

Council Minutes



Date: 21 March 2023

Time: 6:05 pm

Venue: Echuca Civic Centre

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Minutes of the open section of the Campaspe Shire Council meeting held on Tuesday 21 March 2023, commencing at 6:05 pm at the Council Chambers, Echuca Civic Centre.

Present In Attendance

Councillors Officers

Cr Robert Amos - Mayor Pauline Gordon - Chief Executive Officer
Cr Paul Jarman Matt McPherson – Acting Director Corporate
Cr Daniel Mackrell Andrew Fletcher – Acting Director Community

Cr Adrian Weston Keith Oberin – Executive Director

Cr John Zobec Kate Lemon – Acting Director Infrastructure
Cr Colleen Gates Emily Cordingley - Governance Advisor
Cr Christine Weller Rebecca Jones - Governance Officer
Annette Waters - Governance Officer

1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absences

1.1 Apologies

Cr Tony Marwood, Cr Leanne Pentreath

Moved by Cr Mackrell

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

1.2 Leave of Absence

Nil.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Weller

That the Minutes of the Campaspe Shire Council Meeting held on 21 February 2023 be confirmed.

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.

Nil received.

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.

Nil received.

7 Question Time

Nil.

8 Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports

Nil.

9 Officers Reports

9.1 Office of the CEO

9.1.1 Australian Local Government Association - National General Assembly Motions

Directorate: Community

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Community

Manager: Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

For Council to consider the motions it seeks to place before the National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council requests the consideration of the following motions at the National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association:

- This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide a national proactive plan to deliver tailored support & services to vulnerable groups or those who may become vulnerable during natural disasters or emergencies.
- 2. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review and strengthen traditional Emergency Management structures nationally, to be more unified, coordinated, and reflective of current and future community vulnerabilities.
- 3. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide long term investment for programming and services to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for communities in regional areas.
- 4. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to strategically address local government skills shortages.

9.1.2 Campaspe Economic and Tourism Development Strategy Update

Directorate Office of the CEO

Responsible Officer: Manager Corporate and Strategic Planning

Manager Chief Executive Officer

Attachment Nil

To inform Council of the delays in relation to the delivery of a Campaspe Shire Wide Tourism Strategy.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council note:

- a) that the development of the Campaspe Economic Development Strategy is to incorporate tourism.
- b) the proposed timeline for delivery of the Campaspe Economic and Tourism Development Strategy 2023-28 to be presented for endorsement by Council by 30 September 2023.
- c) that as the Business Assistance Grants were suspended while the Campaspe Economic Development Strategy was undertaken, endorse that the Business Assistance Grants be reinstated, with Round 2 being open in April 2023 and considered by Council in June 2023.

9.2 Corporate

9.2.1 Audit and Risk Committee - Charter Review

Directorate Corporate

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Corporate

Manager Chief Executive Officer

Attachments 1. Campaspe Audit Risk Committee Charter Proposed Final March

2023 [**9.2.1.1** - 10 pages]

2. Campaspe Audit Risk Committee Charter Proposed Changes

March 2023 [9.2.1.2 - 11 pages]

3. Campaspe Audit Risk Committee Charter 2020 Adopted -

Reviewed 2022 [9.2.1.3 - 10 pages]

This report seeks approval for changes to be made to Council's Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

Moved by Jarman

Seconded by Gates

That Council:

- 1. Approve the changes to the Audit and Risk Committee Charter and adopt the updated Charter appended as Attachment 1.
- 2. Request officers to return the Charter to Council briefing for further review within 3 months.

9.2.2 Audit and Risk Committee - Half Yearly Report

Directorate Corporate

Responsible Officer:

Acting Director Corporate

Manager

Chief Executive Officer

Attachment

1. Audit & Risk Committee Half Yearly Report - July 22 -

December 22 [9.2.2.1 - 4 pages]

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

Under its Charter, which was adopted by Council in July 2020, the Audit and Risk Committee reports to Council on its activities twice per year. The 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 the Charter.

The purpose of this report is to receive and note the Half Yearly Report from the Audit and Risk Committee, outlining the work of the Committee during 1 July 2022 and 31 December 2022.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council note the report from the Audit and Risk Committee and acknowledge the work of the Committee during the period 1 July 2022 and 31 December 2022.

9.2.3 Audit and Risk Committee - Appointment of Chairperson

Directorate Corporate

Responsible Officer: Acting Director Corporate

Manager Chief Executive Officer

Attachment Nil

The Audit and Risk Committee operate in accordance with a Charter adopted by Council on 21 July 2020 and provides for the appointment of the Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson, setting a maximum consecutive term of two years. The Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) must be an independent member of the Committee.

This report presents a recommendation from the Audit and Risk Committee to Council in the absence of any nominations received in accordance with Council's adopted Audit and Risk Committee Charter and seeks the appointment of Ms MacRae as Chairperson of the Committee for the 2023 year, for a fourth consecutive year.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council appoint Ms MacRae as Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee for the 2023 year, noting that the appointment will be for a fourth consecutive year.

9.2.4 Rate relief for flood affected properties

David Ujimoto addressed Council in relation to item 9.2.4.

Directorate Corporate

Responsible Officer: Finance Manager

Manager Chief Financial Officer

Attachment Nil

To present Council with options to provide rate relief for flood affected properties.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That standing orders be suspended to seek clarification from Officers on the current issue.

CARRIED

Standing orders were suspended at 6:44pm

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That standing orders be resumed.

CARRIED

Standing orders resumed at 6:51pm.

Moved by Cr Jarman Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council:

- 1. Note that all flood impacted properties that have had a secondary impact assessment and that have been through the supplementary rates process will have adjustments applied as per the Victorian Valuer General process. The cost to Council of this adjustment for 2022-23 is \$41,355.
- 2. Approve a credit for 2022-23 Municipal Charges of \$200 per property for all properties that have had a secondary impact assessment and been through the supplementary rates process.
- 3. Approve a credit for 2022-23 Municipal Charges of \$200 per property for all properties that have been identified within the Catchment Management Authority flood mapping impacted area that have not yet had a secondary impact assessment and been through the supplementary rates process.
- 4. Approve a 50% rates adjustment for 2022-23 pro-rated from the 14 October 2022 for all properties that have been identified within the

Catchment Management Authority flood mapping impacted area that have not yet had a secondary impact assessment and been through the supplementary rates process.

5. Note that the impact to Council rates revenue of the recommendation is estimated at:

Victorian Valuer General Adjustment	Assessed properties	\$41,355
Municipal Charge	Assessed properties	\$199,600
Municipal Charge	Non-Assessed properties	\$300,000
50% Rates Adjustment	Non-Assessed properties	\$588,000
Total		\$1,128,955

- 6. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to apply the same level of rate adjustment for 2022-23 to any properties that are subsequently identified and assessed as being flood impacted.
- 7. Note that once all property assessments are complete, they may be subject to the supplementary valuation process by the Victorian Valuer General.

9.3 Community

9.3.1 Recreation Fees & charges (Policy 133)

Directorate Recreation

Responsible Officer: Manager Recreation

Manager Acting Director Community

Attachment 1. 133 Recreation fees & charges CURRENT POLICY

ADOPTED JANUARY 2021 [9.3.1.1 - 5 pages]

133 Recreation fees charges 2023 review 20230228
 WITH TRACKED CHANGES [9.3.1.2 - 6 pages]

3. 133 Recreation fees & charges 2023 review 20230228

PROPOSED POLICY [9.3.1.3 - 6 pages]

To present Council with a revised Policy 133 Recreation Fees and Charges for the purpose of adoption.

The revised Policy 133 Recreation Fees and Charges includes the following amendments:

- 1. Inclusion of section 4.6, providing flexibility into the calculation of Fees and Charges to factor in periods of Recreation Reserve closure e.g. pandemic, floods, maintenance etc.
- 2. Inclusion of section 4.7, providing flexibility into the calculation of Utility Expenses to factor in periods of Recreation Reserve closure.
- 3. Changing terminology from 'in-kind works' to 'voluntary contribution'.
- 4. Inclusion of Appendix A Recreation Reserves included in the policy.

Moved by Cr Jarman Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council adopt the revised Policy 133 Recreation Fees and Charges as attached.

9.3.2 Victoria Park Master Plan

Directorate Recreation

Responsible Officer: Manager Recreation

Manager Acting Director Community

Attachment 1. Victoria Park Master Plan 2023 [9.3.2.1 - 39 pages]

To seek adoption of the Victoria Park and Scenic Trail Masterplan (The Plan) following community engagement and feedback.

As the key strategic document to guide the planning and development of the passive and active recreation spaces within Victoria Park and the Scenic Trail area, it is intended the Plan replace the existing Scenic Drive and Victoria Park Infrastructure and Service Plan providing an updated and relevant direction for Victoria Park and Scenic Trail.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council:

1. That an amendment be made to the proposed Victoria Park and Scenic Trail Masterplan to add the additional;

Recommendation 4.1.1 add the following dot point:

• Investigate opportunities for two-way traffic from Crofton Street to the boat ramp.

Recommendation 4.3.5 added to state:

- Investigate the inclusion of low-level bollard type lighting to be included around the boat ramp for increased safety and security.
- 2. Adopt the Victoria Park and Scenic Trail Masterplan with the above amendments.

9.3.3 SRV Country Football Netball Program

Directorate Recreation

Responsible Officer: Manager Recreation

Manager Acting Director Community

Attachments 1. Cost Estimates Rochester Recreation Reserve

Moon Oval Lighting Project [9.3.3.1 - 2 pages]

2. Cost Estimates Toolleen Netball Court Renewal

20221121 [9.3.3.2 - 3 pages]

To inform Council of the Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) Country Football Netball Program (CFNP) and recommended projects, in order to determine if Council should apply for the current round of the CFNP, and which project is most suitable for an application.

Cr Weston foreshadowed an alternative should the motion be lost.

Moved by Cr Jarman Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council

- 1. Approve an application for a \$250,000 grant through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Country Football Netball Program for the Rochester Recreation Reserve Moon Oval Lighting Upgrade.
- 2. Apply for funding of \$458,000 incl. GST, through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program, noting that if unsuccessful, Council will be required to fund the remaining costs of the Rochester Recreation Reserve Moon Oval lighting upgrade project.

Cr Jarman called for a Division.

The decision was set aside and the Mayor put the Matter to a vote.

Those in favour of the Motion: Cr Mackrell and Cr Jarman.

Those against the Motion: Cr Zobec, Cr Weston, Cr Gates, Cr Weller and Cr Amos.

The Motion was put to the vote and was LOST.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council:

1. Approve an application for a \$250,000 grant through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Country Football Netball Program for the Rochester Recreation Reserve Moon Oval Lighting Upgrade.

Cr Mackrell proposed an amendment to the motion that added the following:

" 2. Apply for funding of \$458,000 incl. GST, through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program"

The amendment was declined by Cr Weston.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council:

1. Approve an application for a \$250,000 grant through Sport and Recreation Victoria's Country Football Netball Program for the Rochester Recreation Reserve Moon Oval Lighting Upgrade.

9.4 Infrastructure

9.4.1 C22047 Engineering Services Panel of Suppliers - Contract Award

Directorate Finance

Responsible Officer: Procurement Manager

Manager Acting Director Infrastructure

Attachment 1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Attachment 1 - Tenderers

[9.4.1.1 - 2 pages]

2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Attachment 2 -

Shortlisted Tenderers [9.4.1.2 - 2 pages]

Campaspe Shire Council, as lead Council in a collaborative tender with Buloke Shire Council, wishes to establish a panel of consultants to provide high quality engineering services. Several participating councils within the Loddon Mallee Procurement Network (LMPN) will have the benefit of engaging suppliers based on the rates under this Contract. This will provide support to our local businesses, leverage buying power to achieve value for money and encourage as even a distribution of work among the suppliers in each service category as possible. For clarity, the LMPN includes Campaspe Shire Council, Buloke Shire Council, Mildura Rural City Council, City of Greater Bendigo Central Goldfields Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Swan Hill Rural City Council, Loddon Shire Council and Gannawarra Shire Council.

The initial term of the Contract will be three (3) years, with two options thereafter for extension (in Council's absolute discretion) for two (2) further terms of one (1) year each.

The scope of this Contract will include engineering services across a range of categories and specialisations to assist in carrying out Council's infrastructure renewal and maintenance programs and provide advice and consultancy to support Council's Infrastructure teams where in-house expertise may be limited, or those with expertise lack capacity from time to time. It is Council's expectation that contractors are suitably qualified and experienced in the types of services for which they have submitted a schedule of rates under this Contract, including but not limited to holding any registration which may be required for their chosen engineering service categories under the *Professional Engineers Registration Act 2019*.

Moved by Cr Mackrell Seconded by Cr Zobec

That Council:

- 1. Approve Contract 22047 Engineering Services Panel of Suppliers to the Tenderers included in the attached shortlist, for an initial period of three (3) years and any further period which may be granted in Council's absolute discretion; and
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign any such document necessary to give effect to Council's resolution.
- 3. Authorise the release to the public of the details in Attachment 2 (Shortlisted Tenderers) once all unsuccessful suppliers have been notified as to the outcome of the tender process.

9.4.2 Davis Road & Two Tree Road

Directorate Infrastructure

Responsible Officer: Road Services Engineer

Manager Acting Director Infrastructure

Attachment Nil

To advise Council of the opportunity to seek the reclassification of Two Tree Road and Davis Road to Main Roads which would see the ongoing management of this road infrastructure transfer to the Department of Transport and Planning (DoTP).

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to commence negotiation with the Department of Transport and Planning (DoTP) for the transfer management responsibility of Two Tree Road and Davis Road to DoTP.

9.4.3 Award Contract - LRCI Resheeting Stage 3

Directorate Finance

Responsible Officer: Procurement Coordinator

Manager Chief Financial Officer

Attachment 1. C 23002 Location of Works [9.4.3.1 - 2 pages]

To seek approval to enter into C23002– Campaspe Shire, LRCI – Gravel Resheeting Stage 3. Additional gravel roads have been identified as requiring intervention for resheeting. This is to be funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (Stage 3).

From the asset condition inspection, the road segments in this program have been identified at or above intervention level. The segments have been assessed and prioritised based on the asset condition data and an on-site assessment of the road. The average gravel material on the road segments, corrugations and potholes which are leading to deterioration are also the bases for confirmation of renewal.

Once renewed, the identified segments of gravel roads will continue to provide road users with an all-weather access road.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That Council:

- 1. Accept the tender submitted by ReCivil Pty Ltd of 11 Despatch Street, Echuca Vic 3564 to undertake C23002 Campaspe Shire, LRCI Gravel Resheeting Stage 3 for the amount of \$1,648,368.70 including GST. Total contract price includes a lump sum of \$1,637,368.70 including GST, and a provisional sum for Council dayworks of \$11,000.00 including GST.
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations to this contract up to the allocated contingency of \$164,836.87.
- 3. Resolve, pursuant to section 125(2) of the Local Government Act 2020, that the confidential information should only be publicly available for the limited purpose of communicating the effect of this Resolution, and then only to the extent necessary to give effect to it; and
- 4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to communicate the effect of this Resolution to the extent necessary to give effect to it.

10 Council Information

10.1 Notes of Appreciation

The following have been received:

Sue Daw – thank you to Wendy O'Hara, Library Services for her assistance with finding a
particular journal article Sue was looking for.

"Echuca doesn't know how lucky it is having you very special, committed librarians. You go to no end of trouble for your customers; above and beyond peoples' expectations and always with willingness and warmth."

 Alison Pye, Echuca – thank you for the support the Shire is giving during Sydney World Pride 2023.

"It is wonderful to see the effort being made to recognise and include LGBTIQA+ people in the Campaspe Shire."

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council acknowledge the notes of appreciation as listed.

10.2 Community Event Sponsorship

Directorate: Executive Director

Responsible Officer: Executive Assistant Community

Manager: Executive Director

Attachments: Nil

That Council acknowledge two successful applications received for Community Event Sponsorship.

Moved by Cr Mackrell

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledge the following sponsorship was approved, in accordance with the Community Event Sponsorship criteria, and the applicant advised in writing:
 - a. Waranga Catchment Landcare Collective (Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Inc.), \$800 to assist with hosting the 'Boogie in the Bush' Community Bush Dance held on 25 February 2023.
 - b. Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Inc., \$1,000 cash and additional support to the value of \$120 (waste management) towards hosting the Kyabram Lawn Tennis Club Annual Easter Tournament to be held from 8 – 10 April 2023.

10.3 Responsive Grants Program

Directorate: Executive Director

Responsible Officer: Executive Assistant Community

Manager: Executive Director

Attachments: Nil

To acknowledge the outcome of the Responsive Grants Program applications considered in accordance with the grant guidelines and criteria.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council acknowledge the following applications were approved in accordance with the Responsive Grants Program criteria:

- 1. Nanneella Community Inc., \$200 towards the cost of food and beverage items for the "Community Chill" barbecue to be held at the Nanneella Hall on 24 March 2023
- 2. Rochester Community House Inc., \$1,000 towards the cost to host a Community Brass Band Concert to be held at Rochester Racecourse Recreation Reserve on 30 April 2023

CARRIED

11 Petitions and Letters

Petition – Kyabram's Shared Pathway

Moved by Cr Mackrell

Seconded by Cr Gates

I move that:

- 1. The petition from the Chief Petitioner, Sandra Brown to complete the unfinished Breen Avenue section of Kyabram's dual walkway/cycleway containing 253 valid signatures be tabled and referred to the CEO for consideration and a report be prepared and brought to Council at a Council Meeting no later than June 2023; and
- 2. That it be noted in the minutes that the Chief Petitioner has also provided an additional 237 names on the paper petition and an online data base of 435 names that did not meet the requirements of the Governance Rules to form part of the petition.

12 Notices of Motion

Nil.

13 Urgent Business

Mayor Amos proposed a matter for consideration that has arisen since the distribution of the agenda and involves an item of urgency pursuant to rule 2.4.14(1)(a) and 2.4.14(1)(c) of the Governance Rules.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Mackrell

That Council accept a matter for urgent business.

CARRIED

Municipal Association Victoria Submissions for consideration at its State Council Meeting on 19 May 2023.

Moved by Cr Gates
Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council:

- 1. Submit the following resolutions to the Municipal Association Victoria for consideration at its State Council Meeting on 19 May 2023
 - a) That the MAV urgently advocates to State Government and Federal governments for the need to allocate funding for fit for purpose relief centres and the ability to scale up of Emergency Relief Centres regionally, to support campaign style emergency events.
 - b) That the MAV urgently advocates to State Government for the need, should an evacuation order be given, that there is an ability for the response agency to be adaptive and provide warning systems which are considered and progressive for individual events.

CARRIED

14 Confidential Business

Nil received.

15 Close Meeting

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 7:59pm.
CR ROB AMOS
MAYOR