

2 April 2014

**COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL next meeting is
scheduled for WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2014
commencing at 9.00 a.m.**

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Yours faithfully
RICK WARREN
General Manager

5. DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

9.30 a.m.

MR MIKE SVIKIS

Present his report on Council's proposed changes to the LEP.

10.00 a.m.

KRISTIE PEARSON

Senior Leader – Community Engagement –
Coonamble High School

**6. DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014**

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

**7.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, GULARGAMBONE ON
WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH 2014 COMMENCING AT 11.10 A.M.**

PRESENT: Cr.Al Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. Michael Webb, John Walker, Dan Keady, 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, the Director of Engineering Services, Mr Brodbeck 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

Mr Mike Svikis – Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011

Prior to the beginning of the meeting Mr Svikis addressed Councillors at length on proposed changes to the LEP. He said, on this occasion, he wanted to engage Councillors in discussion, answer questions and provide guidance on proposals put forward. Mr Svikis said he would have a tentative report encompassing all proposals to Council's April meeting.

Councillors went through each of Council's requests for changes to the LEP, with advice from Mr Svikis on how best to attain the required outcome. Councillors were advised that some of the proposed changes would not, in his opinion, be agreed to by the Department of Planning.

Mr Svikis said he has inspected areas of the Shire where Council has requested changes in zoning and made particular mention of the following:

RU1 Zone Primary Production:

Council indicated that it would like to see the following amendments addressed within the LEP:

- Lot size for dwelling entitlement to be reduced from 1000ha to 400ha.
- Identified properties already below the minimum lot size for dwelling entitlement be allocated an entitlement.

Mr Svikis explained the process to Council and the position of the Department of Primary Industries and that of Planning & Infrastructure and, unfortunately, in his opinion, it is unlikely approval will be given for a 'blanket' reduction in size. He cites the DPI position that it is prime agricultural land as indicated

during the planning stages of the Western Councils Sub-Regional Land Use Strategy.

A case for an entitlement to be granted to a smaller property on an individual basis can be mounted on a case by case issue by means of an individual property development plan. To mount an argument along these lines, the development plan would need to show from a historical perspective and through a business plan, that the property of that particular size (smaller than 1000ha) would be a viable, sustainable undertaking for a dwelling entitlement to be allowed. It is envisaged the cost for such a plan would be in the vicinity of \$5,000 - \$10,000 and should be the responsibility of the owner seeking the change.

It was suggested that Council should develop a policy that if owners of rural properties seek an amendment to the dwelling entitlement lot size, a property development plan should be provided to Council in order for Council to assess its support for the proposal. All costs in providing the plan and costs involved in seeking a 'gateway' determination through the Department of Planning and Infrastructure are to be borne by the proponent.

R5 Zone Large Lot Residential:

- Reduce lot size of large lot residential

Discussion centred mainly around the large lot residential zone near the airport. It was anticipated the owner of a holding in that vicinity would consider subdividing to approximately 8000 square metre blocks if allowed. This would, potentially, allow for three additional blocks to be created in that area. Should Council wish to go ahead with this, it would be advisable to write to all landowners in the zone advising of Council's intention and determining if they wished to have their land considered in any future rezoning or reduction in lot size.

B2 Zone Local Centre:

Council rezone both sides of the highway from the Council Chambers to Smith Park and from the Post Office to the Sportsground from R1 to B2 Local Centre.

The river side of the highway lends itself to rezoning due to the nature of the current activity and in keeping with potential future development

On the eastern side of the highway it is recommended that the rezoning only apply from the Post Office to the Coonamble Medical Centre. From this point to the Sportsground the nature of the street is residential.

IN1 Zone General Industrial:

Railway Street:

Much of the top end of Railway Street is currently zoned R1 - General Residential but is being used for industrial purposes. It is recommended that the top end of Railway Street be zoned IN1 - General Industrial behind the Landmark building to complement the current land use. On the eastern side

of the street, the zoning become IN1 – General Industrial, to the current Youth Centre squash courts.

At the bottom end of Railway Street there are mixed uses, consisting of residential and general industrial. Given the current industrial users have 'continuing use' rights, it may be appropriate to leave the zone as is for the present unless Council wishes to encourage industrial development down this side of the street. It is not recommended that each individual lot be separately zoned given the current land use. Normal planning principles are to not mix residential with industrial and where a zone change occurs there should be a buffer zone, such as a street or parkland.

Meglo Block:

Council proposed to rezone the entire lot to allow for combined residential and industrial. Again, concerns were raised about the compatibility of this type of development in the future and potential conflict that may occur.

It was proposed that Council only consider the possible rezoning of the four smaller blocks at "The Meglo" which have already been subdivided. A maximum house size of 200 square metres be considered with the associated development. Any approval for development on these sites be first industrial and then residential, or simultaneous – but residential in isolation not be approved.

Council needs to consider flood issues and feedlot smell issues when considering such development in this area.

Land Use Table:

Discussion was held around the merits of changing the land use table. Several examples of issues that may arise were discussed. Each showing potential conflict that may evolve were many proposals adopted. Also discussed was the position Council may find itself in should a case be mounted in the Land and Environment Court if consent were not given to a particular development that is permitted with consent.

Specific Issues Raised:

- Land south of Coonamble on the Highway – between the highway and the river.

Mention was made by Council that the land may be suitable for either rezoning to large lot residential or for reduced lot size in the current RU1 – Primary Production zoning. Currently the land to the church (Kingdom Hall) is Residential Zone R1. This is approximately where the dwelling entitlements cease.

It was explained that there would be probable opposition to the rezoning from the Office of Water, as it did not wish to create further riparian rights along the Castlereagh River.

The RMS may oppose a sequence of multi driveways along the stretch of highway where the speed is greater.

Even though the land is narrow, it is anticipated the DPI will oppose, as it is still considered agricultural land.

Other factors considered were the possible impact from the abattoir with smell and air pollution issues.

Conimbia Street:

Mention was made of possible zone changes to land between the water tower and the Walgett road to either R1 – General Residential or R5 – Large Lot Residential from the current RU1 - Primary Production zone.

Mr Svikis explained that to undertake the changes, it would be necessary to complete a flood study and a contaminated land study which, if Council wanted to consider as part of this review, would substantially increase the time required and could not be included if the current timetable is to be maintained.

Back Zoning:

Mr Svikis stated that where Council has an area of land zoned for, in particular, large lot residential and the owner is not prepared to subdivide, it is possible to consider rezoning other suitable land and changing the zone on the current land that, in effect, removes the potential to dispose of the land with dwelling entitlement. He also explained that the supply of land in any subdivision is generally an economic decision for the owner and cited several instances where the economics first do not provide incentive for people to undertake development projects – i.e. the potential return from the project outweighs the development costs.

In conclusion Mr Svikis said he is happy to include any or all of Council's proposals with the review however, from experience, he believes several of the proposals will be critically reviewed by Planning and Infrastructure.

4.0 APOLOGIES

0736 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Karanouh that an apology for non-attendance be accepted from Cr Burnheim.

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations were booked for this meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

0737 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 12 February 2014 be confirmed, subject to clarification of *Minute No. 0691 Coonamble Golf Club Ltd.*

Notice of Rescission

A notice of rescission, signed by Crs Keady, Walker and Webb, giving notice of their intention to move for the rescission of the following motion, was presented:

Minute No 0691 of 12 February 2014

“Resolved on the motion of Crs Webb and Cullen that Council not accede to the request by the Coonamble Golf Club Ltd to provide “in kind” assistance to an amount of \$2,000”.

0738 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Minute No. 0691 of 12 February 2014 **be rescinded.** *Carried 4 votes/2 votes*

Coonamble Golf Club Ltd – Request For In Kind Assistance

0739 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council allocate \$1,000 to the Coonamble Golf Club Ltd. as a contribution towards it water usage. *Carried 5 votes/1 vote*

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

Business arising from Minutes:

(a) Community Safety Committee – In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the General Manager advised that a response has been received from the Chief Magistrate advising Council may invite her honour Magistrate Kok through the Registrar of the Local Court. Mr Warren said that in accordance with instructions, an invitation has been extended.

(b) Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – Cr Schieb advised that a proposed restructure is to take place and Council will be informed accordingly in due course.

(c) Inland Rail Symposium – Cr Cullen and Schieb attended the Symposium hosted by Moree Plains Shire Council on 7 March 2014. Cr Cullen said the corridor has been defined somewhere between Baradine and Coonamble, however the \$200m funding is what was committed by the former Government. Cr Schieb said there is talk that funding of between \$11.6 - \$11.9 billion will be required to complete the project.

(d) Warrena Weir – In response to a question the General Manager advised that further information has been sought – Council’s Manager of Environmental Services has been instructed to supply same.

(e) **Tooloon Street Dwelling** - The General Manager informed the meeting that the Manager – Environmental Services has inspected the premises – there are no health or safety concerns – and the area has been cleaned up.

(f) **Clean Up Australia Day** – Cr Keady commented on the success of the day and suggested that Council promote another ‘clean up’ event and involve the schools. The General Manager said another clean up day would be promoted and a report back to Council.

(g) **Bus Shelters – School Students** – Cr Walker was advised that no response has yet been received regarding Council’s funding application.

0740 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the above information be noted.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

0741 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

9.0 MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor said he attended Dinner Under the Stars at Gulargambone and it was a very enjoyable and successful evening. Cr Karanouh said he also met with the General Manager of the Local Land Services, Mr Laurie Dwyer and a further meeting has been arranged for Thursday 13 March at Council’s office between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. The Mayor said this meeting is with local stakeholders, to discuss services and the intention of the LLS for this district.

0742 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that the Mayor’s activity report since last meeting be adopted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

0743 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – For Council’s Consideration:

10.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10(42751)

0744 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that Council agree to support Canterbury City Council with legal expenses in its endeavours to have the easement over public recreation land revoked and pay the amount of \$200.35.

10.2 NARRANDERA SHIRE COUNCIL A2(42900)

0745 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council note the Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference will be in Narrandera on 10 – 12 September 2014 and if any Councillor wishes to attend they should advise the General Manager.

10.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10

0746 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council note Councillors Cullen, Keady and Burnheim indicated they would attend the forum at Nyngan on 25 March 2014

Section B – Matters for Council's Information.**10.4 GULARGAMBONE CENTRAL SCHOOL L13-2(42731)**

Thanking Council for providing complementary access to the pool for students during the recent holidays. Saying many students expressed their appreciation that they were able to use the pool more frequently than would otherwise be possible. Further thanking Council for extending this generous offer to the current school swimming scheme.

10.5 CROWN LANDS DIVISION P1-13(42728)

Referring to proposed dredging of Warrena Weir and saying that a temporary license will be a requirement to proceed with works. Councillors noted that application for the licence is being sought.

10.6 VICE CAPTAIN & CLUB CAPTAIN, COONAMBLE GOLF CLUB LTD R4-2+PR1524(42757)

Saying he is at a loss to understand Council's decision in declining a \$1000 water allocation to the Club at its February meeting.

Council noted there was confusion as to what was actually resolved, however this matter was addressed earlier in the day by rescinding Minute No 0691 of 12 February 2014.

10.7 DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10-1(42748)

Advising the Minister for Local Government has extended the deadline for receipt of public submissions on the Independent Local Government Review Panel and Local Government Acts Taskforce final report to Friday 4 April.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council's submission was completed on 6 March 2014 and forwarded to the Office of Local Government.

10.8 MICHELLE LEONARD – MOORAMBILLA VOICES LTD D5-6-1(42817)

Saying she has chosen to change the artistic direction of Moorambilla Voices 2014 and advising that the choirs of Moorambilla Voices will do a farewell concert at the Coonamble Pavilion on Saturday 20 September 2014. Thanking Council for its support of the festival.

10.9 THE HON KATRINA HODGKINSON MP D9(42821)

Stating in November 2013 the NSW Government announced a \$7.6m temporary emergency assistance package for some three LGAs, which has now been increased to \$14.6m and expanded to cover a further 20 LGAs, including Coonamble. Saying the Government is continuing to work on

support mechanisms for farmers and are in line with State and Commonwealth agreements on drought.

Cr Cullen mentioned it has been suggested that a “hay day” might be arranged for Coonamble and if so, what arrangements would need to be made. It was agreed that should this eventuate, Cr Cullen advise the General Manager.

10.10 INLAND NSW TOURISM T3-12(42851)

Advising the Central NSW Region of Inland NSW Board recently made a unanimous decision to appoint Natasha Comber, Manager – City Development & Communications – Dubbo City Council to the role of Casual Director.

10.11 DUNCAN GAY MLC – MINISTER FOR ROADS & PORTS R8-23(42847)

Advising further initiatives to support the State’s road freight industry and saying he has acquired co-delegation powers to enable the State’s road managers to process permit applications for journeys within NSW. Pointing out that RMS is working with individual councils across the State to help fast track the assessment and issuing of access permits. Saying Roads Managers in NSW include RMS for state roads and local councils for local roads.

10.12 RICHARD HANCOCK, CEO, NATIONAL HEAVY VEHICLE REGULATOR R8-23(42846)

Writing to inform Council that NSW RMS will temporarily process applications for over size and over-mass vehicles (OSOM) and special purpose vehicles (SPV). Saying the temporary arrangements with state government would help ease the challenges for industry and government in the early days of adjusting to the new Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL). Stating RMS has co-delegation powers that allow the state’s road managers to process all new Class 1 and 3 OSOM and SPV access applications for travel within NSW.

The Director of Engineering Services informed the meeting that the Trucking Industry is the driving force behind this and, in his opinion, it will be expected that all roads will be approved upon application. Mr Brodbeck said he has reservations about liability on councils and indicated that assessing approvals will take days and carry a huge responsibility.

Cr Cullen requested that this matter be brought forward for discussion at the next OROC meeting.

10.13 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10(42861)

Advising that as of Monday 24 February 2014 the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet has become the Office of Local Government. Saying there will be no change in terms of its role with the local government sector and contact details/postal address will remain the same.

10.14 OFFICE OF COMMUNITIES – SPORT AND RECREATION G5-14(42886)

Advising the next round of the Sport and Recreation Participation & Facility Program will open on 3 March 2014. Saying the guidelines have been amended to include the requirement for Council applications to identify community organisations that are partner to the project (where applicable).

10.15 THE HON BARNABY JOYCE MP D9(42902)

Thanking the Mayor for his letter of 22 January concerning drought conditions in the Shire, also for organising and hosting a lunch meeting in Coonamble on 2 February. Advising the governments have agreed to move towards measures focused on encouraging risk management and preparedness by farmers. Saying he understands the NSW government has announced the expansion of its temporary emergency assistance package to include Coonamble and encouraging Council to advise farmers in the region to take advantage of this assistance.

10.16 NSW YOUTH WEEK COORDINATOR G5-9(42940)'

Advising that a grant of \$750 has been allocated to Council to operate a shuttle bus for activities and events outlined in the application submitted by the Director of Community Services.

10.17 MATT PARMETER L3-1+F9(42796)

Requesting Council to give 'in principle' support to the Solar Energy eXchange Initiative (SEXI). Saying the proposed SEXI group of councils would cover much of inland NSW and approximately 66% of the area of NSW. Advising to date 19 councils and the Unincorporate Area (covering about 55% of NSW) have voted 'in principle' support; the OROC has given 'in principle' support as have three other ROCs. Saying if Council is able to pass a motion of 'in principle' support it would be appreciated.

10.18 COONAMBLE SWIMMING CLUB INC S13(42899)

Responding to Council's letter regarding the 2015 Swimming NSW Country Regional Meet and saying the Club would be overjoyed to see the event in Coonamble. Saying members appreciate the restraints of accommodation in Coonamble, but they believe follow up is required to see what the entrant numbers at Inverell were to gauge an idea.

The General Manager informed the meeting that this offer is given to Shires across the State and Sports Marketing makes a selection, based on its preference. Mr Warren indicated that other places where the Swimming NSW Country Regional Meet has been held have been able to provide adequate accommodation requirements. Cr Keady suggested that the Swimming Club be encouraged to discuss the matter with Sports Marketing.

10.19 OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE F5-4

Advising that Stage 1 – Coonamble Levee Upgrade – has been activated from the 2013-14 Floodplain Management Program reserve list and offered funding of up to \$2,700,000. Requesting Council to submit a detailed Work Plan for the project.

0747 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.4 to 10.19 be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE

0748 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Cullen that the following matters be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

10.20 THE HON BARNABY JOYCE MP D9(42955)

0749 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the letter of appreciation from the Minister be noted.

10.21 GULARGAMBONE CENTRAL SCHOOL D7(42956)

0750 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that a costing be prepared and this item considered in conjunction with the Estimates and Operational Plan for 2014/2015.

10.22 MRS ANNE KENNEDY R8-10

0751 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council agree to close Castlereagh Street from the Peace Tree to the Aberford Street intersection for the march to the sportsground at 12 noon on Saturday 22 March and participants be instructed to use the crossing to the Post Office and walk along the footpath to the sportsground.

10.23 JUDGE GRAEME HENSON, CHIEF MAGISTRATE P5(42978)

0752 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the information provided by the Chief Magistrate be noted.

10.24 UNITED SERVICES UNION S6-2(42983)

0753 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council note the information provided by USU regarding its response to the Local Government Review Panel’s report.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

0754 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Webb that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

0755 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that Council note Complying Development Application No 004/2014, were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.2 LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN

Council noted that Mr Mike Svikis, who will conduct the review of the current Local Environmental Plan (LEP), addressed Councillors earlier in the day regarding the proposed changes. Mr Svikis also proposed a time table to address the necessary processes required to make changes to the planning document.

Councillors further discussed the rezoning of Railway Street – the General Manager suggested that in company with the Manager – Environmental Services, he inspect the area so that the process of notifying residents can begin. Cr Keady said Council should ascertain from current owners what it is they require. It was noted that there are currently sufficient residential blocks and that land size should be investigated in individual cases.

0756 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Keady that the information be noted.

11.3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

0757 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Keady that the information contained in the report by the Economic Development Manager be noted.

11.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – REPRESENTATION

0758 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that:

- (a) the four applicants for a position on the Coonamble Shire Economic Development Committee, as follows, be appointed:
 - James Nalder
 - Alison Dent
 - David Taylor
 - Donna Swansborough
- (b) the Charter be altered to record the decision to appoint four independent Committee members;
- (c) Councillors Karanouh, Burnheim, Keady and Cullen be Council's representatives on the Committee.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

0759 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the following matter be classified 'urgent' and dealt with.

11.5 RODEO AND CAMPDRAFT ASSOCIATION - SUPPORT

0760 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that Councillors Karanouh, Keady, Cullen and Walker meet with the representatives of the Rodeo/Campdraft Association and the Association be requested to provide its Business Plan and financial statements at the meeting.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

0761 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

0762 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council note the Community Services Progress report which provides an update on all community projects.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

0763 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Cullen that the following item be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

12.2 PARTICIPATION & FACILITY PROGRAM – NSW DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION

0764 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council nominate the construction of cricket practice nets as its preferred project for an application under this Program and approve the appropriate matching funding of \$25,000 from the Development Fund.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

0765 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

0766 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 28 February 2014 be noted.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

0767 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the list of investments as 28 February 2014 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 WORKS IN PROGRESS

0768 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

0769 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that an allocation of funding to carry out maintenance to the Gulargambone Hall be included for consideration in conjunction with the 2014/2015 Estimates.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AND URBAN SERVICES

0770 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following item be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

13.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING PROCESS

0771 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council note and adopt the following time table applicable to this year’s process:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Function</i>
Tuesday 15 April	Draft Delivery Program & Operational Plan to be considered as part of April 2014 Council Meeting and placed on public exhibition
Tuesday 30 April	Public meeting (evening) for Council to present its Delivery Program & Operational Plan to the Community.
Friday 7 May	Submissions from the public close
Wednesday 11 June	Delivery Program & Operational Plan adopted (at normal monthly Council meeting)

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

0772 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

0773 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

The Director mentioned the following matters relative to his report:

- Road works – due to the lack of water, works are being focused on roads within a short distance from the three centres where water is available.
- Water Treatment Plant – a workshop on health risks is being organised for staff. The Director said the contract has no recourse for compensation and the Public Works has taken that on board. Council noted that the works are 9 months overdue. The Director said that there is a 12 months maintenance guarantee after practical completion.
- In response to a question the Director said that the RMS only want the bitumen sprayed, not the shoulders and local roads are only sprayed for reforming.

0774 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the above information be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

0775 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that the following item be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

14.2 COONAMBLE LEVEE UPDATE

0776 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Keady that Council:

- (a) accept the offer of funding of \$2,700,000, when formal documents are received, for Stage 1 of the Coonamble Levee upgrade and the General Manager be authorised to sign the Funding Agreement in accordance with terms and conditions and affix the Seal to relevant documents;
- (b) obtain a firm proposal from Public Works to manage the calling of tenders and project manage Stage 1 of the levee upgrade.

15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

0777 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO 003/2014 – RG SWANSBOROUGH

0778 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council approve Development Application 003/2014, submitted by RG Swansborough to erect a dwelling on land described as Lot 9,

DP263390 on Back Combara Road, Coonamble, subject to the following conditions:

1. The proponent shall notify Council, not less than forty eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the work of:

- date of commencement of the work.
- name of the principle certifying authority for the issue of compliance/occupation certificates.

2. Where Council is not the Principal Certifying Authority (PCA), the proponent or private certifier shall submit a construction certificate to Council prior to building works commencing on the subject allotment.

3. The building/structure shall be constructed in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia.

4. All works associated with the implementation/construction of the proposed activity (Not operation of the proposal post occupational certificate), involving electric or pneumatic tools, or other noisy operations, shall be restricted to the following hours of operation:

Monday to Saturday 7.00am to 7.00pm

Sunday/Public Holidays No construction work which will adversely impact on the amenity of the area is to take place on Sundays or Public Holidays.

Advice: All noise generating activities are subject to the requirements of the protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997. This condition of consent does not relieve the proponent including developers, contractors or their agents from the requirements under the relevant noise control legislation (POEO Act 1997).

5. Any damage caused to Council's infrastructure including but not limited to footpaths, roads, drainage, Kerb and Gutters, laybacks or other public land shall be restored in accordance with Council's Design Specifications at the full cost to the developer. Where a dispute arises over the person(s) responsible for the damage, Council shall reserve the right to carry out work to remedy such damage(s) at the proponents cost.

6. All exterior lighting associated with the development shall be designed and installed so that no obtrusive light will be cast onto any adjoining property and the emittance of light to the night sky will be minimised.

7. All roofed and paved areas are to be drained and the water from those areas conveyed:

- a) by means of a fully sealed downpipes to a distance of at least six (6) metres from the perimeter of the dwelling. The proponent/landowner takes such measures to ensure that no

stormwater shall disperse onto adjoining properties. All works is to be to Council's requirement and in accordance with AS/NZS 3500 National Plumbing and Drainage Code and the Plumbing Code of Australia.

8. All plumbing, drainage and stormwater work shall be carried out by a licensed person in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 3500 and Plumbing Code of Australia.

9. No materials or machinery to be used in the construction of the building shall be stored or stacked on Council's footpath, nature strip, public defined land or roadway.

10. Prior to occupation of the dwelling an occupation certificate must be issued by the principal certifying authority .

11. That prior to the commencement of construction, the applicant lodge with, and receive approval for the following listed S68 Local Approval (s):

- C5 – Install, construct or alter a waste treatment device
- F10 – Operate onsite sewerage waste management system

15.2 CARAVAN PARK

0779 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that the estimated cost of the works required to upgrade the Caravan Park be noted and Council consider the allocation in conjunction with the 2014/2015 budget.

Cr Schieb requested that the Caravan Park area be cleaned up because its current untidy state is not enticing travellers to stay overnight. In response to a question from Cr Keady, the General Manager said the amenities block is being built to complement what is required in terms of the upgrade.

15.3 RANGER'S REPORT – DECEMBER 2013/JANUARY 2014

0780 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Webb that the report by the Ranger for the month of February 2014 be noted.

16.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

0781 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following reports, Item Nos. 16.1 – 16.3 from Various Committees be noted:

- 16.1 Minutes of Meeting of Senior Citizens Association
- 16.2 Minutes of Coonamble Shire Youth Council
- 16.3 Minutes of Coonamble Shire Youth Council

16.4 Minutes of Coonamble Employment Circle

0782 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the minutes of the meeting of Coonamble Employment Circle held on 4 March 2014 be noted.

17.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

0783 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the report by the Manager – Saleyards & Facilities be received and noted.

18.1 CODE OF CONDUCT REPORT**A MOTION**

PROPOSED by Cr Karanouh **SECONDED** by Cr Keady that this matter be deferred until the April meeting when Cr Burnheim is present, **WAS LOST – 4 votes / 2 votes**

At this juncture, 1.10 p.m. the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 1.55 p.m.

18.0 CLOSED SESSION

0784 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with the administrative procedures of the Code of Conduct March 2013.

0785 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

0786 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb & Walker that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION FROM CLOSED SESSION

0787 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council adopt the recommendation from Closed Session, being Recommendation No. 18.1 as detailed below:

18.1 CODE OF CONDUCT REPORT

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council:

- a) adopt the investigator's recommendations as outlined in the *Report for Coonamble Shire Council Investigation of an Alleged Code of Conduct Breach*;
- b) consider imposing an additional sanction to those recommended by the investigator in the *Report for Coonamble Shire Council Investigation of an Alleged Code of Conduct Breach*, in that Cr Burnheim apologise to any person or organisation affected by the breach.

Councillor Keady requested that his name be recorded as voting against this Recommendation.

19.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

20.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Keady:

- Requested that the General Manager follow up progress being made in connection with the Corporate Tent for Council at the Rodeo in June.

Cr Schieb:

0787 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Walker that a letter be forwarded to the new Superintendent of the Castlereagh Local Area Command requesting that he attend a Council Meeting to discuss with Council matters of concern regarding law and order.

Cr Cullen:

- Thanked the Director of Engineering Services for his service to Council, noting that Mr Brodbeck would retire on Friday 14 March 2014..

Cr Walker:

- Requested that a check be made to see what progress has been made with House Numbering, as the matter was again discussed at a Health Meeting recently. The Director advised that the numbers were being ordered, but he would check. It was noted that \$5,000 remains in the budget to assist with this project.
- Attended AGM of Outback Arts – handed around documentation from the meeting for interested Councillors to peruse.
- Wished the Director of Engineering Services well in his retirement.

General Manager:

- Thanked the Director of Engineering Services for his service to Council over the past 3½ years
- Reminded Councillors to complete the documentation for the LEP – saying it is important that they deal with issues and be aware of the proposed changes and what the outcomes may be.

Mayor:

- Congratulated staff on the presentation of the sporting ovals.
- Referred to a complaint from a resident in Wingadee Street regarding overgrown premises and asked that the matter be followed up.
- Informed Councillors there is a Grain Harvest Conference at Tamworth on 19 March 2014 from 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. It is inviting views and feedback from stakeholders.
- Another bike ride – the Committee wishes to conduct the event annually – this time from Coonabarabran to Walgett
- Fence in front of Quambone Park – it was noted that Council resolved to instal bollards/chain and not fence the whole area.
- Requested that lights for the Peace Tree be ordered for Christmas and also that festoon lighting be investigated for the main street for the festive season.

- Glass in the front door of the Memorial Hall at Gulargambone needs to be secured.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.30 p.m.

These Pages (1/5419 to 19/5437) were confirmed on theday of APRIL 2014 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 12 March 2014.

MAYOR

8. RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

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:

Negotiations commenced for purchase of Smith Park. To date no response has been received to Council's offer.

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. No response from the Coonamble ALC to date.

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.

Status:

No reply to date from the Roads & Maritime Services.

SCHOOL BUS SHELTERS

School Children's bus shelters – application for funding has been submitted – staff will follow up.

Status:

Process of assessing applications has been extended – no announcement to date.

11.3 MANAGEMENT OF COMMON

0645 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that :

- (a) 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 husbandry practices, and in doing so
- (b) Council, as trustee, undertake administrative activity and oversight of collective requirements such as water supply, fencing and asset management.

Status:

Report due Council's May meeting.

ADDITIONAL CLEAN UP DAYS

Cr Keady commented on the success of the day and suggested that Council promote another 'clean up' event and involve the schools. The General Manager said another clean up day would be promoted and a report back to Council.

Status:

No action to date

15.2 CARAVAN PARK

0779 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that the estimated cost of the works required to upgrade the Caravan Park be noted and Council consider the allocation in conjunction with the 2014/2015 budget.

Status:

A report will be submitted to the May meeting of Council.

CORPORATE TENT

Requested that the General Manager follow up progress being made in connection with the Corporate Tent for Council at the Rodeo in June.

Status:

The Grants & Events Officer has obtained formal quotes for catering – 60 people the cost is \$7,916 all inclusive. Menu will include hot and cold canapés, finger food, light alcohol beverages, tea/coffee and slices. Food service will be between 11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. The marquee has been booked and entertainment is being negotiated.

HOUSE NUMBERING

Requested that a check be made to see what progress has been made with House Numbering, as the matter was again discussed at a Health Meeting recently. The Director advised that the numbers were being ordered, but he would check. It was noted that \$5,000 remains in the budget to assist with this project.

Status:

Written to the Coonamble Lions Club requesting it to carry out the house numbering. No response to date.

8.2 RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED**10.8 THE HON MARIE FICARRA MLC L2 (42141)**

0627 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council advise Coonamble Community Safety Committee that it supports its ongoing efforts to have appropriate action taken against offenders and request a meeting be convened with representative of the Castlereagh Local Area Command, the Mayor, Councillor Schieb and the Magistrate to discuss this matter.

Status:

Her honour Magistrate Kok has agreed to meet with representatives and has provided details of her availability. Please see Correspondence Item 10.3. COMPLETED.

18.1 COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT EVENT

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that following the election of a President and Secretary of Coonamble Rodeo Association, Council meet to form a business alliance to assist in promotion and marketing of the event.

Status:

Initial meeting between Council representatives and rodeo association representatives was held on 24 March. Please refer to General Manager's Report. COMPLETED.

11.3 CLEANING / DESILTING WARRENA WEIR

0704 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that Council note the report and continue to seek approval as quickly as possible to have this work done, noting that the Office of Water has no objection.

Status:

See report by Manager – Environmental Services this meeting. COMPLETED.

9. MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 09 APRIL 2014

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10. PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:

10.1 COONAMBLE LOCAL COURT P5(43077)

Advising that Magistrate Kok is agreeable to meet with Councillors and she will next be in Coonamble on 22 or 23 April – a suitable time would be after 5.00 p.m. Stating that, alternatively, 19, 20 and 21 May would also be acceptable at the same time. Pointing out that to use the time effectively Magistrate Kok would like to be provided with a list of issues for discussion one week in advance and asking to be advised of the number of people attending the meeting.

Recommendation:

That Council resolve when representatives wish to meet with Magistrate Kok and advise what issues are to be discussed and the number of people attending the meeting.

10.2 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT R4(43095)

Advising the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, has determined that the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the 2014/2015 year will be 8.5%. Stating also that the maximum amount of a minimum ordinary rate is to be \$485 for the 2014/2015 year – the increase is the same level as the rate-peg limit of 2.3% for the financial year.

Recommendation:

That Council note the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the 2014/2015 year is 8.5% and the maximum amount of a minimum ordinary rate will be \$485 for the financial year 2014/15.

10.3 CIRCULAR - OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT C13

Advising of the commencement of the exemption from compliance with requirements of the pecuniary interest provisions at meetings in relation to the adoption of principal local environmental plans. Saying that a special disclosure in relation to the interest must be made before the commencement of the council meeting or the council committee meeting and must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Asking General Managers to bring this Circular to the attention of Councillors. **ANNEXURE A.**

Recommendation:

That Councillors complete the Declaration of Pecuniary Interest Form prior to debate regarding the review of the Local Environmental Plan 2011.

10.4 COONAMBLE DISTRICT RSL CLUB LTD C6-13(43129)

Advising that in February 2014 the Coonamble RSL Sub-Branch bought a bus to transport patrons to and from the Club. Saying that it has proven to be a worthwhile purchase, however it is difficult to find a parking space out the front of the Club to advertise the bus is available and to have the bus covered by security cameras. Asking Council to designate a parking area on the Youth Centre side of Castlereagh Street adjacent to the Club for parking three days/week – Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6.00 p.m. to 2.00 a.m.

Recommendation:

That the Coonamble District RSL Club Ltd be advised that this matter will be referred for inspection and determination at the next meeting of the Traffic Committee.

10.5 COONAMBLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE D5-20(43125)

Stating the Chamber of Commerce is organising the 2014/2015 business awards with help from Council's Economic Development Office and thanking Council for its commitment of \$3000 and contribution of staff time. Advising that it proposes to call this year's awards *the Coonamble District Business Awards* and trusting Council will agree.

Referring to Council's request that nomination boxes be placed in 'every business' and requesting this direction be revised. Pointing out there are more than 250 non-farm businesses in the Shire and the time, cost and logistics of making/purchasing, delivering/collecting such a large number of boxes would be unworkable. Proposing that nomination boxes be placed in a number of strategic locations in each community at the discretion of the organising committee.

Advising the Chamber plans to encourage greater participation through the use of social media and Coonamble High School has offered 'in kind' support by setting up facebook, online and email nomination process. Saying it aims to launch the awards in May, hopefully at a function at Two eight two eight and close them at the end of July. Pointing out that a date for the Awards Presentation is yet to be decided. Trusting Council agrees to these changes.

Recommendation:

That Council advise the Coonamble Chamber of Commerce that it agrees to the changes advised in its letter of 27 March 2014.

10.6 COONAMBLE PISTOL CLUB INC R4

Applying for an exemption of Shire Rates and advising that for approximately 30 years (up until two years ago) Council had granted that exemption. Stating the Club currently pays \$503/year to NSW Trade and Investment for a Permissive Occupancy on a 99 year lease. Explaining it is a small non-profit sporting club and having to pay Council rates of \$420/year additional to the lease payment is a burden. Advising the Club receives no services from Council and does not request any. Stating members maintain the building, fencing and grounds and endeavour to make the area presentable as it is one of the main approaches to town. Asking for sympathetic consideration to waiving the need to pay rates.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – A supplementary list was received from Land and Property Information two years ago informing Council that the subject land was a Permissive Occupancy and, therefore, subject to Council rates. The Pistol Club was informed on 24 September 2012 that the land did not fit into any category that was exempt from rates or non-rateable. Council's records indicate there has been no agreement in place to waive rates. Section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to make and levy a rate on all rateable land, therefore the land was rated as "Rural Small Holdings" – the same as surrounding land. Council may wish to pay for the rates from its Donations Vote, however it cannot make a property exempt from being rated.)

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

10.7 MR TRAVIS McCLEARY PR1646(43998)

Advising that he purchased the units at No 9 Eurimie Street, Coonamble and has contacted Council regarding changes that he has planned. Explaining that he intends to convert from 14 studio apartments to 8 units. Advising he previously requested that rates be reduced if possible during the construction period, as no bins will be placed for collection and other services will not be utilised. Stating the units have been under construction for nearly 12 months due to their dilapidated state and continued vandalism. Saying if rates could be reduced it would be greatly appreciated.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – This property was formally owned by the Department of Housing – rates were paid for the 2010/11 year and then refunded as the property was vacant and owned by a government department. The property was sold to Mr McCleary on 29 April 2013. The issue for Mr. McCleary is domestic waste charge and sewerage charge rather than rates. His rate

charge for the year is \$375 – domestic waste charge is for seven services @ \$280 each – his sewer charge is 7 charges @ \$365 each. Council's sewer charges are charged in accordance with Council's Revenue Policy, whether vacant or not. Council's domestic waste charge is applicable to either vacant land or land with dwelling thereon, however Mr McCleary can specify the number of services he requires, but would have to be charged for, at a minimum, one service \$280.)

Recommendation:

That Council advise Mr McCleary that Council is charging services in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Policy and is unable to reduce the amount payable, however he can request that the number of domestic waste services can be reduced to a single service.

10.8

COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC

D7(43163)

Outlining a new competition being run by the Society this year and seeking Council support. Advising it is launching a special photographic competition called *Showing the Connection* which aims to spotlight the connection between what farmers produce, following through the processing steps and onto the consumer. Saying the competition consists of an Open Section and Under 18 Years Section, with prize money allocated as follows:

- Open
 - First Prize \$1,000
 - Second Prize \$ 350
- Under 18 Years
 - First Prize \$ 250
 - Second Prize \$ 150

Stating the Society's long term goal is to develop this project into a major prestigious competition – seeing this competition as an opportunity to promote excellence in agriculture, as well as promoting the Shire itself. Pointing out that after the Show a short list of entries will be exhibited at the Outback Arts Gallery until after the Rodeo and members are looking to exhibit the photos in other galleries throughout NSW afterwards.

Pointing out as the success of the competition grows more sponsorship will be attracted to increase the prize pool. Saying some sponsorship has been secured from NSW Farmers Association which has backed the competition with \$1,500, however the Society is seeking for another \$1,000 to cover the remaining \$250 prize money as well as advertising. Hoping Council will agree to contribute this in sponsorship.

Recommendation:

For Council's determination.

Section B – Matters for Council’s Information.

10.9	COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE	C6-12-
	1(43034)	

Advising the annual general meeting was held at the Bowling Club on 11 March 2014 and advising that the following have been elected to the positions shown:

- President: Al Karanouh
- Vice-President: Raquel Pickering
- Secretary: Rowena Macrae
- Treasurer: Kevin Simkin
- Publicity Officer: Raquel Pickering

10.10	QUAMBONE WOMEN’S GROUP	L3(43039)
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Thanking Council for use of the Quambone Pool for the Australia Day event and also for the \$200 contribution towards catering. Hoping to continue the tradition next year.

10.11	HON KATRINA HODGKINSON MP	D9+D9-1(43081)
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Responding to letters from the Mayor regarding expansion of drought assistance for NSW farmers and consideration to back-dating assistance for primary producers in the Shire to at least 1 July 2013. Saying that additional assistance has been announced by the Australian Government, which compliments that put in place by the NSW Government, and she is unable to modify the decision to back-date assistance as requested. Drawing attention to the Farm Innovation Fund which is an incentive based initiative to assist farmers to meet changes to seasonal conditions and help to identify and address risks to their farming enterprises, improve permanent infrastructure and ensure long term productivity and sustainable land use. Pointing out that funding by way of a loan at a concessional rate is available to farmers to meet the cost of carrying out permanent capital works that have a significant beneficial impact on the land, improve long term profitability and address seasonal conditions. Recommending that producers consider this assistance as well as measures announced by the Australian Government which include Interim Farm Household Allowance, Drought Concessional loans and Social Support assistance.

10.12	COONAMBLE SINGERS	G2-1(43080)
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Thanking Council for its generous donation of a new keyboard and advising they will be performing in the main street on Saturday 10 May 2014 to celebrate the 100 years anniversary of Leonards Stores in Coonamble. Extending an invitation to Councillors to join them. Also advising rehearsals are held each

Thursday evening at 6.30 p.m. in the CWA Hall and saying that Councillors would be welcome to come along.

10.13 MELBOURNE-BRISBANE INLAND RAIL ALLIANCE R2(43100)
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Referring to the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Railway Alliance (MBIRA) Strategy Meeting to be held on Friday 4 April in Sydney. Advising the Hon Warren Truss MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development has appointed former Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Minister, the Hon John Anderson to chair a new High Level Implementation Group and allocated an initial \$300m to progress the inland rail project.

Pointing out it was clear from the discussions held at the Symposium hosted by Moree Plains Shire Council recently that construction of the MBIRA is a once in a lifetime opportunity to:

- Address the challenge of the increase in freight volume
- Open up inland/regional Australia creating economic and social benefits and helping to combat the tyranny of distance
- For a boon for agriculture in opening of export markets
- Drive model shift through efficiencies in the freight infrastructure
- Create a Corridor of Opportunity.

Saying to ensure this iconic project is utilised to its full potential for centuries to come it needs to be:

- Modern world class railway built to future standards
- It should embrace technology
- It must be efficient 24/7 'port to port' rail solution
- Strategically placed inter-modal hubs with ability to quickly reconfigure trains
- All levels of Government along with the private sector need to contribute to move inland rail forward.

10.14 THE HON GABRIELLE UPTON MP, MINISTER FOR SPORT & RECREATION G5-14(43103)

Advising Council was successful in securing funds for its project Irrigation Upgrade of Sporting Ovals – Coonamble and an amount of \$25,000 has been awarded for the work.

10.15	KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP	D9(43126)
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Referring to the Mayor's letter requesting Minister Hodgkinson to back-date drought emergency assistance. Saying he understands the drought assistance package has not been able to completely cover the financial hardship faced by all shires and, with that in mind, he has contacted the Minister's office to request the assistance package be backdated for Coonamble Shire.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council has received a letter from the Minister for Primary Industries, the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson, advising what is available for farmers in drought affected areas and advising the most recent assistance package will not be back-dated.)

RICK WARREN
General Manager
1 April 2014

11. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

**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
Nil					

CDA No	Owner	Applicant	Proposed Use	Address of land	Approval Date
Nil					

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 no Development Applications or Complying Development Applications have been approved in the period.

11.2 CIVIL EMERGENCY LEAVE

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
L1.4.7 Maintain consultation process with workforce***

Background:

The draft Civil Emergency Leave Policy was presented to Council's February Meeting, when Council resolved to place the document on public exhibition, calling for submissions.

Issues:

The draft Policy was on public exhibition from 26 February 2014 until Friday 28 March 2014 and in that time no submissions and/or comments were received.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Order No 602 2013 under the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989
- Rural Fires Act 1997

Financial Considerations:

N/A

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

That Council formally adopt the Civil Emergency Leave Policy, noting the document was on public exhibition from 26 February until 28 March 2014 and no submissions and/or comments were received.

11.3 MEETING WITH RODEO REPRESENTATIVES
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***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
P4.4.2 Assist Coonamble Shire events with marketing and promotion.***

Background:

A meeting with rodeo representatives was held in the Committee Room on Monday 24 March 2014. Messrs Len Scott, Peter Kennedy and Andrew Shearer represented the rodeo/campdraft association and Crs. Karanouh, Cullen and Keady, together with the General Manager, attended on Council's behalf.

The Mayor welcomed the three representatives and informed them Council wished to discuss relevant issues to progress the rodeo this year.

Issues:

Len Scott, President of the Association, outlined the following expenses to the rodeo from the previous year and what it expected to pay this year:

• Toilet & shower hire cost (expected to be)	\$ 7,000
• Ground charges (Council) – expected to be approx.	\$ 2,500
• Toilet cleaning (previous year expenses)	\$ 2,600
• Rubbish clean up on site	\$ 1,700
• Batterline Earthmoving Pty Ltd	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	<u>\$14,000</u>

Corporate Tent:

Discussion revolved around the decision of Council to have a corporate tent and whether it was going to become the rodeo sponsors' tent as well. It was agreed the Rodeo Committee would have its own arrangement for a tent and/or seating at the rodeo ring and that reciprocal rights would be agreed upon for both rodeo sponsors and Council's guests to attend either location. It appears there will possibly be six sponsors from the Rodeo Association involved.

Arena Area – Camping:

The Rodeo Committee requested that the campdraft area be presented in a condition suitable for the event – i.e. bare dirt and no grass cover. This will be undertaken unless Council objects.

Rodeo Arena & Chute:

The arena area to be sprayed for weeds and long grass be mown prior to the event.

The Rodeo Committee pointed out the height of some areas of the yards needs to be six feet and currently is less than this. The solution proposed was that the inside of the yards be lowered to see if this height could be gained. This may need a grader or backhoe to achieve the result desired.

Grandstands:

It was requested that the grandstand-type seating be modified to reduce the height of the first step. Should any alterations be made to the structure of the existing grandstands it would require a structural engineering certificate. It is proposed to place earth at the bottom step of the grandstand to reduce the initial step height.

Traffic Control:

The Committee requested Council supply road barriers and webbing to enable it to effect traffic and pedestrian control from the gate area through the arena to separate people and horses. Council has a supply of webbing that could be used for this purpose.

Site Meeting:

A site meeting was recommended between the president, Mr Scott and Council's acting Director of Engineering Services to determine the scope of the works and estimate a cost for Council to undertake the activity.

It is noted that the Committee is not requesting Council staff assistance on the days of the rodeo and campdraft but is requesting Council undertake identified works to prepare the grounds for the event.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

It would appear that the Rodeo Committee is currently requesting direct financial assistance from Council in the sum of \$14,000.

The additional works requested, of an 'in kind' nature, are expected to be in the vicinity of \$5,000 but will be fully costed and reported to Council.

Options:

N/A

Recommendations:

That Council:

a) determine the amount of direct financial assistance it will provide to the rodeo event for 2014;

b) determine the 'in kind' works it will provide to the 2014

Rodeo Committee;

c) determine the invitees to Council's corporate tent and the cost to be paid by those invited.

11.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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.

PROJECT	ACTIONS	STATUS/OUTCOMES
Eco Spa + Caravan Park		•Awaiting response to offer to purchase Smith Park.
Passenger Air Services	1. Researched with other EDOs, local business, Aero Club and former booking agent.	•Submission completed 14.3.14. Copy attached for information.
Support new and existing business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support Business Start-Ups and Expansions: provide information and referral. 2. Chamber of Commerce – attended March meeting. 3. Business Awards – 4. Business Dinner – speaker Kerrie Phipps. 5. Business Training – Visual Merchandising workshop held 10 March. 6. Local Land Services – attended meeting with LLS representatives 13.3.14. 7. Welcome to Gulargambone – organised bags for BBQ held 19 March. 8. Inquiries New Residents – respond to online inquiries from prospective residents. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 8 responses/referrals this month. [3 business expansion, 1 potential purchase, 4 start-ups.] 2. Next Chamber meeting Tues 8th April. 3. Business Awards – to open May, close end July. CHS to set up Facebook and email voting. 4. Re-scheduling with TwoEightTwoEight for May. 5. Of 33 registrations 17 attended. One on one visits to 8 businesses including Quambone. 6. Notes from LLS Meeting attached for information. 7. 11 bags distributed. 27 new residents attended. (from Adelaide, Qld, WA, Newcastle, Goulburn, Dubbo, Sydney.) 8. 2 inquiries this month. Commencing update of Prospective Residents Pack.

PROJECT	ACTIONS	STATUS/OUTCOMES
Employment Circle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employer Info Evening – sub-committee meeting held 18 March. 2. Convene Employment Circle meeting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employer Info Evening to focus on agribusiness. Title: Operation Workforce. To be held Sept. 2. Next Employment Circle meeting Tue 1st April.
Shire Investment Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shire ED Committee – 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Committee members advised on appointment.

Recommendation:
That the information contained in the report by the Economic Development Manager be noted.

RICK WARREN
 General Manager
 1 April 2014

12. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 09 APRIL 2014

12.1 COUNCILLOR TRAINING COURSES

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

L1.2 Promote opportunities for leaders to learn the features of good leadership.

Background:

Local Government NSW conducts training courses for councillors throughout the year. Recently a brochure was received relating to the Executive Certificate for Elected Members. **APPENDIX B.**

Issues:

The executive Certificate is delivered by TAFE NSW and UTS in partnership with Local Government NSW over a period of five days. The next course commences on 14 June 2014 in Sydney.

Sustainability / Legislative Provisions:

N/A

Financial Considerations:

Cost to undertake this course is \$3,500. Council currently budgets \$8,000 annually for councillor training which, generally, is used to fund short courses should councillors wish to attend.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

That Councillors advise the General Manager should they wish to attend the Course and Council approve the attendance of Councillors and expenditure for this Course.

LIANNE TASKER

Director of Community Services

2 April 2014

13. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 09 APRIL 2014

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

Total Combined Rate Collections to 31/03/2014 compared to 31/03/2013:

	31/03/2014	31/03/2013
Arrears 30 th June previous year	791,468.50	763,910.00
Plus 2013/2014 Combined Levy	5,689,344.25	5,487,867.30
Add Transfer from Postponed	-	-
GROSS LEVY	6,480,812.75	6,251,777.30
Less: Pensioner Concession (State)	(62,382.97)	(64,711.08)
Pensioner Concession (Council)	(51,040.61)	(52,945.43)
Transfer to Postponed	-	-
Abandoned	-	-
NET TOTAL LEVY FOR YEAR	6,367,389.17	6,134,120.81
Less Collections	(4,373,589.97)	(4,212,149.20)
Plus Refunds	-	-
NET TOTAL BALANCE	1,993,799.20	1,921,971.63
Plus Postponed	-	-
GROSS TOTAL BALANCE	1,993,799.20	1,921,971.63
Collection % of Total Receivable	69.24%	69.26%
Arrears % of Total Receivable	30.76%	30.74%

Recommendation:
Submitted for Council's information.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	Investment Type/Maturity Date	Current Rate	Term	Amount (\$)
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 20/06/2014	3.66%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 02/07/2014	3.50%	93 Days	1,000,000.00
St George	A1+	Term Deposit - 16/06/2014	3.45%	91 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 02/06/2014	3.65%	91 Days	1,000,000.00
Reliance C/U	Unrated	Term Deposit - 04/09/2014	3.25%	184 Days	500,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 17/04/2014	3.50%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 24/04/2014	3.60%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 11/06/2014	3.50%	92 Days	1,000,000.00
Orana Mutual	Unrated	Term Deposit - 26/05/2014	3.65%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 14/04/2014	3.70%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 28/04/2014	3.65%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 23/05/2014	3.43%	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%	-	1,000,000.00
TOTAL					\$ 16,500,000

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	% of Investment	Max per Investment Policy	Amount (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	6%	50%	1,000,000
National Australia Bank	A1+	24%	50%	4,000,000
St George	A1+	6%	50%	1,000,000
Bendigo Bank	A-	12%	40%	2,000,000
IMB	A2	12%	35%	2,000,000
ME Bank	A1+	30%	35%	5,000,000
Orana Mutal	Unrated	6%	10%	1,000,000
Reliance C/U	Unrated	3%	10%	500,000
				\$ 16,500,000

Rating	% of Investment	Policy	Amount
A1+	67%	100%	11,000,000
A1	12%	80%	2,000,000
A2	12%	60%	2,000,000
Unrated	9%	30%	1,500,000
			\$ 16,500,000
General Fund Investments			9,600,651
Sewerage Investment Fund			2,778,768
Water Investment Fund			4,120,581
			\$ 16,500,000

Recommendation:

That the list of investments as at 31 March 2014 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	RURAL FIRE SERVICES ESTIMATES 2014/2015
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Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:

13.2.1 Liaise with RFS to provide operational & strategic fire protection in Coonamble.

Background:

Coonamble Shire Council is a member of the North West Zone NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) - other members are Walgett Shire Council and Warren Shire Council. The cost of providing the service is funded by local government to an amount of 11.7%, insurance companies fund 73.7% and the State government funds 14.6%. Of the 11.7% funded by local councils in the North West Zone, Coonamble Shire Council is responsible for 24%; Warren Shire Council 25% and Walgett Shire Council is responsible for 51%.

Issues:

Initially, the RFS proposed a budget of \$4,087,352.11, which would represent an increase to Coonamble Shire Council of 14.8%. Further discussion resulted in the budget increases being reduced to 6.8%. At the Service Level Agreement meeting held on 24 March 2014, the councils of Coonamble, Warren and Walgett proposed cuts to the RFS budget that, in effect, gave an increase of 2.8%. This was achieved by removing a Caterpillar 1 tanker from the program (\$285,000 reduction) and spreading the cost of the Walgett RFS headquarters building over two years (\$140,000 reduction). This would see the RFS Zone budget reduced to \$3,662,352, \$428,495 to be funded by the three councils.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Rural Fires Act 1997
- Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

Council's contribution for 2013/2014 was \$99,936, with the proposed 2.8% increase Council's contribution will be \$102,800 approximately, when taking into account potential reimbursable items, the net contribution will be in the vicinity of \$85,000.

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the budget of \$3,662,352 for the North West Zone of the NSW Rural Fire Service for the 2014/2015 Financial Year, noting Council's contribution will be approximately \$102,800.

13.4 COONAMBLE SKATE PARK – TEMPORARY CLOSURE

***Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:
P3.5.1 Ensure Park, Gardens and Sports grounds are maintained
to an acceptable standard***

Background:

Since the construction of the Coonamble Skate Park in 2008, Council staff, as part of their normal duties, have been monitoring the facility for visible signs of wear and tear and potential hazards. Accordingly, as faults were identified repairs were carried out to correct the issue, the most common of which has been the rescuing of metal joining strips to the ramps and structures.

Issues:

Over the past 12 months Council staff have noted an increase in the wear and tear on the facility and have found it increasingly difficult to repair damage as the internal structure of the ramps are degrading due to being constantly refastened.

As Council may be aware, the facility was recently subject to vandalism which has resulted in the structure being severely damaged by fire. Attempts by staff to prevent users of the facility riding on the damaged structure whilst allowing members of the public to use the remainder of the facility, proved to be unsuccessful.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) – National Construction Code (NCC)

Financial Considerations:

Estimates are currently being sourced for the repair/replacement of the existing structures at the Skate Park to make the park safe for public use. Unfortunately, due to the short timeframe, Council is still awaiting confirmation of the estimates from suppliers.

The cost of the repairs may be partially offset by the value of an insurance claim for the section recently damaged by vandals.

Whilst Council has \$10,000 available in the Skate Park reserve, it does not have the capacity within its current 2013/14 operational budget to allow the works to be carried out. The area is a well patronised community facility and, as such, Council may wish to consider allocating funds from either the current budget or 2014/15 estimates to carry out the required repairs.

Options:

1. On receipt of formal quotes Council proceed to allocate funding required to carry out the necessary repairs to Coonamble Skate Park.
2. Not allocate additional funding required to carry out repairs, with the facility remaining closed to the public

Recommendation:

That Council note the contents of this report and that an insurance claim has been lodged and Council will be informed as soon as further information is to hand.

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

- Works program continues to focus on improving the presentation of Council open spaces. During the last month particular focus has been catching up on the “backlog” of works required due to prevailing seasonal conditions and plant breakdown.
- Works have been carried out at the Aerodrome, Coonamble sportsground; Cemetery and Showground with general clean ups at Quambone and Gulargambone open spaces.

Vandalism Update:

- The Showground pavilion was broken into twice, the incidents were reported to the police and internal locks have been replaced as added safety precaution.
- 2 bin surrounds down the Coonamble main street have been damaged by vandals.
- The middle ramp at the Skate Park was subject to a minor arson attack with empty bread crates stacked on top of it and set alight. The incident has also been reported to police. A photo of the damage is attached for Council’s information.

**Pools:**

- Council received notification from the Department of Health that the Gulargambone Pool requires installation of an automatic dosing system to be compliant with current legislative requirements. Quotes are currently being sourced for inclusion in the 2014/15 estimates.
- Following the closure of the pools to the general public, staff will carry out minor identified maintenance prior to the redeployment of Council’s workforce during the winter months.

Buildings:

- Awaiting quotes for the repairs to the Gulargambone Mechanic's Hall as identified at the March 2014 Council Meeting.
- Repairs to the Senior Citizens air-conditioning has been finalised.
- Minor planned maintenance has been carried out as scheduled.

Recommendation:
That Council note the information.

BRUCE QUARMBY

Director of Corporate and Urban Service

1 April 2014

14. <u>REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES</u> <u>COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 09 APRIL 2014</u>

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

(a) Plant/Workshop:

- Repairs have been completed as required on the following plant: Plant No 54; Plant No 146; Plant No 20300; Plant No 153; Plant No 196; Plant No 194; Plant No 113; Plant No 071; Plant No 113 and Plant No 252.
- Routine servicing of transport vehicles completed as required.

(b) Vehicle Purchases/Disposals:

- Three administration vehicles have been received and trades released.
- Three surplus vehicles have yet to be sent to auction

(c) Airport:

- The access road to the agricultural spray area has been formed and fencing and permanent gates will be erected and/or replaced as resources permit.
- Routine maintenance completed as required.

(d) Depot:

- Routine maintenance to depots and buildings as required.
- Increased monitoring of fuel issues in progress.

(e) Water Treatment Plant & Reticulation:

- The contractors have completed re-compaction of the treatment lagoon walls and replaced leaking concrete plinths in the filtered water pump station. The chlorine pump has been repaired and a list of defects provided for attention.
- Final commissioning of the plant will be undertaken during the week commencing 3 March 2014. The plant must be operated for five continuous work days to comply with the contract conditions.
- Repairs have been completed to water mains, meters and services as required in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.
- Lowering and re-location of the water mains at the intersection of Dubbo and Aberford Street have been completed.

(f) Sewerage:

- Routine maintenance and clearing of blockages have been undertaken at Coonamble and Gulargambone.

- An audit of the plants will be undertaken by Hunter Water as part of Council's asset management. Audits are in accordance with LMWUA guidelines.

(g) State Highway:

- Works underway on culvert repairs and replacement north and south of Wingadee Road (Culverts 104, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121)
- Repair to white ant damage at the Oxley Rest Area about to start
- Preparation and sealing of road shoulders for 2 kms south of Coonamble is planned
- RMS are conducting preliminary investigations towards rehabilitating 2kms of highway immediately north of Coonamble.

(h) Regional Roads:

- Heavy patching on MR383 in the "Floddenfield" area will commence shortly.
- Edge patching has been completed in several areas.
- MR7515 repairs to Combara bridge investigated
- A company has been engaged to "jack" the concrete approach slab on Warrena Creek bridge to remove the failed approach.
- Headwalls have been ordered to replace damaged box culvert on RR129Q 2kms from Quambone.
- Replacement of the "Coughrans Canyon" floodway with a more motorist friendly version is about to commence. Asbestos water main replacement in the same vicinity is planned at the same time. This will enable rehabilitation of Dubbo St in the vicinity to commence.

(i) Local Roads:

- Grading on local roads has been confined to areas where there is sufficient moisture or in close proximity to urban water supplies.
- Bitumen patching and edge repair has been completed following routine inspections.

(j) Urban Streets:

- Bitumen patching of streets and shoulders is in progress following prioritisation of works using REFLECT.
- Kerb and gutter has been constructed in Gordon Street and pavement construction will be completed in conjunction with Dubbo, Aberford and Warrena Streets.
- Grading of unsealed streets is in progress.

(k) Quarry:

- Awaiting delivery of pre-coater for the quarry.

Recommendation:

That Council note the information contained in the report.

KAYLENE ATKINS

A/Director of Engineering Services

28 March 2014

**15. REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 09 APRIL 2014****15.1 WARRENA WEIR DREDGING**

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

12.3 Share access to local facilities to fully realize the potential of local infrastructure.

Background:

Council is aware that an application to remove silt from the Warrena Weir has been made and that some difficulty is being encountered in getting a permit to undertake the works.

Issues:

The dredging of the creek bed is, for the purposes of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, an integrated development as it requires development consent from Council and approval under s201 of the Fisheries Management Act 1994 and consent from Crown Lands.

Currently the issue slowing the approval process to obtain the permit is that Crown Lands is requesting an EIS be undertaken. It is anticipated the cost of this would be in the vicinity of \$30,000 as it would entail an environmental scientist investigating and determining whether there is any potential for environmental damage or threatened species located within the bed of the creek. The other major concern is where the spoil will be deposited and/or disposed of.

A site meeting has been requested for Thursday 8 April and it is hoped this meeting may result in a REF being required, instead of a full EIS – this would be a less expensive report.

From discussion with some members of the Aquatic Club Committee, it is indicated that dredging of a metre depth is not required – rather a clean up of the creek bed and removal of approximately 300mm of silt. It is calculated approximately 10,000 cubic metres would be removed using an elevating scraper. The spoil is not capable of being used as soil for the levee and, as such, would need to be removed to other locations. If less than 30,000 cubic metres is to be removed the development would not be classified as designated development under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 and, therefore, not subject to a mandatory EIS under this legislation.

Sustainability / Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
- Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Crown Lands Act 1989

Financial Considerations:

To date Council has allocated no funding to provide for either an EIS or REF to supplement the approval process to obtain a permit, nor has Council allocated any funding to carry out any dredging activity at the Warrena Creek weir.

If an EIS is eventually required, \$30,000 may be needed to progress to this stage, however should a review of environmental factors be necessary it may result in only \$10,000 being required for this purpose.

For 10,000 cubic metres to be moved by elevating scraper would require funding of approximately \$30,000.

Options:

- (1) Not proceed with any dredging works at Warrena Creek weir.
- (2) Continue to pursue a permit from the Minister for Primary Industries and allocate funds for the cost of the process.

Recommendation:**That Council :**

- (a) **determine if it wishes to continue with the proposed works at the weir and to what extent;**
- (b) **allocate sufficient funding to obtain the permit and carry out the proposed dredging works.**

15.2 REVIEW OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN
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***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
EN2.1.3 Continue to review Local Environmental Plan***

Background:

Council met with Mr Mike Svikis at the March 2014 meeting to progress the review of the Coonamble Shire LEP 2011. Councillors suggestions were noted and the attached report (**APPENDIX C**) addresses these suggestions. ***Councillors will need to read the document.***

Issues:

The planning proposal directly affects the following property details and existing zones:

- Approximately 17 properties along Castlereagh Street in the vicinity of Namoi Street and McCullough Street – which are currently zoned R1 Residential under Coonamble LEP 2011 ***(Figure 1).***
- Approximately 11 properties along Railway Street and the Quambone Road – which are currently zoned R1 Residential under Coonamble LEP 2011 ***(Figure 2)***
- Three small lots (Lots 33 & 34 DP11896694 and Lot 35 DP1177233) that were part of Council's Meglo block along Quambone Road – which are currently zoned RU1 Primary Production under Coonamble LEP 2011 ***(Figure 3)***
- One lot (Lot 2161 DP881316) along Effie Durham Drive – currently zoned R5 Large Lot Residential under Coonamble LEP 2011 ***(Figure 4)***

To date the property on the Castlereagh Highway between the river and the road has not been included for re-zoning or for a reduced lot size and is currently zoned RU1 Primary Production with a minimum 1000 hectare for a dwelling entitlement.

Should Council wish to make changes to this area it will need to be included by way of resolution to have it added to the changes for the gateway determination process.

Sustainability / Legislative Provisions: N/A

Options: N/A

**Recommendations:
That Council :**

- (1) submit to the “Gateway”, as administered by NSW Planning and Infrastructure, a Planning Proposal to facilitate a range of LEP amendments, as attached to this report, for a determination;**
- (2) advise the Minister for Planning & Infrastructure, or his delegate, that Coonamble Shire Council is NOT seeking plan-making delegations for this planning proposal;**
- (3) advise the Minister for Planning & Infrastructure, or his delegate, that the minimum exhibition period for the exhibition of the Planning Proposal should be for a period not less than 28 days and should be concurrent;**
- (4) upon receiving an affirmative Determination Notice from the NSW Planning & Infrastructure, any additional studies or work required in satisfaction of demonstrating the suitability of the proposed changes in land use be completed;**
- (5) upon satisfactory completion of the Planning Proposal and supporting information, it be publicly exhibited in accordance with the Determination Notice or, where there is no such condition or the condition prescribes a period less than 28 days, for a period not less than 28 days**
- (6) note that following public exhibition of the Planning Proposal, a report is to be submitted to Council at the earliest time detailing the content of submissions received and how those, if any, issues have been addressed.**

15.3 RANGER'S REPORT – MARCH 2014
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*Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:
P2.2.5 Control straying animals*

STATISTICS:

<u>Compliance</u>	<u>February 2014</u>	<u>Year to Date 2013/2014 Total</u>
Official Correspondence	16	68
Infringements (Animals)	16	83
Infringements (Other)	1	9
Microchipped dogs	1	13
Registrations	7	24
Nuisance dog declaration	0	5
Dangerous dog declaration	0	4
Restricted dog declaration	0	1
<u>Impoundments</u>		
Dogs	18	173
Cats	1	80
Stock	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL ANIMALS IMPOUNDED	19	253
Motor vehicle	0	6
<i>Breakdown of impoundments:</i>		
Dogs destroyed	17	149
Dogs surrendered by owner	12	81
Dogs re-housed	0	19
Dogs released	1	17
Cats destroyed	1	73
Cats re-housed	0	0
Cats released	0	0
Gulargambone dogs impounded	1	4
Quambone dogs impounded	0	0

Recommendation:

That the information provided by Council's Ranger and contained in this report be noted.

MATTHEW COCK

Manager – Environmental Services
2 April 2014

16. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

**16.1 STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT -
SUBMISSION FROM COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

The Hon Rick Colless MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on State Development
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir

INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL AVIATION SERVICES

We refer to the Standing Committee on State Development's Terms of Reference regarding the Inquiry into Regional Aviation Services. Coonamble Shire Council welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Standing Committee. Please find below Coonamble Shire Council's formal submission.

Background

Coonamble LGA has a population of 4700. Dubbo Airport is approximately 2 hours driving time from Coonamble township. A one-way trip to Sydney takes around 7 hours by car and just over 12 hours by Countrylink bus/train via Dubbo. Flights from Coonamble to Sydney via Dubbo would take a minimum 2.5 hours including transfer times.

Coonamble Shire Council maintains a fully-functional all-weather airport and has a well-appointed Passenger Terminal available for use. The airfield can easily accommodate any size RPT aircraft. Coonamble is a Controlled Airfield with well-maintained security fencing, a 1500m sealed runway, automatic weather station on the airfield, two published instrument approaches with remote access night lights, and radar coverage from Brisbane in the area. Coonamble is one of the few airfields between Dubbo and the Queensland border which have Aviation Fuel available seven days per week.

Historically, Coonamble was one of the first regional towns to be connected to Sydney by air. Most recently, the district was serviced by AirLink, a wholly owned subsidiary of REX Airlines, operating out of Dubbo with Coonamble on the Walgett, Lightning Ridge route which yielded over 3000 passenger movements per year in a period when the region had been in drought for approximately 6 years.

1. Cost of Access to Regional NSW Airports.

Coonamble Shire Council does not currently impose landing fees at Coonamble Airport. Council continues to maintain the airport to relevant standards at a recurrent cost of at least \$90,000 per annum.

Access to relevant areas of the airport is by negotiation and may include access to the existing Passenger Terminal.

2. Financial Management and viability matters impacting on RPT operators.

The long-standing RPT service to Coonamble was terminated by REX Airlines in December 2008. Reasons cited by REX's Managing Director were "soaring fuel prices, ever increasing regulatory requirements and the critical shortage of pilots" compounded by the phasing out of the federal government's En Route Charges Rebate Scheme. REX claimed that they were no longer able to commercially justify operations on "thinner routes".

Coonamble Shire Council is not in a position to undertake the research necessary to determine the current circumstances in terms of fuel prices, compliance costs, and pilot availability. We would, however, argue that there is a social and economic imperative for all levels of government to provide support for air travel to remote regional communities. Council urges the NSW Government to consider ways of reducing the regulatory burden for operators on these routes and to urgently consider financial assistance for operators servicing the more remote communities.

At the time the Coonamble-Walgett-Lightning Ridge route was cancelled, the Queensland Government was injecting \$5.3m into remote air services while the NSW Government contributed nothing. Given that NSW has fewer communities located two or more hours' drive from an existing RPT service, the contribution needed to maintain reasonable access to air services could be expected to be far lower.

Council is advised that regional airlines prefer the 'hub and spoke' system rather than a point to point service sometimes referred to as a 'milk run'. We appreciate that the 'hub and spoke' model allows operators to use smaller, less expensive aircraft on routes where passenger numbers are lower. Council would support either model to regain RPT services.

The 'hub and spoke' would need to work towards minimising transfer times and improving connectivity with inter-state and international flights. Demand is also price sensitive and the previous regime whereby no discounted fares were available to passengers out of or into Coonamble, regardless of the discounts available on the Dubbo to Sydney leg, is a deterrent to travel.

Demand for the 'hub and spoke' model out of Dubbo or another regional centre such as Mudgee, would be enhanced if flights were available to a greater number of destinations including interstate. Currently, flights from Dubbo are only available to Sydney or Broken Hill. Additional services to more distant destinations such as Melbourne or Brisbane would attract greater patronage to the 'hub'.

3. Economic Impact on regional communities of gaining or losing RPT services.

There is an inextricable link between the growth, prosperity and amenity of regional areas and the availability of regional transport networks and services. The population of our region makes a per capita contribution to GDP far above many of the more populated areas who enjoy the benefits of regular air passenger services. RPT services have been shown to support the growth of an area's GDP so conversely, the lack of RPT services would act as a constraint on growth. The importance of regional aviation to a country with a relatively small population and a large geographic expanse with important agriculture and mining industries needs to be recognised and supported by Government.

Regaining an RPT service would make a critical economic contribution to our region by:

- Encouraging business investment and maintaining investor confidence
- Attracting and retaining population
- Supporting tourism, in particular major events held in the Shire which attract national and inter-national competitors and spectators.
- Improving access to medical and other services.

The loss of RPT services further distances and disconnects regional communities from a wide range of health, business and other services. It transfers the financial and time expense to local businesses, individuals and organisations. By way of illustration, Coonamble has an Indigenous population of approximately 30%. The Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service (CAHS) provides essential medical and health services. Currently, CAHS pays to fly locum Medical Practitioners and Specialists on a weekly basis from Sydney and to hire a car from Dubbo. Each return trip takes 2 days, so CAHS pays for 3 days' cost for a 1 day visit, or 5 days for 3 days' work.

Coonamble High and Primary Schools, with roughly 70% Aboriginal student population, are both part of the NSW Government's Connected Communities Program. As a result, specialist consultants and other DET personnel frequently travel to Coonamble from Sydney and further afield. The lack of a RPT service into Coonamble adds a time and cost impost to every trip. If these visitors travel by car, the duration of the journey entails additional overnight stays. If travelling by plane, additional car hire and journey time.

Since the previous RPT service was discontinued, some features of the Coonamble Shire economy have altered. This includes a greater ownership of land and a range of agribusiness enterprises by remote entities, including large corporations with headquarters in capital cities or overseas, and a small, but emerging trend of on-line businesses with international markets. Directors, consultants, customers and others would benefit from being able to access a direct flight to Coonamble. In addition, the Castlereagh Halal Regional Abattoir is scheduled to re-open within the next couple of months. The Sydney-based owners report that Chinese and other overseas meat buyers have queried the availability of flights to the township.

As housing and transport costs in the cities and larger regional centres increase, residential accommodation in Coonamble and other regional towns is increasingly sought-after by retirees and young families. An increasing proportion of these have family and/or business interests in the capital cities, which may also contribute to demand for RPT services. Re-establishing RPT services would assist in retaining population and support further decentralisation of population into regional NSW.

4. Potential for development of future modern RPT aviation.

Coonamble Shire Council owns a large parcel of land immediately adjacent to Coonamble Airport which would be suitable for aviation-related manufacturing, servicing and the like. Site advantages include low establishment costs, inexpensive access to a well-equipped and maintained airport, uncongested airspace, year-round flying conditions, and potential co-location with complementary services. There is an opportunity for the NSW Government to work with Coonamble Shire Council to encourage relevant operations, currently based at highly congested urban or coastal airports, to relocate.

Coonamble Airport is currently the base for a Pilot Training School jointly operated by Coonamble Aero Club and Achieve Aviation based out of Cessnock. The School has been operating for 3 years and currently has approximately 20 students undertaking their Private Pilot Licence or Licence Upgrades. This training is the first step towards a Commercial or Air Transport Pilot Licence.

The School recently hosted a Check and Training Pilot from Solomon Island Airlines to undertake additional licence upgrades. There are further opportunities to attract overseas pilots to participate in further training at the School in Coonamble. Plans are also underway to establish pathways with local education providers and Aboriginal organisations to encourage local young and indigenous people to begin a career in the aviation industry. The training and testing approvals available to Coonamble student pilots are the full suite of what is available due to the range of Air Operators Certificate Approvals held by the staff of Achieve Aviation. This allows for more opportunities than are currently available in many major regional centres such

as Tamworth and many coastal centres, and is a point of difference for the Coonamble Training Centre.

Coonamble Airport has daily air freight services. The potential for dual use RPT services to include both freight and passenger legs on the same route should be explored as a matter of urgency as a way of restoring RPT services.

5. Any other matters relating to the provision of aerial regular passenger transport services.

The issue of safety also needs to be considered with residents of our area being forced to access flights by travelling hundreds of kilometres by road in the early morning and late evening in order to conduct a day's business in Sydney or beyond.

Coonamble initially may not be able to sustain daily air services. In this case, a return service 3-4 times per week should be considered. Council would be happy to assist with a customer survey to help ascertain the most suitable days/times.

Yours faithfully,
RICK WARREN
General Manager

cc.: Kevin Humphries, Member for Barwon
Mark Coulton, Member for Parkes

16.2 MEETING RE LOCAL LAND SERVICES (LLS) IN COONAMBLE SHIRE HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM – ON THURSDAY, 13 MARCH 2014 - 11AM.

Present: Cr Allan Karanouh, Laurie Dwyer (LLS CW CEO), Tom Gavel (LLS CW Board Chair), Cr Don Schieb, Leonie & Adam Coleman, Andy Moss, Anne Williams, Lee O'Connor.

Apologies: Cr D Keady, Anne Kennedy, Barry Malone.

Notes: L O'Connor

Welcome: The Mayor Allan Karanouh welcomed the LLS guests and local landholder stakeholders and thanked everyone for responding to his invitation. This is an opportunity for those in Coonamble Shire to identify priorities and areas of concern. He thanked Mr Dwyer and Mr Gavel for their offer to come to Coonamble to hold further discussions on the issues raised at the public meeting held at Coonamble Golf Club.

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Query/Concern</i>	<i>Current Status /LLS Response</i>	<i>Recommendation/Feedback</i>
<u>LLS Elections:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The voting system for the Regional Board has created serious and genuine angst. Potentially a board could be elected without landholder representation. Also one vote per landholder did not acknowledge the size of holdings, the amount of rates paid, etc. • Disbelief that landholder details could be automatically transferred to the new LLS for the purposes of invoicing but not for voting. • Local landholders have advised that they had registered but not received their voting packs. • Some voting packs received at last minute so unable to be returned before deadline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acknowledge serious failures with the voting system. • only a small number of complaints have been received (low 30s). • Westhaven Dubbo was used to stuff envelopes. Not completely accurate. • It will be possible to track numbers of landholders who voted in each area. • Expectation that James Lawrence, the Returning Officer, will have checked the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failures of the current election will have caused loss of faith in LLS and may lead to stakeholders refusing to work with LLS into the future. • Those being elected to the board as community representatives should not be representatives of "vested interest groups". • Any new voting system needs to recognize scale and value of land.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports of conflicting voting instructions being received. I.e. voters could return papers to local LLS Offices but this was contradicted in later information. • Query whether claims made in candidate biographies were checked for accuracy. • Biographies of some nominees were not included in all packages. • Some candidates' publicity was paid for by groups to ensure representation of interest on LLS board. 	<p>biographies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The voting system will be reviewed once the Board is in place. 	
<p><u>LLS Structure and Lack of Local Representation:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This area has been made to pay substantial rates but has been neglected since the transfer from local boards to LHPA. • There has been no acknowledgement or explanation for the significant amount of money that was accumulated in this area and what it was used for. • Large number of TSR dams that are empty and needing de-silting and decision by LLS to offer only \$18,500 for the purpose is insulting when over \$700,000 was transferred from this Coonamble office to regional coffers. • It seems the LHPA and LLS have not been interested in the Coonamble area. The recent LLS Survey was received by landholders on 10th March with a closing date that had been 'extended' to 12th March. Allowing little time for landholders to find out or complete the survey. • The Coonamble area has a history of very successful management through the PP Board model. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLS is a community-based organisation which includes urban-based small landholders and Indigenous people. Central West will service 180,000 people. Won't have the resources to do implementation. Will need to work in partnership with Local Government. • The structure allows for 'at least' one advisory board per LLS region. T Gavel expressed the view that it would seem counter-productive to have only one advisory board but that this will be a decision of the new Regional Board. • No time frames are in place for establishing Community Advisory Panels. Waiting for Board to be functional to make 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation needs to be improved to cover the diverse geographic spread and range of knowledge and interests including cropping, livestock, natural resource management, cultural heritage, emergency services. • Advisory Committees need a balance of community, environment and production representatives. These committees must be localised. • EFRG (Environmental Flows Reference Group) needs to have a strong independent chair.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMA representation and servicing has been very poor. Programs designed for southern areas of the region and not taking account of land value or scale of production. • EFRG (Environmental Flows Reference Group) need to have a strong independent chair. Lyn Sykes was excellent in this role but removed due to budgetary constraints. • Internationally-recognised Macquarie Marshes has the potential to attract funding for the new CW LLS. This area needs more representation if LLS wish to make progress at ground level. 	<p>these decisions.</p>	
<p><u>Emergency Management & Drought</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Management needs to be pro-active not reactive. • Serious angst created by the failure to recognise or drought-declare northern and eastern portions where producers have been feeding for over 15 months. • Had to wait till Dubbo and southern areas were drought declared, including areas which have not really been in drought (in comparison to north of Coonamble). • Unclear why Walgett area was backdated to July while neighbours and other areas of need in Coonamble Shire were ignored. • Contributes to loss of faith in LLS. • Digital Mapping should be able to easily show where drought exists on a real-time basis. Will it be used in the future rather than 'hit and miss' approach of visual inspections? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLS staff do condition reports on a monthly basis, based on divisions (not aligned with former RLPB divisions) ie. 7 or 8 divisions across whole Central West. This information is collated by Rhett, signed off by L Dwyer, sent to DPI, then to RAA who make recommendations to RAAC. RAAC then do visual inspections/tour and provide a report to the Minister. • CMA staff have brought good mapping skills to the LLS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current system of condition reporting has not worked. • Use of Digital Mapping is recommended. • Possibility of applying for 'non allocated' drought funding for drought preparedness infrastructure works such as tank and troughs on TSRs and other works that will improve conditions during dry times.

<p><u>Funding:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Query re status of funding to LLS. • Biodiversity and Clean Energy Funds • Landholder rates – concern about rumours of increased rates. • Concern re Rating Formula not keeping pace with land use and land value changes. • Query how and when it will be reviewed and how assessments will be carried out. some of the Central West has been 'visually inspected' by LHPA staff driving down roads. There have been 7 major reviews and the formula has not changed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFOC funding from the federal government to CMAs is under review. LLS is waiting to see if this funding will be transferred to LLS. Every other state has their funding confirmed. NSW previously received just over \$10m. • No future commitment from Federal Govt to Clean Energy Funds. • State Government Funding – will cover salaries and recurrent operational costs. Currently only 5-10 permanent CMA staff, the rest are on project funding which will eventually end. Overall in the Central West LLS region over 70 people are employed with 25 on fixed term funding. Contracts can be cancelled when projects completed. • No increase this year, apart from CPI adjustment. Not sure after that. Rates currently make up approx. 12% of overall regional budget (not including TSR revenue.) Waiting on a review by IPART of the rating system. • rating will be on Dry Sheep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project should include funding for landholders and for Councils. Eg. TSR Cap & Pipe.
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		<p>Equivalent, using the old formula.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Working Group has been set up within the LLS structure. The IPART review will have recommendations on rating systems. There will also need to be a consultation system. • a skill gap exists in the LLS of identifying where funding is and what will make projects attractive to funding bodies. • People will need to bring projects to the table that meet multiple outcomes (production, environment, community). 	
<p><u>Coonamble Staffing & Services:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queried whether any CMA staff will be based in Coonamble. Concern that these staff are all located close together in the south/eastern corner of the region, and Coonamble area is a distant add-on and service levels have traditionally been low. • the Vet is currently the main point of contact between landholders and the LLS, and that this engagement/ communication is highly valued at the local level. • the departure of the DPI Agronomist ‘took the heart out of the cropping community.’ Loss of local knowledge, conduit between research and growers, and source of unbiased information and support. Intimate understanding of the nature of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the next 3 months CMA staff will service the district from Gilgandra, Dubbo or Wellington. This is an inherited situation. • LHPA staffing includes ranger, accountant, vet. Need to review LHPA staffing in terms of skill base and coverage. A gap analysis has been started. • there are 5.2 Vet positions in the Central West including 2 vacancies (Coonabarabran and Condobolin). 1.2 in Forbes, 2 Dubbo, and 1 Coonamble. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local landholders and other stakeholders have appreciated the communication provided by the local Vet. It is important to have relevant and timely information delivered at the local level by staff who understand local issues and needs. • Concern re Coonamble and Condobolin Vets having to service a large geographical area with high stock numbers. Possible burnout risk. • A large gap in the current

	<p>the local area is critical to successful agronomic support. Many researchers, policy-makers etc still not aware of the diversity of the region, for example, that deep-rooted legumes are more effective in this area than artificial fertilisers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern that on ground staff in the past have focused on 'inside country' such as Wellington, Orange, Forbes and Bathurst etc. As a result funding formats and service delivery methods have been developed for these areas and when applied to larger scale and more brittle environments the criteria has not been met by the applicants or the conditions have not been appropriate. • Important that paper boundaries such as LLS and LGA borders not be allowed to interfere with effective program delivery or service provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No DPI staff transferred to the new structure. DPI had 3 Extension Agronomists for the Central West but none moved across. There are 4 or 5 Livestock Extension Officers in the region. • Looking at training existing staff to fill agronomy positions. • LLS Managers have agreed to 'porous borders' where best qualified board takes charge of a specific program or issue. 	<p>LLS structure is the absence of an Agronomy extension service in Coonamble. The position requires a qualified, experienced and knowledgeable person who can relate to this area. Coonamble shire is a major winter grain production area and this gap is a major threat to the area progressing and adopting new and emerging technologies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'One size fits all' funding criteria does not work. The new CWLLS board and advisory committees can assist by being flexible to meet specific local needs.
<p><u>Travelling Stock Routes (TSRs):</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allowing the massive mob of cattle from Queensland to come through on local TSRs was a publicity stunt by the regional office and the cattle shouldn't have been approved to travel on routes when there was little-no feed and no water. • Staff and board members 'closer in' may not see the value of TSRs. TSRs were previously profitable for the local board, with income varying depending on seasons. Coonamble area is being used as a cash cow to subsidise other areas. • Coal Seam Gas (CSG) – deep concern exists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CW TSRs are essentially 'west of the Newell'. • The findings of the current review of TSRs, with a view to transfer of management to Crown Lands, is due to be released in June 2014. • No exploration or drilling applications in the Central West region at the moment. There is a responsibility on the companies to prove that it won't do damage. LLS has input but 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSRs are highly valued in the Coonamble area. • They need to be properly managed and maintained. • There is overwhelming opposition to CSG activity on TSRs.

	that TSRs will be made available for CSG activities against the wishes of the local community.	doesn't get the final say in the approvals process.	
<u>Information Collection, Use & Sharing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern at the regionalisation of information gathered from handholders and local staff. • Local government needs LGA-specific information in order to be able to properly plan, manage and improve services and infrastructure that supports primary production, biodiversity and other outcomes within Shires. • Since LHPA was created and also with loss of local Extension Agronomist, local-level information in the form of livestock numbers, stock movements, cropping and other production based data has evaporated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LLS unaware. Will take this up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is critical that local level information be available to all stakeholders.
<u>Castlereagh Macquarie County Council</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Query re role and future of CMCC. Any connection to LLS? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Keniry report on future management of weeds came out last week. Available on Natural Resources Commission website. May contain recommendations re County Councils. 	

Meeting closed 1pm.

18. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014

NIL

19. GENERAL BUSINESS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 09 APRIL 2014