



# MINUTES

<b>MEETING OF THE:</b>	Waihi Community Forum
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	Thursday 7th August 2025
<b>VENUE:</b>	Oceana Gold
<b>TIME START:</b>	17:00pm
<b>TIME FINISH:</b>	18:35
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	Belinda Burke, Bhavesh Ranchhod, Mike Hayden, Rangipehi Honey, Ernani de Ocampo, Anne Marie Spicer, Donna Fisher, Paula Trubshaw, Paul Anderson
<b>INVITED:</b>	Paula Blackman - WCF Coordinator, Kyle Welten
<b>FILE REF:</b>	WCFMOM2025-08-07

1. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED**

Rangipehi Honey, Anne Marie Spicer

2. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Confirmation of minutes from the meeting of 10-07-2025, ref #WCFMOM2025-07-10  
**BB and DF confirmed the minutes as read are accepted true and correct.**

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- None

4. **MEDIA & WEBSITE**

4.1 WCF and Media

- Tear drop banner update
- Leaflet update

**ACTION: Paula T investigating prices for tear drop banner**

**ACTION: AMS to email template from Waihi Stationers, Paula T to organise finalising**

4.2. Website and Facebook post ideas.

Make a post re. comments on Waihi North Project.

5. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

5.1. Bicycles offered by Police for community distribution

Discuss possibility of recovered bikes being given out to community members.

**ACTION: BB talk to Nigel Sanderson about bikes**

5.2. Fast Track Application - Waihi North Substantive Application

- WCF has been named in the Fast Track application by the Panel. Plan made for the WCF to be the conduit for community comments.
- KW, PT and DF informed the rest of the WCF of the comment procedure.
- WCF offers to collate community responses for submission. Make Facebook invitation to email [wcfinformation@gmail.com](mailto:wcfinformation@gmail.com).
- AMS to attend OceanaGold public event at Waihi Memorial Hall Supper Room on Friday 15 August from 10am to 4pm to assist members of the Waihi Community with questions about the comment process.

- Ask for people's name and street address as only people in the Waihi area are permitted to comment. Name and comment will appear on Fast Track website, address will not appear.
- Decision on the Fast Track will be made on 18 December.

**ACTION: AMS to attend OceanaGold public event 15 August at Memorial Hall**

**ACTION: Make submission before 25 August.**

### 5.3. OceanaGold Update

#### **Services Trench – Work Beginning this Month**



Beginning in August, we'll be installing infrastructure in road reserve along SH25 and Willows Road, just north of Waihi. The pipes will carry water, power, and fibre optic cable between our Waihi operations and company owned property at the end of Willows Road. These services will be essential for building the surface infrastructure associated with the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine – if we gain approval for the proposed Waihi North Project.

We've obtained the necessary approvals from Hauraki District Council and Waikato District Council to undertake this work, which is separate from our **Fast-track approvals process** for the **Waihi North Project**. The work is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete, subject to weather conditions and other factors beyond our control.

#### **HOW DOES THIS INTEGRATE WITH THE WAIHI NORTH PROJECT?**

While the Waihi North Project remains under consideration as part of the Fast-track approvals process, we're taking proactive steps to ensure we're well positioned to begin work should approvals for that project be granted. By installing the essential services and infrastructure now, we're setting ourselves up to start work quickly if the project is approved. This forward planning allows for a smoother transition between projects and helps maintain momentum across our operations in Waihi.

#### **Waihi North Project update – Invitations for Comment on our Application**

The Waihi North Project has moved to the next phase of its approval process under the Fast-track legislation. Invitations have now been sent to selected people or groups for comment on the Waihi North Project. Only the Expert Panel, appointed by the Environmental Protection Authority, can invite comments on the application. As the applicant, OceanaGold doesn't have a role in determining who's asked to provide formal comment.

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After receiving some enquiries from people who have received letters, we've engaged an independent Friend of the Commenter who can guide people through the process. As a consultant planner, they're not part of OceanaGold and will provide free, neutral support to help people:

- Understand the Fast-track process
- Identify the parts of the Waihi North Project application that are relevant to your circumstances
- Get clarity on technical reports, if needed, to improve understanding
- Prepare a clear, relevant and effective comment.

The Friend of the Commenter will be available at the Waihi Memorial Hall Supper Room on Friday 15 August. We've advertised their availability through our usual channels.



### Amenity Effects Programme (AEP) Payments

Calculations for the next round of AEP payments for the period 1 January to 30 June 2025 are now being processed. Letters will be sent out shortly to all enrolled residents advising of the outcome for their property.

### Ask the Experts – Water Management, Waihi North Project

A session about water management on 31 July continued our *Ask the Expert* series, which is designed to provide opportunities for people to speak directly with independent experts and ask questions on mining-related topics.

Chris Simpson from Williamson Water & Land Advisory met with eight people in our Project Information Office and answered questions about water management at the proposed Wharekirauponga Underground Mine. Feedback from those who attended was that the sessions were informative and helpful.

### Complaints & Concerns for July

	Number of Complaints	Number of Complainants
Vibration	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Topic	Number of Concerns	Number of stakeholders who raised Concerns
Felt & heard blast	2	1
Felt & heard	1	
Property	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

### Sponsorships & Donation for July

Who	Amount	What
Waihi College Kapa Haka	\$3,662.75	Team polo shirts
Go Waihi	\$3,500	Children's entertainment, Christmas at the lake
Waihi Beach Bowling Club	\$750	Tournament prizes

## 6. STREETS AHEAD

### 6.1 Bank balance \$16,017.19 CR

- Tagged Funding (Hub) - \$2,592.36 Waihi Herb Society for planting
- Charities Services Annual Reporting is required. Due by 30 September 2025.
- Waiting for Westpac to process refund of resident withholding tax as per charity status.

**ACTION: BR to contact the bank to progress the resident withholding tax refund.**

**ACTION: BR to arrange Annual Report for Charities Services**

### 6.2. Outdoor Recreation Hub

- Timber benches for pump track update - WCF chooses site 1 for 2 x benches - request benches without backs (SFW20) so both sides can be used, with metal studs to prevent skaters from grinding and damaging them. HDC will pay for seats and installation.
- BBQ update - awaiting quote from HDC for BBQ installation.
- Pump track signage update - draft signs to be sent to HDC for their marketing team to refine and brand. Suggested placement of two signs with track diagram on one and code on the other, and sponsors signs on the back of both. To be placed either side of the concrete pathway near the carpark. Suggested stencil signs on the asphalt to point to small track and large track entry points.
- EdO left meeting 18:24
- Playground revitalisation - EdO met with Terri Casey HDC and Paul Matthews HDC on 16 July to discuss. Playground fence will remain in place as a safety barrier to stop kids from falling off the retaining wall. Bark will be topped up, and broken equipment will be removed.
- Discuss meeting with HDC about stage 2. BR and AMS met with HDC re WCF funding parameters, and it will be an HDC project. HDC is funding current geotech for the next stages. Resource consent to get preloading done.

**ACTION: Adrian (HDC) supplying quotes to install BBQ to enable funding applications.**

**ACTION: Ask HDC about stencil on asphalt signs for entry points - and about board signage x 2 with code and sponsors - Branding - sponsor logos etc**

## 7. WAIHI COMMUNITY FORUM CHARITABLE TRUST BUSINESS

**7.1 Apologies** - BB moved apologies be accepted, seconded by PA

**7.2 Invoice payments and Reimbursements**

- NONE

### **Dates for future meetings**

Next Meeting: Thursday 11 September 2025, 5pm

Future Meeting: Thursday 9 October 2025, 5pm