

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH MAY
2014, COMMENCING AT 9.45 A.M.**

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PRESENT: Cr.Al Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. Michael Webb, John Walker, Dan Keady, Bill Burnheim, Tom Cullen and Don Schieb.
Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Warren, the Director of Corporate & Urban Services, Mr Quarmby, the A/Director of Engineering Services, Mrs Atkins, the Manager of Environmental Services, Mr Cock 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 David Chadwick was present to discuss with Council issues concerning the Coonamble Airport. He thanked Council for the opportunity to address the meeting and said he had two issues:

- (i) Presentation of the Airport
- (ii) Flying School conducted by Mr Garry Frazer.

Mr Chadwick said that Mr Frazer was invited to Coonamble by the Coonamble Aero Club to establish a flying school and, currently he is here three days per week. Mr Chadwick pointed out that Coonamble area has good flying conditions, there are not many days that weather prevents the movement of aircraft. He said at the moment there are 30 students – some from Papua New Guinea – and, in all probability, the number will grow. Mr Chadwick said that one airline is looking at sending its already qualified pilots for retraining here under the tuition of Mr Frazer. He also pointed out that both Gunnedah and Coonabarabran have offered to work with Mr. Frazer should he decide to relocate.

The incident which occurred recently when Mr Frazer could not take off from Coonamble airport due to it being closed caused great inconvenience, as Mr Frazer had to be driven back to his home at Cessnock. The General Manager said the incident was caused because of a misunderstanding and he has, personally, apologised to Mr Frazer and explained the situation.

Mr Chadwick referred to the need to make the Airport more presentable – he said it is the first impression people arriving are given and Council should endeavour to keep the area and surrounds to a more acceptable standard. The General Manager explained that Council allocates funds and it may be that it needs to revise its budget for the area. Mr Chadwick said it is of paramount importance to have aircraft 'tie down' areas neat, as propellers of the aircraft need to be protected from any type of matter – i.e. grass.

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Cr Burnheim agreed with Mr Chadwick's statement that first impressions are important and Council has a good parks and gardens gang which may be able to be rostered to work at the Airport.

Cr Keady enquired about the Notam policy and, in response to a question, the A/Director of Engineering Services advised that under normal circumstances the Airport would not be closed for slashing. She said Notams are issued usually for major works and emergencies.

The General Manager suggested that a Plan of Management for the Airport be developed and it may be prudent to have input from Messrs Frazer, Chadwick and Backhouse.

Mr Chadwick left the meeting at 10.03 a.m.

Cr Burnheim asked the Manager of Environmental Services if the Donga purchased by Mr Backhouse will meet requirements. The Manager said a plan has been supplied and he is working with Mr Backhouse to prepare a development application for consideration and approval. Mr Cock said the transportable building will be positioned on six piers and all services are available for connection when it arrives.

At this juncture, 10.05 a.m., Superintendent Jim Stewart arrived at the meeting for a general discussion with Council. The Superintendent thanked Council for the invitation to attend and said he is pleased with the current situation in the area. He said there is improved interaction, with police out and about more often and his main focus at this point is the interaction strategy.

Cr Burnheim referred to rural crime – the Superintendent advised that another Officer has been assigned to Coonamble to replace the detective who was recently transferred to Tamworth. Cr Burnheim said there is a lot of frustration amongst rural landowners with the high level of fuel thefts, cutting of fences and damage to property. Supt. Stewart said the best option for farmers if they know there are trespassers is to ring 000, or if they suspect anything at all phone Crime Stoppers.

Cr Schieb said that Rural Watch was very effective – the former detective was very proactive and was contactable on his mobile number. Cr Walker enquired whether the Superintendent thought there are sufficient police numbers in Coonamble. Supt Stewart said there was only one break and enter reported in Coonamble for the month and that is a huge reduction. He referred to the good Liquor Accord in Coonamble, pointing out it is well run and very active. The Superintendent advised that there are changes in licensing laws coming into force shortly.

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At this juncture, 10.30 a.m. the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 10.58 a.m.

Superintendent Stewart returned to the meeting to provide Council with a brief overview of works undertaken by the Government in providing new premises in Gulargambone. He said renovations to expand office space will be carried out at the Coonamble Station to accommodate a Highway Patrol Officer. He said that \$16M has been allocated for a new Police Station in Walgett – this is expected to commence in June and works are also planned for Lightning Ridge. The Superintendent said there is a big focus by the organisation in attracting officers to the area.

The Superintendent referred to the Community Safety Precinct Committee and said meetings will recommence shortly. He said they involve representatives of various organisations and provide an opportunity to discuss progress and issues relating to crime.

Superintendent Stewart left the meeting at 11.04 a.m.

4.0 APOLOGIES

Nil

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations were booked for this meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

0847 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 9 April 2014 be confirmed.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

(i) Skate Park Repairs

The Director of Corporate & Urban Services reported that the middle of the skate park has been repaired and the balance of work will be completed on Friday of this week.

0848 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 15 April 2014 be confirmed.

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8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

0849 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

Business Arising from the Resolution Book Update:

(i) Min No 0392 – Caravan Park+Eco Spa Stage 2 – Investment Ready

Councillors noted the status report. The General Manager said it seems Crown Land's direction seems to be off-loading much of its land. In response to a question, the General Manager said that Council could refuse to take over land it did not want and the process for sale would commence.

(ii) House Numbering

The A/Director of Engineering Services said that she would meet with Mr Wayne Phillips shortly to discuss this matter

(iii) Corporate Tent – Rodeo

Cr Keady suggested that to support the community, alcohol for this event should be purchased locally. Councillors were of the opinion that the caterer would have its own liquor and would not agree to this suggestion.

9.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor gave a report of his activities throughout the month and mentioned the following:

- Mr Kevin Humphries – referred to Mr Humphries' new portfolio of Land & Water – invited Councillors to come forward with any issues they may have which can be discussed/passed on to Mr Humphries.
- Referred to the video clips promoting the area – received numerous hits and resulted in favourable comments.
- Leonard's 100th Anniversary – very good attendance at street party on May 10th. Council provided a plaque and Cr Schieb presented it on the day.
- ANZAC Day – referred to the very good attendance and said he was disappointed the service ended on a 'sour note' following Cr Walker's comments.

0850 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the Mayor's activity report since last meeting be adopted.

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10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

0851 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Schieb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – For Council’s Consideration:

0852 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Keady that works required to bring the areas adjacent to Schools to the relevant safety standards be undertaken by Council staff, noting any additional works will be referred to the Traffic Committee for consideration

10.1 ST BRIGID’S SCHOOL C6-13(43257)

0853 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Keady that Council inform the Principal of St Brigid’s School that works required to bring the areas to the relevant safety standards be undertaken by Council staff, noting any additional works will be referred to the Traffic Committee for consideration

10.2 EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL, COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL C6-13(43260)

0854 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Keady that Council inform the Executive Principal of Coonamble High School as follows:

- (a) that the matter of the drop off/pick up zone will be addressed by Council staff;
- (b) that if there are additional concerns relating to traffic, they will be referred to the Traffic Committee for inspection and determination; and
- (c) that concerns regarding trees and footpath have been considered within Council’s works program.

10.3 OUTBACK RADIO 2WEB A4

0855 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council decline the offer of an annual advertising package with 2WEB for the 2014/2015 year, noting that Council prefers to support its local radio station and will continue to use 2WEB if and when required.

10.4 COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC D7

The General Manager said Council should use, at its discretion, the four passes which have been provided by the Show Society. He also referred to having spoken with the President of the Society regarding the assistance which may be required from Council.

0856 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that the complimentary tickets for the annual show be given to the Mayor.

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10.5 ROLEY GREEN T6(43310)

The General Manager informed the meeting that he has instructed the A/Director of Engineering Services to liaise with Mr Green regarding his offer to plant trees in Railway Street, from the corner with Sydney Street, north towards Aberford Street.

0857 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Walker that Council note Mr Green's proposal will proceed, with funding being provided from the Urban Roads Maintenance Vote.

10.6 COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT INC S10-2(43306)

0858 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Cullen that Council agree to the request by Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft to conduct a "street parade" on Saturday 31 May, along the length of Castlereagh Street and its surrounds to promote the annual rodeo/campdraft on 7 – 9 June 2014, subject to the Committee providing a copy of its Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance to an amount of \$20M no later than 28 May 2014, noting the parade will be held between 11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon.

10.7 COONAMBLE GREYHOUND RACING CLUB INC G6(43315)

0859 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Keady that Council agree to a sponsorship of \$2,500 for the Coonamble Greyhound Racing Carnival held over the October long weekend.

10.8 MOORAMBILLA VOICES D5-6-1(43344)

0860 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council agree to contribute \$2,500 towards hiring the stage for the Moorambilla Tour Farewell Concert and also agree to the 'in kind' works of collection/return of chairs from various locations for use at the Pavilion for the concert.

Section B – Matters for Council's Information.

10.9 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT C13(43233)

Advising the NSW Councillor and Candidate Report 2012 is now available and has been redesigned and condensed to make the information more engaging and accessible for its intended audience – the community. Stating the report is available to view on the "Publications" and "Promoting Diversity" pages of the Office's website www.dlg.nsw.gov.au

10.10 PRESIDENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW R8-8(43234)

Referring to delays in the passage of legislation to secure Roads to Recovery funding until 30 June 2019. Advising that the picture has become clearer – Roads to Recovery continues to be supported by both the Government and the

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Opposition. Pointing out that advice has been provided that Roads to Recovery will be extended to 30 June 2019.

**10.11 GREAT ARTESIAN BASIN – COONAMBLE ACTION GROUP
L3(43261)**

Thanking Council for its assistance with the CSG Free Declaration Day on 22 March 2014 and for allowing use of the Sportsground. Stating that more than 600 people attended the event and the sense of community spirit was also strongly felt. Pointing out public awareness is steadily increasing about how valuable the Great Artesian Basin is to Australia and Coonamble.

10.12 OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE G5-13(43286)

Advising that a one year funding (2014/15) offer has been approved under the NSW Heritage Grants Local Heritage Places Program. Stating the offer is a development grant with a pro rata \$1 for \$2 grant of up to \$3,500 ex GST to continue the local heritage places grants for the LGA.

10.13 KEEP NSW BEAUTIFUL B7-1(43346)

Inviting Council to participate in Tidy Towns and saying submissions for 2014 will close on 18 June. Encouraging councils, groups, businesses to enter and work with the committee to see the hard work of communities acknowledged and celebrated.

10.14 LEONARDS STORE S10-2(43283)

Referring to the street party on Saturday 10 May 2014 and saying Council's agreement to block off Castlereagh Street from Tooloon Street to Castlereagh Electrical will assist greatly. Asking to have a number of rubbish bins in place and suggesting that the street be closed from 7.00a.m. as seating will be arranged in the area.

10.15 TRADE AND INVESTMENT – CROWN LANDS P10-5(43224)

Advising the NSW Government is pleased to release the Crown Lands Legislation White Paper for public comment following the first major review of Crown lands legislation in more than 25 years. Stating the recent Crown Lands Management Review was initiated to examine current activities and report on future directions. Encouraging councils to read the crown Lands Legislation White Paper and the supporting Crown Lands Management Review document which are available at www.crownland.nsw.gov.au Inviting comments in writing to be submitted by 20 June 2014.

10.16 INLAND RAIL IMPLEMENTATION GROUP R2(43345)

Extending an invitation and seeking support of a project briefing to key community and regional stakeholders regarding the Melbourne to Brisbane inland railway project in Dubbo on Thursday 5 June 2014. Inviting Council to participate in the session in Dubbo on Thursday 5 June.

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It was noted that Councillor Cullen would attend the Session in Dubbo on Thursday 5 June 2014.

0861 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.9 to 10.16 be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE

0862 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following matters be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

10.17 MR DAVID CHADWICK A5(43386)

Council noted that the contents of this letter were raised when Mr Chadwick addressed Council earlier in the day. The General Manager said there is a lot more activity at the Airport than he was previously aware of and referred to the level of funding neighbouring councils spend on their airports per annum. He said that a management plan should be developed and reminded Councillors that landing charges have been raised again – he said they need to be discussed.

0863 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that Council develop a Plan of Management for the Coonamble Airport for 2014/15 onwards and that all users of the Airport be invited to contribute to the Plan.

0864 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Burnheim that a letter of apology be forwarded to Mr Frazer relative to the incident at the Airport recently and that Mr Chadwick be provided with a copy.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

0865 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Schieb that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

0866 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Burnheim and Keady that Council note no Development Applications or Complying Development Applications were approved since the last meeting.

11.2 PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT – GENERAL MANAGER

0867 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that Council:

- (1) note it has received 21 days’ written notice of the performance review of the General Manager in accordance with clause 7.6 of the Standard Contract for General Managers;

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- (2) agree to review the performance of the General Manager at the Council meeting of 11 June 2014.

11.3 COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES & FACILITIES POLICY

0868 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council place the draft policy for Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors on public exhibition for the prescribed 28 day period, inviting comment *AND FURTHER* that the policy be formally adopted at the June meeting taking into account any submissions received.

11.4 AIRPORT – ACCOMMODATION UNIT

0869 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Cullen that Council pay Mr Backhouse \$11,000 for the ATCO 5 room Donga to be located at the Airport and that \$20,000 be provided from the Development Fund to assist with additional costs.

11.5 COONAMBLE RODEO EVENT 2014

In accordance with an instruction from Council, the General Manager tabled a Memorandum of Understanding that has been developed between the Coonamble Rodeo Association Inc and Council to facilitate future events.

Mr Warren said that should Council consider other issues need to be contained within the Memorandum of Understanding this can be accommodated and consultation can then take place with the Rodeo Association to finalise the agreement.

0870 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the Memorandum of Understanding tabled at the meeting between Council and the Coonamble Rodeo Association be adopted.

The General Manager said a site visit would be carried out and preparation of the ground for the event would be factored in – he said he could see no issues with this arrangement.

It was noted that the President of the Association wants the level of the arena dropped a further 100mls, however, the A/Director of Engineering Services said it would not be prudent to do this.

11.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

0871 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the information contained in the report by the Economic Development Manager be noted.

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12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

0872 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Webb that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

0873 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council note the information contained in the Community Services Progress report.

12.2 COONAMBLE SHIRE VISITOR GUIDE – ADVERTISING RATES 2014

0874 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council set the charge at \$150 for advertising in the Visitors' Brochure for 2014.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

0875 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

0876 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 30 April 2014 be noted.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

0877 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the list of investments as 30 April 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

0878 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that the information contained in this section of the report be noted and that planter boxes similar to those outside Bag-a-Bargain be placed on the NAB side of the roadway.

The Director reported that further vandalism has occurred at the Primitive Camp Site at Quambone, garden beds have been vandalized also and a window at the Library broken. The Mayor suggested that plantings be carried out on the other side of the street identical to those adjacent to the former Bag-a-Bargain building. It was agreed to source funds from the 2014/15 budget.

14.0 REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

0879 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Burnheim that the report by the A/Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

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14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

0880 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

In response to a question, the A/Director advised that a contract slasher has been engaged to meet demand – this is being funded through hazard reduction monies provided by the Rural Fire Service. The A/Director advised that the water treatment plant is operating, using one storage dam as there are problems with the other one. The contractor achieved practical completion and the plant has been handed to Council.

15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

0881 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Burnheim that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – APRIL 2014

0882 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Burnheim that the report by the Ranger for the month of April 2014 be noted.

16.0 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – 31 MARCH 2014

0883 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council:

- (a) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents;
- (b) note that, in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
- (c) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 31 March 2014.

In response to a question, the General Manager said that the sale of blocks on the Carinda Road would be addressed in the 2014/15 year. He said a report would be prepared on the potential for sale and a subdivision approved.

17.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

0884 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following reports, Item Nos. 17.1, 17.2, 17.3 and 17.4 be noted.

17.1 Coonamble Heritage & Museum Advisory Committee

0885 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council note the minutes of the Coonamble Heritage & Museum Advisory Committee meeting held on 1 April 2014.

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17.2 Coonamble Senior Citizens Association

0886 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the minutes of the Coonamble Senior Citizens Association meeting held on 18 March 2014 be noted.

17.3 Audit & Risk Management Committee

0887 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the minutes of the Audit & Risk Management Committee meeting held on 29 April 2014 be noted.

17.4 Inaugural Meeting of Coonamble Shire Economic Development Committee

0888 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Coonamble Shire Economic Development Committee held on 29 April 2014 be noted

18.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

0889 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Burnheim that the report by the Manager – Saleyards & Facilities be received.

0890 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Walker that Items 17.1 – 17.3 in the report be noted.

19.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE Nil

20.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Schieb:

- Referred to the Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station progress. It was reported that progress is slowly being made – it is understood tenders are being called.
- Valuer General's Valuations – questioned the valuations in regard to rating- citing a specific case where there has been a 90% increase for some landowners, however others in the same vicinity are not as highly rated.

Cr Cullen:

- Enquired about fines issued for the parking of an item on the road blister – the Manager of Environmental Services said that nothing is to be placed on the road blisters as it is a RTA safety issue. He said the person in question was asked to remove the item on several occasions and refused.

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Cr Burnheim

- Referred to Sun Power solar panels – suggested Council approach the company to ascertain if they will work at Coonamble and the costs associated with the setting up, etc.

0891 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that Council make enquiries as suggested above and provide Council with a report, including costings.

Cr Keady

- Referred to water allegedly causing a rash which affects some people. Asked whether Council would request testing of the water for anything that may cause a rash.
- Showground – referred to an incident when a farrier was at the showground shoeing a horse and was told it was not allowed. Suggested that Council prepare a policy, detailing what activities are allowed to be conducted at the ground. The General Manager said he would appreciate more detail.

General Manager

- Advised he would be attending the GMAC Meeting in Dubbo this Friday 16 May, the OROC meeting in Coonabarabran on 23 May and the Financial Professionals meeting the week 4 – 6 June 2014.
- Referred to Committees of Council – s355 – said that some don't fit the requirements and he will provide a report for Council's consideration at a future meeting.

A/Director of Engineering Services:

- Requested that any complaints, particularly those concerning water and roads be referred to the office so they can be registered in the system for attention and follow up action.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.55 p.m.

These Pages (1/5459 To 14/5472) were confirmed on theday of JUNE 2014 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 14 May 2014.

MAYOR

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