



MINUTES

**Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group
meeting**

Wednesday, 11 June 2025

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
WAIĀRI KAITIAKI ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LEVEL 1 - 90 DEVONPORT ROAD,
TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2025 AT 9.30AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Hautapu Baker (Chair), Ms Darlene Dinsdale, Mayor James Denyer (WBoPDC), Mr Maru Tapsell, Deputy Mayor John Scrimgeour (WBoPDC), Ms Helen Biel, Mr Maru Tapsell.

IN ATTENDANCE: Peter Bahrs (Manager: Water Services), Kelvin Hill (Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes), Keren Paekau (Team Leader: Takawaenga Māori), Jennifer Pearson (Community Engagement Advisor: Infrastructure Delivery), Clare Sullivan (Team Leader: Governance Services) and Anahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor).

Timestamps are included beside each of the items and relate to the recording of the meeting held on 11 June 2025 at [Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group - 11 June 2025](#).

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Mr Dean Flavell opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/2/1

Moved: Ms Darlene Dinsdale

Seconded: Mayor James Denyer

That the apology for absence received from Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston and Mr Manu Pene be accepted.

CARRIED

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 12 March 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/2/2

Moved: Ms Darlene Dinsdale

Seconded: Ms Helen Biel

That the Minutes of the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 12 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 BUSINESS

TIMESTAMP: 5:00

9.1 Waiāri Operational Report 11 June 2025

Staff Peter Bahrs, Manager: Water Services

Key Points

- The report was taken as read.

In response to questions

- Stream flows were fed from the underground water aquifers and it took time for rain water to flow through to the water aquifers. The water flows were found to be steady otherwise.
- Tauranga City Council (TCC) undertook monthly checks on water quality and fortnightly on bacterial content.
- The Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group would continue as it was part of the Resource Consents so was believed to not be impacted by Local Waters Done Well.
- The maximum allowable take was 690L a second. The maximum amount Council had been taking was 180L.

Discussion points raised

- The significance of Waiāri; research of social, cultural and environmental impacts.

Action:

- That staff include Ms Helen Biel in water quality updates sent to Mr Kepa Morgan for the Mauri Model
- That staff report back to the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group on whether there was a direct negative impact on Waiāri from Local Waters Done Well.
- That a Wānanga be held to discuss the Regulatory Standards Bill impact on Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group and writing a submission opposing the bill.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/2/3

Moved: Ms Helen Biel

Seconded: Mayor James Denyer

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Waiāri Operational Report 11 June 2025".
- (b) Provides feedback or comment on report, as needed.

CARRIED

TIMESTAMP:33.08

9.2 Project Update - Waiāri Rest Area Restoration

External Jason Crummer, Senior Recreation Planner
Chris Nepia, Manager: (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)
Scott Parker

Key Points

- Since the last Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group hui, Council had installed a fully relocatable hand rail at the swimming hole.
- Staff had secured an additional \$30,000 of funding from the Te Puke Community Board to go toward the Waiāri rest area restoration project and noted that this was secure as long as the proposed pedestrian bridge remained a priority. Staff had confirmed it was.
- Staff noted that BTW Company were awarded the contract for the project.
- It was noted the next steps were for the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Groups Operations Group to meet with BTW Company on site.
- It was noted that the design work for the project took a long time as opposed to the actual building of the bridge.

In response to questions

- In response to a question, it was noted that the project was funded and was progressing well. The goal for the project was to obtain the Resource Consent in March 2026 and complete the project for the 2027 Summer season.
- Currently, the pedestrian bridge design was to build an underpass under the highway bridge which also brought an aspect of safety for pedestrians.

Discussion points raised

- Concern was raised by an Iwi member regarding health & safety and the depth of Waiāri around the proposed building of the bridge.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/2/4

Moved: Deputy Mayor John Scrimgeour

Seconded: Ms Darlene Dinsdale

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Project Update - Waiāri Rest Area Restoration".

CARRIED

TIMESTAMP: 52:30

9.3 Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group Cultural Recognition update

Staff Kelvin Hill, Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes
Jennifer Pearson, Asset Delivery

External Chris Nepia (Western Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
Dean Flavell (Toi Takapū)

PowerPoint Presentation

Key Points

- Staff spoke to the report and highlighted the following:
 - Budget and funding from Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Tauranga City Council and other sources.
 - That the seven cultural initiatives were not listed by priority as iwi members confirmed they were all a priority.
 - The refresh for reporting to Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group to show more substance for members to understand budget and included an action plan.
- Toi Takapū was a collective of local Tapuika artists that had been working to create cultural presence at the Waiāri.
- The group was working to develop a concept plan for a series of art work to go along length of the Waiāri in celebration of the stream.
- Mr Flavell noted that Toi Takapū would like to be involved in the project before construction started so that the group could advise.
- Mr Flavell also gave a short description of areas of interest for art work to be located along the Waiāri.

Discussion points raised

- Resolution (e) was added to the recommendations to reflect discussion on cultural recognition seven.

Action

- That staff report back to the next hui on progress regarding the supply of water to marae and the cultural recognition seven.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/2/5

Moved: Mayor James Denyer

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report “Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group Cultural Recognition update June 2025”.
- (b) Accepts the revised priority list for Waiāri cultural recognition actions.
Agrees to appoint Toi Takapū to develop the cultural recognition artworks
- (d) Endorses WBOPDC plan for the Waiāri Bridge area improvements
Requests staff progress and facilitate discussion on Waiāri water supply to marae.

CARRIED

Attachments

- 1 Presentation – Item 9.3 – Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group June 25 Final pdf

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

The Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes for TCC, Mr Kelvin Hill, noted his role had been disestablished at TCC and this would be his last time attending Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group hui. He thanked the group and wished them well in the future.

The Chair thanked Kelvin for his mahi over his four years in service.

11 CLOSING KARAKIA

Mr Mokoera Te Amo closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 12:26pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 3 September 2025.

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Councillor Hautapu Baker
CHAIR