



GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

# MINUTES

## Council Meeting

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**6.00pm Tuesday 23 November 2021**

**VENUE:**  
**Golden Plains Civic Centre**  
**Council Chambers**  
**2 Pope Street, Bannockburn**

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING  
6.00pm Tuesday 21 December 2021

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**MINUTES OF GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE GOLDEN PLAINS CIVIC CENTRE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2 POPE STREET,  
BANNOCKBURN  
ON TUESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Helena Kirby (Deputy Mayor), Cr Les Rowe, Cr Owen Sharkey, Cr Brett Cunningham, Cr Gavin Gamble (Mayor), Cr Ian Getsom, Cr Clayton Whitfield

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Eric Braslis (CEO), Phil Josipovic (Director Infrastructure and Development), Philippa O'Sullivan (Director Corporate Services), Steven Sagona (Acting Director Community Services), Rosie Wright (Acting Coordinator Governance and Risk)

The Mayor made the following statement:

*"I'd like to formally welcome everyone, including the members of the gallery and press to this Council Meeting. My name is Cr. Gavin Gamble and I am the Mayor at the Golden Plains Shire Council."*

## **1 OPENING DECLARATION**

We the Councillors of Golden Plains Shire declare that we will undertake, on every occasion, to carry out our duties in the best interest of the community and that our conduct shall maintain the standards of the code of good governance so that we may faithfully represent and uphold the trust placed in this Council by the people of Golden Plains Shire

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Golden Plains Shire spans the Traditional lands of the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar people. We acknowledge them as the Traditional Owners and Custodians. Council pays its respects to Wadawurrung Elders past, present and emerging. Council also respects Eastern Maar Elders past, present and emerging.

Council extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Golden Plains Shire.

## **3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

## **4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16 November 2021 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

## **5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

## 6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Mayor made the following statement:

*“Councillors we have received two questions. As the questions relate to Item 7.4 Adoption of Local Law No 1 General Public Amenity (2021), as per our Governance Rules, these questions will be responded to as part of Director Josipovic’s introduction of that report later on in the agenda.”*

## 7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

### 7.1 DELEGATES REPORT - 26 OCTOBER 2021 TO 22 NOVEMBER 2021

	Cr Kirby	Cr Cunningham	Cr Gamble	Cr Getsom	Cr Rowe	Cr Sharkey	Cr Whitfield
Council Meeting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Briefing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strategic Councillor Briefing	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓
Portfolios	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓

#### **Cr Helena Kirby**

27 October	Property Council - V Summit - Future of Affordable Housing
28 October	Transport Accessibility Strategy: Workshop
29 October	G21 Board meeting
29 October	Rural Councils Victoria Annual General meeting
9 November	Audit and Risk Committee meeting
9 November	Meeting with Louise Staley MP
11 November	Remembrance Day Services throughout the Shire
11 November	G21 Annual General meeting
12 November	Meeting with Michaela Settle MP
12 November	Meeting with Department of Transport

#### **Cr Brett Cunningham**

9 November	Audit and Risk Committee meeting
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#### **Cr Gavin Gamble**

#### **Cr Ian Getsom**

#### **Cr Les Rowe**

28 October	G21 Arts, Heritage & Culture Pillar meeting
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#### **Cr Owen Sharkey**

18 November	Geelong Regional Library Committee Board meeting
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#### **Cr Clayton Whitfield**

**RESOLUTION**

That Council receive and note the Delegates Report – 26 October 2021 to 22 November 2021.

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

**CARRIED**

**7.2 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS - ROUND 2 2021****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is for Council to note and acknowledge the recommended funding of 16 projects, proposed by a variety of community groups through Council's Community Strengthening Grants Program, Round 2 2021.

Council received 23 applications for Round 2 during September 2021 as summarised in Attachment 1. The 16 proposed projects assessed as successful for grant funding will require \$74,991 to complete across the grant streams as follows:

- \$56,383 for Health and Wellbeing, Sports and Recreation projects through the Healthy Active Living Stream
- \$13,000 for Arts and Culture projects through the Creative Communities Stream
- \$5,608 for Environmental projects through the Environment and Sustainability Stream.

Council's contribution of \$74,991 for the Round 2 Community Strengthening Grants 2021 will deliver \$149,982 in total value (across the 16 projects).

Successful recipients will be acknowledged via a Community Strengthening Grants presentation at the Council meeting on 23 November 2021.

**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Owen Sharkey

That Council note and acknowledge the approved Community Strengthening Grants, Round 2 2021 to the value of \$74,991 (summarised in Attachment 1) to the following recipients:

- Haddon Community Learning Centre Inc - Haddon CLC Recording Studio - \$5,000
- Turtle Bend Committee of Management - Turtle Bend Bridge Path - \$8,000
- Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group - Agricultural and Environmental Managers Demonstration Day Project - \$608
- Geelong Landcare Network Inc - Building Community Capacity for Environmental Action in the Bannockburn/Bruce's Creek Area - \$5,000
- Teesdale Mechanics Institute Committee of Management - Here's Looking at You - \$5,850
- Sutherlands Creek Tennis Club - Sutherlands Creek Tennis Club Foundation Stone and Outdoor Area Enhancement Project - \$5,900
- Smythesdale Petanque Club - Lighting for Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve Building - \$2,000
- Woody Yaloak Athletic Club - Haddon User Group Storage Shed - \$10,000
- Turtle Bend Committee of Management - Turtle Bend Lantern Parade Workshop - \$2,130
- Bannockburn Golf Club - New Trencher to Install Grass on the Greens - \$5,772
- Teesdale Cricket Club - Point of Sale System - \$2,796
- Rokewood and Corindhap Football and Netball Club - Goal Netting - \$10,000
- Dolphins Basketball Club - Training Equipment and Storage - \$4,211

- Bannockburn Cricket Club - BCC Women's Team Equipment - \$3,500
- Woody Yaloak Historical Group - Replacement of the War Memorial Sign at Ross Creek Avenue of Honour - \$374
- Volunteering Geelong - Building Stronger Volunteer Community Advocates - \$3,850.

**CARRIED**

### **7.3 ADOPTION OF THE ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE STRATEGY 2022-2026**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Golden Plains Shire Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026 (Attachment 1) has been developed in conversation with the Golden Plains community. It describes our cultural aspirations and details four clear strategic directions, each with a list of key actions to enable Council to deliver on a number of objectives. The objectives guiding this strategy ensure that arts, culture, and heritage initiatives directly and measurably contribute to connected and resilient communities, whose cohesion is strongly linked to arts and culture, health and wellbeing, and economic development. The Strategy promotes understanding and celebration of our indigenous heritage, rich histories and creative future.

Following a period of public exhibition during September and October 2021 with no public submissions received, it is recommended that the Strategy be adopted by Council.

#### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council:

1. Notes that the draft 'Golden Plains Shire Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026' has been publicly exhibited with no submissions received.
2. Adopts the 'Golden Plains Shire Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026' (Attachment 1).

**CARRIED**

## **7.4 ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 1 GENERAL PUBLIC AMENITY (2021)**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report seeks Council adoption of the draft Local Law No. 1 General Public Amenity. The drafting of a new local law to replace Local Law No. 2 General Public Amenity commenced in June 2020. The rewriting process closely followed the State Government Guidelines for Local Laws Manual and was the subject of peer review by expert legal counsel. The draft Local Law provisions have been made available through a formal public notification process and submissions have been considered by Council. This report and its recommendations represent one of the final important steps in the adoption process.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council:

1. Note that the Draft Local Law No. 1 General Public Amenity was exhibited in accordance with Council's previous direction.
2. Note that 687 submissions were received in response to the exhibition of the Draft Local Law No. 1 General Public Amenity, of those 401 submissions were made from Golden Plains Shire residents and 10 submitters were heard at a Special Council Meeting in October 2021.
3. Note that submissions have been considered in the preparations of the final Local Law No.1 General Public Amenity.
4. Revoke Local Law No. 2 General Public Amenity (2017).
5. Adopt Local Law No.1 General Public Amenity which will come into effect 23 November 2021.
6. Provide the Local Government Minister, The Hon. Shaun Leane, a copy of the adopted Local Law No. 1 General Public Amenity.
7. Place a notice in the Victorian Government Gazette and the Golden Plains Times that Local Law No. 1 General Public Amenity has been adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **7.5 GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL RATING STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with Section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to Resolve to adopt a four year Revenue and Rating Plan within 12 months of the newly elected Council. Council adopted the rating and revenue plan at the June Council meeting, however, it was noted that the Act allows the revenue and rating strategy to be reviewed and updated any time during the four-year term and as result, Council have been considering different rating options since August 2021 with the aim to develop a rating strategy where the financial burden is shared equitably amongst ratepayers.

### **MOTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council:

1. Endorse the Rating Strategy propositions paper (Attachment 1) to be made available for community consultation.
2. Hear any submissions at the 14 December 2021 Council meeting.
3. Consider the rating strategy for adoption at the February 2022 Council meeting.

### **AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Les Rowe

That Council:

1. Endorse the Rating Strategy propositions paper (Attachment 1) to be made available for community consultation including consultation with Councillors at the 4 December 2021 Bannockburn farmers market and an online session with Councillors on Tuesday 14 December 2021 between 6pm to 8pm
2. Hear any submissions at the 21 December 2021 Council meeting.
3. Consider the Rating strategy for adoption at the February 2022 Council meeting



**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

A motion was moved that Council suspend standing orders to take a break at 7:08pm.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey  
Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

A motion was moved that Council resume standing orders at 7:15pm.

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION**

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That additional community consultation dates be added on the 5 December 2021 at Smythesdale, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at Dereel, 7 December 2021 at Inverleigh and 8 December 2021 at Meredith.

**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council:

1. Endorse the Rating Strategy propositions paper (Attachment 1) to be made available for community consultation including consultation with Councillors at the 4 December 2021 Bannockburn farmers market and an online session with Councillors on Tuesday 14 December 2021 between 6pm to 8pm.
2. That additional community consultation dates be added on the 5 December 2021 at Smythesdale, 6 December 2021 at Dereel, 7 December 2021 at Inverleigh and 8 December 2021 at Meredith.
3. Hear any submissions at the 14 December 2021 Council meeting.
4. Consider the rating strategy for adoption at the February 2022 Council meeting

Cr Cunningham called for a division.

In Favour: Crs Helena Kirby, Les Rowe, Owen Sharkey, Brett Cunningham, Gavin Gamble, Ian Getsom and Clayton Whitfield

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 7/0**

The amendment became the substantive motion.

## **7.6 COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 IMPLEMENTATION - QUARTER ONE**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is to update Council on the progress made in actioning the Council Plan 2021-2025 for the first quarter.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council note the report and achievements attained in the implementation of the actions contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 for the first quarter from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021.

**CARRIED**

## **7.7 VAGO AUDIT - SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In February 2021, the Audit and Risk Committee and Council were presented with the findings of the Audit report conducted by the Victorian Audit Generals Office (VAGO) on Sexual Harassment in Local Government.

An action plan has been developed by Council to incorporate these recommendations and also the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* due to the close alignment and is presented at each Audit and Risk Committee meeting for noting.

In addition, Council resolved at the Council meeting of 27 April 2021, to receive quarterly reports to the council on actions, progress and implementation of the recommendations as contained in the "Sexual Harassment in Local Government" report conducted by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office, December 2020 and adopted by Golden Plains Council in February 2021.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council note the update on the implementation of the action plan for the recommendations made in the VAGO report into Sexual Harassment in Local Government.

**CARRIED**

## **7.8 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING INDICATORS - END OF YEAR REPORT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council is required under the *Local Government Act 2020* and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 to report on its performance in accordance with the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).

Council's performance against LGPRF measures is reported to management, the Audit & Risk Committee and Council on a six-monthly basis and included in the Golden Plains Shire Council Annual Report.

The end of year report for the period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 is provided for Council's information (Attachment 1).

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council receive the end of year report on the Local Government Performance Reporting Indicators (Attachment 1) for the period 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

**CARRIED**

## **7.9 AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE REPORT - 9 NOVEMBER 2021**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is being submitted to Council to provide a summary of business considered at the 9 November 2021 meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham  
Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council note the unconfirmed minutes from the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 9 November 2021 (Attachment 1).

**CARRIED**

## **7.10 REVIEW OF COUNCIL EXPENSES AND ENTITLEMENTS POLICY**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Council Expenses and Entitlements Policy was last reviewed and adopted by Council at its meeting on 28 July 2020 to comply with the new Local Government Act 2020. Since the adoption of the policy, a review has been undertaken and opportunities for improvement and clarification of the policy have been identified and are now proposed.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council adopt the Council Expenses and Entitlements Policy as attached.

**CARRIED**

**8 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**9 PETITIONS**

Nil

**URGENT BUSINESS****U1 INVERLEIGH SPORTING COMPLEX – WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM****RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council:

1. Accept and consider Inverleigh Sporting Complex Upgrade Project report as urgent business.
2. Consider the Inverleigh Sporting Complex Upgrade Project report as a confidential item in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020.

**CARRIED****10 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION****RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020:

**10.1 Response to Commonwealth Aged Care Reforms**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

**10.2 Inverleigh Sporting Complex - Wastewater Treatment System**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - g and g(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—  
(ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 8:21PM**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 21 December 2021.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**