at the haste with which the new body had been established and its potential to undermine Council's authority to govern. It supported the Council's position.

General Comments

- More transparency on rating costs was favoured.
- Costs of more individual services should be shown on the rate demands.

- The status quo was favoured regarding depreciation
- The cost of Council overheads was a concern as was the late completion of the last accounts
- An increase in Council's size to a Mayor and eight councillors was favoured
- The Branch would have liked to see more detail included in the Draft Annual Plan.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am for morning tea and reconvened at 10.50 am.

V HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued):

5. NICOLA HAYMAN

The Mayor welcomed Nicola Hayman who read her submission which is attached to this record as Appendix A.

In response to a question, Mrs Hayman said she had no confidence that the Mackenzie Sustainable Futures Trust would succeed.

6. ANDREW HOCKEN

The Mayor welcomed Mr Hocken and thanked him for his submission.

Mr Hocken offered apologies from his father, Frank Hocken, and his brother, Grant and said he would present their submissions.

Mr Hocken fully supported the introduction of wheelie bins and more targeted rates for solid waste, but expressed concern over the costs related to abandoning the Vertical Composting Unit which had always been of doubtful viability.

He also supported improvements to Twizel drinking water but cautioned that the interim chlorination should not be allowed to become a medium or long term solution. A permanent set of improvements was needed urgently.

Mr Hocken opposed additional targeted rating for tourism apart from ensuring farm stays and holiday homes operators were contributing appropriately. He advocated for the relocation of the Twizel Information Centre to a more visible location on Wairepo Road and the closure of the Pukaki facility.

Mr Hocken favoured an early start to relocating the Twizel Water supply source to the west as that would best cater for future growth.

He supported the removal of trees alongside SH 8 to give greater visibility to the town and the regrassing of old tar sealed car parks following a case by case assessment of their use.

Mr Hocken also argued for a shift from capital value to land value rating.

Mr Hocken then spoke to his second submission, stating that Council should take firm action on freedom camping in the District. He also urged Council to work more constructively with High Country Health to enable a new medical facility to be built in Twizel to replace the current old building.

7. COLIN MCLAREN

The Mayor welcomed Colin McLaren spoke to his submission a copy of which is attached to this document as Appendix B.

In response to questions, Mr McLaren advised that choice of a final design for a footbridge at Lake Tekapo would be influenced by lowest construction costs. The project would cost slightly over \$1m with construction being \$814,000 plus GST, and engineer's fees. Funding arrangements were detailed in the business plan.

8. FRANK HOCKEN

The Mayor welcomed Andrew Hocken who read his father's submission a copy of which is attached to this document as Appendix C.

9. GRANT HOCKEN

The Mayor welcomed Andrew Hocken who read his brother's submission, a copy of which is attached to this document as Appendix D.

10. WALTER AND ZITA SPECK

The Mayor welcomed Walter and Zita Speck. Mr Speck apologised to Council, Madam Mayor, Staff and Visitors for their lateness.

Mr Speck presented an expanded submission; a copy of which is attached to this document as Appendix E.

Mrs Speck expressed frustration that her on-going advocacy for a change to the rating regime had not been acted upon by Council over several years. Their rates bill for their Tekapo properties was over \$13,000.

11. MACKENZIE BRANCH FEDERATED FARMERS – JOHN MURRAY:

The Mayor welcomed John Murray who spoke on behalf of the Mackenzie Federated Farmers Branch.

Mr Murray addressed the following five points:

1. **Vegetation Clearance Rule District Plan**

The Branch wished to remind the Council that this was a temporary rule to give the Council time to identify and protect short tussock grassland which was considered by some appellants to be under represented within the District. The Branch would likely ask the Council for the rule be dropped at the next District Plan review if no action on the above was forthcoming.

2. **Solid Waste**

The Branch supported and congratulated the Council on the new rating proposal which was more targeted and slightly less reliant on General Rates. It would support a shift over time to fully targeted rates.

3. **Tourism Trust**

The Branch considered that this should continue to be funded by the businesses involved and not from General Rates. The Trust should remain at arm's length from Council.

4. **Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust**

The Branch remained of the opinion that the forum would not deliver significant results; however it was still early in the process. It noted that funding for the process has been further reduced and was not overly optimistic as to where the Trust will get.

5. **Environmentally Significant Areas**

Mr Murray asked that Council consider remitting rates on environmentally significant areas given that nearly all the benefits of protecting were enjoyed by the general public. The landowner would still bear the full cost of weed and pest control.

In response to a question, Mr Murray said that there were no precedents for such rates rebates elsewhere.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am and reconvened at 12.15 pm.

V HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued):

12. LAURENCE WALLACE

The Mayor welcomed Mr Wallace who has made his submission as a lessee and as co-founder of the Lake Alexandrina Conservation Trust.

Mr Wallace's submission is attached to this document as Appendix F.

The Councillors expressed their appreciation of the work of the Conservation Trust.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:30 pm and reconvened 13:25 pm.

V HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued)

13. BILL PENNO

The Mayor welcomed Mr Penno to the hearing.

Mr Penno explained the background to the Waitaki Lakes and Rivers Committee and its role in undertaking widespread planting around the lake margins. He sought Council's support for this project, given the development of the Alps2Ocean Cycle Trail and the number of tourist it would attract. He also asked Council to carefully consider the merits of levying a small fee for the use of boat ramps on the lakes so that there would be a consistent approach across all lakes,

14 ANDREW HOCKEN

The Mayor welcomed Mr Hocken, a copy of whose submission is attached as Appendix G.

Mr Hocken argued that the bulk of the Trust's funding should be concentrated on its core business of marketing the District and questioned the relevance of i-SITES in the District in the internet age. However, he supported new ventures like the Alps2Ocean Cycle Trail receiving an injection of Council capital.

15 DENNIS CALLESEN – AORAKI MOUNT COOK ALPINE VILLAGE LTD

The Mayor welcomed Mr Callesen, a copy of whose submission is attached as Appendix H.

Mr Callesen argued in favour of increased Trust funding principally to support the Tekapo i-SITE which he believed formed a gateway to the region. He also believed earlier inequities in the targeted rating needed to be addressed. Also drew Council's attention to his interest in this matter as a Trustee of the Tourism Trust.

16 JULIA MACKENZIE

The Mayor welcomed Ms Mackenzie who spoke to her submission in support of the work of the Tourism Trust. A copy of the submission is attached as Appendix I.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 2.05 pm and reconvened at 2.4 0pm.

V HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued)17 GAVIN LOXTON (SNOW LOXTON)

The Mayor welcomed Mr Loxton.

Mr Loxton spoke to his submission, focussing on facilities in Tekapo and what was needed.

Mr Loxton asked Council for funding to assist with the Domain Enhancement Project at Lake Tekapo where the playground and associated improvements were estimated to cost \$215,000.

18 JOHN LONGBOTTOM

The Mayor welcomed Mr Longbottom who spoke to his submission on the chlorination of the Twizel water supply. A copy of Mr Longbottom's submission is attached to this document as submission as Appendix J.

19 MARGARET MUNRO

The Mayor welcomed Ms Munro.

Ms Munro spoke to her submission on behalf of Lake Tekapo Promotions, supporting the work of the Tourism Trust and the Tekapo i-SITE.

A copy of Ms Munro's submission is attached to this document as Appendix K.

20 PATRICIA BAPITSTA

The Mayor welcomed Ms Bapitsta. Ms Bapitsta spoke in support of the Tourism Trust. A copy of her submission is attached to this document as Appendix L.

21 LESLEY O'HARA

Ms O'Hara was welcomed by the Mayor.

Ms O'Hara spoke as Chair of the Mackenzie Tourism and Development Trust and sought increased funding for the work of the Trust. A copy of her submission is attached to this document as Appendix M.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 3.30 pm.

The meeting was reconvened on Tuesday 21 June 2011 at 9.30 am.

PRESENT:

Claire Barlow (Mayor)
 Crs Peter Maxwell
 Annette Money (until 11:45am)
 John Bishop
 Graeme Page
 Graham Smith
 Evan Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Glen Innes (Chief Executive Officer)
 Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)
 Keri-Ann Little (Relief Committee Clerk)
 Bernie Haar (Asset Manager) From 9:45am – 12:05pm
 Garth Nixon (Manager Community Facilities) From 11:15am -12:05pm
 Paul Morris (Manager Finance and Administration)
 John O'Connor (Utilities Engineer) From 10:15am -10:40am

I OPENING:

The Mayor welcomed everyone and opened the reconvened meeting

II MANAGEMENT TEAM SUBMISSION TO THE ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012:

This report from the Manager, Finance and Administration sought eleven increases in the draft budget where planned works from 2010/2011 would not be completed, a technical correction to the rates schedules, increased funding for replacement equipment and furniture

in Council buildings and for planned maintenance in the Fairlie Community Centre. Adjustments to incorporate the new policy for medical centre rentals were also needed.

Resolved that the report be received.

Evan Williams/Graeme Page

The Manager – Finance and Administration responded to Councillors' questions on his report.

Resolved that the draft 2011/2012 budgets and Annual Plan be amended to include the following items of unspent budget carried forward from 2010/2011:

Item	Cost Centre	Project	Amount	Funded From
1	Subsidised Rural Roads	Minor improvements	\$100,000	64% NZTA 36% Rural Rooding Operating Reserve
2	Unsubsidised Fairlie Rooding	Footpath Surfacing	\$15,480	Fairlie Rooding Operating Reserve
3	Lake Alexandrina	Improvements to Camping Area	\$17,000	Lake Alexandrina Operating Reserve
4	Twizel Water	Headworks – Renewal	\$6,657	Capital Reserve
5	Twizel Water	Treatment – New	\$43,993	Capital Reserve
6	Ashwick/Opuha Water	Headwork	\$6,000	Capital Reserve
7	Manuka Terrace Water	Headworks	\$10,877	Capital Reserve
8	Manuka Terrace Water	Water Supply	\$24,740	Capital Reserve
9	School Road Water	Water Supply	\$5,000	Capital Reserve
10	Twizel Sewer	Sewer Treatment – New	\$27,000	Capital Reserve
11	Fairlie Community Centre	Planned Maintenance	\$7,608	Fairlie Works and Services Operating Reserve

Peter Maxwell/Evan Williams

Resolved that the draft 2011/2012 budgets and Annual Plan be amended to include the following additional items:

- \$2,000 additional for Fairlie Council Building maintenance.
- \$1,000 additional for Twizel Council Building maintenance to provide for replacement office equipment floor mats and chairs.
- \$10,000 for the Mackenzie Community Centre maintenance to provide for interior painting of the hall and the theatre.

John Bishop/Graeme Page

There was debate about the charging of rent for the Twizel Medical Centre which had not been paying rent for some years.

Resolved:

1. That the requested correction to the rates and schedules in the Draft Annual Plan be approved.
2. That the following adjustments be made to the draft 2011/12 budgets and Annual Plan to incorporate the new policy on rentals for medical centres:
 - Fairlie Medical Centre Rentals – increase of \$1,330 (from \$3,500 to \$4,830)
 - Fairlie Medical Centre Recoveries – increase of \$1,920
 - Fairlie Medical Centre Rates and Insurance – increase of \$1,920
 - Twizel Medical Centre Rentals – increase of \$6,000 (from nil)
 - Twizel Medical Centre Recoveries – increase of \$2,776

Graham Smith/Peter Maxwell

Crs Bishop and Page asked that their dissenting votes against the motion be recorded.

III CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012:

1. SOLID WASTE:

Councillors noted the general support for Council's direction with some concern from holiday home owners and others who wondered whether Council was moving away from its waste minimisation or zero waste goals.

Resolved that, having considered the submissions on solid waste, the Council agrees to continue with its move towards a wheelie bin regime, with privately-run resource recovery parks and with the activity largely funded by targeted rates.

Annette Money/Evan Williams

Councillors endorsed the need for an on-going publicity campaign and an early indication to ratepayers as to the level of targeted rating they would be facing.

2. WATER QUALITY AND THE INTERIM CHLORINE DISINFECTION FOR TWIZEL:

Council considered the submissions relating to these issues.

Resolved that having considered the varying submissions on this matter, Council endorses the proposal to provide interim chlorine disinfection for Twizel while continuing to pursue longer term improvements to the quality of the Twizel water supply and, subject to affordability, improvements to the grading of the other supplies.

Evan Williams /Graham Smith

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10.40 am for morning tea and reconvened at 11.00 am.

III CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued)

3. TWIZEL WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS:

Council considered the feedback on options for the source of Twizel water where the choices lay between upgrading the existing pumped supply or creating a new primarily gravity fed regime sourced to the west.

Councillors noted that a new gravity system was favoured over upgrading the existing source, although some found it difficult to comment in the absence of costed alternatives.

While the feedback was valuable, Councillors noted that further was needed before a substantive decision could be made.

4. TWIZEL ISSUES – RESEALING OF OLDER CARPARKS:

Councillors considered feedback on the issue of whether or not some of the older car parks dating back to project days should be repaired and resealed or revert to grass.

Resolved that the feedback on the Twizel car parks be referred to the Twizel Community Board for a decision.

Annette Money/Graham Smith

5. FACILITIES AT LAKE TEKAPO:

Councillors considered feedback on proposed landscaping projects, the range of facilities required to be developed in Tekapo and how best Council could support community groups involved in enhancement proposals.

The number of submission supporting the construction of a footbridge at the lake outlet was noted.

Cr Maxwell expressed some concern that an earlier offer to provide design assistance for the footbridge had not been taken up and raised questions about responsibility for on-going bridge maintenance.

Resolved that the submission on facilities in Tekapo be referred back to the Tekapo Community Board for prioritisation and recommendation back to the Council.

Graeme Page/Graham Smith

6. USE OF FUNDS FROM LAKE ALXANDRINA RESERVES:

Councillors considered feedback on Councils draft policy on the distribution of funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserve Rentals. It was noted that the needs of the Reserve itself always could have priority and this could include some support for the local Conservation Group.

Resolved that having considered feedback on the proposed policy for the utilisation of Lake Alexandrina Lease rentals, Council endorses the policy while noting the priority for meeting local needs including, where appropriate, support for the work of the local Conservation Group.

Peter Maxwell/Graham Smith

7. FAIRLIE STREETSCAPE:

Councillors considered feedback on the Community Board's proposals to replace gravel verges with grass and planting.

Resolved that the varying feedback on the Fairlie Community Board's proposal to enhance the Fairlie Streetscape be referred back to the Board for its decision as to whether it wishes to proceed.

Graham Smith/Graeme Page

8. FAIRLIE FLOOD RISK:

Councillors considered the feedback on the proposal to abandon major remedial work on the North West Catchments and accept a greater level of flood risk. The Regional Council was undertaking work to keep stream beds clear.

Resolved that having considered concerns about the level of flood risk Fairlie is exposed to, Council hold a public meeting to explain to residents the extent of the risk, the choices available to the community and the costs of mitigation measures.

John Bishop/Graham Smith

10 MACKENZIE SUSTAINABLE FUTURES TRUST:

Councillors noted that the submissions on this matter were generally supportive of the position taken by Council.

11. OTHER ISSUES:

Councillors noted that limited feedback had been received on voting and funding issues and depreciation but no immediate decisions were required on these matters.

IV ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10.40 am for morning tea and reconvened at 11.00 am.

III CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2011/2012 (Continued)

12. MACKENZIE TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING:

The Chief Executive Officer suggested the debate might be structured along the following lines:

- What is the Council's support for the work of the Trust and providing financial assistance at this time?
- What would be an appropriate level of capital injection to support the Trust?
- Does Council support increases in the levels of either targeted or general rate funding or both?
- What conditions be attached to any additional funding provided?

Wide ranging debate then followed.

It was noted that the Trust had requested a total additional funding of \$186,000 over the next twelve months - \$120,000 capital injection and \$66,000 from requested increases in targeted rates.

Concern was expressed that more fundamental changes to the rating regime were needed than these proposed and that was probably best done in conjunction with the Long Term Plan.

Resolved that, having considered the range of feedback on the Tourism Trust, the Council:

- Reaffirms the importance of tourism to the local economy and the role of the Trust in marketing the District.
- Declines this year to increase some of the targeted rates as advocated by the Tourism Trust.
- Agrees to reassess both targeted and general rate funding next year as part of the Council's Long Term Plan.
- Agrees to fund a further \$100,000 to the Trust by way of a suspensory loan in addition to the \$50,000 already advanced, such loan to be subject to a number of conditions, to be finalised at a Council meeting on 28 June 2011, including the production of a revised business plan acceptable to Council.
- Appoints two new Trustees to the Board, following the expiry of Mr Murray's term and the resignation of the Mayor.

Claire Barlow/Graham Smith

V ALPINE ENERGY LTD – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT STATEMENT OF INTENT 2011-2014

The Council considered a report from the Manager Finance and Administration commenting on proposals from Timaru District Holdings to amend the draft Statement of Intent.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received.
2. That the Council declines to support proposed amendments to Clause B "Nature and Scope of Activities to be undertaken" requiring shareholder approval of investment in non-energy related activities.
3. That the Council supports the proposed amendments to Clause H "Information to be provided to shareholders" to require the draft Statement of Corporate Intent to be distributed to shareholders two months earlier than at present.

Graham Smith/Graeme Page

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE
MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:45PM**

MAYOR: _____

DATE: _____

Nicola Hayman

14 June 2011

With a comparatively large geographical area and a very small ratepayer population, in my view, the Council needs to keep its focus on the core obligations set out in the Local Government Act.

The economic development of the district is also an important aspect of the Council's role, however it should be carried out in a manner that is financially viable and equitably funded.

Water supplies:

All community water supplies should be brought up to the relevant Ministry of Health standards. I consider that this should be a Council priority and would like to see action in terms of actual improvement rather than just paper management plans.

Solid waste:

Another basic requirement for a "civilized" society, "user pays" is an appropriate basis for any rating increases in this area of Council activity.

The Mackenzie Tourism Development Trust:

Commenting on this issue is difficult because of the personal knowledge of various individuals involved with the Trust. No criticism of these individuals is intended and my views are from a generic viewpoint.

I have previously expressed my concern to Council that there is little evidence that the Trust promotes any economic development other than the Tourism Industry.

If it is to be the Tourism Industry that benefits from the activities of this Trust, then it should be the Tourism Industry that is levied, not the general charge.

If the tourism businesses are satisfied with the performance of the Trust, then presumably they will be prepared to pay an equitable share of its costs.

If there is concern about the performance of Trust and its compliance with reporting requirements and ability to operate within budget, then I would support a move to bring the functions "in house" so that the Council can more actively monitor and be accountable for, its performance.

colin j. maclaren architect

B. Arch A. N. Z. I. A.

13 June 2011

The Mayor & Councilors
MacKenzie District Council
P.O. Box 56
FAIRLIE 7949

Dear Sirs,

Re: Submission to Draft Annual Budget

I am a registered Architect and Artist and have lived permanently in Lake Tekapo for 5 years. Prior to this I had a holiday home at Lake Alexandrina for 36 years.

My submission shall be concentrated on Lake Tekapo township issues.

I-Site

I have been fortunate to have travelled extensively through Europe and have greatly appreciated coming to a new town or village and knowing that the local I-site would provide me all the information I need on accommodation, things to do, places of interest etc.

Tourism has overtaken employment in agriculture in the MacKenzie. The majority of people who live in Lake Tekapo, apart from the retired, rely directly or indirectly on Tourism.

Lake Tekapo is a Tourist & Holiday resort as well as a stopping point for travellers on their way to Wanaka & Queenstown.

We must have a professional and independent information centre which is net-worked throughout NZ and world wide.

If the I-site is running at a loss we need to find ways to get it into the black.

1. Look carefully at I-site expenditure.
2. Make the targeted rate more equitable over tourist commercial suppliers.
3. Look for other functions the I-site could perform and charge. For example a coin operated information corner with a video etc; charges on certain brochures; perhaps be responsible for new toilets, showers or laundry; and district council facilities for the locals.

The Bridge & Lake Tekapo generally

Lake Tekapo's greatest asset is the environment of lake and mountains. But to encourage visitors to stay longer and not just pass through we need some more basic facilities aimed at increasing the wealth of the village and solving the village inadequacies such as:

1. Well designed and maintained toilet facilities in the correct location. New toilets could be financed by the Council developing and selling some of the commercial land that is available at Lake Tekapo with, of course, covenants on titles and approved proposals. The new facilities at Te Anau would provide a good example. They have paid for themselves within the year.
2. A well designed and interesting commercial area with a greater selection of shops and retailers and appropriate bus and vehicle parking bringing more wealth and people into the village.
3. Good **safe pedestrian** and **cycling** access to village facilities and assets such as the Footbridge and completed walkways/cycleways etc.
4. Great places to stay – especially improvement of freedom camper facilities.
5. Removal of the Shell petrol station and relocating the grocery shop and replacing it with a pedestrian/vehicle access and linear mall development towards the domain. Napier's mall is a good example.

As Chairperson for the Footbridge committee I would like to urge the council to consider seriously our application for funding from the Reserve Contribution to assist us in our initial endeavour of completing the footbridge construction documents. Together with the funds we have raised ourselves and the Mid & South Canterbury donation, we will be able to complete this initial stage **this year**.

I do not see how spending \$3,000,000 plus on a new Community Centre is going to improve the wealth or inadequacies of the village when we could provide most of what the local community needs with a \$600,000 addition to the existing hall.

Yours sincerely



Colin MacLaren
Chairperson Lake Tekapo Footbridge Society Inc.

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Mackenzie PA

From: farm.house@xtra.co.nz
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2011 10:14 a.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Annual Plan Submissions 2011

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter: Frank Hocken
Email: farm.house@xtra.co.nz
Postal Address: PO Box 100
Twizel 7944
Date:
I wish to be heard in support of my submission: yes

Solid Waste - Support wheelie bins and more targeted rating?

Your comments: Fully support more targeted rates. Current rating system penalises higher valued properties. They end up subsidising other ratepayers purely because their house is worth more even though they use the same number (or less) Council services.
 There should be a more user pays approach taken on rating and having more targeted rates would be a step in the right direction.

The Quality of our Drinking Water - What standards? Interim Chlorine disinfection for Twizel?

Your comments: No comment.

Tourism Trust Seeks Extra Funding - More targeted rating? Future of i-site?

Your comments: No extra funding should be given to the Tourism Trust. We are all in tough times at present and it is so easy for the Council to pass on the effects of an inefficient business to the poor old ratepayer. NO WAY!
 The Tourism Trust needs to live within its budget and address its own inefficiencies before the easy option is taken by Council.
 The Lake Pukaki Info Centre should be shut down as it does not serve Twizel well. Currently any north bound traffic that does call into the Lake Pukaki Info Centre is lost to Twizel as that traffic continues to head north. Therefore there is only a 50% benefit in displaying/promoting Twizel businesses.
 The Twizel Info Centre is wasted where it currently sits. It needs to be out on SH8. How can anybody find it? It is hard enough finding the town centre!

Twizel Water Supply - New gravity supply or continue to pump?

Your comments: Fully support the location and construction of a new gravity water supply for Twizel. The long term cost savings and likely better quality of supply far outweigh the initial up front capital costs.
 Council need to get this project underway ASAP.

What's happening in Twizel - Reseal carparks or turn into grass?

Your comments: Carparks should be resealed as we have carpark shortages over the busy summer months. People will otherwise park on the grass and cut this area up.

Great to see that Twizel has finally re-emerged after its long hibernation. For over 28 years Twizel had been hidden from view behind a blanket of trees but not any more. The Community Board need congratulating for holding firm in their conviction and not backing down to last minute protestors whose only motivation was to complain about a change. It is so refreshing to now drive along SH 8 and see that a town, with services, does exist. Well done to all involved!

Facilities in Tekapo and what is needed - Domain enhancement? What are the priorities?

Your comments: No comment

What should be done about Fairlie's Streets? - Improve the streetscape and replace gravel verges?

Your comments: No comments

Use of Funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves - Allocate same from community projects?

Your comments: No comments

Fairlie and it's flood risk - Can we live with the greater flood risk?

Your comments: No comments

The Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust - Worthy of Council Support?

Your comments: Only people who live within the Mackenzie Basin should be allowed to be part of the Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust.

Having outsiders especially green leaning urbanites makes an absolute mockery of the process.

We live in this community and we are the ones trying to make a living from this area, not some supposed know it all from Auckland or Christchurch!

Other issues: Rating. Twizel needs differential rating. We have a variety of house values, from \$150,000 to over \$2,000,000 and one size does not fit all. You cannot fairly apportion rates on capital values. At the end of the day the guy living in the \$2m house uses the same services as the guy in the \$150k house but his rates are three or four times higher. This is grossly unfair and a better system needs to be put in place. As an alternative I would prefer a rating system based on land values as the range in section values is much less extreme; from \$75,000 to \$350,000.

Some people use restricted water, others unrestricted, some people use proper sewer, others are on a STEP system yet they all end up paying the same general rate. Greater use of targeted rates should occur.

Yes it is more work initially but much fairer to ALL ratepayers within the district and at the end of the day it is the ratepayers whom ARE the Council. A fairer rating base will enable Twizel to grow.

Email generated from 118.93.82.120, located in New Zealand

100

Mackenzie PA

From: granthocken@xtra.co.nz
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2011 11:11 a.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Annual Plan Submissions 2011

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter Grant Hocken
Email granthocken@xtra.co.nz
Postal Address PO Box 70
Twizel 7944
Date
I wish to be heard in support of my submission yes

Solid Waste - Support wheelie bins and more targeted rating?

Your comments: I support the introduction of wheelie bins and increased targeted rates. There should be a more user pays approach taken so that people with higher valued properties are not disproportionately penalised.

The Quality of our Drinking Water - What standards? Interim Chlorine disinfection for Twizel?

Your comments: Council should quickly rectify the current poor quality of Twizels drinking water supply.
Furthermore MDC should ignore water take limits handed down by ECan. It should not be there business to dictate how much water can be extracted from available supplies and when that water can be taken. MDC need to tell ECan to back off and leave us alone.
The Twizel environ contains a plentiful supply of water and to be told by some pointy headed boffins sitting in Chch that we are only allowed to extract a small proportion of it, is holding Twizel back. All lifestyle and rural properties connected to the Twizel reticulated supply should be allowed unrestricted access to the available water and not be told by MDC (via ECan's water take consent) that only a restricted supply exists. To counter any potential volume usage problem all connected properties should have water meters installed and water should be billed accordingly.

Tourism Trust Seeks Extra Funding - More targeted rating? Future of i-site?

Your comments: No no no! The Tourism Trust needs to be more efficient in its spending OR Council needs to capitalise the Trust better (ie: provide increased funding from its own coffers) so that it can serve its purpose more appropriately. I am referring to the \$80k Cycle Ways spend which ensured the Trust lost \$60k for the 2009/2010 financial year. This was a one off and should have been funded by a Council capital contribution.
Leave the poor long suffering ratepayers alone. They currently contribute \$215,000 in targeted tourism rates which should be plenty!

Twizel Water Supply - New gravity supply or continue to pump?

Your comments: I fully support the introduction of a new gravity supplied water source for Twizel. This will save the Council hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual operating costs (electricity for pumping) and fully pay itself off in the medium to long term.

What's happening in Twizel - Reseal carparks or turn into grass?

Your comments: Reseal all existing car parks, the town needs them.

Now we have brilliant uninterrupted views of Twizel as you drive along SH 8. Congratulations to the Twizel Community Board for the resolve shown in continuing with the plan and cutting ALL of the pines blocking the town off from the rest of the world. We will see the results of this action this spring when the road gets busy and many of these travellers see Twizel for the first time.

Facilities in Tekapo and what is needed - Domain enhancement? What are the priorities?

Your comments: No comments

What should be done about Fairlie's Streets? - Improve the streetscape and replace gravel verges?

Your comments: No comments

Use of Funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves - Allocate same from community projects?

Your comments: No comments

Fairlie and it's flood risk - Can we live with the greater flood risk?

Your comments: No comments

The Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust - Worthy of Council Support?

Your comments: Only local people from the Basin should be involved. All outsiders should not have voting rights.

Other issues: Rates. Inequities continue within the rating base. Why is it that large dairy or sheep farms have in fact received a reduction in their rating bill compared with the holiday home owner whose rates have increased nearly \$40 or 4%? This is not fair.

All rates should be calculated on land values (general rate) and services used (targeted rate) ONLY. Capital values are a flawed basis for apportioning rates in an equitable manner across different ratepayers.

Email generated from 118.93.82.120, located in New Zealand

111

SUBMISSION FORM - DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN

We welcome your submission.

You can post, fax, email or hand deliver it, by 5pm Friday 3 June 2011.

Please use this form for your submission

I wish to be heard in support of my submission I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission

Full name of submitter: WALTER + ZITA SPECK

Postal address: P.O. Box 2 Lake Tekapo

Phone: 02/6806 774 Email: speck@xtr2.co.nz

Signature: Z. Speck Date: 3/06/2011

If you wish to be heard, you will need to keep your presentation to 10 minutes maximum. Councillors will have read your written submission prior to the meeting.

Please return to the Mackenzie District Council
53 Main Street or P O Box 52, Fairlie 7949, or
submissions@mackenzie.govt.nz Fax: (03) 685-8533
Enquiries: (03) 685-9010 or 0800 685-8514

Solid Waste – Support wheelie bins and more targeted rating?

please see attached notes

The Quality of our Drinking Water – What standards? Interim chlorine disinfection for Twizel?

The less chemicals the better!

We've got access to one of the cleanest lakes on earth,
please take any possible step to use it.

Tourism Trust Seeks Extra Funding – More targeted rating? Future of i-site?

ABOLISH CAPITAL VALUE BASED FUNDING!

BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD + RESTRUCTURE THE
WHOLE BUSINESS-DEVELOPMENT BOARD

DON'T BUILD UP ON AN UNFAIR SYSTEM! PLEASE SEE
ATTACHED NOTES

Twizel Water Supply – New gravity supply or continue to pump?

What's Happening in Twizel - Reseal the carparks or turn into grass?

Facilities in Tekapo and What is Needed - Domain enhancement? What are the priorities?

⇒ LAKE TEKAPO FOOT BRIDGE
⇒ SUPPORT THE OTHER PROJECTS eg. PLAYGROUND, SQUARE

What Should be Done About Fairlie's Streets? - Improve the streetscape & replace gravel verges?

Use of Funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves - Allocate some to community projects?

^{FOR PROJECTS}
YES - WALKWAYS AROUND Lake Alexandrina
Peninsula etc.
Connect with TH. John area
Recreational Park

Fairlie and its Flood Risk - Can we live with the greater flood risk?

The Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust - Worthy of Council support?

WHAT IS THIS, NEVER HEARD OF???

Other Issues

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2011 - 2012 SUBMISSION

Solid Waste

Wheelie Bins: known concept, accepted anywhere else in NZ. Good idea.

Household collection – higher charges than bringing bins to RRP by residents. Especially in places with a high number of holiday homes it would be an advantage, if wheelie bins do not stand on the roadside for weeks on end. Through lower charges encourage people to drop them off at RRP themselves.

Opening hours to allow for drop off of wheelie bins, green waste etc minimum of twice a week.

Composting green waste is the way to go for MD as there is sufficient land available to windrow (clean) green waste (no rubbish, building materials etc. mixed in). This compost can be recovered, reused at a later stage.

Vertical composting machine was a brainchild of somebody more interested in getting an award than making economical and ecological sense – get the person/s who advocated that purchase to buy it back....!

Recycled material: glass, hard plastic, soft plastic, paper, cardboard, batteries etc. will that still be separated to avoid higher costs further down the line???

Zero waste is a myth for a wider community, may be able to be achieved on a family basis but unrealistic, when dealing with a whole lot of different businesses, people, tourists. Waste is not the problem – what we do with it is – eg if it can be burned and the energy/heat can be recovered, waste can still be part of a resource.

MDC should investigate with Timaru, Waitaki the possibility of having an incinerator in the area to burn the waste. (Most landfills have got a limited life span, will create environmental problems at some stages with seepage, contamination and devaluation of land etc.

Internationally there are very good (also very expensive) incinerator facilities in use. Which give off very little emission, produce heat/energy for community projects (pools, hospitals etc.) Eg the combined councils may have to get into a joint venture in the future eg with the Holcim in the Waitaki in the future.

Overall:

Green waste should be very cheap or free, as this is a resource in years to come.

All recyclable materials should be free or very cheap to get rid off as this is a renewable resource.

Solid waste (currently) into landfills should be charged to recover most costs: Part of it as a flat rate per household via General rates, and most of it as User/pay.

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2011 - 2012 SUBMISSION

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Mackenzie Tourism and Development Trust

It's a good idea to have Business Development Board on the District level.
And besides Farming, Mackenzie is the ideal base to grow successful Tourism businesses.
We feel strongly that the District should create, organize, support plate forms for all business to grow and be successful.

The Mackenzie Tourism and Development Trust got established, which is well meant and there is no doubt they have achieved some of their targets. (Congratulations for the Alp to Ocean biking track etc.)
But the Trust seems to concentrate more and more on just the marketing and selling of the Tourism businesses.

This we would have not a problem, if we would have free will to be part of that group or not.
But being target rated, based on Capital value as an accommodation provider living on highly GV rated land, we feel totally used. We are a small player, but we feel, in the last 25 years we have contributed a lot towards the growth of tourism in Lake Tekapo and your proposed raised levie for accommodation and activity feels like a hit in the face.

Charging a Tourism rate based on Capital value, raises eyebrows in every overseas person, we speak too. It does not encourage accommodation businesses to raise their standards of their properties, as all what it does would lift their costs. A big part of the General rates, ECAN rates are based on Capital value, so to use the Capital value as key to calculate a tourism rate, is a very ill designed system.

The Council should ask itself, what do we want, a lot of tourist, who just use our facilities and leave again, not spending one Dollar in the district? Or do we want tourist to come, enjoy and stay longer in the area and spend a lot Dollars in the area? ...we guess the answer is obvious.

So if our accommodations become too expensive, we will not be attractive for tourist, (incl. New ZEALANDERS) to stay longer or at all in the district!!!

The financing of the MTDT in the past has been very one sided on the Accommodation providers.
Would be time to change that into a more even key (Again user/pay system to apply – main beneficiaries of the MTDT to pay higher contribution).

Tourism has been taking a hit in the last year (everybody can understand that the combination of financial crisis, high or unstable exchange rates, floods in Queensland, earthquake, tsunami etc) have and will have a downside to tourism. Higher costs for example to owners of homes and accommodation providers trough big increases in insurance costs etc. will either make our area too expensive or will cripple some businesses in the future.

Any increase in rates will have a negative impact.

We would be happy to sit together with Council Reps to work out some faire more financial visible

Solutions: for example

- Rename it Business Development Board
- Restructure the rating:
 - a) Flat rate per Household (Everybody in the District does profit if we have good successful businesses, tourism or non tourism).
 - b) All businesses to pay a basic fee.
 - c) Support the div. independent Business bodys.. e.g. Mackenzie Tourism & Dev. Trust With Conditions applied eg.. basic website listing for every business etc..
 - d) For I-Site : Establish a Business Model that the Districts owns, but leases/franchises out To a private business to run...
If the Council would be prepared to go back to the drawing board, we would be prepared to spend a lot of time (free of charge) to help to work out a good functional system.

Facilities in Lake Tekapo and What is Needed?

Lake Tekapo is like a patient with a stuffed hip. That patient is given every year a free doctor's visit, 2 hours physiotherapy and a box of "Panadol" – what the patient needs is a hip replacement. The sooner the patient gets it the sooner he/she will work again, the better it is for everybody.

Lake Tekapo needs this operation immediately! This operation is the footbridge!

1. Overall Plan for domain, business centre, church. *(There were plans developed in the mid 1990 and another expensive consulting round in early 2000 and nothing has ever happened – go back to those plans and re-ignite them and find a solution).*
2. Building the footbridge should have first priority. With this we can turn the whole township around. Put emphasis on the lake and the views, get the people to walk from town to the Church via the footbridge. The footbridge should be the place to get the best pictures from the Church and the lake and everybody will go there.
3. This will boost the usage, financing of the other proposals on the domain: playground, sundial etc.
Therefore this project should get top priority!

Ways to achieve this goal:

Close of access to the church for buses. Buses will need to park in town. Tourists walk from town over domain to footbridge and the Church. It will provide the people with an experience. Tourists will spend more time in Lake Tekapo (and spend more money here). Make Lake Tekapo to a stop for an experience and not just a stop for a glimpse of the Church and a visit to the public toilets.

Council / Community Board should initiate the process. Work together with businesses, community to find a solution:

Use of funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves

I have made this submission as a leasee and as co-founder of the Lake Alexandrina conservation Trust.

I strongly object to the spending of monies collected from leases at Lake Alexandrina used in any other areas for the following reasons:

1. The hut-holders have been the guardians and managers of Lake Alexandrina since it gazetted by the then Minister of Crown Lands as a fishing reserve in 1948. This was done through the South Canterbury Acclimatization Society as all hut owners were required to also be the holders of fishing licenses. It is my opinion that the MacKenzie District Council should not be managing the reserve as they have done nothing to improve it in the past.
2. The MacKenzie District Council should entrust all monies remaining after future improvements, to the Lake Alexandrina Conservation Trust to continue their work of conservation and enhancement of the area under their mandate to DOC. At present the Trust has one person giving up 50% of his spare time applying for funds (with varying success) to carry out this work of wilding pine, briar, broom and blackberry eradication, which the MDC would normally be expected to do. An example of this was the road into the Lake Alexandrina outlet which had two metre high briar growing along the roadside in such a way that it was impossible for two vehicles to pass without serious damage to their paintwork. Now we have clear tussock between the roadway and Lake MacGregor and ongoing work continuing at a cost of about \$12,000.00 per year. This does not include future costs of purchasing native tussock for re-planting.
3. I would ask that the leases be looked at, as I believe they are too high for what the leasees actually get – absolutely nothing ! When the hut-holders started negotiating leases with John McKenzie of the MDC, lines of communication were open, but, when he left communication lines were more difficult to access. At a meeting at the Red Cross hall in Timaru, the hut-holders were basically told by Paul Morris, MDC, to “pay up or remove huts from the reserve.” Other than a rent reduction, a rent holiday would be an acceptable alternative.
4. Improvements the MacKenzie District Council could do would be to erect public toilets, picnic tables, seats, and the like to the Lake MacGregor, Lake Alexandrina outlet and south end reserve areas. Also, they could

look at re-shingling along the front rows of both the outlet and south end settlements and maintaining all roads and tracks to hut settlements, keeping in mind that the underground power cables are reasonably shallow along roading at the outlet settlement.

Laurence Wallace
Hut-holder and Trustee Lake Alexandrina Conservation Trust

911

Mackenzie PA

From: andrew.hocken@ihug.co.nz
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2011 4:52 p.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Annual Plan Submissions 2011

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter Andrew Hocken
Email andrew.hocken@ihug.co.nz
Postal Address PO Box 17202
Greenlane 1546
Auckland
Date 2 June 2011
I wish to be heard in support of my submission yes

Solid Waste - Support wheelie bins and more targeted rating?

Your comments: Great idea and long overdue. They will cleanly contain rubbish, minimise the chance of dogs and other animals getting into rubbish bags, and look tidy and organized. I fully support this initiative.
Great to hear JOAN is now redundant, this folly will cost the community dearly though.

The Quality of our Drinking Water - What standards? Interim Chlorine disinfection for Twizel?

Your comments: Council must quickly resolve the shocking state of the Twizel drinking water supply. I support an interim disinfection but this cannot be allowed to morph into a medium or long term solution. Twizel's water supply is way below par and this needs to be addressed ASAP!

Tourism Trust Seeks Extra Funding - More targeted rating? Future of i-site?

Your comments: No extra Tourism targeted rating should be entertained by Council except for trying to include farmstays and holiday home operators within the scope of the targeted rates. There should be no increased liability heaped upon those businesses that already shoulder their fair share.

Furthermore the Tourism Trust receives in excess of \$215,000 per annum to market the Mackenzie region. It has only incurred a loss in the 2009/2010 year due to one off Alps to Ocean Cycle Trails costs of \$80,000. There is no need for increasing the targeted rate.

Twizel Information Centre is hopelessly positioned where it currently sits. Council/Community Board need to wake up and realise it only serves 25% of its potential by being hidden away and it should NOT be combined with the Events Centre's operations. It is an Information Centre first and foremost. Its job is to promote the region, local attractions and local businesses. It needs to be visible from the main road, not hidden down a back alley!

Why not close the Pukaki Info Centre (who goes in there anyway) and merge that with the Twizel Info Centre out on Wairepo Road or anywhere where a passing tourist can see a big INFO sign as they cruise down SH 8.

Twizel Water Supply - New gravity supply or continue to pump?

Your comments: I support a new gravity water supply being located to the west of Twizel. In the long term this will be the most efficient, cost effective solution to Twizel's water supply problem. It will cater for the expected growth of the town and reduce operating costs.

Progress on this issue needs to happen quickly so that the current unacceptable water supply can be rectified in the least possible time.

What's happening in Twizel - Reseal carparks or turn into grass?

Your comments: Great to see the trees coming down along SH 8, about time! Now as cars drive past they can see that there is a reason to stop and Twizel will no doubt be a lot busier as a result.

All old, unused carparks should be ripped up and revert back to grass. Also the service area behind the shops in Market Place is shocking. There has been absolutely no repairs on any of these parking/service areas and they portray a bad image to visitors to the town.

cause by code basis.

Further to that point is the free rein that Twizel radio currently has in being able to air its noise everywhere within Market Place. I would prefer to have no radio rather than the tumble weed ridden drive I hear every time I venture into the centre of the Village. I can see why Tourists choose NOT to hang around! After having to listen to multiple yodelling renditions one afternoon I too thought it was time to leave this place before it was too late and I was subsequently transported back in time to somewhere in Alabama. Play some modern music please! Don't just play what YOU like to hear.

Facilities in Tekapo and what is needed - Domain enhancement? What are the priorities?

Your comments: Planting along SH 8 should be trees which will not grow too large.

What should be done about Fairlie's Streets? - Improve the streetscape and replace gravel verges?

Your comments: No opinion held.

Use of Funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves - Allocate same from community projects?

Your comments: No opinion held.

Fairlie and it's flood risk - Can we live with the greater flood risk?

Your comments: No opinion held.

The Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust - Worthy of Council Support?

Your comments: Tentative support (as shown to date) should be given. Any final decisions should only come from local people however in saying this I see many of the appointed decision makers are NOT rural people or people with rural affiliations.

There is a risk that decisions will be made that are supposedly made by local representatives but in fact will not be representative of what the wider community want.

Other issues: Rating System to be amended so that less reliance is placed upon Capital Values. This system penalises ratepayers whom have higher valued properties. They would use no more services than somebody with a 40 year old house but must pay thousands of dollars more in rates. This is wrong. Council should work off land values only.

Depreciation should NOT be claimed on roads, community assets and recreational facilities. All this will do is give bean counters a reason to justify increasing rates so as to cover these new expenses. Of course these same bean counters will fail to acknowledge that these new expenses are non cash expenses ie: paper transfers, but will still seek a physical cash reimbursement.

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SUBMISSION FORM – Rating for Tourism

We welcome your submission.

You can post, fax, email or hand deliver it, by 5pm Friday 3 June 2011.

Please use this form for your submission

I wish to be heard in support of my submission I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission

Full name of submitter: JENIS SELWYN CARLSEN on behalf of AORAKI MOUNT COOK ALPINE VILLAGE LTD

Postal address: HERMITAGE, AORAKI MOUNT COOK 7946

Phone: 034351809 / 074 346692 Email: dc@hermitage.com

Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/06/11

If you wish to be heard, you will need to keep your presentation to 10 minutes maximum. Councillors will have read your written submission prior to the meeting.

Trading As:
"THE HERMITAGE"
"PLACER EXPLORERS"
"EDMUND HILARY ALPINE CENTRE"
"MOUNTAIN VALLEY TOURS"
"ALPINE GUIDES TREKKING"
"MOUNT COOK BACKPACKERS"
"MOUNT COOK AIRPORT"

Please return to the Mackenzie District Council
53 Main Street or P O Box 52, Fairlie 7949, or
submissions@mackenzie.govt.nz Fax: (03) 685-8533
Enquiries: (03) 685-9010 or 0800 685-8514

Do you support/or oppose the proposed changes the Tourism Trust is advocating for the rating system?

SUPPORT. As the largest operator in the region, we have paid an unfair portion of the targeted rate to date.

What are your reasons for your support/opposition?

The change corrects arbitrary changes made by the former council & sets the rate more equitably. The change is principally required to underwrite the website (it should be called the Mt Cook Mackenzie I-site) as it is at the main gateway to the region with 70% of visitors by road travelling North to South.

What value do you place on the activities of the Tourism and Development Trust?

Enormous due to their 'independence'. The real dilemma is the fact that many visitors use the site as info centres to find out about accommodation & activities (the 'stamp of approval') and then book direct or via their technology (laptop, i-pad, i-phone etc). The i-site has caused the sale to happen but doesn't receive any revenue. Other councils recognise this sterling work & assume their i-sites are fully funded.

Should the Council increase its level of financial support for the Trust?

Yes, including an increase in the UAGC.

Note: Businesses at the base pay a general rate but receive no benefit (50% used to be rebated). We don't use country roads or libraries etc & pay to manage the village ourselves.

If so, should the funding come from the industry through targeted rates, from the general charge or a combination of both?

A combination of both & be CPE limited.

Should the Council recommend that the Trust close those information outlets that aren't currently breaking even or should they be supported by other funds the Trust has which are currently used for marketing?

The Trust doesn't have sufficient funds to do the marketing it needs to do.

Should the Trust remain at arm's length from Council or should it be absorbed within Council's committee structure?

leave at arms length. Council can control the Trust anyway as it has ^{sole} power to appoint all Trustees.

Other Issues

We represent a rateable asset of \$30+M, have turnover approaching \$20M, employ 200 staff in summer & spend \$800K pa on sales & marketing. The Trust is important to complement our sales & marketing efforts both nationally & regionally in the Tekepa site as the gateway to our region is an important & unbiased 'shop window' for us.
(continue on new sheet if required and attach)

Note: I declare an interest as a trustee of the Trust.

237

Mackenzie PA

From: braemarstation@farmside.co.nz
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2011 11:38 a.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Rating for Tourism

H

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter: Julia Mackenzie
Email: braemarstation@farmside.co.nz
Postal address: Braemar Station, PO Box 62, Lake Tekapo, 7945
Date: 2/6/11
I wish to be heard in support of my submission: Yes

Do you support/oppose the proposed changes the Tourism Trust is advocating for the rating system?

Your comments: I support the proposed changes to the rating system.

What are your reasons for your support/opposition?

Your comments: I think the changes seek to address the inequity in the current system but I don't think they go far enough to ensure that those that benefit the most from the Trust's work pay the most.

What value do you place on the activities of the Tourism and Development Trust?

Your comments: The work the Trust has done over the last few years in marketing the whole of the Mackenzie district is huge and has really increased the profile of the region as a destination in its own right. This is showing through in the increased visitor numbers at a very difficult time worldwide.

Should the Council increase its level of financial support for the Trust?

Your comments: Yes

If so, should the funding come from the industry through targeted rates, from the general charge or a combination of both?

Your comments: Although everyone in the community benefits to an extent from the increased visitors it would be better to fund the Trust through targeted rates. The council needs to find a way to ensure that all those that benefit from the trust's work pay their share ie hunting and fishing guides that work from home. I would also question whether the proposed changes go far enough to ensure that activity providers pay their share and all accomodation providers need to be categorised correctly.

Should the Council recommend that the Trust close those information outlets that aren't currently breaking even or should they be supported by other funds the Trust has which are currently used for marketing?

Your comments: The main purpose of a visitor centre is to provide information on the region so to expect them to make a profit especially in their first few years is quite harsh. The Tekapo isite is great, I have been in and heard the information the staff give to visitors on issue such as freedom camping and it is top notch! This is a service to our region that they can't be paid for but is still vital to all of us.
I would question whether the Pukaki visitor centre should be taken over by a commercial operator as the information

Use of Funds from Lake Alexandrina Reserves - Allocate same from community projects?

Your comments: These funds could be suitably used in the construction of a playground in Lake Tekapo.

Fairlie and it's flood risk - Can we live with the greater flood risk?

Your comments:

The Mackenzie Sustainable Future Trust - Worthy of Council Support?

Your comments:

Other issues: The Lake Tekapo community Playground Committee would like to present at a council planning meeting progress to date and the expected plan into the future. And our budget of expected costs.

Email generated from 118.82.148.52, located in New Zealand

Treatment of Twizel Water Supply

Submission from John Longbottom

Summary

1. Treating Twizel water may undermine the Council's obligation to take all reasonable precautions to prevent pollution in the first place – this includes checking that cattle are kept out of waterways and that there is no human habitation which is not treating sewerage.
2. If treatment is to be used, then Chlorine is a poor choice because:
 - i) it is only effective against preventable pollutants such as e-coli
 - ii) it is ineffective against natural pollutants such as giardia and cryptosporidium
 - iii) it has the potential to produce carcinogenic by-products in water
 - iv) it give drinking water a horrible taste.

The downsides of Chlorine treatment might be acceptable if we were drawing on heavily polluted river water, but we are not.

3. If some people feel the need for treated water then they could install a filter quite cheaply.
If some people need larger supplies of treated water then it would be easy enough to treat tanks of water on site.
Treating all water is inefficient because only a tiny proportion is consumed – the rest goes in the toilet, shower and on the garden.
4. If treatment of the water source for the new gravity system is thought essential then Ozone or UV are much more effective because:
 - i. they do kill giardia and cryptosporidium
 - ii. they don't have carcinogenic by-products
 - iii. they don't affect the taste of the water.

However, to return to point 1 above, treatment is not an alternative to taking all reasonable steps to prevent pollution.

5. 'No treatment' is still a viable option. With a regular testing regime and a supply system that has a good buffer, the unlikely event of accidental pollution [such as in a large flood] could be dealt with by activating a temporary 'boil all drinking water' warning system.

14 June, 2011

Supplement to John Longbottom's Summary of Submission

14 June, 2011

This additional material arises from two comments from Council Members.

1. 'Most towns have some form of water treatment'

This is true but that does not make it right for Twizel. In the face of a potentially clean supply, 'treatment' is an unnecessary move typical of the demands of a large bureaucratic organisation like the Ministry of Health. I hope the council will not let itself be bullied into such an inappropriate and simplistic action just so some Ministry official can tick a box on a report!

Henry Menken showed great wisdom several decades ago when he said: 'To every complex problem there is always a simple solution - and its always wrong.'

2. 'Keeping stock out of the waterways would be difficult.'

Is this just an opinion? Has anyone looked seriously at this as a solution? How difficult would it really be?

From my own travelling in the area on a mountain bike it seems that much of the area is well fenced already.

Rather than installing a treatment plant it would be cheaper to offer farmers a subsidy or interest free partial funding to get the waterways protected [which keeps the quality of the rivers for swimming etc as well as protecting the water supply].

Make 'local government' have real meaning; please don't let Ministry officials push you around!

Kia kaha

John Longbottom

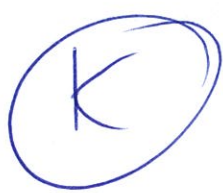
239

Mackenzie PA

From: pete.marg@earthandsky.co.nz
Sent: Thursday, 2 June 2011 12:02 p.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Rating for Tourism

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter: Margaret Mary Munro
Email: pete.marg@earthandsky.co.nz
Postal address: P O Box 160, Lake Tekapo
Date: 2 June 2011
I wish to be heard in support of my submission Yes



Do you support/oppose the proposed changes the Tourism Trust is advocating for the rating system?

Your comments: N/A

What are your reasons for your support/opposition?

Your comments: N/A

What value do you place on the activities of the Tourism and Development Trust?

Your comments: On behalf of the Lake Tekapo Promotions I wish to support the value of the work taking place to enhance tourism in Lake Tekapo. On its own, the promotions group do not have the resources, expertise or finances to reach the important contacts in New Zealand tourism which provide solid links to new markets looking to venture into New Zealand and ultimately to direct them into our region.
Putting aside the targeted rate issue, (which needs to be voiced by those it concerns), I would like you to consider the value of the i-Site positioned in Lake Tekapo from the perspective of the tourist. Think for a minute of another service that is provided at the cost to the rate-payer, that there is no return from, which does not provide a benefit direct to the rate-payer but is merely there for the purpose of visitors and tourists to the town - the public toilets. Now imagine if rate-payers demanded that the on-going cost of this service is of no worth to them directly and should be closed down? Without public toilets it would be seen by the travelling public as a major disappointment and they would be forced to drive on. Even though this is an essential service it is still one that we pay for and have no return from. I-Sites are now recognized as a point of contact that maintains a high-level tourism based service throughout New Zealand. Many tourists rely on them for assistance and direction. Without an i-Site in the region, it takes away a nationally recognised Brand mark.
The i-site does make a contribution back to those who support it and also those who don't by way of merely being the informant to happenings, services and accommodation suppliers of all kinds. This would be a value that would be ashame to lose.

Should the Council increase its level of financial support for the Trust?

Your comments: Yes.
The council are the representatives of the Mackenzie District and the Mackenzie District is diverse, it comprises not only a strong farming sector but a strong emerging Tourism sector, that if supported and developed will bring increased revenue and jobs to the region.
We have so many magnificent icon's in the Mackenzie that are being underutilized and not recognised by the Mackenzie District Council for the benefit currently they bring to the region and will continue to do so in the future by the way of Tourism.

If so, should the funding come from the industry through targeted rates, from the

service is well provided by both Twizel and Lake Tekapo.

Should the Trust remain at arm's length from Council or should it be absorbed within Council's committee structure?

Your comments: Definitely should stay at arm's length from the council so it can get on with its very important work without the risk of constant political interference.

Other issues: Personally it is hard for me to quantify the direct benefit to my business from the trust's work ie I don't get bookings from the site but I can still see how important their work is to the whole region. Due to the increased awareness of the region people decide to holiday here and then they look for somewhere to stay online and that is how I benefit. We all need to look at the Big picture when it comes to marketing and also to look long term.

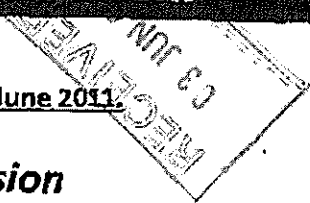
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acknowledged 3/6/11 JH

SUBMISSION FORM – Rating for Tourism

We welcome your submission.
You can post, fax, email or hand deliver it, by 5pm Friday 3 June 2011.



Please use this form for your submission

I wish to be heard in support of my submission I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission

Full name of submitter: PATRICIA BARISTA

Postal address: 29 BRIDGE ST, 8013 CHELT

Phone: 0820635365 Email: PATRICIABARISTA

Signature: PATRICIA BARISTA Date: 01.06.2011

If you wish to be heard, you will need to keep your presentation to 10 minutes maximum. Councillors will have read your written submission prior to the meeting.

Please return to the Mackenzie District Council
53 Main Street or P O Box 52, Fairlie 7949, or
submissions@mackenzie.govt.nz Fax: (03) 685-8533

Enquiries: (03) 685-9010 or 0800 685-8514

Do you support/or oppose the proposed changes the Tourism Trust is advocating for the rating system?

SUPPORT.

What are your reasons for your support/opposition?

I SUPPORT BECAUSE I BELIEVE IT IS FOR EVERYONE'S INTEREST TO HELP MAINTAIN A SERVICE WHICH BENEFITS THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. ALSO FOR THE TOURIST TO FEEL HE/SHE CAN HAVE THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO MAKE A HIS/HER HOLIDAY OR GETAWAY A MEMORABLE & SUCCESSFUL ONE. THE MACKENZIE DISTRICT WILL BE WELL REPUTED IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY.

What value do you place on the activities of the Tourism and Development Trust?

IT IS IMPORTANT, IF NOT VITAL, TO PROVIDE A SERVICE WHERE KIWIS (TAXPAYERS) AND INTERNATIONAL TOURISTS CAN BE HELPED IN THEIR TRAVELS. MANY PREFER TO BOOK THROUGH WEBSITES RATHER THAN CALL/CONTACT AGENCY ACCOMMODATION OR ACTIVITY PLACES. IT IS ALSO VITAL TO HAVE THE MACKENZIE MARKETS MORE AND BETTER NATIONALLY & INTERNATIONALLY.

operators in the region as a whole.

Should the Trust remain at arm's length from Council or should it be absorbed within Council's committee structure?

Your comments: The council should remain at arm's length. District Tourism organisations perform better as standalone organisations with a clear goal and focus.

Other issues:

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Mackenzie PA

284

From: opawadowns@farmside.co.nz
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2011 7:41 p.m.
To: Mackenzie PA
Subject: Rating for Tourism

M

MoST, Management of Site Tool

Full name of submitter: Lesley O'Hara, Chair, MTDT

Email: opawadowns@farmside.co.nz

Postal address: Riverview RD14 Cave 7984

Date: 03 June 2011

I wish to be heard in support of my submission Yes

Do you support/oppose the proposed changes the Tourism Trust is advocating for the rating system?

Your comments: Yes.

What are your reasons for your support/opposition?

Your comments: We fully support a targeted rating system that is fair and equitable to all contributors. The adjustment to the 4 categories reflects a more equitable system for the size of the businesses and the benefits they receive from the promotion of the district.

For the past 3 years the primary accommodation sector has born the brunt of the targeted rating system and it is now important that all parties benefitting from tourism pay their fair share.

What value do you place on the activities of the Tourism and Development Trust?

Your comments: The Trust is represented by tourism and business professionals with many years of experience in business management, financial management, tourism management and marketing. They are well informed and skilled to lead tourism in the Mackenzie to a strong and sustainable future.

Council should view tourism as an essential service for the district - it is the number one employer and most of the recent major developments in the region are tourism related. Additionally, many of the traditional high country farms, who make the region so iconic, have embraced tourism and the two industries are working hand in hand to make the Mackenzie a very desirable place not just to visit, but also to live and work. This brings population growth to the area.

Should the Council increase its level of financial support for the Trust?

Your comments: Yes. The Trust was established in November 2007 and there has not been an increase in funding in that time, nor any adjustments for CPI.

The Trust has been very successful since its inception in 2007. Guest nights have grown on average by 8% per annum, and the Trust has secured \$2.7m of central government funding to build a cycleway in the district. Council needs to capitalise on these opportunities by promoting growth in tourism.

If so, should the funding come from the industry through targeted rates, from the general charge or a combination of both?

Your comments: As the tourism numbers in the Mackenzie grow, it is increasingly important that the rate contribution comes from

both targeted and general rates. The growth in community facilities and services throughout the district that provide residents with many benefits, is largely as a result of tourism, not population growth.

Tourism is the number one employer in the district and regions with low unemployment also enjoy less anti social issues.

Targeted rating, now in the Mackenzie for over 3 years, has proven itself as a fair system, and since the introduction there have been only a few submissions to the annual plans.

Should the Council recommend that the Trust close those information outlets that aren't currently breaking even or should they be supported by other funds the Trust has which are currently used for marketing?

Your comments:

No.

Information delivery is a key component of marketing, and the information centres are the last step in guest night delivery for the region for FIT (free, independent travellers) visitors. They are an absolutely vital link in our marketing effort and to view them as separate is incorrect. The established markets that deliver visitors to New Zealand have an ever increasing number of FIT travellers who arrive in the country without bookings or even a firm itinerary. The visitor centres and in particular the i-SITE, with its brand awareness, play a crucial role in encouraging these visitors to stop and stay in our region.

Should the Trust remain at arm's length from Council or should it be absorbed within Council's committee structure?

Your comments:

Status quo.

The Council, by its own admission, is no longer able to handle the financial transactions of the Trust's visitor centres.

Other issues:

We encourage Councillors to have the conviction to back the Trustees they have appointed to manage tourism in the district, and enjoy the benefits that are provided by this exciting and growing industry.

Thank you.

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