



Council Minutes



Date: 16 September 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Venue: Echuca Civic Centre

Photo Left to Right: Cr Tony Marwood (Deputy Mayor), Cr Colleen Gates, Cr Paul Jarman, Cr Daniel Mackrell, Cr Rob Amos (Mayor), Cr Leanne Pentreath, Cr Chrissy Weller, Cr Adrian Weston and Cr John Zobec.

Contents

1	Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence	5
1.1	Apologies	5
1.2	Leave of Absence	5
2	Confirmation of Minutes and Attachments.....	5
3	Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest.....	5
4	Changes to the Order of Business	5
5	Public Question Time.....	6
6	Petitions / Joint Letters.....	6
7	Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports.....	7
7.1	Outgoing Mayor's Reflections of their term	7
7.2	Councillor Reflections on their term in office.....	7
8	Council Decisions	8
8.1	Responsible Authority Decisions	8
8.1.1	Planning Decision Monthly Update	8
8.2	Planning Authority Decisions	8
8.3	Corporate	9
8.3.1	Draft 2023-24 Financial Statements and Performance Statement	9
8.3.2	Local Government Performance Reporting.....	9
8.3.3	Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report.....	10
8.3.4	Council Plan 2021-25 Year 4 Action Plan – adoption.....	12
8.3.5	Election Period Update	13
8.3.6	Award of Contract 2709-0340- Spray Sealing and Bituminous Services - Panel of Suppliers	14
8.4	Office of the CEO	15
8.4.1	Annual Report	15
8.5	Communities	16
8.5.1	Art Collection Management Policy Review	16
8.5.2	Aquatic Reserve and Murray River Levee Path	17
8.5.3	Victoria Park multipurpose building and changerooms - architectural design and consultancy	18
8.6	Infrastructure	19
8.6.1	Policy Review - Asset Policies	19
8.6.2	Policy Review - Public Street Lighting	20
8.7	Sustainability	21
8.7.1	Policy Review – Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets.....	21
8.7.2	Recycling/Kerbside Reform standards.....	22
8.7.3	Proposed Cooba Solar Farm Update.....	23

8.8 Council Information	24
8.8.1 Notes of Appreciation	24
9 Notices of Motion	27
10 Urgent Business	28
11 Confidential Business	28
12 Close Meeting.....	28

Minutes of the open section of the Campaspe Shire Council held on Monday 16 September 2024, commencing at 6:00 pm at the Council Chambers, Echuca Civic Centre.

Present

Councillors

Cr Rob Amos – Mayor
Cr Chrissy Weller
Cr Paul Jarman
Cr Anthony Marwood
Cr Leanne Pentreath
Cr Daniel Mackrell
Cr Adrian Weston
Cr John Zobec
Cr Colleen Gates

In Attendance

Officers

Michael Sharp – Acting Chief Executive Officer
Matthew McPherson - Director Corporate
Jo Bradshaw - Director Communities
Kate Lemon – Director Infrastructure
Jane Still - Manager Governance and Risk
Kahlia Reid – Acting Director Sustainability
Annette Waters – Business Support Officer – OCEO
Louise Langhorn – Executive Support Officer

1 Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence

1.1 Apologies

Nil.

1.2 Leave of Absence

Nil.

2 Confirmation of Minutes and Attachments

Moved by Cr Zobec

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That the Minutes of the Campaspe Shire Council Meeting held on 20 August 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

3 Disclosure of Conflicts 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.

Cr Pentreath declared a conflict of interest in Item 8.1.1 Planning Decision Monthly Update, due to a material conflict.

4 Changes to the Order of Business

Nil.

5 Public Question Time

Question from David Baker

In November of this year, it will be thirty years since Campaspe Shire started. Will the Shire be planning any celebrations to celebrate the milestone.

Response:

There are no current plans to celebrate this anniversary and given the upcoming elections, plans to acknowledge this milestone can be considered by the new incoming Council following the upcoming elections.

Question from Brittany Mitchell

You explain exactly what steps you have taken to consult the local community and stakeholders such as the local rescues, and will you agree to meet with ASU members together with local rescue groups to discuss this change with those impacted by this decision?

Response:

The decision to transition from a shelter to a pound was made with the aim of delivering better animal welfare outcomes for lost or stray cats and dogs, as well as providing efficiencies across the service. Lost or stray animals are held in a cage environment for extended periods of time awaiting adoption at the shelter, which is not in the best interest of the animal. Council will prioritise the wellbeing of its employees and the welfare of the animals in our temporary care and are committed to providing the necessary support as the service transitions to the new operating model.

Council have recently met with Animal Aid in relation to our shelter needs and will continue to establish new partnerships and explore other commercial opportunities throughout the transition period. Council is aware of the current challenges across Victoria in rehoming animals. Whilst many rehoming services are currently facing similar challenges to Council in relation to rehoming animals, Council has had many promising discussions with other organisations and are confident of a solution that prioritises animal welfare. Further, the 12-month transition period will allow Council sufficient time to ensure the future service continues to prioritise animal welfare.

We acknowledge the concerns raised by the community and will take them into consideration as we move forward. Council has allowed for a 12-month transition period for this change which will also enable time to seek further community engagement throughout this process and we will continue to respond and address the concerns raised by the community and our employees.

Communities Director, Jo Bradshaw has confirmed she is happy to coordinate a meeting with ASU members to discuss the changes to the shelter

6 Petitions / Joint Letters

Nil.

7 Acknowledgements / Councillor Reports

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow for reflection on the Councillors term in office.

CARRIED

Standing orders were suspended at 6:09pm.

7.1 Outgoing Mayor's Reflections of their term

Outgoing Mayor, Councillor Rob Amos, presented a report on his 2023/2024 Mayoral term.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Standing Orders be resumed.

CARRIED

Standing Orders resumed at 6:14pm.

7.2 Councillor Reflections on their term in office

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council defer Item 7.2 Councillor Reflections on their term in office to the next unscheduled Council Meeting.

CARRIED

Acknowledgments:

Cr Weston acknowledged the life and recent passing of Graham "Duffy" Collard.

Cr Marwood acknowledged the achievements of two local Paralympians, James McQuillan of Echuca and Col Pearse of Bamawm.

8 Council Decisions

8.1 Responsible Authority Decisions

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

Cr Pentreath declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 8.1.1 and left the Council Chamber at 6:18pm.

8.1.1 Planning Decision Monthly Update

Directorate:	Sustainability
Responsible Officer:	Manager Planning and Building
Manager:	Manager Planning and Building
Attachments:	1. Copy of Monthly Councillor Reporting August [8.1.1.1 - 4 pages]
Conflict of Interest:	In accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.
Council Plan Reference:	Not applicable
Other Strategic Context:	Not applicable

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the determined planning application, including other planning decision as of 31 August 2024.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council note the determined planning permit applications and other planning decisions to 31 August 2024.

CARRIED

Cr Pentreath returned to the Council Chamber at 6:21pm.

8.2 Planning Authority Decisions

A Planning Authority is defined under Section 12 of the *Planning & Environment Act 1987* and is responsible for implementing the objectives of planning in Victoria and reviewing and preparing amendments to a planning scheme.

Nil.

8.3 Corporate

8.3.1 Draft 2023-24 Financial Statements and Performance Statement

Directorate: Corporate

Responsible Officer: Manager Finance and Investment

Manager: Director Corporate

- Attachments:**
1. Consolidated Draft Financial Statements GPFS 2024 [8.3.1.1 - 67 pages]
 2. Draft Performance Statement 2024 [8.3.1.2 - 18 pages]

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Present the audited 2023/24 draft Financial Statements and Performance Statement for Council 'in principle' approval.
2. Authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the 2023/24 Financial Statements and Performance Statement on behalf of Council.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council:

1. **Note that Council's Audit and Risk Committee have reviewed the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the period end 30 June 2024 and recommended they be referred to Council for adoption 'in principle'.**
2. **Approve 'in principle' the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the period end 30 June 2024.**
3. **Authorise the Manager Finance and Investment (Principal Accounting Officer) to make changes to the 2023/24 Financial Statements and Performance Statement as may be determined by the Victorian Auditor General's Office and that any material amendments be made in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.**
4. **Require that Councillors be notified of any material amendments, if they are made, as soon as possible.**
5. **Authorise the Mayor, Cr Rob Amos and Cr Tony Marwood to sign the 2023/24 Financial Statements and Performance Statement on behalf of Council.**

CARRIED

8.3.2 Local Government Performance Reporting

Directorate: Corporate

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance and Risk

Manager: Director Corporate

Attachments:

1. 2023-24 LGPRF Service Performance Indicators [8.3.2.1 - 5 pages]
2. 2023-24 LGPRF Performance Report [8.3.2.2 - 5 pages]

The report presents the Performance Report as required under the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework for the financial year 2023-24.

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council:

1. **Note that its Performance Report for the 2023-24 financial year has been developed in accordance with the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.**
2. **Approve the submission of its Performance Report for the 2023-24 financial year, with results as attached to this report, to the Minister for Local Government.**
3. **Authorise officers to make any changes required to individual measures due to the final audit of the Financial Statements and Performance Statement by VAGO prior to lodgement.**

CARRIED

8.3.3 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report

Directorate: Corporate

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance and Risk

Manager: Director Corporate

Attachments: 1. Audit Risk Committee Annual Report 2023 2024 1
[8.3.3.1 - 9 pages]

The report presents the Audit and Risk Committee's Annual Report to Council, in accordance with the Committee's Charter and section 54(5) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Marwood

That Council:

1. **Receive the Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report;**
2. **Affirm that the report demonstrates the Committee has discharged its responsibilities, as described in the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, for the reporting period; and**
3. **Thank the Audit and Risk Committee for its work.**

CARRIED

8.3.4 Council Plan 2021-25 Year 4 Action Plan – adoption.

Directorate: Corporate

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance and Risk

Manager: Director Corporate

Attachments: 1. DRAFT Council Plan 2021-25 Year 4_ Action Plan V 3
[8.3.4.1 - 4 pages]

The report presents the proposed Council Plan 2021-2025 Year 4 Action Plan for consideration.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council adopt the Council Plan 2021-2025 Year 4 Action Plan as attached to this report.

CARRIED

8.3.5 Election Period Update

Directorate: Corporate

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance and Risk

Manager: Director Corporate

Attachments: 1. Election Period Policy February 2024 [8.3.5.1 - 8 pages]

This report informs Council and the community, including potential election candidates, how Council will implement its Election Period Policy (attached) during the election period prior to the general election to be held 26 October 2024.

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Weller

That Council note the report on the requirements of the Election Period Policy.

CARRIED

8.3.6 Award of Contract 2709-0340- Spray Sealing and Bituminous Services - Panel of Suppliers

Directorate:	Corporate
Responsible Officer:	Manager Finance and Investment
Manager:	Director Corporate
Attachments:	1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2709-0340 Tender Evaluation Report [8.3.6.1 - 24 pages]

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Advise Council of the outcome of the Spray Sealing and Bituminous Services Loddon Mallee RPEN tender process to establish a panel of suppliers.
2. Request that Council endorses the list of nominated suppliers to the panel of suppliers for Contract 2709/0340 Spray Sealing and Bituminous Services.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Evaluation Committee recommendations from the collaborative tender process conducted by Procurement Australia to award the tender for the Panel of Suppliers under Contract 2709/0340 Spray Sealing and Bituminous Services to the nine companies as outlined in the confidential attachment to this report.**
2. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign any documents which may be required to give effect to this resolution.**
3. **Authorise the publishing of the successful tenderers' names on Council's website once the contract has been awarded by Procurement Australia.**

CARRIED

8.4 Office of the CEO

8.4.1 Annual Report

Directorate:	Office of the CEO
Responsible Officer:	Manager Communications
Manager:	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	1. Annual Report 2023 - 2024 v 10 [8.4.1.1 - 172 pages]
Conflict of Interest:	In accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.
Council Plan Reference:	Enablers The Annual Report reports against the Council Plan for the 2023/24 financial year and provides a report card to the community on Council's achievements.
Other Strategic Context:	Council Plan 2021-2025 The Annual Report reports against the Council Plan for the 2023/24 financial year and provides a report card to the community.

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Campaspe Shire Council 2023/2024 Annual Report.

RECOMMENDATION

~~That Council receive the Campaspe Shire Council 2023/2024 Annual Report.~~

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council receive the 2023/2024 Annual Report, noting that some further information will need to be prepared and inserted in order for the Annual Report to be completed and formally presented to Council at a future meeting.

CARRIED

8.5 Communities

8.5.1 Art Collection Management Policy Review

Directorate:	Communities
Responsible Officer:	Arts and Cultural Coordinator
Manager:	Director Communities
Attachments:	Nil

The purpose of this report is to:

1. To approve the development of a strategy that actively manages the Campaspe Shire Art Collection.
2. To revoke the current Art Collection Management Policy.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council:

1. **Revoke Art Collection Management Policy (127).**
2. **Approve the development of a strategy that actively manages the Campaspe Shire Art Collection.**

CARRIED

8.5.2 Aquatic Reserve and Murray River Levee Path

Directorate:	Communities
Responsible Officer:	Manager Active Communities
Manager:	Director Communities
Attachments:	Nil

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the recommendation that balustrade for both Aquatic Reserve Levee Walk and the Murray River (Riverboat Dock to Victoria Park boat ramp) Levee Walk are not required.

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council note that balustrade for both Aquatic Reserve Levee Walk and the Murray River (Riverboat Dock to Victoria Park boat ramp) Levee Walk are not required.

CARRIED

8.5.3 Victoria Park multipurpose building and changerooms - architectural design and consultancy

Directorate: Communities

Responsible Officer: Manager Active Communities

Manager: Manager Active Communities

Attachments: Nil

The purpose of this report is to request that Council allocate \$400,000 from the Strategic Asset Development Reserve for the completion of detail design and tender documentation package for the Victoria Park Multi-purpose Facility in preparation for construction once the Federal Government Funding Agreement is finalised.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council allocates \$400,000 from the Strategic Asset Development Reserve towards the finalisation of the design and tender document package for the Victoria Park Multipurpose Facility.

CARRIED

8.6 Infrastructure

8.6.1 Policy Review - Asset Policies

Directorate: Infrastructure

Responsible Officer: Manager Strategic Assets

Manager: Director Infrastructure

Attachments:

1. Asset Accounting Policy 2024 Draft [8.6.1.1 - 8 pages]
2. 136- Asset- Valuation [8.6.1.2 - 16 pages]
3. 144- Asset- Capitalisation [8.6.1.3 - 15 pages]
4. Asset Management Policy 2024 Draft [8.6.1.4 - 7 pages]
5. 091- Sustainable- Asset- Management [8.6.1.5 - 6 pages]
6. 118- Asset-rationalisation [8.6.1.6 - 3 pages]

The purpose of this report is to seek:

1. Council adoption of the Asset Accounting Policy and Asset Management Policy.
2. Council to rescind the Asset Valuation Policy, Asset Capitalisation Policy, Sustainable Asset Management Policy and the Asset Rationalisation Policy.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council

1. **Adopt the Asset Accounting Policy.**
2. **Adopt the Asset Management Policy.**
3. **Endorse the rescission of the Asset Valuation, Asset Capitalisation, Sustainable Asset Management and Asset Rationalisation Policies.**

CARRIED

8.6.2 Public Street Lighting Policy

Directorate: Infrastructure

Responsible Officer: Manager Engineering

Manager: Director Infrastructure

Attachments:

1. Street Public Lighting Policy Final Draft [8.6.2.1 - 3 pages]
2. Street Public Lighting Policy Review V 2 [8.6.2.2 - 3 pages]

Conflict of Interest: In accordance with section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020, the officer preparing this report declares no conflict of interest regarding this matter.

Council Plan Reference: Well managed resources for a sustainable future.
Well Planned Places
Growing quality of life

To seek Council adoption of the reviewed Public Street Lighting Policy.

Moved by Cr Marwood

Seconded by Cr Jarman

That Council adopt the reviewed Public Street Lighting Policy.

CARRIED

8.7 Sustainability

8.7.1 Policy Review – Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets

Directorate:	Sustainability
Responsible Officer:	Acting Director Sustainability
Manager:	Director Sustainability
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. DRAFT Policy – Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets2. Policy 172 – Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets (current)

The purpose of this report is to seek Councils adoption of the Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets Policy.

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council adopt the revised Management and Sale of Temporary Raw Water Assets Policy.

CARRIED

8.7.2 Recycling/Kerbside Reform standards

Directorate:	Sustainability
Responsible Officer:	Manager Waste and Environment
Responsible Manager:	Manager Waste and Environment
Attachments:	Standardised bin content list

The purpose of this report is to:

To inform Council of the submission lodged to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's (DEECA) 'Setting the standard of better recycling at home' and advise of the proposed regulations and their implications.

Moved by Cr Pentreath

Seconded by Cr Gates

That Council:

- 1. Note and endorse the submission to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's (DEECA) 'Setting the standard of better recycling at home' consultation made by officers.**
- 2. Continue to advocate that waste services provided by, or on behalf of Local Government have the flexibility and discretion to consider service efficiencies (financial, operational and environmental) and whether these are proportional to the benefits the change in service will deliver.**
- 3. Write to the local State Members of Parliament to provide a copy of the submission and requesting an opportunity for Council to provide a brief on the implications of the regulations on Campaspe Shire Council and other regional Councils.**
- 4. Write to The Honourable Steve Dimopoulos, Minister for the Environment and The Honourable Melissa Horne, Minister for Local Government outlining our concerns and the need to have a whole of Government approach to the unique impacts rural Councils face in implementing the proposed regulations.**

CARRIED

8.7.3 Proposed Cooba Solar Farm Update

Directorate:	Sustainability
Responsible Officer:	Manager Planning and Building
Manager:	Manager Planning and Building
Attachments:	Not Applicable

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement for officers to make a submission to Planning Application PA2403122 which has been lodged with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) for the construction of a Solar Farm and Battery Energy Storage System at 124 Cornella Church Road and Plain Road, Colbinabbin. DTP is the Responsible Authority for this application not Campaspe Shire Council.

The application is expected to be formally advertised by DTP in the coming weeks and overlap with the Council election period.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- ~~1. Note the planning application for the proposed Cooba Solar Farm has been lodged with the Minister for Planning for consideration and assessment.~~
- ~~2. Endorse officers to make a submission to the State Government in relation to the Cooba Solar Farm Planning Application with regard to policies and provisions of the Campaspe Planning Scheme, particularly in relation to policies and strategies relating to the protection of productive agriculture land, landscape values and tourism.~~

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Weston

That Council:

- 1. Note the planning application for the proposed Cooba Solar Farm has been lodged with the Minister for Planning for consideration and assessment.**
- 2. Write to the Minister for Planning requesting the advertising and submissions period take place outside the Local Government caretaker election period.**
- 3. Endorse officers to make a submission to the State Government in relation to the Cooba Solar Farm Planning Application, if the advertising period occurs during the Local Government caretaker election period, with regard to policies and provisions of the Campaspe Planning Scheme, particularly in relation to policies and strategies relating to the protection of productive agriculture land, landscape values and tourism.**

CARRIED

8.8 Council Information

8.8.1 Notes of Appreciation

Directorate: Office of the CEO

Responsible Officer: Business Support Officer – OCEO

Manager: Executive Officer

To present the notes of appreciation that Council has received since its last meeting.

Moved by Cr Jarman

Seconded by Cr Pentreath

That Council acknowledge the notes of appreciation as listed and convey this appreciation to the relevant parties.

CARRIED

1. Julie & Wayne, Echuca.

Thank you to the Parks and Gardens Team for all the work carried out on our reserve, mowing, removing tumble weeds and spreading mulch around the trees.

“Your efforts are very much appreciated.”

2. Jim, Cohuna.

Council received an email from Jim expressing his thanks to the Shire Roads Supervisor for leaving a message about the upcoming repairs on Bonn School Road and Jeffreys Road. Jim appreciates the attention given to this matter.

3. Marie, Kyabram

We received a note of thanks from Marie expressing her appreciation for the prompt and effective response by our rangers in handling a recent animal incident. Their quick action and professionalism were noted and valued by the community members.

“Thank you, great result.”

4. Stuart, Torrumbarry

Council received a warm message from Stuart, who expressed his gratitude to the Planning team for the decision to decline the proposed storage facilities in Torrumbarry.

“I am very happy with the decision, I'm sure a lot of other people are as well and not just the locals but also others that visit this beautiful countryside. Thank you guys and girls for your logical decision and I wish you all the best.”

5. Carole and Lew, Echuca

Council received an email from Carole and Lew, expressing their appreciation for the great work being done along Mt. Terricks Road and throughout Echuca.

They specifically mentioned their gratitude for the efforts to maintain the area, especially after the challenges posed by last summer's winds.

"We wish to again commend you on the great work that you are doing along Mt. Terricks Road, and also in the whole of Echuca.."

6. Echuca Regional Health, Echuca

Echuca Regional Health thanks Echuca Library's Knitting Group *"for the generous donation of the knitted daffodils, poppies, and face washer and soap sets"*. The attention to detail and commitment to excellence you have shown are truly commendable.

ERH highly values the dedication and support from all team members, which allows us to continue delivering outstanding services to our community. *"ERH raised over \$1100 for the Cancer Council, through the sale of knitted brooches, hair clips, hair ties and bunches of daffodils."*

7. Jenny, Kyabram

Jenny would like to extend her sincere appreciation to the Campaspe Shire Council for their prompt response to her recent report regarding the water running down the road guttering on Turnbull Street, Kyabram.

She is grateful for the attention and the swift action taken by the after-hours crew to investigate the issue.

8. Grace, Bendigo

Grace would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Bree at the main desk of the Shire. Upon visiting the offices, they were particularly impressed with Bree's pleasant and helpful demeanor.

Grace greatly appreciated Bree's exceptional service, noting how her warm and accommodating approach made their experience at the Shire office truly positive.

9. Julie, Echuca

Julie would like to express her deepest gratitude to the Campaspe Shire, Hamish, and the contractors for their outstanding communication, efficiency, and swift action in addressing her fence issue.

Julie was initially apprehensive about contacting the Shire, but was pleasantly surprised by how smoothly and quickly the matter was resolved. Julie is extremely grateful for the prompt and professional support received, which exceeded expectations.

10. Tobin Brothers Funerals, Echuca

Tobin Brothers Funerals reached out to express sincere thanks to everyone involved in swiftly addressing an urgent request. A tree blocking their driveway was cleared away within the hour.

Tobin Brothers Funerals appreciates the great work and efficiency demonstrated by the team. Thank you to all staff members who contributed to this timely resolution.

11. Kyabram Urban Landcare Group, Kyabram

We want to thank you for the excellent job your team or mower man did earlier in the year. The quality of the work was greatly appreciated, and it made a significant difference to the appearance and usability of the reserve.

12. Campaspe Shire Facebook page

Public feedback on the Echuca East Precinct Soccer Skills Wall Video

- Sue expressed huge congratulations and thanks to the Campaspe Shire for creating this fantastic facility in East Echuca.
- Renee commented: *"Such a beautiful space."* and is excited to see the upcoming upgrades in Kyabram.

13. Liz, Echuca

Council received the following from an attendee of a recent Citizenship Ceremony:

"Thank you so much for organising last evening's Citizenship Ceremony. It was solemn but joyful and beautifully planned and this morning, even after fifty-five years in Oz, I feel somehow different and more like I belong! It was a lovely evening, thanks to your perfect planning and I would like to thank you and your team and the Council."

14. David, Echuca

David would like to congratulate the nine Campaspe Shire Councillors for their dedicated service over the past four years. He extends his appreciation for the hard work and commitment shown by each councillor.

David also wishes to express a special thank you to Leanne Pentreath for her outstanding service over two terms, totalling eight years on the Council.

15. Sally, EMD Parkinson's Support Group

The Support Group expressed their gratitude to the Community Partnerships team with the following thank you letter:

"The EMD Parkinson's Support Group is delighted to receive the Seniors Grant."

9 Notices of Motion

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Gates

Cr Gates requested under Section 2.5.17 (1a) of the Governance Rules that the Motion be separated into two parts where each part is spoken to and debated then voted on separately.

The Chair allowed the Motion to be separated into two parts.

That Council:

1. acknowledges the impacts on the Rushworth community and High Street businesses arising from Council's streetscape renewal project completed in April 2024.
2. waives the 2024-25 annual fee paid by street furniture permit holders in High Street Rushworth.

LOST

Cr Weston called for a Division.

For: Cr Gates, Cr Weller, Cr Zobec and Cr Weston.

Against: Cr Pentreath, Cr Marwood, Cr Jarman, Cr Mackrell and Cr Amos.

That Council:

3. notes policy 159, Public Spaces Trading does not provide guidance on payment of fees when Council does works that stop or interfere with a permitted use.
4. undertakes to consider point (3) above when policy 159 is reviewed in 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rationale:

The Rushworth streetscape renewal project, second stage works commenced in the second half of 2023 and were practically completed in April 2024. The project, while overwhelmingly acknowledged and appreciated as beneficial long term did however cause disruptions and negative impacts during construction. In particular the High St hospitality businesses were unable to use their street furniture while the footpaths were demolished and replaced and were disproportionately impacted. This motion provides the opportunity for Council to consider if the High St hospitality businesses should pay a fee when unable to use their street furniture because of the streetscape works. The motion also affords the opportunity to undertake to articulate a position on the question of fees when permitted uses are disrupted via policy 159 review scheduled to be done by July 2025.

10 Urgent Business

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That an item of urgent business be considered, regarding the waiving of all entry fees for outdoor pools for the 2024-25 financial year.

CARRIED

Moved by Cr Weston

Seconded by Cr Zobec

That Council

1. acknowledge increased usage and community appreciation of Council's decision to waive outdoor pool entry fees for the last two seasons; and
2. resolve to waive all entry fees for outdoor pools for the 2024-25 financial year.

CARRIED

Rationale: Council has resolved to waive entry fees for outdoor pools for the last two years and this has been well received by communities across Campaspe Shire. Pool usage has substantially increased, helping Council to achieve some of the social and wellbeing outcomes identified in Council's current Council Plan. This motion provides Councillors the opportunity to consider continuing this initiative for the 2024-25 year.

11 Confidential Business

Nil.

12 Close Meeting

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8:02pm.



CR ROB AMOS
MAYOR