



GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

# MINUTES

## Council Meeting

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**6.00pm Tuesday 28 June 2022**

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

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING  
6.00pm Tuesday 26 July 2022

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Can be obtained online at [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au)

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**MINUTES OF GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE GOLDEN PLAINS CIVIC CENTRE, COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2 POPE STREET,  
BANNOCKBURN  
ON TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2022 AT 6.00PM**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Eric Braslis (CEO), Phil Josipovic (Director Infrastructure and Development), Steven Sagona (Director Community Services), Fiona Rae (Manager Finance), Rosie Wright (Coordinator Governance and Risk), Sophie Brown (Governance and Legal Services Officer)

**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**

Cr Gavin Gamble (Mayor)

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That the minutes of the Scheduled Council Meeting held on 7 June 2022 be confirmed, and that the minutes of the open part of the Scheduled Council Meeting held on 24 May 2022 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

**6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

## **7 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION**

### **7.1 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 two Citizen Recognition Awards, which includes a certificate of recognition to Ruby Flett and Lachlan Flett. Both Ruby and Lachlan are being recognised for their achievements in sport.

- Ruby is 11 years old, lives in Inverleigh and has been playing cricket for 5 years. Ruby was recently selected and competed in the Team Vic, 12 and under Girls Cricket Merit Team.
- Lachlan has been selected for the Australian team for the In-Line Hockey Championships that is competing in the USA Championships in July 2022.

### **7.2 DELEGATES REPORT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At each Council meeting, Councillors have the opportunity to update their colleagues and the community about attendances at various Delegated Boards/Committees/Meetings that they attended on behalf of the Council and can acknowledge significant community events or Council functions / engagement opportunities that they have attended over the past month.

#### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Les Rowe  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council receive and note the Delegates Report for the past month.

**CARRIED**

### 7.3 ADOPTION OF GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL BUDGET 2022-23

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks to formally adopt the 2022-23 Budget, incorporating the 2022-23 rating fees and charges pursuant to Section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The 2022-23 Draft Budget has been prepared based on the adopted principles within the 2021-2025 Council Plan and Financial Plan within the framework of a 1.75% rate increase cap mandated by the State Government.

After making the document available for public inspection and inviting submissions under Section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council received a total of 5 submissions. A Special Meeting of Council was held on Tuesday 7 June 2022 to consider the submissions received.

Amendments to the budget include the following:

- \$115k reduction in garbage costs to reflect final kerbside collection costs with corresponding amendment to garbage revenue;
- \$519k additional rate revenue from modelling using certified stage 4 valuation data;
- Lomandra Drive profit on land sales revised to \$3.1m (6 lots);
- \$403k additional Financial Assistance Grant as announced in May;
- Workforce turnover ratios included for 2021-22 forecast, 2022-23 budget and 2023-24 2024-25 and 2025-26 projections.

#### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield

Seconded: Cr Les Rowe

That Council:

1. Note the 5 written submissions received on the Draft Budget 2022-23 and considered at 7 June 2022 Special Council Meeting
2. Adopt the 2022-23 Budget contained in attachment 1 in accordance with section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*
3. Adopt the Revenue and Rating Plan contained in attachment 2 in accordance with section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
4. Approve and adopt the service and user fees as set in the 2022-23 Budget
5. Declare the amount of rates and charges intended to be raised from the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 as follows:
  - (a) An amount of \$27,037,501 (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this recommendation being adopted) be declared as the amount which Council intends to raise by general rates, the municipal charge and the annual service charges, which amount is calculated as follows:
    - (i) General Rates (including supplementary rates and interest) - \$20,480,119
    - (ii) Municipal Charge (including on supplementary rates) - \$2,807,500
    - (iii) Annual service (garbage) charge - \$3,749,882
7. Determine to allow:
  - (a) In accordance with section 167(1) and (2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, payment of rates and charges by four approximately equal instalments paid on or before 30 September 2022, 30 November 2022, 28 February 2023 and 31 May 2023;
  - (b) In accordance with section 167(2A) and (2B) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, payment of rates and charges by lump sum on or before 15 February 2023; or

- (c) Payment of rates and charges by ten approximately equal direct debit payments from 15 September 2022 until 15 June 2023;
8. Require that any person pay interest on any amounts of rates and charges which”
- (a) That person is liable to pay;
  - (b) Have not been paid by the dates specified for their payment; and
  - (c) Is not otherwise waived as part of Council’s Hardship Policy
9. Authorise the Director Corporate Services and Manager Finance to levy and recover the general rates and service charges in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*;
10. Authorise the Manager Finance to make any changes to the 2022-23 Budget as a result of this resolution, including minor and/or administrative wording and grammar changes if required.

**CARRIED**

## RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

6. Declare the rates, rating differentials and charges for the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 as detailed in:
- (a) Appendix 1 of the 2022-23 Budget, noting the adjustment of the rate in the dollar based on final revaluation for 2022; and
  - (b) Council’s Revenue and Rating Plan as required under s94(2)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2020* and s161(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*

In Favour: Crs Helena Kirby, Brett Cunningham, Ian Getsom and Clayton Whitfield

Against: Crs Les Rowe and Owen Sharkey

**CARRIED 4/2**

## 7.4 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS - ROUND 1 2022

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to note and acknowledge the recommended funding of 17 projects, proposed by a variety of community groups through Council's Community Strengthening Grants Program, Round 1 2022.

Council received 18 applications for Round 1 during April 2022 as summarised in Attachment 1. The 17 proposed projects assessed as successful for grant funding will require \$78,346 to complete across the grant streams as follows:

- \$15,273 for the Safety related projects through the Community Safety Stream
- \$35,533 for Arts and Culture projects through the Creative Communities Stream
- \$14,394 for Environmental projects through the Environment and Sustainability Stream.
- \$13,145 for Health and Wellbeing, Sports and Recreation projects through the Healthy Active Living Stream.

Council's contribution of \$78,346 for the Round 1 Community Strengthening Grants 2022 will deliver \$234,693 in total value (across the 17 projects).

Successful recipients will be acknowledged via a Community Strengthening Grants presentation at the Council Meeting on 28 June 2022.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council:

1. Note and acknowledge the approved Community Strengthening Grants, Round 1 2022 to the value of \$78,346 (as summarised in Attachment 1) to the following recipients:
  - Napoleons Memorial Hall Committee Ltd - Heating Napoleons Hall - \$7,628
  - Woody Yaloak Historical Society Inc - Market Equipment upgrade - \$2,645
  - Bicycle Network Incorporated - Great Vic Bike Ride 2022 - \$5,000
  - Linton and District Historical Society Inc. - Restoration of Linton Library Stage 2 - \$10,000
  - Golden Plains Arts Inc - Echoing Landscape: A creative learning experience - \$7,167
  - Inverleigh Historical Society - Inverleigh Community Stories - \$5,416
  - Wallinduc Community Group Inc - Wallinduc Welcome Rock Sculpture - \$4,950
  - Smythesdale Progress Association - Eagle Tree - \$1,000
  - Turtle Bend Committee Incorporated - Live@Turtle Bend 2022 - \$7,000
  - Ross Creek Landcare Group - Bridge over creek, Ross Creek Reserve - \$5,500
  - Friends of the Woody Landcare Group - Smythesdale Woody Yaloak River Community Project - \$2,294
  - Inverleigh Golf Club - Chipper Project - \$3,100
  - Geelong Landcare Network Inc. - Wildlife Hollows and Nesting Box Building Workshops - \$3,500
  - Ross Creek Tennis Club Incorporated - Ross Creek Social Pickle Ball - \$3,120
  - Haddon Community Learning Centre Inc - Blue Collar White Collar High Vis meals - \$4,480
  - Golden Plains Arts Inc - Journal To The Self - \$2,900
  - Bannockburn Inclusive - A bus trip and outing to Werribee Open Range Zoo - \$2,645

2. Allocate uncommitted funds from the 2021-22 Community Strengthening Grants program budget to increase the available seed funding from \$500 to \$3,000 for each of the three projects undertaken as part of the 2022 Golden Plains Shire Community Leadership Program (subject to application and acquittal processes), namely:
  - Bunjil Lookout Creative Gathering
  - Sharing Woodworking skills across the Generations
  - Breakfast Club at Lethbridge Primary School.

**CARRIED**

## **7.5 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2022 - REPORT FINDINGS**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each year, Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinates a State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey (Survey) throughout Victorian local government areas. JWS Research conducted the survey on behalf of the participating Councils, including Golden Plains Shire Council in 2022.

The Survey was conducted in early 2022 via telephone interviews with 400 Golden Plains Shire residents with the results and survey reports provided to Council. The survey provides insights into the community's views on both importance and performance in relation to Council services and infrastructure and is comparable to previous years' results, the average at like Councils (Large Rural group) and the Victorian State-wide average.

The community perceptions of Council's performance have improved from 2021 with positive movement in index score results recorded for Value for money, Customer service, Waste management, Lobbying on behalf of community, Decisions made in the interests of community and Consultation & engagement. Community perception continues to fall in the areas of Sealed Local roads and Unsealed roads.

Overall, Golden Plains Shire Council's community satisfaction scores rate lower than both the average of the Large Rural Councils (like Council grouping) and Victorian State-wide Councils averages. However, between 2021 and 2022, Golden Plains scores have improved in comparison to these averages across all areas except Sealed Local roads.

The full reports (Attachment One and Two) detail key findings and recommendations on areas for improvement for Council. Mark Zuker, from JWS Research presented and discussed the survey results at the Councillor Briefing on 21 June 2022.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council receive and note the 2022 Community Satisfaction Survey reports for Golden Plains Shire Council.

**CARRIED**



## 7.6 COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 IMPLEMENTATION - QUARTER THREE

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to update Council on the progress made in actioning the Council Plan 2021-2025 for Q3.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council note the report and implementation of the actions contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 for Q3 from 1 January 2022 31 March 2022.

**CARRIED**

## 7.7 ASSET PLAN - ADOPTION

### 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.

In accordance with Councils Community Engagement Practices, the Draft Asset Plan 2022-2032 was made available for community feedback. Two submissions were received, however neither submission was seeking amendments to the plan.

The plan has undergone some minor editing changes since the plan was out for consultation however these changes have no impact on the wording within the plan as such. The Asset Plan 2022-2032 as attached can now be adopted.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Les Rowe

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. Note the Draft Asset Plan 2022-2032 was placed on public exhibition for a three-week period with two submissions received.
3. Adopt the Golden Plains Shire Asset Plan 2022-2032

**CARRIED**

## **7.8 REMOVAL OF TWO (2) DRY STONE WALLS UNDER CLAUSE 52.33 (POST BOXES AND DRY STONE WALLS) AT LOT M ON PLAN OF SUBDIVISION 809696Y**

### **Speaker**

Cameron Gray (Applicant)

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The report relates to a planning permit application for the removal of two (2) dry stone walls. One on the frontage of McPhillips Road (Bannockburn), the second intersects with this same dry stone wall but runs generally east-west from Bruce Creek to the McPhillips Road frontage. The application has been referred to the Council Meeting as it was called in by Cr. Rowe and seconded by Cr. Gamble at a time when councillor delegations allowed for the call-in of an application considered to be of interest/significance to the community. The application was extensively advertised, and no objections were received.

This report provides background to the application and a summary of the relevant planning considerations. The Councillors have also been provided with a full copy of the application for consideration prior to deciding.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Les Rowe  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council resolves to issue a planning permit for the Removal of two (2) dry stone walls under clause 52.33 (Post boxes and dry stone walls), subject to the recommended conditions attached to this report.

**CARRIED**

## **7.9 REVOKE CITIZEN RECOGNITION POLICY**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 1999, Council developed a Citizen Recognition Policy for the purpose of acknowledging the contributions and achievements of Golden Plains Shire citizens. Since that time, the Policy has been reviewed four times – most recently in April 2018 where no amendment was made.

The Policy was again subject to a review in April 2022, and it is recommended that the Policy be revoked as it is outdated in terms of good practice in meeting legislation and duplicates other more appropriate and transparent processes that are now in place for recognising Golden Plains citizens.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom  
Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council revoke Policy 5.5 Citizen Recognition - Recognition of Community Involvement (Attachment One).

**CARRIED**

## 7.10 TOURISM & SERVICES SIGNAGE ON ROADS POLICY UPDATE

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tourism & Services Signage on Roads Policy 2018 is due for review. The policy has been reviewed with no changes and reproduced in the new Policy template format.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham  
Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council reaffirm and adopt the reviewed Tourism & Services Signage on Roads Policy, noting that no changes have been made to the 2018 policy except for relevant formatting changes.

**CARRIED**

## 7.11 REVIEW OF INSTRUMENTS OF DELEGATION

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The legislation referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Council Staff* (Attachment 1) enables Council to delegate functions, duties and powers, other than specific exemptions, to Council staff.

One updated instrument of delegation is presented for Council's adoption:

- *Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Staff* (Attachment 1)

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Clayton Whitfield  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, Golden Plains Shire Council resolves that:

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation – Council to Members of Council Staff*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument.
2. The instrument comes into force immediately once the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.
3. On the coming into force of the instrument all previous versions of the same are revoked.
4. The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

**CARRIED**

## **7.12 MAYORAL ATTENDANCE - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION 2022**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Mayor, Cr Gavin Gamble, along with CEO, Eric Braslis, attended the 2022 Rural and Regional Summit and the National General Assembly (NGA) of Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) in Canberra from Saturday 18 June to Wednesday 22 June 2022.

### **RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council receive and note the Mayoral conference report in relation to the 2022 National General Assembly.

**CARRIED**

## **8 NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT OVERLAYS**

I, Councillor Gavin Gamble, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 28 June 2022, I intend to move the following motion:-

#### **MOTION**

That Council prepare a report for a future briefing to better understand where the environmentally significant overlays currently exist and where they may best be applied in the future.

**WITHDRAWN**

### **8.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - SEEKING A REPORT ON HOUSING IN GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE**

I, Councillor Gavin Gamble, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 28 June 2022, I intend to move the following motion:-

#### **MOTION**

That Council prepare a report for a future briefing on how Council can encourage a greater diversity of housing choice and availability in Golden Plains Shire.

**WITHDRAWN**

## **9 PETITIONS**

Nil

## 10 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS FOR DECISION

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham  
Seconded: Cr Les Rowe

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 Extension Recyclables Processing Agreement

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.

#### 10.2 Victorian School Crossing Supervisor Program

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.

#### 10.3 Confirmation of Confidential Council Meeting Minutes - 24 May 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).

**CARRIED**

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Les Rowe  
Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 8.07pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 26 July 2022.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**