

4 December 2013

## **A MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013 COMMENCING 9.00 A.M.**

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Yours faithfully  
**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager

**5. DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**09.30 a.m**

**Cherie Parsons**  
**Discuss Coonamble Library Issues.**

**6. DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**7.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE  
COUNCIL HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON  
WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 COMMENCING AT 9.18 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Cr. Al Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. Michael Webb, John Walker, Dan Keady, Bill Burnheim, Tom Cullen and Don Schieb.

Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Warren, the Director of Community Services, Ms Tasker, the Director of Corporate & Urban Services, Mr. Quarmby, Mrs Atkins, Engineer – Special Projects and Mrs Moorhouse.

**1.0 OPENING PRAYER**

**2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

At this juncture, the Mayor acknowledged the original owners of the land, both past and present.

**3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No member of the public was present for public question time.

**4.0 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

Nil

**6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Two declarations of interest were noted:

- i) Cr Keady                      Item No. 12.3 Coonamble Show 2014  
Member of Committee
- ii) Kaylene Atkins            Item 10.8 Precis of Correspondence  
Vice President of Arts Alive

**7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**0511 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 09 October 2013 be confirmed.

**Business arising from Minutes:**

**(a) Quambone Women's Group**

The meeting noted that the School may be available for use by this Group and would be a suitable venue.

**(b) Fencing of Quambone Park**

Council understood that the front of the park was the area to be fenced, however it has now been ascertained that the residents require the whole park area to be fenced and the General Manager said quotes are being obtained. Cr Keady suggested that a report be brought back, with costings to fence the whole area of the park.

**0512 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Burnheim that Council not fence the whole park area, but have the front adjacent to Tucka Tucka Street fenced as initially agreed, using bollards and chain.

**(c) Moorambilla**

Councillors noted that a report from Moorambilla has been received and the issue will be discussed later in the meeting.

**(d) Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station**

The General Manager said there has been no movement regarding this issue. He said RMS will not give any indication of its intentions, only advising that a review is being carried out of the whole regime. Mr Warren said he has also spoken with Kevin Humphries who has also requested information from the RMS. The Mayor and General Manager agreed to raise the matter with the Minister for Roads & Ports on 5 December 2013.

**8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE**

**0513 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Burnheim that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

**Business Arising From Resolution Book:****(a) Quarry Development – Min No 9388**

The General Manager reported that the Licence Agreement in connection with the additional land has been received from the Minister for execution by Council.

**(b) Excavation of Holding Lagoon – STW – Min No 0309**

Cr Burnheim suggested this item be removed from the Resolution Book as funding under Round 5 of the Regional Development Australia Fund will not be approved – this Government has declined to honour the former Government's funding commitments.

**(c) CCTV Warrena Street**

In response to a question, the Director of Corporate and Urban Services said that a proposal to include Warrena Street in the upgrade of the CCTV system would cost an additional \$70,000. The Mayor referred to the system Wellington Council has installed, which cost \$400,000 and suggested that Council should look at a whole new set-up noting that its current CCTV camera system is 10 years old. The General Manager said that Council has received comment from police

that its system is not 'up to speed' because of the poor quality of some images.

## 9.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provided a verbal report of his activities during the month, which included the following:

- Visited Campbelltown with General Manager to be part of the celebrations of the Fisher's Ghost Festival and the Art Exhibition. Suggesting the 'sister city' relationship is a great idea, particularly for staff development. Representatives from Campbelltown have again be invited to visit Coonamble for the Rodeo in June. The General Manager said Campbelltown City Council has access to Ministers, members of Parliament and Commissioners and has invited Council to take advantage of that access. Councillors agreed it is a very good relationship between the two Councils. Coonamble Council presented a Neville Owens shearing shed picture on canvas and Campbelltown reciprocated with a painting – which will be displayed in the Visitor Information Centre.
- Attended meeting in Dubbo on the Community Road Map – progressing well – a copy of the September 2013 version was included with each Councillor's business paper. Committees from each Council have been formed – Council's Economic Development Manager and Tourism Development Manager have undertaken to be involved in the accommodation audit.
- Prime TV visited Coonamble – conducted an interview with Neville Owens on his photographic memorabilia – which has been to air and was very good. Also visited Ken Waterford's property and discussed drought conditions being experienced. The General Manager said Council has written to both its Local Member and the Minister for Agriculture regarding the discontinuation of Exceptional Circumstance assistance. The Mayor suggested we should pursue the matter of Coonamble not being included in recently announced areas to receive assistance.
- Attended the OROC meeting in Wellington with the General Manager.
- Attended Showground Users meeting on 12 November – advised Council cannot undertake big projects, but will look into availability of funds to improve the sheep yards, provide additional lighting and improve toilet facilities. Indicated that the users would be happy to have a roof over the rodeo area. Noted that \$328,000 is available for expenditure. It was agreed that the General Manager provide a report to Council's December meeting to include costing of the three projects mentioned above.
- Reminded Councillors that a meeting has been secured with Hon Duncan Gay, Minister for Roads and Ports on 5 December.

**0514 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Keady that the Mayor's Activity report be adopted.

#### **10.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**0515 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

#### **Section A – For Council's Consideration:**

##### **10.1 COONAMBLE CLAY TARGET CLUB D7(41708)**

**0516 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council agree to donate \$100 to the Coonamble Clay Target Club towards its 2014 Golden Grain Shoot on 12 & 13 April and funds be sourced from the Donations Vote.

##### **10.2 GULARGAMBONE CENTRAL SCHOOL D7(41719)**

Advising the annual Presentation Night will be held on 10 December and asking whether Council would be happy to continue its sponsorship.

##### **10.3 COONAMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL D7(41717)**

Referring to its annual Presentation Day and asking Council to consider a contribution towards prizes.

**0517 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that, in keeping with past practice, Council agree to donate \$100 to each of the five schools in the Shire towards their Presentation Night Awards.

##### **10.4 PAUL LEFEBVRE S13-1**

Proposing the name Tommy Durham as appropriate for the naming of the Club House at the Coonamble Swimming Complex.

**0518 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council thank Mr Lefebvre for his suggestion and advise that it has agreed to the Swimming Club's request.

##### **10.5 DAVID MORISON S13-1(41760)**

Proposing the Swimming Club House be named in recognition of the contribution made by Robert 'Whiskey' Andriske.

##### **10.6 TARA HAZLETT S13-1(41813)**

Proposing the name Whiskey Andriske for the Club House at the Coonamble Pool.

**0519 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Keady that Council agree with the design of the two signs to be placed on the building at the Coonamble Swimming Complex and also to the Club House being named The Whiskey Andriske Club House.

**10.7 ST VINCENT de PAUL GREENE VILLA RESIDENCE S13(41823)**  
**0520 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Burnheim that Council provide a Season Ticket to the eight permanent residents of Greene Villa and their carers for admission to the Coonamble Pool for the 2013/2014 swimming season.

At this juncture, Mrs Atkins left the meeting while this matter was being discussed.

**10.8 COONAMBLE ARTS ALIVE D7(41577)**  
**0521 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Cullen that Council agree to a \$3,000 contribution from the Donation Vote to assist with insulation and air conditioning of the former Boy Scouts' Hall, which Coonamble Arts Alive now rent.

**10.9 QUAMBONE WOMEN'S GROUP D7+S13-3(41921)**  
**0522 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council agree to the request by Quambone Women's Group to use the Quambone Pool as the venue for its Australia Day celebrations and contribute \$200 from the Australia Day vote to help defray costs with catering.

**10.10 COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE R8-10+S10-2(41919)**  
**0523 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that Council agree to the request from Coonamble Streets Ahead Committee to close Castlereagh Street, from the Peace Tree to Aberford Street, from 5.30 p.m. until 9.30 p.m. on Thursday, 19 December 2013 for the annual Christmas Party, subject to Police approval.

**10.11 COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE S10-2(41918)**  
**0524 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council agree to provide the 12 sandbags to secure the jumping castle and the usual barricades be provided and placed where required, in accordance with past practice.

**10.12 LEONARD'S STORE S10-2(41906)**  
**0525 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council advise Mr Leonard staff will assist with barricades to close the section of Castlereagh Street, as requested on the morning of 10 May 2014, however Council; is unable to assist with seating as it does not have appropriate seating available.

**10.13 COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL D7(41922)**  
**0526 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that Council contribute \$1,500 from the Development Fund to assist towards expenses in hosting the High School's Bovine Appreciation Club Dinner on Friday 22 November 2013.

**10.14 JF & HA RACKHAM SR109**

**0527 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Keady that Council defer consideration of this matter until later in the day when dealing with the Notice of Motion in the General Manager's report.

**10.15 INDOOR EMPLOYEES' CHRISTMAS PARTY D7(41915)**

**0528 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council agree to contribute \$350 towards the Indoor Employees' Break-up Party.

**10.16 O'BRIEN & SONS TRANSPORT, GULARGAMBONE PR2786+T5(41710)**

**0529 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Schieb and Webb that Council advise Mr O'Brien it is unable to accede to his request to park heavy vehicles in Yoolundry Street for the duration of the 2013 harvest period, as approval would contravene NSW Road Rules.

**Section B: Matters for Council's Information:****10.17 JOHN MACARTHUR-STANHAM - LOCAL LAND SERVICES CHAIRMAN E5-3(41659)**

Writing as the inaugural Chair of the Local Land Services (LLS) Board of Chairs. Providing a listing of the 11 Regional Chairs which are now in place. Saying board members will be announced in the coming weeks and the process of recruiting General Managers is in hand, with applications closing 20 October 2013.

**10.18 NSW PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE E5(41697)**

Referring to the recent announcement by the NSW Government on the implementation of initiatives under the Strategic Regional Land Use Policy and the brochure *Getting the balance right: NSW land use*. Stating once the mapping is finalized, the Gateway process will be applied to new State significant mining and coal seam gas projects proposed on this land. Saying further information is available at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au)

**10.19 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DUBBO M3+O5(41718)**

Thanking Council and the Mayor for supporting the Toyota Tour de OROC fundraising bike ride and saying the end result may be around \$140,000.

**10.20 HILL ROGERS SPENCER STEER TD13-6(41742)**

Thanking Council for its letter advising their audit tender was successful. Accepting reappointment and asking that their acceptance and appreciation be conveyed to Council.

**10.21 THE HON BRAD HAZZARD MP B11(41754)**

Regarding important changes that have been made to the Planning Bill 2013 which the NSW Government will introduce into Parliament over the coming weeks. Advising local government will be invited to participate as partners in the various implementation working groups.

**10.22 WARREN TRUSS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Copy of speech to the National Conference concerning Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA). A copy of the speech was included with each Councillor's business paper.

**10.23 NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK M5-1(41820)**

Forwarding copy of annual company report for year ended 30 June 2013. Saying a copy of the report is available at [www.nswrdn.com.au](http://www.nswrdn.com.au) under News & Publications/RDN Publications/Corporate Reports & Plans.

**10.24 NSW OFFICE OF WATER F5-4(41835)**

Advising Council's application under Part VIII of the Water Act 1912 for the Coonamble Town Levee Upgrade has been granted, noting it is effective for a period of five years commencing from 24 October 2013. Drawing attention to the conditions attached to the Approval.

**10.25 TWO EIGHT TWO EIGHT D5-14-2**

Forwarding copy of minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 21 October 2013, together with its Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2013, which was included with the business paper.

**10.26 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION L10(41881)**

Reporting on the issue of constitutional recognition and advising the Government has agreed to allow the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to use the federal funding provided for the referendum campaign to reimburse local government for the costs incurred prior to the referendum being cancelled. Thanking all councils who contributed to the referendum campaign, in terms of money, time and effort

**10.27 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATED INC W1(41928)**

Thanking Council for its continued membership and attaching a copy of the 2012/2013 Annual Report. Advising the outgoing National President, Ken Rogers, welcomes Cr Greg Toll as its new National President and hopes that the plans set down for the MDA in 2013/2014 are productive and beneficial to the future prosperity of all basin communities.

**10.28 INLAND NSW TOURISM T3-12(41927)**

Formally inviting representation from Council to attend the 2013 Annual General Meeting and celebrate a second successful year of operation. Saying the AGM will be held at 11.30 a.m. at The Royal Automotive Club of Australia, 89 Macquarie Street. Attaching notification of the meeting and a nomination form for members to nominate for election as a Director of Inland NSW

**10.29 COONAMBLE LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL A2(41753)**

Advising it is holding a ball to recognize the hard work and efforts of the local Indigenous people. Inviting management staff to acknowledge a fellow

colleague or community member by nominating them for an award. Sending a package of nomination forms to nominate positive role models in various categories.

**10.30 PETER DELANEY, ARMATREE R4-3(41816)**

Asking Council to please consider taking one of the following courses of action, on compassionate grounds with regard to his circumstances regarding overdue rates on blocks he cannot afford.

1. in accordance with s713(2)(b) Local Government Act 1993, sell the relevant blocks of land; or
2. in accordance with s570 of the same Act, accept transfer of the relevant blocks of land in full satisfaction of the rates, charges and accrued interest.

The General Manager reported that staff has had numerous discussions with Mr Delaney, each time advising him that Council did not accept land in payment of outstanding debt, but that the properties would be included in the next sale of land for overdue rates.

**0530 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.17 to 10.30 inclusive be noted.

**URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE**

**0531 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following matters be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

**10.31 THE HON ANDREW STONER MP P10-5(41947)**

**0532 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council contact its Local Member requesting that he make representations to appropriate Upper House members on its behalf to support the *Crown Lands Amendment (Multiple Land Use) Bill 2013*.

**10.32 COONAMBLE SHIRE EMPLOYEES’ CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE S6**

**0533 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council agree to contribute \$500 towards the Outdoor Employees’ Christmas break-up function and agree to a half day holiday from 12 noon on Friday 20 December 2013 for staff to attend the function at the Coonamble RSL Club.

**10.33 GULARGAMBONE AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB INC S13-2(41958)**

**0534 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Cullen that Council not agree to waive the pool hire fee of \$331 charged for use of the pool for the annual carnival, noting that the Club collected gate takings and that Coonamble is charged a fee for hire of the Coonamble pool for its annual carnival.

**10.34 MARK COULTON MP A6+D9+F5(41973)**

**0535 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Keady that the General Manager contact the Councils of Brewarrina, Bourke, Walgett

and Nyngan and apply as a group, including Coonamble, to the State Government to have Exceptional Circumstance interest rate subsidy payments made available if not to the whole LGA areas, as least the northern part of this Shire.

**10.35 TRADE & INVESTMENT – CROWN LANDS Q1(41967)**

**0536 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council note receipt of the final Licence Agreement in connection with the Crown Land Licence for Mt Magometon Quarry extension and authorise the affixing of the Seal to the documents.

**10.36 COONAMBLE SWIMMING CLUB INC S13-1(41988)**

**0537 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council agree to the Swimming Club's request to use the pool for formal ceremonies to be held on Friday 22 November 2013 and for a barbeque for members and invited guests afterwards.

**11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**

**0538 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

**11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**0539 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council note Development Application No 021/2013 was approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

In response to a question from Cr Burnheim, the General Manager explained that applications are submitted to Council if they are controversial, e.g. do not comply with the Building Code/Zoning, etc or if there have been legal objections lodged regarding the development.

**11.2 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

**0540 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council note the Comparative Information for NSW Local Councils, as provided by the Division of Local Government.

At this juncture, 10.20 a.m., Mr. Tim Horan arrived at the meeting.

**11.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL SCHEME (LIRS) – ROUND THREE**

Considerable discussion took place regarding this matter, with Councillors suggesting various projects for consideration of funding. The General Manager said Council is in a sound financial position, however he said it is necessary to work out how repayments for any borrowings can be funded. Councillors noted that to fund a \$3M debt repayments would be approximately \$350,000/year after the application of a 3% interest subsidy.

The General Manager said the Division of Local Government is looking at all councils' assets and more focus is to be placed on the infrastructure

backlog. Cr Burnheim suggested upgrading of urban streets, kerb/guttering, rural roads as suitable projects. Cr Webb referred to Council's liability of funding for the levee upgrade – the Director of Corporate & Urban Services said this funding has been factored into the budget.

**0541 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Keady that the General Manager provide a report to the December meeting on the feasibility of borrowing \$4M for upgrading of urban streets, kerbing and guttering and rural roads, together with priorities.

At this juncture, the Mayor presented Mr Tim Horan with an Award from Local Government NSW for Service, noting that Tim was elected to Council in 2004 and served as Mayor from that period until 2012, when he did not seek re-election. Mr Horan thanked Council and joined Councillors and Staff at morning tea.

The meeting adjourned at 10.40 a.m. for morning tea and resumed at 11.05 a.m.

#### **PRINCIPAL – COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL**

Upon resumption of the meeting, the Mayor welcomed Ms Margaret Mulcahy, Principal of the Coonamble High School, to provide an update on various issues being addressed at the School.

She said usually the Education Department has a one year strategic plan, however Coonamble has developed a five year strategic plan. Ms Mulcahy said included in the strategic plan is a lot of input from the community, with united ideas. She said there is always concern with limited budget, however the School now has an idea of its annual funding allocation and some hard decisions will need to be made.

Ms Mulcahy referred to training undertaken by staff which has made significant improvement and she is extremely pleased with the Wellbeing Program which has only been operative for approximately six months.

The Principal said 27 students graduated from Year 12 this year and three of those have been offered University places. She said the challenge facing the school is that a lot of parents are not supportive – saying that Liaison Officers still work on trying to raise attendance. Ms Mulcahy said Luke Ballard – Clontarf Foundation – is doing a great job, however individual students have other areas of need.

Ms Mulcahy said what the school is doing is known as *Enterprise Education* – she said it needs to be promoted and supported and the bottom line is 'jobs guarantee' for students so they recognise the purpose of schooling. Cr Keady referred to the Mentoring Program and Cr Burnheim said he had had experience with the Outward Bound Program which was great, but after a few years there was no interest from students so it was dropped. Cr Webb referred to staffing issues, saying some members feel

insecure, not knowing whether their positions will be available for ongoing employment.

The Principal said she acknowledges this concern, however four or five positions have recently been made permanent – she advised that all positions are advertised and that it takes approximately a month to finalise each position. When asked whether the Youth Club closure has made a difference to the school, Ms Mulcahy said it had because that is where students on detention were supervised, however some support has been forthcoming from other agencies.

The Mayor thanked Ms Mulcahy for providing Council with this update and she left the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

#### **11.4 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF OFFICE – CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD**

**0542 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council close the office on Tuesday 24 December 2013 and reopen on Thursday 2 January 2014 and that staff use annual leave provisions for the three days not covered by public holidays.

#### **11.5 SHORT TERM CARAVAN PARK/CAMPING AREA**

**0543 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council note the information pertaining to caravan parking and/or camping on the land bounded by Limerick Street and Eurimie Creek backing onto the Castlereagh River.

#### **11.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

**0544 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and noted.

#### **11.7 PROPOSAL FOR A COONAMBLE SHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**0545 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Burnheim :

(a) that Council form a Coonamble Shire Economic Development Committee to assist Councillors and staff set the strategic direction for the Economic Development function of Council and provide recommendations for specific actions to meet the objectives set out in the strategic planning documents;

(b) that the Committee be facilitated by Council staff as determined by the General Manager, meet quarterly (or as determined by the Chair) and consist of:

- three councillors (Mayor the Chair)
- three local industry/community representatives (selected for their knowledge/skills/experience);

(c) that all members be appointed by resolution of the Council, following an advertised call for Expressions of Interest;

(d) that Council adopt the draft Charter for Coonamble Economic Development Committee and the Committee operate according to that Charter.

## 11.8 NOTICES OF MOTION

### (1) Thara Road:

**0546 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Webb that Council instruct the General Manager to lodge the survey plan of the recently surveyed section of Thara Road with the Registrar General and take any other steps necessary to open the road. *Carried 4 votes/3 votes*

Councillors Keady and Burnheim requested that their names be recorded as voting against this resolution.

It was noted that Item No 10.14 – letter from JF & HA Rackham – was dealt with in conjunction with this resolution.

### (2) Tooraweenah Road

**0547 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Schieb that:

- (a) Council make application under the NSW Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme for funding to undertake sealing of the Tooraweenah Road;
- (b) a report be brought back to the December meeting of Council detailing the overall cost of sealing the road, the cost per kilometre of such works and the standard of the proposed construction. *Carried 4 votes/3 votes.*

## 12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

**0548 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

## 12.1 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION POLICY

**0549 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council endorse the Community Consultation Policy presented at the meeting and place the document on public exhibition for the prescribed period, calling for submissions, prior to formally adopting the policy taking into consideration any submissions received.

Cr Burnheim requested that his name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

## 12.2 MURDI PAAKI YOUTH SERVICES

**0550 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Burnheim that Council note Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise (MPREC) has ceased its youth services in both Gulargambone and Coonamble due to lack of external funding.

Councillor Keady declared an interest in the following matter and did not take part in discussion or voting.

### **12.3 COONAMBLE SHOW 2014**

**0551 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that Council agree to apply for gazettal of a local public holiday for the second day of the 2014 Coonamble Show, being Wednesday 28 May, following consultation with the community and local businesses and organisations.

### **12.4 MOORAMBILLA FESTIVAL**

**0552 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that Council write to Moorambilla Festival Inc requesting that its intentions for the Festival in 2014 be submitted to Council.

### **12.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS**

**0553 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the information contained in the Community Services Progress report be noted.

#### **(a) Burglar Beware**

In response to a question, the Director of Community Services advised that all funds have been 'earmarked' for expenditure, however some equipment remains to be installed.

#### **(b) Library Connections Project**

**0554 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Webb that an issue relating to this item be raised in Closed Session.

#### **(c) Tour de OROC**

The Mayor advised that \$175,000 was raised by this bicycle ride and the funds will go towards accommodation to be built at the Dubbo Base Hospital for use by residents of the Orana region.

### **12.6 CODE OF CONDUCT REPORTING**

**0555 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and Webb that Council note the Conduct Reviewer, having investigated complaints, is satisfied the General Manager has not breached the Code of Conduct.

### **13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES**

**0556 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

### **13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

**0557 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 October 2013 be noted.

### **13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS**

**0558 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the list of investments as 31 October 2013 be noted, and it also be noted that

Council's investments comply with s625(2) of Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

### **13.3 DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS**

**0559 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council note the destruction of the subject records in compliance with the State Records Act 1998.

### **13.4 FINANCIAL REPORTS & AUDIT REPORT – YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2013**

**0560 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council note the tabling of the presentation and tabling of its Auditors Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013.

### **13.5 FINAL RATE CERTIFICATE 2012/2013**

**0561 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council note the Final Rate Certificate for the Year 2012/2013 and authorising the affixing of the Common Seal.

### **13.6 COONAMBLE POOL – SPLASHPAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

**0562 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council note the information and that the project will be completed prior to the Coonamble Swimming Club function on Friday 22 November, 2013.

### **13.7 GRANT APPLICATION – PARTICIPATION & FACILITY PROGRAM**

**0563 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Keady that Council endorse the actions of Management in submitting application for a \$25,000 grant under the Facility Development stream of the Participation & Facility Program for improvements and upgrades to irrigation systems at Coonamble and Gulargambone Sportsground and Smith Park.

### **13.8 WORKS IN PROGRESS**

**0564 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

### **14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**

**0565 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

### **14.1 COONAMBLE LANDFILL SITE**

**0566 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that:

1. Council proceed with the compulsory acquisition of the land described as Lots 1 and 2 DP 1007782, formally part of TSR 24312, for the purpose of a landfill site in accordance with the requirements of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.
2. Council make an application to the Minister and the Governor for approval to acquire lots 1 and 2 DP 1007782 formally part of TSR 24312 by compulsory process under section 186(1) of the Local Government Act.

3. Under section 31 of the Local Government Act, the land being acquired under the compulsory process will be classified as operational land and further pursuant to section 34 of the Local Government Council give public notice of its intention to classify the land as operational.

#### **14.2 WORKS IN PROGRESS**

- 0567 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

#### **15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

- 0568 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

#### **15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2013**

- 0569 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the report by the Ranger for the month of October 2013 be noted.

#### **16.0 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – 30/09/2013**

- 0570 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the Quarterly Budget Review be undertaken.

Councillors perused the information presented by the Director of Corporate Services and the Director answered questions raised.

- 0571 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council:
- (1) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review;
  - (2) note that, in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
  - (3) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 30 September 2013.

#### **17.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

- 0571 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the reports by various committees be received and noted:

##### **17.1 Coonamble Heritage and Museum Committee - AGM**

- 0572 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the minutes of the annual general meeting of Coonamble Heritage and Museum Committee held on 15 October 2013 be noted.

##### **17.2 Coonamble Heritage and Museum Committee Meeting**

- 0573 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the minutes of the meeting of Coonamble Heritage and Museum Committee held on 15 October 2013 be confirmed.

##### **(a) Archives – Handrail**

Council has been requested, via the above minutes, to change the handrail leading into the Archives to a broomstick style (i.e. round grip in lieu of the current flat shape).

**17.3 Minutes of Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting**

**0574 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Burnheim that the minutes of the Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting held on 5 September 2013, together with attachments, be noted.

**18.0 SALEYARDS REPORT**

**0675 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that the report by the Manager of Saleyards & Facilities for month of October 2013 be dealt with.

**18.1 SALES**

**0676 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the information be noted.

**18.2 WORKS COMPLETED**

**0677 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that works completed at the Saleyards be noted.

**18.3 SALEYARDS ACCOUNT**

**0678 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council note the Income and Expenditure for the month of October 2013 and that there is currently a surplus of \$3,721.24 in the saleyards account.

**19.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**0679 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 s10A:

*“(2)(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors; and  
2(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business”*

**0680 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

At this juncture, 12.50 p.m., the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 1.50 p.m.

**RESUME OPEN MEETING**

**0681 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council resume Open Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**0682 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council adopt the recommendation from Closed Session, being Recommendation No. as detailed below:

**19.1 COONAMBLE LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council:

- (a) advise Coonamble Local Aboriginal Land Council it wishes to continue with both issues separately; and
- (b) request a report investigating the use of the western end of “The Meglo” as a potential landfill site;
- (c) contact Coonamble Aboriginal Medical Service, asking if it intends to proceed with the purchase of the Castlereagh Street block.

**20.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

**21.0 GENERAL BUSINESS****Cr Schieb:**

- Referred to lopping of street trees by Essential Energy – the General Manager said he has taken the issue up with Essential Energy, as well as Kevin Humphries – said Council may have to undertake additional lopping.
- Caravan Park needs general clean up and surrounds require watering.

**Cr Burnheim:**

- Broome Park – Mrs Jackson waters area adjacent to her premises – asked staff to investigate and install additional connections so other residents can water portions of the area.

**Cr Keady:**

- Suggested Council hosting a Corporate Tent at the Rodeo – would be a good opportunity to promote the area – invite businesses that do business with Council. Saying it would be completely separate to the Rodeo Committee’s marquee.

**0609 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that Council investigate costs associated with hosting a corporate event at the rodeo, in the pavilion, including catering and other associated expenses.

- Child Care Centre, Wilga Street – Councillors noted the second child care facility is sustainable, it has 15 children booked currently and four local persons are employed.

**Cr Walker:**

- Bus Shelters for school children – the General Manager advised Council has made application for funding of \$26,000 through the Department of Transport for three bus shelters.

**Cr Webb:**

- Coonamble Primary School – referred to the school not being able to conduct the intensive learn to swim at the pool at 9 a.m. The Director said the school has been advised it can start at 1 p.m. each day in an

effort to keep costs down. The Director advised that Gulargambone School has also been advised of the change.

**0610 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the Schools be advised they can attend the pools for the intensive learn to swim sessions commencing 9.00 a.m. as previously and that additional costs be funded from the Development Fund up to a maximum of \$30,000, noting the intensive learn to swim sessions are conducted for a period of only two weeks.

Councillors Cullen and Schieb requested that their names be recorded as voting against this resolution.

- Murdi Paaki – referred to “The Meglo” block purchased from Council and noted no works appear to be in progress.

**Director of Community Services:**

- Advised that the Community Services department is completing tasks within the Operational Plan to the set timeframe.
- Advised that out of 188 actions, Community Services is responsible for 50 and all are on track for completion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.40. p.m.

These Pages (1/5354 to 205373 were confirmed on the .....day of DECEMBER 2013 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 13 November 2013.

**MAYOR**

**8. RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**8.1 RESOLUTIONS IN PROGRESS**

**CARAVAN PARK+ECO SPA STAGE 2 – INVESTMENT READY**

**0392 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that:

- (a) Council note the General Manager will determine the Development Application under delegated authority;
- (b) following approval of the Investor Brief, with adjustments approved by the General Manager, commence proceedings in calling for expressions of interest;
- (c) continue proceedings to purchase the land required for the development of the Eco Spa, together with the rest of Smith Park in its entirety;
- (d) upon completion of the process, classify the land as 'operational'.

**Status:**

**Waiting for approval from the Department of Lands**

**EXTENSION OF COONAMBLE LANDFILL SITE**

**0397 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Keady that Council:

- (1) negotiate with the LHPA and Crown Lands to acquire a portion of approximately 16 hectares of land being Part TSR 24312 by way of the compulsory process and further, Council make application to the Minister of Local Government seeking approval from the Governor to acquire the land using the compulsory process;
- (2) reclassify the land being acquired under the compulsory process under section 31 of the Local Government Act to operational land and further, pursuant to section 34 of the Local Government Act, give public notice of its intention to reclassify the land;
- (3) engage a Registered Surveyor to survey the parcel of land and lodgment of the deposited plan with the Land Titles Office;
- (4) engage Councils Solicitors to commence the legal proceedings of formally acquiring the land and lodging of the deposited plan.

**Status:**

**Application made to Minister seeking approval to acquire the land. Application made to Coonamble Local Aboriginal Lands Council as the land is subject to an Aboriginal Land Claim. Aboriginal Lands Council again requested to advise its approval.**

**PLANTER BOXES**

**0704 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Walker that suitable planter boxes be purchased for placing on the eastern side of Castlereagh Street to provide a cover over the rails.

**Status:**

**Sourcing appropriate vandal-proof containers. In progress**

**PA SYSTEM – COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**0730 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that Council accept the quote from the Dubbo Company of \$6,500 to supply and install a PA system in the Council Chamber and that the amount be provided from the maintenance vote and that additional microphones be purchased to provide one for each station. ***Carried 4 votes/1 vote***

**Status:**

**Order placed – awaiting delivery and installation.**

**19.1 COONAMBLE LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council:

(b) request a report investigating the use of the western end of “The Meglo” as a potential landfill site;

**Status:**

**Report will be provided in the new year.**

**EXECUTIVE TENT – RODEO CAMPDRAFT EVENT**

**0609 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that Council investigate costs associated with hosting a corporate event at the rodeo, in the pavilion, including catering and other associated expenses.

**Status:**

**See report this meeting.**

<b>8.2 RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED – TO BE REMOVED FROM THE RESOLUTION BOOK</b>
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**13.2 QUARRY DEVELOPMENT**

**9388 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Webb that quotes for a detailed investigation of the quantity and quality of materials available be obtained, prior to discussing the possibility of obtaining additional land from the present lessee.

<b>Status:</b> <b>Licence executed under Seal and returned to Crown Lands for execution by the Department.</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>
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**EXCAVATION OF HOLDING LAGOON – SEWER TREATMENT WORKS**

**0309 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Schieb that the Director of Engineering Services further investigate this proposal and seek sources of funding for the project.

<b>Status:</b> <b>No funding available</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>
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**CCTV COVERAGE – UPGRADE**

requested GM to get quotes to upgrade/update the CTV cameras with latest technology – the older cameras do not give good quality “stills”

<b>Status:</b> <b>Information was provided to November meeting.</b>	<b>COMPLETED</b>
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**SEATING FOR MAIN STREET**

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council purchase two bolt down park settings for placement each side of the main street, at a cost of \$985.00 each.

<b>Status:</b> <b>Settings installed.</b>	<b>COMPLETED.</b>
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**TRUCK PARKING AREA – PILLIGA/BARADINE TURNOFF**

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Webb that the Director of Engineering Services make representations to the Roads and Maritime Services to have a truck parking area established at the Baradine/Pilliga turnoff.

<b>Status:</b> <b>RMS advises parking area may be included in widening works proposed for 2014/2015.</b>	<b>COMPLETED.</b>
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**COONAMBLE LANDFILL SITE**

**0398 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that :

(1) Council make application to the Minister of Local Government seeking approval under section 14(3) of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 to reissue the proposed acquisition notice in respect to lots 1 and 2 DP 1007782 being Crown land;

(2) Under section 31 of the Local Government Act, the land being acquired under the compulsory process will be classified as operational land and further pursuant to section 34 of the Local Government Council give public notice of its intention to classify the land as operational

**Status:**

**Application made to the Minister & Governor for approval to acquire the land – necessary to re-apply as the original approved acquisition notice cannot be located. COMPLETED**

**MOTOR BIKE TRACK****11/09/2013**

**0680 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Schieb and Cullen that the Council write to the Castlereagh Local Area Command requesting assistance with this proposal and also support from the Police.

**Status:**

**Inspector Ralph advised that constant supervision would be required – motorcycles of that type (unlicensed riders) are not permitted on public land and/or roads. COMPLETED**

**9. MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013**

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**10. PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:**

**10.1 TAFE NSW WESTERN INSTITUTE D7(42065)**

Advising that Coonamble Campus is conducting a Graduation Ceremony on Wednesday 11 December at 10.00 a.m. Seeking support by way of donation towards the cost of a prize. Inviting the Mayor to attend the Ceremony and present an award to one of the outstanding graduating students.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – The day of the TAFE Graduation Ceremony clashes with Council's December Meeting. Regarding support by way of a donation – Council at its November meeting agree to contribute \$100 to each of the five schools within the Shire for presentation night awards. I have written to TAFE advising its request would be dealt with at this meeting).

**Recommendation:**  
**For Council's determination.**

**10.2 ROBBO'S CONSTRUCTION & EARTHWORK G1(42129)**

Requesting permission to change dates for garbage collection services over the Christmas period. Pointing out that it is intended to change the east Coonamble pickup from Tuesday 24 December to Monday 23 December; the west Coonamble pickup from Thursday 26 December to Tuesday 24 December and the Gulargambone pickup will be on the normal Wednesday, 25 December. Seeking approval of these changes.

**Recommendation:**  
**That Council accede to the request to change garbage collection days over the Christmas period, noting the Contractor will be responsible for the letter box drop informing residents accordingly.**

**10.3 COONAMBLE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION  
H1(42138)**

Requesting assistance in paying power bills for the Senior Citizens Hall at 23 Namoi Street. Saying it has been suggested that Council may consider installing solar panels on the roof of the building, which members use each Tuesday and Thursday. Pointing out the most expensive outlay is electricity. Saying the Association would like to provide more activities for members and interact with other Clubs, but cannot do so currently due to the amount of the electricity costs.

Advising members endeavour to keep costs to a minimum by turning off refrigerators and the hot water system when the hall is not in use. Saying they are a new committee and trying hard to keep the organisation active. Looking forward to Council's positive response.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council decline the request by Coonamble Senior Citizens Association to contribute towards electricity accounts due at the Senior Citizens Hall.**

**10.4 OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE F5-4(42040)**

Referring to Council's application for financial assistance under the 2013/14 Floodplain Management Program for Stage 2 – Coonamble Levee Upgrade – and advising the application has been placed on a reserve list. Saying the list may be activated during 2013/14 as funds become available and *“when Council have completed the investigation and design and when substantial progress of stage one works have been undertaken”*.

**10.5 OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE F5-4(42039)**

Referring to Council's application for financial assistance under the 2013/14 Floodplain Management Program for Stage 1 – Coonamble Levee Upgrade – and advising the application has been placed on a reserve list. Saying the list may be activated during 2013/14 as funds become available and *“when Council have completed the investigation and design and when substantial progress of stage one works have been undertaken”*.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Upon return from leave of Council's Director of Engineering Services, it was found that the reason given in both cases by the Office of Environment and Heritage were erroneous – as Council is in a position to commence works as funding becomes available. The Director has advised the Office of Environment and Heritage of the error and has requested that Council's applications be re-considered in light of that information).

**Recommendation:**

**That Council endorse the actions of the Director of Engineering Services in seeking reconsideration of Council's applications and that Council write to both its Local State and Federal Members seeking their support in lobbying for funds for Stages 1 and 2 of the Levee Upgrade project.**

<b>10.6</b>	<b>COONAMBLE RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE INC</b>	<b>D5-</b>
<b>4(42177)</b>		

Advising the Executive of Cottage Industries has advised that on two occasions one of their volunteers have fallen and injured themselves due to the unsafe condition of the shutters in their shop. Saying quotes have been sought from three independent businesses to replace the shutters with glass as this is the cheaper option. Pointing out that as both RTC and Cottage Industries are non-profit organisations, they are seeking Council assistance to replace the shutters. Saying RTC is not able to afford full cost of the project and asking Council to contribute half cost, with the RTC and Cottage Industries sharing the other half. Asking that this matter be determined as a priority as it is hoped to have the job carried out in January while Cottage Industries is closed.

**(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER** – The issues of the shutters has been ongoing for approximately two years; the Manager of the RTC has been notified each time that the responsibility is that of the RTC. Council’s Manager – Environmental Services inspected the shutters on previous occasions and indicated they are damaged through the shutters being “forced” and not as a result of fair wear and tear.

The lease also allows for the tenant to sublet offices/shops within the property at a rental and term of the tenant’s sole discretion).

<b>Recommendation:</b> <b>That Council inform the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre Inc that the cost of repairs/replacement of the shutters is the responsibility of the RTC</b>
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<b>10.7</b>	<b>REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – ORANA NSW</b>
<b>D7(42182)</b>	

On behalf of Orana Driver Licence Program partner group seeking Council’s support and possible financial contribution towards the Orana Driver Licence Program which it is proposing to deliver in Coonamble in March 2014. Saying the program was created to address barriers existing for young and disadvantaged people residing in rural and remote communities, preventing them from obtaining a NSW Drivers Licence. Pointing out the program focuses on assisting these people to achieve a driver’s licence by supporting them through every step of the way so they can obtain independence and mobility and enhance their ability to gain work or access education and training in their regions. Stating the program has other positive economic impacts in that it increases participation, builds local capacity and generates a larger employment pool within the community. Pointing out the program will be run over a six – seven week period and providing details of what the program offers and the successful outcomes already achieved in Gilgandra.

Advising Coonamble and Warren have both been identified as shires that would highly benefit from the program. Saying the course can be rolled-out in Coonamble for an approximate cost of \$12,000 – to service between 10 – 15 clients. Stating \$5,000 has already been secured to contribute towards the cost and RDA is in the process of seeking further funds to cover the shortfall. Asking Council for financial assistance to support the program – stating it is probable there will be a shortfall of \$5,000.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – While I consider this a worthwhile project, it may be appropriate for organisations that will benefit from it, to commit financially to the project prior to Council making a determination. A full project outline, including financial contributions, should be provided).

**Recommendation:**

**That Council advise it considers the project worthwhile, however it needs further development particularly identified commitment to costings to deliver the project.**

**10.8**

**THE HON MARIE FICARRA MLC**

**L2 (42141)**

Responding to a letter from the Coonamble Community Safety Committee concerning its belief that local court magistrates are giving inadequate sentences to young offenders, deficient office hours of Department of Family and Community Services officers and lack of action by police against drug dealers.

Saying Members of Parliament cannot direct a Judge or Magistrate how to sentence an offender and Courts are completely independent from the Parliament. Pointing out that the doctrine of the separation of powers divides the institutions of Government into three branches – legislative, executive and judicial – legislature makes the laws; the executive put the laws into operation and the judiciary interprets the laws and considers facts of matters before them.

In relation to concerns about young people walking the streets and DoCS operating hours being ineffective, stating she has referred the correspondence to The Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services for consideration.

Referring to other issues raised by the Committee and offering suggestions where information may be available to deal with those matters.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – The Coonamble Community Safety Committee has supplied a copy of the above letter to Council and is seeking support in its ongoing efforts to have appropriate action taken against offenders).

**Recommendation:**

**That Council advise the Coonamble Community Safety Committee that it supports its ongoing efforts to have appropriate action taken against offenders and write to the Attorney General expressing concern in regard to the sentencing of recidivist offenders**

**Section B – Matters for Council's Information.****10.9 TOURISM INDUSTRY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND G5-42(42009)**

Saying that in August 2013 Council submitted an application to Round 2 of the TIRF Grants Program and advising that Round 2 of the Program will not proceed. Saying the applications were not assessed therefore they are not able to provide feedback.

**10.10 TRANSPORT FOR NSW R8-7(42000)**

Advising of the State Government's recent announcement that will see the delivery of school zone flashing lights to all schools in NSW. ,Saying this accelerated program will commence in early 2014 and will be rolled out progressively across the State and all schools that do not currently have flashing lights will receive a set of school zone flashing lights by the end of December 2015.

**10.11 TRANSPORT FOR NSW R2 (42047)**

Referring to Council's letter requesting the installation of an additional rail siding at Coonamble. Advising the extension of the grain siding at Coonamble was being considered as part of the overall project to relace the original light 60lb yard rail with 53kg per metre rail between Armatree and Coonamble. Saying the extension of the grain siding was being considered to improve operational flexibility at Coonamble while other major works were being delivered, however subsequent assessment of operational needs did not support this work. Stating that Transport for NSW will, through its rail infrastructure manager John Holland Rail, continue to monitor operational efficiency in the area and if demand supports investment in further improvements, then it will review the requirements. Advising a meeting is being organised with Council's Economic Development Manager and a representative from John Holland Rail to discuss development opportunities within the Shire, which it may be able to assist.

**10.12 NORTH WESTERN LIBRARY CO-OPERATIVE L4-4**

Forwarding Notice of Annual General Meeting at Bogan Shire Council on 21 November 2013. A copy of the Business Paper is attached as **APPENDIX A**.

**10.13 BRUCE A SMITH S1(42115)**

Providing authority for Council, the Coonamble Shire Saleyard Manager and Cr Tom Cullen to have and hold for their exclusive use the document “*Model Code of Practice for the Workplace Health and Safety, Animal Welfare, Operational and User Responsibilities at Australian Livestock Market Centres – September 2013*”. Pointing out that while the document references the Australian Livestock Markets Association (ALMA) and was initially prepared for that organisation, ALMA and any affiliated Livestock Market Centre have no rights to this document as the Association has expressed no interest in obtaining the copyrights. Saying further, ALMA affiliated personnel failed to render the agreed assistance to the compilation of the document, as had been the initial verbal agreement.

**10.14 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
E5-3(41112)**

Announcing the appointment of Laurie Dwyer as the General Manager of Central West Local Lands Service. Saying Mr Dwyer comes with experience in private and public service and experience in management within a Victorian Government agency. Advising Mr Dwyer will be based in Dubbo and take up the position on 2 December 2013.

**10.15 COONAMBLE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION G2-1(42179)**

Inviting all Councillors to the Coonamble Senior Citizens Christmas Party on Monday 16 December 2013 at 12 noon – Senior Citizens Hall - \$5 members; \$10 non-members. Asking to please RSVP to 68 221 879 or 68 221 142.

**10.16 COONAMBLE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION C8-3(42190)**

Pointing out it is the intention of the new Committee to keep the Senior Citizens Association Inc a viable proposition and saying enquiries have been made to the Department of Fair Trading regarding a certificate to fundraise, which is in the process of being reviewed. Advising the Committee has also contacted the Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing and it is currently waiting on a response. Forwarding a copy of the financial summary for 2012-2013 (**APPENDIX B**)

**10.17 COONAMBLE CANCER SURVIVAL FUND INC S10-1(42195)**

Thanking Council for its support for the “Walk the Loop” event and advising \$5,102.85 was raised. Saying with these funds they are able to continue to make a “Feel Good Gift” to those in our community affected by cancer.

<b>10.18</b>	<b>DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>A3-3(42060)</b>
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Advising the Division, with local government sector representatives, has commenced work on a new Local Government Performance Measurement Framework and asking for feedback. Saying the closing date for submissions is Friday 24 January 2014. Pointing out that councils are asked to:

- Read the Discussion Paper (see **APPENDIX C**) and provide comment on the proposed principles, objectives, draft Framework and approach to developing core sets of performance measures across four key areas. Saying feedback is invited from councils and the community on the key questions throughout the discussion paper
- Ensure General Managers complete a short online survey to inform this work, including consideration about whether there should be a move to a State-wide community satisfaction survey.

Saying the new Framework aims to move away from compliance reporting to focus on a small set of core, comparable indicators that will help councils drive continuous improvement and communities understand their council's performance.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – If Council has any submissions, please forward them to the General Manager)

<b>10.19</b>	<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW (LGNSW)</b>	<b>G5-34(42147)</b>
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Writing to the Mayor saying it is disappointing that the current Australian Government is continuing to refuse to honour the previous Government's commitment of \$150M in funding for Local Government Projects approved under the last round of the Regional Australia Development Fund (RDAF Round 5). Saying the Government has taken the view that these were effectively election commitments of the previous Government and that, as no funding agreements had actually been signed with Councils, there is no obligation to honour those commitments. Advising LGNSW and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) have made numerous representations to the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, The Hon Warren Truss MP, but the Government remains steadfast in its position.

Pointing out that Councils submitted applications in good faith under a legitimate long established program and there can be no justification for denying funding on the basis of the timing of the election. Encouraging councils to individually write to the Minister requesting that funding be granted to all successful council applications under RDAF Round 5.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – A letter has already been forwarded to the Minister)

<b>10.20</b>	<b>THE HON KATRINA HODGKINSON MP</b>	<b>A6(42202)</b>
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Referring to Council's letter regarding current drought conditions and the availability of Government Assistance for primary producers. Saying that the NSW Government announced the introduction of new measures to help farmers prepare for and manage the impacts of drought. Pointing out under this new approach government will focus on supporting farm business preparedness and risk management programs, as well as in-drought measures. Saying it has been agreed that the new package will support farmers without the need for a drought or Exceptional Circumstances declaration, with drought declarations in NSW being replaced with a new Regional Seasonal Conditions Report. Saying the new reporting mechanism acts as a management tool to help landholders manage operations and prepare for worsening seasonal conditions and drought.

Pointing out that her announcement of 30 October 2013 advised that a suite of assistance measures were being made available, targeted particularly at primary producers in the north west of the State. Saying these in-drought and drought preparedness measures are in addition to existing assistance already available by way of:

- the Rural Financial Counselling Service;
- the Rural Support Worker Program;
- low interest rate loans through Rural Assistance Authority; and
- farm business preparedness and resilience programs including PROfarm courses, short and long course training through Tocal College and TAFE.

Advising that conditions across the State, including Coonamble LGA, continue to be monitored and other measures to assist landholders, including freight subsidies, are currently also being considered.

**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager  
3 December 2013

**11. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER  
DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program  
L1.4.5 Governance is open and transparent.*

**Background:**

Council was instructed in the Promoting Better Practice Review to report all development applications approved under Delegated Authority to each monthly meeting.

**Issues:**

The list covering period since last Council Meeting is as follows:

DA No	Owner	Applicant	Proposed Use	Address of land	Approval Date
24/13	K&C Delaney	Owners	Construct dwelling	Lot 1 DP758861 Tucka Tucka Street Quambone	18/11/2013
25/13	S&G Grayling	S Grayling	Subdivision	Lots 1,41,42 in DP907038 & 517016 114-116 Castlereagh St. Coonamble	13/11/2013

CDA No	Owner	Applicant	Proposed Use	Address of land	Approval Date
26/13	Ms E Small	Owner	Additions – dwelling	2 Caswell Street Coonamble	14/11/2013

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

As stated in the Promoting Better Practice Review from the Department of Local Government.

**Financial Considerations:**       NIL

**Options:**       NIL

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note Development Application Nos. 024/2013 and 025/2013, together with Complying Development No 026/2013, were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.**

**11.2 LOWER MACQUARIE WATER UTILITIES ALLIANCE*****Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:  
13.1 Deliver safe drinking water & sewerage services*****Background:**

The Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance comprises the Councils of Bourke, Bogan, Brewarrina, Dubbo City, Narromine, Warren and Wellington, together with Cobar Water Board.

The objectives of the Alliance are to ensure the sustainable delivery of water supply and sewerage services to the communities served by each individual Council through:

- Resource and staff skill sharing
- Water resource
- Peer review of performance and monitoring
- Shared 'best practice' strategies
- Funding of best practice strategies and goals
- Group purchase of resources and contracted works attributed to economies of scale.

Coonamble, Gilgandra and Walgett have been invited to join the Alliance.

**Issues:**

The Alliance is an example of regional collaboration and resource sharing. The Board consists of two representatives (one councillor and one staff member) from each participating Council.

Council will benefit from being a member of the Alliance, particularly in respect to access to technical staff in the preparation of various management plans that may be required in the future to ensure water and sewer function remains in local control. Project management roles in augmentation schemes would also be available through a shared resource alliance. This would address regional issues and resolve them in the most cost effective manner.

The Alliance has developed a range of best practice regional strategies, a regional resource sharing, mentoring and training program. All designed to ensure uniformity across the region and ensure best practice delivery of services to our communities.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

The Alliance Model is a 355(d) organization under the Local Government Act 1993.

**Financial Considerations:**

It is anticipated the cost to Council may be in the vicinity of \$5,000 annually.

**Options:**

- (1) Join the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance
- (2) Not become a member of the Alliance.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council accept the invitation and join the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance.**

**11.3 LIBRARY CONNECTIONS PROJECT**

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program*

*P1.3.1 Support activities/projects that increase community participation and connection.*

*P4.1.1 Support activities that promote cultural awareness and diversity in ability and age.*

*I2.1.9 Continue to develop the libraries as multi-purpose community spaces.*

**Background:**

The Library Connections Project is funded by the NSW State Library through its Country Libraries Fund Grants 2012/13. The project funds total \$82,170 to be expended over a period of 15 months. Funding was granted in May 2013 with notation from the NSW State Library:

*"The quality and range of grant requests was impressive, indicative of the vibrant, dynamic NSW public library network; and the assessment process was extremely competitive".*

Project goals are:

1. Develop Cultural Competency in the Coonamble Shire Library.
2. Increase visitation to Coonamble Library by Aboriginal community members.
3. Develop sustainable, responsive, cultural Library programs and activities.

It has been suggested that the project has been imposed on the Library without consultation or consideration to community need. Although not standard practice, this report provides project development background in order to inform Councillors of administration staff's approach to this matter.

**Issues:*****Identifying the project need***

In identifying the need for the project both *comparative* and *expressed* need was considered.

**Comparative visitation:**

Coonamble Library experiences low visitation compared to surrounding services. The table below outlines comparative Councils, in terms of population and location.

Library	Population	LGA sq km	Visitation 2011/2012
Coonamble	4030 <sup>s</sup>	10,000	5,760
Gilgandra	4700 <sup>s</sup>	4,800	16,113
Walgett <sup>1</sup>	2389 <sup>t</sup>	21,500	14,703
Bogan	3012 <sup>s</sup>	14,600	17,861
Brewarrina <sup>2</sup>	1121 <sup>s</sup>	19,188	3,072
Warren	2758 <sup>s</sup>	10,860	21,681

1 – Due to the significantly larger geographic area of Walgett Shire, Walgett township statistics shown.

2 – Brewarrina Library open Mon-Fri 1.00pm – 430pm.

s – Shire population – township population

The figures outlined above were ascertained from the identified Libraries. The Coonamble Library figure was formulated by staff observation over a period of time. Figures provided by Library staff, based on a people counter device, are deemed to be unreliable and do not align with observed daily visitation of 20 people (average).

On advice received from Library staff, the Coonamble library records low visitation from Aboriginal community members. This does not reflect the Coonamble Shire demographic, which records a 29.21 % Indigenous population (2011 census of Population and Housing).

#### Comparative social need:

Coonamble Shire is identified as a high risk population with issues of multi-generational welfare dependency, negative employment growth and transport disadvantage. This is evidenced by Coonamble Shire's ranking amongst the highest disadvantaged Local Government Areas on the SEIFA index of relative socio-economic disadvantage (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006).

The Library provides the only potential "community living room" space in Coonamble. There is no neighbourhood centre that provides a gathering space and no alternative indoor whole-of-community social space. Creating a relevant space for people provides opportunity for the development of social capital in a neutral and culturally safe environment.

#### Expressed community need:

As a result of wide consultation (August – December 2011), and the development of the Community Strategic Plan 2026 it was recognised that the Library service requires development to better reflect community aspirations, interests and needs. Consultation with Aboriginal people, during the 2012 local NAIDOC event revealed that a high proportion of Aboriginal people surveyed did not consider the

Library to be relevant to them. However, a high proportion desired opportunities for social, educational and community connections. Based on community views Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan contain the following:

<b>Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2026 – Goal P4 -Our community respects and encourages the diversity of culture, ability and ages of our population</b>	
<b>Community Strategic Plan Actions</b>	<b>Council Delivery Program Actions</b>
P4.1. Increase opportunities for our community to celebrate together	P4.1.1. Support activities that promote cultural awareness and diversity in ability and age
P4.2. Improve interaction across social cultural and age groups	P4.2.1. Provide strategic early intervention community development programs for children and young people.
	P4.2.4. Work in collaboration with agencies and community groups to address existing and emerging issues specific to the Aboriginal community
<b>Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2026 – Goal I2 - Cultural expression and enjoyment : Our community benefits from access to appropriate facilities</b>	
<b>Community Strategic Plan Actions</b>	<b>Council Delivery Program Actions</b>
I2.1. Increase the exhibition and production of more cultural events in the Shire	I2.1.2. Encourage development of multi purpose community facilities to meet the needs of local communities and provide a focal point for community activity. Priority project: Rodeo Arena development project
	I2.1.3. Support development of diverse cultural and recreational opportunities for children and young people eg: Skate Park at Gulargambone
I2.2. Maintain and improve the role of our community libraries	I2.2.1. Expand the role of Council libraries to support early language/literacy skills and life skills programs
	I2.2.2. Provide high quality library services that are responsive to community need
	I2.1.9. Continue to develop the libraries as multi-purpose community spaces
I2.3. Share access to local facilities to fully realise the potential of local infrastructure	I2.3.2. Investigate and maximise opportunities for Council buildings to be used for multipurpose community activity

### **Library Best Practice**

Based on community views, the Library Connections project was developed with regard to contemporary library practices.

There is a vast body of evidence that support Libraries as diverse social spaces. Traditional library services have been replaced with creative approaches to community needs. Modern day Libraries provide an inclusive space for community to gather and participate in a variety of activities.

I do not intend to detail modern definitions of *Library*. I will, however provide the following recommendations by the State Library, the Australian Library and Information Association and Public Libraries Advisory Committee:

- “Libraries should consciously advocate and articulate the recognition of their social role within a community”
- “Libraries should explore ways in which they can increase their visibility and reach within a community as part of the social structure of shared space and interaction for people from diverse backgrounds living together”
- “That Libraries be part of developing local community capacities, particularly in areas where lack of social capital affecting the resilience of networks”

The project links with the current trends outlined in NSW State Library’s People Places (2012) as follows:

- Public Libraries as places of social capital – the project will provide opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members to interact in a safe and relevant way.
- Community Living Room – the project will provide opportunities that broaden the spectrum of user preferences.
- Programs and partnerships – the project will partner with Indigenous community groups, Elders and young people to provide a range of cultural activities.
- Our indigenous community – the project will develop a genuinely inclusive environment through engaging our local Aboriginal community in planning and facilitating culturally relevant programs and activities.
- Cultural development – the project will develop cultural competency and imbed an environment of cultural diversity.
- Demographics – the project will assist to better reflect our local demographic. It will provide an inclusive community space, responsive to an ageing and decreasing population.

The specific elements of the project also rely on community development best practice evidence. The project aims have been outlined earlier in this report. The project strategies involve place-making, early literacy and cultural program development. Very briefly, the evidence behind these strategies is as follows:

**Place-Making:** A body of evidence suggests that that the physical environment of communities is an important influence on the development and identity of the community. Further, that community wellbeing can be enhanced through identifying public space qualities that facilitate positive community interactions (Rickerts 2008, Freeman, 2006, McIndoe et al 2005, McMillan & Chavis, 1986). In addition, studies show that the development of community cohesion and a

sense of community can lead to reconciling negative perceptions and factors of the environment. This process of community members developing self-reliance and collaboration capabilities has successfully increased social capital and wellbeing.

Central to Indigenous perspectives on strong families is an understanding of ‘the importance of culture for Aboriginal people’ (Scougal, 2008). The term ‘cultural safety’ is based on the notion that the people most able to provide a culturally safe environment are those from the same culture. Cultural safety involves feeling safe and listened to, in one’s own culture and, when embedded in an organisation, enables effective and appropriate service.

**Early literacy:** Much evidence suggests that the early years of life are critical to a child’s development. Further, that reading to a baby or toddler exposes the child to a greater vocabulary and to the link between the written and spoken word. Early literacy intervention for children aged 0-5 lays the foundation for future language and literacy development (Butler, 1980; McCain & Mustard, 1999, Mustard, 2008). Research also suggests that the quality of interactions between parents and their pre-schoolers builds the foundations for a child’s educational experience and social adjustment (Espinosa, 2002; Hewer & Whyatt, 2008).

In Australia, children from rural and remote areas, and Indigenous children have been shown to be at particular risk of low literacy (Spedding, Harkins, Makin et al, 2007). In the report findings from the National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy (Commonwealth of Australia, 2005) it was recommended that support be provided for parents that acknowledges and builds on the language and literacy children learn in their homes and communities. Further, that there is need for creative and innovative programs based on principles of community ownership and participation, partnerships with families and family empowerment.

**Cultural Development:** The development of social capital and its relationship to strong, healthy communities has been discussed for some years. Evidence suggests that connected communities produce high levels of mutual trust and, in turn, produce stronger, healthier and more resilient communities (Kretzman & McKnight, 1993). Further, communities that draw on local assets and strengths in a participatory and “bottom-up” manner are more likely to develop sustainable programs and activities.

If further information regarding contemporary Library practices is required the following readings may be useful –

State Library of New South Wales. (2012). *People Places. A guide for public library buildings in New South Wales. Third edition.*

State Library of NSW (2000). *A Safe place to go – Libraries and Social Capital*

[http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public\\_libraries/docs/safe\\_place.pdf](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public_libraries/docs/safe_place.pdf)

Australian Library and information association (2012). *Standards and Guidelines for Australian Public Libraries – Beyond a Quality Service*

<http://plwa.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/beyond-a-quality-service-strengthening-the-social-fabric-standards-and-guidelines-for-australian-public-libraries.pdf>

### **Community Development Model**

The project adopts an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) model which draws on the strengths of community assets to address identified need. This approach is underpinned by the value that all community members have skills and community members are best placed to identify issues that are important to them and develop local solutions, in response (Kretzmann & McKnight, 1993).

### **Staff consultation**

Community Services staff were involved in the development of the project, contributing valuable local knowledge. Library staff were engaged in discussions in early development stages. However, the existing Library staff were resistant to change and expressed their view that additional Library services were not welcome. As a result, the project progressed without their input.

### **Summary**

The Library Connections project was developed in an appropriate manner, by appropriately skilled and experienced staff with consideration to the following:

Expressed community views through community consultation

Comparative needs assessment

Best practice Library operations

- Internal (Delivery Program) and external (NSW State Library) guidelines
- Community development best practice models
- Evidence based program research

## References

Butler, D. (1980). *Babies need books*. Sydney: Bodley Head.

Espinosa, L. M. (2002). The connection between social-emotional development and early literacy in *Set for Success: Building a Strong Foundation for School Readiness Based on the Social-Emotional Development of Young Children. The Kaufman Early Education Exchange, Vol 1, No. 1*. Kansas City, MO: E.M. Kauffman Foundation.

Freeman, C. (2006). Introduction: Developing inclusive communities. In Michelle Thompson-Fawcett & Claire Freeman (Eds.), *Living Together: Towards Inclusive Communities*. Dunedin, N.Z: Otago University Press

Hewer, L. & Whyatt, D. (2006) Improving the implementation of an early literacy program by child health nurses through addressing local training and cultural needs. *Contemporary Nurse*, 23(1), 111-119.

Kretzmann, J & McKnight, J. (1993). *Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community's Assets*

McCain, M., & Mustard, J. (1999). *Reversing the real brain drain. Early Years Study*. Final Report. Report presented to the Hon. Michael Harris, Premier of Ontario, Canada.

McIndoe, G., Chapman, R., McDonald, C., Holden, G., Howden-Chapman, P., & Sharpin, A. (2005). *The Value of Urban Design: The economic, environmental and social benefits of urban design*. Wellington, N.Z. : Ministry for the Environment.

McMillan, D. W., & Chavis, D. M. (1986). Sense of community: A definition and theory. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 14(1), 6-23.

Mustard, F. (2008). *Investing in the Early Years: Closing the gap between what we know and what we do*. Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Adelaide

Ricketts, A. (2008). *Participation in place-making: Enhancing the wellbeing of marginalised communities in Aotearoa/New Zealand*, Victoria University of Wellington.

Rapoport, A. (1973). *The mutual interaction of people and their built environment : a cross-cultural perspective* The Hague : Mouton ; Chicago : distributed in the USA and Canada by Aldine.

Spedding, S; Harkins J, Makin L, Whiteman P; 2007. *Investigating Children's early literacy learning in family and community contexts, Review of related literature*. Children and Education Research Centre, University of Newcastle,

State Library of New South Wales. (2012). *People Places, A guide for public library buildings in New South Wales*. Third edition.

Scougall, J. (2008). *Lessons learnt about strengthening Indigenous families and communities*. Canberra: Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

**Recommendation: Submitted for Council's information**

## 11.4 MANAGEMENT OF COMMON

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:*

**14.2 Ensure long term management and protection of our community assets.**

### **Background:**

Coonamble Common has been under the trusteeship of Council since post amalgamation in the early 1950's. The Common is to be operated as per the Commons Management Act 1989 and the Commons Management Regulation 2006 in conjunction with the Trust Handbook and, as such, is to be operated as a separate entity to Council.

This is why the meeting is held separately to the Council meeting and the financials are to be reported separately. Council has employed a Common Ranger since the beginning of its trusteeship to assist commoners with the management of the Common. The Ranger has been responsible for general livestock management, general maintenance of the area and ensuring that fees are collected and up to date.

### **Issues:**

Council has been appointed trustee of the common, Commons Management Act 1989, s7(6) "With the consent of the local authority, the Minister may, from time to time by notice published in the Gazette, reappoint a local authority to manage the affairs of a trust for a term specified in the instrument of reappointment, not exceeding 3 years."

In seeking clarification on our current status with the Department of Lands, as Council has not been appointed on a regular basis, advice provided indicates that Council will remain as trustee until it relinquishes the trusteeship by notice to the department. (This is at odds with the Act). Written advice will be requested regarding this issue.

Council may have exposure to liability for any incidents arising from council negligence relating to activities at the Common. Should the commoners undertake their own mustering, marking and drenching there would need to be agreement and protocols in place to protect council from being placed in a position of liability.

Should open access be granted to the commoners council would retain responsibility for checking water, fencing, and monitoring the feed situation at the common. Council would also be responsible for collecting the fees from commoners, however this is where problems would arise as it would not be readily known who had stock on the common and who may have removed them

or added more. There will need to be thought given to how this will operate and procedures developed to manage the process.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Council is Trustee of the Common and is subject to the Commons Management Act 1989 and the Commons Management Regulation 2006 as well as the Land and Property Management Authority Trust Handbook for managing crown land reserves and commons.

**Financial Considerations:**

The last three years' financial reports in regard to the common operations are attached. The 2013/2014 year has seen an increase in the fees to \$4.00 per head per week, unfortunately with the likelihood that the common will be closed for a substantial period of the year it is difficult to ascertain the impact the fees may have on the result for the financial year. It is anticipated that the fees charged, if they were applicable for the whole of the year, would bring the common close to break even. Income from cropping part of the common has in the past supplemented the income to some extent. It is expected that at the current income rate the Common should trade its way out of the \$3000 owing to Council this financial year.

**Options:**

1. Relinquish trusteeship and hand control back to the commoners.
2. Continue with the current management system.
3. Develop procedures to allow for the commoners to undertake their own mustering, drenching and marking with council retaining administrative control.

**Recommendations:**

- (a) That Council seek advice from its insurer in the development of a set of procedures to allow the commoners to undertake their own mustering, drenching, marking and other animal husbandry practices, and in doing so,
- (b) That Council as trustee undertake administrative activity and oversight of collective requirements such as water supply, fencing and asset management.

**11.5 NSW LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL SCHEME**

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:*

*11.1 Maintain local road maintenance and construction*

*11.3.1 Support projects that aim to reduce transport disadvantage*

**Background:**

At its meeting of 13 November 2013, Council resolved to:

- (a) make application under the NSW Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme for funding to undertake sealing of the Tooraweenah Road;
- (b) a report be brought back to the December meeting of Council detailing the overall cost of sealing the road, the cost per kilometre of such works and the standard of the proposed construction.

**Issues:**

The length of the Tooraweenah Road is approximately 57 kilometres, with 30 kilometres currently sealed from Coonamble, a further two kilometres approximately is sealed in two sections of 800 metres and 1.2 kilometres within the unsealed section. There is approximately 25.5 kilometres that are unsealed to the Shire boundary. The currently sealed section of the road is in need of rehabilitation at an estimated cost of \$6M.

The road links Coonamble to Gilgandra Shire and through Tooraweenah to the Newell Highway. There are issues with the timber bridge in Gilgandra Shire approximately 2.5 kilometres from the Coonamble Shire boundary and from the boundary to the sealed road in Gilgandra Shire is approximately 3.5 kilometres.

The following significant factors are relevant to the production and activity with the Road:

**Local Significance:***Production:*

The eastern portion of Coonamble Shire towards the Warrumbungle Mountains is highly productive with rich soils and consistently higher annual rainfall than areas west of the river. Large quantities of grains and livestock are produced, with the majority transported to the saleyards and silos at Coonamble. A rough estimate of average grain production from country accessing the unsealed portion of the road is 35,000/pa from approximately 42,000 acres under crop. Both sheep and cattle are also produced in this region and would access markets via Coonamble. Stock numbers are currently not available.

The proposed re-opening of Castlereagh Regional Abattoir may contribute to additional heavy vehicle movements on the road as sheep, cattle and potentially emu producers access the new facility. This may have a wider impact by drawing stock from a wider area into the Warrumbungle and Gilgandra Shires as the former Binnaway meatworks has recently closed.

*Mining:*

Council's Magometon Quarry is located on the sealed portion of the road. The Quarry generates approximately 6,000 – 7,000 truck movements a year, predominantly via Coonamble. The quarry currently provides product to three customers in Baradine/Coonabarabran comprising up to 5% of annual sales. It is unlikely that sealing the remainder of the road will increase sales, as heavy vehicles have difficulty traversing the narrow and winding portion of road through the National Park to Coonabarabran.

*Travel Speed:*

Sealing unsealed gravel roads and upgrading the narrow pavement at end of life will result in increased travel speed and efficiency gains for freight transport.

*Tourism:*

This route provides a direct connection to the Warrumbungle National Park, a State Tourist attraction via the Jack Renshaw Parkway (Regional Road No 205 and 4053) and National Park Road. On the northern end of the route, the Macquarie Marshes are accessible via Coonamble.

*Safety:*

Sealing the existing gravel surface will increase safety along the route. Widening the narrow pavement will allow the safe passing of vehicles and trucks.. Replacement of the vastly deteriorated single lane timber bridge (4 tonne load limit) over the Wambelong Creek at Gumin Gumin is also a requirement to ensure the safety of the travelling public.

*Connectivity:*

Connects areas of very high agricultural production with the Newell Highway and the Golden Highway to Newcastle. Seals a missing link from Coonamble to Tooraweenah.

*School Bus:*

There are currently 11 students using the Tooraweenah Road school bus route including two from the Mt Tenadra turnoff 50km from Coonamble. The unsealed portion of the road becomes impassable after 5mm of rain.

*Traffic:*

<i>Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)</i>											
<i>1976</i>	<i>1980</i>	<i>1982</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1996</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>Pa % trend</i>	<i>2012</i>
<i>40</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>1.95%</i>	<i>56(July) 102(Dec)</i>

Average traffic recounts towards the end of the sealed section of road are approximately 70 per day.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Loan borrowings under the NSW Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme are subject to assessment by TCorp in regard to capacity to repay the loan and the long term sustainability of the Council.

**Financial Considerations:**

The estimated cost to seal the road, taking to account the difference in sections and causeways, is on average \$350,000 per kilometre for an 8 metre wide seal (recommended seal width of 7.5m for HMLs with a formation width of 10 metres) over the required length of 27.5 kilometres is \$9,625,000. This is based on an estimated life of 30 years. During this time Council's depreciation expense would increase by \$320,000 per year.

At the previous Council meeting it was proposed that a loan of \$4,000,000 be taken out to fund the project. After the subsidy of 3% is applied, repayments over 10 years, based on six monthly rests, equates to \$465,965 per annum. Total interest paid after the application of the subsidy is \$659,658.

Council has budgeted, beginning this year and for the next 10 years, \$100,740 repayments in general fund to potentially an internal loan for the rodeo arena. The current loan repayments for the bridge loan by General Fund to sewerage Fund is \$280,875 per annum. The last loan repayment is due in the 2015/16 financial year.

Should Council wish to draw down a loan for \$4,000,000 it will need to find \$365,000 for the 2014/15 budget and \$365,000 for the 2015/16 budget. From 2016/17 the amount needed, given the effect of the bridge loan being finished, is \$85,000.

The current financial year is the last year of the 2009 – 2014 Roads to Recovery Program. The allocation to Council for this period was \$3,277,446. coming into the 2013/14 financial year there was approximately \$920,000 allocated against jobs on the Carinda Road. While Council has no formal advice of the next Roads to Recovery allocation, the Federal Government has committed to continue the program beyond 2014. Hopefully it will be in the vicinity of \$3M again for Council over the next five years. The Roads to Recovery Program has

as its objective to help local government begin to address the backlog of local road maintenance, improving safety, transport efficiency and stimulating economic development across the country.

The Financial Assessment Sustainability and Benchmarking report prepared by NSW Treasury Corporation on Coonamble Shire Council is relevant as the assessment criteria will involve TCorp advice on the application in regard to capacity to repay and the impact of the loan on the financial ratios and long term fiscal position. Council may be required to meet the cost of this assessment.

In the report released in March 2013, TCorp did state that “*Council had sufficient capacity to manage its borrowings and had the ability to utilize additional borrowings if required*”. However, they were also of the opinion that should Council have to borrow \$3.4M for the levee, the existing debt facility would be at capacity. The current proposed borrowing amount for the levee is \$1.25M. the report also highlights the infrastructure backlog has remained relatively stable over the four year period with a slight increase in 2012, however the report recognized additional funding allocated in 2013 to address this concern.

Under the LGIRS the draw-down of the loan would be towards the end of the 2013/14 financial year or early in 2014/15. The first repayment would be in 2014/15. Should Council put the \$100,000 for the proposed arena loan into reserve at the end of the current financial year it would have \$200,000 towards the repayment of \$465,965.

Council might look to its internal restrictions to fund the additional \$265,000 for the 2014/15 year. For the 2015/16 year \$365,000 needs to be found, again Council could commit internal restrictions to cover part or all of the repayment or, alternatively, reduce service levels.

Should Council proceed with a \$4M loan it is anticipated the following borrowing schedule would apply, not including the internal bridge loan:

Purpose	Loan Amount (\$)	Annual Repayment (\$)
Caravan Park Amenities	289,340	49,498
Levee	1,250,000	112,570
Roadworks	4,000,000	4654,965
	<b>5,539,340</b>	<b>628,033</b>

Based on the 2012/13 Operating Result and applying the above repayments, the Debt Service Level ratio for General Fund is 5.48X. The benchmark is greater than 2.0X according to TCorp requirements.

**Options:**

N/A (Information Report)

**Recommendation:**  
**That Council note the information**

<b>11.6 TOWN STREETS - SEALING</b>
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***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:  
11.1 Maintain local road maintenance and construction***

**Background:**

Council, at its meeting of 13 November 2013, resolved that a report be provided to the December meeting on the feasibility of borrowing \$4M for upgrading of urban streets, kerbing and guttering and rural roads, together with priorities.

This report should be read in conjunction with the report on the sealing of the Tooraweenah Road as the feasibility of borrowing the \$4M is covered within that report.

**Issues:**

The attached table details the unsealed streets in Coonamble and the approximate cost to seal and provide kerb and guttering where required. Total cost \$1,123,510, additional annual maintenance of \$25,000 and an increased depreciation expense annually of \$64,429.

Council asked for priority in regard to the potential sealing of streets and local roads, from a staff perspective. The conclusion and recommendations (section 5.5) of the 2013/14 Roads Management Plan (**APPENDIX D**) still hold.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

N/A

**Financial Considerations:**

Total cost of sealing	\$2,123,510.00
Additional annual maintenance	25,000.00
Annual depreciation expense	64,439.00

**Options:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information pertaining to the sealing of unsealed urban streets.**

## Unsealed Streets in Coonamble – Sealing/Kerb & Gutter

Street	Length	Width	Seal		Kerbing & Guttering		Total Cost (\$)	Add. Annual Maintenance (\$)	Annual renewal depreciation (\$)
			Sq.M	Cost (\$)	Length	Cost (\$)			
Gordon	305	16	4880	195,200	305	33,550	228,750	1,950	7,066
Coonamble Terrace	400	10	4000	160,000	400	44,000	204,000	2,550	6,067
Macquarie	125	16	2000	80,000	250	27,500	107,500	800	3,125
Auburn	198	10	1980	79,200	396	43,560	122,760	1,250	3,366
Dubbo Lane	449	10	4490	179,600	0	0	179,600	2,850	5,987
McCullough	50	16	800	32,000	100	11,000	43,000	350	1,250
Nebea	295	10	2950	118,000	0	0	118,000	1,900	3,933
Queen	93	10	930	37,200	93	20,460	57,660	550	1,581
Quonmoona	483	10	4830	193,200	966	106,260	299,460	3,050	8,211
Railway Lane	442	10	4420	176,800	0	0	176,800	2,800	5,893
Railway	140	20	2800	112,000	280	30,800	142,800	900	4,247
Reid	211	10	2110	84,400	422	46,420	130,820	1,350	3,587
Warrena Lane	120	10	1200	48,000	0	0	48,000	800	1,600
Yarran	78	10	780	31,200	156	17,160	48,360	500	1,326
Yuma	540	10	5400	216,000	0	0	216,000	3,400	7,200
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>1,742,800</b>		<b>380,710</b>	<b>2,123,510</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>64,439</b>

<b>11.7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REPORT</b>
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*Author – Economic Development Manager – Lee O'Connor*

**Links to Council's Community Strategic Plan/Delivery Plan:**

- EC2.1 Identify and attract industry programs that will draw new industry to the Shire.**
- I2.1.2 Encourage development of multi-purpose community facilities.**
- EC.3.3.1 Support social enterprise opportunities that allow young people to transition from school/TAFE to employment.**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS/OUTCOMES</b>
Eco Spa + Caravan Park	1. Liaison with Crown Lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land acquisition progressing.</li> <li>• Funding approved under Public Reserves Management Fund to demolish and re-build amenities block. Grant of \$36,167 and loan of \$289,340.</li> </ul>
Rail Upgrade	Letter to Transport NSW re extra siding.	Visit by Transport NSW and John Holland Rail to discuss potential loading sites Monday 16 Dec.
Support new and existing business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Support Business Start-Ups and Expansions:</b> provide information and referral.</li> <li>2. <b>Chamber of Commerce</b> – Buy Local Campaign. Assist Chamber with planning and marketing.</li> <li>3. <b>Micro Finance for Small Business</b> –</li> <li>4. <b>Business Dinner</b> – Guest speaker Kerrie Phipps is available to present. Co-ordinate between Chamber and 2828.</li> <li>5. <b>Business Training</b> – seek info on Visual Merchandising workshop for delivery Feb/March 2014. Liaise with other EDOs.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station – negotiation re-commenced.</li> <li>2. 2013 Buy Local Promotion – progressing. Final draw 19<sup>th</sup> December.</li> <li>3. Darren Smith, Aboriginal Enterprise Development Officer, attended CEC meeting to speak about available sources of finance and mentoring. Still to discuss with Many Rivers Micro Finance.</li> <li>4. Chamber to host event to be held at Two Eight Two Eight in March 2014.</li> <li>5. Date and content being negotiated. Council to co-sponsor with Chamber from within existing budget for Business Training. Potential to share with other Shires to contain cost.</li> </ol>

Employment Circle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Driver Licensing –</b></li> <li>2. <b>RuralSkills –</b> Attended BAC Dinner and spoke on <i>Impact of Enterprise Education on Coonamble Shire Economy</i>. The funded Common Project supports the CHS Enterprise Education focus. CEC meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> November identified importance of involving and supporting young people immediately after leaving school to support entry into employment.</li> <li>3. <b>Employer Information Evening -</b></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$5,000 approved from Department of Employment. Program to commence March 2014. JSAs committed to providing financial support for their clients to attend. Further funding needed.</li> <li>2. 90+ people including Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended BAC Dinner on Friday 22 November. Copy of speech attached for information. Meeting to be convened by D Floyd with JSAs and other partners to identify strategies for school leavers and Ruralskills.</li> <li>3. Proposed for May 2014. EDM to liaise with Chamber re co-hosting with Employment Circle.</li> </ol>
Review & Develop Shire Investment Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shire ED Committee –</li> <li>2. Business/Investor Prospectus –</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In progress.</li> </ol>

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information contained in the Economic Development Manager's report.**

**11.8 NICKNAME HALL OF FAME SONG**

**Author – Economic Development Manager – Lee O'Connor**

**Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:  
EC1.1.3 Identify opportunities for new tourism product**

**Background:**

The Nickname Hall of Fame was conceived in Coonamble in 2004 in response to falling community morale and negative economic impacts of the drought that commenced in 2002. It was designed as a low cost, unique, and fun attraction to encourage visitors to stop and prolong their stay in the town. The installation of the first portraits coincided with the 150 Year Celebrations of Coonamble township in 2005. At its inception, and twice since, the Nickname Hall of Fame has enjoyed significant national media exposure via TV and radio.

Highway signage was installed in 2010. Completion and installation of new 'billboards' has been intermittent. This year, three new 'billboards' have been ordered, with one completed and two others in progress.

A local singer/songwriter, Cate Woods, has come forward with an original song entitled 'The Nickname Hall of Fame'. It has been suggested that Council cover the costs of studio production to enable a single to be released and the tune to be utilised as a promotional tool for the Nickname Hall of Fame.

**Issues:**

- A song release could provide another profile boost for the Nickname Hall of Fame, encouraging additional visitation to the town.
- The song could be used, both in its entirety and in shorter 'grabs', in promotional audio pieces for use on site, online or over radio.
- To be used effectively, the song needs to be professionally produced and copied to the various formats suitable for distribution.
- Council did not commission the song, so has had no input into content, style or quality of composition.
- To maximise the marketing potential of the song, further costs would be incurred such as a Public Launch, distribution to radio stations/DJs, further audio production to incorporate interviews and information, hardware for onsite audio.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Copyright and permissions surrounding use of the song would need to be formally negotiated with the songwriter.

A budget would need to be adopted in the 2014/15 financial year to utilize the song once it is produced.

**Financial Considerations:**

The costs of creating and performing the song have been offered at no charge by the songwriter, Cate Woods.

To estimate the cost to have a single professionally produced, recorded and reproduced in formats for CD and radio/itunes, cost estimates have been sought from 5 sources.

Below is an estimate excluding GST:

Production and recording (including studio musicians) – Love Hz Studio, Matt Fell	\$2,400
Preparation of master for itunes/radio	\$100
Photography	\$200
Graphic design – Glen Hannah	\$200
Printing and copying – 500 CDs plus cardboard wallet - Mad CDs	\$900
Artist travel, accommodation and incidental costs	\$1,000
Contingency	\$200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

Costs of promotion/launch of the song single would be additional.

**Options:**

N/A

<b>Recommendation: For Council's consideration.</b>
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<b>11.9 SHIRE BUSINESS AWARDS 2014</b>
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**Author:** *Economic Development Manager – Lee O'Connor*

**Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:**  
**P4.4.2 Assist Coonamble Shire Events with marketing and promotion**  
**L1.1.3 Coordinate local involvement in regional business awards**

**Background:**

Council's Economic Development Office was jointly responsible, with the Coonamble Business Action Group, for organising Shire-wide *Ride the Spirit* Business Achievement Awards for the six years from 2005 to 2010. The awards attracted an increasing level of nominations and a good response from local business. The largest local Awards Ceremony attracted almost 80 businesses to a dinner event. Winners of the local awards were then eligible for nomination for the Orana Regional Business Excellence Awards co-ordinated by the Orana Area Consultative Committee and in 2010, Regional Development Australia Orana. In 2011 and 2012, RDA Orana did not proceed with a regional awards and Council elected to suspend the local awards process.

In 2012, the Coonamble Chamber of Commerce became aligned with the NSW Business Chamber. The NSW Business Chamber now runs both regional and state awards and the opportunity exists to recommence a local awards process which could feed into this competition.

The Awards process allows local businesses to gain exposure and recognition at a local and regional (and potentially state) level, which contributes to morale, provides opportunities for market expansion, and helps business benchmark within their respective industries. The Awards process enhances the Shire's reputation as home to a dynamic local economy with a strong and vibrant business community. This can contribute to the attraction of both a skilled workforce and new business.

**Issues:**

The NSW Business Chamber awards close towards the end of March. It is not realistic to commence a local awards competition in time to allow entry to the 2014 competition. It is possible to run a local awards competition in mid 2014, to enable entry into the 2015 regional/state competition.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

N/A

**Financial Considerations:**

The cost to run a Shire Awards competition is approximately \$5,500. This covers advertising, prizes, and an awards ceremony with guest speaker/s. These costs do not include time for organisation.

Up until 2012, Council had allocated a budget for the awards which was supplemented by external sponsorship of \$1,000 by Orana ACC/RDA Orana and ticket sales to the awards ceremony. It is possible to investigate new sponsorship opportunities.

**Options:**

- Council agree to be primary sponsor and co-ordinator of the 2014 Coonamble Shire Awards and commit the full amount.
- Council offer to sponsor the Awards to a specified amount and seek Chamber of Commerce commitment to the balance. The EDM provide assistance to the Chamber Secretariat in organizing the nomination, judging and awards process.
- Council not support a Shire Business Awards process.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council offer to sponsor the Awards to a specified amount and seek Chamber of Commerce commitment to the balance; with the Economic Development Manager providing assistance to the Chamber Secretariat in organizing the nomination, judging and awards process.**

**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager  
3 December 2013

## **12. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES** **COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013**

### **12.1 ANNUAL REPORT – 2012/2013**

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:  
L1.4.5 Governance is open and transparent***

**Background:**

Under section 428(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council must, within five months after the end of each year, prepare a report as to its achievements with respect to the objectives and performance targets set out in its Delivery Program.

**Issues:**

Under the new Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, a number of changes have been made to annual reporting requirements. The new Annual Report focuses mainly on Council's implementation of its Delivery Program and Operational Plan, as these are the plans that are wholly the Council's responsibility.

In summary, the 2012/13 Operational Plan identified 188 actions across the five themes; Our People, Our Infrastructure, Our Environment, Our Economy and Our Leadership. At the end of the 2012/13 year 161 (or 89.9%) of the 179 actions due for completion, were achieved. The following table provides a status breakdown.

	Our People	Our Infrastructure	Our Economy	Our Environment	Our Leadership	Total
Completed to target	36	48	43	9	25	161
Continuing to progress	0	11	1	2	0	14
Not progressing	0	3	1	0	0	4
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>179</b>
Not due to commence	6	1	0	0	2	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>188</b>

The report also includes audited financial reports, together with the required various statutory disclosures.

A copy of the report was sent to the Department of Local Government on 8 November, 2013.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Various legislation requires information be provided within Council's Annual report:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
- Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Companion Animals Act 1998.

**Financial Considerations:**

The Annual Report takes considerable time and staff resources to produce. Council is required to provide a State of the Environment Report to be included in the Annual report. Reference is made to the Supplementary State of the Environment Report which is available on Council's website.

**Options:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the tabling of the 2012/2013 Annual Report and that a copy of the report was furnished to the Division of Local Government on 8 November 2013.**

<b>12.2 REGIONAL VISITOR ECONOMY FUND PROGRAM</b>
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**Author:** Tourism Development Manager – Lauren Picone

**Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:**

**EC1.2.3 Identify opportunities for new tourism product**

**EC1.2.6 Develop new visitor markets in line with Inland RTO**

**Background:**

The Regional Visitor Economy Fund (RVEF) is managed and administered by Destination NSW. The program commenced on 1 July 2013 after key findings from the NSW Visitor Economy Taskforce Report (2012) indicated that the existing regional tourism funding structure was no longer effective.

The program supports tourism investment in regional NSW on a matched dollar-for-dollar basis. RVEF Applications may be submitted for product development and marketing activities that will contribute to the NSW Government objective of doubling overnight visitor expenditure by 2020. An information webinar was held on 12 November 2013 to provide a funding update to Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) and their members.

**Issues:**

*Eligibility:*

- Applications should be visitor focussed, include a collaborative approach (cross shire/regional boundaries) and be based on commercial outcomes.
- All applications must be supported by a Destination Management Plan .
- Funding only available on a matched dollar-for-dollar basis for amounts between \$50, 000 and \$500, 000.

*Funding Structure:*

- *RTO Quarantined Funds: RTOs (i.e. Inland NSW Tourism) can apply for funds between 1 May 2013 until 29 November 2013. RTOs may only apply.*
- *Contestable Pool of Funds: Round 2 opens December 2 2013 and closes January 31 2014. Industry, local government and RTOs may apply.*

*Assessment Criteria:*

1. Ability to contribute to doubling NSW overnight visitor expenditure by 2020.
2. Alignment with strategic imperatives identified in the Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan.
3. Capacity to deliver, measure and report on the project.
4. The strategic and collaborative value for the destinations or regions.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Nil

**Financial Considerations:**

All projects must include investment from the applicant on a matched dollar-for-dollar basis.

**Options:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That the report by the Tourism Development Manager be received and noted.**

<b>12.3</b>	<b>SPRING FESTIVAL</b>
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***Author – Tourism Development Manager – Lauren Picone***

**Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:**

**EC1.2.3 Identify opportunities for new tourism product**

**EC1.2.6 Develop new visitor markets in line with Inland RTO**

**Background:**

Council has previously requested investigation of the establishment of a Spring Festival. This report presents four (4) options for Council's consideration.

Coonamble Shire Council regularly coordinates joint promotion and advertising for local events. Recent activities include the creation and distribution of a Spring Calendar to local residents, online promotion, email marketing and feature advertising in regional newspapers. Coonamble Shire has several events during Spring which could be leveraged to attract greater visitation to the area through the establishment of a themed festival.

**Issues:**

Issues such as theming, funding, human resourcing and festival structure are key considerations in festival development.

*Theming*

A themed event/festival creates a point of difference to generate visitor interest. A themed festival could be held in conjunction with existing local events to increase visitation and visitor expenditure.

*Funding*

Adequate funding will be required to meet all relevant licensing and legislative obligations, including but not limited to APRA and commercial use of music licensing, liquor licensing and security. Funding may also be required for the use and/or hire of staging, speaker equipment, stalls and/or marquees, artist/performer fees and other entertainment activities. Some of the costs may be recouped through corporate sponsorship, media partnerships and local support.

Adequate marketing funds would need to be designated for the festival. As a comparison the marketing budget for the 2013 Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft was approximately \$20, 000 and included advertising in local, regional and metropolitan press, billboard signage, creation and distribution of fliers, posters, programs and professional photography.

*Human Resources*

Ideally, an event committee including community representatives, Councillors and Council staff should be established to manage the festival. Depending on the scale of the festival adequate staff/committee members would need to be allocated to the following:

- **Risk Management:** Risk assessments, risk management plan, WH&S safety checks, site inspections, traffic management plan, local planning approvals, contingencies plan and insurance checks.
- **Venue Preparation:** Erect festival flags/banners, seating, decorations, park/garden maintenance.
- **Advertising:** Design and book adverts.
- **Promotion:** Design, print and distribute promotional material. Manage online promotion and social media.
- **Media:** Produce press releases and process interview requests.
- **Sponsorship:** Produce advertising prospectus and source sponsorship from local businesses and corporate sponsors. Organise sponsor payments.
- **Ticketing:** Distribute, print and organise payment of tickets for any additional events (e.g. festival opening/closing events)
- **Entertainment & Catering:** Attract events and organise activities, liaise with performers/artists, caterers and manage contractual agreements.
- **Volunteer Management:** Recruit, train and manage volunteers. The inclusion of volunteers will provide opportunity for community involvement and ownership.

### *Festival Structure*

**Option 1:** Council's current activity involves promoting a Spring Calendar of local events through mail distribution to **local residents**, online promotion (Facebook, website), email marketing and feature advertising in regional newspapers. Production and distribution of a DL size flyer is approximately \$4,000.

Estimated Costings	Details	Cost
DL Flyer & Postage	2000 copies	\$4000

**Option 2** To continue promoting a Spring Calendar of local events through mail distribution to local residents, online promotion (Facebook, website), email marketing and feature advertising in regional newspapers. In addition, fund further paid advertising in local, regional and metropolitan press and design/print promotional material to reach identified target markets. This option expands promotion, aiming to encourage outside visitors to attend events.

Estimated Costings		
	Details	Cost
DL Flyer & Postage	2000 copies	\$4,000
Advertising	Adverts in local, regional & metropolitan press (TV, radio, print)	\$4,500
Promotion	Printing fliers/posters - distributed regionally	\$1,500
TOTAL		\$10,000

**Option 3** Select a period of time within the existing spring calendar to promote a themed 2 day festival that links to existing events/activities.

Examples:

- Outdoor events such as ‘Suck it Up Buttercup’, held in Tamworth and nation-wide events including the ‘Colour Run’, ‘Mud Runners’ and ‘Tough Mudder’ have increased in popularity and become a growth area in outdoor/adventure tourism. The Castlereagh River offers a unique opportunity to host a soft-sand race with obstacles and quirky activities. This could be held in conjunction with local spring event ‘Walk the Loop’ to raise funds for the Coonamble Cancer Survival Fund.
- Adriano Zumbo’s link to Coonamble could allow for the establishment of a Zumbo dessert festival, building on the success of ‘Zumbaron Day’ (an annual event celebrated in November across Adriano Zumbo’s patisserie stores). Existing arts and cultural events such as the Strawberry Fair, local markets and the Outback Archies could be included in the festival program.
- Coonamble’s strong relationship with equine sports, activities and heritage could allow for the development of a horse festival, which could include miniature horse races (with local bookmakers and amateur jockeys), horse cart rides, best dressed cart and other entertainment. The horse festival could incorporate existing spring races and other local equine events. To maximise visitation the festival should be differentiated from other regional events, including the Scone Horse Festival, and the Coonabarabran Horse Expo, through the use of distinctive branding and messaging.

Estimated Costings		Human Resources
	Details	Hours
<i>CSC Staff</i>		
Outdoor Staff (Pre-event)	Venue preparation, erect banners/flags, street cleaning, parks/gardens maintenance. A minimum of 5 staff required.	60 (5 staff)
Outdoor Staff (During event)	Facilities management, extra waste management, crowd control and road closures if required. A minimum of 5 staff required for each day of event.	120 (5 staff)
Outdoor Staff (Post-event)	Facilities cleaning and take down banners/flags. A minimum of 5 staff required.	40 (5 staff)
TDM/Grants and Events Officer	Implement marketing and publicity strategies. Source sponsorship and coordinate entertainment. Undertake consumer research and submit post-event reports. Submit planning/licencing applications and approvals.	256 (2 staff)
VIC Staff	Assist visitors with enquiries regarding the festival.	16 (1 staff)
Risk Management Officer	Conduct full risk management assessment and prepare and lodge emergency management plans.	16 (1 staff)

<b>Estimated Costings</b>		
<b>Human Resources</b>		
Traffic Management Officer	Prepare and lodge traffic management plans.	16 (1 staff)
First Aid Officers	First aid officers (number will depend on size of event) to manage emergency access point(s).	72 (3 staff)
Health and Building Staff	Ensure food vendors comply with industry regulations.	16 (1 staff)
Total Hours		612
SUB TOTAL	(Average of \$25/hr.)	\$7,800
<b>External Staff</b>		
Security Staff	Functions and events where required by legislation.	72 (3 staff)
SUB TOTAL	(Average of \$50/hr.)	\$3,600
<b>Advertising</b>		
	Details	Cost
Press	Coonamble Times (approx. 2 x ¼ page display adverts)	\$500.00
	Dubbo Daily Liberal (2 x ¼ page advert, ¼ editorial)	\$1,104.96
	Western Magazine (¼ page advert, ¼ editorial)	\$1,862.25
	North West Magazine (¼ page advert, ½ editorial)	\$1,351.14
	The Land (15cm x 8 columns)	\$1,332.00
Radio	2WEB Outback Radio (30 x 30 second spots)	\$726.00
	Star FM Dubbo (32 x 30 second spots)	\$1,089.00
Television	WIN (20 x 15 second TVCs + production)	\$1,654.90
	PRIME (25 x 15 second TVCs + production)	\$2,407.90
<b>Printing</b>		
	Details	Cost
DL Flyer	500 copies	\$852
A2 Poster	500 copies	\$676
A5 Event Program	2000 copies (16 page program)	\$1,455
Ticketing	500 copies (for opening/closing event)	\$451
<b>Entertainment &amp; Equipment Hire</b>		
	Details	Cost
Equipment Hire	Venue hire, tables, chairs, stage, lights, A/V equipment. Plant hire (utilities, grass cutters etc.)	\$5000

<b>Estimated Costings</b>		
Entertainment	Live Band/Performer/Artist	\$5,000
Catering	Take EOIs from local charities on a cost recovery basis.	n/a
<b>Approvals &amp; Licences</b>		
	Details	Cost
Liquor licence	Apply to NSW OLGR for limited licence for special event.	\$50
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
	Details	Cost
Event Photography	Larry Rindfleish Photography	\$350
<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>\$37,260.35</b>

Option 4 Connect all spring events from August to October through the use of add-on events and activities. The costs associated with the establishment of a multi-month festival will be substantially more than option 3, which is based on two days. A festival of this duration is uncommon as there are issues with sustaining interest and momentum as well as associated costs. For example Willoughby City Council's Spring Festival is a month long event, Mukinbudin Shire Council's Spring Festival in WA is held over a week and Heronswood Spring Festival in VIC is held over a weekend. If option 4 is a preference, further costings would have to be investigated.

#### **Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Development Applications (Section 90)
- The Local Government Act 1993 - Specific approvals regarding temporary structures, waste and entertainment uses (Section 68) and Local approvals policies (Sections 89,158,160,167)

#### **Options:**

1. Low Cost: To continue promoting a Spring Calendar of local events through mail distribution to local residents, online promotion (Facebook, website), email marketing and feature advertising in regional newspapers.
2. Medium Cost: To continue promoting a Spring Calendar of local events through mail distribution to local residents, online promotion (Facebook, website), email marketing and feature advertising in regional newspapers. In addition, fund paid advertising in local, regional and metropolitan press and design/print promotional material.

3. High Cost: To establish a two day (weekend) festival, linked with existing events. The festival would include opening and/or closing events, as well as add-on events and activities. Budget would need to be allocated to marketing, human resources, licensing fees and entertainment.
4. Very High Cost: Connect all spring events from August to October through the use of add-on events and activities. The costs associated with the establishment of a multi-month festival will be substantially more than option 3, which is based on two days.

**Recommendation:  
Submitted for Council's consideration and determination.**

<b>12.4 COUNCIL SPONSORED CORPORATE EVENT – COONAMBLE RODEO AND CAMPDRAFT</b>
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**Author:** *Grants and Events Officer, Jennie Geerdink*

**Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:**

**EC2.1.1 *Promote the Shire as a location for business  
development and investment***

**EC2.1.2 *Support business initiatives that develop economic  
growth.***

**Background:**

The Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft is hosted in Coonamble each June long weekend. Coonamble Shire Council is a sponsor of this event along with our sister city, Campbelltown City Council. Council, at its November meeting, resolved to investigate the costs of hosting a Corporate Event during the Rodeo, including catering and other associated costs.

The purpose of the Corporate Event is to provide networking opportunities for businesses which deal with Council and provide information opportunities for businesses considering dealing with Council.

This report provides Council with two (2) event options and costings.

**Issues:**

There have been conversations about moving the markets associated with the Rodeo (currently conducted at the Library) to the Pavilion for next year's event. If this is the case, the Council Corporate Event would have to manage any serving of alcoholic beverage in a space where the general public and minors will be present. Currently, the legal requirement is to cordon off the area in which alcohol will be served and consumed, ensuring that minors are hindered from accessing that area both physically and through the provision of staff monitoring.

In light of this, costings on the hiring of a marquee which would be appropriate not only in size but in visual amenity, have been obtained. Hiring a marquee for the event could also be beneficial in that the Pavilion may prove to be too spacious for the numbers expected.

With both options, assuming the event will provide alcohol and entertainment, there will be a requirement for a liquor licence for the site. This has been factored into the options' costings. Council holds a current Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) licence. Providers of catering and alcohol will be required to have FSS and RSA certification, respectively.

**OPTION 1: Partly catered**

<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST COMPONENT</b>	<b>EST. COST</b>
CATERING:	Light finger food and nibbles	Local caterer to supply food, wait staff.	\$2500.
BEVERAGE:	Provided by local supplier. RSA certified staff required.	Liquor Licence	\$40-75
		RSA	\$160.00
		Alcohol including light beer and wine	\$880.00
		Soft drinks	\$150.00
ENTERTAINMENT	Live local artist for entertainment. Pre-recorded music supplements	Event could use Council's sound system which would only be adequate.	
		Hire of sound system	
		Live artist	\$300
			\$700
DISPLAYS ARTWORK DECORATION :	Council could utilise some of the photographs taken by Neville Owen of the 1971 rodeo, plus other rodeo/campdraft events hosted in the region. These works would need to be printed and framed.	Cost of printing and framing.	\$500
	Decorations would include wall hangings, floral decorations, table settings including cloths or coverings	Cost of decorations has been taken on a hire basis.	\$500
STAFF TIME	Including set up, decoration, pull down, cleaning, assisting with hosting duties (troubleshooting, monitoring etc).	Including five outdoor staff, events officer and health and building staff (food safe requirement) total staff hours would be approx 65	\$2,925
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>ONE DAY ONLY</b>		<b>\$8,540</b>
	Add pavilion cost - \$465		<b>\$9,005</b>
	<i>Alternative marquee cost - \$1350</i>		<b>\$9,890</b>
EST. COST	OVER THREE DAYS		<b>\$23,565</b>

**OPTION 2: Fully catered**

PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION	COST COMPONENT	EST COST
CATERING:	Canapes, finger food, morning and afternoon tea, provided by outside caterer.	Includes food, travel, accommodation, staff	\$7,140
BEVERAGE:	Catered beverages	Average cost is approx. \$19/person	\$1,900
ENTERTAINMENT	Live artist from outside. Pre-recorded music appropriate to the event played through sound system.	Event could use Council's sound system which would only be adequate.  Hire of sound system  Entertainer	   \$300  \$1,500
DISPLAYS ARTWORK DECORATION :	Council could utilise some of the photographs taken by Neville Owen of the 1971 rodeo, plus other rodeo/campdraft events hosted in the region. These works would need to be printed and framed.  Decorations would include wall hangings, floral decorations, table settings including cloths or coverings	Cost of printing and framing.  Cost of decorations has been taken on a hire basis.	\$500  \$500
STAFF TIME	Including set up, decoration, pull down, cleaning, assisting with hosting duties (troubleshooting, monitoring etc).	Including five outdoor staff, events officer and health and building staff (foodsafety requirement) total staff hours would be approximately 65	\$2,925
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>ONE DAY ONLY</b>		<b>\$14,765</b>
	Add pavilion cost - \$465		<b>\$15,230</b>
	<i>Alternative marquee cost - \$1350</i>		<b>\$16,175</b>
EST COST	OVER THREE DAYS		<b>\$42,240</b>

**Financial Considerations:**

Prices are estimates based on investigations for the purpose of this report. They are derived on the basis of 160 person throughput per day (that being 80-100 people attending the activity, leaving to view events and returning to the activity). Costs will deviate, possibly upward, when the format, intent, patronage and type of activity can be confirmed.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Food Authority regulations as applicable
- Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing – liquor licencing; Responsible Service of Alcohol

**Options:**

1. Council host a partly catered Corporate Event in the Pavilion.
2. Council host a partly catered Corporate Event in a Marquee.
3. Council host a fully catered Corporate Event in the Pavilion.
4. Council host a fully catered Corporate Event in a Marquee.
5. Council host a Corporate Event that does not include catering.
6. Council not host a Corporate Event.

**Recommendation:  
For Council's determination.**

**LIANNE TASKER**

Director of Community Services

2 December 2013

**13. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN  
SERVICES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

Total Combined Rate Collections to 30/11/2013 compared to 30/11/2012:

	<b>30/11/2013</b>	<b>30/11/2012</b>
Arrears 30 <sup>th</sup> June previous year	791,468.50	763,910.00
Plus 2013/2014 Combined Levy	5,669,908.87	5,412,456.98
Add Transfer from Postponed	-	-
<b>GROSS LEVY</b>	<b>6,461,377.37</b>	<b>6,176,366.98</b>
Less: Pensioner Concession (State)	(61,768.87)	(65,984.70)
Pensioner Concession (Council)	(50,538.17)	(53,987.49)
Transfer to Postponed	-	-
Abandoned	-	-
<b>NET TOTAL LEVY FOR YEAR</b>	<b>6,349,070.33</b>	<b>6,056,394.79</b>
Less Collections	(2,670,576.28)	(2,625,764.08)
Plus Refunds	-	-
<b>NET TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>3,678,494.05</b>	<b>3,430,630.71</b>
Plus Postponed	-	-
<b>GROSS TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>3,678,494.05</b>	<b>3,430,630.71</b>
Collection % of Total Receivable	43.07%	43.36%
Arrears % of Total Receivable	56.93%	56.64%

**Recommendation:**  
**Submitted for Council's information.**

<b>13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS</b>
---------------------------------

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	Investment Type/Maturity Date	Current Rate	Term	Amount (\$)
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 22/12/2013	3.75%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 23/01/2014	3.35%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
St George	A1+	Term Deposit - 15/12/2013	3.90%	120 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 02/12/2013	3.90%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
Reliance C/U	Unrated	Term Deposit - 04/03/2014	3.85%	182 Days	500,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 15/01/2014	3.55%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 11/12/2013	3.60%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
Orana Mutual	Unrated	Term Deposit - 20/02/2014	3.39%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 14/01/2014	3.75%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 27/01/2014	3.70%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit -25/02/2014	3.70%	90 Days	1,500,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	At Call Account	3.10%	-	1,500,000.00
CBA	A1+	At Call Account	2.50%	-	1,500,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 16,000,000</b>

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	% of Investment	Max per Investment Policy	Amount (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	16%	50%	2,500,000
National Australia Bank	A1+	25%	50%	4,000,000
St George	A1+	6%	50%	1,000,000
Bendigo Bank	A-	6%	40%	1,000,000
IMB	A2	6%	35%	1,000,000
ME Bank	A1+	31%	35%	5,000,000
Orana Mutal	Unrated	6%	10%	1,000,000
Reliance C/U	Unrated	3%	10%	500,000
				<b>\$ 16,000,000</b>

Rating	% of Investment	Policy	Amount
A1+	78%	100%	12,500,000
A1	6%	80%	1,000,000
A2	6%	60%	1,000,000
Unrated	9%	30%	1,500,000
			<b>\$ 16,000,000</b>
<b>General Fund Investments</b>			<b>9,035,568</b>
<b>Sewerage Investment Fund</b>			<b>2,757,153</b>
<b>Water Investment Fund</b>			<b>4,207,279</b>
			<b>\$ 16,000,000</b>

**Recommendation:**

**That the list of investments as at 30 November 2013 be noted and it also be noted that Council's Investments comply with s625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.**

**13.3 WORKS IN PROGRESS****Parks & Gardens:**

- Works program continues to focus on improving the presentation of Council open spaces with particular attention to the Showground and Aerodrome

**Vandalism Update:**

- Continued vandalism to public facilities.
- McDonald Park Toilets were vandalised requiring repairs to be carried out
- Smith Park Toilets suffered two separate significant incidents of vandalism within the month - toilet bowls and cisterns damaged. Attached are photos of the damage.



- A number of tiles from the planter boxes in the main street were removed and destroyed. Council is currently sourcing matching replacement tiles to finish the repairs

**Pools:**

- Planned repair work to the administration complex at the Pool has been completed including the replacement of the external stairs to the Club house facilities.
- Construction of the "Splash Pad" has been completed and was officially opened during the month.

- The Coonamble Swimming Club held its annual Carnival during the month and Council received positive feedback on the state of the facility.

**Buildings:**

- Minor planned maintenance works to Council Buildings has been included on works rosters for completion.
- Minor Repair works have been carried out to Combara Hall

**Recommendation:**  
**That Council note the information.**

**BRUCE QUARMBY**

Director of Corporate and Urban Service

3 December 2013

## **14. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES** **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013**

### **14.1 COONAMBLE WATER SUPPLY – WATER TREATMENT PLANT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program:*

*13.1 Deliver safe drinking water*

*13.1.2 Install a new water treatment plant*

#### **Background:**

Tenders for the construction of a water treatment plant at the intersection of Barton and Yarran Streets was accepted by Council at the meeting held on 11 July 2012.

#### **Issues:**

Following remedial works to damage caused by the HCL acid spill, training and commissioning of the plant is nearing completion.

Council operators have received training on site and will have further training at an accredited training venue to ensure the plant achieves necessary standards with respect to water quality and Work Health Safety requirements.

A minor problem has arisen with the free flow from the raw water bores which will be rectified with the installation of an actuated raw water valve. Following rectification, the commissioning will re-commence.

Currently the Plant is achieving a 71% reduction in calcium levels and a 63% reduction in total hardness which has received favourable comment from users.

#### **Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Council is required to ensure the works comply with relevant Australian Guidelines with respect to potable water.

Test results indicate that the treatment process satisfies the relevant guidelines.

#### **Financial Considerations:**

The cost of the Water Treatment Plant was \$3.9 million, plus the cost of the water mains \$1.1 million. These costs have been offset by a Federal Government Grant of \$1.2 million.

Council will incur additional costs for upgrading the power, relocating the fluoride injection equipment from No 5 Bore and training of staff or employment of additional staff to operate the plant.

There will also be several extras for items not included in the original tender.

**Options:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information contained in this report.**

**14.2 WORKS IN PROGRESS****(a) Plant:**

- 2 x graders from WesTrac arrived – grader replacement completed.
- Tenders received for supply and trade of:
  - 3 x multi tyred rollers )
  - 1 x smooth drum roller ) **See report to Council**
- 1 x low loader which was on order from Brentwood Trailers has been received.
- General Maintenance : Repairs to rollers, tractors and plant as required.

**(b) Depot:**

- Clean up as usual
- Routine maintenance completed as required.

**(c) Airport:**

- Routine maintenance completed as required.

**(d) Workshop:**

- Heavy plant maintenance in progress.
- Repairs have been completed to Plant Nos 83, 91, 141, 113, 153 and 20100.

**(e) Water and Sewer:**

- WTP – Aquatec Maxcon Operator induction and testing at WTP in progress - WTP – Treated water being distributed to town reticulation.
- Sewerage Treatment Works Tertiary Pond de-silting/decommission Tertiary Pond No 1 in progress.
- Warrena, Dubbo, Aberford, Maule and Gordon Streets water main replacement in progress.
- General maintenance – Coonamble, Gulargambone & Quambone – pumps and network in progress.

**(f) State Highway 18:**

- Shoulder grading in progress – 90% completed.
- Heavy patching complete
- Trimming of trees north and south of Coonamble has been completed under the SIC ordered works.
- Reseals programmed for early to mid-December.

**(g) Regional Roads:**

- Routine patching of RR129, RR383 and RR7515 completed as required.
- Sealing of heavy patches programmed for mid-December.
- Minor repairs to expansion joint on Combara bridge completed, with further repairs to be completed as resources become available.

**(h) Local Roads:**

- Rehabilitation works on SR86 Carinda Road almost completed (80%) (R2R)
- Reshaping and reforming of SR12 Back Gular Road almost completed.
- Reshaping and reforming of SR53 and SR20 completed.
- SR69 Patching completed.

**(i) Urban Streets:**

- Reconstruct shoulders in Dubbo Street adjacent to Lions Park is in progress. The kerb adjacent to the Park was renewed to facilitate improved drainage and to lessen the impact of tree roots.
- Patching of water main repairs is in progress in conjunction with pothole patching of Coonamble Street.
- Bitumen patching of Gulargambone Streets completed.
- Signs replaced as requested.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information contained in this report.**

**K N BRODBECK**

Director of Engineering Services

4 December 2013

## **15. REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2013**

### **15.1 COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN (LEP)**

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:*

*EN2.1.3 Continue to review Local Environmental Plan*

*EN2.2.1 Enforcement of environmental regulations*

#### **Background:**

Coonamble Shire Council LEP was gazetted on 23 September 2011 and replaced the former Local Environmental Plan 1997. This effectively saw the adoption of what is referred to as the “standard instrument” with regard to planning.

Since gazettal of the new Plan questions have arisen as to what can be approved in certain zonings, the size of properties to have dwelling entitlements and rezoning of certain areas. In August 2013, Council resolved to review the current LEP with a view to making a formal submission to the Department of Planning for consideration of changes.

The LEP is Council's strategic planning/land use instrument for future development within the Shire.

#### **Issues:**

Advertisements were placed in the local paper, advising that a review of the Local Environmental Plan was being undertaken and inviting ratepayers and residents of the Shire to comment on any particular aspect of the current LEP.

While not guaranteed that any or all changes will be considered and/or approved, the following issues have been identified throughout the consultation process as being a priority:

- Reduce the size of Primary Production RU1 for dwelling entitlement from 1000 hectares to 400 hectares.
- Reduce the size of Large Lot Residential R5 from 2 hectares to a minimum of 8000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Expansion of Local Centre B2 to include the areas bounded by Castlereagh, Namoi and Aberford Streets, to extend along the western side of Castlereagh Street, from Council Chambers to Smith Park and on the eastern side of Castlereagh Street from Warrena Street to include the mechanical repair business and Castlereagh Medical Centre.

- Change parts of Railway Street from General Residential R1 to General Industrial IN1. This intention would be to include the western side of Railway Street from Landmark to the boundary of the Railway Station yard, on the eastern side of Railway Street from the bottle Shop to the Terminus Hotel and from Barton Street to Reid Street
- Change Council owned “Meglo” block to Heavy Industrial IN3. If this request is approved, it is suggested that the following Land Use applies:

### **Zone IN3 Heavy Industrial**

**1 Objectives of zone:** To provide suitable areas for those industries that need to be separated from other land uses.

- To encourage employment opportunities.
- To minimise any adverse effect of heavy industry on other land uses.
- To support and protect industrial land for industrial uses.

**2 Permitted without consent:** Roads

**3 Permitted with consent:** Depots; Freight transport facilities; General industries; Hazardous storage establishments; Heavy industries; Landscaping material supplies; Offensive storage establishments; Plant nurseries; Take away food and drink premises; Vehicle sales or hire premises; Warehouse or distribution centres; Any other development not specified in item 2 or 4

**4 Prohibited:** Agriculture; Airports; Amusement centres; Animal boarding or training establishments; Boat sheds; Camping grounds; Caravan parks; Cemeteries; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Child care centres; Commercial premises; Community facilities; Correctional centres; Crematoria; Eco-tourist facilities; Educational establishments; Entertainment facilities; Environmental facilities; Exhibition homes; Exhibition villages; Farm buildings; Forestry; Function centres; Health services facilities; Home-based child care; Home businesses; Home industries; Home occupations; Home occupations (sex services); Industrial training facilities; Information and education facilities; Marinas; Mooring pens; Moorings; Passenger transport facilities; Places of public worship; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Registered clubs; Respite day care centres; Restricted premises; Sex services premises; Tourist and visitor accommodation; Veterinary hospitals; Water recreation structures; Wharf or boating facilities.

To alter the Land Use Table for certain Zones as follows:

- Zone R1 General Residential to delete from the prohibited list Commercial premises, Industries, Recreational facilities (major), Registered clubs and Signage.
- Zone R5 Large Lot Residential to delete from the prohibited list Animal training and boarding establishments, Commercial premises, Freight transport facilities, Heavy industrial storage facilities, residential accommodation, Signage, Storage premises, Transport depots and Truck depots.
- Zone B2 Local Centre to delete from prohibited list Residential accommodation.
- Zone B6 Enterprise Corridor to delete from prohibited list Residential accommodation.
- Zone IN1 General Industrial to delete from the prohibited list Residential accommodation

Councillors have been made aware that any submission to the Department of Planning needs to be comprehensive, as it is unlikely that another review will be allowed in the foreseeable future.

Although Council's intention to undertake the review was advertised in the Coonamble Times over a lengthy period, only one submission was received and that was in regard to a specific location.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

**Financial Considerations:**

It is anticipated that the cost to engage a qualified professional will be in the vicinity of \$30,000, which is currently held in reserve funds. Quotations will be sought following Council's decision.

**Options:**

- (1) Make no change to the 2011 LEP.
- (2) Consider the current LEP and recommend changes.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council review the current LEP, incorporating the information provided above and further review the document prior to making a submission to the Department of Planning.**

<b>15.2 RANGER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2013</b>
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***Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:  
P2.2.5 Control straying animals***

<u>Compliance</u>	<u>November 2013</u>	<u>Year to Date 2012/2013 Total</u>
Official Correspondence	6	37
Infringements (Animals)	6	29
Infringements (Other)	0	3
Microchipped dogs	1	9
Registrations	1	14
Nuisance dog declaration	0	2
Dangerous dog declaration	1	2
Restricted dog declaration	0	1
<b><u>Impoundments</u></b>		
Dogs	17	101
Cats	1	36
Stock	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>TOTAL ANIMALS IMPOUNDED</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>137</b>
Motor vehicle	1	5
<b><i>Breakdown of impoundments:</i></b>		
Dogs destroyed	<b>10</b>	86
Dogs surrendered by owner	<b>6</b>	26
Dogs re-housed	2	17
Dogs released	3	12
Cats destroyed	1	39
Cats re-housed	0	0
Cats released	0	0
Gulargambone dogs impounded	0	2
Quambone dogs impounded	0	0

**Villages:**

- (a) *Gulargambone*  
One dog attack – dog has been declared Dangerous
- (b) *Quambone*  
Nil

**Dog Attacks**

There have been four dog attacks this month in Council's area. Three of the dogs have been surrendered to be euthanized and all owners have been dealt with under the Companion Animals Act .

The fourth dog has been kept by the owner and, as a result, the dog has been declared a Dangerous Dog. This dog will be closely monitored to ensure the owner is compliant with the relevant orders.

Council's pound was also broken into and two dogs were stolen. Considerable damage was done in cutting them out and repairs were made. This was reported to the Coonamble police and statements given to police. At this time there is no information from the Police on this matter.

**Recommendation:**  
**That Council note the information**

**MATTHEW COCK**  
Manager – Environmental Services  
2 December 2013

**16. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**16.1 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COONAMBLE SHIRE  
YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2013.**

**Minute taker:** Joshua Fernando, Kodie Ireland, Christine Blattman

**Apologies:** Emily Albert, Monique Bennett, Ashleigh Deveigne, Cody Gilmore, Jasmin Haycock

**Present:** Joshua Fernando, Lianne Tasker, Kodie Ireland, Christine Blattman, Tray Blattman, Adam Roworth, Riley Fernando, Bradley McEwen, Elvy Hammond, Denzel Ryan, Grant Millgate, Brenda Neilan, Malarney Murray

Meeting Opened: 1.15pm

Official Meeting & Acknowledgement of country/traditional people – by Chairperson, Tray Blattman.

**1. Introductions – Round Table**

Everyone introduced themselves. Lianne welcomed the new group members from Gulargambone and explained the role of the Youth Council.

**2. Recap on the Rules**

Lianne explained the group rules that were developed by the Youth Council and talked about some of the things the Youth Council has done so far.

**3. Minutes of pervious meeting**

Read by Christine Blattman. Moved as true and correct by Riley Fernando, seconded by Christine Blattman

**4. Overview of Youth Council – By Tray Blattman** – Tray talked about the activities the Youth Council has worked on since it began.

**5. Bang the Table**

- Josh spoke about Bang the Table ideas and summarised the different activities the group has decided on.

- Everyone moved into two (2) groups and discussed activities. Ideas included:
  - **Sports Carnival** (Round Robin, Football, Mini Olympics, Netball)
  - **Lightning Ridge Pool** (bus trip to L/Ridge pool complex)
  - **Pool Fun Day** (Inflatable Slide, Water Polo, Ironman Comp)
  - **Music Festival** (a few local / Dubbo bands, talent comp, prizes)
  - **Touch Football** (NRL players, Greg Ingles, George Rose, Prizes/Giveaways, BBQ, all ages, Kids vs. Emergency Services)
  - **Skateboarding Australia** (Learn how to skate)
  - **Comedy Day** (performances and workshops- Carl Barron, Sean Choolburra)
- **Circus School** (learn circus skills)

Vote: 0(i) – 6(ii) – Motion Carried

- i) Bigger singer that everyone would know *or*
- ii) A Variety of local bands and performances

**Group split into 2 groups and worked on the ideas, deciding on order they would like to see happen:**

- i) Music Festival – 1<sup>st</sup> Event
- ii) Touch Football – 2<sup>nd</sup> Event

Vote: 6(i) – 5(ii) – Music Festival Carried

- iii) Lightning Ridge Pool – 3<sup>rd</sup> Event
- iv) Skateboarding Australia – 4<sup>th</sup> Event

Vote: 6(iii) – 2(iv) – Motion Carried

- v) Comedy Day – 5<sup>th</sup> Event
- vi) Pool day/ Inflatable Slide – 6<sup>th</sup> Event
- vii) Sports Carnival – 7<sup>th</sup> Event

Vote: 5(v) – 0(vi) – Motion Carried

**Change in event positions**

- 1) Move Sports Day to 1<sup>st</sup> and Skateboarding Australia to 7<sup>th</sup> – 7/0 (Motion Carried)
- 2) Music Festival to 4<sup>th</sup> event – 7/0 (Motion Carried)
- 3) Move Pool fun day/Inflatable Slide to 1<sup>st</sup> – 5/0 (Motion Carried)

- 4) Switch Lightning Ridge pool and Touch Football Competition – (Motion Carried)

**Final event positions:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Event – Pool Fun Day / Inflatable Slide  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Event – Lightning Ridge pool  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Event – Touch Football Competition  
 4<sup>th</sup> Event – Music Festival  
 5<sup>th</sup> Event – Comedy Day  
 6<sup>th</sup> Event – Sports Day  
 7<sup>th</sup> Event – Skateboarding Australia

**Split into 2 groups and discussed ideas for 1<sup>st</sup>, & 2<sup>nd</sup> Events**

Groups reported on their ideas:

Group 1 - Touch Football

Kids 8-12, 12-up, mixed gender

Winners get T-shirts

Jumping castle for younger kids

NRL player

Transport from Gulargambone to Coonamble

Have it on a Sunday

Group 2 – Inflatable waterslide

Ironman competition

Sumo suits

Marko Polo Competition

Water Polo

Hold at Coonamble Pool

Transport from Gulargambone to Coonamble

Have it one a Sunday

**Action:**

**Josh & Kodie to get final costs & continue planning for events 1 & 2.  
 Josh to bring updated planning event sheet to next meeting.**

6. **Group Photo** - New Youth Council Shirts given to members.

7. **Office Tour** – Lianne took group for a tour around the office, explaining the different jobs of Council staff.

8. **General Business** – Nil

Tray and Lianne thanked everyone for coming.

**Meeting Closed:** 3:15pm

**Next Meeting** – 29<sup>th</sup> November

**16.2 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE YOUTH COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Minute taker:** Kodie Ireland, Christine Blattman

**Apologies:** Josh Fernando, Tray Blattman, Adam Roworth, Brenda Neilan, Malarney Murray

**Present:** Lianne Tasker, Kodie Ireland, Christine Blattman, Shanaye Kennedy, Riley Fernando, Grant Millgate, Danzel Ryan, Bradley McEwen, Samuel Knight, Dwayne Hammond, Ty Weldon, Robert Weldon, Mr Bob Townsend.

**Meeting Opened: 1.15pm**

1. **Introductions – Round Table**  
Everyone introduced themselves. Lianne welcomed new group members from Gulargambone and explained the purpose of the Youth Council and the group rules.
2. **Group activity**  
Group played a warm up game based on their musical tastes.
3. **Acknowledgement of Country**– by Chairperson, Riley Fernando
4. **Minutes of previous meeting**  
Lianne explained the purpose of Meeting Minutes.  
Action – Change Denzel to Danzel  
Moved as true and correct by Danzel. Seconded by Elvy.
5. **Business arising from last minutes**  
Youth council representative – no event planning sheet.  
Action: Josh to provide planning sheet at next meeting
6. **Correspondence – Nil**
7. **Bang the Table**  
Lianne showed pictures of chosen Inflatable water slide and poster for first event. Group brainstormed type of activities and prizes for the Fun Day at the Pool event. Voted to change lunchtime BBQ to an afternoon/dinner BBQ – 10/0 (Motion carried).

Activities suggested: Trivia, football, water polo, relay races, fly, obstacle course, apple peeler, cricket, music, tea/coffee/milo, face painting.

Prizes to have at the pool: Footballs, shirts, jumpers, hoodies, hats, cricket bat.

Action: Josh & Kodie to develop plan of activities for the day.

**8. Logo for 'Bang the Table' project.**

Group talked about the purpose of a Logo and how it would be used for the Bang the Table events. Group split up and created their own design ideas. Majority of designs included:

- Someone banging something
- Hammer banging table
- The word "bang"

Action: Use the designs to create some logo options – Lianne to provide at next meeting.

**9. Youth Council Shirts**

Shirts were handed out to the new members.

**10. Library Activity**

Group visited the Library, most of the group had not been to the Coonamble Library before. Lianne explained the activities that happen in the Library. The group designed their ideal library space using a blank Library floorplan sheet.

Action: Lianne to include the design ideas when looking at developing the Library space.

**11. General Business –**

Next year: Coonamble High School is providing the dates that will suit them for meetings next year. This will be given to Mr Townsend to make sure they suits Gulargambone School. There will be two meetings per term. Riley & Lianne thanked everyone for coming.

**Meeting Closed: 3:15pm**

**Next Meeting: TBA**

**16.3 REPORT FROM HERITAGE ADVISOR - COONAMBLE SHIRE LOCAL HERITAGE FUND 2013-2014**

**Summary:**

Coonamble Shire Council participates in providing grant funds under the Local Heritage Fund Scheme. Various applications for funding were received.

Coonamble Shire Council has \$16,000 for its Local Heritage Fund. If Council manages the fund in accordance with the requirements of the Heritage Branch Office of Environment and Heritage, that agency will reimburse up to \$8,000.00 via a grant at the end of the financial year. One of the key requirements is that the fund be dispersed with regard for the recommendations of Council's Heritage Advisor.

A number of enquiries were received and ultimately three applications for grants were submitted relating to the following places:

- All Saints Anglican Church, Gulargambone
- Coonamble Jockey Club Grandstand
- Sacred Heart Church, Quambone

Coonamble Shire Council's Heritage Advisor, Ray Christison of High Ground Consulting, evaluated the applications. After considering the applications he has recommended that the grants be dispersed as shown in the table below.

All Saints Anglican Church at Gulargambone is one of the most significant churches in the Coonamble Shire. It was built on land donated by Oliver Feetham of the Anglican Bush Brothers and has direct associations with Feetham who is Australia's only Anglican Saint. Restumping of this building is urgently required and is expensive to complete. Accordingly additional funding is recommended for this project.

<b>Property</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Works</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Recommend</b>
All Saints Anglican Church, Gulargambone	Gulargambone Lions Club	Restump building & upgrade toilets	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
Coonamble Jockey Club Grandstand	Coonamble Jockey Club	Repair floor decking & guttering	\$6,720	\$4,700	\$3,360
Sacred Heart Church, Quambone	Fr. Greg Kennedy	Repair fascia, guttering & steps	\$1,529	\$750	\$760
			<b>\$28,249</b>	<b>\$7,450</b>	<b>\$14,120</b>

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- Coonamble Shire Draft Local Environmental Plan.
- Coonamble Shire Local Heritage Fund Guidelines 2013-2014

**Financial Implications:**

There is an established budget of \$16,000 for the Local Heritage Fund. At the end of the financial year it is expected that Council will receive a grant of up to \$8,000.00 from the Heritage Branch, Office of Environment & Heritage.

**Recommendations:**

**That Coonamble Shire Council resolve to disperse \$14,120.00 from the Coonamble Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2013-2014 via the following grants:**

**(a) \$10,000.00 for All Saints Anglican Church, Yoolundry Street, Gulargambone.**

**(b) \$3,360.00 for Coonamble Jockey Club Grandstand, Caswell Street, Coonamble.**

**(c) \$760.00 for Sacred Heart Church, Mungie Street, Quambone.**

**17. REPORT BY SALEYARD MANAGER  
FOR COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**Recommendation:**

**That the report by the Saleyard Manager be received and dealt with.**

**17.1 SALES****CATTLE:**

Date	Type	Scale	Amount (\$)	VA	Amount (\$)	Total Cattle/ Sheep	Total Amount (\$)
08/11/13	Fat	1,262	8,102.80	24	96.00	1,288	8,198.80
11/11/13	Private Weigh	73	292.00			73	292.00
12/11/13	Private Weigh	46	184.00			46	184.00
14/11/13	Private Weigh	136	544.00			136	544.00
21/11/13	Private Weigh	108	432.00			108	432.00
22/11/13	Fat	1,798	11,577.20	64	256.00	1,868	11,833.20
25/11/13	Private Weigh	90	360.00			90	360.00
26/11/13	Private Weigh	91	364.00			91	364.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,604</b>	<b>21,856.00</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>352.00</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>22,208.00</b>

<b>TOTALS:</b>	Scale	3060 head	\$19,680.00
	VA	88 head	\$ 256.00
	Private Weigh	544 head	\$ 2,176.00
	NLIS Tag Income		<u>\$ 169.10</u>
			<b>\$22,281.10</b>

**17.2 WORKS UPDATE**

- Final sale for the year – this Friday 6 December 2013
- First sale for 2014 – scheduled for 17 January 2014.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information**

**17.3 SALEYARDS ACCOUNT**

Period to <b>30 November 2013</b>	Income	\$93,705.09
	Expenditure	<u>\$83,291.11</u>
	Surplus/(Deficit)	<b>\$10,413.98</b>

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the information**

**AMANDA GLASSON**

Manager - Saleyards &amp; Facilities

3 December 2013

**18. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**

**NIL**

**19. GENERAL BUSINESS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2013**