

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY 2015, COMMENCING AT 9.05 P.M.**

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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 Director of Engineering Services, Mr Chudek, the Manager of Environmental Services, Mr Cock and Mrs Moorhouse.

1.0 OPENING PRAYER

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

At this juncture, the Mayor acknowledged the original owners of the land, both past and present.

3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No person was present for public question time.

4.0 APOLOGIES

1283 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Karanouh that an apology for non-attendance be received from Cr Bill Burnheim.

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations or delegations were booked for the meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1284 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 10 December 2014 be confirmed.

Business Arising from Ordinary Minutes:

(i) Australia Day Procedures

Cr Schieb drew attention to some of the nominations being inadequate in that they were not completed as required. He said it is the responsibility of the proposer to properly complete the form with adequate information for consideration by the Selection Committee. Cr Schieb suggested that this requirement be advertised for future nominations, saying it is vitally important to provide supporting evidence.

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Cr Keady asked when advertising for Australia Day commences – the Director of Community Services said approximately October. Cr Keady also suggested that the nominees should be invited to the dinner with the Ambassador

Cr Walker said the showground pavilion is an appropriate venue for Australia Day celebrations, however when the doors cannot be left open it becomes very hot. He enquired about some form of cooling for the building and also drew attention to the PA system which is inadequate. The General Manager said these issues will be considered when preparing the 2015/2016 operational plan.

(ii) Website Timeline

Cr Keady asked the Director of Corporate and Urban Services what timeline was on updating Council's website. The Director said he has a draft and would be happy to show Cr Keady after the meeting. Mr Quarmby said that further investigations are being carried out prior to the site being updated.

(iii) School Shed – Council's Contribution

Cr Keady said he was not aware Council resolved to set its contribution to the Coonamble High School at \$2,500 for the works/product it requested for the shed foundation and entrance. He said school representatives have indicated that this amount will be insufficient. The Director of Engineering Services informed the meeting that he has had discussion with school representatives and the requested works will be carried out.

(iv) Saleyards Committee Meeting

The Director of Environmental Services informed the meeting that a successful audit of the saleyards has recently been carried out. He said that an internal audit would be performed next week and the Saleyards Committee meeting would be convened, probably next week also. In response to a question as to why concrete was being poured at the yards, the Director of Engineering Services said it is for the light pole to be erected.

(v) Thara Road

Cr Keady referred to this matter and acknowledged the General Manager was correct in saying that Council had resolved to dedicate the road. He said he had no recollection of a previous motion to not dedicate the road being rescinded. The General Manager said that if a period of three months has elapsed, there is no requirement for a rescission of a previous resolution, as a subsequent resolution will take precedence. He offered to provide a report giving dates of motions and time frames, however Cr Keady said he already has that information, previously supplied by the General Manager.

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He referred to the letter Mr Burton has received regarding fencing – the General Manager said the letter states that Mr Burton's responsibility is to remove the obstruction (fencing) from the road. Mr Warren said fencing is to be carried out by Mr Fitzgerald. Cr Keady stated that if Mr Burton removes the fencing his stock will not be confined to a paddock.

1285 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that Council write to Mr Fitzgerald requesting that he carry out the fencing for which he is responsible prior to Mr Burton having to remove his obstruction (fencing) from the roadway. *Carried 4 votes*

(vi) Showers at Saleyards

Cr Walker said truck drivers have brought to his attention the fact that there is no hot water provided for showers at the saleyards. He requested that Council address this matter. The Manager of Environmental Services reported that he also has received the same complaint and instructed the saleyards employee to contact the electrician to connect hot water. Mr Cock said this work would have already been carried out.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

1286 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Cullen that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

Business Arising from Resolution Book

(i) Extension of Landfill Site

The General Manager informed the meeting that for Council to purchase the land to extend the current landfill site the cost will be in the vicinity of \$25,000. Council agreed to compensate the Aboriginal Land Council to withdraw its Land Rights Claim and can now proceed with purchase of the area from Crown Lands.

9.0 MAYORAL REPORT & ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Cr Karanouh stated that over the holiday period he did not perform many civic duties, however he met with the Local Member in Coonamble on two occasions, did interviews for radio stations and met with residents regarding the huge increase in electricity accounts.

He said some people had an increase of \$2,000 to \$3,000 in their electricity accounts and he made representations to Origin Energy. Cr Karanouh said if he gets 20 plus accounts which have significantly increased, the company will look at how they have been rated. Cr Karanouh asked Councillors to refer residents who are concerned about their increased electricity accounts to him.

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In relation to complaints about the meter reader some time ago, Cr Karanouh said he has now been relieved from the position.

1287 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Karanouh that his Mayor's Report be noted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

1288 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 MACKILLOP RURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES (IPS & FAMILY WORKER) A2-3+D7(44566)

1289 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council advise Mackillop Rural Community Services that it is unable to provide funding for the items requested and point out that Council cannot provide resourcing for external service providers.

10.2 ROTARY CLUB OF COONAMBLE M3-1(44675)

1290 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that the Rotary Club of Coonamble be informed that they will both attend the Welcome to Coonamble Dinner on Saturday 28 February 2015 and the Mayor will be pleased to give the Welcome Address.

10.3 NSW TRADE AND INVESTMENT – CROWN LANDS P1-3

1291 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council note Contracts for the sale of Smith Park to Council were exchanged on 7 January 2015 and resolve to classify the land as "operational land".

10.4 KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL K1(44713)

1292 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Cullen that Council continue to work with the Keep Australia Beautiful Council in its new program to encourage greater participation in the tidy Towns Awards.

10.5 PETER LITTLE – CROPJET AVIATION A5-4(44727)

1293 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council advise Cropjet Aviation it is not willing to waive the rental under the lease agreement it has with Council for use of part of Coonamble Aerodrome.

While dealing with this matter, Councillors also referred to the conflict regarding the Coonamble Aero Club's building and agreed to discuss the matter at this time.

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Councillors noted that the Rural Fire Service (RFS) submitted a request to erect water tanks at the airport for aircraft to use when called to fight fires and the site chosen by the RFS was for convenience and practicality. It was noted that there is now conflict, as Coonamble Aero Club wants the site for construction of its shed. The RFS has put its project 'on hold' awaiting Council's determination.

The area has been inspected by Council staff in company with Mr Backhouse (Aero Club representative). The meeting noted that if the Aero Club is allocated the site, relocation of services (e.g. septic, water, power) will cost in the vicinity of \$100,000 – the Manager of Environmental Services said the shed could not be constructed over the services.

Some councillors were of the opinion that it would not be an appropriate site for the shed – either from an aesthetic or safety aspect – and another site should be allocated.

The Manager of Environmental Services said the RFS has been planning the installation of tanks for three years and has followed the required process. The General Manager said one tank is arriving tomorrow. Cr Keady suggested an inspection be carried out – it was agreed to defer the matter until after the inspection, which was to take place during the luncheon adjournment.

10.6 A1 TREE SERVICE (NSW) PTY LTD T6-2

1294 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that Council note the Jacaranda tree in front of the doctors' surgery in Castlereagh Street (Castlereagh Highway) has to be removed following a report that indicates lack of structural integrity of the tree.

10.7 THE HON JOHN BARILARO MP A5(44722)

Councillors noted that Council's airport has been identified as having eligibility for funding under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund and has been invited to submit an expression of interest for a project. The General Manager stated that the application is 'tourism based' and this should be brought into focus. In response to a question, the General Manager said the terminal building has been used only occasionally by the Aero Club. It was suggested that two projects be nominated in the expression of interest and if one is selected, then the application will follow.

The Manager of Environmental Services reminded Council that, in any upgrading or refurbishment works, provision would have to be made for a 'disabled' toilet. It was noted that the closing date for expressions of interest was 31 March 2015.

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1295 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that Council complete an expression of interest for funds to refurbish the existing terminal building at Coonamble Airport under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Program.

Section B – For Council’s Information:

10.8 NSW PREMIER & CABINET S13-1(44621)

Referring to Council’s application for “Shade for Coonamble Pool” under the 2014 Community Building Partnership program and advising it has not been successful. Advising a new round of the program will be conducted in 2015 should Council wish to apply.

10.9 ST BRIGID’S SCHOOL L3(44620)

Extending gratitude to Council for its kind donation towards the end of year Presentation of Awards event.

10.10 ANTI DISCRIMINATION BOARD OF NSW S6-6(44647)

Introducing Council to the Anti Discrimination Board’s Education Service which has been successfully working with local councils. Advising the Board’s current training information brochure can be found at http://www.antidiscrimination.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/adb/adb1_trainingservice.html

10.11 THE HON KATRINA HODGKINSON MP D5(44665)

Referring to the Mayor’s letter regarding NSW Government’s position on multi peril insurance and encouraging government investment in this form of risk management for primary producers. Saying the Regional Assistance Advisory Committee (RAAC) is currently considering various possible tools and information that could assist farmers to mitigate risks associated with highly variable climatic conditions. Further advising she has asked that Mr John Newcombe, Acting General Manager of the NSW Rural Assistance Authority be available to discuss this matter.

10.12 UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY L10(44661)

Extending an invitation to participate in the 2015 Future City Program – an exciting and successful program consisting of a three-day workshop and seven-day international exchange. Saying the Mayors’ Forum will be held in Sydney from 8 – 10 April 2015 and the US-Australian International City Exchange from 14 – 21 June 2015. Advising that an Expression of Interest in joining the Future Cities Program is required no later than 6 February 2015.

10.13 TRADE & INVESTMENT – CROWN LANDS G1-1(44659)

Referring to the compulsory acquisition of Crown land for Coonamble landfill and confirming as follows:

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1. Both parcels of the Crown land being acquired by Coonamble Council are within Travelling Stock Reserve 24312.
2. The blue coloured lands are surveyed as Lots 1 & 2 DP1007782 – Council paid compensation amounting to \$4,360 on 3 April 2013 – sending copy of DP1007782 and letter acknowledging payment.
3. Crown Lands provides to Council an extension of time expiring 12 June 2015 to complete acquisition for the lands – saying the provisions and requirements of Crown Lands consent letter dated 12 June 2013 apply in respect of all lands being acquired by Council – sending copy of letter.

10.14 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10-2

Advising that LGNSW engaged John Comrie of JAC Comrie & Associates to conduct an expert independent review of the methodology applied by TCorp in its financial sustainability assessment of NSW councils.

A copy of the report was included with the business paper.

10.15 COONAMBLE SPORTING CLUBS P1-11(44691)

Advising that six local sporting clubs have purchased two new Bromic refrigerators for the sportsground and donating them to Council.

The Director of Corporate & Urban Services advised the meeting the two new units have been added to Council's insurance and the Clubs have been thanked for their generosity.

10.16 NSW VALUER GENERAL R4-1

Advising that the value of land in NSW has increased by more than 11 per cent, following assessment of almost 2.5 million residential, rural, business and industrial land values for properties. A copy of the information from the Valuer General was included with the business papers.

The General Manager stated that there is a three year window before these new valuations will impact on Council. He stated that if landowners are not happy with the valuations, they have the opportunity to object to the Valuer General, pointing out that Council cannot do anything to help them. Mr Warren said that 'farmland' has one category of rates and the new valuations may affect some landowners. He said that is why it is important for landowners to object to the Valuer General now, prior to the new valuations being brought into the rating system.

10.17 PRESIDENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10-2

Providing an update on various activities in which LGNSW has been active – including the *Fit for the Future* reform process; State election priorities 2015 – saying it would appear the current Government favours a CDS and encouraging

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them to stand firm in the face of a concerted anti-CDS campaign by the beverage and packing industries and establish the 'cash for containers' initiative.

Also referring to the Government's *Make Safe Assistance Package* which provides varying support to affected property owners in NSW. Pointing out that LGNSW has also been pushing for certain 'optional risk controls' to become mandatory requirements and the NSW Government has now made that commitment.

The General Manager recommended that Councillors read the information contained in the document included with the business paper regarding the NSW Government's views on Local Government Capacity written by Peter Abelson and Roselyne Joyeux. Mr Warren said that, in his opinion, the information is very accurate.

10.18 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT E5-2(447453)

Referring to the Gateway Determination dated 21 May 2014 regarding amendment to Coonamble Local Environmental Plan. Advising that, as the Minister's delegate, the Local Environmental Plan under Section 59(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* has been made. Saying that under Section 34(5) of the Act, it will take effect when published on the NSW Legislation website.

10.19 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE ASSOCIATION INC B13(44742)

Saying that in 2011 the RFSA produced a publication titled *Building a Rural Fire Service for 2030* which was distributed prior to the State Election that year. Advising the policies have been reviewed, updated and prioritised in the light of developments since that publication. Pointing out both documents are available from <http://www.rfsa.org.au/about-us-policies>

10.20 NSW FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES G5(44733)

Thanking Council for submitting an application for funding under the 2015 NSW Seniors Week grants program. Advising the application for the project titled *Seniors Bring Arts Alive* was not successful.

**10.21 PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT & ROADS
MR7515+R8-3(44734)**

Responding to correspondence from the Mayor to the Minister for Roads & Freight concerning the Warren to Coonamble Road. Pointing out that MR7515 is a regional road under the care and control of Council and in 2014/15 Council will receive a total of \$1.23 million from the NSW government under the Block Grant and REPAIR programs for use on its regional roads. Advising that, at this time, RMS does not have further funding for work on MR7515.

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10.22 MOORAMBILLA VOICES LTD

D5-6-1

On behalf of the Directors of the Board of Moorambilla Voices Ltd, thanking Council for its cultural investment in its regional program over the past nine years. Extending an invitation to join Moorambilla at its 10th Anniversary Gala Concert at Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre on Saturday 19 September 2015.

In noting the information in this letter, the Mayor said he was contacted by the Artistic Director, Ms Michelle Leonard, complaining she was unable to book the pavilion for this year – the General Manager said he also had a telephone conversation with Ms Leonard and subsequently wrote to her regarding this matter. Councillors noted that in 2014 Council contributed an additional \$5,000 to Moorambilla to stage its “Farewell Concert” and were of the opinion that was the final event.

10.23 NSW DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT – ROADS & MARITIME SERVICES C6-13(44760)

Referring to Council’s correspondence relating to the determination of speed zones and saying the determination and process of ‘speed zoning’ is in accordance with the document *NSW speed zoning guidelines*. Advising many factors are considered in a review and include the actual crash history/risk; road function; roadside development; geometry; traffic patterns/mix; traffic volumes; lane configuration; road user type and number of accesses along the review length. Saying Council can be assured Roads & Maritime approach to speed zoning is consistent throughout the State and is not conducted in an ad-hoc manner.

1296 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.8 to 10.23 inclusive, be noted.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

1297 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

1298 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council note Development Application Nos 024/2014 and 024/2014, together with Complying Development Certificate Nos 022/2014 and 023/2014, were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

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11.2 COUNCILLOR TRAINING POLICY

1299 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Keady that the Councillor Training Policy be formally adopted, noting it has been on public exhibition for the prescribed 28 day period and no submissions and/or comments were received.

11.3 COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 2016

1300 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Coonamble Shire Council (“the Council”) resolves:

1. pursuant to s296AA (1) (a) of the Local Government Amendment (Elections) Bill 2014 (NSW) (“the Bill”) that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council;
2. pursuant to s296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council;
3. pursuant to s296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a constitution referendum arrangement be entered into by the contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council.

The General Manager stated that Council previously agreed to appoint the Electoral Commissioner to administer its elections however, due to amendments to the Bill, the wording of its previous resolution had to be amended.

11.4 POLICY REVIEW – REPORTING OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009

1301 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council resolve to place the Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy on public exhibition for the prescribed day period prior to formal adoption.

11.5 FIT FOR THE FUTURE

The General Manager reported that the Office of Local Government (OLG) has now released the final template and guidelines for councils wishing to adopt the rural council model. Mr Warren provided a copy of the three templates and guidelines made available by OLG, as follows:

1. Council Merger Proposal template
2. Council Improvement Proposed template
3. Rural Council Proposal template.

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He said Council needs to consider its position in regard to the submission due with the OLG by 30 June 2015 and make a formal resolution as to the path it wishes to follow. The General Manager submitted a comprehensive report providing Council with details to assist it in making a decision. He reminded Councillors that Council will be a member of the ORANA Joint Organisation regardless of the decision made.

Councillors debated this matter at length – Councillors suggested that public consultations take place, informing residents of Council's decision and advising what further action is required of Council. The General Manager said that we need to look at service levels and demonstrate to OLG that we can live within our means. He pointed out that Council's submission will be a 'hard economic document'. Cr Keady said that we cannot be a rural council within a joint organisation and we should submit the Council Improvement Program template.

Cr Cullen said grant funding and user pays is population based and noted for rural councils population has been amended from 10,000 to 4,000. Cr Schieb said that for practicality, Warren would be the preferred amalgamation Shire, rather than Gilgandra. Cr Karanouh agreed that the Council Improvement proposal is the best option for this Council. It was noted that Council may need to review its overall operations, which could mean a reduction in services/staff.

The Manager of Environmental Services informed the meeting that Council's LEP may be repealed in favour of a more widespread regional document. The Director of Corporate and Urban Services advised that the consultant carrying out our asset infrastructure management is satisfied with Council's system and will provide a report which will reinforce Council's application for the 'improvement' proposal.

1302 RESOLVED the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council submit an Improvement Proposal – Template Two - under its existing function and structure to the OLG by the 30 June 2015.

1303 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that all residents be provided with information on Council's decision on *Fit for the Future* reform, explaining why it decided on the Council Improvement proposal, what further action will be taken and any other relevant detail **AND FURTHER** that residents be asked to vote on Council's decision.

1304 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Keady that the Mayor write to the Minister of Local Government, through the Local Member, advising where Council wants to be, its best course of action and reasons for Council's decision.

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11.6 NOTICE OF MOTION

Cr Schieb gave notice that he will move the following motion at the meeting of Council on 11 February 2015:

“That Council not proceed with the proposed development of the eco spa at the current caravan park/Smith Park site and that the eco spa be developed on the Crown land available at the racecourse/golf club”.

Cr Schieb spoke to this motion, pointing out that the current site is too small for the development and the Koonambil Hostel may wish to expand in the future and would have no available land. Council noted that it has been ascertained that Koonambil has no plans for future expansion.

The General Manager said Council is almost ready to invite expressions of interest for the current site and the caravan park is currently in the process of being upgraded. It was suggested if a private operator wished to establish another caravan park the racecourse/golf club land would be an ideal site.

PROPOSED by Cr Schieb that Council not proceed with the proposed development of the eco spa at the current caravan park/Smith Park site and that the eco spa be developed on the Crown land available at the racecourse/golf club ***lapsed for want of a seconder.***

11.7 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1306 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Walker that the information contained in the report by the Economic Development Manager be noted.

(a) **Abattoir** – it was noted that Council has sent the DA information to the EPA and is awaiting a response. If concurrence is received from the EPA, Council approval will immediately be forthcoming for the excavation of ponds. The Mayor informed the meeting that the owners are waiting on a price from Batterline for four ponds. The Manager of Environmental Services pointed out that licensing requirements are the responsibility of EPA – Council is the responsible authority for any buildings/infrastructure.

(b) **Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station** – All information sought by the RMS has been provided by Council, but nothing has been received regarding the HVIS. The Mayor suggested a letter be written to the Commissioner of Small Business – however the General Manager said although Council is prepared to assist the owners, it should not take over this matter.

(c) **Impact of Drought** – Cr Schieb referred to the *Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate* Scheme and said he believes the eligibility criteria is not satisfactory. He referred to the eligibility guidelines that only allow

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farmers who have a rainfall deficiency ranking of greater than or equal to a one in fifty year rainfall deficiency to apply for the rebate. Cr Schieb said representation should be made to allow farmers in the Coonamble area access to the scheme.

At this juncture, 10.35 a.m., the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 10.49 a.m.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1307 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

1308 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Walker that the information contained in the community services progress report be noted.

(a) Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 1st March

The Mayor referred to the two sites registered by Council for clean up – namely the river bank near the Sir Edward Hallstrom Bridge and portion of the Back Combara Road. Cr Karanouh said he would take the role of site captain for the river bank site and Cr Keady agreed to be site captain on the Back Combara Road leading up to the silos.

(b) Drug / Alcohol Rehabilitation

Cr Cullen referred to a program broadcast on the ABC which referred to rehabilitation centres being preferable over jail and said he had mentioned the matter to the Drug and Alcohol Counsellor, Mr Bobby Jones.

The Director of Community Services referred to a drug and alcohol forum being held in Coonamble on 28 April. She said it is a whole of community approach and attendance at the forum is by invitation so that there would be a broad cross section represented.

12.2 DISABILITY INCLUSION ACT 2014

1309 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Cullen that Council note councils are required to develop and implement Disability Inclusion Action Plans which must be completed by 1 July 2017, be reviewed every four years and included in the annual report.

12.3 COONAMBLE VACATION CARE SERVICE

1310 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that Council:

1. advertise its intention to cease operation of the Coonamble Vacation Care Service;
2. consider any submissions received prior to making a determination at the March 2015 meeting.

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12.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING - BI-ANNUAL REPORT

The Director presented the bi-annual report on progress against each action in Council's operational plan against those detailed in its delivery program. Councillors noted that Council is required to report its performance in these activities on a six monthly basis and the report outlined the operational plan activity for the period 1 July to 31 December 2014.

1311 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the information contained in the bi-annual report be noted.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

1312 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

1313 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 January 2015 be noted.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

1314 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Walker that the list of investments as 31 January 2015 be noted, and it also be noted that Council's investments comply with s625(2) of Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

13.3 2015/2016 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN

1315 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that the information be noted and items to be included for consideration in conjunction with the 2015/2016 estimates be provided to the Director of Corporate and Urban Services no later than Wednesday 11 March 2015.

13.4 COONAMBLE LAWN CEMETERY EXPANSION

1316 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that Council allocate the \$60,000 shown in the December 2014 budget review to allow for the construction of a new section at the Coonamble lawn cemetery.

13.5 STORES AND MATERIALS UNACCOUNTED FOR AND STORES AND MATERIALS WRITTEN IN – PERIOD 1 JULY 2014 TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

1317 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that Council authorize the writing in of stores & materials in the amount of \$1,833.00 and the writing off of stores & materials in the amount of \$492.51, as shown below, for period ending 31 December 2014:

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Items in Excess:

<u>Stores No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Amount</u>
S00001	Abrasive disc	2	6.72
S00057	Boots	4	240.00
S00070	Broom – Bass	1	11.77
S00089	Cement	9	77.73
S00270	Fly spray	3	25.53
S00285	Gloves	7	82.65
S00302	Grease tubes	2	14.21
S00460	Padlock	1	56.69
S00463	Paint – Road-marking	2	380.00
S00472	Petrol	27	35.26
S00487	Post – Galv 10 x 2	28	657.09
S00535	Safety glasses	2	27.81
S50008	Bend 150mm x 45' MF	1	15.80
S50009	Bend 150mm x 15' FF & MF	1	12.05
S50010	Bend 100mm x 15' MF	1	0.01
S50249	Bends 150mm x 45' MF	3	0.03
S50250	Bends 150mm x 90' FF – Access Tee (junction)	4	72.93
S50268	150mm x 90mm MF	3	116.72
Total			\$1,833.00

Items Unaccounted For:

<u>Stores No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Amount</u>
S00331	Hats	2	14.89
S00470	Pegs – Survey	6	13.10
S000289	Grader blades 5 x 6	4	367.90
S50095	Pathcock ¾ FF	1	17.41
S50098	Pathcock 1	1	34.26
S50260	Cap – Push-on 150mm	1	12.00
S50310	St Coupling 150mm threaded	2	32.95
Total			\$492.51

13.6 WORKS IN PROGRESS

1318 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Keady that the update of works in progress be noted.

(a) Vandalism

Councillors noted the many incidents of vandalism detailed in the Director's report and also noted its cost to Council. The Director informed the meeting that the local contractor will be installing sensor lights on the chlorine shed and club house at the swimming pool in an attempt to deter offenders.

The Mayor requested that additional trees be purchased and planted at the rear of Macdonald Park. Cr Schieb referred to the smelly and unclean state of the public toilets in the park – the Director said the toilets are cleaned daily, however he would arrange for a 'major' cleanup.

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Cr Walker referred to the bus shelters approved by Council – the Director of Engineering Services said there have been problems in obtaining quotes, but it is hoped that the information will be available within the next fortnight.

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

1319 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 PUBLIC GATES AND CATTLE GRIDS ON PUBLIC ROADS

The Director tabled the amended policy which has been on public exhibition and informed Council that one submission was received. Mr. Chudek said he has provided responses to each of the topics addressed in the submission in his report for Council's information.

Cr Schieb said that Council should actively promote this policy and inform the public of the responsibilities of landowners. Cr Keady said he realised this was an important policy, however the timeline is too tight – saying that the assessment time is sufficient, but to have faulty grids rectified by September is not acceptable, noting the costs associated with rectification works. He said that following the assessment, landowners should be given an extended time to carry out any necessary works. He suggested that landowners be encouraged to apply for funding under the Farm Innovation Fund and perhaps Council should consider individual cases and reconstruction/replacement works could be staged. Cr Keady said he could not see the need for a permit renewal system – saying once the permit identifies the ramp it should not have to be renewed until the ramp is deemed unsafe, then the permit be withdrawn.

The Director of Engineering Services said Council must have a policy that requires frequent self assessments and renewal of permits, enforcing property owners to keep structures to the required standard. Mr Chudek said that the self assessment would have a check list to guide landowners. The meeting noted that permits are not required for existing structures.

A MOTION

PROPOSED by Cr Webb **SECONDED** by Cr Keady that Council formally adopt the amended Policy for Construction of Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads, with the following changes, noting that one submission was received and that the policy be effective immediately:

- 6 months for the self assessment
- 12 months from the assessment process to carry out work.

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AN AMENDMENT

1320 PROPOSED by Cr Keady **SECONDED** by Cr Webb that Council formally adopt the amended Policy for Construction of Public Gates and Cattle Grids on Public Roads, with the following changes, noting that one submission was received and that the policy be effective immediately:

- 6 months for the self assessment
- 12 months from the assessment process to carry out work
- Permits be issued for a 36 month period.

On being put to the vote, the **amendment was carried** and on becoming the motion, was carried.

14.2 WORKS IN PROGRESS

1321 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Walker and Webb that the works in progress report supplied by the Director of Engineering Services be noted.

The following works were mentioned by the Director:

- Piping – dish drain Dubbo Street
- Material delivered to school
- Saleyards
- Signage – signs installed
- Levee – part to be constructed on old dump where asbestos was located. Moved levee by 50metres.
- Rehabilitation work at Wingadee – RMS project
- Nash Street – undertaking first stage of work within the next month.

15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

1322 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Webb that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

1323 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Walker that the information be noted.

The Manager informed Council that the Quality Assurance audit at the saleyards has been completed with a good result. Council has been given a month to undertake the internal audit.

Mr Cock referred to the planning meeting he attended recently in Dubbo – he said that any further amendments to the LEP be not put forward for at least 12 months and indicated that any changes be dealt with as ‘spot’ rezonings at cost to owner. The Manager said regarding residential lot size in rural areas, the Planning Department is not in favour of breaking up agricultural land.

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The Manager also said representatives of the Planning Department are prepared to assist Council in its endeavours and, at the appropriate time, will address Council on the best way to make further amendments to its LEP.

1324 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Walker that Council not proceed with any further rezoning of Council land or lot sizes until the Regional Plan has been developed.

15.2 RANGER'S REPORT – JANUARY 2015

1325 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Keady that the report provided by the Ranger for the month of January 2015 be noted.

16.0 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – 31/12/2014

The Director of Corporate and Urban Services encouraged Councillors to bring forward any issue which they wanted to discuss. The Director went through the budget papers and explained various items, including:

- Moorambilla - \$20,000 shown will be brought into the March review
- Funds for de-silting Warrena Creek Weir – review of environmental factors
- Administration expenses – Councillors were advised how these figures are compiled.
- Group contribution – water utilities
- Quarry

1326 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council:

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

1327 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that Council note the \$94,000 surplus in the budget for the 31 December 2014 quarter.

1328 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Keady that the budget surplus be adjusted to provide \$50,000 for a playground area, with shade cloth, at Quambone and a report be brought back to Council on this proposal.

Carried with the Mayor's casting vote.

17.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

1329 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that reports from various committees be received and dealt with.

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17.1 AGM of Museum under the Bridge & Heritage Committee Meeting - held on Friday 19 December 2014

17.2 Minutes of Orana Economic Development Network Meeting – held on 16 December 2014

17.3 Regional Round-up Report – Economic Development

1330 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the above three items be noted by Council.

18.0 SALEYARDS REPORT

1331 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Webb that the Saleyards report be received and dealt with.

In response to a question from Cr Cullen, the General Manager advised that the information requested by the Coonamble Associated Agents was provided.

1332 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Webb that the sale numbers for the month, together with the position of the saleyards account, be noted.

19.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

20.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Schieb: Nil

Cr Cullen:

- Regarding Graincorp trucks parking on Council road – saying Graincorp should make its facilities more efficient and look at ways for project regeneration to take all trucks off public roads onto its own land, noting the trucks are AB Triples. He also referred to the availability of funding to repair roads impacted by trucks.

1333 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Keady that Council write to Graincorp requesting it to take action to make its facilities more efficient by providing parking bays for trucks on its own site so that heavy haulage vehicles are not parked on Council's road.

Cr Keady:

- Referred to contact made with Office of Water, Dubbo to have the hole in the river filled in. Enquired whether the application should be made by Council or a private landowner. The GM stated that the Fisheries Management Act specifically referred to councils

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needing a permit to undertake dredging or reclamation of land – this was proving difficult to obtain

Cr Walker:

- Referred to house fire recently and said response services took 25 minutes to arrive. Asked if Council could make enquiries. It was agreed to speak with the local captain first before taking the matter further.
- Museum Curator – informed Council that the curator can no longer properly clean the museum and carry out yard maintenance.

1334 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council increase the budget for Museum expenses to \$5,000 in next year's estimates to provide for a cleaner.

General Manager:

- Suggested a bus trip to inspect all Council roads be arranged prior to the Estimates workshop. Cr Keady suggested that the Crusher also be included on the itinerary. The GM said he would arrange the bus and the tour would be held in April.

Mayor:

- Fit for the Future – suggested that Council write to the Minister for Local Government, through the Local Member, Mr Humphries, regarding Council's thoughts on its options for the future.
- Airport inspection – Councillors agreed that an inspection of the airport would be carried out to determine the site issues for the RFS and the Aero Club.

CLOSED SESSION

1335 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Schieb that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A:

“2(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)”

1336 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Keady and Schieb that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

1337 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Keady and Webb that Council resume Open Meeting.

There were no recommendations from Closed Session to Open Meeting.

At this juncture, 1.02 p.m. the meeting adjourned for lunch and an inspection of the Coonamble Aerodrome.

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INSPECTION OF SITES AT COONAMBLE AERODROME

Following lunch Councillors, the General Manager and the Director of Engineering Services travelled to the Coonamble Aerodrome to inspect the area to determine the best site for the erection of the Aero Club's hangar / workshop and the most practical location for the RFS water tanks.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 1.02 p.m.

These Pages (1/5608 to 21/5628) were confirmed on the ELEVENTH day of MARCH 2015 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 11 FEBRUARY 2015.

MAYOR