



Annual General Meeting
Meeting held Tuesday 8th November, 2022.
6.00pm via Zoom

Present:

Stacey Taig	<i>West Vic Business and C1</i>	Amanda Stevens	<i>Guest Speaker</i>
Catherine Shirrefs	<i>Morrow Motor Group</i>	Jo Gardner	<i>Australian Wildflowers</i>
Andrea Cross	<i>Hsm Ag Society</i>	Mark Clyne	<i>Harcourts Horsham</i>
Chan Uoy	<i>Dimboola Imaginarium</i>	Dan Lukaszewski	<i>Bonnie & Clyde's</i>
Allison Roberts	<i>Horsham Plaza</i>	Jess Koenig	<i>Centre for Participation</i>
Nathan Janetzki	<i>ANZ</i>	Lachie Doyle	<i>Doyle's IGA</i>
Tanya Stanley	<i>Beetanicals</i>	Colin Kemp	<i>WDA</i>
Nyssa Webb	<i>Westside Horsham</i>	Kate Crouch	<i>Worrys - Kaniva</i>
Jacky Rickard	<i>Townhouse Motor Inn - Horsham</i>	Claire Morgan	<i>Rupanyup Living</i>
Wendy Bywaters	<i>Wendy's Retreat Nhill</i>	Meran Pilmore	<i>The Dimboola Hotel</i>
Chris McClure	<i>Barangaroo Wines</i>	Nakita Jewell	<i>Little Guys Pizza & Cafe</i>
Graham Keay	<i>Wimmera Pool Solutions</i>	Cam Conboy	<i>Gorst Rural Supplies</i>
Alison Cooper	<i>Bendigo Bank</i>	Anne Macindoe	<i>Business Victoria</i>
Emily Hamilton	<i>MEGT</i>	Emma Howlett	<i>Northern Grampians Shire</i>
Kelly Smithyman	<i>Cooks Manchester</i>	Olivia Morris	<i>HRCC</i>
Tegan Warren	<i>Plant Passion</i>	Kylie Zanker	<i>Yarriambiack Shire</i>
Tim Burnham	<i>nbn co</i>	Tom Huf	<i>Yarriambiack Shire Council</i>
Glenn Ryan	<i>River End Apartments</i>	Alison Spence	<i>Latrobe City</i>
Rebecca Pfeiffer	<i>Bug R Off</i>	Phillippa Cairns	<i>GABN</i>
Steve Olver	<i>Bug R Off</i>	Christy Hoiles	
		Sarah Grimmer	

1) Welcome (Chan Uoy)

Chan Uoy (Vice Chair):

Welcome everyone. To keep proceedings smooth and on time, please help us by remaining on mute until question time or when asked to comment. Thank you.

We would first like to start by providing an apology from our Chair, Mark Clyne, who is joining us from the sidelines this evening due to a recent hospital visit. Mark, we hope you are on the mend and that we do you proud this evening. In addition we have apologies from The Hon Emma Kealy, MP and Mr Matt Luttrell of Department of Jobs Precincts & Regions.

West Vic Business welcomes everyone, and acknowledges the traditional owners in the Wimmera. This meeting is taking place on the traditional lands of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk people, and we pay respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our funding body the Department of Jobs, Precincts & Regions, who provided funding through the Business Chamber & Traders Group grant program for our Master Class Series, for which Amanda is our first presenter. We are very thankful and would like to introduce the Department's director Ylva Carosone, and Senior Manager of Business Resilience & Recovery, Anne Macindoe. Also, Stuart Benjamin, Chair of the Small Business Ministerial Council. Welcome to you all.

We would also like to welcome members of the shires of the Wimmera, Northern Grampians, Ararat and Latrobe City and we would also like to acknowledge our sponsors Ace Radio Broadcasters, event sponsor nbn Co and our socials sponsor Wimmera Pool Solutions.

On a separate note, we would like to take this opportunity to say a fond farewell to David Ward of Wimmera Mallee News, who is retiring shortly. David has been a face of local media for a long time and we would like to extend our thanks and acknowledgement of his achievements across the years. Congratulations David.

But without further adieu, on behalf of West Vic Business and Business Victoria, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our guest speaker this evening, Amanda Stevens. I have Amanda's bio here, and I have to say that we are so honoured and incredibly lucky to have her presenting the first of our master classes. A brief overview of some of Amanda's achievements include

- Speaking at over 500 conferences in 13 countries, sharing the stage with the likes of Donald Trump, Sir Bob Geldof, Sir Richard Branson and Condoleezza Rice, amongst others
- Young Australian of the Year for Career Achievement
- Sydney Young Businesswoman of the Year Award
- And, the prestigious Centenary Medal for Business Innovation

Amanda, welcome to the Wimmera/Northern Grampians, and over to you.

2) **Guest Speaker**

Amanda Stevens spoke about the need for businesses to be "Horizon Focussed", that COVID caused a "forced agility" and some "accidental booms" in certain business areas. The balance between your business being "hi-tech" and "high touch". She particularly focused on: Curiosity, Commonality, Customise, Celebrate and Ceremony.

After Amanda's presentation there was a Zoom technical error.

Present: Chan Uoy, Catherine Shirrefs, Stacey Taig, Allison Roberts, Lachie Doyle, Nathan Janetzki, Andrea Cross, Jo Gardner, Mark Clyne, Jessica Koenig, Glen Ryan, Emily Hamilton, Wendy Bywaters, Graham Keay, Olivia Morriss (HRCC), Kylie Zanker (Yarriambiack), Cam Conboy (GABN), Phillipa Cairns (GABN),

3) **Apologies**

Members: Charlie Helyar - Horsham Neighbourhood House, Bart Turgoose - Bart Maxwell Photography
Invited Guests: Emma Kealy MP, Matt Luttrell - DJPR, Tammy Smith - Yarriambiack Shire

Motion: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Catherine Shirrefs

Seconded: Stacey Taig

Carried

4) **Minutes from Previous AGM**

A copy of the previous AGM minutes was provided by email prior to the meeting. There was no business arising.

Motion: That the Minutes of the Previous AGM be accepted as a correct representation of proceedings

Moved: Catherine Shirrefs

Seconded: Andrea Cross

Resolved

5) **Chairpersons Report**

With mining, and perhaps in contrast solar and green energy projects and expansion and growth of industrial, commercial and agribusiness sectors, the entire Wimmera and Northern Grampians region is entering an unprecedented time of growth and expansion. It is an exciting time, and one that needs to be approached with a path of proactive consideration, as opposed to a reactive position, to ensure we capture the immense opportunities that lie ahead.

We all know that we live in the best region in the state. It has unsurpassed natural wonders, and incredible natural resources. Our kids roam free, and we enjoy an incredible climate that encourages a much sought after outdoors

lifestyle. The area is largely untapped within the tourism sector, and this positions us to launch our shires in new and creative directions.

Upon reflection of the past year with West Vic Business, there have been some great wins and achievements that have established our organisation as one of the leading chambers in Victoria. We talk about this from an innovative standpoint and the unique direction our chamber has taken. Those within the business group and chamber sector know that long term sustainability is and always has been one of the greatest challenges.

Ongoing growth through either membership or special levies is key, and the expansion of our serviceable area to include the shires of the Wimmera and Northern Grampians was the first step in ensuring our region as a whole, receives the benefits of a strong representative business chamber, advocating for them, providing support, information and educational opportunities and that expanded network and links across north west Victoria.

The Executive of West Vic Business have and will be, continuing to strategise the future growth and strength of the organisation, and 2023 will see the return of the very successful cross industry sector networking opportunities, with an even greater focus on building and expanding strategic alliances.

The highlight of 2022 as Chair, has been identifying West Vic Business's key mediatory role across the region, with our unique ability to gather key stakeholders from various industry sectors to create and build project opportunities that have long term, tangible impacts on our greater community. The development of our Lake Precinct Project and the focus of our waterways as a major opportunity for both social and recreational improvements that impact retention of youth, attraction of young families and driving tourism dollars into our local economy has been paramount. This has now built a solid foundation with major key stakeholders and the local shire, to create a very real opportunity for the future of our region, as seen in other parts of the State, but never before here. Exciting times.

As always, we would not be here without the ongoing support of our members, most of whom are long term so we thank them for their ongoing commitment to our region, and our sponsors, whom we touched on earlier. Thank you everyone for your attendance this evening, and we look forward to an incredible 2023 together.

Motion: That the chairperson report be accepted

Moved: Catherine Shirrefs

Seconded: Wendy Bywater

Carried

6) **Treasurers Report**

Catherine Shirrefs presented a copy of the financials for the financial Year 2021-2022 as a part of the Meeting Documents

Motion: That the financials be accepted as true and correct.

Moved: Catherine Shirrefs

Seconded: Nathan Janetzki

Resolved

7) **Ambassadors Report**

Stacey Taig spoke of the work carried out by the organisation in the past year (as presented in the [Annual Report](#)).

8) **Resignation of Office Bearers**

Resignation of executive committee members: Joshua Sykes, Peter McGrath and Rebecca Dunlop

Motion: To accept resignation of Exec Committee Members

Moved: Catherine Shirrefs

Seconded: Lachie Doyle

Resolved

9) **Election of Office Bearers**

Chan declared all Positions Vacant and asked Stacey Taig to take us through proceedings.

As there was only one nomination for each of the positions it was declared all positions as nominated.

Therefore, the following positions are deemed to be elected:

Chairperson	Mark Clyne
Vice Chair	Chan Uoy
Treasurer	Catherine Shirrefs
Secretary (Public Officer)	Catherine Shirrefs
Ind. Sector Rep (Agriculture)	Jo Gardner
Ind. Sector Rep (Education)	Jessica Koenig Fisher
Ind. Sector Rep (Industry)	Andrea Cross

