



From the Mayor



Regular readers of the *Gazette* will notice that this issue of the magazine looks a little different.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 and Draft Budget 2021-2022 are two very important strategic plans and this special issue is dedicated to sharing the highlights

from these key documents and encouraging all community members to have their say on the plans.

During the Council election and all the engagement earlier this year on the Council Plan, we heard great ideas from our communities on Council's priorities for the next four years. The Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 is a clear and detailed commitment of what we will deliver this Council term. It is built upon the Themes of the community-led Golden Plains Community Vision 2040 and has been strengthened by the experience and fresh ideas of our Councillor group.

The Draft Budget 2021-2022 details Council's financial situation and budget commitments for the next financial year. As we emerge from life under the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, this Budget marks the return to strong economic activity in the Shire, with Council delivering a significant list of roads, bridges and community projects in Golden Plains Shire, funded in partnership with Federal and State Government grants. Under the rates cap of 1.5 percent, Council will continue to operate more than 70 valuable services for our residents and to maintain and manage our assets and infrastructure across the Shire.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 and Draft Budget 2021-2022 have both been endorsed by Council and are on public exhibition until 26 May and 31 May. We encourage all community members to share their feedback with a written submission and, as a Council, we look forward to hearing directly from our Golden Plains' residents.

Cr Helena Kirby – Mayor of Golden Plains Shire Council

ENGAGING COMMUNITY GROUPS

Council has launched a new engagement initiative, Connecting Councillors and Community Groups, as part of the Councillor engagement commitment for 2021.

CONNECTING Councillors & Community Groups

The meeting program is a valuable opportunity for Councillors to listen and learn more about individual groups in the Shire, their work in the local community, and current ideas and challenges for the group. The attending Councillors will also be available to speak directly with members prior to, or following, the meeting and will report back to Council on the group and their engagement experience.

The Expression of Interest process is open until Tuesday 1 June, 2021, with Councillors available to attend community group meetings across the Shire from July to December 2021.

The Expression of Interest is open to local progress associations, community service groups (eg. Lions, Rotary, etc.), interest groups (eg. environmental, Landcare, historical societies, etc.), and community activity groups (eg. Scouts, Probus, CWA, etc.).

The Expression of Interest form is available to complete or download at Council's website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations

Paper copies of the form are also available at Council's Customer Service Centres at 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.



HAVE YOUR SAY

As plans for the Three Trails Project are finalised, Council is seeking feedback from locals and visitors who walk, cycle and horse-ride on the Ballarat–Skipton Rail Trail, Kuruc a Ruc Trail and Rainbow Bird Trail.

The Three Trails Project will upgrade and improve the current trail infrastructure, as well as design and installation of new supportive infrastructure, including: signage; shelters, seating, picnic tables and chairs; decking upgrades; safety corrals at major highway crossings; culvert and bridge upgrades; spray seal of trail sections; upgrades to the Pittong Sleepover; installation of trail counters; and environmental works including tree trimming. The trails span a total of 101km and connect 15 different townships

and communities across Golden Plains Shire, as well as City of Ballarat and Corangamite Shire.

The Three Trails Project engagement is open until 26 May, 2021. The digital survey is available for completion or download at Council's website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations; and paper surveys are also available at Council's Customer Service Centres: 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

The \$750,000 Three Trails Project is funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Victorian Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund; \$180,000 from the Berrybank Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund; \$57,000 from Council; and \$13,000 from the former Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail Committee.

JOIN THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REGISTER

All residents are welcome to join Council's Community Engagement Register - a database of Golden Plains Shire community members who are interested in participating in community engagement activities.

Registered participants receive *Engage*, Council's monthly e-newsletter, directly via email featuring information on all Council's surveys, workshops, conversation posts and community reference groups.

In May, Council is seeking feedback on several key community projects including the Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategy and the Northern Streetscapes Project. For more information on all Council engagements, please visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations



Complete the simple web form at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/community-engagement-register



Email communityengagement@gplains.vic.gov.au



For information or answers to your questions, call **5220 7199** and speak with Council's Communications and Engagement team.

DRAFT

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY!**



The Themes, Strategic Objectives and Strategies of the Draft Council Plan 2021-2025

COMMUNITY

Council Services

- Personal and Home Care
- Social Support Programs
- Delivered Meals
- Inclusive Support
- Health Promotion
- Community Facilities
- Community Development
- Community Grants
- Arts and Culture
- Youth Development
- Volunteers
- Community Safety
- Environmental Health
- Food Safety
- Fire Protection
- Events
- Emergency Management
- School Crossings
- Animal Management

Objective 1.1 Safe, resilient, and proud communities

- 1.1.1 Education, programs, services and infrastructure to enable people to feel safe in their local communities including preventing family violence and improving mental wellbeing.
- 1.1.2 Leadership and advocacy to build strong, safe and resilient communities.

Objective 1.2 Celebrating and connecting communities

- 1.2.1 Promote and connect to our indigenous heritage and the traditional custodians of Golden Plains.
- 1.2.2 Recognising the rich history and artistic potential of Golden Plains Shire.
- 1.2.3 Supporting events and activities across the Shire to bring communities together and promote participation.

Objective 1.3 Community participation, engagement and ownership

- 1.3.1 Empower and build the capacity of residents and groups to get involved and contribute to communities.
- 1.3.2 Provide and activate spaces and develop opportunities for communities to connect and participate.

Objective 1.4 Valuing community diversity and inclusion

- 1.4.1 Value and provide inclusive opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities to meaningfully participate in community life.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (Draft Plan) was endorsed by Council at its meeting on 27 April and is now on public exhibition for community feedback.

The Draft Plan features the priority initiatives and actions for Council services, infrastructure and advocacy to be provided to the Golden Plains Shire community over the next four years.

The Draft Plan directly addresses and aligns with the Themes of the Golden Plains Community Vision 2040: Community, Liveability, Sustainability and Prosperity; with the additional theme of Leadership added to represent the Council-specific regulatory, governance, leadership and advocacy activities required to achieve outcomes for the community. With the overarching direction of the Vision, the Draft Plan details Council's commitment over the next four years to support the achievement of the community's 20-year strategic plan for Golden Plains.

The Draft Council Plan has been developed in accordance with the Strategic Planning Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*, and details 21 Strategic Objectives, with 83 key actions for delivery during the Council term.

Council's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, required under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, has been incorporated into the Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 to ensure that the health and wellbeing of all people living in the Golden Plains is at the forefront of Council's strategic planning.

In the interests of transparency and accountability, Council is committed to regularly monitoring and reporting progress on the Council Plan 2021-2025 through measurement of the Strategic Indicators contained in the Council Plan, via Council's Annual Report and through quarterly progress reports to an open Council Meeting.

LIVEABILITY

Council Services

- Community Transport
- Health Promotion
- Recreation Planning
- Recreation Construction
- Major Projects
- Statutory Planning
- Strategic Planning
- Building Control
- Development Engineering
- Local Roads Resealing and Rehabilitation
- Drainage Maintenance
- Street Lighting
- Township Maintenance
- Paths and Trails

Objective 2.1 Connected and accessible roads, crossings, paths and transport

2.1.1 Maintaining and improving our road and bridge networks.

2.1.2 Advocate and plan for safe pedestrian, cycling and recreation paths and trails that reduce reliance on vehicles.

2.1.3 Continue to advocate and explore transport options across the Shire.

Objective 2.2 Supporting healthy and active living

2.2.1 Provide, maintain and advocate for sustainable and accessible facilities that promote and enable healthy recreation, physical activity and social connection.

2.2.2 Programs, initiatives and services to promote optimal health and wellbeing, including physical activity, healthy eating, mental health and social connection.

Objective 2.3 Provide for a diversity of lifestyle and housing options

2.3.1 Identify areas across the Shire that balance future urban growth whilst maintaining rural and township character.

2.3.2 Ensure and provide infrastructure to accommodate and service existing and developing communities across the Shire.

Objective 2.4 Attractive and well-maintained infrastructure and public spaces

2.4.1 Provide high quality public spaces and infrastructure.

2.4.2 Maintain the amenity and cleanliness of townships, roadsides and public spaces.

SUSTAINABILITY



Council Services

- Environment and Sustainability
- Strategic Planning
- Waste and Resource Recovery
- Landfill Management
- Litter Control
- Arts and Culture
- Transfer Station
- Reserve Management
- Roadside Native Vegetation Management
- Weed and Pest Control
- Fire Management
- Sustainability projects

Objective 3.1 Valuing and protecting nature, cultural heritage and the environment

3.1.1 Ensuring our native vegetation, flora and fauna and ecosystems are protected.

3.1.2 Value, promote and preserve our cultural and natural heritage for future generations.

Objective 3.2 Effective and responsive waste services and education

3.2.1 Provide sustainable and efficient waste management services.

Objective 3.2 continued...

3.2.2 Investigate options for the disposal of hard waste and prevention of illegal dumping.

3.2.3 Education and promotion of responsible behaviours to reduce waste to landfill.

Objective 3.3 Responsibly maintaining and managing natural landscapes and resources

3.3.1 Conduct land management practices and behaviours that enable a safe and thriving natural environment.

3.3.2 Support and partner with the community on environmental initiatives.

Objective 3.4 Mitigating climate change and promoting clean/green technology

3.4.1 Implement local approaches to address and mitigate climate change and its impact on health.

3.4.2 Promote, encourage and advocate the use of sustainable and clean energy and technology.

PROSPERITY



Council Services

- Maternal and Child Health
- Children Services
- Kindergartens
- Family Day Care
- Libraries
- Economic Development
- Business Support
- Investment Attraction
- Golden Plains Farmers' Market
- Strategic Planning
- Health Promotion

Objective 4.1 Education, learning and skill development

4.1.1 Support the development of young children and their families.

4.1.2 Enable access to education, learning and skill development through all stages of life.

Objective 4.2 Supporting local producers, agriculture and business

4.2.1 Provide support to local businesses including farms and small business.

Objective 4.3 Improved options for shopping, hospitality, tourism and events

4.3.1 Support initiatives for local shopping, hospitality and a variety of local businesses.

4.3.2 Identify and promote activities that attract visitation and tourism.

Objective 4.4 Local employment and training

4.4.1 Assistance and incentives for businesses to provide for local employment.

4.4.2 Deliver initiatives that support local training and job opportunities in Golden Plains Shire.

Objective 4.5 Partnerships, advocacy and opportunities for investment

4.5.1 Identify and advocate for investment opportunities, partnerships and projects.

LEADERSHIP



Council Services

- Asset Management
- Communications and Marketing
- Customer Service Centres
- Governance
- Council Meetings
- Corporate Planning
- People and Culture
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Risk Management
- Digital Transformation
- Finance
- Property and Rating
- Procurement and Contract Management

Objective 5.1 Information and engagement to involve our community in decision-making

- 5.1.1 Provide timely and effective communications about Council services and activities to community and stakeholders.
- 5.1.2 Enhance deliberative engagement to inform and involve community in Council decision-making.

Objective 5.2 Accountable and transparent governance and financial management

- 5.2.1 Council will operate in an open and transparent manner.
- 5.2.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable financial, asset and risk management.

Objective 5.3 Responsive service delivery supported by systems, resources and an engaged workforce

- 5.3.1 Council service delivery is efficient and responsive to the needs of the community.
- 5.3.2 Provide for a safe working environment and develop a productive and skilled workforce.

Objective 5.4 Planning, advocating and innovating for the future

- 5.4.1 Plan, consult and review the priorities of the community to continue actioning and progressing the Golden Plains Community Vision 2040.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (Draft Plan) is now on public exhibition for community feedback.

The Draft Plan is available at Council’s website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations; with paper copies available at Council’s Customer Service Centres: 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

In early May, Councillors spoke with residents about the Draft Plan at a Conversation Post in Bannockburn and Coffee with your Councillors sessions at Scarsdale, Smythesdale, Garibaldi, Enfield, Dereel, Rokewood, Shelford, Murgheboluc and Bateford.

Written submissions on the Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 can be lodged by 26 May via:

- Email to enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au;
- Mail to Golden Plains Shire Council, PO Box 111, Bannockburn, VIC, 3331, marked ‘Attention: Council Plan’;
- Dropping paper submissions at a Council Customer Service Centre; or
- Completing a digital submission at Council’s website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations



All submitters may request to speak to their submission on the Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 or the Draft Budget 2021-2022 at a Special Meeting of Council at the Golden Plains Civic Centre, 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn on Tuesday 8 June, 2021.

All submissions on the Draft Plan will be considered by Council, with the final Council Plan 2021-2025 to be presented to Council for adoption at its meeting on 22 June 2021. Following adoption, the Council Plan 2021-2025 will be provided to the Minister for Local Government, as required by the *Local Government Act 2020*.

DRAFT

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL

BUDGET

2021-2022

Staying Strong Through COVID

Last year, Council made a commitment to the people of Golden Plains Shire to continue delivering on all its services despite the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic and the rates cap. Council was successful in continuing to operate its more than 70 services - many under changed or adapted conditions - to ensure our communities were supported during a difficult time.

In last year's Budget, Council also delivered a package of financial relief options to support local residents and businesses including the Special COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy for ratepayers and local businesses, waiving interest and suspending debt recovery on unpaid rates, waiving penalties for late payment on animal registration and free mentoring for small businesses experiencing hardship.

The Golden Plains Shire Council Draft Budget 2021-22 is now on public exhibition and all residents and ratepayers are encouraged to share their view on this important financial plan.

The Draft Budget 2021-22 is the first financial plan of the new Council term and is being presented to the community for feedback at the same time as the Draft Council Plan 2021-2025, giving ratepayers, residents and businesses a clear understanding of Council's strategic direction and its priorities for the Council term.

The Draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 is also on public exhibition.

A Different Year Ahead

The Draft Budget 2021-22 confirms Council's commitment to quality service delivery and to maintaining Council's assets including local roads and infrastructure. As the pandemic landscape is changing and all Victorians are adjusting to the 'new normal', Golden Plains Shire is returning to more activity – economic and business activity, social and events activity, and community activity.

With the State and Federal Governments offering grants to stimulate construction and the economy, Council has secured investment for a significant list of projects and will be working hard to deliver new community infrastructure and improved local roads and bridges. It's a busy year ahead and Council is dedicated to supporting our people and communities with the post-COVID recovery.

Have Your Say on the Draft Budget



At its meeting on 27 April, Council endorsed the Draft Budget 2021-22 for public exhibition from 1 to 31 May, 2021.

Read Council's Draft Budget 2021-22: Visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations or pick up a copy at Council's Customer Service Centres, 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn or The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale.

Ask Your Budget Questions: In May, Council's Finance Team held online and phone engagement sessions to answer Budget questions from residents. Community members who have Draft Budget 2021-22 questions to assist with preparation of a submission, please call Council's Finance Team on (03) 5220 7129 or (03) 5220 7128.

Make a Budget Submission: Written submissions may be lodged by 9am, Monday 31 May, 2021. Post a submission addressed to Director Corporate Services, Golden Plains Shire Council, PO Box 111, Bannockburn, VIC 3331; email enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au; or visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations

Present a Submission to Council: Council will hold a Meeting at Golden Plains Civic Centre, 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn at 6pm, Tuesday 8 June, and everyone who lodges a written submission may request to present it to Councillors. The final Budget 2021-22 will be considered for adoption by Council at its meeting in Bannockburn on Tuesday 22 June, 2021.

Delivering Services for Golden Plains

**\$44.1
MILLION**

for Council's Services
to the Golden Plains
Community

**\$2.2
MILLION**

for Active Ageing and
Inclusion Services

**\$508
THOUSAND**

for Library Services

**\$342
THOUSAND**

for Youth Services

In 2021-22, Council's commitment to quality services and programs for our Shire communities continues, with the Shire's growing population prompting an increase in services to meet the demands of our existing and new residents.

Council is proud to fund and deliver more than 70 valuable community services, working every day for the people of Golden Plains Shire.

MORE THAN 70 SERVICES FOR GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

- Active Ageing Services
- Animal Management
- Arts and Culture
- Asset Management
- Bannockburn Cultural Centre
- Bicycle Paths
- Bridges
- Building Permits
- Building Surveyor and Services
- Business Support and Investment Attraction
- Citizenship Ceremonies
- Council's Social Media
- Council's Website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au
- Community Engagement
- Community Events
- Community Grants
- Community Planning
- Community Centres and Facilities
- Community Safety
- Community Transport
- Customer Service
- Deaf Access
- Development Engineering
- Disability Services
- Drains, Kerb and Channel
- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Environment and Sustainability
- Environmental Health and Food Safety
- Family and Children's Services
- Facility Maintenance
- Family Day Care
- Fire Prevention and Control
- Golden Plains' Gazette Magazine
- Health and Wellbeing Promotion
- Home and Community Care Services
- Immunisation
- Inclusion Support
- Kindergartens
- Landfill Management
- Libraries – Bannockburn Library and Mobile Library
- Local Laws
- Local Roads Resealing and Rehabilitation
- Living at Home Assessments
- Major Projects
- Maternal and Child Health
- Meals on Wheels
- Occasional Child Care
- Parks and Gardens
- Pet Registrations
- Planning Framework, Amendments, Approvals and Enforcement
- Playgroups
- Playgrounds
- Public Toilets
- Rates and Property Valuations
- Roadside Native Vegetation Management
- School Crossings
- Senior Week Activities
- Social Support Programs
- Sport and Recreation Planning and Management
- Statutory Planning
- Strategic Planning
- Street Cleaning, Furniture and Lighting
- Street Trees
- The Well in Smythesdale
- Township Maintenance
- Traffic Management
- Trail and Path Maintenance
- Transfer Station
- Volunteers
- Waste and Recycling Collection
- Weed and Pest Control
- Youth Development
- Youth Training

Key Features of Draft Budget 2021-22

\$14.6 MILLION investment in Capital Works

INVESTING IN LOCAL ROADS AND BRIDGES



In the Draft Budget 2021-22, Council is delivering these important road and bridge projects:

Replacement of Paddys Gully Road Bridge in Rokewood Junction: A \$650,000 project jointly funded by Council and the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Intersection Upgrade at Buninyong-Mt Mercer/Hardies Hill Road, Garibaldi: A \$250,000 project funded by the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Intersection Upgrade at Derwent Jacks Road/Snow Gun Road/Reef Road/Chromes Road in Berringa: A \$250,000 project funded by the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Replacement and installation of new guardrails on bridges across the Shire: A \$200,000 project to improve the safety of bridges in Rokewood, Happy Valley, Werneth, Meredith, Haddon, Inverleigh and Linton. Funded by the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

INVESTING IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

In the Draft Budget 2021-22, Council will deliver upgrades to several Golden Plains Shire community sport and recreation facilities including:

Ross Creek Play and Active Recreation Upgrade: A \$550,000 project funded by \$100,000 from Council and \$450,000 from the State Government’s Growing Suburbs Fund.

Enfield Playground Upgrade: A \$250,000 project funded by the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Lethbridge Cricket Nets Upgrade: Funded by \$145,000 from the Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Bannockburn Skate Park Upgrade: A \$449,000 project funded by \$250,000 from the State Government’s Community Crime Prevention Program and \$199,000 from Federal Government’s Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

The following projects will be delivered by Council in 2021-22, if joint government funding is secured.

Leighdale Equestrian Centre Upgrade (Female Friendly Facilities): A \$537,000 project funded by \$169,000 from Council, \$358,000 from State Government and \$10,000 from Leighdale Equestrian Centre Committee of Management.

Bannockburn Victoria Park Safety Netting Project: A \$50,000 project funded by \$19,000 from Council, \$25,000 from State Government and \$6,000 from Bannockburn Football Netball Club.

Linton Oval Drainage Upgrade: A \$321,000 project funded by \$107,000 from Council and \$214,000 from the State Government.

What's New in Draft Budget 2021-22

1.5% RATE CAP

DOWN FROM

2.0% in 2020-21
2.5% in 2019-20

The **2021-22 Rate Cap** has been set by the State Government at **1.5%** and it's the law that Council's rates revenue cannot exceed this amount. The cap applies to the General Rates and Municipal Charge and it's an average increase across the Shire.

\$310.60 MUNICIPAL CHARGE

+\$4.60 from 2020-21

The **Municipal Charge** is a flat charge of **\$310.60** for every household in Golden Plains Shire in 2021-22, increasing by 1.5% from 2020-21. A fixed rate charge ensures that all residents make a standard contribution and means that the rate share is equitably distributed across the Shire.

\$385 WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGE

+\$50 from 2020-21

The **2021-22 Waste Management Charge** is a fixed charge for every household in the Shire, to fund for the kerbside collection of household waste and recycling, as well as waste management including the rising State Government Landfill Levy. From 2019 to 2021, the Waste Management Charge was steady with an increase of just \$5 per household.

In the Draft Budget 2021-22, the Waste Management Charge has increased by \$50 per household, from \$335 to \$385. Here's the breakdown of funding for the additional charge:

2020-21 Waste Management Charge	\$335
State Govt Landfill Levy Increase	\$20
Recycling Cost Increase	\$10
Landfill Rehabilitation Charge	\$14
Stockpile Removal Charge	\$6
2021-22 Waste Management Charge	\$385

State Government Waste Levy Increase: The State Government imposes a levy on the disposal of waste to landfills. As per the Recycling Victoria policy, that rate was due to increase by \$20 per tonne over 3 years (an increase of more than 100%) however the implementation was deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase will now be spread over 2 years commencing in 2021-22 and equating to an additional \$20 per household with another \$20 per household increase the following year, 2022-23.

Recycling Cost Increase: Under Council's contract with Cleanaway, the cost of processing recyclable materials will increase by \$10 per household in 2021-22.

Landfill Rehabilitation Charge: Council has an estimated \$1.75 million in outstanding liabilities related to landfill rehabilitation of the former Rokewood landfill and the Teesdale landfill sites with Council obligated to restore these sites to a particular standard. This charge was deferred from last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and \$14 per household has been included to ensure that the rehabilitation commences in 2021-22.

Stockpile Removal Charge: With a legacy of more than 60 roadside stockpiles scattered across the Shire, the estimated total disposal cost is \$1.8 million. To commence the removal process, \$6 per household has been applied so that two stockpiles can be removed each year over the next 30 years.

NEW INITIATIVES IN DRAFT BUDGET 2021-22

Future Design Work for:

Roads: \$100,000

Bridges: \$100,000

Drainage: \$100,000

Building: \$100,000

Sport & Recreation Works: \$175,000

Additional New Initiatives in 2021-22:

\$75,000 for new bore at Cambrian Hill

\$80,000 for Common Road Swale Drain Upgrade in Inverleigh

\$200,000 to rezone and manage surplus land

\$130,000 for roadside slashing of gravel roads

\$25,000 to clear fire access tracks

\$75,000 for environmental initiatives

\$20,000 for outdoor areas at local kindergartens



Customer Service

BANNOCKBURN

8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
2 Pope Street, Bannockburn
Victoria, 3331.

SMYTHESDALE

8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
19 Heales Street, Smythesdale
Victoria, 3351.

PHONE

P: 5220 7111
F: 5220 7100

POSTAL ADDRESS

Golden Plains Shire Council
PO Box 111, Bannockburn,
Victoria 3331.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

P: 1300 363 036
P: 5220 7111 (24 Hours)

To receive a copy of the *Gazette*
in large print, call 5220 7111.

Council's Customer Service Centres
and offices will be closed for the
Queen's Birthday public holiday
on Monday 14 June, 2021.

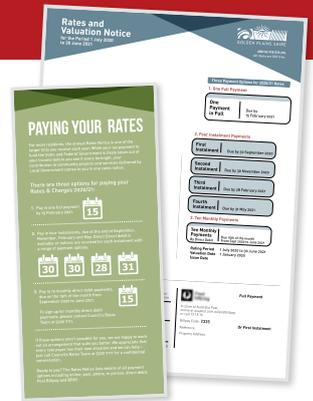
COVER: The Golden Plains Farmers'
Market is open on the first Saturday
of the month, 8.30am to 12.30pm,
at the Bannockburn Heart, corner of
Milton and High Streets. For market
information, follow Golden Plains
Farmers' Market on Facebook or visit
goldenplainsfarmersmarket.com.au

RATES PAYMENT

All Golden Plains Shire residents received their
2020-2021 Rates Notices in the mail last year.

For residents who signed up to pay by instalments,
the fourth and final payment is due on 31 May, 2021.

For a confidential conversation about your rates
situation, please call our Rates team at 5220 7111.



COUNCIL MEETINGS: OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Council Meetings reopened to
the public in April 2021.

In line with remaining density limits and Council's COVID-Safe Plan, the public
gallery for meetings at the Golden Plains Civic Centre is limited to 25 visitors,
who are required to sign-in with a QR-code.

With purpose-built broadcasting technology funded by a Victorian Government
COVID-19 grant program, livestreaming of Council Meetings on Council's
YouTube channel will continue, providing transparent engagement for residents
across the Shire. In addition, residents who submit public questions and
applicants and objectors to planning matters will continue to have the option of
addressing Council Meetings held in Bannockburn virtually, if they are unable to
attend the meeting in-person.

The next Council Meeting is on Tuesday 25 May at Linton Shire Hall, 68 Sussex
Street, and due to the smaller Council Chamber, attendance is limited to four
members of the public. Applicants and objectors will present in-person at the
Linton Council Meeting.

The Special Council Meeting for Draft Budget 2021-2022 and Draft Council Plan
2021-2025 submissions on Tuesday 8 June will be held at the Golden Plains Civic
Centre, as will the Council Meeting on Tuesday 22 June, 2021.

For more information including how to register to attend a Council Meeting, visit
goldenplains.vic.gov.au

EVENTS IN GOLDEN PLAINS

Visit Council's events calendar to plan a great weekend out and about in Golden
Plains: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events or follow Golden Plains Shire Council on
Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for what's on in the Shire. Adding a community
event to the calendar is free: visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/forms/event-registration

Organising a community event?

For advice or questions on planning a community event in Golden Plains Shire,
call 5220 7111 and speak with Council's Events and Engagement Officer. We
understand that planning an event within COVIDSafe guidelines can be confusing
and we're happy to help. We can also discuss events permits, traffic and event
plans, and Council's support to promote your local event.