



**Date:** Tuesday, 9 November 2021  
**Time:** 3pm  
**Location:** Loddon Shire Council Chambers, Wedderburn

# **MINUTES**

## **Special Council Meeting**

**9 November 2021**

**MINUTES OF LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE LODDON SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEDDERBURN  
ON TUESDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 3PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Neil Beattie, Cr Gavan Holt, Cr Linda Jungwirth, Cr Wendy Murphy, Cr Dan Straub

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Lincoln Fitzgerald (Chief Executive Officer), Wendy Gladman (Director Community Wellbeing), Sharon Morrison (Director Corporate Services), Steven Phillips (Director Operations), Lynne Habner (Manager Executive and Commercial Services)

**1 OPENING AFFIRMATION**

“We, the Councillors of the Loddon Shire, declare that we will carry out our duties in the best interests of the community, and through collective leadership will maintain the highest standards of good governance.”

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

“The Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are gathered and pays its respects to their Elders both past and present.”

**3 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**4 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

**5 MAYORAL REPORT****5.1 MAYORAL REPORT****File Number:** FOL/19/126475**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer**Authoriser:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report for 2020/21.

**REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer will invite the outgoing Mayor, Cr Neil Beattie to report on his term of office in 2020/21.

Cr Beattie provided a report on the past year, including welcoming of new councillors in November 2020, and subsequently working together in difficult times to achieve great things.

He noted the retirement of the CEO , Phil Pinyon, in June 2021, and acknowledged the appointment of interim acting CEO Jude Holt. He welcomed the new CEO, Lincoln Fitzgerald and commented that he is looking forward to working with Lincoln in the future.

Cr Beattie wished the best for Cr Straub as the new Mayor, and thanked Councillors and staff for their support during his term as Mayor.

**RESOLUTION 2021/244****Moved:** Cr Neil Beattie**Seconded:** Cr Wendy Murphy

That Council receive and note the Mayoral Report for 2020/21.

**CARRIED**

**6 DECISION REPORTS****6.1 TERM OF THE MAYOR****File Number:** FOL/19/126475**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer**Authoriser:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

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

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Nil.

**BACKGROUND**

Section 26(3) of the Local Government Act 2020, states that before a Mayor is elected, the Council must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a one year or a two year term. The term of office of Mayor will commence on 9 November 2021 upon appointment by Council and become vacant at 6:00am on the date of the November 2022 Special Council Meeting to Elect the Mayor.

The past practice has been to elect the Mayor for a one-year term.

**ISSUES/DISCUSSION**

Nil

**COST/BENEFITS**

There are minimal administration costs occurred in the change of Mayor.

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Nil.

**CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Nil.

**RESOLUTION 2021/245**

Moved: Cr Gavan Holt

Seconded: Cr Linda Jungwirth

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

**CARRIED**

**6.2 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR 2021/22**

**File Number:** FOL/19/126475

**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services

**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council elect a Councillor to be Mayor of the Loddon Shire 2021/22.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

The 2021/22 Mayor Elect was discussed in the Confidential Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 October 2021.

**BACKGROUND**

The Local Government Act 2020, section 26 (4), states, if the Mayor is elected for a 1 year term, the next election of the Mayor must be held on a day to be determined by the Council that is as close to the end of the 1 year term as is reasonably practicable.

Cr Beattie was elected as Mayor on Thursday 19 November 2020.

As per the Loddon Shire Council Governance Rules, the Chief Executive Officer must be the temporary chairperson of a meeting to elect the Mayor.

**ISSUES/DISCUSSION**

The Chief Executive Officer will act as temporary Chairperson for the election of the Mayor.

The Chief Executive Officer will call for nominations for the position of Mayor of the Loddon Shire Council for 2021/22.

The elected Mayor may take the opportunity to give an acceptance speech.

**COST/BENEFITS**

The Councillor Expenses and Support Policy, details claimable expenses for Councillors and the provision of Mayoral vehicle.

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Nil

**CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

Cr Straub gave an acceptance speech, beginning with his appreciation and thanks to the outgoing Mayor, Cr Beattie for his work and support. He thanked Councillors for their confidence in his ability to undertake the role as Mayor.

Cr Straub undertook to bring a fresh new approach to Loddon Shire and will take the role of Mayor on in the best interests of the people he represents, working closely with staff and the new CEO.

Cr Straub thanked individual community members and community groups for their work within their communities. He thanked close friends and family for their words of congratulations, and to his parents and his wife for their support in his role as Councillor. He made special note of his daughters, and expressed a hope that his leadership will help to bring prosperity for the younger generation and make Loddon Shire a great place for future generations to live, work and thrive.

Councillors congratulated Cr Straub and looked forward to working with him during his term as Mayor.

The CEO also congratulated Cr Straub on behalf of Council staff.

**RESOLUTION 2021/246**

Moved: Cr Neil Beattie

Seconded: not required

That Council elect a Councillor to be Mayor of the Loddon Shire 2021/22.

**CARRIED**

**6.3 APPOINTMENT OF ACTING MAYOR**

**File Number:** FOL/19/126475

**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services

**Attachments:** Nil

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolve to appoint an Acting Mayor when required in accordance with section 20B of the Local Government Act 2020.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

At the Special Meeting held on 19 November 2020, Council chose to appoint an Acting Mayor as required.

**BACKGROUND**

Loddon Shire Council historically has chosen to appoint an Acting Mayor as required, instead of appointing a Deputy Mayor.

**ISSUES/DISCUSSION**

Council can determine whether to establish an office of the Deputy Mayor or appoint an Acting Mayor in accordance with sections 20A, 20B and 21 of the Local Government Act 2020.

**COST/BENEFITS**

Nil

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Nil

**CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

**RESOLUTION 2021/247**

Moved: Cr Neil Beattie

Seconded: Cr Gavan Holt

That Council resolve to appoint an Acting Mayor when required in accordance with section 20B of the Local Government Act 2020.

**CARRIED**

**6.4 COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES****File Number:** FOL/19/126475**Author:** Christine Coombes, Executive and Commercial Services Officer**Authoriser:** Lynne Habner, Manager Executive and Commercial Services**Attachments:** 1. Council representation on committees (2021/22)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts the appointments to committees as listed.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this paper, or involved in the subject matter of the paper.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Councillors have discussed the list of committee representation as attached at the October 2021 Council Forum and the October 2021 Confidential Council Meeting.

**BACKGROUND**

Council has historically adopted committee representation at the annual Special Meeting to elect the Mayor.

**ISSUES/DISCUSSION**

These committees are largely advisory or management committees established by Council or external committees on which it is appropriate that Council has representation. Should Council be asked to nominate representatives for any further Committees, nominations may be made at any time of the year.

**COST/BENEFITS**

Nil

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Nil

**CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

**RESOLUTION 2021/248**

Moved: Cr Linda Jungwirth

Seconded: Cr Wendy Murphy

That Council adopts the appointments to committees as listed.

**CARRIED**



**MOTION**

**RESOLUTION 2021/249**

Moved: Cr Neil Beattie

Seconded: Cr Wendy Murphy

That the meeting be closed at 3.18pm.

**CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 23 November 2021 at Wedderburn commencing at 3pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 3.18pm.

Confirmed this.....day of..... 2021

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**CHAIRPERSON**