



GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

MINUTES

Council Meeting

6.00pm Tuesday 26 April 2022

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

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
6.00pm Tuesday 24 May 2022

Copies of Golden Plains Shire Council's Agendas & Minutes
Can be obtained online at www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au

Order Of Business

1	Opening Declaration	3
2	Acknowledgement of Country	3
3	Apologies and Leave of Absence	3
4	Confirmation of Minutes	3
5	Declaration of Conflict of Interest	3
6	Public Question Time	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7	Business Reports for Decision	4
7.1	Citizenship Ceremony.....	4
7.2	Citizen Recognition Award.....	4
7.3	Delegates Report - 23 March 2022 to 26 April 2022	5
7.4	Preparation of 2022-23 Draft Budget - Endorse for Exhibition	7
7.5	Financial Statement - Quarter Three	7
7.6	Adoption of Customer Experience Strategy 2022-2026	8
7.7	Local Government Performance Reporting Indicators - 6 Monthly Report 21/22	8
7.8	Northern Streetscape Framework Plan - Adoption	9
7.9	Draft Asset Plan 2022-2032 - Endorse for Exhibition	10
7.10	Statutory Planning Delegations	11
7.11	Purchase of Tandem Tipper Trucks	12
7.12	Extension to Governance Rules Review	12
7.13	Council Meeting Location Update - June & July 2022	13
7.14	National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government 2022 - Mayoral Attendance.....	13
7.15	Appointment of CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee Independent Member.....	14
8	Notices of Motion	14
8.1	Notice of Motion - Publicly Release Rating Strategy Data.....	14
9	Petitions	14
	Nil	
10	Confidential Reports for Decision	15

**MINUTES OF GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE GOLDEN PLAINS CIVIC CENTRE, COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2 POPE STREET,
BANNOCKBURN
ON TUESDAY, 26 APRIL 2022 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), Steven Sagona (Director Community Services), Simon Rennie (Director Corporate Services), Rosie Wright (Coordinator Governance and Risk), Sophie Brown (Governance and Legal Services Specialist)

APOLOGIES: Cr Les Rowe (Leave of Absence)

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 Ian Getsom

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 March 2022 be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom

Seconded: Cr Owen Sharkey

That public question time be deferred until after item 7.2 in the Agenda.

CARRIED

6 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION**7.1 CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY**

A formal Citizenship Ceremony will take place at the commencement of the Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council would like to congratulate the following residents on their decision to become Australian Citizens:

- Mr Jason Caruana who is from Malta and resides in Ross Creek
- Ms Janeth Montilla-Guinane who is from the Philippines and resides in Bannockburn
- Mrs Margaret Alison Robinson who is from Northern Ireland and resides in Meredith.

7.2 CITIZEN RECOGNITION AWARD

Golden Plains Shire is proud to recognise the fantastic achievements and contributions made by young people in the community. We are fortunate today to present a Citizen Recognition Award, which includes a certificate of recognition to Riley Dunn.

Riley Dunn is being recognised for his achievement in the sport of basketball.

- Riley is 16 years old and lives in Smythes Creek. He grew up watching his family members play basketball since the age of 2 and loved following his heroes in the NBA
- Riley commenced playing and training as a 6 year old and was recently successful in gaining selection in the Vic Country Team that competed in the Australian Under 18 Men's National Basketball Championships from 9 - 17 April 2022.

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

7.3 DELEGATES REPORT - 23 MARCH 2022 TO 26 APRIL 2022**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

	Cr Kirby	Cr Cunningham	Cr Gamble	Cr Getsom	Cr Rowe	Cr Sharkey	Cr Whitfield
Council Meeting	✓	✓	✓	✓	Leave of absence	✓	✓
Councillor Briefing	✓	✓	✓	✓	Leave of absence	✓	✓
Strategic Councillor Briefing	✓	✓	✓	✓	Leave of absence	X	✓
Portfolios	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	Leave of absence	N/A	N/A

Cr Gavin Gamble

- 24 March – G21 Extraordinary General Meeting
- 25 March – G21 Board Meeting
- 25 March - Interview with the Courier
- 27 March – Open Studios
- 27 March - Mannibadar Community Hall - 100 Year Anniversary
- 27 March – Ross Creek Landcare
- 30 March - Batesford Riverstone Handover Ceremony
- 31 March - Development of the Gender Equality Action Plan presentation
- 31 March - Climate Change - Photo Op at Meredith Primary School
- 31 March – Climate Emergency engagement workshop at Teesdale
- 1 April - G21 Stakeholder Forum 2022
- 2 April - Official Opening of the Inverleigh Club Rooms Upgrade
- 2 April - Golden Plains Farmers Market & Golden Plains Community Fair
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 7 April - Tour of the Golden Plains Youth Hub
- 7 April – Bannockburn P-12, Year 9 and 10s elective
- 8 April - Peri Urban Councils Victoria - April Board Meeting
- 12 April - Official Opening of the Golden Plains Youth Hub
- 12 April - Meeting with the Hon Shaun Leane MP
- 14 April - Meeting and on site tour with Libby Coker & Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education and Youth, Amanda Rishworth
- 21 April – Ballarat Now and Into the Future 2022, forum
- 25 April – Anzac Day Services: Bannockburn, Teesdale, Smythesdale, Haddon, Inverleigh pre-game with F&N club.

Cr Brett Cunningham

- 23 March - The University of Melbourne Respect Victoria Forum
- 31 March - Presentation of the development Gender Equality Action Plan
- 2 April - Golden Plains Farmers Market & Golden Plains Community Fair
- 2 April - Official Opening of the Inverleigh Club Rooms Upgrade
- 4 April - Tourism Greater Geelong & The Bellarine Board Meeting
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 8 April - Golden Plains Shire Council CCTV Steering Committee
- 12 April - Official Opening of the Golden Plains Youth Hub
- 23 April - Art Emergence
- 25 April – Bannockburn, Teesdale, Shelford and Meredith Anzac Day Services

Cr Ian Getsom

- 27 March - Mannibadar Community Hall - 100 Year Anniversary
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 7 April - Linton Progress Association
- 7 April - Linton CFA meeting
- 9 April - Linton Football Night Game
- 12 April - Youth Hub Opening, Bannockburn
- 13 April - Haddon Lions Club Meeting
- 16 April - Smythesdale Community Market
- 21 April - Ballarat Now and In the Future 2022 forum
- 21 April - Timber Towns Meeting
- 25 April – Smythesdale and Haddon Anzac Day Services
- 26 April – Linton Anzac Day Service

Cr Helena Kirby

- 23 March - GP Windfarm – Briefing
- 29 March - Transport Accessibility Strategy Workshop Series Three
- 29 March - Back to Business
- 2 April - Climate Emergency Plan Engagement Workshop
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 8 April - Pre-Federal Election Mayoral Roundtable with The Hon. Chris Bowen
- 12 April - Official Opening of the Golden Plains Youth Hub
- 21 April - Active Ageing and Inclusion External Reference Meeting
- 23 April - Art exhibition
- 25 April – Corindhap and Rokewood Anzac Day Services

Cr Les Rowe

- 30 March - Batesford Riverstone Handover Ceremony
- 2 April - Official Opening of the Inverleigh Club Rooms Upgrade

Cr Owen Sharkey

- 30 March - Batesford Riverstone Handover Ceremony
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 21 April – Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation (GRLC) Board Meeting

Cr Clayton Whitfield

- 27 March - Southern Open Studios Art Trail
- 1 April - G21 Stakeholder Forum 2022
- 2 April - Official Opening of the Inverleigh Club Rooms Upgrade
- 5 April – Meeting Procedures Workshop
- 12 April - Official Opening of the Golden Plains Youth Hub
- 23 April – Art Emergence
- 25 April – Teesdale and Inverleigh Anzac Day Service

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council receive and note the Delegates Report – 23 March 2022 to 26 April 2022.

CARRIED

7.4 PREPARATION OF 2022-23 DRAFT BUDGET - ENDORSE FOR EXHIBITION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2022-23 Draft Budget has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The budget seeks to achieve the actions and activities set out in the Council Plan by balancing the demand for services and infrastructure with the community's capacity to pay.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council:

1. In accordance with section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, place the draft 2022-23 Annual Budget on public exhibition and that:
 - (a) The Chief Executive Officer by authorised to:
 - (i) Give public notice of this, in accordance with Section 94 and 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*; and
 - (ii) Make available for public inspection the draft 2022-23 budget.
 - (b) Council consider any submissions to include in the 2022-23 Budget contained in the draft 2022-23 Annual Budget, made in accordance with Section 94 and 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020* at a Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 7 June 2022.
 - (c) Council consider to adopt the 2022-23 Annual Budget at the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 28 June 2022.
2. Endorse the draft 2022-23 schedule of fees and charges for adoption at the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 28 June 2022.

CARRIED

7.5 FINANCIAL STATEMENT - QUARTER THREE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As at 31 March 2022, the Income Statement reports total operating revenue of \$40.5m and total operating expenditure of \$30.6m, which results in a year to date surplus of \$9.9m. This is \$1.4m favourable compared to the original budget, and \$4.3m favourable to the revised budget.

The Capital Works Statement indicates total capital works expenditure of \$12.6m, which is \$1.2m below the original budget, and \$7.5m below the revised budget. The revised budget includes projects totalling \$8.7m rolled forward for projects.

The Quarterly Finance Report will also be presented to the Audit and Risk Committee at the 10 May 2022 meeting for noting

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council note the content in the Quarterly Finance Report for the 9 months ended 31 March 2022.

CARRIED

7.6 ADOPTION OF CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE STRATEGY 2022-2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A key component in the Council Plan 2021-2025 is to: 'improve the customer experience and build commitment and accountability to service standards and timely responsiveness.'

The Customer Experience Strategy 2022-2026 (the Strategy) will give Council an overarching philosophy as well as an explicit action plan to improve its customer experience. The central aim of the Strategy is to strengthen consistency and ensure staff are all 'on the same page' when it comes to the experiences delivered to customers.

At its meeting on 22 March 2022 Council resolved to endorse the draft Customer Experience Strategy 2022-2026 for public exhibition. Following a three-week exhibition period during where no submissions were received, this report recommends adoption of the Strategy.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council:

1. Notes that the Draft Customer Experience Strategy 2022-2026 has been on public exhibition for a period of three weeks between 23 March – 13 April 2022.
2. Adopts the Customer Experience Strategy 2022-2026 (attached).

CARRIED

7.7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING INDICATORS - 6 MONTHLY REPORT 21/22

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.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That the Council receive the six-monthly report on the Local Government Performance Reporting Indicators (Attachment 1) for the period 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2021.

CARRIED

7.8 NORTHERN STREETSCAPE FRAMEWORK PLAN - ADOPTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Northern Streetscape Project was formulated to enhance the streetscapes of Linton, Scarsdale and Smythesdale in the north of Golden Plains Shire.

The first stage of this project has been the development of the Northern Streetscape Framework Plan. This plan has been developed to guide the ongoing design and implementation of the works associated with delivering this project.

The work to date has largely been funded by the Berrybank Community Benefit Deed. Significant community consultation was conducted during the development of this plan.

The Northern Streetscape Framework Plan requires Council endorsement for the project to be able to proceed. Council will consider significant capital funds in future financial year budget deliberations as well as identifying suitable Government funding opportunities to achieve the goals of the project.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council:

1. Adopt the Northern Streetscape Framework Plan.
2. Endorse the preparation of an Implementation Plan.
3. Send the adopted Framework Plan to the relevant State Departments and advocate for their continued support through the implementation of the plan.

CARRIED

7.9 DRAFT ASSET PLAN 2022-2032 - ENDORSE FOR EXHIBITION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 92 of the Local Government Act 2020 includes a new requirement for Councils to prepare an Asset Plan for the period of the next 10 financial years. The inaugural Asset Plan is required to be adopted by 30 June 2022. An Asset Plan:

- Must be developed, adopted and actioned in accordance with Council's deliberative engagement practices.
- Must cover the period of at least the next 10 financial years.
- Must include information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal, and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under control of the Council.
- Based on currently available data, the asset funding gap over the next 10 years is estimated at \$84.7 Million.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council:

1. Note the requirement to develop and adopt an Asset Plan by 30 June 2022 in accordance with Section 92 of the Local Government Act 2020.
2. Endorse the Draft Asset Plan 2022-2032 for public exhibition and invite submissions from 27 April until 18 May 2022.
3. Note the final draft Asset Plan 2022-2032 will be presented to Council at the 28 June 2022 Council meeting with due regard to community submissions.

CARRIED

7.10 STATUTORY PLANNING DELEGATIONS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Updated Statutory Planning Delegations have now been in use for more than 6 months and it is deemed prudent to review the impact of the changes and assess the functioning of the supporting policies and procedures.

Significantly, prior to the changes to delegation, every application with 1 or more objections were required to go to council for a decision. From January 2018 to December 2020, 58 statutory planning applications went to council for a decision. The officer recommendation was upheld 96.6% of the time, or 56 of the 58 applications.

Of the two decisions whereby council did not support the officer recommendation, one was overturned by VCAT (council resolved to refuse, the officer recommendation was for approval). The second application was heard at VCAT in November 2021 and a decision is still pending.

The altered level of delegation has had a significant (positive) impact on the functioning of the statutory planning department. Important officer time has been freed from the monthly commitment to the council report and briefing cycle and decisions can move more seamlessly without the need to wait for multiple meeting cycles given it was difficult to prepare more than 2 or 3 applications at any one time.

The review of the delegations is the opportunity to check in with councillors and to review and refine the policies and procedures that support the delegation now that they have been implemented for a period of time.

The key recommendations to come from the review are:

- The level of delegation for applications with objections be reduced from 4 or more objections to 3 or more objections in line with councillor feedback. Under this level of delegation, officers can continue to make decisions under delegation, unless councillors call the application in (in accordance with the policy and procedure).
- The call-in procedure would be facilitated via email rather than filling out the Request to Call In a Planning Application Form;
- Copies of objections/submissions to be made available to councillors for all applications via Teams;
- Submissions reporting to include all new applications under consideration which are triggered (wholly or partially) under the Heritage Overlay; and
- There will no longer be a list of Applications Considered to be of Interest/Significance to the Community and Officers circulated to councillors and Officers will no longer refer applications to briefing only.

These recommended changes are examined in detail under the discussion section of this report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council adopt the revised Consideration of Planning Applications Policy and Procedure (Attachments 1 and 2) and the Revised Consultation Meeting Policy and Procedure (Attachments 3 and 4).

CARRIED

7.11 PURCHASE OF TANDEM TIPPER TRUCKS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is seeking to purchase two (2) new Tandem Tipper Trucks to replace the following current vehicles:

- P350 – purchased March 2010 – 434,618km as of 3 February 2022
- P345 – purchased February 2010 – 487,063km as of 2 February 2022

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom

Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council:

1. Resolves to award the Contract RFQ-01-2022 Tandem Tipper Truck(s) to HINO Motor Sales Australia Pty Ltd for the sum of \$461,231.64 exclusive of GST. (2 X trucks at \$230,615.82 each).
2. Delegates to the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate authority to execute the contract on behalf of Council.

CARRIED

7.12 EXTENSION TO GOVERNANCE RULES REVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Amendments to the Governance Rules were adopted by Council at the 26 October 2021 Council meeting. As part of Council's resolution, the proposed amendments were to be returned to the chamber for re-evaluation in a period of 6 months. Due to recent legislative changes embedding virtual Council meeting changes permanently in the *Local Government Act 2020*, an additional 6 months is required for a deeper review and to ensure that the Rules are compliant with new provisions. The current Governance rules remain in effect until any further amendments are adopted.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That the period for review of the Governance Rules, as resolved in item 7.6 of the Council meeting of 26 October 2021, be extended by an additional 6 months to allow consideration of changes to the *Local Government Act 2020*.

CARRIED

7.13 COUNCIL MEETING LOCATION UPDATE - JUNE & JULY 2022**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council adopted the schedule for the 2022 scheduled Council meetings on 16 November 2021.

In the approved schedule, the June meeting was scheduled to held in Linton and the July meeting in Bannockburn. As this would mean that there would be 3 months before an ordinary Council meeting is held in the south, it is proposed that these locations be switched.

Section 12.4 of Golden Plains Shire Council's Governance Rules states that Council by resolution, may change the date, time and place of any Council meeting and must provide reasonable notice of the change to the public.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council agree to changing the June and July 2022 Council meeting locations to Bannockburn and Linton respectively.

CARRIED

7.14 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NGA) OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2022 - MAYORAL ATTENDANCE**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2022 and the related expenditure.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council approve the attendance of the Mayor, Cr Gamble at the National General Assembly of Local Government 2022 and the related expenditure.

CARRIED

7.15 APPOINTMENT OF CEO EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of Philip Shanahan as an independent member of Council's CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee, as required by section 45(1) of the Local Government Act and Council's CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy. This appointment will be for an initial term of three years, expiring on 25 April 2025.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council:

1. Resolves to appoint Philip Shanahan as an Independent Member of Council's CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee for an initial three year term expiring on 25 April 2025.
2. Authorises the Director Corporate Services to finalise and execute relevant contract documents to engage Philip Shanahan on behalf of Council.

CARRIED

8 NOTICES OF MOTION

8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - PUBLICLY RELEASE RATING STRATEGY DATA

I, Councillor Owen Sharkey, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 26 April 2022, I intend to move the following motion:

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council release from confidentially and make available to the public the most recent rating strategy data including and not limited to the Council decision of option 5, which was the option that was adopted at the February Council Meeting.

CARRIED

9 PETITIONS

Nil

10 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham
Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

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 Confirmation of Confidential Council Meeting Minutes - 22 March 2022

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - h 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 confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).

10.2 Award of Contract - Kerbside Collection Services

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 3(1) - g 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—.

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 8.44pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 24 May 2022.

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CHAIRPERSON