



Council Minutes



Date: 16 February 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Venue: Echuca Civic Centre

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Minutes of the open section of the eighth Campaspe Shire Council meeting held on Wednesday 16 February 2022, commencing at 6:00 pm at the Council Chambers, Echuca Civic Centre.

Present

Councillors

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

Officers

Declan Moore - Chief Executive Officer
Fleur Cousins - General Manager Corporate
Daniel Basham – Acting General Manager Infrastructure
Keith Oberin - General Manager Community
Andrew Cowin - Manager Governance and Strategy
Deidre Madill - Governance Adviser
Annette Waters - Governance Officer

1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absences

1.1 Apologies

Cr Weston

Moved by Cr Mackrell

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That the apology be accepted.

CARRIED

1.2 Leave of Absence

Nil.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Cr Amos

Seconded by Cr Marwood

That the following minutes be confirmed:

- Campaspe Council Meeting held on 19 January 2022.

CARRIED

3 Changes to the Order of Business

Nil.

4 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with Section 130(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose any conflict of interest in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council meeting.

Nil.

5 Responsible Authority Decisions

Responsible Authority – Defined under Section 13 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*. Responsible for administering and enforcing the planning scheme and its provisions in relation to use and development.

6 Planning Authority Decisions

Planning Authority – Defined under Section 12 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*. Responsible for implementing the objectives of planning in Victoria and reviewing and preparing amendments to a planning scheme.

7 Question Time

Nil.

8 Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports

Nil.

9 Council Decisions

9.1 Review Policy 135 – Drainage

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Assets	Assets	General Manager Infrastructure	General Manager Infrastructure

Council considered Policy 135 Drainage during their January Council meeting, resolving '***That Council defer Policy 135 Drainage to the next Council Meeting in February***'.

The deferral was based on further consideration being given to the discretionary nature of the policy with respect to Council's contributions to private works.

The Administration reviewed the Policy and recommends removing the discretionary element of the Policy so that any consideration of Council's contribution to works be the subject of individual reports to Council for decision, rather than at the exercise of Officer discretion.

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council adopt revised Policy 135 Drainage.

CARRIED

9.2 Winter Blues Festival - Sponsorship Request

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Event Support Officer	Community Development	Community Development Manager	General Manager Community

At the October 2021 Council meeting under item 9.11, Council requested Officers negotiate a draft Event Agreement with the Winter Blues Festival Committee.

This report seeks Council's approval to enter into a five-year sponsorship agreement with Winter Blues Festival Inc. supporting the delivery of the annual Echuca Moama Winter Blues Festival, and to consider a request for a one-off COVID cancellation adjustment payment of \$10,000 for the next event scheduled for July 2022.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council:

- 1. Enter into a five-year sponsorship agreement with Winter Blues Festival Inc. for the delivery of the annual Echuca Moama Winter Blues Festival, including financial support of \$7,500 (GST exclusive) and in-kind support to the approximate value of \$15,000 (GST exclusive) and an annual CPI increase for the term of the agreement introduced in the second year of the agreement 2023.**
- 2. Acknowledge that while it is anticipated that this agreement will commence in 2022, it may be held over until 2023, should the 2022 event be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.**

CARRIED

9.3 Role of Local Government - funding school crossing supervision

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Community Business	Community Business	Manager Community Business	General Manager Community

Council received correspondence from the City of Monash in December 2021 advising of a resolution from its November meeting, regarding their intention to review the City's future role in the funding of school crossing supervisors.

The issue of cost shifting from state to local government for the provision of programs and services has long been of concern to Campaspe Shire Council (CSC). Council has previously advocated to State Government that the responsibility for the provision of this service should rest with the Education Department and/or the Department of Transport.

Moved by Cr Amos

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council

- 1. Acknowledge the importance of the school crossing program and its continuation across the Campaspe Shire.**
- 2. Provide advice to the City of Monash about CSC's current school crossing responsibilities, costs and difficulties maintaining services (e.g. recruitment, backfilling for absences etc).**

3. Receive an update on the City of Monash's consideration of the responses received from councils and their subsequent deliberations and decision.

CARRIED

9.4 Quarterly Financial Report

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Finance	Finance	Manager Finance	General manager Corporate

This report presents the quarterly financial position compared to the adopted 2021/22 Budget.

The financial position continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the impacts of the pandemic were difficult to predict given the uncertainty around restrictions.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council notes:

1. the December 2021 Quarterly Budget Report.
2. the Chief Executive Officer's opinion that a revised budget for 2021/22 is not required.

CARRIED

9.5 Domestic Animal Management Plan

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Community Business	Community Business	Manager Community Business	General Manager Community

Under the Domestic Animals Act 1994, a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) must be developed at four-year intervals, reviewed annually, and amended where appropriate. Council must provide a copy of the plan to the Government Secretary each year with any amendments. Council must also publish an evaluation of the plan's implementation within its annual report.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Amos

That Council:

1. Adopt the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2021-2025 with an alteration to the table for Rochester open spaces in the table on page 46 of the DAMP to not allow dogs within Rotary Park.
2. Note that one submission was received during the community engagement period. The submission related to Council providing more dog off lead areas across the municipality. The submitter has been responded to and further information regarding dog off lead areas has been provided.
3. Note that no amendments were made to the plan because of the submission.

CARRIED

9.6 Local Government Culture Survey Submission

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Governance & Strategy Councillors (submission)	Governance and Strategy		Chief Executive Officer

Poor Councillor behaviour can have profound impacts on the local government sector. Including increased difficulties in attracting and retaining a diverse pool of talented staff, impairing individual and Council performance and contributing to diminished public trust. In more extreme cases, poor Councillor behaviour and misconduct matters can result in the dismissal of a Council.

The Local Government Culture Project seeks to understand the factors influencing culture and conduct within local government and identify opportunities and initiatives the sector can implement to improve culture and conduct.

This report seeks endorsement of a submission prepared by the Campaspe Shire Councillors.

Moved by Cr Gates

Seconded by Cr Amos

That Council

1. **Endorse the submission attached to this report for lodgment as a submission to the Local Government Culture Project on behalf of the elected representatives.**
2. **Note that the submission will be made available on Council's website.**

CARRIED

10 Council Information

10.1 Notes of Appreciation

Moved by Cr Amos

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council acknowledge the notes of appreciation as listed.

CARRIED

10.2 Council Plan Year 1 Action Update - Quarter 2

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Manager Governance & Strategy	Governance & Strategy		Chief Executive Officer

The report provides an update on the implementation of the 56 actions funded under the 21/22 budget and listed as year 1 actions in the Council Plan to support the delivery of the Vision 'Our places are vibrant and sustainable, our people and supportive'. The range of initiatives reflect the diverse services that Council

provide to the community. Progress in relation to the implementation of these initiatives are reported quarterly. This report provides the end of quarter two update.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Amos

That Council note the progress towards the year 1 actions of the Council Plan supporting implementation of the Council Plan Vision.

CARRIED

10.3 Half Year Audit & Risk Committee Report

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
General Manager Corporate	Corporate		Chief Executive Officer

The Audit and Risk Committee supports Council in discharging its governance oversight responsibility including financial management, risk management, risk management, fraud prevention, maintenance of a sound internal control environment and the assurance activities through internal and external audit.

The Audit and Risk Committee reports to Council twice per year under its Charter that was adopted by Council in July 2020. This Charter aligns with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

The attached half yearly report, prepared by the Chair of the Committee reports on the activities undertaken by the Committee against the key responsibility areas defined in their Charter.

Moved by Cr Amos

Seconded by Cr Marwood

That Council note the report from the Audit and Risk Committee and acknowledge the work of the Committee during the period of 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021.

CARRIED

10.4 Capital Works Program Quarterly Report

Author	Department	Manager	General Manager
Capital Works Coordinator	Projects and Facilities	Manager Projects and Facilities	General Manager Infrastructure

This report presents an overview of progress of the annual Capital Works Program (CWP), as of 31 December 2021. The 2021/2022 program consists of 90 new projects (included in the 2021/22 Capital Works budget), 20 additional projects and 31 carry-over projects totalling an initial overall adopted budget of \$38.9M.

The year to date (YTD) expenditure by 31 December was \$13.9M and \$8M had been committed providing a total actual and committed figure of \$21.9M.

Target spend for the year is \$35M. This target spend excludes any grant dependent projects where funding has not been confirmed. This report and the accompanying attachment provide a summary of delivery during Quarter 2.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council note the contents of this report.

CARRIED

11 Petitions and Letters

Petition - Homan Street, Echuca

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

I move that the petition received from Ms Judith O'Farrell requesting the sealing of Homan Street, Echuca be tabled and referred to the CEO for consideration as part of the budget process together with the budget submission relating to the same.

CARRIED

Joint Letter – Koala Court, Kyabram

Moved by Cr Gates

Seconded by Cr Zobec

I move that the joint letter received from the residents of Koala Court Kyabram be tabled and referred to the Committee of Management for the Kyabram Fauna Park and to the Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning (DELWP) for their advice, before the CEO prepares a report incorporating that advice for the consideration of Council.

CARRIED

12 Notices of Motion

Nil.

13 Urgent Business

Nil.

14 Confidential Business

Closure of Public Meeting - 6:56pm

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), the meeting will now be closed to members of the public in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Act to enable consideration to be given to items that contain confidential information as defined in section 3(1) of the Act as follows:

14.1 Award contract

g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that:

(i) relates to trade secrets; or

Confidential business information including financial information sensitive to the applicant's business has been detailed in the report and attachments.

- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage;

Release of confidential business information supplied as a part of the applicant's tender may harm the applicant's business and future ability to win contracts if made public.

14.2 Award contract

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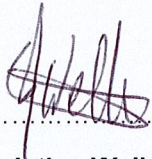
CARRIED

Resumption of Public Meeting

7:12pm the Council Meeting resumed in Open Session.

15 Close Meeting

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 7:13pm.



.....
Cr Christine Weller

Mayor