



Governance Report OMBA AGM 2025 | 29th Oct 2025

- Presented by Dave Stott

Co-Chair, One Mahurangi, Warkworth Business Association

This past year has been one of both achievement and growing urgency. One Mahurangi continues to advocate strongly for local business, deliver community events, and operate the Warkworth Information Centre. However, increasing financial pressure is beginning to impact what we can deliver, reinforcing the need to focus on long-term sustainability.

Our current BID funding model, based on a flat \$500 rate per commercially rated property, no longer meets the real costs of running an effective Business Association. Costs have risen sharply since 2020, yet our income has remained static. Sponsorship support remains valuable but cannot reliably close the gap. It is clear that we must adapt to ensure our organisation's future stability and effectiveness.

The Committee, together with local business leaders and community partners, is actively exploring viable and fair solutions to this challenge. A great deal of work is happening behind the scenes to identify the right approach, but it will take time. Once the options are more fully developed, we will share them and seek feedback from our members.

At the same time, OMBA is aware of the requirement to re-register under the Incorporated Societies Act by **April 2026**. Our approach will be to hold a **Special General Meeting (SGM)** before that deadline to ensure full compliance and alignment with our future direction.

As Warkworth continues to grow, it is vital that we think ahead and make the tough calls now to secure the financial and organisational foundations that will allow One Mahurangi to continue serving as a strong and united voice for local business.

On behalf of the Committee, I thank our members, sponsors, and community partners for their continued commitment. Your support will be crucial as we work together to shape a sustainable and confident future for One Mahurangi and the services it provides to our town.