

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
WAIHĪ BOARD COMMUNITY BOARD NO. WBCB26-1
HELD IN THE WAIHĪ BEACH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 106 BEACH ROAD, WAIHĪ BEACH ON
MONDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 5.30PM**

1 PRESENT – NGĀ MEMA KEI KONEI

Member R Goudie, Chairperson W Stevenson, Cr A Sole, Deputy Chairperson G Kelly and Member H Guptill

2 IN ATTENDANCE – I TAE AKE

R Leahy (Senior Governance Advisor) and E Watton (Acting GM Strategy and Community)

22 Members of the public including;
Councillor R Joyce
Katikati Community Board Member J Clements

3 APOLOGIES – NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ

Nil

4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS – NGĀ TAKE TŌMURI

Nil

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – NGĀ TUKITUKINGA

Member R Goudie declared an interest in Agenda Item 9.3, being 'Waihi Beach Community Board Grant Applications – February 2026'.

6 TRANSFER OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS – TE WHITINGA O TE AO MĀRAMA KI NGĀ TAKE MUNA

Nil

7 PUBLIC FORUM – WĀHANGA TŪMATANUI

7.1 CINDY CLARE AND DANI SIMPSON – TEDX EVENT WAIHĪ BEACH

Cindy Clare and Dani Simpson were in attendance to speak to their grant application, which sought funds for a TEDx speaking event to be held in Waihi Beach. They noted the below points:

- TEDx was a grassroots movement to create ideas worth spreading at a community level, the speaking event was being held in Waihi Beach on 9 May 2026.
- There were five speakers confirmed for the event, with the possibility of a sixth speaker.
- The overarching theme for the event was 'essence of a changing world'.
- There would only be 100 tickets available, however, the event would be videoed and put on youtube so the community could watch it.
- A portion of the funds (\$1,800) sought would be used for signage and equipment which could be used for next year's event.
- The price of the ticket was \$40.00 per adult and \$20 per child.

Tabled Item 1 – Presentation on TEDx Waihi Beach

7.2 HELEN SANFORD – WOMEN'S DIY SPACE

Ms Sanford was in attendance to discuss a proposal to set up a DIY space for women in Waihi Beach. She noted the below points:

- A group of women in Waihi Beach were looking for a space to gather and support each other whilst learning DIY and maintenance skills.
 - The goal was to form a charitable trust and they were looking to emulate the success of the MenzShed model.
 - The group was anticipating being in a position to seek Council land and start fundraising for a building and equipment.
 - The group requested support from the Community Board to help meet their goal.
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7.3 DONNA PFEFFERLE – LIFEGUARD SERVICES UPDATE

Ms Pfefferle was in attendance on behalf of the Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services to give an update on the summer seasons. She noted the below points:

- Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services won club of the year last year for the Coromandel area, the club also celebrated their 90th year in November 2025.
- Council had funded new signage for the beach which outlined the dangers of the beach. A flotation device was also installed at the sign locations, one of which was recently used in a rescue at Anzac Bay.
- They were looking at getting GPS for each of the flotation devices that were installed at the signs.
- A coast snap holder had been installed to take photos of the sand movements, which would then be sent to Bay of Plenty Regional Council.
- The remodelling of the sand dunes as part of the flood mitigation work had been successful in preventing flooding in the surf club.

Tabled Item 2 – Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services Presentation

7.4 PETER ROY – STORMWATER AT PIO SHORES

Mr Roy, Chair of the Pio Shores Sports and Community Association, was in attendance to discuss issues with stormwater in Pio Shores, Bowentown. He noted the below points:

- Following an increase in housing development at Pio Shores, Council spent approximately \$2.5 million on upgrading the stormwater system in the area.
 - Despite this upgrade, there were issues with flooding during the recent weather event.
 - Approximately 10 properties had buildings that flooded.
 - Bowentown Boulevard was the most badly affected street.
 - It was noted that Mr Roy had posed a series of questions to the Community Board about the issue which had been forwarded onto the Chief Executive for a response.
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7.5 JOHN CLEMENTS – GORSE ON BOWENTOWN CYCLEWAY

Mr Clements, Member of the Katikati Community Board, was in attendance to discuss gorse on the Bowentown Cycleway. He noted the below points:

- Mr Clements was concerned with the amount of gorse that was growing along the Bowentown cycleway. He noted it was particularly dense in some areas.
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7.6 MIKE HICKEY – VARIOUS ISSUES

Mr Hickey, a resident of Waihi Beach was in attendance to discuss various issues. He noted the below points:

- The MenzShed had grown many vegetables which were gifted to the 'Friend's Place'.
 - Mr Hickey was concerned that 50km speed limit was not being adhered to by drivers. Of particular concern was the area on Beach Road between the Beach House Café and Holiday Park, where there were often a lot of pedestrians including children.
 - The recent gale force winds over the last few months had cause damage to trees on the road reserve. He was advised to raise a service a request about this issue.
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7.7 CINDY CLARE AND DONNA PFEFFERLE – ACCESSIBLE CHANGING ROOM FACILITY

Ms Clare (Live Well Waihi Beach) and Ms Pfefferle (Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services) was in attendance to speak to their grant application for an accessible changing room facility. They noted the below points:

- Live Well Waihi Beach had been working on a project to install accessible changing room facilities at the Surf Club an make Waihi Beach the most accessible beach in New Zealand.
 - The project had received external funding.
 - Building costs had increased and had resulted in a shortfall of funding.
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- They intended on working with Tourism Bay of Plenty to promote the accessible facilities in Waihi Beach.
- The accessible changing facility would be open on 7 March 2026.

Tabled Item 3 – Accessible Changing Room Facility Presentation

7.8 ROSE FOX – WAIHI BEACH ENTRANCEWAY SIGNS

Ms Fox was in attendance to discuss the Waihi Beach entranceway signs project. She noted the below points:

- Ms Fox was approached by the Community Board in 2021 to assist with designing entranceway signs for Waihi Beach and the project had support from the community and business community.
- The previous Community Board allocated \$103,000 to the project and some funds had already been spent on the structural design elements and obtaining resource consent, however a new estimate came in at approximately \$118,000.
- Ms Fox acknowledged the high cost of the signs but noted that they would benefit the community by creating cultural identity and increase tourism awareness.
- Ms Fox suggested that if the Community Board did not want to continue with the project, then she proposed forming a Waihi Beach Gateway Project Community Group and seek external funding for the project.
- Ms Fox did not support progressing an alternative design for the signs.

Tabled Item 4 – Rose Fox – Speaking Notes on Waihi Beach Entranceway Signs

7.9 SUE TOWLER – WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE

Ms Towler, was in attendance on behalf of the Waihi Beach Community Response Team, to provide an update following the recent weather event. She noted the below points:

- A severe weather event had occurred on 21 January 2026, which resulted in some flooding in Waihi Beach.
 - Approximately 73 tourists were evacuated to the RSA from Tasman Holiday Park.
 - The group was supplied with bedding to enable displaced people to stay overnight at the RSA.
 - Due to the training they had undertaken the Community Response Team was well placed to respond to severe weather events.
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7.10 DANI SIMPSON – WAIHI BEACH ROAD RESEALING

Mrs Simpson, was in attendance to discuss concerns with the resealing of Waihi Beach Road. She noted the below points:

- The road was resealed last year however it was done late in the season and had failed.
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- Mrs Simpson queried when Waihi Beach Road would be resealed as there had been several complaints from members of the community about the issue.
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8 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION – TE WHAKATAU I NGĀ MENETI

8.1 MINUTES OF THE WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2025

RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.1

Moved: Cr A Sole

Seconded: Member H Guptill

1. That the Minutes of the Waihi Beach Community Board Meeting held on 5 November 2025 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.
2. That the Chairperson's electronic signature be inserted into the confirmed minutes.

CARRIED

9 REPORTS – NGĀ PŪRONGO

9.1 WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report from the Chairperson dated 23 February 2026, who provided a brief overview of the report. The below points were noted:

- The Board requested a copy of the CCTV camera application to be included in the next Chairperson's report.
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RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.2

Moved: Chairperson W Stevenson

Seconded: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

That the Chairperson's Report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Community Board Chairperson's Report – February 2026' be received.

CARRIED

9.2 WAIHI BEACH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report from Councillor Sole dated 23 February 2026, who provided a brief overview of the report.

RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.3

Moved: Cr A Sole

Seconded: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

1. That Councillor Sole's report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Councillor's Report – February 2026' be received.

CARRIED

9.3 WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY BOARD – GRANT APPLICATIONS – FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 23 February 2026. In relation to the grant applications, the below points were noted:

TedX Event Grant Application

- The Board were supportive of the TedX event and thought it would be a positive opportunity for the community.

Live Well Waihi Beach Grant Application

- Live Well Waihi Beach had already received Council funding for this project, therefore did not meet the Waihi Beach Community Board Grants criteria.
 - The Board acknowledged that the project did not wholly fit the criteria of the Waihi Beach Community Board Reserves Account, however, it was a valuable asset that would be used by the public on council land and should be funded by the Board.
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RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.4

Moved: Chairperson W Stevenson

Seconded: Member H Guptill

1. That the Senior Governance Advisor's report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Community Board – Grant Applications – February 2026' be received.
2. That the Waihi Beach Community Board approves the grant application from the TEDx Waihi Beach for \$2,000 (plus GST, if any) to contribute towards event costs for a TEDx event held in Waihi Beach. This grant will be funded from the Waihi Beach Community Board Grants Account, subject to all accountabilities being met.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.5

Moved: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

Seconded: Member H Guptill

4. That the Waihi Beach Community Board approves the grant application from Live Well Waihi Beach for \$6,000 (plus GST, if any) towards accessible changing room
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facilities at the Surf Club. This grant will be funded from the Waihi Beach Community Board Reserves Account, subject to all accountabilities being met.

Member R Goudie abstained from voting.

CARRIED

9.4 WAIHI BEACH ENTRANCEWAY SIGNS PROJECT

The Board considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 23 February 2026. The below points were noted:

- It was clarified that the Board allocated a budget of \$95,000 to the project at their December meeting in 2024, the Board then resolved to increase their budget by \$8,000 in August 2025.
- It was noted that in order to apply for external funding, the Board would need to relinquish the project to become a 'community-led project' supported by the Community Board.

The Board requested further information from staff about the possibility of transferring the project to another entity to progress. The Board would discuss this matter at their next workshop, before making a decision at their next meeting.

ITEM TO LIE ON THE TABLE

RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.6

Moved: Member H Guptill
Seconded: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

1. That the Senior Governance Advisor's report dated 23 February 2025 titled 'Waihi Beach Entranceway Signs Project' be received.
2. That the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of **low** significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
3. That the item of business being discussed, being item 9.4 'Waihi Beach Entranceway Signs Project', should lie on the table until the next Waihi Beach Community Board meeting.

CARRIED

9.5 WAIHI BEACH SKATEPARK - REQUEST FOR FUNDS

The Board considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 23 February 2026. The below points were noted:

- The Skatepark Committee hoped to secure all the required funding by December 2027.
 - It was clarified that as the funding was coming from the Waihi Beach Town Centre Development Fund, the recommendations still needed to go through Council for approval.
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RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.7

Moved: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

Seconded: Member R Goudie

1. That the Senior Governance Advisor's report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Skatepark – Request for Funds' be received.
2. That the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of **low** significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
3. That the Waihi Beach Community Board recommends to Council that up to \$175,000 from the Waihi Beach Town Centre Development Fund be provided to the Waihi Beach Community Led Development Society Incorporated for the redevelopment of the Waihi Beach skatepark, noting that payment of this funding is contingent on the Waihi Beach Community Led Development Society Incorporated also receiving the balance of funding required to complete the project by 31 December 2027.
4. That the Waihi Beach Community Board notes that if Council's funding for the project increases through the Annual Plan 2026/27, then the Board's contribution will decrease.

CARRIED

9.6 WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY BOARD - PROJECTS AND OPERATIONS REPORT - FEBRUARY 2026

The Board considered a report from the Senior Governance Advisor dated 23 February 2026. The below points were noted:

- The Board sought further information about the furniture that was installed at the Edinburgh Street Pedestrian link. The previous Board had funded some outdoor furniture for the area, however, the furniture that was installed was different to what was approved by the Board.
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RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.8

Moved: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

Seconded: Member H Guptill

1. That the Senior Governance Advisor's report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Community Board – Projects and Operations Report – February 2026' be received.

CARRIED

9.7 WAIHI BEACH COMMUNITY BOARD – FINANCIAL REPORT – DECEMBER 2025

The Board considered a report from the Finance Partner dated 23 February 2026. The report was taken as read.

RESOLUTION WBCB26-1.9

Moved: Member H Guptill

Seconded: Deputy Chairperson G Kelly

1. That the Finance Partner's report dated 23 February 2026 titled 'Waihi Beach Community Board – Financial Report – December 2025', be received.
2. That the Waihi Beach Community Board approve for the remaining funds from the below resolutions to be released back into the Roothing and Reserves accounts:

Resolution	Project	Account	Remaining Committed
WBC24-1.8	Wilson Road carpark extension	Roothing	(25,529)
WBC24-2.5	Footpath extension Wilson Road	Roothing	(4,977)
WBC25-2.5	Cycle racks Wilson Road carpark	Roothing	(1,033)
WBC20-3.9	Meetings in relation to Community Plan	Reserves	(2,447)
WBC24-6.5	Athenree Homestead Driveway	Roothing	(6,049)

CARRIED

10 INFORMATION FOR RECEIPT – KŌRERO TE WHIWHIA

The Meeting closed at 7.51pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record at the Waihi Beach Community Board meeting held on 20 April 2026.

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Chairperson W Stevenson
CHAIRPERSON

Unconfirmed