



MINUTES

Council Meeting

6.00pm Tuesday 16 November 2021

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

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
6.00pm Tuesday 23 November 2021

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

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**MINUTES OF GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE GOLDEN PLAINS CIVIC CENTRE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2 POPE STREET,
BANNOCKBURN
ON TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6.00PM**

PRESENT: Cr Helena Kirby, Cr Les Rowe, Cr Owen Sharkey, Cr Brett Cunningham, Cr Gavin Gamble, Cr Ian Getsom, Cr Clayton Whitfield

IN ATTENDANCE: Eric Braslis (CEO), Philippa O'Sullivan (Director Corporate Services), Steven Sagona (Acting Director Community Services), Richard Brown (Acting Director Infrastructure and Development), Rosie Wright (Acting Coordinator Governance and Risk), Sophie Brown (Acting Governance and Legal Services Officer)

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer made the following statement:

“Good Evening, and welcome to tonight’s Council Meeting for the Election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

My name is Eric Braslis CEO of the Golden Plains Shire Council. In accordance with the Governance Rules, I will be the temporary chairperson for the beginning of tonight’s meeting .

Tonight this Council Meeting is taking place within the Council Chambers at the Golden Plains Shire Council Civic Centre in Bannockburn, and although closed to the public, we are live streaming the meeting to our community tonight.

As the chairperson of the meeting, I give my consent for this Council meeting to be live streamed to the public, in accordance with Section 14 of Council’s Governance Rules . I have the discretion and authority to at any time, direct the termination or interruption of the live stream. Such direction will only be given in exceptional circumstances where deemed relevant.

Thank you.”

1 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.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer advised that Section 7 of the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020* provides for a number of exemptions in relation to declarations of conflicts of interest. One of these exemptions relates to the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Because tonight's Council Meeting is held for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Deputy Mayor, in accordance with Section 7 of the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*, there is no need for any declarations of Conflicts of Interest to be made tonight.

4 BUSINESS REPORTS FOR DECISION

4.1 TERM OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To resolve on the term of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2021/22. Under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council may elect a Mayor and Deputy Mayor for a term of either one (1) or two (2) years.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Les Rowe
Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council resolves that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2021/22 be elected for a term of one (1) year.

CARRIED

4.2 ELECTION OF MAYOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Golden Plains Shire Council's Governance Rules, nominations for the position of Mayor were required to be submitted in writing to the Chief Executive Officer by 4pm on Thursday 11 November. The CEO verbally indicated at the meeting, as to who the nominees are. The election shall take place in accordance with the process under the Governance Rules and the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

Nominations

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer advised that in accordance with Council's Governance Rules, three (3) nominations had been received for the position of Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire Council for the 2021/22 term.

Cr Ian Getsom

Moved: Cr Ian Getsom

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

Cr Gavin Gamble

Moved: Cr Gavin Gamble

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

Cr Owen Sharkey

Moved: Cr Owen Sharkey

Seconded: Cr Les Rowe

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer invited each of the candidates to address the meeting.

Cr Ian Getsom addressed the meeting.

Cr Gavin Gamble addressed the meeting.

Cr Owen Sharkey addressed the meeting.

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer put the matter to the vote by a show of hands.

Cr Ian Getsom 2 votes

Cr Gavin Gamble 3 votes

Cr Owen Sharkey 2 votes

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer advised Councillors that a majority vote was not achieved, and Councillors were to proceed to the vote to eliminate one of the two candidates with the lowest votes, being Cr Ian Getsom and Cr Owen Sharkey.

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer put the matter to the vote by a show of hands.

Cr Ian Getsom 4 votes

Cr Owen Sharkey 3 votes

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer advised that based on the votes, Cr Owen Sharkey was eliminated.

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer, advised that Councillors were to proceed for the final votes between Cr Ian Getsom and Cr Gavin Gamble. The matter was put to vote by a show of hands.

Cr Gavin Gamble 4 votes

Cr Ian Getsom 3 votes

A majority of Councillors voted to elect Cr Gavin Gamble as Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire Council for 2021/22.

RESOLUTION

That Council duly elects Cr Gavin Gamble as Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire Council for 2021/22.

CARRIED

4.3 INCOMING MAYOR SPEECH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021/22 Mayor to provide an overview of the year ahead.

Mayor Gavin Gamble made the following statement:

“Thank-you sincerely fellow Councillors for endorsing me as the Golden Plains Mayor of 2021/2022. This is an honour and a priviledge for me.

I have a genuine passion for the Shire, its environment, its people, its diversity and its potential. I feel excited about the possibilities to achieve great things for our community.

As well as thanking my fellow Councillors, I’d like to give special mention to Mayor Kirby for her commitment, work ethic and dedication over the past year, which has often been in very difficult circumstances because of COVID restrictions and the new world of virtual meetings and unreliable internet connections. Her guidance, kind words and encouragement have been appreciated by all of us, the newer Councillors in particular.

Also I’d like to thank the many good people in our Golden Plains Shire communities who I’ve come to know in the last year. I look forward with excitement to meet more of the many outstanding people who live in the Golden Plain Shire.

Additionally, I’d like to acknowledge the support of my family, the CEO, Directors and the Management Team over the past year. I appreciate the contribution all employees of the Shire make to our Local Government area Golden Plains Shire, a great place to live. I look forward to working with this dedicated and highly professional management team in more depth as Mayor over the next year.

As Mayor, I will work hard to be consultative with all Councillors and endeavour to represent all residents. I will seek to speak and act responsibly, professionally and with consideration, and to make myself available as much as possible to travel, engage and represent all parts of our Shire as equally and as fairly as possible, COVID and time willing.

In the Council’s excellent mission statement, the 5th Mission Statement seems particularly relevant to the Mayor’s role for the next year, which will include elections of both Federal and State Governments. I quote “building awareness and strategic alliances with government, regional groups and the community”. Also number 2 “working and advocating in partnership with our community to address social, economic and environmental challenges”.

Regarding the environmental challenges, as you know along with millions of others, I see climate adaptation and mitigation as very important work for Local Government’s to engage in. As highlighted at the COP26 climate emergency talks, I think it is more beholden than ever for people in leadership positions especially to listen, act and respond in accordance with mainstream scientific predictions to give future generations and ecosystems the best chance of survival into the future.

We’re a great Shire, that offers a great quality of life and environment, and we need to safeguard this for the future with quality developments, planning and infrastructure.

Thank-you.”

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham

Seconded: Cr Helena Kirby

That Council note the speech from the incoming 2021/22 Mayor.

CARRIED

4.4 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Golden Plains Shire Council's Governance Rules, nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor were required to be submitted in writing to the Chief Executive Officer by 4pm on Thursday 11 November. The CEO to verbally indicate at the meeting, as to who the nominees are. The election shall take place in accordance with the process under the Governance Rules and the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby
Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council duly elects Cr Helena Kirby as Deputy Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire Council for 2021/22.

CARRIED

4.5 INCOMING DEPUTY MAYOR SPEECH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2021/22 Deputy Mayor to provide an overview of the year ahead.

Deputy Mayor Helena Kirby made the following statement:

"As I was the only nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor, I'd like to thank the Councillors for their support.

With 56 communities in the Shire and the work that has been previously done to support them, I will ensure all of our towns large or small have the backing of me as a Councillor, and I am a voice for you to be heard.

As COVID has been an issue for the past 21 months, Council has been very proactive in supporting the residents and businesses, and I would personally like to thank everyone from the community for keeping our Shire safe.

A lot of issues and new policies have been put in place, such as climate change, but our overall policies are ensuring that our rural shire keeps and maintains its rural aspect, while working hard to minimise rates.

As a team player, I look forward to the next 12 months by working hard for the team and the staff, the CEO, and the residents of the Shire.

I would also like to thank Mayor Gamble for taking me on as your Deputy Mayor.

Thank-you very much."

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Brett Cunningham
Seconded: Cr Clayton Whitfield

That Council note the speech the incoming 2021/22 Deputy Mayor.

CARRIED

4.6 COUNCIL AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING DATES 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To confirm the dates for Council and Audit & Risk Committee meetings.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Brett Cunningham

1. That Council adopt the 2022 Council Meetings to be held as follows:
 - 3 Meetings at the Linton Shire Office (22 March, 21 June, 25 October)
 - 2 Meetings at The Well in Smythesdale (26 May and 23 August)
 - 6 Meetings at the Bannockburn Civic Centre (22 February, 26 April, 26 July, 27 September, 22 November, 20 December)
 - The Budget Submission (7 June) & Mayoral Election (17 November) Council Meetings to be held at the Bannockburn Civic Centre.

2. That Council adopt the Audit & Risk Committee Meetings as attached.

Cr Helena Kirby called for a division

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

Against: Crs Owen Sharkey and Clayton Whitfield

CARRIED 5/2

4.7 COUNCIL COMMITTEE DELEGATES 2021/2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To determine the appointment of Councillors and officers to various internal and external organisations and committees for 2021/22.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helena Kirby

Seconded: Cr Ian Getsom

That Council appoints Councillor delegates to the various internal and external organisations and committees for 2021/22 as attached, with Cr Helena Kirby agreeing to move to Council's Infrastructure Portfolio.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 6.51pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 23 November 2021.

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CHAIRPERSON