



Council Minutes



Date: 4 November 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

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Minutes of the open section of the Campaspe Shire Council held on Friday 4 November 2022, commencing at 6:00 pm as a Virtual Meeting.

Present

Councillors

Cr Christine Weller
Cr Robert Amos
Cr Colleen Gates
Cr Paul Jarman
Cr Daniel Mackrell
Cr Anthony Marwood
Cr Leanne Pentreath
Cr Adrian Weston
Cr John Zobec

Officers

Pauline Gordon - Chief Executive Officer
Andrew Fletcher – Acting Director Community
Kate Lemon – Acting Director Infrastructure
Matthew McPherson – Acting Director Corporate
Emily Cordingley – Governance Advisor
Rebecca Jones – Governance Officer
Annette Waters – Governance Officer

1 Apologies

Nil.

Outgoing Mayoral Speech - Mayor Christine Weller

It's been my honour to be Mayor for two terms. Two terms which have seen a global pandemic for starters and a flood emergency to end on but ultimately, so many successes and achievements.

We've seen the completion of the 6.9-million-dollar Stage One redevelopment of Echuca East Recreation Reserve and the 1-million-dollar redevelopment of Gunbower's Lions Park. We've developed the 10-year Arts and Culture Strategy, the Campaspe Thriving Together community vision.

We've released the biggest residential land rezoning in the shire's history, and we've delivered millions of dollars in community grants and attended hundreds of community events.

The list goes on. And while the things that we build and create are important, our community is what makes Campaspe Shire so special.

I have been fortunate to meet and work with so many hardworking, generous community members, patrons of their respective towns. The recent flood emergency has been a fantastic show of community spirit and neighbourly support.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my fellow Councillors for the unwavering support you've shown me. We work together extremely well – we're a unified, skilled Council, always prepared to offer each other assistance.

And moving forward, I would like to extend my offer of constant support to our newly elected Mayor.

Thank you.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* Mayor Christine Weller handed the chair of the meeting to the Chief Executive Officer.

2 Term of the Mayor

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council resolve that the Mayor be elected for a term of one year.

CARRIED

3 Election of Mayor

Cr Robert Amos was nominated for the position of Mayor of Campaspe Shire Council and there being no further nominations, the Chief Executive Officer declared the following.

Councillor Robert Amos has been elected as Mayor of Campaspe Shire Council for the next 12 months.

4 Ceremonial Mayoral Speech

Newly elected Mayor, Cr Robert Amos made a ceremonial speech.

Thank you, everyone. Let me begin by thanking our outgoing Mayor, Chrissy Weller.

Chrissy – needless to say, you’ve set the bar high. I look forward to building on the legacy you’ve handed over and I know I can rely on your expertise during my term. Your two years of leadership have been an inspiration, and I endeavour to live up to the high standards you’ve set.

To all my fellow councillors – thank you for giving me this opportunity, I’m truly humbled and honoured. I didn’t know any of you before becoming a Councillor in 2020, and now, I think I can say we’ve become one unified team.

I’d like to recognise our new CEO, Pauline Gordon, and Council’s dedicated staff for their ongoing commitment to the people of Campaspe.

We are in the initial stages of undertaking a serious challenge – that being – flood recovery.

It is my number one priority as Mayor to, quite simply, get our community back on their feet. Recovery needs to be a smooth, well-oiled machine – with all residents having access to relevant resources, services and assistance.

This needs to be a Shire wide approach – rural residents having the same level of support as township residents.

Recovery is a marathon, not a sprint – it will take time, but throughout that time, we must ensure we are maintaining the best quality service.

Other priorities of mine, which are obviously not as critical, include our ongoing commitment to Place Based Planning, development of our Economic Development Strategy and looking closely at agriculture along with supporting redevelopments such as Victoria Park and the bridge-to-bridge project.

This flood emergency has certainly demonstrated the immense pride within our communities and the community spirit to pitch in and help our neighbours. This sense of community pride and spirit that has come forward in a time of an emergency is something we need to hold onto into the future.

Once again, thank you all for providing me with this opportunity.

5 Term of the Deputy Mayor

Moved by Cr Weller

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That Council resolve:

1. That the Deputy Mayor be elected for a term of one year, and
2. If during the Mayoral Term, there is a vacancy in the office of the Mayor or the Mayor is absent, incapable of acting or refusing to act, then provided the Deputy Mayor is available, the Council hereby appoints the Deputy Mayor to be the Acting Mayor in accordance with Sections 20B(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

CARRIED

6 Election of the Deputy Mayor

Cr Colleen Gates was nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor of Campaspe Shire Council and there being no further nominations, the Mayor declared the following.

Councillor Gates has been elected as Deputy Mayor of Campaspe Shire Council for the next 12 months.

7 Close Meeting

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 6:19pm

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Cr Robert Amos

Mayor