

4 June 2014

**THE NEXT MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014 COMMENCING AT 9.00 A.M.**

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Yours faithfully  
**RICK WARREN**  
 General Manager

**5. DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

**9.30 a.m. Mrs Best & Mrs Byrnes**  
**(Gulargambone Historical Society)**  
**Discuss funding for printing of book**

**9.45 a.m. Gulargambone Memorial Hall representatives**  
**(Expression of Interest for Library Services)**

**6. DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST  
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

## **7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

### **7.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014 COMMENCING AT 9.07 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Cr.Al Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. Michael Webb, John Walker, Dan Keady, Bill Burnheim, Tom Cullen and Don Schieb.  
Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Warren, the Director of 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.

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.

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.

**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 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – very good attendance at street party on May 10<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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.

**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.dlq.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dlq.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 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](http://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.

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;
- (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.

**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.

**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.

##### ***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.

**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 13/5471) were confirmed on the .....day 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**

**8. RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE  
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 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:**

**Crown Lands advertising proposal to sell underway. Awaiting sign-off by Minister's Delegate. Email sent to Barwon Electorate Office.**

**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. Progressing.**

**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:**

**Traffic Committee meeting not yet convened.**

**SCHOOL BUS SHELTERS**

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

**Status:**

**Applications assessed and proceeded to approvals stage, however they are not yet approved. Still waiting on announcement to be made.**

**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:**

**Spoken with President of Coonamble Lions Club – awaiting formal response.**

**19.1 CODE OF CONDUCT BREACH**

that Council, impose the following sanctions, being the recommendations of the *Report for Coonamble Shire Council Investigation of Alleged Code of Conduct Breach*:

*“Having determined that Cr Burnheim has committed a breach a section 6.7(a) of the Code of Conduct, it is recommended that:*

*2.. Cr Burnheim be required to immediately undertake training in the Code of Conduct, particularly relationships and interactions between councillors and council staff members and in the Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct, particularly the role of the complaints coordinator.*

*3.. Following counselling and completion of training in the Code of Conduct, Cr Burnheim be required to sign a statement that he has received, read, understood and will abide by his obligations under the Code of Conduct.*

4. *Cr Burnheim be required to undertake training in Department of Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting.*

5. *Consideration be given to requiring all councillors and staff to attend annual Code of Conduct training.*

**Status:**

**Council's Human Resources Department is investigating suitable training courses.**

7. *Develop and promulgate a policy requiring all councillors and staff to sign a statement that they have received, read, understood and will abide by their obligations under the Code of Conduct.*

**Status:**

**Formal policy being determined. In progress**

8. *Professional, formal mediation occur between Cr Burnheim and Mr Warren and Cr Burnheim and Ms Tasker"*

**Status:**

**Council's Human Resources Department identifying potential mediators. In progress**

**AND FURTHER**, in addition to the recommendations of the conduct reviewer that Cr Burnheim be required to apologise to any person or organisation affected by the breach.

**Status:**

**No action**

**10.5 ROLEY GREEN T6(43310)**

**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.

**Status:**

**Trees ordered for this project.**

**10.17 MR DAVID CHADWICK A5(43386)**

**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.

**Status:**

**No progress to date**

**MAIN STREET ENTRANCE**

**0878 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that planter boxes similar to those outside Bag-a-Bargain be placed on the NAB side of the roadway.

**Status:**

**See Director of Corporate & Urban Services Report – planter boxes and plants ordered – for installation in early June.**

<b>8.2 RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED</b>
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**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:****Insurance Company advises it has no concerns.****COMPLETED****19.1 CODE OF CONDUCT BREACH**

that Council, impose the following sanctions, being the recommendations of the *Report for Coonamble Shire Council Investigation of Alleged Code of Conduct Breach*:

*“Having determined that Cr Burnheim has committed a breach a section 6.7(a) of the Code of Conduct, it is recommended that:*

*1. Cr Burnheim be counselled in relation to:*

*(a) His conduct in this matter, and why it constituted a breach of the section 6.7(b) of the Code of Conduct.*

*(b) His failure to attend Code of Conduct training arranged in November 2012 for councillors and to sign a statement that he has received, read, understood and will abide by his obligations under the Code of Conduct.*

*(c) The requirement to direct all of his enquiries through the General Manager and not to approach other Council staff directly on council business, including after normal business hours.*

*(d) His responsibility to behave in a professional manner towards Council staff and to not make derogatory comments to or about them or their professional conduct.*

**Status:**

**The Mayor has written to Councillor Burnheim as per 1 (a) – (d).  
COMPLETED.**

*6. Develop and implement detailed policy and procedures to control access and interaction between councillors and staff members and ensure the proper management, regulation and accountability of these interactions, while still allowing councillors to carry out their civic duties.*

**Status:**  
**Policy developed – presented to meeting of 11 June 2014 for adoption.**  
**COMPLETED.**

## **9. MAYORAL MINUTE** **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

### **9.1 ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (OROC)**

I attended the OROC Board Meeting on Friday 23 May 2014. The new Minister for Local Government, Paul Toole, addressed OROC and answered questions, in particular, the review of local government and his vision for the future of local government.

The Minister has had nearly 20 years' experience within Local Government, having been a councillor with Evans Shire Council prior to its amalgamation with Bathurst City Council and then as Deputy Mayor and Mayor of the Bathurst City Council.



Minister Toole stated there had been some changes to staff within his department and he hoped these changes would assist councils seeking information and direction.

The Minister stated there would be changes made to local government within NSW but as yet in several areas of recommendations of the report "Revitalising Local Government" he had to consider a response. He stated the Government's response to the report would be forthcoming within a timeframe of one – three months. He made mention that the report would be considered first, then the review of the Local Government Act to provide for legislative change that may be needed to underpin any changes to local government functionality.

Mr Toole said the option of doing nothing will not be considered and councils need to ensure they meet the needs of their community and pursue efficiencies – this will mean thinking about how they do business and a more broad collaborative approach is needed. He acknowledged the report is short on detail as to how any joint organisation of councils would look or operate – except to say they would be different for individual circumstances as required.

The Minister touched on the financial sustainability of councils and the TCorp report, indicating that over 50% of councils were not sustainable in the long term. He also stated putting a sound council together with a financially weak council was fundamentally flawed and there were many factors to be considered, including rate base, rating method, geography and community of interest.

In regard to the re-allocation of Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) he stated there was some room to move and he would be examining the way the grants were distributed, particularly between the metropolitan and rural councils.

With respect to the Western Authority which affects the OROC region – Bourke, Cobar, Brewarrina and Walgett, he did state there would be a Western Authority to ensure service delivery, however the form was yet to be determined and he would be having discussions with the Member for Barwon prior to any announcements being made.

**I move ...**

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

## **9.2 RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ACT**

I am concerned that the Federal Government is considering making changes to the Racial Discrimination Act. Currently it is unlawful for someone to do an act that is reasonably likely to “*offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate*” someone because of their race or ethnicity.

The Act was brought in by the Keating Government to protect against racial abuse and harassment following the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. Coonamble has a population of Aboriginal people and Council should oppose changes to an Act that would allow potential racial vilification against them.

The changes to the Act would allow racial vilification if it occurs in “*any political, social, cultural, religious, artistic, academic or scientific matter*”. The current Act requires the political discussion to be “*reasonable*” and made in “*good faith*”.

**I move ...**

**That Council write to the Attorney General, Senator The Hon George Brandis, opposing these changes to the Racial Discrimination Act.**

**AHMAD (ALLAN) KARANOUH**

**Mayor**

29 May 2014

**10. MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

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**11. PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

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

**11.1 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT C13**

Advising that pursuant to s.241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to councillors, mayors, members and chairpersons of county councils, effective on and from 1 July 2014, have been determined.

<i>Category</i>	<i>Councillor/Member Annual Fee</i>		<i>Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee*</i>	
	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Rural	\$8,130	\$10,740	\$8,640	\$23,440

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Councillors are currently paid \$9,205, the Mayor receiving an additional \$15,650. The Tribunal has allowed for an additional 2.5% increase in allowances. Coonamble Shire Council is a rural council and the current determination is provided in the above table. The mid-point is \$9,435 for councillors and \$16,040 for the mayor). A copy of the Report and Determination of the Tribunal is attached at **APPENDIX A**.

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

**Section B – Matters for Information Only:**

<b>11.2</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>T2(43438)</b>
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Acknowledging and thanking Council for its submission to the discussion paper for the Government's \$100 million Mobile Coverage Program and saying they are being considered as the design of the program is being finalized. Pointing out that under the Program the Commonwealth Government has made a commitment of \$100 million to improve mobile coverage and competition in regional and remote Australia, by investing in telecommunications network infrastructure.

Pointing out there are two components to the program, with the mobile phone network providers eligible for the first, \$80 million component, and a range of parties including these providers, as well as local government, state government and commercial entities, eligible for the second \$20 million component.

Saying the Government has decided to conduct an integrated competitive selection process across the two components. Stating the first step is to develop a data base of locations eligible for funding, based on the locations reported to the Department – saying that over 2000 locations have been reported to the Department of Communications as having poor or no mobile phone coverage.

Advising the next step is to supplement this data base with any relevant information about each location, including particularly whether other parties such as state governments, local councils or others wish to make a contribution, either in cash or in kind, towards the cost of building a mobile phone base station at that location.

Pointing out the Government has directed the Department of Communications to give all regional councils containing area eligible for funding under the program the opportunity to notify the Government of any locations within the Council area where Council may be prepared to co-contribute funding, or resources, towards the construction of a base station at a particular location under the program.

Specifically, in respect of any such location, requesting that Council notify the Department if it, or any other organization of which it is aware, is interested to do any of the following:

- Make a financial contribution to the cost of installing the base station.
- Provide lease hold tenure for a site for a base station at zero or concessional cost.
- Provide civil works at zero or concessional cost, for example, the cost of bulldozing an access road to the site.
- Provide access to an existing tower (such as an emergency services or other tower).
- Provide a connection to an existing power source.

Saying it may assist Council in determining the amount of resources it allocates to response to this letter to know its entire LGA is eligible for funding under the program and, in total, there are nearly 500 local government areas eligible for funding under the program.

(GENERAL MANAGER'S NOTE – The cost of providing communication infrastructure is the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government. Council is currently requesting information on 'black spot' locations with the intention of providing it to the Department of Communications, as the Department has indicated that this data is not held by in its office).

<b>11.3 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION G5(43500)</b>
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Letter from the President of the Association saying she is writing to every council across Australia, asking them to join ALGA's call to have the Government restore the indexation of the local government Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) which has been frozen for three years until 2017/18. Saying the decision will cost councils an estimated \$925 million and unfortunately the impact will continue beyond 2017/18 because the based level of FAGs will be permanently reduced by over 12%.

Pointing out that by 2018/19 when the current extension of Roads to Recovery (R2R) is due to end, the loss of FAGs will be the equivalent of 95% of R2R funding – almost the entire value of the R2R program will be lost. Stating the FAGs are a vital part of the revenue base of all councils and are absolutely essential to allow local communities to provide a reasonable level of services and infrastructure to local residents.

Advising ALGA has been fighting to have the value of the FAGs restored to a level equivalent to 1% of tax revenue – the level they were when John Howard came to power in 1996. Saying in recent years they slipped to 0.7% but the Association is shocked to see they will decline to just 0.53% by 2017/18.

Saying the Government's decision will have a major impact on local services and infrastructure and it is possible the Government has not fully comprehended the impact and unintended consequences of its decision. Stating the best way to bring this to attention would be by local mayors and shire presidents writing to their Federal Government representatives, highlighting the implications of the decision and asking Coalition representatives whether they continue to support the decision. Hoping that many Federal Government members recognize the severe impact on their communities and support a review of the Government's decision.

**11.4 CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL  
L8(43509)**

Referring to Council's letter regarding its preparedness to make an interest free loan of \$50,000 available to the County Council to provide short term finance to fund its restructuring proposal. Advising all five constituent councils have agreed to make loans of \$50,000 available, repayable over a period of up to three years. Enclosing an invoice for this Council's contribution and saying as the restructure process involves terminating a number of staff by 31 May 2014, Council's urgent response would be appreciated.

**11.5 10.18 TRANSPORT FOR NSW G5-9(43403)**

Advising that Council's application for funding of \$8,465 (excluding GST) for the Youth Wheels transport initiative in the Central West region has been successful. Saying it is greatly encouraged that Coonamble Shire Council shares the NSW Government's interest in improving transport services in the Central West for disadvantaged people.

**11.6 10.19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10(43400)**

Advising Local Government Week will be held from 4 – 10 August 2014 and will be launched by the President of Local Government NSW at the Awards Evening on 7 August at 6.30 p.m. Referring to the RH Dougherty Award and saying the deadline for entry is Friday 13 June at 5 p.m.

**11.7 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION**

Referring to the Financial Assistance Grants and the 2014-15 budget announcement. Saying it should be noted that the 2014-15 Federal Budget, which was handed down on Tuesday 13 May 2014 provides for NO advance payment. Stating that because the general purpose component of the grants is allocated amongst the States on a population basis and the NSW population is not growing at the same level as other states, means that the NSW share of the grant will decrease, however NSW will continue to receive its 29% fixed share of the local roads component.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – This decision will have an impact on the budget for Coonamble Shire Council. The full amount is yet to be determined and will be provided to Council when available).

<b>11.8</b>	<b>TRANSPORT FOR NSW</b>	<b>C8-15-5(43379)</b>
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Thanking Council for the *Orana Driver Licence Pilot Program* proposal seeking funding to help remove barriers to driver licensing access for disadvantaged members of the community. Stating Transport for NSW proposes to support the Pilot Program on a trial basis and the Centre for Road Safety will contact Council shortly. Advising the Department acknowledges the need for programs that help people in disadvantaged communities enter and remain in the licensing system and promote positive road safety outcomes. Pointing out that over the next year Transport for NSW will examine the Program to assess the benefits it delivers to communities. Saying, also, that this will inform future considerations for how the program can best be supported and coordinated across NSW.

**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager  
27 May 2014.

**12. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

**12.1 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
3/14	Rick & Jenny Swansborough	Owners	Erect 4 bedroom dwelling	"Kool Country" Coonamble Lot 9 DP263390	6/5/2014

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 Development Application No 003/2014 has been approved under delegated authority since last meeting and no Complying Development Applications were approved during that time.**

**12.2 RETURNS DISCLOSING PECUNIARY INTEREST**

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

**Background:**

Councillors and designated persons are required to complete and lodge disclosure of interest returns by the end of September each year. These returns are to be tabled at the next meeting of Council after 30 September.

**Issues:**

The returns required are for the period **1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014**. The completed returns should be with the General Manager no later than 31 July 2014.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Section 449 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires councillors and designated persons to complete the returns.

Section 450A(2) requires the General Manager to keep a register of returns and table them at the appropriate meeting of Council.

**Financial Considerations:**

Nil

**Options:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

**That Councillors note the information and submit their Pecuniary Interest Declarations to the General Manager by the closing date of 31 July 2014.**

**12.3 COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES & FACILITIES POLICY –  
2014/2015**

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

**Background:**

At the meeting held on 14 May 2014 Council resolved to place the draft Policy for Councillors' Expenses and Facilities 2014/2015 on public exhibition.

**Issues:**

The document was on display for the prescribed period, with the closing time for submissions being 5.00 p.m. Friday 6 June 2014. No submissions were received.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Section 252 of the Local Government Act requires Council to have a separate policy for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities for councillors as does clause 403 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

**Financial Considerations:**

Nil

**Options:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

**That Council formally adopt the Policy for Councillors' Expenses and Facilities 2014/2015, noting that the document was on public exhibition for the prescribed period and no submissions were received.**

**12.4 POLICY – INTERACTION BETWEEN STAFF AND COUNCILLORS**

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

**Background:**

At the April 2014 meeting Council resolved to adopt the recommendation of the reviewer in the recent Code of Conduct Review. This policy addresses Recommendation No 6:

*Develop and implement detailed policy and procedures to control access and interaction between councillors and staff members and ensure the proper management, regulation and accountability of these interactions, while still allowing councillors to carry out their civic duties.*

**Issues:**

Council has adopted a Code of Conduct (February 2013) that covers much of the attached policy (**APPENDIX B**).

The policy reinforces the code and provides for a documented process that councillors and staff are required to follow.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

N/A

**Financial Considerations:**

N/A

**Options:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

**That Council adopt the attached policy relating to the “Provision of Information to and Interaction between Councillors and Staff”.**

<b>12.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>
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**Links to Council's Community Strategic Plan/Delivery Plan:**

**EC2.1 Identify and attract industry programs that will draw new industry to the Shire.**

**12.1.2 Encourage development of multi-purpose community facilities.**

**EC.3.3.1 Support social enterprise opportunities that allow young people to transition from school/TAFE to employment.**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>STATUS/OUTCOMES</b>
Eco Spa + Caravan Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consular Visit – Liaise with NSW Trade &amp; Investment and RDA Orana.</li> <li>2. Land acquisition -</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information sent to RDA Orana for inclusion in presentation to Consular Officials during visit 21.5.14.</li> <li>2. No further advice re progress on land purchase.</li> </ol>
Support new and existing business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Support Business Start-Ups and Expansions:</b> provide information, advocacy and referral.</li> <li>2. <b>Chamber of Commerce</b> – attended May meeting.</li> <li>3. <b>Business Awards + Business Dinner</b> – invitations, advertising.</li> <li>4. <b>Inquiries New Residents</b> – respond to online inquiries from prospective residents.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3 inquiries this month from potential start-ups. 1 referred, 2 information.</li> <li>2. Next Chamber meeting Tues 10<sup>th</sup> June, 1pm.</li> <li>3. Business Awards – insufficient bookings for Business Lunch by deadline. Event cancelled.</li> <li>4. 0 inquiries this month.</li> </ol>
Employment Circle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operation Agribusiness Workforce – liaise with potential speakers.</li> <li>2. Employment Circle meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May.</li> <li>3. Work for the Dole – convene meeting to discuss potential for joint approach to having jobseekers gain experience via work on community projects.</li> <li>4. Learner Driver Mentor Program -</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Date TBA between 1-19 September.</li> <li>2. See Employment Circle meeting notes attached.</li> <li>3. Stakeholders invited to meeting 10<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am.</li> <li>4. \$15,000 approved towards Coonamble RTC 'In Gear' Learner Driver Mentor Program.</li> </ol>
Economic Development Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepared summary of potential projects/ investment opportunities.</li> </ol>	Next meeting:
Advocacy	Mobile Blackspots Program – liaise with Dept of Communications re request to Council.	TBA.

**Recommendation:**

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

**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager  
27 May 2014

## **13. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES** **COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

### **13.1 MULTICULTURAL POLICIES AND SERVICES PROGRAM**

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

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

***P4.2.5 Develop a Multicultural Services Program Plan and review annually.***

#### **Background:**

Under the *Community Relations Commission and Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000* (NSW), it is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer of every NSW public authority to ensure that the principals of multiculturalism are implemented throughout the business of their agencies. The Multicultural Policies and Services Program (MPSP), led by Community Relations Commission, assists organisations to implement the principles of multiculturalism and to report on their public sector accountabilities in this area.

Council is required to develop and maintain a Multicultural Plan and report through its Annual Report. The Plan outlines the priority areas, strategies, corporate responsibilities and timelines through which Council will implement the principles of multiculturalism.

The principles of multiculturalism are defined in the *Community Relations Commission and Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000* as follows:

“(1) Multiculturalism is founded on the following principles (the "principles of multiculturalism"):

(a) the people of New South Wales are of different linguistic, religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds who, either individually or in community with other members of their respective groups, are free to profess, practise and maintain their own linguistic, religious, racial and ethnic heritage,

(b) all individuals in New South Wales, irrespective of their linguistic, religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds, should demonstrate a unified commitment to Australia, its interests and future and should recognise the importance of shared values governed by the rule of law within a democratic framework,

(c) all individuals in New South Wales should have the greatest possible opportunity to contribute to, and participate in, all aspects of public life in which they may legally participate,

(d) all individuals and institutions should respect and make provision for the culture, language and religion of others within an Australian legal and institutional framework where English is the common language,

(e) all individuals should have the greatest possible opportunity to make use of and participate in relevant activities and programmes provided or administered by the Government of New South Wales,

(f) all institutions of New South Wales should recognise the linguistic and cultural assets in the population of New South Wales as a valuable resource and promote this resource to maximise the development of the State.

(2) Parliament recognises that the principles of multiculturalism are based on citizenship. The expression "citizenship" is not limited to formal Australian citizenship, but refers to the rights and responsibilities of all people in a multicultural society.

(3) The principles of multiculturalism are the policy of the State.

(4) Accordingly, each public authority must observe the principles of multiculturalism in conducting its affairs.

(5) It is the duty of the chief executive officer of each public authority to implement the provisions of this section within the area of his or her administration".

This report presents Council's draft Multiculturalism Policy and Multicultural Policies and Services Plan for consideration.

**Issues:**

(i) Coonamble Shire population

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2011 Census of Population and Housing) estimates the population of Coonamble at 4030. 90% of the population was born in Australia, compared to the NSW average of 68%. The most common countries of birth include the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Germany, Italy and Afghanistan. Only 0.53% of Coonamble residents speak a language other than English at home.

Although these culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) residents constitute a very small proportion of the Coonamble Shire community, they are recognised and valued as residents. Council therefore desires to identify and address any barriers, which may exist for these residents in accessing Council's services and facilities.

**(ii) Current activity**

Given the low number of ethnic groups, it is neither practical nor economically viable for Council to place a strong emphasis on services to individual sectors of the non English speaking background (NESB) community. However, Council supports the principles of Multiculturalism through participation in Harmony Day activities, inclusive youth and children's programs, facilitation of early literacy Story Time and Story Walk programs. In addition, the Story Time in Language Project operates from the Coonamble Library, focussing on the development of early literacy skills as well as promoting the linguistic and cultural assets of Coonamble Shire's population. Council also has procedures in place for providing interpreter services.

**(iii) Multicultural Policies and Services Program**

The attached draft MPSP addresses the NSW Government's activity areas and desired outcomes -

- Activity area A - Planning and Evaluation
- Activity area B - Capacity Building and Resourcing
- Activity area C - Programs and Services.

Multiculturalism Policy (APPENDIX C)

Multicultural Policies & Services Plan (APPENDIX C)

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- Local Government Act 1993
- Community Relations Commission and Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000

**Financial Considerations:** NIL.

**Options:** N/A

**Recommendation:**

**That Council endorse the attached Multiculturalism Policy and Multicultural Policies and Services Plan and place on public exhibition for the prescribed period, inviting submissions prior to formally adopting the policy taking into consideration any submissions received.**

**LIANNE TASKER**

Director of Community Services

27 May 2014

**14. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

**14.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

Total Combined Rate Collections to 31/05/2014 compared to 31/05/2013:

	<b>31/05/2014</b>	<b>31/05/2013</b>
Arrears 30 <sup>th</sup> June previous year	791,468.50	763,910.00
Plus 2013/2014 Combined Levy	5,695,127.88	5,433,457.78
Add Transfer from Postponed	-	-
<b>GROSS LEVY</b>	<b>6,486,596.38</b>	<b>6,197,367.78</b>
Less: Pensioner Concession (State)	(62,753.54)	(65,911.62)
Pensioner Concession (Council)	(51,343.80)	(53,927.68)
Transfer to Postponed	-	-
Abandoned	-	-
<b>NET TOTAL LEVY FOR YEAR</b>	<b>6,372,499.04</b>	<b>6,077,528.48</b>
Less Collections	(5,396,418.40)	(5,074,100)
Plus Refunds	-	-
<b>NET TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>976,080.64</b>	<b>1,003,428.45</b>
Plus Postponed	-	-
<b>GROSS TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>976,080.64</b>	<b>1,003,428.45</b>
Collection % of Total Receivable	84.95%	83.81%
Arrears % of Total Receivable	15.05%	16.19%

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

<b>14.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS</b>
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## INVESTMENTS REPORT TO COUNCIL - May 2014

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
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 03/07/2014	3.66%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
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 - 17/07/2014	3.40%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 24/09/2014	3.60%	150 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 - 27/07/2014	3.23%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 13/07/2014	3.66%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 26/08/2014	3.70%	120 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 25/08/2014	3.60%	91 Days	1,500,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	At Call Account	3.10%	-	1,500,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$ 16,500,000</b>

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	% of Investment	Max per Investment Policy	Amount (\$)
National Australia Bank	A1+	30%	50%	5,000,000
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
				<b>\$ 16,500,000</b>

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
			<b>\$ 16,500,000</b>
<b>General Fund Investments</b>			<b>9,600,651</b>
<b>Sewerage Investment Fund</b>			<b>2,778,768</b>
<b>Water Investment Fund</b>			<b>4,120,581</b>
			<b>\$ 16,500,000</b>

**Recommendation:**

**That Council note the list of investments as at 31 May 2014 and also that Council's Investments comply with s625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.**

**14.3 BILL DELANEY PARK – ELECTRIC BARBEQUES**

***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:**

As part of a recent review of Council assets and their utilisation by the community, the two existing electric barbeques currently installed in Bill Delaney Park have been identified as being underutilised.

The main contributing factors to the facilities not been fully utilised is the location of the Park and the high level of vandalism that occurs to the structures within the Park. An opportunity to increase the use of these barbeques by relocating them was suggested by staff. The planned scenario proposed by staff is for one to be installed in the Gulargambone Pool grounds and the other at the "Highway Park". Both these venues provide opportunities that would lead to increased use and reduction in the opportunity for them to be damaged by vandalism.

Photos of the Park and the barbeques have been included for Council's information.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Nil

**Financial Considerations:**

Estimated relocation cost is \$5,000 which would allow for disconnection and reconnection of the Barbeques in their new proposed locations. Given the timing of the works, this cost would be incurred in the 2014/2015 financial year and will be covered from existing operational allocations.

**Options:**

1. Leave the Barbeques in their current location.
2. Relocate the two barbeques to the new locations and fund the work from the 2014/15 operational budget.

**Recommendation:  
For Council's consideration**

**14.4 COONAMBLE POOL – CONDITION REPORT*****Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:  
12.2 Ensure Pools are well maintained*****Background:**

As part of Council's 2013-14 operational plan the need was identified to have a structural integrity assessment carried out of its current Pool facilities for the Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone Pools. During the construction of the 'splash pad' at the Coonamble Pool facility, the contractor was approached by staff regarding the possibility of assisting Council with the provision of this service for the Coonamble facility.

An initial condition report for the Coonamble facility has been prepared and is attached as **APPENDIX D** for Council's information. The report was provided free of charge by Hyrdocare Pool Services P/L, who have completed major pool works at Parkes Shire Council and is planning future projects for Mittagong and Lithgow Pools.

**Issues:**

The report reviews the current infrastructure in operation at the Coonamble Pool; its estimated life remaining and potential issues of non-compliance which may arise in the future. It identifies that, whilst the Pool is currently operational, it is indeed an aging asset that will require a large injection of funds in the future to ensure the facility remains operational and meets the future needs and demands of the community of Coonamble Shire.

Whilst the report contains several basic options for developing the facility in the future, it also identifies the need of Council to develop a master plan for the facility. This plan would need to be prepared in consultation with the community and would form a vital piece of documentation in any future grant application by Council.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

Nil

**Financial Considerations:**

The estimated cost for the preparation of a more detailed master plan for the facility is approximately \$8,000 (GST Exclusive)

**Options:**

1. Do nothing
2. Prepare a Master plan for the Coonamble Pool Facility.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council allocate the funding required to allow the preparation of a Master Plan for the Facility.**

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

- Works program continues to focus on improving the presentation of Council open spaces – with particular focus on the approaches to Coonamble and the Showground in preparation for the Annual Show and Rodeo.
- Planting of seasonal flowers in garden beds in the main street has been completed.
- Grant funded upgrades to the watering systems at Coonamble and Gulargambone Sportsground and Smith Park have been completed.
- At the time of the writing this report, the additional pots and Bougainvilleas have been ordered to complete the entrance to the Coonamble main street - planned to be installed the week ending 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

**Vandalism Update:**

- Plants continue to be removed or destroyed from the garden beds in the main street and around Council's administration complex.
- 4 Toilet cisterns at the Gulargambone Sportsground were destroyed and have been replaced.

**Pools:**

- Following the recent resignation of one of the Coonamble Pool attendants Council has commenced the recruitment process to fill this vacant position.
- The first round of advertisements placed to fill this position closed on the 16/05/2014, not one application was received. The position has been re-advertised with a new closing date of 20/06/2014

**Buildings:**

- Installation of security cameras to the exterior of the administration / library complex has been completed.
- Repair works to 32 Yarran Street have been completed.
- Minor planned maintenance has been carried out as scheduled

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

**BRUCE QUARMBY**

Director of Corporate and Urban Service  
27 May 2014

**15. REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

**15.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS**

- (a) **Plant/Workshop:**
- Repairs have been completed as required on plant:
  - Routine servicing of transport vehicles completed as required.
- (b) **Saleyards:**
- Order placed for new loading ramp.
- (c) **Airport:**
- 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:**
- Final commissioning of the plant has been completed.
  - Repairs have been completed to water mains, meters and services as required in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.
- (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)
  - RMS conducting preliminary investigations towards rehabilitating 2kms of highway immediately north of Coonamble.
  - Orders received for Wilbur Creek guardrail replacement, and embankment protection.
  - Work commenced on heavy patching work near Youie Gun Club.
  - Order received for supply and delivery of quarry product to Wingadee (stage 3)

**(h) Regional Roads:**

- Heavy patching on MR383 in the “Floddenfield” area will commence shortly.
- MR7515 repairs to Combara bridge investigated, and work is about to commence.
- Work on box culverts on MR129Q 2kms from Quambone about to commence
- Replacement of the “Coughran’s Canyon” floodway with a more motorist friendly version is underway. Rehabilitation of Dubbo St in the vicinity is now underway.
- Reseal program progressing

**(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.
- Spraying and slashing underway, reseals underway

**(j) Urban Streets:**

- Bitumen patching of streets and shoulders is in progress following prioritisation of works using REFLECT.
- Pavement construction in Gordon Street has been completed.
- Grading of unsealed streets is in progress.
- Resealing various streets in progress

**(k) Quarry:**

- Awaiting delivery of pre-coater for the quarry.
- Aggregate bins currently being installed

**(l) Levee:**

- Pre tender meeting held on 27/5/2014
- Tenders close 12/6/2014

**Location of Borrow Pits – Crown Lands**

In order to proceed with borrow pit locations Crown Lands requires a resolution from Council, as Trustee of the Warrena Weir Recreation Reserve, agreeing to two pits being located within the Reserve.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council agree to the borrow pits for the Coonamble levee upgrade being located on the Warrena Weir Recreation Reserve.**

**(m) Common:**

- Quotes being sought for the spraying of Lippia weed.

**Recommendation:**

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

**KAYLENE ATKINS**

A/Director of Engineering Services

27 May 2014

## **16. REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

### **16.1 HERITAGE ADVISOR**

#### **Background:**

For many years Council has employed a Heritage Advisor and, since 2009, Mr Ray Christison of High Ground Consulting has been employed in that role. On 14 May 2014 Mr Christison informed Council that he intended to resign however, he did indicate he would be available to assist Council until a replacement is appointed.

Mr Christison has provided the Coonamble Heritage Annual Reports for 2013/14, comprising the Heritage Advisory Service Annual Report; the Local Heritage Fund Summary Report and the Heritage Strategy 2014-2017. These documents have been submitted to the Office of Environment and Heritage as required.

#### **Issues:**

There are two separate sections under Council's Heritage Project:

- Local Heritage Fund
- Heritage Advisor Program.

The project is aimed at increasing community participation, awareness and appreciation of heritage and the joint funding from Council and the Office of Environment and Heritage are incentives to owners of properties approved for funding through the Local Heritage Program. Council should be aware that property owners contribute at least 50% of the required amount.

Over the years the program has been operational, owners of buildings in the Castlereagh Street CBD, other business premises in Coonamble, stakeholders in Gulargambone and property owners throughout the Shire have benefited from project funding.

In 2012-13 Council wrote to owners of private items of places identified as having cultural heritage significance, inviting them to apply for a grant from Council's Local Heritage Fund. These grants are to assist with conservation and restoration work. Eight applications for grants were submitted and a recommendation for approval was submitted to Council for funding, based on recommendations provided by the Heritage Advisor.

One of the key requirements is that the fund be dispersed in accordance with recommendations from Council's Heritage Advisor. Council should note that it will not be eligible for grants under the Local Heritage Fund if it does not employ a Heritage Advisor.

Council has accepted the funding offer from the Office of Environment and Heritage for 2014-2017 and will submit its heritage strategy by the closing date of 15 August 2014.

Based on the approved funding agreement for 2013/2014 financial year and the local heritage funding expenditure of \$4,060.00, the Heritage Branch will reimburse \$1,353.33. A summary of completed projects in the 2013/14 financial year is as follows:

Applicant	Heritage Item Address	Project Description	Total project cost	Applicant's contribution	Local heritage funding
All Saints Anglican Church	Yoolundry St Gulargambone	Restump church. Upgrade toilets	\$6,665.00	\$3,365.00	\$3,300.00
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	Mungie Street Quambone	Repair guttering, fascia & doorstep	\$1,529.00	\$769.00	\$760.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,194.00</b>	<b>\$4,134.00</b>	<b>\$4,060.00</b>

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

- Heritage Act 1977
- Local Government Heritage Guidelines

#### **Financial Considerations:**

In accordance with the funding agreement in place for the three year period 2011 – 2014, Office of Environment and Heritage will reimburse Council one-third of the ex-GST expenditure incurred for the Heritage Advisor Program and one-third for the Local Heritage Fund.

In 2013/2014 financial year Council spent \$6,775 on the Heritage Advisor Program and \$4,060 for the Local Heritage Fund and was reimbursed \$2,258 and \$1,353 by the Office of Environment and Heritage.

#### **Options:**

- (1) Call for expressions of interest to fill the role of Coonamble Shire Heritage Advisor.
- (2) Finalise the Local Heritage Fund and not participate in future funding opportunities.

#### **Recommendation:**

**That Council call for expressions of interest for a qualified person to fill the role of Heritage Advisor and, if no suitable applicants apply Council finalise the Local Heritage Fund.**

**16.2 CARAVAN PARK – AMENITIES BLOCK*****Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program  
13.4.1 Maintain/improve parks to acceptable standards*****Background:**

Council, at the May 2014 meeting, resolved to construct a new amenities block and renovate the existing amenities block to a two (2) bedroom residence for a caretaker/manager, at an estimated cost of \$410,000.00.

**Issues:**

A gantt chart detailing the complete time frame for construction of the new amenities block, will be presented to the June meeting for the Councillors' perusal. Alterations to the old amenities block to incorporate a two (2) bedroom caretaker's residence will not be started until the new amenities block is fully operational.

The construction of the amenities block must comply with the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Park, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005 in that showers and toilets provided meet minimum numbers for the park capacity, disabled access be provided and be constructed of brick or concrete masonry block.

The proposed building will be constructed of brick and located on the eastern side of the existing amenities block.

The design comprises six cubicles and four showers for women and for men five showers and four cubicles and two urinal. Disabled facilities are separate and compliant for access. Laundry facilities consist of two washing machines, two tubs and two dryers, together with a storage area.

Council currently has in reserve for the caravan park \$140,000 – December 2013 budget review.

**Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:**

- Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Park, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005

**Financial Considerations:**

Council has previously been advised that the estimated cost to construct a new amenities block and renovate the existing block to provide a caretaker's residence is \$410,000.

**Options:** Nil

**Recommendation:  
For Council's information**

<b>16.3 RANGER'S REPORT – MAY 2014</b>
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*Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:  
P2.2.5 Control straying animals*

**STATISTICS:**

<u>Compliance</u>	<u>April 2014</u>	<u>Year to Date 2013/2014 Total</u>
Official Correspondence	30	110
Infringements (Animals)	14	99
Infringements (Other)	1	10
Microchipped dogs	11	27
Registrations	7	33
Nuisance dog declaration	0	5
Dangerous dog declaration	0	4
Restricted dog declaration	2	3
<b><u>Impoundments</u></b>		
Dogs	28	230
Cats	2	93
Stock	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>TOTAL ANIMALS IMPOUNDED</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>323</b>
Motor vehicle	0	6
<b><i>Breakdown of impoundments:</i></b>		
Dogs destroyed	20	194
Dogs surrendered by owner	10	110
Dogs re-housed	1	20
Dogs released	6	28
Cats destroyed	2	85
Cats re-housed	1	1
Cats released	1	1
Gulargambone dogs impounded	4	27
Quambone dogs impounded	0	0

**DOG ATTACKS**

Two dog attacks occurred in this month. One in Gulargambone & the other in Coonamble. The owners of the dogs involved in each of the attacks surrendered the animals to Council. Appropriate action has been taken with both owners.

**DOGS STOLEN FROM POUND**

During the month, two dogs were stolen following a break-in at the pound. The incident was reported to Police.

**Recommendation:**

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

**MATTHEW COCK**

Manager – Environmental Services  
2 June 2014

**17. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER – ADOPTION OF  
OPERATIONAL PLAN  
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

**17.1 ADOPTION OF OPERATIONAL PLAN – 2014/2015**

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

In accordance with Chapter 13 Part II of the Local Government Act 1993 Council prepared a draft Operational Plan which was considered by Council at the Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 15 April 2014. Further, Council was required to give public notice under Sections 404 and 405 of the Act which provided for public exhibition and submissions regarding the contents of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Council has adopted the permissible rate increase of 2.3%.

It is now necessary to adopt the Operational Plan. Further, Council is required to take into consideration any submissions received. The closing date for receipt of submissions was 12 noon Wednesday 21 May 2014. No submissions were received.

**Recommendation:**

**That in accordance with Sections 404 and 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the Operational Plan, noting that no submissions were received and noting that the Operational Plan was advertised and exhibited for the prescribed period of 28 days, with advertisements being placed in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2014.**

**17.2 ADOPTION OF LEVY OF RATES**

**(a) Ordinary Rates**

**WHEREAS** the draft Operational Plan for the year 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2015 was prepared by Council in accordance with S405 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2014 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Ordinary Rates and that in accordance with S492, S493 and S529 of the Local Government Act 1993 the following ordinary rates be made and levied on all rateable land within the Shire for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015:

<i>Type of Rate</i>	<i>Cents in \$</i>	<i>Minimum (\$548)</i>
Ordinary	1.20	400.00
Farmland	0.403	330.00
Small Rural Holdings	0.685	445.00
Rural Residential	0.644	400.00
Business	2.1	460.00

**(b) User Charges - Water and Sewerage**

**WHEREAS** the draft Operational Plan for the year 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2015 was prepared by Council in accordance with S405 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 and 30 April and 7 May 2014 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the User Charges and that in accordance with S501 and S502 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy on such land on which water and sewerage is connected or able to be connected in accordance with S552 as follows:

**(a) Water:**

<b>Town/Village</b>	<b>Access Charge (\$)</b>	<b>Usage Charge 1<sup>st</sup> Tier (c/kl)</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tier Pricing Limit (kl)</b>	<b>Usage Charge 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier (c/kl)</b>
Coonamble	170.00	55	370	0.90
Gulargambone	236.00	70	430	1.10
Quambone	237.00	70	430	1.10

<b>Item</b>	<b>Coonamble (\$)</b>	<b>Gulargambone (\$)</b>	<b>Quambone (\$)</b>
Access charge (20mm metre)	170.00	236.00	237.00
Access charge (25mm metre)	267.00	371.00	372.00
Access charge (40mm metre)	680.00	944.00	948.00
Access charge (50mm metre)	1,063.00	1,475.00	1,481.00
Access charge (75mm metre)	2,390.00	3,318.00	3,332.00
Access charge (80mm metre)	2,720.00	3,776.00	3,792.00
Access charge (100mm metre)	4,250.00	5,900.00	5,925.00

**(b) Sewer:**

Council has adopted a user charge applicable to residential and commercial use – there is no land value based charge.

**Residential:**

<b>Town/Village</b>	<b>Annual Domestic Charge (\$)</b>
Coonamble	465.00
Gulargambone	640.00
Coonamble - Flats	390.00
Gulargambone – Flats	535.00

**Non-Residential:**

The sewer charge for non-residential services is at minimum charge of:

Coonamble	\$465.00 and
Gulargambone	\$640.00

Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. Further information is contained in Council's Water and Sewer Management Plan.

**Treatment Charge – per kilolitre:**

Coonamble	85 cents/kl
Gulargambone	101 cents/kl

**(c) Domestic Waste Management Service (Garbage)**

**WHEREAS** the draft Operational Plan for the year 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2015 was prepared by Council in accordance with S405 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2014 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Domestic Waste Management (Garbage) Rates and that in accordance with s496 and s501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy a charge for the year 1 July, 2014 to 30 June, 2015 as follows:

Coonamble	\$280.00
Gulargambone	\$365.00
Quambone	\$315.00
Vacant Land	\$ 48.00

**Commercial Waste Management Charge:**

Coonamble	\$280/service
Gulargambone	\$365/service
Quambone	\$315/service

**(d) Interest on Outstanding Rates and Charges**

In accordance with section 566 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, interest on outstanding rates and charges is set as per the Determination of the Minister for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June, 2015 @ 8.5%.

**(e) Fees and Charges:**

**WHEREAS** the draft Operational Plan for the year 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2015 was prepared by Council in accordance with S405 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2014 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received regarding making of the fees and charges and in accordance with S501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the fees and charges for period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, **AND FURTHER** that Council, in setting these charges, examined the criteria detailed in S539.

<b>17.3 ADOPTION OF 2014/2015 ESTIMATES</b>
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**Recommendation:**

**That Council hereby votes for expenditure for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 the sums set out in the draft estimates considered by Council on 15 April 2014 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2014, details of which are as follows:**

<b>Details</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>9,056,828</b>	<b>12,073,335</b>
<b>Public Order &amp; Safety</b>	<b>332,720</b>	<b>70,800</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>360,000</b>	<b>17,060</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>1,015,015</b>	<b>488,600</b>
<b>Community Services &amp; Education</b>	<b>124,721</b>	<b>54,900</b>
<b>Housing &amp; Community Amenities</b>	<b>265,855</b>	<b>180,600</b>
<b>Water Supplies</b>	<b>1,123,862</b>	<b>1,226,555</b>
<b>Sewerage Services</b>	<b>1,058,210</b>	<b>887,850</b>
<b>Recreation &amp; Culture</b>	<b>1,593,282</b>	<b>98,100</b>
<b>Mining, Manufacturing &amp; Construction</b>	<b>1,776,600</b>	<b>1,796,000</b>
<b>Transport &amp; Communication</b>	<b>7,697,814</b>	<b>5,348,740</b>
<b>Economic Services</b>	<b>777,752</b>	<b>390,580</b>
<b>Capital - General</b>	<b>9,193,169</b>	<b>7,999,100</b>
<b>Capital – Water</b>	<b>329,200</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Capital – Sewerage</b>	<b>407,220</b>	<b>254,380</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,112,248</b>	<b>30,886,600</b>

**RICK WARREN**  
General Manager  
20 May 2014

**18. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

**18.1 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COONAMBLE  
EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE HELD ON TUESDAY 6 MAY 2014  
COMMENCING AT 11.00 A.M.**

**Present:** Cr John Walker, Shane Kilby (TAFE), Trish Butler (Joblink),  
Deon Allen (NCAP), Lee O'Connor (CSC EDM).

**Apologies:** Andrew Shearer (RFCS), Chris Scales (DPMC), Mark Noonan  
(APM), Maxine Greenfield (TAFE), Elisha Bailey (DEEWR/DPM)  
Kate Keizer (CNC), Natalie Young (Many Rivers), Priscilla  
Harvey (CHS Careers), Duncan Lovelock (CHS DP), David  
Floyd (Youth Express)

**Chair: Shane Kilby. Notes: Lee O'Connor**

**1. Agency / Staff Changes**

- APM – Jessica Thei has left APM and is now working at Coonamble Shire Council.
- CRS - Jim Quinn has moved to a similar role in Victoria.
- Youth Connections – Program under threat due to lack of government commitment to Youth Transitions and Partnership Brokerage through a School to Work Transitions model. The valuable contribution of the Partnership Broker role to the Employment Circle in general and various individual local agencies was discussed. The Program has been able to bring value to local initiatives by providing a regional or wider overview, bringing new partners to the table and being a voice for local initiatives at a regional level and beyond.

**ACTION: Lee to draft letter on behalf of Employment Circle.  
Other members to consider writing on behalf of their own  
agencies as they see fit.**

Contacts are:

The Hon. Tony Abbott, MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Senator Scott Ryan [senator.ryan@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.ryan@aph.gov.au)

Minister Christopher Pyne [C.Pyne.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:C.Pyne.MP@aph.gov.au)

Senator Eric Abetz – [senator.abetz@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.abetz@aph.gov.au)

Mark Coulton (Member for Parkes) [markcoulton.com.au](http://markcoulton.com.au) and click on the **Contact Tab**.

## 2. OPERATION WORKFORCE – Employer Information Event

Proposed date: TBA – between 1 – 19 September (depending on keynote speaker availability)

David Floyd is following up with Roger Fletcher.

Focus: Finding the Right People to Grow Local Agribusiness

Target: farming, ag supplies, ag contractors, transport, ag machinery, other ag-related businesses

Audience: traditionally aimed at employers in these business sectors. Discussion followed regarding issues facing employers, impacts of backpackers on the employment market, and the need to improve pathways for local jobseekers.

**AGREED: Audience to include both Employers and interested/ motivated Jobseekers.**

**ACTION: JSAs to encourage job-ready jobseekers who are interested in agriculture-related work. Schools to encourage students interested in ag sector and their parents.**

**ACTION: sub-committee to meet again immediately following next Employment Circle meeting on Tues 6<sup>th</sup> May. CEC participants to consider making a contribution eg. \$200.**

Speakers: To cover what sort of employment they have, what recruitment process has worked for them, challenges they face in attracting/keeping suitable staff.  
Keynote speaker: Roger Fletcher, Fletcher International.  
Local speakers (confirmed): David Chadwick, Coonamble Feedlot; Allen Munro, Landmark;  
Other speakers: to include shearing contractor, transport operator (eg. P Kennedy), and others. **Sub-committee to follow up.**  
Service Providers: JSAs, apprenticeships Centres, Training providers, NCAP, etc. Quick presentation on service and assistance available. **To be confirmed.**

Venue: Previous years held at CHS MPC with catering by Hospitality students. Suggested that Bowling Club may be better venue to encourage employers attendance. Need to check re students attending if alcohol is available. **To be confirmed.**

Funding: Cost of catering, invitations, advertising will need to be borne by participating agencies.  
TAFE will contribute \$500. **ACTION: Neighbourhood Centre to invoice this financial year.**

Council will contribute. Amount to be advised.

**ACTION: Other agencies to follow up on their possible contribution.**

### 3. Rural Skills Update

David F is working to bring new partners to the discussions. NSW Farmers Association, Primary Industries Education Foundation, and Tocal College are interested in being involved.

CHS and Council are working together on The Common Project. A grant has been received to construct new stockyards on the Coonamble Common. Adam Macrae was also successful in gaining an RASF grant for a Mobile Workshop (equipment on trailer) to support that project.

Funding is still needed for an Ag Mentor (approx. 3 days) to work with students on work placement and provide additional skilled supervision for all activities.

### 4. Driver Training

1. **Orana Learner Driver program** has concluded. On the ground delivery of training/mentoring by Birrang staff was excellent, with staff returning to Coonamble weeks later to ensure students attended licence tests. Some concerns re relationship between program administrators and local JSA staff. Each JSA received a report on the outcomes for their participants.

**ACTION: Request a report on overall project implementation and outcomes from RDA Orana.**

Discussion re need for ongoing programs in licensing and expansion to include older drivers. Also, the main barrier is moving from L Plates to P Plates due to need to accumulate logbook hours.

2. **Driver Mentoring.** Coonamble RTC are still seeking funding to secure a dual-control vehicle before their 'In Gear' Driver Mentoring program (to assist with logbook hours) can commence. MPREC were contacted and advised that their vehicle is currently in Broken Hill. **Await advice whether MPREC vehicle may be available to Coonamble RTC in the future.**

### 5. Supporting Self Employment & Local Business Growth

1. **Many Rivers Microfinance** – 2 business start-ups have been referred to Natalie Young for assistance. Natalie and Scott Woodward, Sydney manager, will be in Coonamble next Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May. They would like to meet with JSAs and other agencies.

**ACTION: Contact Natalie on 0418 480 954 to make an appointment for a visit Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May.**

2. **Local Start Ups & Expansion** – EDM advised that she is now receiving an average of 6 requests per month from existing or potential businesses seeking assistance with start-up or expansion/diversification. This is a big improvement from approx. 6 per year in 2002/03. There is a need to further promote local enterprise opportunities and support people in gaining business management skills. Businesses report that a common barrier to business growth is difficulty in attracting suitably skilled, motivated staff.
- Castlereagh Regional Halal Abattoir is moving towards re-opening. Will require a start-up workforce of 8-10 with a projected workforce of 30-40.
  - Pace Industries has a Development Application approved to establish an operation on the outskirts of Coonamble manufacturing pre-cast concrete and galvanised iron items for stormwater drains. Start-up workforce of 3-4.
  - Castlereagh Cattle Drive has commenced operations. Droving tours for mainly city market.
3. **Connections with Employers** – Joblink report a sharp increase in placements for April since their organisation shifted focus to Employer Service. Previously approximately 6 placements per month. Job Consultant is released to visit potential employers for one day per week. NCAP Officer also finds it difficult to connect with Coonamble district employers. Many are not aware of the financial assistance available.
4. **TAFE Indigenous Virtual Advisor Program** – provides assistance to Aboriginal people to conduct business on-line. **TAFE to provide info for distribution.**

## 6. Community Working Party (CWP)

CWP Chair and members were invited to attend this meeting but there is a clash with their own meeting.

**ACTION: Lee to liaise with CWP re separating future meetings.**

## 7. CDEP Closure > Work for the Dole

As discussed at previous meeting, it is important to engage previous CDEP participants in activities to improve their work readiness and open employment pathways through local community projects.

Points to note:

- Work for the Dole cannot be with profit-making organisations. There are other programs for these pathways.
- Jobseekers receive an additional \$20/fortnight from Centrelink to participate in Work for the Dole.
- past experience has shown lots of initial interest from jobseekers. They sign up but many do not maintain their attendance. Methods to retain attendance need to be included.
- Work for the Dole is expensive for JSAs to run. More affordable if there are partner contributions in cash or kind.

Query re ownership of assets purchased through Work for the Dole.  
Discussion re sizable assets purchased under similar programs in Coonamble in the past which are now unavailable to the community.

EDM advised initial interest from Council GM and some community organisations, who have identified possible projects/activities for a Work for the Dole program in Coonamble and Gulargambone. A preliminary list of projects was tabled. See attached.

**ACTION: EDM to convene a meeting to discuss a potential joint Work for the Dole program for Coonamble district. Participants to be invited include: three JSAs, Coonamble Shire Council GM and/or HR Manager, Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre, Cr Walker.  
Joblink to forward Work for the Dole guidelines so they can be distributed to interested community groups.**

## **8. Youth Centres**

Coonamble Shire GM has advised that the Youth Centres are not owned by Council. Council owns the hall building in Gulargambone previous used by MPREC to run the youth centre. The building in Railway Street, Coonamble belongs to MPREC.

**ACTION: Lee to make inquiries as to MPREC plans for their buildings and whether access is possible by other agencies.**

## **9. General Business**

**9.1 Work Development Orders** – Mission Australia are registered to do WDOs.

**ACTION: Mission Australia be asked to provide further information on what activities are involved.  
Deon to request Mission Australia staff to contact Joblink to discuss co-operation.**

**9.2 TVET Funding** – Priscilla asked for this to be added to the agenda.

**ACTION: Shane K to contact Priscilla to discuss issues.**

**9.3 Centrelink Services** – it became clear in previous discussions that issues with access to Centrelink support services for Coonamble jobseekers, JSAs, and other agencies is related to structural/resourcing issues within Centrelink itself. There is general consensus that the level of unemployment and disadvantage in Coonamble district warrants a more comprehensive locally-based Centrelink service. It was queried why the two funded agencies could not be combined to create a single upgraded Centrelink office.

Coonamble jobseekers and agencies are required to go through Dubbo Centrelink. Past experience has shown much better service in Walgett from their Centrelink Office in the areas of breaching non-attenders at TAFE, referring clients to training providers and JSAs, working to ensure compliance in attending interviews and training. The effectiveness of many of the

programs and activities put in place by Coonamble agencies are constrained by delays or restrictions on service/support provided by Centrelink.

**ACTION: Cr Walker to raise the issues with Coonamble Shire Council.  
Lee to provide information on local unemployment.  
Trish to forward email from Mark Merchant, DPM, re breaches/compliance issues for distribution.**

Meeting closed 12.30pm.

**7. NEXT MEETING: CSC COMMITTEE ROOM  
EITHER TUES 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE OR TUES 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 11AM.  
DATE- TBC – DEPENDENT ON WORKING PARTY DATE.**

**Acronyms:**

APM = Australian Personnel Management  
 AIT = Australian Integrated Training  
 BEC = Business Enterprise Centre  
 CDEP = Community Development Employment Program  
 CHS = Coonamble High School  
 CNC = Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre  
 CRS = Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service  
 CSC = Coonamble Shire Council  
 CWP = Community Working Party  
 EIEIO = *Just Checking to See if You're Paying Attention*  
 ICC = Indigenous Co-ordination Council (no longer operational)  
 MPREC = Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation  
 NCAP = New Careers for Aboriginal People  
 OROC = Orana Region Organisation of Councils  
 PMC = Dept of Prime Minister & Cabinet  
 RFCS = Rural Financial Counselling Service  
 RTC = Rural Transaction Centre (26 Castlereagh Street Coonamble)  
 TVET = ?? Vocational Education and Training  
 WSC = Western Student Connections

**18.2 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COONAMBLE SENIOR  
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC HELD IN THE SENIOR CITIZENS  
HALL AT 23 NAMOI STREET ON 20 MAY 2014**

**PRESENT:** Bruce O'Brien, in the chair for Ken Baker, Peter Mayoh, Gloria Fernando, Jean Shields, Jenny Driscoll, Alma Backhouse, Bev Wilson, Johnny Homer and Lorna O'Brien.

**APOLOGIES** Ken Baker and Siffia Fernando

**MINUTES** Read by Lorna O'Brien **Seconded** Alma Backhouse

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

- (1) Committee agreed that all accounts be closed and everything is to be paid by cheque.
- (2) Amendment to Primary School
- (3) The committee agreed to raffle Yvonne Hodges ring at the Christmas party

**CORRESPONDENCE IN:**

- (1) Bank statement from Commonwealth Bank
- (2) Invoice from Terry Lees

**CORRESPONDENCE OUT:**

- (1) Copy of minutes of April meeting to Council.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Moved** Peter Mayoh that his report be accepted and accounts passed for payment **Seconded** Jean Shields

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

*Ken Baker entered the meeting at 1.30 p.m.*

- Fridge will be moved away from fire extinguisher.
- Fire blanket is in the kitchen on top of fire extinguisher.
- An assembly plan will be drawn up by Lorna O'Brien.
- The committee agreed to buy a new microwave oven.
- Lorna will see Alan Dodd – the committee agreed to shop locally.
- Ken Baker will dispose of old lawn mover – committee agreed.
- All chairs to be fitted with rubber tips to preserve the parquet floor.
- **Moved** Bruce that we give bingo players the choice of the meat raffle or cash. **It was put to a vote and the "nays" won** - vouchers will stay.
- Ken agreed to keep track of the meat vouchers from Joe's butchery.
- An out of town visitor, a friend of Alma's, thanked the committee for a great day – said she will be back.

Meeting closed at 2 p.m. Minutes prepared by Secretary Lorna O'Brien

Date: 20 May 2014

**19. REPORT BY SALEYARD MANAGER  
FOR COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

**Recommendation:**

**That the report by the Saleyards Manager be received and dealt with**

**17.1 SALES**

One fat cattle sale was held during the month.

**17.2 WORKS UPDATE:**

Nil to report

**17.3 SALEYARDS ACCOUNT**

- Period to 31 May 2014
- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Income                     | \$131,470.90         |
| Expenditure                | <u>\$156,307.48</u>  |
| <b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b> | <b>(\$24,836.58)</b> |

**Recommendation:**

**That the information contained in the report be noted.**

**AMANDA GLASSON**

Manager – Saleyards & Facilities

2 June 2014

**20. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**

**NIL**

**21. GENERAL BUSINESS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE 2014**