



MINUTES

MEETING OF THE:	Waihi Community Forum
MEETING DATE:	Thursday 13th February 2025
VENUE:	Oceana Gold
TIME START:	10:30am
TIME FINISH:	12:45pm
MEMBERS:	Belinda Burke, Bhavesh Ranchhod, Mike Hayden, Rangi Honey, Ernani de Ocampo, Anne Marie Spicer, Donna Fisher, Paula Trubshaw, Paul Anderson
INVITED:	Paula Blackman - WCF Coordinator
FILE REF:	WCFMOM2025-02-13

1. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED**

Paul Anderson, Mike Hayden, Rangi Honey, Ernani de Ocampo

2. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 12-12-2024, ref #WCFMOM2024-12-12
BB and AMS confirmed the minutes as read are accepted true and correct.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

4. **MEDIA & WEBSITE**

4.1 WCF and Media

Consider a Comms plan around the Outdoor Recreation hub considering WCF/OG/ Council collaboration.

ACTION: AMS and PT to construct a comms plan

ACTION: PB ask funders for logos (PNG) then add to FB post (see below)

4.2. Website and Facebook post ideas.

ACTION: PB create post - update on pump track and thank funders with logos.

ACTION: PB ask Viv to add council article to website.

5. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

5.1. Council with Community Groups Projects

Discuss constructive ideas/suggestions on how council can improve relationships and productive working processes with community groups.

ACTION: PB draft letter to council CEO David.

5.2 Discuss 'Objects' in WCF Terms of Reference

Specifically " 4.1.(d) report, receive and respond to comments on community issues relating to the Consent Holder's operations in Waihi."

ACTION: AMS create a Comms plan around engagement and what the community would like from WCF.**5.4. OceanaGold Update****Martha Mineral Zone (MMZ) Hearings**

The hearing to consider Proposed Plan Change 6 Extension of Martha Mineral Zone closed on Tuesday 11 February 2025. The Hearing Committee is expected to be able to recommend a decision to the Council in March, with the decision being released soon after.

Submitters on the proposed plan change can appeal Council decisions in the Environment Court. Further information about the appeal period and process will be included in decision letters to submitters.



More information on the proposed plan change can be found [here](#)

Six Monthly Community Meeting

The next six-monthly Community Meeting will be held on Thursday 13 March, at 5.30pm at the Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road.

Shane Jones Visit

We recently hosted an MBIE (Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment) event at our Waihi site where the Minister for Resources, Hon. Shane Jones announced New Zealand's Critical Minerals Strategy and Critical Minerals List, which includes gold.

In front of 90 invited guests including industry leaders, regulators, policymakers, iwi, and community representatives the Minister delivered his speech in our core shed, surrounded by drill core samples. Guests then joined a site tour and BBQ.

Meet the Experts

Blast Vibration – Waihi North Project

Our series of Meet the Experts sessions relating to the Waihi North Project continues this month with two sessions planned. The first, with Landscape and Visual Effects Specialist Rhys Girvan, was held on Tuesday 4 February. Four groups of people attended pre-booked appointments on the day.

The second session with blast vibration expert Dr John Heilig will be held on 25 February. Both sessions have been promoted through our usual channels. We've also delivered fliers to 60 residents in potentially affected areas, such as near the tailing's storage facilities, Gladstone Hill, and Willows Road.

Underground Experience

In late January, the annual OceanaGold Underground Simulation was held at our Education Centre, offering multiple free sessions to members of the public over several days. The sessions provided attendees with an inside look at the Waihi Underground Mine. The simulation covered key areas such as the mining process, the history of gold in the region, and the daily experiences of our underground crews. The sessions attracted 162 attendees, including locals, visiting families, and people curious to learn more about the underground work their relatives do. It was a fantastic way to highlight the dedication of our underground miners and foster greater community awareness of the industry.

Internships

Since November, four interns have joined the OceanaGold Waihi team as part of our Summer Internship programme. These interns have been provided the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the field related to their academic studies. This year we have students studying in the fields of Environmental Management, Engineering, Geology, and Communications. One of the interns is a Waihi local who did their schooling at Waihi College, two are from Tauranga, one being a Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology student and the other currently studying at Auckland University. The fourth intern is from Cambridge also studying at Auckland University.

Complaints and Concerns for January

Complaints and Concerns for January	Number of Complaints	Number of Complainants
Helicopter Activity	12	1
TOTAL	12	1

Topic	Number of Concerns	Number of stakeholders who raised Concerns
Property	1	1
TOTAL	1	1

Sponsorships & Donations

Across 2024, OceanaGold Waihi once again partnered with many local groups and organisations. We are proud to have supported a wide range of projects and events totalling approximately **\$345,000**.

View the full list of approved sponsorships and donations [here](#)

6. STREETS AHEAD

6.1 Bank balance \$422797.33 CR

- Tagged Funding (Hub) - \$409,697.36 (of which \$200,000 Lotteries, \$36,105 WCF, \$10k VO Trust, \$150k OG, \$10k Lions Club, \$2,592.36 Waihi Herb Society, \$1000 Waihi Beach RSA)
- Waiting for Westpac to process refund of resident withholding tax as per charity status.

6.2. Outdoor Recreation Hub

- \$1000 received from Waihi Beach RSA for the hub
- Akarana Community Trust declined request for \$12,000
- Diprose Miller declined request for \$12,000
- One Foundation request for \$12,000 being considered
- Consider updating MOU

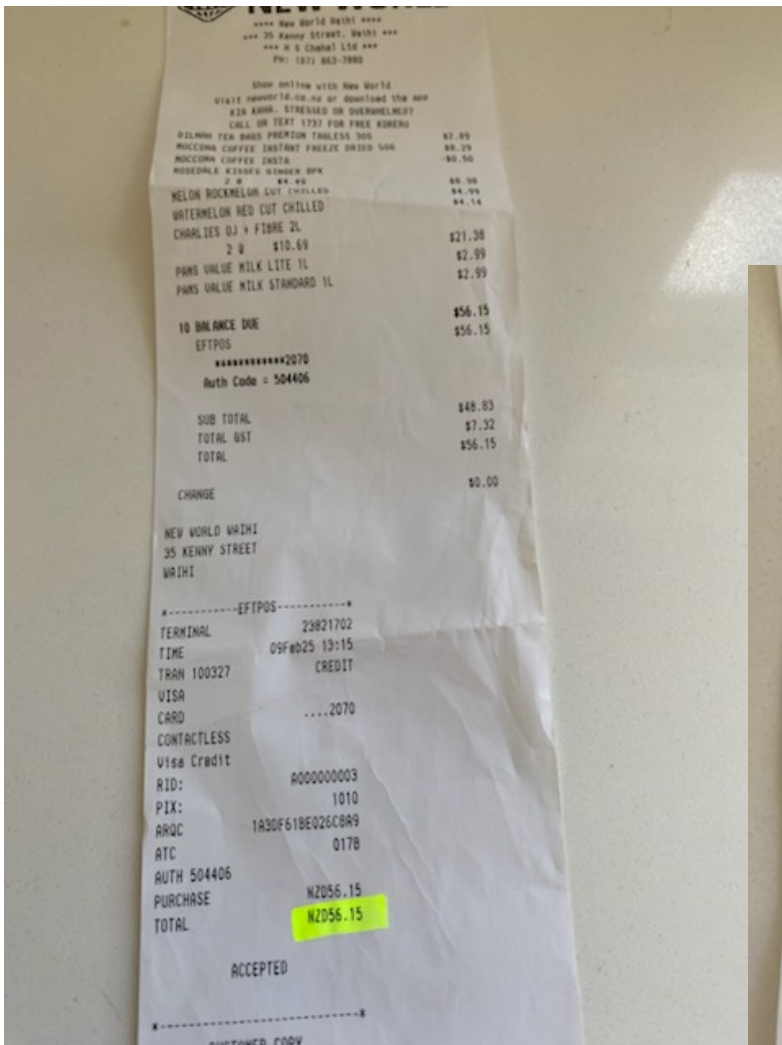
- Concrete path from carpark to pump track - funding coming from HDC Capex fund unless external funding can be found in time.
- Discuss potential funders and funding plan.
- Discussion was had around the planting plan and various options.
- The Forum agreed to reimburse AMS for refreshments from pōwhiri (attached)

ACTION: BR and PB put together clear audit of funds in and out so far.

Dates for future meetings

Next Meeting: Thursday 13 March 2025
 Future Meeting: Thursday 10 April 2025

Disbursement receipts AnneMarie Spicer Pōwhiri Refreshments
 Receipt 1 = \$56.15
 Receipt 2 = \$58.94
Total = \$115.09



Receipt 1



Receipt 2