

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
JUNE 2014, COMMENCING AT 9.15 A.M.**

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PRESENT: Cr.Al Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. Michael Webb, John Walker, Dan Keady, Bill Burnheim, Tom Cullen and Don Schieb.
Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Warren, the Director of Community Services, Ms Tasker, the Director of Corporate & Urban Services, Mr Quarmby, the A/Director of Engineering Services, Mrs Atkins 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

The General Manager informed the Mayor that the President of the Rodeo and Campdraft Committee requested to address the meeting.

The following organisations have also made arrangements to attend today's meeting:

- 09.30 a.m. Gulargambone Historical Society – Mrs Doreen Best and Mrs Nancy Byrnes.
- 09.45 a.m. Gulargambone War Memorial and Mechanics Institute Hall Committee – Mrs Beryl Ryan and Mrs Dianne Collins.
- 10.00 a.m. Twoeighttwoeight – Mrs Angela O'Brien.

4.0 APOLOGIES

0892 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that apologies for late arrival be accepted from Crs Keady and Schieb.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The General Manager reported to the meeting that Mrs Doreen Best and Mrs Barbara O'Brien were both awarded Order of Australia Medals (OAM) for their service to community in the recently announced Queen's Birthday Honours.

0893 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to both Mrs Best and Mrs O'Brien on their recent awards in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations were booked for this meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

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7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

0894 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Burnheim that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 14 May 2014 be confirmed.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

(i) Coonamble Airport – Mr David Chadwick

Cr Burnheim referred to an email recently received from Mr Chadwick indicating that on the day the NOTAM was issued, no mowing was carried out at the Airport. The General Manager said he had also received a copy of the email and photo, however he drew Council's attention to the date on the photo which did not coincide with the date of the NOTAM. Mr. Warren said work has been carried out at the Airport, however other open spaces and park areas require attention and staff are required to attend to those areas on a rotational basis.

The Director of Corporate and Urban Services said he is looking at additional equipment (mowers) which are different types, with a larger cut and more horsepower.

The Mayor suggested that the meeting with airport users be convened as a priority to discuss issues that are of concern and ascertain a program of maintenance.

(ii) Skate Park

In response to a question the Director of Corporate and Urban Services said the skate park is operational and is being monitored regularly by staff.

(iii) Sunpower

Cr Burnheim referred to his contact with this Company regarding solar panels. The General Manager informed the meeting that Council has not received a response to its enquiry to date. Mr. Warren said Council's electricity contract through OROC has about 12 months to run. He said a recent audit of street lights has been carried out and there is the potential for an increase in these charges. In response to a suggestion for LEDs the General Manager said that Essential Energy does not accept this type of lighting – if they are installed Council is responsible for maintenance.

Cr. Schieb arrived at the meeting at 9.25 a.m.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

0895 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

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Business Arising from the Resolution Book Update:

(i) Caravan Park+Eco Spa Stage 2 Investment Ready

In response to a question from Cr Burnheim regarding this item, the Mayor advised that contact has been made with Mr Kevin Humphries and this matter is now in the final stages and advice will be forthcoming to Council shortly.

(ii) Bus Shelters

The General Manager informed the meeting that no announcement regarding allocation of funding has yet been made. In response to a question from the Mayor, Mr Warren said it is the State Government Department of Transport which is responsible for this funding.

(iii) Thara Road

Cr Cullen asked whether there has been any further progress made with the Thara Road issue – the Manager of Environmental Services said the matter is still with Council's solicitor.

(iv) Airport

It was noted that this matter was discussed earlier and that the meeting with Airport users will be convened as a priority and a Plan of Management developed. Cr Schieb drew attention to the entrance to the Airport and surrounds, particularly around the terminal, which is very untidy – he suggested that the areas be cross-mowed.

(v) Trees for Railway Street

The General Manager said that to accommodate the trees to be planted in Railway Street, Council will use 'root management systems' which are about 4 ft deep and allow the roots to go through the road base. He reported that the nursery has ordered the trees which will be available in approximately one month.

Gulargambone Historical Society

At this juncture, 9.30 a.m., Mrs Best and Mrs Byrne arrived at the meeting in company with Council's Grants and Events Officer.

The Mayor invited Mrs. Best to address Council – she referred to the book the Gulargambone Historical Society wishes to publish and said the quote from Dubbo Printing Works is \$26,527.60 for a print of 500 copies. Mrs Best said the Society has \$17,000, leaving a shortfall of \$9,000 – however the Gulargambone Lions Club has agreed to contribute towards the cost but has not indicated an amount.

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Mrs. Best said the book will be titled *Gulargambone - As It Was (The History of the Village 1866 – 2013)* and referred to the wealth of information therein, pointing out that research has taken many years. She said application will be made for a Cultural Grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society. Mrs Best said that in the application the Society must detail other funding which has been acquired and pointed out that applications close on 23 June 2014.

The Historical Society representatives presented a sample of eight stories from the manuscript for Council's Archives, together with the list of acknowledgements and the Bibliography indicating the extent of research. Mrs Best informed the meeting that the Society hopes to quickly sell the first print and those funds will allow further copies to be printed.

Cr Webb requested that Urgent Business – Item 11.11 – be brought forward so the matter could be dealt with.

URGENT BUSINESS – ITEM 11.11 - SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

0896 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the following item be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

11.11 GULARGAMBONE HISTORICAL SOCIETY D7

0897 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council contribute \$4,000 to the Gulargambone Historical Society from its Development Fund to assist with initial printing costs of the book *Gulargambone – As It Was*.

Mrs Best and Mrs Byrne thanked the Council for its generosity and left the meeting at 9.38 a.m.

Gulargambone Memorial Hall Representatives

At this juncture, Mrs Beryl Ryan and Mrs Dianne Collins were present to discuss the Gulargambone Memorial Hall Committee's submission to provide library services at Gulargambone. Mrs Ryan was the spokesperson and was supported by Mrs Doreen Best who returned to the meeting.

Mrs Ryan thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting and said the Committee would like to carry out works at the hall to make it a more user-friendly venue for meetings and other activities. Mrs Ryan said the premises is not air conditioned, the acoustics need to be addressed, curtains for the stage are required – she said this is an expensive item as they have to be fire retardant and finally, the toilets need to be upgraded.

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Mrs Ryan said the money for providing the library service would go towards some of these works, which the Committee cannot do without extra income. She said in its current state the hall is not adequate for many functions and events that may, otherwise, be held there. Mrs Ryan referred to recent work carried out at Curban hall and said members of the Committee will carry out an inspection to ascertain if something similar can be done with the Gulargambone hall to improve acoustics.

The Mayor informed Mrs Ryan that Council would consider the matter in Closed Session later in the day. At this juncture, 9.45 a.m, Mrs Ryan left the meeting.

9.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

0898 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Schieb that the Mayoral Minute be received and dealt with.

Cr Burnheim referred to recent advice that the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) would be reduced in NSW and asked whether the matter should be discussed at this point. The General Manager said Item 11.7 of Correspondence dealt with the matter.

9.1 ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

0899 RESOLVED by Cr Karanouh that the information contained in the Mayoral Minute relative to issues dealt with at the OROC Board Meeting on 23 May 2014, be noted.

9.2 RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ACT

PROPOSED by Cr Karanouh **SECONDED** by Cr Burnheim that Council write to the Attorney General, Senator The Hon George Brandis, opposing the proposed changes to the Racial Discrimination Act.

AN AMENDMENT

0900 PROPOSED by Cr Cullen **SECONDED** by Cr Webb that Council take no action in this matter until more information is provided.

On being put to the vote, the AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED (4 votes/3 votes) and on becoming the motion was carried.

10.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

The Mayor did not submit an activities report for the May/June period.

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11.0 CORRESPONDENCE

0901 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Walker and Schieb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:

11.1 OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT C13

0902 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Cullen that Council not increase the annual fees paid to Councillors and the Mayor and they remain at \$9,205 for Councillors, with an additional \$15,650 to the Mayor, for the 2014/2015 financial year.

Section B – Matters for Information Only:

11.2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS T2(43438)

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. Saying the Government has decided to conduct an integrated competitive selection process across the two components.

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.

Council noted the General Manager's comments that the cost of providing communication infrastructure is the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government. The General Manager stated that Council is currently requesting information of 'black spot' locations with the intention of providing the information to the Department of Communications, when received.

At this juncture, 9.55 a.m., Mr Len Scott and Mr Peter Kennedy arrived at the meeting.

11.3 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION G5(43500)

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. Stating the best way to do this 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.

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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 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 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.

In response to a question from Cr Burnheim the Director of Corporate and Urban Services advised that this decision will have an impact on the budget for Council if the grants are not increased. He estimated a shortfall of \$50,000. The General Manager said the amount of Council's allocation is yet to be determined and will be provided to Council when available.

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11.8 TRANSPORT FOR NSW C8-15-5(43379)

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.

0903 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that the information contained in Item Nos. 11.2 to 11.8 be noted.

Twoeighttwoeight

At this juncture, 10.00 a.m., Mrs Angela O'Brien was received to the meeting to discuss the submission to provide library services at Gulargambone from Twoeighttwoeight.

Mrs O'Brien said if her organisation did not get the additional funding for providing the library service, five people presently employed at Twoeighttwoeight would lose their jobs. She said that, although not fully supported by the local community, Twoeighttwoeight is making a difference and referred to its achievements with indigenous young people. Mrs O'Brien said work experience is provided to students from Coonamble and Gilgandra High Schools.

She referred to Brandon Hammond who was offered a school based traineeship – saying he is still with the organisation and has recently taken an additional job at the Gulargambone Bowling Club. Mrs O'Brien referred to the recent closure of the Antique Shop and Burgers on Bourbah and said with such negative changes, it is even more important for Twoeighttwoeight to maintain its present status. She thanked Council for its time and left the meeting at 10.05 a.m.

Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft Committee Representatives

The Mayor invited Messrs Scott and Kennedy to address the meeting. Mr. Scott said that the rodeo and campdraft event was very successful and he wanted to convey thanks to Council, management and staff for their assistance prior to and during the event. He mentioned that Council's decision to waive the hire fee for the ground was a huge benefit.

Mr Scott raised the issue of holding another event during the October long weekend and asked whether the ground would be available, noting that the annual greyhound racing carnival is also conducted during that time. The Mayor suggested that he should discuss the idea with the Greyhound Club representatives. Cr Cullen said that a proposal should be brought back to Council following consultation with representatives of the Greyhound Racing Club and the Pony Club.

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Mr Kennedy said that the suggestion of another rodeo and campdraft event in October is only an idea as no approach has yet been made to ABCRA for a date. He said the main purpose of attending the meeting was to thank Council for all its support. Cr Walker congratulated Mr Scott and Mr Kennedy on the success of the rodeo and they left the meeting at 10.13 a.m.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

0904 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the following items be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

11.9 KEEP NSW BEAUTIFUL K1(43539)

0905 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council agree to become a member of Keep NSW Beautiful, noting that membership for the forthcoming financial year is \$550 (includes GST).

11.10 CENTRAL NSW COUNCILS (CENTROC) R8-14(43541)

0906 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Schieb that Council provide a letter of support to the Minister for Roads and Ports to bring the Bells Line of Expressway to a standard to accommodate high mass vehicles as requested by CENTROC.

11.11 GULARGAMBONE HISTORICAL SOCIETY D7

Council noted this matter had been dealt with earlier in the day when representatives of the Society were in attendance.

11.12 COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL E1(43570)

0907 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council note the information regarding the Connected Communities Reference Group and the fact that there are State-wide terms of reference which dictate membership and role.

12.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

0908 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Burnheim that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

12.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

0909 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker 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.

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12.2 RETURNS DISCLOSING PECUNIARY INTEREST

0910 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Webb that Councillors note the information and submit their Pecuniary Interest Declarations to the General Manager by the closing date of 31 July 2014, noting forms will be forwarded to Councillors shortly.

12.3 COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES & FACILITIES POLICY – 2014/2015

0911 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Burnheim that Council formally adopt the Policy for Councillors' Expenses and Facilities 2014/2015, noting that the documentation was on public exhibition for the prescribed period and no submissions were received.

12.4 POLICY – INTERACTION BETWEEN STAFF & COUNCILLORS

0912 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council adopt the policy presented to the meeting relating to the "Provision of Information to & Interaction between Councillors and Staff".

In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the General Manager said that a lot of this policy's content is already covered in Council's Code of Conduct.

12.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

0913 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the information contained in the report by the Economic Development Manager be noted.

Cr Cullen informed the meeting that he attended the meeting in Dubbo recently regarding the Melbourne – Brisbane Inland Rail and was advised to arrange a submission from Council to have the line moved closer to Coonamble.

Cr Schieb requested that Council be more fully advised of results achieved by the Economic Development department. The Mayor said the Manager has been working on various projects which are long term and results on a monthly basis do not change.

Cr Burnheim agreed with Cr Schieb and also referred to the Community Services report – the General Manager asked what Council wanted – noting the community services department provides a progress report bi-monthly. It was agreed that more detail and movement on issues be provided. Cr Schieb also suggested that more information be provided to the local press.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

0914 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Burnheim that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

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13.1 MULTICULTURAL POLICIES & SERVICES PROGRAM

0915 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Burnheim and Cullen that Council endorse the Multiculturalism Policy and Multicultural Policies and Services Plan and place the documents on public exhibition for the prescribed period, inviting submissions, prior to formally adopting the policy and plan, taking into consideration any submissions received.

The Director of Community Services said she is happy to supply a progress report to Council every month, if so desired.

At this juncture, 10.38 a.m., the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 11.00 a.m.

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

0916 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

0917 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 May 2014 be noted.

14.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

0918 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the list of investments as 31 May 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.

The Director of Corporate and Urban Services informed Council that the sale of land for overdue rates would be held on Tuesday 24 June 2014. He said it had been advertised and will continue to be up to the date.

The Director said that the June 2014 review would be submitted to the August meeting when Council can determine any changes to its reserves.

14.3 BILL DELANEY PARK – ELECTRIC BARBEQUES

0919 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Cullen that the Director bring a further report to the July meeting, which details prices of new barbeques suitable for location at the Gulargambone pool and main street area and both gas and electric options be included.

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14.4 COONAMBLE POOL – CONDITION REPORT

0920 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council allocate the necessary funding required for the preparation of a Master Plan for the Coonamble Pool, estimated at \$8,000 (GST exclusive), from the operational surplus as at the March review.

Cr. Burnheim requested that ongoing maintenance for the pool be implemented in the Master Plan. The Director advised that heating and enclosing the 25 metre pool is being considered. Cr Burnheim said a lot of heated pools are being closed because they are not viable however he could see value in extending the swimming season.

At this juncture, 11.10 a.m., Cr Keady arrived at the meeting.

14.5 WORKS IN PROGRESS

0921 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the information contained in this section of the report be noted

15.0 REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

0922 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the report by the A/Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

0923 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the information contained in this section of the report be noted.

In response to a question, the A/Director of Engineering Services advised that Nash Street has not been included in this round of street maintenance because it requires significantly more work, as this would be a reconstruction job, not a simple reseal.

(i) Location of Borrow Pits – Crown Lands

0924 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council agree to the two borrow pits for the Coonamble levee upgrade being located on the Warrena Weir Recreation Reserve.

16.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

0925 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

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16.1 HERITAGE ADVISOR

0926 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Webb 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

The Manager of Environmental Services said he has spoken to the managers of the caravan park and requested that the area be cleaned up and the presentation of the facility be improved.

Regarding the new amenities block, the Manager said he is currently drawing up plans, tenders will be called mid-July with building works commencing late July. It was noted that tenders received will be referred to Council for determination.

0927 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the information in this item be noted.

16.3 RANGER'S REPORT – MAY 2014

0928 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the report by the Ranger for the month of May 2014 be noted.

17.0 ADOPTION OF OPERATIONAL PLAN

0929 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council proceed to adopt the Operational Plan as follows:

17.1 OPERATIONAL PLAN

The General Manager informed the meeting that no submissions were received during the public exhibition period.

0930 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb 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.

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

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17.2 ADOPTION OF LEVY OF RATES

0932 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council adopt the making and levying of rates and charges as follows:

(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:

Type of Rate	Cents in \$	Minimum (S548)
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:

(i) Water:

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

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Item	Coonamble (\$)	Gulargambone (\$)	Quambone (\$)
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

(ii) Sewer:

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

Residential:

Town/Village	Annual Domestic Charge (\$)
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

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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.

17.3 ADOPTION OF 2014/2015 ESTIMATES

0933 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen 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:

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

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Crs Burnheim and Keady requested that their names be requested as voting against the above resolution.

18.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

0934 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Webb that the following reports, Item Nos. 18.1 and 18.2 be noted.

18.1 Coonamble Employment Circle Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of Coonamble Employment Circle held on 6 May 2014.

18.2 Coonamble Senior Citizens Association

Minutes of the Coonamble Senior Citizens Meeting held on 20 May 2014.

19.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

0935 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Walker that the report by the Manager – Saleyards & Facilities be received.

Councillors also noted that a new ramp is being constructed at the Saleyards to accommodate larger trucks and provide quicker loading.

20.0 CLOSED SESSION

0936 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with the Local Government Act Section 10A:

2 (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:

(ii) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it"

0937 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

**20.2 URGENT BUSINESS – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
GULARGAMBONE LIBRARY SERVICE**

0938 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that the following item be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

0939 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council resume Open Meeting.

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ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

0940 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council adopt the following recommendation from Closed Session, being Recommendation No. 20.2:

20.2 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST GULARGAMBONE LIBRARY SERVICE

Moved Cr Karanouh **Seconded** Cr Cullen that Council award the operation of the Gulargambone Library Service to Twoeighttwoeight, in accordance with the terms of its submission and fee for service, for a period of three years.

21.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

22.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Schieb:

- Referred to problems in the future regarding existing small blocks that cannot be built on and said Council should endeavour to have its LEP amended so that permission can be given to persons wishing to buy small areas out of town to build a residence. Referred to the Meglo and said Council told purchasers they could build a residence, now it has changed its decision. Referred to the shortage of blocks in town and the opportunity for people to move out onto small rural blocks if the LEP can be amended. The Manager of Environmental Services provided the meeting with an update and said that the amended document has been approved for exhibition and will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days in approximately two weeks. He said that submissions can be made during that time.

0941 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Cullen that Cr Schieb prepare a submission, which will be dealt with when the date for submissions closes and that representatives of the Department of Planning be invited to come to Coonamble to discuss options with Council.

- Referred to insurance costs within the area and asked whether there has been any feedback to Council's enquiry – the General Manager said the Manager of the Insurance Council is planning a road trip and will include Council.

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Cr Cullen:

- Meeting re the inland railway – referred to submission being prepared by Council's Economic Development Manager – the line will be a big advantage for Coonamble and will reduce freight costs. Said the submission will be in support of the line being moved closer to Coonamble.

Cr Burnheim:

- Referred to his enquiries to Sunpower – said it is a feasible option for Shire facilities and he would refer the matter to the Economic Development Committee.

Cr Keady:

- Thanked Council's Grants & Events Officer for organising the Corporate Tent at the rodeo.
- Referred to the attendance of the Coonamble High School representatives at a recent Council meeting and said they left very disillusioned by the attitude of some members. Referred to the information which was provided by the school when requested. Said there are hard workers at the CHS and Council should be trying to assist it by engaging the students. He said regarding the yards at the Common, it would not matter how long it took to build new yards, as the current ones are still serviceable.

The General Manager said as Trustees of the Common, Council's main focus must be on the benefit to Commoners – the GM said there is a time frame on the grant funds and any money not spent within the specified time must be returned. GM said Council will work with the School but in a businesslike partnership.

- Airport – referred to questions asked by Mr David Chadwick in his recent letter and address to Council which were not answered in Council's response. The questions were
 - a) who authorised the NOTAM and
 - b) why was it lifted for two aircraft?

In response the General Manager said that Cr Keady raised both these questions at the last Council meeting and his reply was that the Airport Manager issued the NOTAM and the Airport Manager was the A/Director of Engineering Services.

In response to question b) the A/Director of Engineering Services said the NOTAM was not lifted and reinforced – it was removed at 3.00 p.m. on the day.

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Cr Walker:

- Centrelink – referred to the Agency in Coonamble and said there are no services available – it cannot assist job seekers and is not able to help most people who require service.

0942 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Cullen that Council write to Centrelink requesting that an office be established in Coonamble so that full service to the Community can be provided, or at the very least that additional services be provided by the agency.

A/Director of Engineering Services:

- Referred to Council's request to have water treated for anything that could cause skin problems – results have revealed there is no substance in the water which could be identified with causing skin rashes. She said that if a doctor believes the water is responsible, he/she must notify the Department of Public Health. No such action has ever been taken.

CLOSED SESSION

0943 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with the Local Government Act Section 10A: 2(a) *“personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)”*.

0944 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

0945 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION OF CLOSED SESSION

0946 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that Council adopt the recommendation of Closed Session, being Recommendation No. 20.1, detailed below:

20.1 PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT – GENERAL MANAGER

That Council having conducted a performance appraisal with the General Manager, the General Manager's remuneration be increased with the current CPI amount in accordance with clause 8.3 of the standard contract.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.
These Pages (1/5471 to 20/5491) were confirmed on the NINTH day of JULY 2014 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 11 June 2014.

MAYOR

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