

3 December 2014

The next meeting of **COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL** will be held in the **SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE** on **WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014**, commencing at **12.15 p.m.**

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Yours faithfully
RICK WARREN
General Manager

5. DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

6. DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

7.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 9.05 A.M.

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

There was no member of the public present during public question time.

4.0 APOLOGIES

1168 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that an apology for non attendance be accepted from Cr Bill Burnheim.

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No formal deputations were booked, however arrangements have been made for Ms Isabel McDermott to be present at 10.00 a.m. to receive her Certificate of Australian Citizenship from the Mayor. Family and friends will be accompanying Ms McDermott.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

(i) Ordinary Meeting – 8 October 2014

1169 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 8 October 2014 be confirmed, subject to deletion of the following:

Page 2 “Cr Keady suggested that the Eco Spa be ‘put aside’ and the caravan park be upgraded – Cr Cullen was also of that opinion”.

Business Arising from Ordinary Minutes:**a) Item 10.19 – Castlereagh LAC – MR7515**

In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the General Manager said that no further correspondence has been received from the Command, except that the matter has been referred to the Duty Officer, Inspector Ralph.

b) Minutes on Council's Website

Cr Keady thanked the General Manager for sending the business paper electronically to each Councillor prior to the hard copy being available. He requested that the Minutes and the Business Papers be available on the website from 4.00 p.m. on the Friday following the meeting and 4.00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the meeting respectively. Cr Keady also requested that the date of the next Council meeting be available on the home page and be updated monthly at the same time the minutes are uploaded.

c) Eco Spa Committee Meeting

Cr Keady referred to his request that a meeting of this Committee be convened and wondered whether a date has been set. The General Manager referred to advice received from Crown Lands regarding acquisition of Smith Park and said a report would be tabled later in the meeting.

d) Black Spot Areas

Cr Schieb asked whether there has been any further information forthcoming regarding 'black spot' areas. The General Manager said there is a report on the matter later in the day, however Council has received no advice, except that the Government is looking at where funding will be spent.

e) CCTV Cameras

In response to a question from Cr Walker, the Director of Corporate and Urban Services said an order has been placed for the upgrading of Council's CCTV camera system and Council is waiting on the contractor.

f) Sprinkler System – Sportsground & Smith Park

Councillors noted that the installation contractor was recently in Coonamble to remedy issues with the sprinkler system. The Director said this now finalises the work carried out with grant funds.

1170 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the above matters be noted.

(ii) Extraordinary Meeting – 14 October 2014

1171 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 14 October 2014 be confirmed.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) Joint Organisation – Cr Cullen referred to Fit for the Future requirements and Council's decision to participate in the joint organisation proposal with OROC. The Mayor said that eight councils are involved – others that were in OROC will be part of a Western Regional Council. The Mayor informed the meeting that at a meeting in Dubbo last Wednesday, Council asked specific questions, however it is still not known what "rural councils" will be – the model hopefully will be available from the Office of Local Government in December.

Cr Cullen referred to money being offered by the Government for mergers and wondered whether councils would be able to use those funds at their discretion. The General Manager said he understands there will be some direct money from Treasury, however other offers will be in the form of low interest loans. If any council chooses to 'stand alone' it may not get the opportunity to avail itself of this type of funding, so it may not necessarily be a prudent move.

Mr Warren referred to a recent report by Mr Brian Dollery from the University of New England, who used to work closely with the government, but has now done considerable research post-amalgamations, which provides evidence that bigger councils are costing more.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

1172 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

Business Arising from the Resolution Book Update:

a) Code of Conduct – Policy / Training

The General Manager referred to the Training Policy which has been produced and is presented to this meeting. He said a short training session has been scheduled prior to the December meeting and this will complete this particular requirement following the Code of Conduct investigation.

b) Code of Conduct – Mediation

The General Manager said that he would not be participating in formal mediation as he could see no need for Council to have to meet this expense as the role of a councillor and that of a general manager are clearly laid out in the Local Government Act and in Council's adopted Code of Conduct. Ms Tasker also said she has no problem with Cr Burnheim, however should he wish to participate in mediation, she would be prepared to do so.

1173 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Walker that this item be removed from the Resolution Book.

c) Traffic Signage

The A/Director of Engineering Services informed Council that she has informed Roads & Maritime Services of Council's concerns about traffic signage and the matter will be on the agenda for a Traffic Committee meeting in December.

Cr Cullen and Cr Keady referred to various other areas where, in their opinions, the speed limit should be increased from 50kph to 60kph and they requested that these areas also be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Traffic Committee.

1174 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Schieb that the following areas be listed for consideration and determination at the next meeting of the Traffic Committee:

- From the 50kph zone on the Walgett Road past the Golf Club to Quambone Road turnoff be increased to 60kph..
- From 50kph zone on Baradine Road including the full length of Dubbo Street be 60kph (should this not be acceptable in total, then from 50kph zone on Baradine Road to the intersection of Aberford Street be 60kph).
- Back Combara Road 50kph sign be moved to Searle Avenue (if not practical, then to Effie Durham Drive).

9.0 MAYORAL REPORT & ACTIVITIES UPDATE

1175 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that his report be received and dealt with.

9.1 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Mayor reported to Council the outcomes from the 2014 Local Government NSW Conference which was held in Coffs Harbour in October. Councillors noted that its motion: *“That the LGNSW lobby State and Federal Governments to recognise prolonged drought is a natural disaster and introduce a multi-peril insurance scheme to provide relief under these exceptional circumstances”* was not debated as it was covered by existing provisions.

The report highlighted topics by each of the speakers and referred to a panel session which was facilitated by Ellen Fanning, relating to the “Revitalising Local Government” report, which quickly focused on the “fit for the future” program.

9.2 FUNCTIONS ATTENDED SINCE LAST MEETING

Councillors noted that the Mayor attended three functions since last meeting, being the CWA Annual Conference, the Book Launch at Gulargambone and the Coonamble Shire Business Awards. The Mayor informed Council that he purchased a book *Gulargambone – “As It Was ...” – The History of the Village 1866 – 2013*, which was tabled at the meeting. Cr Karanouh invited Councillors to take the book and read it – he intended to then donate it to the Coonamble Library. The Mayor said the overall winner

of the Business Awards – Gulargambone Caravan Park proprietors – were deserving recipients and should be congratulated on the standard of amenities and service they provide.

1176 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that the Mayor's Report be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS – MAYOR'S REPORT

1177 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Karanouh that the following matter be classified "urgent" and dealt with.

9.3 Office of Local Government Workshop

The Mayor reported that this workshop in Dubbo was convened by the Office of Local Government to design a 'rural council' model that will enable small rural councils to become 'fit for the future'.

1178 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that his report on the Workshop held in Dubbo be noted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

1179 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:

10.1 ROLEY GREEN T6(44330)

1180 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that Council agree to

purchase an additional 12 trees to be planted in Railway Street and advise Mr Green it will pay the cost of \$535.00 for the trees, plus labour and plant hire to plant them, noting this cost will be sourced from the Tree Maintenance vote **AND FURTHER** that planting not take place until Autumn when weather conditions will be more favourable.

10.2 ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL D7(44345)

10.3 GULARGAMBONE CENTRAL SCHOOL D7(44411)

1181 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Cullen that Council agree to contribute \$100 to each of the five schools in the Shire towards prizes for their Presentation of Awards functions.

10.4 COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE R8-10(44425)

1182 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that Council agree to close off Castlereagh Street as requested for the Christmas Party on 11 December 2014 from 5.30 pm until 9.30 pm and provide barricades as in previous years.

10.5 GREG READFORD, "MAFEKIN", COONAMBLE MR7515

The A/Director of Engineering Services provided Councillors with a map of the area, clearly showing the Warren Road out of alignment with the road reserve.

1183 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council proceed to have the area surveyed and legally transfer the sections of land to Mr Readford and Council, noting Council will meet the cost of the survey and the legal expenses to have the matter formalised.

10.6 PRESIDENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW M3-1

1184 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the Mayor be nominated as Council's representative to attend the Christmas Reception on Thursday 4 December 2014 in Sydney.

Section B – Matters for Information Only:

10.7 A/CEO, OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT F2+G5(44355)

Referring to Council's application for a 3% loan interest subsidy under the NSW Government's Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS) Round Three for the LIRS Roads project and saying it was not successful.

10.8 ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES, PARKES C6-13(44294)

Referring to the proposed truck stop near the intersection of the Baradine/Pilliga Roads and advising that Baradine Road is a Regional Road under the management of Council. Pointing out there is no specific funding for Truck Rest Areas on Regional Roads.

10.9 TROY GRANT MP G5-6(44291)

Advising the NSW Government has increased public library funding in the 2014/15 budget to help public libraries better meet the needs of local communities. Stating that under the new Public Libraries Infrastructure Grant program councils will be able to apply for funding to improve accessibility for the broader community. Advising that Council will receive a library subsidy payment of \$25,364 in 2014/2015.

10.10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW D9-1(44312)

Writing regarding a motion Council suggested for consideration at the 2014 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Conference and saying while it covers legitimate concerns and is listed in the business paper the Board has decided that it not be discussed as it is covered by existing policy and/or recent action.

10.11 COONAMBLE RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE D5-4

Thanking Council staff for carrying out maintenance at the Centre in a very professional and workmanlike manner and the Committee is very pleased with the outcome. Also congratulating Council staff on the presentation of the car park at the rear of the Centre – saying travellers and visitors make positive comment about the appearance of the area.

Councillors noted the employees concerned are Kris Parsons, Fred Blattman, Neal Coombes and Michael Quilkey and the message has been conveyed to them.

10.12 CEO, MUSEUMS & GALLERIES OF NSW G6-17(44349)

Advising Council's application for funding to assist the project "Building Assessment – Museum under the Bridge" was not successful as it was not considered as urgent as some of the more pressing conservation and planning needs of the other expressions of interest.

10.13 MARK COULTON MP – FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PARKES D5(44346)

Thanking Council for its letter regarding multi-peril insurance for primary producers and saying he has contacted the Minister for Agriculture on Council's behalf. Stating the Minister is aware of the multi-peril insurance products available and recognises the risk management benefits they offer to farmers.

10.14 OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR A2+G1

Forwarding copy of letter sent to NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Parramatta noting receipt of correspondence to amend ALC13115 to exclude Lots 1 & 2 DP10077892 in accordance with the request. Advising records have been updated and the request forwarded to the Minister for Lands.

Councillors noted this is in connection with Council's application to acquire additional land to extend the Coonamble Waste Depot.

1184 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the information contained in Item Nos 10.7 to 10.14 inclusive be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS - SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE

1185 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the following be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

10.15 CSC EMPLOYEES' OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE D7

1186 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that Council agree to grant its outdoor employees a half-day holiday, from 12 noon on Friday 19 December to hold their Christmas Party at the Coonamble RSL Club and make a contribution of \$500 towards the function.

10.16 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY SHED INC PR2409-1(44462)

1187 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that Council agree to install a security alarm system at the Men's Shed on the condition that the Men's Shed Committee be responsible for meeting ongoing costs.

10.17 KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP I4(44448)

Referring to the Mayor's letter concerning multi-peril insurance for primary producers. Advising that currently this insurance is only being offered to a select group and it needs to grow and it is not offered for stock. Saying he supports the direction of multi-peril insurance and it is a concept that is being investigated in detail at both Federal and State levels.

10.18 THE HON KATRINA HODGKINSON MP D9(44444)

Acknowledging the issues raised by the Mayor in his letter to the Premier, regarding conditions in the local area resulting from the ongoing drought and advising the Regional Assistance Advisory Committee (RAAC) continues to monitor seasonal conditions across the State and provide advice to the NSW Sparing she has requested Mr John Newcombe, Acting General Manager of the NSW Rural Assistance Authority to discuss this matter with Council.

1188 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that the information contained in the above two items be noted.

10.19 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE B13

Providing information on current zone resources, relative to the North West Zone and Bogan District, which was conveyed to the meeting.

1189 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the information provided on current zone resources by the NSW Rural Fire Service be noted.

10.20 GULARGAMBONE PRESCHOOL INC D7(44475)

1190 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Keady that Council agree to contribute \$100 towards the Gulargambone Preschool fundraiser to be held on 12 December 2014.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

1191 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Keady that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The General Manager informed the meeting that the information provided in the business paper is not correct and an updated report would be tabled later in the meeting. The matter was deferred until such time.

At this juncture 9.45 a.m., Cr Walker left the meeting to attend the Presentation of Awards function at the School.

11.2 COUNCILLOR TRAINING POLICY

1191 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council place the Councillor Training Policy on public exhibition for the prescribed 28 day period, inviting submissions from the public, before formally adopting the policy.

11.3 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF OFFICE – CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD

1192 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council agree to close the Office at c.o.b. Wednesday 24 December 2014 and re-open on Monday 5 January 2015 and staff use leave provisions for the four days not covered by public holidays.

11.4 COONAMBLE SES BUILDING

The General Manager explained that Council has an obligation to provide suitable training facilities, storage space and office accommodation to enable the local SES controller to exercise his/her functions. Council also noted that it is not in a financial position to construct a new facility, which is estimated to cost \$300,000. Cr Keady suggested that Council may be able to target grant funds to assist this project.

1193 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that Council:

- (a) note the report and its relevant obligations under s17 of the State Emergency Services Act 1989;
- (b) consider the refurbishment/replacement of the current SES building in conjunction with the 2015/2016 estimates process;

11.5 FIT FOR THE FUTURE - FACILITATOR PANEL & TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL

Discussion on this item touched on how a facilitator would assist Council in addressing the recommendations of the panel and the options Council has in preparing to be “fit for the future”. The General Manager informed the meeting that the engagement of a facilitator would be funded but to what extent had not been determined at this stage.

1194 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Schieb that Council note the information relating to the Facilitators Panel and the proposed Technical Expert Panel.

11.6 SALE OF PROPERTY – CNR CASTLEREAGH AND TOOLOON STREETS

1195 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council :

- (a) accept the negotiated price of \$150,000 for the property on the corner of Castlereagh Street and Tooloon Street;
- (b) put into effect the transfer of the property to the purchaser
- (c) authorise the affixing of the Seal to relevant documents.

11.7 FIT FOR THE FUTURE – NEWSLETTER 3

1196 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council note the Office of Local Government (OLG) has provided templates for councils in regard to voluntary merges and for Council improvement proposals and that guidelines for rural councils are expected by December 2014

At this juncture, 10.15 a.m., the Mayor welcomed Ms Isabel McDermott, her family and friends, to the meeting.

Naturalisation Ceremony – Ms Isabel McDermott

The meeting was adjourned while the Mayor carried out the short ceremony to present Ms McDermott with her Certificate of Australian Citizenship, following which she was invited to join Council and senior staff at morning tea. The meeting resumed at 10.58 a.m.

11.8 RESCISSION MOTION

A Notice of Rescission, signed by Crs Webb, Burnheim and Walker, has been received to rescind the following motion – Minute No 1099 of 10 September 2014 :

DISH DRAIN – DUBBO STREET

“RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Schieb that Council improve the dish drain at an estimated cost of \$60,000 and install additional signage and that funding be provided from the Urban Roads vote”.

1197 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Karanouh that Minute No 1099 of 10 September 2014, detailed above, be rescinded. *Lost, 4 votes against/1 vote in favour*

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Councillors now were provided with the correct information under this item of the General Manager’s report, which was deferred earlier in the day.

1198 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that Council note Development Application No 018/2014 (transportable dwelling – 26 Broad Street) and Complying Development Application No 019/2014 (storage/activity room – 28 Aberford Street) were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This matter was deferred until the Economic Development Manager was in attendance.

11.10 MOBILE BLACK SPOT PROGRAM – OCTOBER 2014

A report was submitted to bring Council up to date on progress of the Federal Government’s Mobile Black Spot Program which will improve coverage along major transport routes, in small communities and in locations prone to experiencing natural disasters, as well as addressing unique mobile coverage problems. Councillors noted that the Government has committed money, but no advice has been received concerning where those funds will be spent.

1199 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Scheib that the information be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS – REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

1200 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Schieb that the following items be classified “urgent” and dealt with.

11.11 INTERNAL AUDIT

1201 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb:

- (1) that Council inform the Chairman of the ARMC that it acknowledges that the Charter states three meetings/year are to be held;

- (2) that Council does not propose to hold a third meeting of the ARMC this financial year;
- (3) that Council defer further meetings of the ARMC until arrangements are made for the employment of an internal auditor and the role of the proposed joint organisations are known.

11.12 SMITH PARK LAND ACQUISITION

Council noted the latest developments in acquiring the Smith Park Reserve. The General Manager informed Councillors that the contract has been signed and the deposit paid. It appears there has been a change in policy by the Crown Lands and the land has been put out to tender. Councillors discussed other implications that may arise and will seek an explanation from the Minister.

1202 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council submit an on-line tender for the land and that a letter be written to the Minister for Natural Resources, Lands and Water, The Hon Kevin Humphries MP, requesting an urgent explanation of the Department's action.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1203 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

1204 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the information contained in the community services progress report be noted.

(i) Coonamble Drug & Alcohol Advisory Group (CDAAG)

Cr Keady asked what has funding been applied for by the Group - the Director replied that the funding will be to employ extra drug and alcohol workers. She said the framework they will work under will have a different approach, coming from the CEO level.

(ii) Coonamble Shire Visitor Guide

Copies of the guide were available at the meeting – Councillors commented on the quality of the booklet which has proved very popular with the general public and visitors.

12.2 ANNUAL REPORT – 2013/2014

1205 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the Director's report summarising the annual report for 2013/2014, a copy of which was forwarded to the Office of Local Government on 7 November 2014, be noted.

The Director of Community Services drew Council's attention a copy of the Annual Report which was available at the meeting.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

1206 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

1207 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 October 2014 be noted.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

1208 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the list of investments as 31 October 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.

At this juncture, 11.20 a.m., Councillor Walker returned to the meeting.

13.3 2014/2015 SWIMMING SEASON – ALTERATIONS TO ADMISSION FEE STRUCTURE

The Director submitted this report in response to a request at the October meeting to outline options to again waive/subsidise the admission fee for school aged children during school holiday periods.

1209 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council agree to provide free admission to its pools for school children under the age of 18 years during school holidays and funding be provided from the Development fund **AND FURTHER** that there be no refund on season tickets purchased.

13.4 FINANCIAL REPORTS & AUDITOR'S REPORT – YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

1210 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council note the presentation and tabling of its Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2014.

13.5 INVESTMENT POLICY – ANNUAL REVIEW

At the last meeting a question was raised regarding Council's Investment Policy and whether it was, from time to time, reviewed. The Director has addressed this in his report and a copy of the Policy was included with each Councillor's business paper

1211 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council note Council's Investment Policy which was tabled at the meeting.

13.6 WORKS IN PROGRESS

1212 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the update of works in progress be noted.

14.0 REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

1213 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the report by the A/Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 ROADS TO RECOVERY ALLOCATION

1214 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council allocate \$325,000 from the 2014/2015 R2R and also \$325,000 from the 2015/2016 R2R to regional roads for the following works program:

MR129B	Baradine Rd Reconstruction	\$ 96,000	
MR383	Pilliga Rd Reconstruction	\$496,000	
MR7515	Warren Rd Shoulder Widening	<u>\$282,000</u>	
			<u>\$874,000</u>

Note: the balance of the works to be funded from Block Grant:

SR2	Tooraweenah Rd Reconstruction	\$201,300	
SR86	Carinda Rd Shoulder Widening	\$216,916	
SR86	Carinda Rd Reconstruction	\$189,800	
SR87	Box Ridge Road Reconstruction	<u>\$699,900</u>	\$1,307,916

14.2 WORKS IN PROGRESS

1215 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the works in progress report supplied by the A/Director of Engineering Services be noted.

15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

1216 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2014

1217 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the report provided by the Ranger for the month of October 2014 be noted.

16.0 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

1218 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council:

- (1) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents;
- (2) note that, in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
- (3) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 30 September 2014.

At this juncture, 11.45 a.m., the Economic Development Manager arrived at the meeting.

17.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

1219 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Keady that the following minutes be received:

17.1 Coonamble Employment Circle Meeting - minutes of meeting held on 14 October 2014.

1220 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Cullen that the minutes of the Coonamble Employment Circle meeting be noted.

Council noted the error in the business paper, where the above minutes were duplicated. The correct minutes were available at the meeting for Council to peruse.

17.2 Coonamble Employment Circle Meeting – *minutes of meeting held on 9 September 2014.*

1221 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the minutes of the Coonamble Employment Circle meeting be noted.

11.9 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Council now dealt with the Economic Development report which was referred earlier in the day.

1222 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the information contained in the Economic Development report (Item 11.9 of the General Manager's report) be noted.

a) Economic Development Committee meeting – The EDM advised that a meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday evening, 18 November.

18.0 SALEYARDS REPORT

1223 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Cullen that the Saleyards report be received and noted.

(i) Ramp at Saleyards

Cr Keady asked whether the ramp at the Saleyards was in place – the A/Director advised there are still ancillary works outstanding to complete the installation, but the ramp itself is in place.

(ii) Meeting of Saleyards Committee

Councillors agreed that a meeting of the Saleyards Management Committee be convened early in 2015. Cr Cullen said Council should promote the yards with growers in an endeavour to increase patronage.

20.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

21.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Schieb:

- Suggested that "Drop Dust" signage be considered to remind drivers to drop dust before entering the residential area. The A/Director of Engineering Services said that GrainCorp and the contractors working on the levee upgrade have been requested to keep dust to a minimum.
- Caravan Parking – again referred to premises in Tooloon Street, behind Sommo's shop, which could be purchased by Council to increase the access to the parking area for caravans. Saying

additional “advance warning” signs should be installed to give travellers/tourists guidance for parking of vans.

Cr Keady:

- Septic systems in Nebea Street failing – enquired whether Council intends to extend the sewer to that area. The A/Director of Engineering Services said sewer would not be extended due to issues with gravity – she said that septic systems are the responsibility of the householders. It was suggested that residents in the area write to Council and it will investigate their concerns and, if possible, do something to alleviate problems.

Cr Walker:

- Requested that Council lobby for a Mental Health Counsellor – said that the Health Council wants to bring suicide awareness to the public. It was suggested that Cr Walker request the Health Council to liaise with Council’s Director of Community Services.

General Manager:

- Thanked Kookie Atkins for her magnificent effort in the role of A/Director of Engineering Services, saying he hoped she would support Mr Chudek, our new Director, in the same manner.
- Referred to his recent visit to Campbelltown for the annual Fisher’s Ghost Festival and Art Exhibition. Informed the meeting that the pictures donated by Mr Neville Owen were presented to the Mayor of Campbelltown and the reciprocal gift was the didgeridoo which was on display at the meeting.

Mayor:

- Reported that water pressure in King Street is very low. The A/Director of Engineering Services said she would investigate.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.40 p.m.

These Pages (1/5569 to 17/5585) were confirmed on the TENTH day of DECEMBER 2014 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 12 NOVEMBER 2014.

MAYOR

8. RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 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:

Contract signed by Council and returned to Solicitor on 24 October 2014. Further, tender to purchase has been submitted following Government change of process.

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:

Office of the Registrar has advised that information has been forwarded to the Minister for Lands for his review and appropriate action regarding acquisition of the land. The Office of Local Government has been advised accordingly. Discussions being held with the Local Land Council on Friday 5 December 2014.

90kph TRAFFIC SIGNAGE

1048 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Cullen that Council request the Traffic Committee to revisit speed limits within the urban area of Coonamble and consider moving the 90kph signage closer to the town on the northern and southern approaches to Coonamble.

Status:

Will be referred to the next meeting of the traffic committee – meeting convened for Tuesday 3 December 2014.

**MRS N GREEN, MR TED FERNANDO, MRS N BARRETT & IAN BROWN
ST6+R8-11**

1128 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Keady that Council agree to discuss this proposal on site with the four parties concerned and that both Crs Karanouh and Keady will also attend.

Status:

Meeting held – Mayor and staff met with complainants – outcome inconclusive. Council’s current resolution, unless rescinded, is to close the end of Floyd Street.

8.2 RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED**CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

Status:

Refer Minute No 1173 of 12 November 2014. REMOVE/COMPLETED

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:

RMS has no additional funding available outside normal Block Grants. COMPLETED

9. MAYORAL REPORT

COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014

9.1 .COUNTRY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW

On Friday 14 November 2014 I attended the Country Mayors' Association AGM and its ordinary meeting for November. At the AGM I was nominated and elected to the Executive of the Association.

Policing was an item debated at length and the Eyewatch Program was discussed – this is a Facebook communication platform where police have interaction with the community via Facebook. Our Local Command facebook page can be found at www.facebook.com/CastlereaghLAC Councillors may wish to look at the information available on this site.

Sentencing of offenders was also raised and, in particular, the Graffiti Control Act 2008, section 9, which allows a court to make an order requiring the offender to perform community clean-up work to satisfy the amount of the fine. It would be appropriate for magistrates to consider this type of activity for young offenders – to make a contribution to their community in some way.

Discussion was also held regarding the usefulness of CCTV systems in addressing anti social behaviour. As our system is an old technology I have written to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services seeking funding for an upgrade or replacement of the system.

9.2 OROC AND LOWER MACQUARIE WATER USERS' ALLIANCE BOARD MEETING

On Thursday 20 November I attended the Lower Macquarie Water Users' Alliance Board Meeting at Dubbo City Council Conference Rooms.

The next day the AGM of OROC was held and, at this meeting, Cr Bill McAnally (Narromine) was returned as Chair of the organisation and myself and Cr Andrew Lewis (Bourke) were elected deputy chairpersons. The ordinary meeting of OROC followed the AGM. Both documents are available on the table for Council information.

Recommendation:
That Item Nos 9.1 and 9.2 above be noted.

9.3 SELECTION OF AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD WINNERS

I would like to propose that Council choose the Australia Day award winners next year. While this is normally undertaken by a community committee, I believe Council is in the best position to make assessments on various nominations received.

Recommendation:**That the Australia Day award winners be determined by Council**

AHMAD (Allan) KARANOUH
Mayor

10. PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:

10.1 COONAMBLE CLAY TARGET CLUB D7(44492)

Thanking Council for past support and advising its annual Open Shoot will be held on 11 and 12 April 2015. Seeking a donation towards the event saying that any contribution will be greatly appreciated.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council has contributed to this event previously and in 2013 donated \$120. The Gold Grain Shoot was held earlier in 2014 and Council donated \$100. As well as these contributions, Council paid \$2,000 towards the cost of quarry products for improvements to the Club amenities).

Recommendation:
For Council's determination.

10.2 COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT INC S5(44487)

Forwarding a Tax Invoice from HJ & A Wiatkowski amounting to \$2,445.30 for replacement of lights on announcer's stand and cattle chutes and replacement of globes on pole lights at the Showground. Advising the amount has been paid by the Club but members feel "these particular issues would fall under the responsibility of the Shire...." Saying Council's support is appreciated and reimbursement of the amount would be appreciated.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council was not consulted prior to these works being carried out and no quotes were provided. The work was carried out prior to the rodeo during which time Council was negotiating support to be provided to the event. This issued was never raised during that time. It should be noted that Council provided \$15,879.37 support in cash and in kind).

Recommendation:
That Council advise the Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft Committee that it will not reimburse the account and any requests for work at the Showground should be made through the appropriate channels.

10.3 COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT INC S5(44488)

Providing a list of “practical improvements” to the Showground, in accordance with Council’s request and advising its members are not in favour of covering the existing arena. Listing the following specific items:

- Rodeo arena to be turned around
- Toilet and shower block
- Campdraft arena surface
- Campdraft arena fence
- More power and water outlets
- Stables at northern end.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Mr Len Scott, President of the Committee, has advised he will address Council on this matter. Tentative arrangements have been made for him to attend at 2.00 p.m.).

Recommendation:

That Council note Mr Scott’s intention to address the meeting to discuss the issues raised in the letter.

10.4 ROTARY CLUB OF COONAMBLE D7

Advising it will be promoting a Christmas lights competition with prizes for the best individual premises, best community group and best business house light display. Seeking Council’s support in sponsoring the best business house display section.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – It would appear that Rotary has not requested sponsorship from Council for the Christmas Lights Competition previously.)

Recommendation:

For Council’s determination.

10.5 TWO EIGHT TWO EIGHT D7(44542)

Writing on behalf of the 2015 Dinner Under the Stars Committee, which is the major fundraising event for two eight two eight. Stating the event will be held on Saturday 28 February 2015 and extending an invitation to all. Pointing out that two eight two eight has a new project for next year – taking on another student trainee and it focuses on fundraising to help with training costs for Grant Milgate, the new trainee. Stating there are many ways in which Council can become involved and asking if it would consider supporting the Dinner Under the Stars and the trainee program. Enclosing a list of “Cash and In Kind Sponsorships” which are Gold \$1,500+; Silver \$1,000+, Bronze \$500+, Twilight \$250+ and Star under \$250.

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

**10.6 DAVID & BERNADETTE FRAZIER, GULARGAMBONE
CARAVAN PARK S13-2(44510)**

Advising that currently they have several guests who are staying for longer periods and with the hot weather wish to enjoy the pool, however are finding that it costs \$8 per day per couple or \$48 per week. Asking if it is possible that a pensioner and/or weekly rate be made. Advising that the park is one of the cheapest in the State which, in turn, encourages guests to stay longer and hoping Council will consider applying a pensioner/weekly rate for their guests to attend the pool.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Sections 405 and 705 of the Local Government Act requires Council to advertise fees and charges prior to adoption. Alternatively, Council can reimburse the charge from its development fund).

**Recommendation:
For Council's determination**

10.7 COONAMBLE RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE T6

Advising there is an increasing number of visitors, as well as locals, making use of the car park at the rear of the RTC. Pointing out positive feedback is often received about the presentation of the area, however lack of shade is a concern. Asking Council to consider planting some well established trees in the area.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Should Council decide to plant trees in this area, it would be appropriate to undertake this activity in Autumn or Spring, not in the summer season).

**Recommendation:
That Council resolve to plant trees in the car park at the appropriate climatic time and advise the Coonamble RTC accordingly.**

10.8 GAB COONAMBLE ACTION GROUP

Saying that in March this year 96.35% of Coonamble Shire was declared a "Gasfield-free Community" – and the culmination is that the group would like to erect signs declaring our district a "NO CSG" region. Asking Council's permission to erect signs on major roads at the entry to the Shire, stating that the design of the sign has been approved and is shown below:



Advising the signs are to be made of 1200mm x 2400mm x 3mm yellow composite aluminium sheeting and would be tech screwed onto 25mm x 25mm x 2.0mm tubing. Asking to erect them on the main entry roads into Coonamble Shire and also on the four main roads at the entry to town, viz at the shire boundaries of Warren, Dubbo, Wagett, Baradine, Pilliga, Tooraweenah, Quambone and Carinda Roads and one at the entry to town on each of the Dubbo, Baradine and Walgett Roads – 11 signs in all.

Asking if Council would assist with the erection of the signs. Saying the Coonamble community has contributed through its memberships and donations to the GAB Coonamble Action Group and made it possible to purchase the signs.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – The writer has been requested to contact the Manager – Environmental Services with details, map, etc. The Manager will advise the process, noting that a development application will need to be completed and submitted prior to the erection of the signs).

Recommendation:

That Council agree to the placement of signs as stated in the letter and to assist with erection following approval of the development application.

10.9 COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC D7

Advising the Show committee has agreed to support a group of local people to run a Stockman's Challenge in Coonamble and they have been incorporated into a sub-committee of the Show Society. Saying the event will be run separate from the show and held on 21 and 22 March 2015. Explaining that a stockman's challenge is an event where horse and rider compete in a "dry" section and a cattle work section, with the score of both sections being combined to give the overall score. Stating that a campdraft will also be run as part of the weekend activities. Providing information about the Australian Stockman's Challenge Association with which the local Stockman's Challenge is affiliated.

Asking Council to assist in the inaugural year with seed funding of \$2,500 and waiving the showground hire deposit which will allow effective promotion of the event, which will increase participation and cover some of the upfront costs.

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

10.10 COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL D7(44563)

Informing Council that the Coonamble High School Agriculture has received a grant of \$9,960 towards the construction of a hay/machinery shed on the King Street farm. Advising students will work with industry mentors to undertake erection of the shed as their major project in HSC Construction. Pointing out the shed will house machinery, equipment and feed materials and will enhance the efficient delivery and management of agriculture programs for the students. Stating that, unfortunately, the grant does not cover site preparation and seeking Council's support in the supply and construction of a gravel pad for the shed and its entrance. Saying that as the shed (and particularly the entrance) will be on low, black soil, this will be vitally important to the shed's construction and utilisation. Pointing out the shed will be just under 100 sq.metres and the area required for entries/exits would be double that again, coming to about 300 sq.metres, all raised by 30cm on average. Estimating that approximately 100 cubic metres of gravel. Saying the School plans to begin construction in February next year and hoping the pad can be done by end of January.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council does not have ready access to gravel and it would be anticipated crusher dust will suffice. Cost for 100 cubic metres is \$1,180, transport to the school by road train \$905; work-up with grader – one day - \$1,176 = Total of \$3,261. Schools are the responsibility of the State Government – in the 2012/2013 financial year Coonamble Shire absorbed \$567,275 of cost-shifting from the State Government.)

**Recommendation:
That Council inform the Coonamble High School that it can provide for the requested works on a fee for service basis – current estimate \$3,261.**

10.11 COONAMBLE ARTS ALIVE D7

Saying the Coonamble ceramics collective began in 2011 as a sub group of Coonamble Arts Alive and is now conducting workshops, excursions, contributions to local exhibits and participates in festivals and markets. Advising it recently opened a new facility, the Talent Scouts Arts Studio which is use for ceramics as well as by other community art organisations. Saying the facility is run by volunteers, with establishment costs donated by some of the original members and various community organisations.

Pointing out it secured a second-hand kiln to start off, however it is beginning to fail, proving unreliable and costly. Saying that in 2013 Council contributed towards the installation of an air conditioner for the studio and this work was completed in April. Saying that the cost of a new kiln (delivered and installed) is \$16,500 and the group is seeking a contribution from Council towards the purchase to ensure that Coonamble continues to reap the benefits of a wonderful art facility.

**Recommendation:
For Council's determination**

Section B – Matters for Information Only:**10.12 MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PAUL TOOLE MP**

In a media release, advising that the five successful Joint Organisation pilots to be rolled out across the State, as part of the NSW Liberal & national's Government's fit for the Future reforms are:

- Central West
- Hunter
- Illawarra
- Namoi
- Riverina

10.13 PRESIDENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10(44497)

Saying LGNSW does a lot of work behind the scenes on behalf of local government and their communities. Providing an update on current issues, bills, regulations and reforms facing the NSW local government sector in which it has been working. Saying LGNSW has been endeavouring to secure changes to the Local Government Amendment (Red Tape Reduction) Bill 2014 on two main issues:

- Delegation of tendering
- Advertising of senior positions.

Further advising LGNSW has been conveying reservations about the provision for exclusive postal voting in NSW council elections, inconsistencies between the Bill and the Fit for the Future program and the potential for cost-shifting. Saying while there has been much discussion there remains a lack of any real clarity about the 'rural council model' and it will be consulting further to ensure that rural councils get a say on the governance structure proposed for them.

**10.14 THE HON PETER DUTTON MP –MINISTER FOR HEALTH
L3-1(44481)**

Thanking Council for its correspondence supporting the establishment of the Murray Darling Medical School. Saying any decision regarding the significant investment represented by a new medical school will have to be very carefully considered, particularly in the current environment of fiscal restraint and competition for available funds. Pointing out that the decision to allocate Commonwealth-supported medical places to a new medical school is ultimately one for the Minister for Education, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP.

10.15 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE B13(44415)

Advising that the Minister for Police & Emergency Services has recently approved allocations for the 2014/2015 Rural Fire Fighting Fund. Advising Council of its commitment for this financial year. **APPENDIX A**

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council's contribution for the 2014/2015 financial year is \$84,515).

10.16	OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT	L10-1
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Circular announcing Joint Organisation Pilots – saying the Minister for Local Government has announced the regional groupings of councils that will assist the NSW Government to pilot Joint Organisations. Advising the five groups of councils that will pilot Joint Organisations throughout 2015 are the Central West, Hunter, Illawarra, Namoi and Riverina regions. Pointing out that all councils outside of Greater Sydney will be a member of a Joint Organisation from September 2016. Stating that 11 applications, covering 14 regions, were received and given the strong interest in participating in a pilot expressed by councils the Government will consider the possibility of initiating further pilots prior to the proposed State-wide roll out in 2016. Saying further information about Joint Organisations and the pilot process is available in the publication, *Joint Organisations: A roadmap for intergovernmental collaboration in NSW*, available at www.fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au

10.17	DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES – OFFICE OF WATER W1-5(44504)
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Referring to the letter from the Mayor regarding shortage of water in the Castlereagh River and advising NSW Office of Water has a key role in the sustainable management of water resources in NSW and in regulating access to water. Saying the information supplied has been registered and is being assessed by water compliance officers. Stating an investigating officer may make contact if further information is required, however due to privacy requirements it may not be possible to provide any specific feedback on investigations or enforcement actions. Pointing out that ensuring compliance with water legislation is an essential component in the sustainable management of water resources and the Office values any information that may help stop illegal water related activities.

10.18	PRESIDENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW D9(44517)
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Advising that it has met with the NSW Premier to discuss a number of significant issues impacting local government, including the Productivity Commission's recommendations to reduce Natural Disaster Funding by the Australian Government. Saying whilst it's important for councils to implement mitigation measures, reducing necessary funding to communities hardest hit by natural disasters is not the way to go. Pointing out that as extreme weather events appear to be increasing, it is pleasing that the Premier shared its concerns about the proposed reduction in funding.

Saying there was also a very useful discussion on *Fit for the Future* and where rate pegging and rate exemptions sit within a new financial model for Local Government. Saying he reiterated the long held position that councils' finances would improve if these two rating issues were addressed. Saying that in regard to local government reform, governance models are the focus for the Office of Local Government with the first workshop on the Joint Organisation pilots held on Monday and attended by LGNSW. Saying that while the JO model is yet to be formally determined, they will act as the first point of contact for government business and be responsible for strategic planning and regional advocacy.

Pointing out the Office of Local Government is working on developing the Rural Council Model/s and associated templates which will likely be ready by end of the year. Saying Councils in the Far West of NSW and LGNSW will be at the forum to discuss options for their governance model being held in Cobar on Tuesday 2 December. Advising he has requested a timeline of key milestones for the reform package and its roll-out which the OLG has agreed to provide.

Advising that at the LGNSW annual conference last month a number of motions were carried over to the Board meeting – saying these have been dealt with and a Record of Decisions will soon be available on the website. Finally, welcoming Cr Lesley Furneaux-Cook to the LGNSW Board – saying Cr Furneaux-Cook will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table.

10.19	COUNTRY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW	M3
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Forwarding, for information, copies of minutes of the Country Mayors' Association Meeting held in the Country Embassy, Sydney on 14 November 2014. Also forwarding copy of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held following the Ordinary Meeting on 14 November. **APPENDIX B**

10.20	GULARGAMBONE AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB INC	L3
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Advising that it had a very successful carnival on Saturday 15 November, along with 42 deg heat and wind. Saying it was only 30 competitors down from last year which, considering the change of date and weather, the Club was very pleased. Thanking Council for allowing it to retain the gate takings and conveying appreciation for the maintenance and presentation of the pool and grounds. Thanking Council for its support and wishing Council well for the festive season.

10.21 MR VICTOR WALMSLEY, CAMMERAY NSW S13

Asking whether Council has any clothing optional recreational areas in Gulargambone, saying from his observation of the website, it appears that Council does not even allow unclad use of the pool. Advising he is an old age pensioner and thinking of buying a house in Gulargambone, but he says he has been told that there may not be any public clothing optional areas in the country. Saying he likes to occasionally go to one of the clothing optional beaches or pools in Sydney.

Pointing out that although Australia is a long way from Europe where a more liberal attitude to public nudity exists, but saying he really thinks Australia should try to catch up to EU standards in the provision of quality clothing optional recreational facilities. Stating there are many wonderful public clothing optional facilities in many countries around the world.

Saying if it is the case that Council, at present, does not have any official or informal clothing optional recreational facilities, would it be prepared to introduce clothing optional recreation areas.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Mr Walmsley's is the first enquiry Council has received on this issue however, in moving forward and looking towards the establishment of the eco spa, now may be an opportune time to develop a policy on unclad recreational areas, especially if such facilities will encourage people who want to live as close as possible to nature to come to our Shire)

10.22 THE HON BARNABY JOYCE MP D5(44540)

Referring to the letter from the Mayor concerning multi peril crop insurance for producers affected by drought and other natural disasters. Advising that in 2012 the National Rural Advisory Council (NRAC) released an independent report noting that beyond insurance for 'named perils' such as hail or fire damage, Australian farmers have little experience with agricultural insurance products. Saying NRAC provided several recommendations in relation to the broader application of multi peril crop insurance.

Advising that since the release of NRAC's report a multi peril crop insurance product has been launched by Latevo International and, as this is a new product, there is limited data to give a clear indication of its long term commercial viability, although there have been positive accounts from farmers who have purchased the product. Pointing out the Australian Government is strongly committed to a vibrant, innovative and competitive agriculture industry and that is why it is developing the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper. Saying he recently released the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper for consultation and this is a key step in the development of a final White Paper. Saying it outlines fresh ideas on a range of vitally important issues for the future, including infrastructure, drought support, trade and finance.

Saying the Green Paper outlines how insurance is one of the most efficient risk management tools, provided insurance markets are competitive and well developed. Pointing out that a key policy idea, championed by stakeholders through consultation and outlined in the Green Paper, is the encouragement of the availability of commercial multi peril crop insurance as a key part of farmers' ability to prepare for drought.

10.23	THE HON KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP	W1-17(443538)
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Thanking the Mayor for his letter concerning the pumping of water from the Castlereagh River. Advising the Castlereagh River is an unregulated river system and the reach of the river between Gilgandra and Coonamble is subject to the water sharing rules of the Castlereagh (below Binnaway) Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources Water Sharing Plan (the WSP). Saying that with the extensive in river sand beds along this reach of the river, flows are highly variable and large sections of the sandy river bed are often dry. The WSP access rules provide for the equitable sharing of the resource.

Saying that although there was a significant rainfall event across the catchment area in mid-August there were minimal inflows into the river systems. Stating that the NSW Office of Water's hydrologist believes that the main reason for this is that the rainfall followed an extended dry period and a natural wetting of the system occurred resulting in reduced overland flow and reduced flow in the river systems overall.

Pointing out the Office of Water has lodged Council's letter as a compliance breach report and will investigate concerns about pumping of river water in breach of the WSP – Council will be consulted during this progress. Further advising he has asked that Ms Lyn Gorham, Senior water Regulation Officer (Projects) NSW Office of Water, be available to discuss the matter further – she may be contacted on 6850 2807.

10.24	AUSTRALIAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACELG) L10-2
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Providing an interim report on *Legal and Governance Models for Shared Services in Local Government*. **APPENDIX C**

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – The consortium is led by the University of Technology, Sydney Centre for Local Government. Professor Sanson, the Independent Panel Chair, is involved with this organisation, particularly the research being undertaken into Local Government Reform. This document may provide Councillors with some background into the thinking behind the concept of a Joint Organisation.)

10.25 CASTLEREAGH LOCAL AREA COMMAND G3-1(44555)

Advising that the next Community Safety Precinct Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16 December in the Council Chamber commencing at 10.30 a.m.

ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS O5

Forwarding minutes of the Board Meeting held in the Central Conference Room, Dubbo City Council, on Friday 21 November 2014. **APPENDIX D.**

RICK WARREN
General Manager
2 December 2014

**11. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014**

**11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER
DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

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

Background:

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

Issues:

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

DA No	Owner	Applicant	Proposed Use	Address of land	Approval Date
NIL					

CDA No	Owner	Applicant	Proposed Use	Address of land	Approval Date
20/14	Patrick Curtis	Owner	Build shed	17 Townsend St. Coonamble	10/11/2014

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 Complying Development Certificate No 020/2014 was approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.2 NORTH WESTERN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
12.2 Maintain and improve the role of our community libraries.*

Background:

Council is a member of the North Western Library Co-operative, an organisation comprising the Shires of Bogan, Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warren, the objective of which is to enhance the library service to each respective Local Government Area.

Issues:

The AGM of the co-operative was held in Coonamble on 30 October 2014. The meeting was attended by Council delegates, Cr Webb and the General Manager.

At the meeting Cr Julian Campbell (Warren Shire) was returned unopposed as the Chairperson; Cr Pauline Serdity (Warren Shire) was returned unopposed as a member of the Executive Committee.

In regard to the 2015/2016 contributions, the committee resolved to increase them by the rate pegging limit when determined by IPART. At present this percentage is not known, but has traditionally been in the range of 2% - 3.5% depending on CPI movements. Council will need to resolve to accept this increase which will amount to around \$1,500 next year – the contribution for 2014/2015 was \$48,160.

A further item requesting additional hours for the technical services library officer's position was referred back to the co-operative librarian at Warren for a detailed report to clarify the additional resource requirements. Once this report is provided Council will be able to consider any increase in contribution for this function.

Sustainability / Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Library Act 1939

Financial Considerations:

Council's contribution for 2015/2016 inclusive of the IPART potential increase is approximately \$50,000.

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

- (1) That Council note the AGM of the North Western Library Co-operative was held on 30 October 2014.**
- (2) That Council note the contribution for the 2015/2016 financial year will be increased in line with the rate pegging increase as determined by IPART.**
- (3) That Council note a further report is to be provided to Council in regard to increased resources for the Technical Services Library Officer's position based at Warren Library.**

11.3 NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET REPORT
--

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
11.1 Maintain local roads maintenance and construction.***

Background:

The Australian Local Government Association launched a report on the state of community roads and infrastructure assets during 2012. At the 2014 National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Tamworth, the ALGA released the 2014 State of Local Road Assets Report provided by Jeff Roorda & Associates – **APPENDIX E.**

Issues

Local government manages more than 80% of the Australian Road Network by length, with an estimated value of \$165 billion, being 670,000 kilometres. The sealed road value is \$117 billion, of which 11% are reported as being in a poor to very poor condition. Of the remaining \$48 billion of unsealed roads, 19% are regarded as being in poor to very poor condition.

Of concern to the Association is the way roads are currently funded, with little alignment between the needs of road users and how funding is made available to Councils. The Association is also calling for an appropriate balance between providing access to local roads for heavy vehicles while still being able to preserve road assets for all users. The Association stated that while the government has stressed that all of the additional revenue raised from the increased fuel excise will go to roads, it will continue to work with all levels of government to ensure some of these funds flow to local road networks.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions: N/A

Financial Considerations: N/A

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council note the release of National State of the Assets Report 2014 in regard to the Local Roads Infrastructure Report 2014, including sealed and unsealed roads, timber and concrete bridges.

11.4 FIT FOR THE FUTURE – TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL GUIDE/MEMBERS
--

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
L1.4.1 Lobby against forced Local Government amalgamations***

Background:

The Office of Local Government recently released details of the Technical Advisory Panel Members and a Technical Advisory Panel Guide. **APPENDIX F.**

Issues:

The panel member details contain information provided to the OLG by the panel members – the OLG takes no responsibility for the accuracy of this information/

Members of the panel may be called upon by local councils, at their own cost, to assist in developing a *Fit for the Future* proposal. This panel is primarily aimed at councils completing the Council Improvement Proposal – i.e. councils that have sufficient scale and capacity showing how they will become *fit for the future* within their existing structure.

The difference between the “Facilitator” funded by the OLG and the Technical Advisory Member is that facilitators are funded to help councils begin discussion with their neighbours about structural change and provide support as they discuss the options and issues. In other words, if you want to consider amalgamation, the OLG will fund a facilitator. The government will provide 50% of the cost of preparing a business case for proposed merges. If councils want to mount a case to continue into the future with its existing structure, council needs to provide funds should it wish to avail itself of a Technical Advisory member.

Should council wish to use the services of a panel member, reduced compliance within procurement requirements is available to employ the services of a consultant outside the scheme requires full compliance with procurement guidelines.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions: N/A

Financial Considerations: N/A

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council note the information provided in both the Technical Advisory Panel Guide and the Technical Advisory Panel Member Details provided by the Office of Local Government.

11.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

PROJECT (Delivery Plan Reference)	ACTIONS	PROGRESS/OUTCOMES
Eco Spa + Caravan Park [EC2.1.7, I2.1.2]	1. Land Acquisition: Received advice 7.11.14 that sale could not proceed. Crown Lands advertising for EOIs to purchase Smith Park Reserve.	1. EOI submitted 27.11.14 to http://tenders.nsw.gov.au .
Support new and existing business [EC 2.1.2] [L1.1.3] [P1.3.3] [EC 2.1.5]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support Business Start-Ups and Expansions: provide information, advocacy and referral. 2. Chamber of Commerce – attended Nov. meeting. 3. Business Awards – helped organise and manage awards night at RSL. 4. Buy Local Campaign – assist with promotion. 5. Inquiries New Residents – respond to online inquiries from prospective residents. 6. Online Business Directory – update business details on www.localinfo.org.au. 7. Small Business Commission – promoted Small Business Bus in Coonamble 7 November. 8. Use of vacant government-owned sites and premises – pursue information re former DPI building and former Ambulance Station. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abattoir: EPA has accepted Environment Management Plan subject to alterations to effluent ponds. DA required. Air Service: initial inquiry received. Consultation process underway. 2. Next Chamber meeting 9th December. 3. Business Awards – 100+ people attended Awards Night Friday 7th November. Winners to be assisted to nominate for NSW Business Chamber Awards 2015. 4. Campaign progressing. Prize draw to be held Thurs 11th December at Christmas Carnivale. 5. 2 new resident inquiries. 6. Business details updated on Online Business Directory. 7. Small Business Commission – local businesses attended Small Business Bus. 8. Awaiting feedback from Property NSW and NSW Ambulance Service Assets Division.
Green Power [I4.1.1]	<p>Clean Energy Forum – attended Forum 12 November at Coonamble Bowling Club. Met with various agencies 13 November to discuss assistance for local initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Energy Management Basics Workshop & Site Assessments for Business 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshops to be funded by Office of Environment & Heritage via Chamber of Commerce. 2. Audits to be funded by Nature Conservation Council via Neighbourhood Centre.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Low Income Household Efficiency Audits 3. Assistance for Primary Producers 4. Local Energy Audit, Pre-Feasibility & Business Case for community renewables project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Energy Innovation 3. assistance available from NSW Farmers Association (not just for members). Opportunity to be promoted through local networks. 4. Coonamble Environment Group submitting application with assistance from Energetics, Wintelboff. Council may wish to partner in this project as a large energy user.
<p>Employment Circle [EC2.1.4, EC3.3.1]]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convened Employment Circle meeting held 18 November. 2. Work for the Dole – 3. Learner Driver Programs – co-ordinate discussions re funding and delivery. 4. Centrelink access and compliance issues – liaise with local agencies and Centrelink management Dubbo. 5. Workforce Planning & Development – 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See Employment Circle meeting notes attached. Next meeting 9th December, 11am. 2. Work for the Dole – no progress this month. 3. Coonamble RTC program underway. EOIs called for 'Drive Your Life' to commence 4. Centrelink Regional Manager yet to attend Employment Circle meeting. 5. Skills audit due for release. To include recommendations for action and further research.
<p>Economic Development Committee [EC2.1.1]</p>	<p>Convened meeting 18 November.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impact of drought – follow up letter to politicians re impact of Drought. Submission to inquiry re the Australia Fund Establishment. Submission to Agriculture Competitiveness Green Paper. 2. Public Art/Tourism project - 	<p>See minutes attached.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letters drafted. Submission to Joint Select Committee for the Australia Fund Establishment 25.11.14. Submission to Agriculture Green Paper in draft format. 2. Sub-committee formed.
<p>Advocacy [EC2.1.5]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Aviation Services Inquiry – 2. Drought – 3. Multi Peril Insurance - 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progressing inquiry for service delivery. 2. See above. 3. See above.
<p>Orana EDO Network [P1.3.3] [EC3.4.5]</p>	<p>Attend EDO Meeting 29 October in Coonabarabran.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Relocation Project – 2. Workforce Planning & Development Project – promoted Workforce Planning Forum to local businesses and employers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BushMedia selected to produce website, brand, marketing collateral to recruit new residents to the region. 2. Forums held in Mudgee, Dubbo, Coonamble – (16th October). 10 people attended Coonamble Forum including 5 local employers and CHS Careers Adviser.

Recommendation:
That Council note the information provided in the Economic Development Report.

11.6 BULLYING AND HARASSMENT IN WORKPLACE POLICY

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program:
L1.4. Encourage and promote a high level of leadership in the
community.
Author: Manager of Human Resources, Amanda Nixon***

Background:

Council has had a Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace Policy since 2007, however it had not been reviewed for quite some time. The policy has now been reviewed and revisions made in line with changes to the Work, Health and Safety Act and Regulation, Codes of Practice and other industrial instruments. **APPENDIX H.**

The aim of the policy is to deal with issues created by workplace bullying and harassment. This policy covers Councillors, members of Council Committees, employees and persons performing work at the direction of, in connection with, or on behalf of the Council (for example contractors, consultants etc.).

Issues:

As the Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace Policy affects Council staff, the document was distributed to the entire workforce for 28 days for feedback in line with Council's Workforce Communication Strategy. Feedback received was incorporated into the document. The policy has also been endorsed for adoption by the Consultative Committee and the Health and Safety Committee.

This policy mainly deals with staff, volunteers, Council committee members and Councillors and is part of the operational policy framework, therefore is it not required to be displayed publicly for comment prior to adoption.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW)
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (NSW)
- Code of Practice: Preventing and Responding to Workplace Bullying
- Local Government (State) Award 2014
- NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977
- NSW Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Federal Racial Discrimination Act 1975
- Federal Sex Discrimination Act 1984
- Age Discrimination Act 2004
- Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW

Financial Considerations: NIL

Options:

1. That Council adopt the Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace Policy
2. That Council not adopt the Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace Policy.

Recommendation:

That Council adopts the Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace Policy, noting it has been approved by the Consultative Committee, Health and Safety Committee and has been distributed to all staff for comment and input

RICK WARREN
General Manager
2 December 2014

12. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

Background:

In line with Council's 2013/14 Operational Plan, this report presents a summary of community services progress and activities for the period November 2014.

Issues:

1. Community Development

1.1 Bang the Table

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – P4.2.1
Provide strategic early intervention community development programs
for children and young people.***

In partnership with Gulargambone Central School and Coonamble High School a Youth Forum took place on 20 November 2014 at Gulargambone Central School. The event involved concurrent workshops for young people and sessions with the entire group. Musicians Making a Difference (MMAD), from Gosford, together with a member of the *Justice Crew* led students through dance routines. Students also recorded a podcast which will be broadcast through National Youth Week in April 2015. Young people also took part in a consultation exercise where they identified current issues for youth in Gulargambone, and made suggestions for possible solutions.

Approximately 50 young people took part in the forum, giving extremely positive feedback about the opportunity to express themselves in a variety of ways and the inspiring nature of the MMAD team.

1.2 White Ribbon Event

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – P2.2.1.
Work with partners to develop programs that assist women and children
to escape from family violence and men to address family violence***

Council supported the White Ribbon Variety Night Event which took place on the 22 November. The event aimed to raise awareness of domestic and family violence in a non-threatening environment. Approximately 100 people attended the event.

1.3 Community well-being initiative

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- P3.1.1 Advocate, support and raise awareness of programs that promote the physical and mental health and well-being of community members.

Council is a member of the Community Well-being Working Group which hosted a mental health information day on the 29th November. Local and specialist speakers provided information about depression, anxiety and associated conditions. Mental health service providers were on hand to supply information. Approximately 100 people attend the event. Unfortunately, due to the keynote speaker being delayed, this number reduced to approximately 50 by the end of the day.

Council staff utilised the day to commence consultation in preparation for ageing population planning

1.4 Gulargambone Women's Group

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- P1.3.1 Support activities/projects that increase community participation and connection.

The Gulargambone Women's group continues to meet fortnightly and is growing in number. The group meets at the Land Council building and is facilitated by Uniting Care Burnside with support from Council staff and Mission Australia.

1.5 After School Activities – Coonamble

Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council Delivery Program – P4.2.1 Provide strategic early intervention community development programs for children and young people

Home Work help and afterschool activities continue at the Coonamble Library with 120 children attending during the reporting period.

Big Screen movie nights continue Friday fortnightly with 10-15 attendees.

1.6 Gulargambone Fun Day

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- P3.1.1 Advocate, support and raise awareness of programs that promote the physical and mental health and well-being of community members.

The Tenant Support and Education Project hosted a community event in Gulargambone on the 27th November. Council staff utilised the day to consult with community in preparation for ageing population

planning. Staff also engaged community around the 2014/15 Operational Plan and 2015 consultation for the next Delivery Program.

2. Coonamble Drug & Alcohol Advisory Group (CDAAG)

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- P2.2.3 Work with community groups to develop local solutions to drug and alcohol related issues.

The decision for Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding applications has been extended with an expected date now being March 2015. Regardless of this, the CDAAG continues to work on developing a Collective Impact approach to drug and alcohol issues.

3. Library

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- I2.2.2 Provide high quality library services that are responsive to community need. I2.2.3 Continue to develop the library as a multi-purpose community space. P4.1.1 Support activities that promote cultural awareness and diversity in ability and age.

- Kitchen refurbishment is complete, currently awaiting furniture to complete the “nook”.
- Commenced planning for Summer Reading Club. The program encourages children to continue reading over the school holidays, maintaining their literacy level over the long holiday period.
- Remembrance Day display on central pyramid. Books about the region around us including Dubbo, Coonabarabran, Castlereagh, Gulargambone and Coonamble.
- Commenced planning for International Day of People with a Disability morning tea and Coonamble Shire Disability Action Plan consultation.
- Hosted North Western Library AGM and celebrated 30 years of the service.
- Weeding of old North Western Regional Library stock is completed. Once the items have been identified, they are removed from the book rotation and will be permanently housed in Coonamble Library.
- External groups utilising the library meeting room space - Family History Society, Writers’ group, Interact Employment Service.
- Submitted grant for upgrade/ purchase of new technology equipment including new public access computers, data projector, drop down screen, child friendly computer/software.

- The Skircle (skills circle) continues with a Christmas theme this month. Craft, conversation and morning tea are enjoyed by the attendees.

Library statistics

Service	Total Issues	New Memberships	WiFi	Internet
Coonamble	994 ↑	9 →	45 ↓	256 ↑
Gulargambone	103 ↓	1 ↑		

Patron assistance	Reference Enquiries	Technology Enquiries	Local History Enquiries
Coonamble	17 ↑	25 ↓	11 ↓

4. Tourism

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – P4.4.2 Assist Coonamble Shire events with marketing and promotion. EC1.1.5 Develop existing visitor markets. EC1.1.6 Participate in Inland Tourism and Great Inland Way initiatives.

- Final Draft of the Great Western Plains Accommodation White Paper released. Report includes an analysis of the gaps and opportunities for accommodation in the region. Central Inland Tourism Cluster are now evaluating the recommendations. A summary of the findings is outlined in the report by the Tourism Development Manager.
- Coonamble Shire accommodation providers were invited to submit packages for consideration in the Great Western Plains guide. Three packages from Coonamble Shire were selected by the publishers (Dubbo City Council) to appear in the guide.
- Commenced branding strategy development for Tourist Drive 3 – a State Highway Tourist Drive from Inverell to Coonamble (includes Bingara and Narrabri).
- Created concept logo designs for the newly formed Coonamble Campdraft Challenge.

Visitor Statistics for Reporting Period (November 2014)

Visitor Numbers	Visitor Type	Visitor Home State	Enquiry Type	Enquiry Details*
120	Retiree 110 Worker 3 Family 5 Backpacker 2	NSW 100 QLD 5 TAS 2 VIC 5 SA 4 WA 4	Local 90 Regional 30	Directions 70 Attractions 50 Eateries 5 Toilets 40 Souvenirs 10 Accommodation 30 *Some visitors had more than 1 enquiry

5. Events

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- P4.1.2. Continue to facilitate Australia Day activities.

- Australia Day organisation continuing. See Grants and Events Officer report.

6. Vacation Care

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program P4.2.1 Provide strategic early intervention community development programs for children and young people.

Re-location of the Vacation Care service from Tooloon Street to the Senior Citizen's Centre took place during the reporting period.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

Nil.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

That Council notes the information contained in the Community Services Progress report.

12.2 GWP ACCOMMODATION WHITE PAPER 2014

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
EC1.1.6 Participate in Inland Tourism and Great Inland Way initiatives.
Author: Tourism Development Manager, Lauren Picone***

Background:

Members of the Central Inland Tourism Cluster, including Dubbo, Warrumbungle, Coonamble, Narromine and Gilgandra LGAs commissioned Tourism & Hospitality Services Australia Pty Ltd (THSA) to produce a report detailing the market gaps and emerging opportunities for accommodation in the Great Western Plains region.

Issues:

The report found that:

- Today's consumers are not travelling to stay in accommodation. They are looking for deeply engaging experiences, events and attractions that are matched with accommodation styles and standards that align with, and provide access to, the activities they have travelled to enjoy.
- The region requires a concerted improvement in the quality of existing accommodation through the refurbishment and renovation of old establishments as well as a greater product offering (e.g. package deals, partnerships with local attractions and tours).
- There is limited demand for greater accommodation capacity across the region (including Coonamble LGA). This is not to say that LGAs shouldn't aim to attract new investment, but be aware that the issue is one of quality, rather than capacity.
- LGAs should be aware that oversupply of accommodation can hurt profit margins for existing and new businesses; LGAs shouldn't falsely stimulate the market and investment incentives shouldn't negatively impact the balance of supply and demand.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

N/A

Options:

The report suggested that a cross LGA approach would be useful in addressing the accommodation quality issue, including the delivery of education and training workshops for existing operators on improving the accommodation offering across the region.

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

12.3 AUSTRALIA DAY 2015 AWARDS

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
P4.1.2.; L2.3.1. Continue to facilitate Australia Day activities.
Author: Grants and Events Officer, Jennie Geerdink***

Background:

Nominations have opened for the 2015 Australia Day awards. Traditionally, the selection panel has comprised the previous year's Citizen of the Year, a youth representative, senior's representative, representative from the Aboriginal community, a member of Council staff and a Councillor.

Issues:

Nominations for the Australia Day awards will close on December 19. The Mayor is traditionally the Council representative on the selection panel for the awards. To facilitate organisation of the selection panel, it is requested that Council nominate an alternate, in the case of unforeseen absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

It is expected the selection panel will convene around Thursday, 15 January, dependent on the availability of selection panel members. This date provides Council staff with the timeframe to be able to ensure all presentation material is prepared in time for Australia Day.

Councillors are reminded that there will be an Australia Day Ambassador again this year; at the time of writing this report announcements had not been made. Dependent on the Ambassador's arrangements a dinner, or some other welcome function, may be organised. An indication of Councillors' intent to attend such a dinner would be appreciated.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations: NIL

Options: N/A

Recommendation:
For Council's determination

LIANNE TASKER

Director of Community Services

1 December 2014

**13. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN
SERVICES**
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

Total Combined Rate Collections to 30/11/2014 compared to 30/11/2013:

	30/11/2014	30/11/2013
Arrears 30 th June previous year	777,517.47	791,468.50
Plus 2013/2014 Combined Levy	5,818,887.26	5,669,908.87
Add Transfer from Postponed	-	-
GROSS LEVY	6,596,404.73	6,461,377.37
Less: Pensioner Concession (State)	(63,205.68)	(61,768.87)
Pensioner Concession (Council)	(51,713.73)	(50,538.17)
Transfer to Postponed	-	-
Abandoned	-	-
NET TOTAL LEVY FOR YEAR	6,481,485.32	6,349,070.33
Less Collections	(2,997,253.26)	(2,670,576.28)
Plus Refunds	-	-
NET TOTAL BALANCE	3,484,232.06	3,678,494.05
Plus Postponed	-	-
GROSS TOTAL BALANCE	3,484,232.06	3,678,494.05
Collection % of Total Receivable	46.24%	43.07%
Arrears % of Total Receivable	53.76%	56.93%

Recommendation:
Submitted for Council's information.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS – NOVEMBER 2014

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	Investment Type/Maturity Date	Current Rate	Term	Amount (\$)
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 12/01/2015	3.45%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 30/12/2014	3.41%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 28/01/2014	3.40%	120 Days	1,000,000.00
St George	A1+	Term Deposit - 17/12/2014	3.50%	91 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 01/09/2014	3.60%	91 Days	1,000,000.00
Reliance C/U	Unrated	Term Deposit - 03/12/2014	3.25%	90 Days	500,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 17/01/2015	3.30%	93 Days	1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 23/12/2014	3.30%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 09/12/2014	3.40%	92 Days	1,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 13/07/2014	3.66%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 15/12/2014	3.39%	90 Days	1,500,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 25/11/2014	3.50%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A3	Business Online Saver - at call	3.00%	N/A	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 25/11/2014	3.50%	92 Days	1,500,000.00
TOTAL					\$ 16,500,000

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	% of Investment	Max per Investment Policy	Amount (\$)
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	9%	50%	1,500,000
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+	27%	35%	4,500,000
Reliance C/U	Unrated	3%	10%	500,000
				\$ 16,500,000

Rating	% of Investment	Policy	Amount
A1+	73%	100%	12,000,000
A1	12%	80%	2,000,000
A2	12%	60%	2,000,000
Unrated	3%	30%	500,000
			\$ 16,500,000
General Fund Investments			10,355,107
Sewerage Investment Fund			3,768,610
Water Investment Fund			2,376,283
			\$ 16,500,000

Recommendation:

That the list of investments as at 30 November 2014 be noted and it also be noted that Council's Investments comply with s625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

13.3 COONAMBLE SALEYARDS – FINANCIAL REVIEW

**Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council’s Delivery Program:
12.3 Share access to local facilities to fully realise the potential of local infrastructure**

Background:

During the November 2014 Council meeting Council discussed the ongoing loss from the operations of the Coonamble Saleyards. As a consequence, a report was requested to be tabled for Council consideration examining the costing of the operations at the saleyards.

The report has been prepared utilising the following parameters;

- Financial Data has been collected for the past 5 financial years (2010-2014)
- Report to be prepared inclusive of all costs associated with the provision of the service, i.e. depreciation

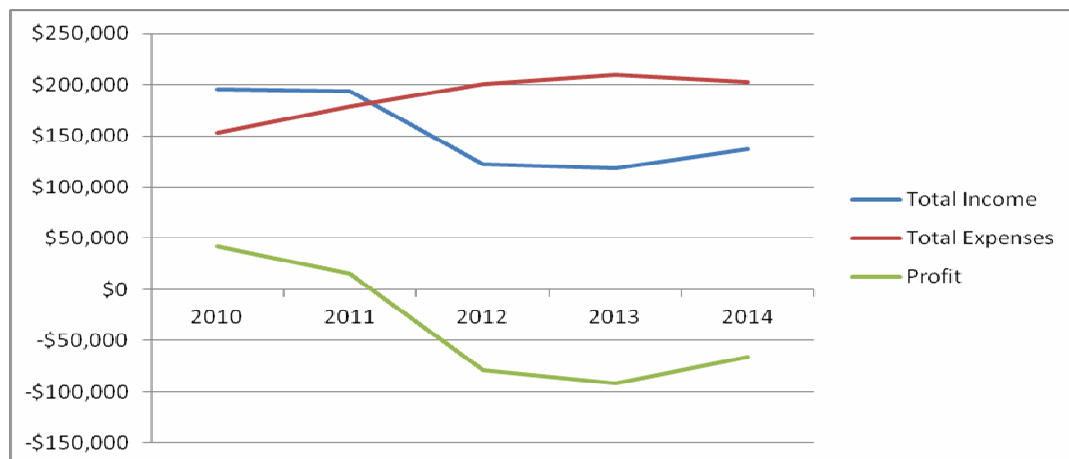
Issues:

(i) Coonamble Saleyards Operational Results 2010 – 2014

Over the past 5 years the Coonamble Saleyards have, on average, returned a loss on operations with an average loss for this period of **-\$35,621.95** per financial year. 2010 and 2011 were exceptions, with both years returning surpluses of \$41,867.89 and \$15,458.02 respectively. Unfortunately, due to a number of contributing factors, the positive results have not been maintained and for the three subsequent years recorded the following losses - **\$78,589.35**, **-\$91,308.34** and **-\$65,537.95** respectively.

The following graph clearly depicts the trend in operating results; Council will note a clear correlation between Total Income and Profit as these lines virtually mirror each other’s movements

Graph 1 – Saleyard Operational results.



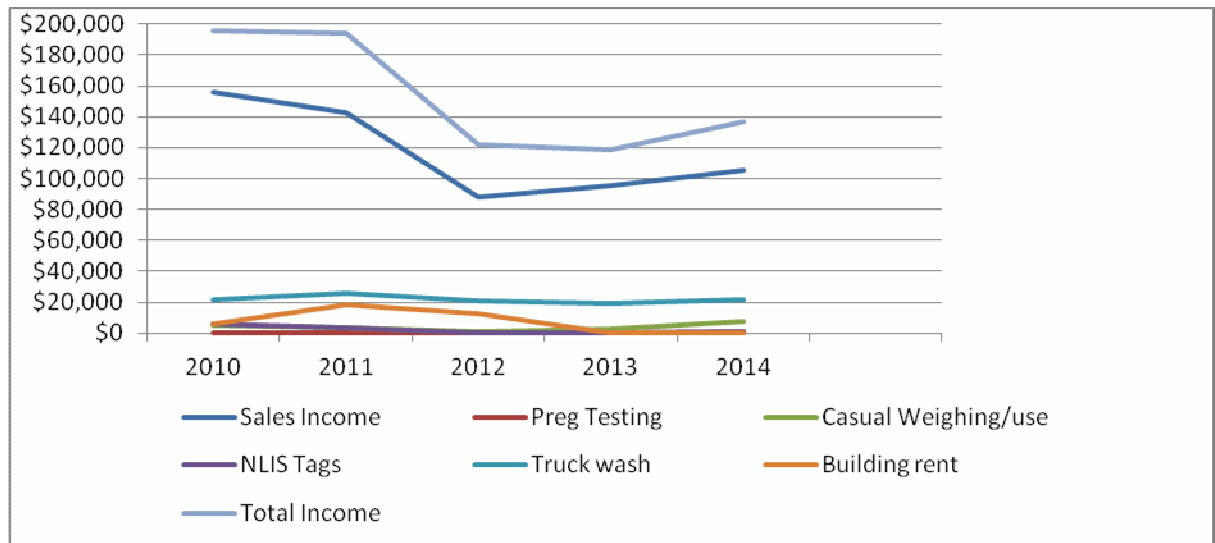
To better understand the factors which are influencing the operational result, it is best to examine the income and expenditure for the saleyards separately and the factors that are contributing to their trends.

(ii) Coonamble Saleyards - Income Stream Trends

As can be seen from the previous graph, the trend for Saleyards revenue has been that of diminishing returns with a slight improvement for the 2014 financial year. On review, total income is at a high of \$195,235.37 for the 2010 financial year, 2011 also displays a similar level of income of \$194,025.23 but for the following three years there is a noticeable decrease in income as it falls to the following levels \$122,251.89 (2012), \$118,657.48 (2013), \$136,707.66 (2014). The average total income for the period of the report is \$153,375.57 with a 29.54% decrease in income over the 5 year period. It should be noted the slight increase in the 2014 income is directly attributable to a slight increase in the numbers of stock being processed through the facility.

To gain a better understanding of the contributing factors that affect saleyards income, it is best to break the total Saleyards income into its various components and examine them on an individual basis. The following graph shows these components as such

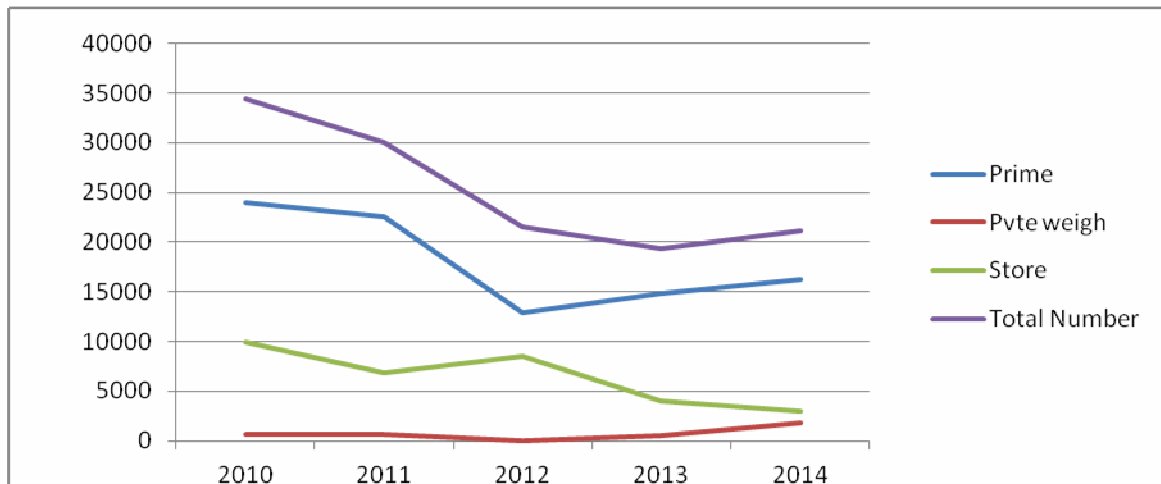
Graph 2 – Saleyard Income.



As can be from the above graph the majority of the income streams remain somewhat constant during the period in question. However, on examination, it is clear that there is a close correlation between the decreases in Sales income and that of the Total Income for the saleyards. This is due to the fact that the bulk of any income is sales. To sustain the saleyards operations there needs to be a dramatic increase in sales revenue

Examining further the decrease in Sales income, this is substantiated by the decrease in the volume of livestock being processed through the Saleyards. In the 2010 and 2011 financial years 34,445 and 30,032 head were respectively processed through the facility, over the last three years however this number has declined to a low of 19,373 in 2013. The average number processed through the facility during the report period was 25,291 for the 5 year period, but if Council were to exclude the 2010 and 2011 financial years this average would fall to 20,659. The following graph best displays the trends as described above.

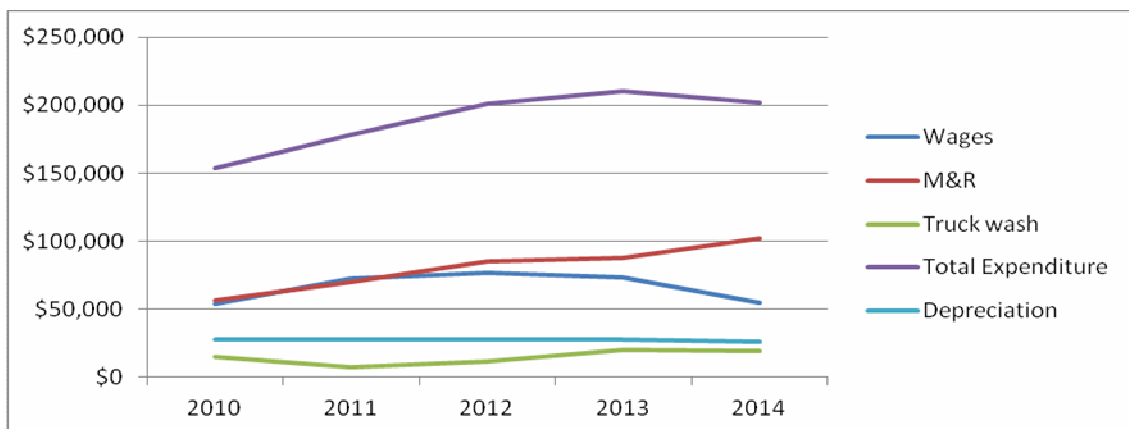
Graph 3 – Saleyard Livestock Throughput.



(iii) Coonamble Saleyards - Expense Stream Trends

Overall Expenditure has increased by 31.87 % over the 5 year period from that of \$153,367 in 2010 to that of \$202,245 in 2014. On reviewing the expenditure trends for the Saleyards for the past 5 years it is again best to break these costs into their individual components and examine the variables that affect the different levels of expenditure. The following graph shows these components as such

Graph 4 – Saleyard Expenses.



On review, Council will note the following trends as displayed in the above graph:

Wages – over the course of the report, commenced with an initial level in 2010 of \$53,720.44 and increased to a high point of \$76,854.54 in 2012 before finishing at a level of \$54,550.63 in 2014 following changes implemented by management to improve efficiency of operations. It is anticipated that Council will experience further savings in this area in 2015 due to further changes implemented by management.

Maintenance & Repairs – Commenced at an initial level of expenditure of \$56,806.03 in 2010 and have steadily increased to \$101,930.62 in 2014. This is due predominately to two major reasons - the first being that the Saleyards is an ageing facility and when, coupled with the nature of its use, places a high degree of wear and tear on the facility therefore requiring more maintenance to ensure the facility remains compliant with all relevant legislation. The other contributing factor is the increase in running costs, such as Insurance premiums and electricity charges that have been increasing at a rate greater than that of the CPI increases.

Truck Wash Expenditure – has remained relatively constant through the course of the reporting period, with an average cost of \$14,886. These are costs associated with the upkeep and maintenance of the facility.

Depreciation – Expense also has remained constant with an average of \$27,424 over the course of the 5 year period

Council should also note that the Sheep yards, while contributing income of \$780.00 to the overall result, have incurred \$29,210 worth of expenses in the overall result of the Saleyards function during the past 5 years.

(iv) Coonamble Saleyards – Ensuring ongoing sustainability

From the information contained above, the main factor affecting the poor financial performance of the Coonamble saleyards over the recent years is the downturn in the number of stock being processed through the yards and the corresponding decrease in sales revenue generated. In modelling carried out by staff in attempt to determine a “breakeven” scenario, it was decided to use the average annual income and expenditure for the past three years multiplied by an increase of 2.3% (CPI) which resulted in the following calculations:

Projected Income Based on 2.3 % increase in charges (CPI adjustment) on average of last 3 yrs	
Sales Income	98,371.51
Preg Testing	460.83
Casual Weighing/use	4,049.03
NLIS Tags	703.36
Truck wash	20,798.02
Building rent	0.00
Total Income	124,382.75
Projected Expenditure based on 2.3% increase (CPI adjustment) on average of last 3 yrs	
Wages	69,997.01
M&R	93,672.75
Truck wash	17,551.51
Depreciation	27,204.00
Total Expenditure	208,425.27
Shortfall in income	-84,042.52
Shortfall as %	67.57%

On the calculations above, should Council wish to pursue the ideal of a “breakeven” point for the Saleyards, the main focus would be on increasing the income stream for the saleyards through either an increase in the throughput of livestock or alternatively an increase in the fees applicable. Copies of these calculations are

Option 1 - Increase Income through increased through put of Livestock through the Facility.				
Average number of Livestock processed through Saleyards (3 yr average)	additional livestock number required to achieve break even point (67.57% increase)	Target number of Livestock to be processed		
20,659	13,959.00	34,618		
Total Increase in Head required				
Option 2 - Increase income through an increase in pricing structure			2014/15	2015/16
			Base Rate	Increase @67.57%
Dues & Rents : Fat / Store				
Dues and Rent : Fat Cattle, Store Cattle	- per head		\$ 4.20	\$ 7.04
Dues and Rent : Special Booking Fee	- Not Refundable		\$ 33.00	\$ 55.30
	- For Unbooked Sales		\$ 76.00	\$ 127.35
NLIS Tag			\$ 8.00	\$ 13.41
Agents Levies : Fat Cattle, Store Cattle - per head			\$ 1.10	\$ 1.84
Scale Fees : Fat Cattle, Store Cattle - per head			\$ 1.50	\$ 2.51
Casual Use/ Weighing :				
Casual Weighing			\$ 4.20	\$ 7.04
Casual Use	- per 100 or part thereof		\$ 38.00	\$ 63.68
	- (Minimum Fee)		\$ 54.00	\$ 90.49
Mouthing Fee per head (to be shared equally by the agents and Council)			\$ 4.00	\$ 6.70
Preg-testing Fee per head			\$ 4.00	\$ 6.70

Whilst it is acknowledged that the saleyards has an economic benefit and flow on effect for the whole of Coonamble shire and, as such, Council may be willing to sustain ongoing minor deficits in the provision of this service, it cannot simply maintain deficits to the degree in which it has over the past three years.

Council will be mindful of the requirements of the being “*Fit for the Future*” and the long term sustainability of Councils. Management has and will continue to implement cost savings measure where possible to help reduce the deficit of the Saleyards.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Local Government Amendment Code of Accounting Practice and Finance Reporting

Financial Considerations: N/A

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

That as part of the 2015/16 management planning cycle Council review the Saleyards function with a view to altering the levels service provided by Council to achieve a breakeven result.

13.4 WORKS IN PROGRESS

Parks & Gardens:

- Works program continues to focus on improving the presentation of Council open spaces. Given the current harsh climatic conditions focus has been on maintenance of the areas.
- The Aerodrome and surrounding grounds have also been subject to an increase level of slashing and maintenance in preparation for the inspection by CASA.

Vandalism Update:

- Quambone Pool was subject to a vandalism attack, with the chemical shed broken into and the fire extinguisher discharged. Structures at the facility were defaced and toiletry supplies thrown into the Pool.
- The Coonamble Pool perimeter fence has been cut on a number occasions.
- Glass door at Council Visitors' information centre was damaged requiring panes to be replaced.
- As reported verbally to the November Council meeting the following Council structures were subject to a significant vandalism attack during the weekend of 9/11/2014, Macdonald Park - entrance gates and toilets, Smith Park, Skate Park, plus the exterior of the canteen/amenities building as well as the footpath and the road surface entering Coonamble.
- 3 spray heads at the Gulargambone sportsground were kicked off and destroyed.

Pools:

- Kiosk at the Coonamble Pool has been reopened following the appointment of a new operator.
- Coonamble and Gulargambone swimming clubs have held their respective swimming carnivals with Council receiving compliments on the presentation of the facilities.

Buildings:

- Scheduled repairs to the Senior Citizens hall roof have been organised with the work to be carried out commencing late march 2015.
- Repairs to the Barry Jackson Poultry Pavilion are scheduled to commence in the upcoming month.

- The replacement of failed CCTV cameras at Joe's Butchery and the theatre are scheduled to be replaced by the 5/12/2104
- Replacement of the CCTV camera in MacDonald Park and the corner of Floyd and Aberford Streets will be carried out shortly.
- Minor Repairs carried out to buildings.

Recommendation:
That the information contained in this item be noted.

BRUCE QUARMBY
Director of Corporate and Urban Services
1 December 2014

14. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014**

14.1 PUBLIC GATES AND CATTLE GRIDS ON PUBLIC ROADS

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

11.1 Maintain the high standard of local road maintenance and construction.

Background:

A majority of the Public Gates and Cattle Grids are located on minor rural, unsealed roads with traffic less than 20 vehicles per day. The relative safety or risk associated with a particular traffic flow feature or road alignment is in a function of traffic flow. While the risk exposure for each individual structure is relatively low, overall risk to the public can be assessed as medium to high due to the significant number of Public Gates and Cattle Grids structures within the Shire. In 2014 inspections of all structures located within the rural area of the Coonamble Shire revealed that 97% of the structures are in an urgent need of repair or should be removed due to their substandard condition. Consequently overall risk has been assessed as high. The most recent fatal accident on the local road brought to the public attention the aspect of safety on local roads managed by the Council. It is considered that the review should be carried out as a matter of priority.

Issues:

Existing policy *Specification for the Construction of Standard Public Gates and Grids* is outdated and considered to be inadequate for the purposes of guiding the processes of approval, development and maintenance of Public Gates and Cattle Grids on public roads with in the Coonamble Shire.

APPENDIX G.

1. Draft Policy – Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads
2. Policy Impact Assessment and Development Strategy

Aims of the Policy

1. Protect travelling public
2. Protect the interests of Council and Property Owners;
3. Inform the community about the processes in place;
4. Establish clear guidelines as to how Council receives development approval applications, administers and manages Public Gates and Cattle Grids on public roads.
5. Ensure that application approval and Council management of Public Gates and Cattle Grids on public roads is consistent, transparent, fair and impartial.

Consultation:*1. Internal Consultation*

Councillors will be provided with copies of the preliminary draft policy prior to the Council Meeting scheduled for 10 December 2014. Managers and responsible Officers were consulted in the creation of this Policy drafted by Director of Engineering Services.

2. External Consultation

In accordance with statutory requirements, it is proposed to exhibit the draft policies for twenty eight (28) days if endorsed by Council.

Sustainability Assessment:

1. Environment - There are no environmental issues in relation to this report.
- 2 Social - There are no social issues in relation to this report.
- 3 Broader Economic Implications - There are no broader economic implications in relation to this report.
- 4 Culture - There are no cultural issues in relation to this report.
- 5 Governance - The draft Policies seek to enhance good governance, providing a clear and effective administration system for the development and of Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads. This is seen as an essential part of the provision of quality services by the Shire.

Related Council Policy

The policy once adopted will replace the following policy:

- 1.1 Specification for the construction of standard Public Gates & Grids

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Roads Act 1993
- Roads (General) Regulation 2000
- Australian Standard 5100 (AS5100)
- Coonamble Shire Council Road Register
- Approved Inspection & Assessment Procedures.

Financial Considerations: N/A**Options:**

1. That Council proceed to:
 1. Endorse the draft Policy as attached (with or without amendments) for the purpose of placing them on public exhibition; and
 2. Promote the adoption of the draft Policy Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads on Council's website; and
 3. Exhibit the policy for a period of 28 days.
2. Do nothing.

Recommendation

- 1. THAT Council endorse the draft Policy Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads included as Attachments 1 and 2 to the report for the purpose of placing the policies on public exhibition.**
- 2. THAT Council promote the adoption of the draft Policy Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads by inclusion on Council's website.**
- 3. THAT the draft Policy Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads be exhibited publicly for a period of not less than twenty eight (28) days AND THAT the matter be reported back to Council following the exhibition period.**

14.2 WORKS IN PROGRESS

(a) Plant/Workshop:

- Repairs have been completed as required on plant:
- Routine servicing of transport vehicles completed on as required basis.

(b) Saleyards:

- New loading ramp constructed.

(c) Airport:

- Routine maintenance completed as required.
- Management plan scheduled to be reviewed in the next 3 months.

(d) Depot:

- Routine maintenance to depots and buildings as required.
- Increased monitoring of fuel issues in progress.
- Plant needs analysis to be undertaken in January 2015

(e) Water Treatment Plant & Reticulation:

- Repairs have been completed to water mains, meters and services as required in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.
- Water treatment plant is experiencing relatively minor issues related to the design and construction shortcomings. Most of the problems are rectified internally with the assistance of the project managers NSW Public Works and the contractor Aquatec Maxcon. We are documenting all processes and construction problems as they need to be addressed with both Public Works and Aquatec Maxcon considering that the 12 months Defects and Liabilities period is about to end in March 2015. It is likely that we will be seeking compensation and/or retrofitting of specific components of the plant to address some prevalent problems.
- Water meter reading underway for the next two weeks.
- Low water pressure in King Street, Coonamble. Preliminary assessment indicates that the residents along King Street may experience up to 20% drop in the water supply pressure during the time when the area is supplied directly from the Water Tower located at the corner of Castlereagh Hwy and McCullough Street. At other times the area is supplied by the pump station located at the water treatment plant with the maximum water pressure of 27m. The current operational arrangement cannot be easily modified without significant cost and changes to the system. Any improvement works to the Coonamble Water Supply System need to be considered through structured

approach based on the static and dynamic modelling of the current system and possible improvement works. We are expecting to commence the review of the Coonamble Water Supply system in the first quarter of 2015. That will inform the development of the future improvement and asset renewal programs.

(f) Sewerage:

- Removal of sludge and sediments from the evaporation pond is about to commence as soon as the site condition allows for safe access by heavy machinery.
- Routine maintenance and clearing of blockages have been undertaken at Coonamble and Gulargambone.
- Nebea Street Septic Tanks – Existing sewerage main located at the back of the properties along side of Nebea St and Edward St provides sewer connection to approximately 30 properties between Wingadee St and Limerick St. At present all connected properties are serviced by the Pump Station No 4 and a rising main. Preliminary assessment indicates that to connect further properties located alongside of the Nebea St. east of Limerick St. (approximately 28 new connections) is feasible subject to the ability to create an easement for the sewer extension and overall capacity of the sewerage system. At present, as we are unable to locate documentation for the existing infrastructure, it is not feasible to determine the capacity of the existing system. However it is likely that any further extension would require significant funds, thus substantial development contribution from the affected property owners. The capacity of the whole Coonamble Sewerage System will be assessed early next year through the hydraulic modelling of the Coonamble Sewerage System. This would allow Council to determine the requirements for the future system extensions.

(g) State Highway:

- Works Completed

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
1	Heavy patching south of Coonamble	\$205,000.00	

- Works Scheduled to Commence

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
1	Rehab of 2 km at Wingadee underway	\$850,000.00	Use of Bright VMS boards as trial to stop end of queue crashes. Use of GPS guided grader.

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
2	Culvert replacement south of Gulargambone	\$75,000.00	
3	Annual reseals mainly between Coonamble and Gulargambone.	\$480,000.00	
4	Attendance to RMS own forces at Dallas 5 kms north of Coonamble.		We may get asked for a price for supply deliver quarry products.
5			RMCC contract finishes March next year. Should continue in similar vein.

(h) Urban, Local and Regional Roads:

- Works Completed.

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
1			Fatal Accident Calga Rd 15 November
2	Repair to settlement slab at Lucy Morrissey bridge on Baradine Rd		
3	Shoulder grading Warren Rd		
4	Heavy Patching Warren Rd and Pilliga Rd		

- Works Scheduled to Commence

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
1	Ongoing regular maintenance: potholes weedspraying etc		
2	Heavy patches: Warren Rd Carinda Rd Quambone Rd		
3	720m of Carinda Rd is scheduled for rehab as part of the Roads to Recovery funding.		
4	Culvert maintenance/replacement Quambone Rd		

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Significant Issues Associated
5	Consider concrete causeway repair Pilliga Rd		
6			Getting too dry to do maintenance grading.
7	Installation of various road signs (currently an number of additional give way signs)		
8	Start work on Guard rail repairs (timber posts)		
9	Rehabs of sections of road: Toorawenah Rd. Box Ridge Rd		

- Road Surface Bleeding at King/Dubbo Street and Railway Street intersections.

Both intersections were inspected by Council Engineer, Mr. B. Cross, to determine their condition. The maintenance of road surface at both intersections has been carried out with a use of techniques known as Spray Sealing. It involves spraying bitumen as a surface cover. This is a very cost effective method as its current cost is in the order of \$3.50/m² in contrast to the asphalt covering that costs approximately \$40/m². While Spray Sealing is very cost effective way of maintaining road infrastructure it has its drawbacks, as it is susceptible to scuffing damage from sharp turning tri-axle trucks when the seal is new and this often results in bleeding, which has been reported in the case of the King/Dubbo Street and Railway Street intersections.

In the longer term these bleeding areas should settle down as the bitumen slowly hardens up. Adding more stones into these areas and letting the traffic roll them in is the typical way of treating the problem. In areas of high volumes of large, turning traffic, asphalt can be laid in that specific region in an attempt to reduce scuffing. This has been done locally on Railway Street adjacent to the cattle yards where trucks often have to do sharp turns to get to the older loading ramps. At this time it is not recommended to use asphalt at the above mentioned intersections.

- Funding Opportunity.

The Fixing Country Roads program is a one off funding opportunity through Transport NSW, that we initially put in the following Expression of Interest for

- MR7515 Warren Road (joint application with Warren Shire Council) to repair shoulders

- SR12 Back Gular Road to rehabilitate with polymer stabilising (unsealed road)
- MR383 Pilliga Road to replace or repair 44 culverts
- Railway Street to asphalt part of the street and loading bay at the sale yards

Only Railway Street and MR383 Culverts projects were successful to proceed to the next stage of the grant application. Funding sought:

- Pilliga Road
 - Estimated total project value \$600,000.00
 - Grant sought \$450,000.00
 - Council Contribution \$150,000.00
- Railway Street
 - Estimated total project value \$220,000.00
 - Grant sought \$450,000.00
 - Council Contribution \$55,000.00

Applications including Cost Benefit Analysis required to be submitted by 5/12/2014.

(i) Levee:

- Under construction.

(j) Signage:

- Drop Dust - 4 signs have been ordered and will be installed prior to Christmas subject to the timely delivery.
- Caravan Parking - 4 signs have been ordered and will be installed prior to Christmas subject to the timely delivery.

Recommendation:
That the information be noted

PETER CHUDEK'
Director of Engineering Services
1 December 2014

15. REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2014**

15.1 TEMPORARY FOOD VENDORS

*Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program:
EC2.1 Promote the Shire as a location for business development
and investment.*

Background:

Council staff have received several complaints regarding operation of temporary food vendors. Many complaints have been of the nature they should not be allowed to operate – but no valid reason has been provided. This report is to provide Council with information as to the legal status of such temporary vendors.

Issues:

Council has a policy of not hiring Council property or buildings to outside traders. The operation in question is operating on private land hence Council policy is not applicable.

The zoning of the land is B6 – Enterprise Corridor under Coonamble Shire LEP 2011. Permitted is Markets; Roadside Stalls; Kiosks, Light industry and Business Premises. The activity being undertaken is permitted within the B6 zone.

The activities of a food business are regulated by the NSW Food Act 2003 and the Food Standards Code. Under NSW Food Authority Guidelines, temporary food vendors must meet the following standards in regard to location of food stalls:

- Stalls should be on sealed ground or ground covered.
- Washing up facilities are required.
- Hand washing and drying facilities are required.
- Waste disposal facility is required.
- Toilet facilities are required for food handlers – (there is no requirement for toilet facilities for the general public).

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Food Act 2003
- Food Regulation 2010
- Australian & New Zealand Food Authority Standard 3.2.3.
- Coonamble Shire LEP 2011

Financial Considerations:

N/A

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

That Council note the provisions relevant to the operation of a temporary food premises on private land.

15.2 YATTON SUBDIVISION

Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council's Delivery Program

L1.4.5 Governance is open and transparent

P1.3.5 Continue to consult residents with a focus on quality of life experience rather than sole satisfaction with Council services.

Background:

Council resolved at the July 2014 meeting to subdivide "Yatton", which was purchased with the intention to develop the 10 hectares for Council housing. The subdivision will split the "Yatton" property into five equal lots of 2.022 hectares respectively, with Council occupying the front two lots with an existing dwelling and the recently completed three bedroom brick veneer dwelling.

It is intended that the remaining Lots 3, 4 and 5 will be sold. Access to each of those blocks will be by way of the lane running along the Western boundary.

Issues:

Subdivision plans have been completed. Plans are now to be signed and lodged with Land and Property Information. After lodgment it is expected that approval will be granted within 4 – 6 weeks.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

Coonamble Shire Council Local Environmental Plan 2011

Financial Considerations:

With the development of the five new lots Council will be required to extend the power and water to accommodate Lots 3, 4 and 5. Both water and power will need to be extended from the Carinda Road. The cost for this development would be approximately:

- Power \$40,000.00,
- Water \$15,000.00
- Subdivision fees/charges \$ 8,500.00.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

Submitted for Council's information.

15.3 RANGER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2014

*Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:
P2.2.5 Control straying animals*

Compliance Issues

Letters for Overgrown Blocks 56 sent out.

Correspondence	<u>October 2014</u>	<u>Year to Date 2013/2014 Total</u>
Official Correspondence	7	69
Infringements (Animals)	7	56
Infringements (Other)	0	0
Microchipped dogs	26	70
Registrations	2	36
Nuisance dog declaration	0	1
Dangerous dog declaration	0	3
Restricted dog declaration	0	0
Impoundments		
Dogs	16	94
Cats	3	54
Stock	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL ANIMALS IMPOUNDED	19	148
Motor vehicle	0	0
Breakdown of impoundments		
Dogs destroyed	11	57
Dogs surrendered by owner	7	35
Dogs re-housed	5	23
Dogs released	5	19
Cats destroyed	3	43
Cats re-housed	2	2
Cats released	0	0
Gulargambone dogs impounded	5	15
Quambone dogs impounded	0	0

Dog Attacks:

Two dog attacks in Coonamble – dogs have been declared “menacing dogs” as no one was injured.

Recommendation:
That Council note the information

MATTHEW COCK

Manager – Environmental Services
3 December 2014

16. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

**16.1 MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2014 COMMENCING 1.05 P.M.**

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee was called to order at 1:07pm on Wednesday 5 November 2014 at the Coonamble Shire Council (80 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble) by Kookie Atkins (Acting LEMO).

Present: Kookie Atkins (Chairperson / Acting LEMO), Jessica Thei (CSC / Minute Secretary), Stuart Davies (NSW Police / REMO), Jillian Guest (RFS), Greg Sim (RFS), Mark Hoath (NSW Police), David Ralph (NSW Police), Andrew Willetts (John Holland CRN), Gary Barber (NSW Fire & Rescue), Adam Dewberry (NSW Fire & Rescue), David Toole (NSW Ambulance), Jacqui Hardwick (NSW Ambulance), and Phil Lalor (SES).

1. Apologies:

Shiralee Robinson (SES), Tom Cullen (CSC), Dan Keady (CSC), Jim Stewart (NSW Police), Nigel Hardwick (NSW Ambulance), Russell Smith (CSC), Libby Burnheim (NSW Health) and Paul Smith (NSW RFS),

2. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes

Request to move Police report into Agency report.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as being accepted.

3. Matter Arising from Previous Minutes

- No field exercise today as scheduled due to staffing shortage.

4. Correspondence In:

- Email from REMO (23/09/2014) – Notification of Retirement REMO Stuart Davies
- Email from REMO (03/10/2014) – EOC Information Management System
- Email from REMO (29/08/14) – Completion of Profile / Audit report for Local Evacuation Centers.
 - **Action – ALEMO to organise inspection and complete Local Evacuation Centre Audit & Summary template.**
- NSW DPI – Agency Report
- NSW Ambulance Report

Correspondence Out:

Nil

5. Emergency Risk Management

- REMO advised that the committee will undergo new process to do new plans as changes are introduced under EMPLAN. Committees will have to profile all risks as previously identified in DISPLAN. Expectation will be to have more than just natural disasters identified and assessed. Committees will be presented with new planning process in 2015, as a lot of it will be computer based, allowing integration of relevant plans such as flood plans, contact details and will be more centralized for access.

6. Volunteers and Agency Capacity

- SES – 8 current members with no incidents logged.
- RFS – 401 members
- ANSW – 6 by end of November

7. Events

- Nil discussed.

8. Contact Directory Review

- Updated Contact list to be circulated with the minutes

9. REMO Report

- Report attached and emailed separately.

10. Agency Reports

- NSW Police - Mark Hoath to email report to be circulated.
- NSW Ambulance – Nigel Hardwick on secondment. Dave Toole/Jacqui Hardwick Acting Station Officer.
- NSW Fire – Majority of fires due to harvest season not many that have been suspicious.
- John Holland – Harvest season commenced. Project of 31 additional trains in area to commence in coming months.
- SES – 5 jobs/ 1 support, 4 weather
- RFS – See report attached.

11. General Business

- REMO Stuart Davies is retiring after 21 years of service. Acting LEMO and LEOCON extended their thanks on behalf of the committee for his commitment, service and knowledge over the years.
- Evacuation Report to be completed and submitted by Acting LEMO.
 - Discussion regarding evacuation centres and committee agreed that the Bowling Club and High School were agreed sites and used in the past. Acting LEMO informed committee that a Flood study from CSC would be available soon.

LEOCON suggested Golf Club and REMO informed committee to investigate what grants may be available for evacuation centres to better equip the facilities for disaster management.

12. Date for Next Meeting 10 February 2015 – 1.00 p.m. Meeting Room RFS Headquarters

Meeting was closed at 1.52pm

Minutes submitted by: Jessica Thei (Minute Secretary)
Approved by: Kookie Atkins (Acting LEMO)

16.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM ON TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 5.00 P.M.

Committee Mission: To attract new investment to the district and help existing Coonamble Shire businesses to grow.

Present: Mayor A Karanouh, Cr T Cullen, Cr B Burnheim, A Dent, J Nalder, D Swansborough, D Taylor, L O'Connor (CSC EDM), L Picone (CSC TDM)

Guest: Jamie-Lea Hodges, Regional Arts Development Officer

Apologies: R Warren (GM), Cr D Keady.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held 2.9.14 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

T Cullen/D Taylor

CARRIED.

2. Arts & Tourism

2.1 Accommodation White Paper – final draft has been sent to participating LGAs. Contains analysis of each LGA, gaps and opportunities. L Picone is currently providing feedback. Will hopefully inform any discussions re increasing stock of visitor accommodation. **Final version to be distributed.**

2.2 T.A.A. (Tourism Accommodation Australia) – report released Addressing the Poor Performance of the Accommodation Sector in Regional NSW. It is a political document to be used to leverage resources. <http://www.tourismaccommodation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Regional-Performance-Position-Paper-2014.pdf>

2.3 Marketing Collateral – Coonamble Shire included in the Great Western Plains Visitor Guide due for release in early 2015. New Coonamble Shire Visitor Guide has also been released.

2.4 Silo Art – J Nalder received an email agreeing to the project from Wayne Earl in Dubbo. He asked that they be kept in the loop and that we would have to provide them with a safety plan and timeline for works so that they could monitor train movements. They did not respond to inquiry re contributing financially to the National Design Competition. Discussion followed re:

- best approach to design, whether there is a way to market our town's talent eg. engage someone technically efficient in murals who comes and works with the community to devise a theme and design.

- Other areas have done silo art eg. one-off image projection onto silos; or super-sized murals on water tanks and other buildings. Eg. Milmerran did it very well, Alice Springs dome.
- How to leverage economic benefit from a static artwork not on highway. Will it encourage travellers to stay in the town.
- How to measure economic impact. Funding sources require specific measures. Eg. tourism grants require measurable increase in visitation of at least 7% per annum.
- This will be a costly project – need to thrash out how to obtain return on investment for Council and funding partners.
- Whether water tower (corner Castlereagh & McCullough Streets) is a better option. Nearing the end of its serviceable life. Potential to re-line the tank and decorate.

Agreed:

1. **first step to obtain official written permission from Graincorp to run it as a public art project. J Nalder.**
2. **More detailed planning including points raised above and site specifics. J Nalder and A Dent, with assistance from J-L Hodges and L Picone.**

2.5 Alternative Public Art Project – Images of sculptures from recycled materials depicting humans + horses were shown. J-L Hodges outlined a project that had been scoped previously with sculptures at strategic points in the town that included: bucking bronc, drover + horse, racehorse, campdrafter. Could be easily achieved here as we have sufficient local skills (esp welding) and plenty of useful scrap iron. Could form part of trail between Dubbo – Lightning Ridge that already includes Gular's galahs, and L Ridge emu. Council's contribution would be to supply and prepare the spaces for the artworks. **Agreed that the team above discuss this concept and report back.**

J-L Hodges and L Picone left the meeting.

3. Business Arising from September meeting.

3.1 Drought – the situation has not improved and is worsening rapidly with extreme heat. Letters recommending the pursuit of a suitable multi peril insurance model were sent to the Premier, Kevin Humphries, Katrina Hodgkinson, Mark Coulton, Barnaby Joyce, and the Palmer United Party (PUP). Non-committal letters of response were received. D Taylor advised that this was in contrast to the response he had had with B Joyce and K Humphries both advising that they had people working on it and keen to push it further. PUP representative rang L O'Connor suggesting that Council make a submission to the recently advertised Inquiry into the establishment of The Australia Fund.

Link to Australia Fund Establishment Terms of Reference:
http://www.apf.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Australia_Fund_Establishment

B Burnheim advised that RDA Orana will be making submissions re Multi Peril Insurance to both the Agricultural White Paper and the inquiry into the Australia Fund. RDA have been talking to RABO Bank, the Farm Institute, Insurance Council of Australia, Banking Association and others.

Link to Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper:
<http://agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au/>

T Cullen advised that a meeting had been held in Canberra which formed a committee to explore the multi peril insurance concept. **T Cullen to call Fiona Simson, NSWFA, to get further details.**

B Burnheim suggested there were two main sticking points for finding a model and getting nationwide agreement on Multi Peril Insurance. (1) lack of solidarity across agriculture. (2) adverse selection – only the people who need it will insure. A model covering cost of production (rather than projected losses) is do-able. Insurance for this would 'keep farmers in the game'. **L O'Connor to draft submissions to the Agricultural White Paper and the Australia Fund Inquiry in consultation with B Burnheim, D Taylor. If not possible to present to Council prior to deadlines, submission to be from ED Committee or Mayor.**

Other drought assistance is falling short or absent – Need to get on board with Walgett and Bourke Shires in lobbying for changes to the period of the federal loans and to encourage state government to consider renewed action. **Letters to be written to B Joyce, M Coulton etc and to state political representatives.**

3.2 Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station – has been referred to Small Business Commission for assistance in overcoming delays. RMS are now requesting written commitment from Batterline that they will construct to specified standards, including detailed plans for pit, hard surface access road, and that WHS issues will be covered. **L O'Connor to continue to assist.**

3.3 Abattoir – response from EPA was very slow. The Mayor spoke to K Humphries. EPA has provided a full response as of 14.11.14 agreeing to the further information provided by Geolyse on behalf of the Abattoir owners and that the EPA's requirements will be satisfied once an updated Environment Management Plan is provided. Council needs to advise whether development consent is needed for the effluent pond upgrade works and, if so, approval must be received before construction work starts. L O'Connor has discussed with M Cock who is checking whether a DA is required. **L O'Connor to follow up with M Cock and monitor progress to final EPA approval.**

3.4 Eco Spa – recent issues with Crown Lands renegeing on sale of Smith Park despite receiving the signed contract of sale and deposit from Council. New process underway despite that process not having been signed off by the Minister. Mayor has contacted Minister Humphries to discuss. In the meantime, sale of land has been publicly advertised and Council will need to submit a detailed tender to purchase. If successful, the land should be secured by Christmas (2014?). **L O'Connor preparing tender document.**

3.5 Workforce Planning & Development Project – D Taylor and L O'Connor attended the Forum held at Coonamble TAFE on 16 October along with other local employers. Findings are due out this week which will include recommendations for action or further research. **L O'Connor to follow up and report back.**

4. New Business

4.1 Warrena Weir – Water level is dropping again so another window opening for cleanup and dredging works. The Mayor advised that Council is talking to the various departments again. Had been told that no work can be done until it is demonstrated what is underneath the silt. Council budgeted \$20,000 for a preliminary Statement of Environmental Effects but a full study is required that may cost in vicinity of \$70,000. **Agreed to request Small Business Commissioner help to fast track and consider sources of financial assistance to meet departmental requirements.**

4.2 Community Clean Energy – Notes from the recent Community Clean Energy Forum were tabled. It was hosted by Coonamble Environment Group, funded by LLS and Office of Environment & Heritage, and organised by Danielle Bonnington, local Landcare Co-ordinator employed through Council. Speakers covered reading power bills, energy efficiency measures, storage for renewables, assistance for farmers, potential for community-owned energy projects. Steps are being taken to organise:

- (1) Energy Management Basics Workshop and site assessments be offered to local businesses through the Chamber of Commerce;
- (2) Home Energy Efficiency Audits by qualified assessors be sourced for local households;
- (3) Promote the availability of NSW Farmers Association Energy Innovation Program to all farmers (not just members);
- (4) Feasibility of a community energy project be investigated through an audit and business case involving larger local energy users (eg. Council, feedlot, schools, hospital, Koonambil, and other interested businesses). **L O'Connor to follow up and report back.**

3.3 Hemp-crete – A Dent advised that industrial hemp can be used to bind concrete. Discussion re outcomes of iHemp Forum hosted by RDA Orana. It is understood that commercial hemp production requires irrigation for our region and there are still legislative barriers to its production in NSW. **L O'Connor to source information from Forum and distribute to ED Committee members.**

Meeting closed 6.30pm.

NEXT MEETING: TBA.

Presentations from the recent SEGRA Conference:

Small is the Next Big!

<http://www.segra.com.au/segra14ConfProc/Day%202/Spotlight/Spotlight%206/Robert.Prestipino.pdf>

Innovative Small Towns (how to...)

<http://www.segra.com.au/segra14ConfProc/Day%202/Spotlight/Spotlight%206/Cassandra.Stipanicev.pdf>

The Evolution of Australian towns: what history might tell us. (great pictures...)

<http://www.segra.com.au/segra14ConfProc/Day%202/Spotlight/Spotlight%209/Geoff.Frost.Towns.pdf>

16.3 REPORT BY HERITAGE ADVISOR REGARDING THE COONAMBLE SHIRE LOCAL HERITAGE FUND 2014-2015
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Summary:

Coonamble Shire Council wrote to the owners of private items of places identified as having cultural heritage significance in August 2014. These owners have been invited to apply for a grant from Council's Local Heritage Fund. These grants are to assist with conservation and restoration work. It is recommended that the grants be allocated from the fund based on the recommendations provided by Council's Heritage Advisor.

Discussion (including issues and background):

Coonamble Shire Council wrote to owners of private properties identified in the Coonamble Shire Community Based Heritage Study. Letters were not sent for items located on land owned by State Government, Council, or a public authority (eg railway land). Owners were invited to obtain an information and application package regarding the local heritage fund.

The letter indicated that grants of up to \$2,000 were available from the Coonamble Shire Local Heritage Fund to assist owners undertake conservation and maintenance works on heritage buildings and places. Owners are required to at least match Council's contribution.

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

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

- Gulargambone Pioneers' Memorial Church, Gulargambone
- Sacred Heart Church, Quambone

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

Property	Applicant	Works	Cost	Request	Recomm - ended
Gulargambone Pioneers' Memorial Church	Don Haling	Repair interior damage	\$3,400.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
Sacred Heart Church, Quambone	Trustees of the Coonamble Catholic Church	Replace doors & windows	\$7,314.72	\$3,657.36	\$3,657.36
			\$10,714.72	\$5,357.36	\$5,357.36

Relevant Reference Documents:

- Coonamble Shire Draft Local Environmental Plan.
- Coonamble Shire Local Heritage Fund Guidelines 2014-2015

Stakeholders:

Owners of items listed as items of local heritage, Coonamble Shire Council, public.

Financial Implications:

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

Recommendation:

That Coonamble Shire Council resolve to:

1. Disperse \$5,357.36 from the Coonamble Shire Council Local Heritage Fund 2014-2015 via the following grants:

- (a) \$1,700.00 for Gulargambone Pioneers' Memorial Church.**
- (b) \$3,657.36 for Sacred Heart Church, Mungie Street, Quambone.**

RAY CHRISTISON

High Ground Consulting

**16.4 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COONAMBLE
EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE HELD IN THE CSC COMMITTEE ROOM ON
TUESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER, 2014 COMMENCING AT 11.00 A.M.**

Present: Trish Butler (Joblink), Deon Allen (NCAP), Kate Keizer (CNC), Colin Shuttleworth (APM), David Floyd (CRS), Shane Kilby (TAFE), Ted Fernando (CWP), Paul Cleary (CHS), Duncan Lovelock (CHS), Steve Howarth (DAA), Andrew Rose (DAA).

Apologies: Wayne Cole (Centrelink), Steve Hodder (Verto), Michael Cooper (STS), Howard Aldis (Dept of Employment), Robyn Howard (APM), Mark Noonan (APM)

Chair: David Floyd

Notes: Lee O'Connor

1. Agency / Staff Changes

- 1.1 **Dept of Aboriginal Affairs** – major changes in the region.
- 1.2 **Sureway** – Nikki Roach left. Sarah Jordison advised that a new person is starting soon.
- 1.3 **CHS Careers** – Priscilla Harvey is leaving at end of year for 12 months. She has been a long-serving core member of Employment Circle. Replacement Careers Adviser is yet to be announced.

2. Coonamble High School – Employment Pathways

Paul Cleary advised that students at CHS can be of benefit to community and business. Asking employers to contact the school re Work Placement (Yr 11 & 12) and Work Experience (Yr 9 & 10). Some students are very work-ready. Also, Enterprise Education can deliver students with a definite skillset.

Community not aware of what CHS has to offer. Difficulties bridging the 'transition point' from school to work, especially for students who are only at school because of new legal requirements and are more suited to early employment. Need to work with employers at 'grassroots' to undertake students on trial with possible view to permanent employment. Paul Cleary and Adam Macrae can 'match' students to potential employers.

Query re limits to availability of students. There is precedence for students being able to sign-out of school to take up even short-term work projects. Construction project at school allowed students to get 8 weeks of 'real world' experience under a professional contractor.

Query re shearing school and header/heavy vehicle driving. Merriman shearing school at Brewarrina is mostly used. Other more local options could be explored.

Discussion re "reverse expo" where employers are invited into the school to see what students can offer. Could be a series of visits to the school by small groups of employers in specific industries (eg. farmers, hospitality,

nursing/aged care, trades/transport) or a single large expo at the school. Employers could inspect facilities (eg. cattleyards, farm, metal and wood trades rooms, hospitality unit etc) and have a BBQ. This could be a 'kick-off' event leading into an ongoing link program between school and business.

Action: Planning for Employers into School event to be pursued early 2015 as partnership between Employment Circle and CHS. Lee to discuss with Chamber of Commerce as possible partner.

3. Community Working Party

Discussion re status and direction of Working Party including level of support from DAA. DAA undergoing re-structure. Staff have had to reapply for positions. Walgett Office has been closed.

Working Parties are to follow the Ochre Plan – DAA fits in with social and economic development, culture, and supporting local decisionmaking ie. working with Community Working Parties.

Ted advised that a Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly meeting will be held 9-11 December. He will bring back information and call a Working Party meeting to follow.

Community Working Parties were established to be a recognised body. DAA previously provided secretarial support. Will now be assisting with project management and capacity building. First step is to establish Community Action Plans. Step 2 is to set priorities – education, safety, culture.

Ted advised that loss of DAA assistance with meetings/minutes has left a gap. Working Party is comprised of volunteers with few resources available. Kate offered to attend and take minutes for Working Party. Ted to advise if this will be necessary. May be possible to upskill Young Leaders to assist in this role.

Discussion re government responsibility to resource Working Parties. Recent shift has been to 'empowering' committees to do things themselves. Ted advised that 'local' decision making actually refers to what we consider to be regional level.

ACTION: Ted to advise progress following Regional Assembly and local Working Party meetings.

3. Driver Licensing

3.1 **In Gear** – RTC still seeking participants. Please refer.

3.2 **Drive Your Life** – CNC to call for EOIs for Sponsored places commencing soon so as to follow on from RTC program. Training to commence school holidays.

ACTION: Agencies to refer to RTC ASAP.
Kate K to re-advertise call for EOIs.

4. Centrelink Issues

- Discussion re issues associated with delays in contacting regional office. Eg. phones run out of battery, lines tied up, etc.
- Suggestion that Coonamble seek to align with Walgett, Lightning Ridge Centrelink service area. To be discussed further at next meeting.
- Note Centrelink Bus will be in Coonamble 18 December – promote to clients as appropriate.

*ACTION: Invite Centrelink reps to December meeting. Lee.
Deon Allen will see Wayne Cole in Dubbo.*

5. Orana Workforce Planning & Development

Forum held at Coonamble TAFE on 16 October. Lee attended plus 6 local employers, EDOs from Warren and Gilgandra and an employer from Bourke (via VC) Final report is due out this week and will contain recommendations for action and further research.

ACTION: Lee to distribute information as it comes to hand.

6. Work for the Dole

6.1 APM and Joblink are working to identify Voluntary Work Experience participants for CHS Canteen.

6.3 **Castlereagh River Cleanup** – Coonamble not included in Bathurst Skillset project as expected. Coonamble Environment Group has received a small grant to undertake project scoping including meeting with interested partners, costing the project etc.

*ACTION: Trish to provide contacts for Canteen Assistants.
Kate/Lee to provide information on River Project as it commences.*

7. Smart & Skilled - reform of the NSW vocational education and training system

- Leah Burnheim attended Coonamble Chamber of Commerce meeting to discuss local employer needs and changes to the VET system.
- Shane advised that entitlements have been released. Number of places for courses will depend on expected completion rates. Planning will be quite complex.
- Deon expects that many RTOs have underestimated the numbers required to fulfil course requirements.
- Please note there is an entitlement calculator tool on the Smart & Skilled website.
- Discussion re whether eligible students know that the changes are coming.
- Training incentives – queries re what happens to the people who were signed up to the free cash and laptop courses in Coonamble. M Coulton is following up and will advise Lee. JSAs are advising clients not to respond to further emails from the RTOs involved.

8. Jobseeker Literacy

- SEE Program – new issue re JSAs referring clients to this program who have been refused. Joblink considering not making further referrals. APM issue was resolved after discussions with TAFE.

ACTION: *Lee to invite Lyndy Regan, TAFE, to discuss SEE Program at next CEC meeting.
Shane to refer JSA concerns to Lyndy.*

9. Funding for Training and Employment Initiatives

- Too late to participate in recent round of Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding. Received advice that more responsive funding opportunities would come available once first round finalised.

ACTION: *cEC to investigate funding for dual control vehicle and for Workplace Mentor for students and those who have recently left school.*

10. Other Business

10.1 *Lee advised Chamber is looking at having more input into training offerings and want to investigate sharing costs of agreed training between businesses, Council and other groups. JSAs have funding to be spent by June 2015 so could possibly assist. This training shouldn't affect student entitlements as its offering a commercial skill-based fee-for-service.*

Action: **Email to be sent to employers outlining opportunities via Lee and the Chamber email lists.
JSAs to attend Chamber of Commerce meeting to discuss.
Businesses and Employment Circle members to be encouraged to participate in Leah Burnheim's consultation for local training plan.**

10.2 **Aboriginal Language Course** – Ted advised that TAFE is currently running this course with 5 or 6 participants. They will re-advertise for another course. Has potential for future employment as language instructors. Please promote to clients.

TAFE are marketing an Aboriginal Cultural Competency course for people wanting to increase their understanding of Aboriginal culture and communities.

Action: **Shane to provide dates and information for both courses above.**

Meeting closed 12.30pm.

12. NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 9th DECEMBER, 11AM. CSC COMMITTEE ROOM

16.5 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COONAMBLE HERITAGE AND MUSEUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD AT THE MUSEUM UNDER THE BRIDGE ON WEDNESDAY, 22 OCTOBER, 2014 COMMENCING 10.35 A.M.

PRESENT: Cr Michael Webb (Chair), Cr John Walker, Angie Little (Hon. Museum Curator), Jennie Geerdink (GEO, CSC), Gordon Ditchfield

APOLOGIES: Matt Cock (CSC), Marion Murray

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: The minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 4 July 2014 were circulated prior to the meeting.

MOVED: Angie Little/ Cr Walker they be adopted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

(i) **Donation expenditure:** GEO outlined the expenditure made from the community donations

(ii) **Governance:** There are still two pecuniary interest disclosure forms to be collected

(iii) **Tin Town:** Cr Webb to continue following that up

(iv) **Coonamble Bricks:** Cr Webb to continue following that up]

(v) **Stagecoach relocation:** Cr Webb to continue following that up

GENERAL BUSINESS:

a) **WAR DISPLAY:** The display cabinet purchased under the ANZAC Commemoration Grant is now in the “war room” and has been filled with artefacts which have been donated by community members and the Curator. All loan and donation items are to be catalogued in accordance with procedure, including those coming from the Curator’s personal collection. The Curator advised that War Memorabilia will be on display until the end of 2016 and she was welcoming further items for display as they came in.

b) **BUSH BREAKFAST:** There was some fabulous feedback on the Museum Grounds as the location for the Bush Breakfast Poets Day organised by Streets Ahead. The Curator was on site to open the grounds. A donation for the use of the grounds and power, and for free access to the Museum, is being made by Streets Ahead.

c) **CEMETERY:** Discussion was held about the difficulties visitors are having with locating their ancestors at the cemetery as there is limited marking on the site. There was discussion on the various issues that are being faced and possible solutions. Cr Webb said he would follow up on the

availability of maps. Meeting agreed this may be a project if the Green Army/Work for the Dole program comes available.

d) GREEN ARMY/WORK FOR THE DOLE: GEO advised she has had discussions with the General Manager about potential projects for the Museum under the program, if it becomes available. Advised she had suggested general maintenance, painting, verandah sanding and staining and fencing. It was requested that locational signage at the cemetery be added to the list of suggested projects as per previous point.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Curator advised she was hoping to do a story on the All-Blacks rugby league team which was formed in the early 80s in Coonamble for next year and has been talking to a number of people about those stories. She also advised that she was looking for a Guernsey from that period (sponsored by the Cronulla Sharks), as well as a genuine leather football and is getting a set of goalposts constructed for the display.

The Curator also advised that she has been getting a number of people in for research, including Helen Harvey who came in after hearing that one of next year's storylines will be on William Baccon. She is writing a poem based on the story and has obtained further information from the Museum.

The Curator advised there had been 65 visitors to the Museum since the last committee meeting and that there were a further 77 Facebook friends, bringing the number up to 1333 as at the meeting date.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed. Members retired to the War Display room to view the display cabinet.

Meeting closed at 11.40am

<p>16.6 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COONAMBLE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION HELD IN THE SENIORS HALL ON 4 NOVEMBER 2014</p>
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PRESENT: Bruce O'Brien, Lorna O'Brien, Jean Shields, Karen Flakelar, Cody, Judy McLean, Mary Craig, Ken Baker, Brenda Baker, Alma Backhouse and Bev Wilson.

APOLOGIES: Peggy Smith, Yvonne Hodges, Jenny Driscoll and June Lawrence.

MINUTES: Read by Lorna O'Brien

BUSINESS ARISING: Nil

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Read by Lorna O'Brien – Lorna moved that her report be accepted and bills passed for payment - Seconded by Alma Backhouse.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Phone Bill – paid.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Seniors Christmas Party – 2 p.m.

Meeting ended.

(Signed) L O'Brien

(Date) 4-11-2014

17. SALEYARS REPORT
FOR COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

17.1 SALES

CATTLE:

Date	Type	Scale	Amount (\$)	VA	Amount (\$)	Total Cattle/ Sheep	Total Amount (\$)
30/11/14	Private Weigh	0	0.00	0	0.00	255	1048.46
07/11/14	Fat Sale	1243	1712.18	0	0.00	1243	1712.18

TOTALS:	Scale	1,243 head	\$ 1,712.18				
	VA	0 head	\$ NIL				
	Private Weigh	255 head	\$ 1,026.64				
	Casual Weigh	0 head	\$ NIL				
	NLIS Tag Income	0 each	\$ NIL				
	Preg Testing Income	6 head	\$ 21.82				\$2,760.64

17.2 SALEYARD ACTIVITIES

N/A

17.3 SALEYARDS ACCOUNT 01/07/2014 – 30/11/2014

Saleyards Operations:	Income	\$40,601.14
	Expenditure	\$59,207.50
	Deficit	\$18,606.36
Truckwash :		
	Income	\$ 8,120.25
	Expenditure	\$ 5,605.64
	Surplus	\$ 2,514.61
Summary:		
	Income	\$48,721.39
	Expenditure	\$64,813.14
	Deficit	\$16,091.75
Saleyard Reserves:		
	Balance 01/07/13	\$ 59,884.26
	Balance 01/07/14	\$ 37,375.84
	Operational result to date	\$ 16,091.75
	Projected 30/06/15 Reserve Balance Deficit	\$113,351.85

Recommendation:

That Council note the information in the report.

BRUCE QUARMBY

Director – Corporate & Urban Services

18. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014

NIL

19. GENERAL BUSINESS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2014