

4 March 2015

The next meeting of COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL will be held in the MEMORIAL HALL, BOURBAH STREET, GULARGAMBONE on WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2015 commencing 9.00 a.m.

BUSINESS OF THE MEETING:

1.	OPENING PRAYER	1
2.	ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND	1
3.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	1
4.	APOLOGIES	1
5.	DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS.....	2
6.	DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST.....	3
7.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
8.	RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE	23
9.	MAYORAL REPORT.....	26
10.	PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE	27
11.	REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER	32
12.	REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES.....	42
13.	REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES	50
14.	REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES.....	58
15.	REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	63
16.	REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES	71
17.	SALEYARDS REPORT	82
20.	QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE	83
21.	GENERAL BUSINESS	84

Yours faithfully
RICK WARREN
 General Manager

5. DEPUTATIONS/ DELEGATIONS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

6. DECLARATION – CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

**7.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON
WEDNESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY 2015 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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:

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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:

Items in Excess:

<u>Stores</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</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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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

8. RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

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:

Land settlement due end March. Preparation of Marketing Plan underway.

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:

All documentation has been completed by Council and forwarded to relevant authorities. There is a 90 day waiting period before any action can be taken.

FIT FOR THE FUTURE

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.

Status:

OLG to provide information as to changing circumstances of 'rural council' status, which may impact on Council's decision to adopt Template Two.

8.2 RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED

PLAYGROUND AREA - QUAMBONE

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.*

Status:

See Director of Corporate & Urban Services' Report to the March Meeting. COMPLETED.

9. MAYORAL REPORT
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015

This page was intentionally left blank.

10. PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

Section A – Matters for Consideration by Council:

10.1 COONAMBLE RACECOURSE & RECREATION RESERVE TRUST W1-6(44913)

Writing on behalf of the Coonamble Jockey Club and Coonamble Golf Club seeking permission to tap into the bore on the corner of Wingadee and Conimbia Streets, with a view to securing permanent water for recreational users at the Reserve. Pointing out the immediate need is for a secure water supply to water the golf course, race track and other facilities. Saying both clubs utilise the recycled sewage water which is adequate in winter, but falls short in summer because of high evaporation from ponds.

Advising the Trust intends to apply to the Department of Water for a separate licence and allocation from the bore and the proposed connection would be situated directly at the bore and would not use treated town water or impact on Council's town supply. Saying the water would be delivered by natural pressure from the bore through poly pipe to 2 x 250,000 litre tanks located near the present dam at the reserve.

Saying that in order to proceed with an application for a water licence, the Trust requires Council's 'in principle' approval. Pointing out they intend to apply for funding under the State Government's Public Reserves Management Fund for capital and construction costs associated with the project and the program is expected to open in mid-March 2015. Reiterating that the Trust will be seeking a separate allocation from the additional capacity available at the existing bore and will not impact on the town supply.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – In principle, it would appear a logical solution. The capacity of the bore to deliver the water and the potential impact on the aquifer would need to be investigated and any impact on the town water determined. This should be at no cost to Council.

A more detailed report will need to be considered by Council following consideration by the Director of Engineering Services.)

Recommendation:

That Council advise the Reserve Trust that in principle it is agreeable to investigate the opportunity, which will be at no cost to Council and subject to a technical analysis of water supply and impact on town water requirements.

10.2	COONAMBLE GOLF CLUB	D7
-------------	----------------------------	-----------

Seeking Council support in helping to fund the watering of the tees closest to the golf Club. Pointing out the heat of recent months is playing havoc with efforts to keep the course in good order. Requesting funding of \$1,000 to pay for water used to water these areas of the course. Saying it is understood the original allocation was given when 'user pays' system was introduced. Stating that council has granted the Club \$1,000 water allocation every year since that time to alleviate the cost of maintaining the grassed areas on the first and tenth tees closest to the road, as treated water cannot be used on this area.

(NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER – Council resolved at the 2014 March meeting to allocate \$1,000 to the Coonamble Golf Club as a contribution towards water use.)

<p>Recommendation: For Council's determination.</p>
--

10.3	CHAIR, ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (OROC)	L10-2
-------------	--	--------------

Writing to the Mayor advising that the last OROC Board meeting was held on 20 February and it was discussed and noted that OROC should commence to prepare and position itself to transit towards a Joint Organisation and reinforce its position as a region comprising 12 member councils. Pointing out that at the meeting OROC members agreed to support the following motion:

- "i. That on the basis of all member councils resolving same, the 12 existing members of OROC consider as to how the region moves forward to transit to a Joint Organisation.*
- ii) That all OROC members be requested to respond in writing, in respect of their position regarding inclusion in an Orana Joint Organisation (OROC) by 17th March 2015."*

<p>Recommendation: That Council:</p>

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) note the position of the OROC Board in regard to preparing to position the 12 current member councils towards a Joint Organisation; (ii) support the current OROC 12 member councils as the basis of an ORANA Joint Organisation, noting that Coonamble Shire Council will be a member of the prepared ORANA Joint Organisation in accordance with the recommendations of the final report of the NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel. |
|---|

Section B – For Council’s Information:**10.4 PRESIDENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW L10-2(44835)**

Providing an update of the activities of LGNSW, including:

Fit for the Future

Advising he and Chief Executive visited the Central Coast & Hunter Region to speak with Gosford, Wyong, Port Stephens, Newcastle and Maitland Councils. Saying the Government’s *Fit for the Future* reforms were a ‘hot topic’ and forthright contributions to LGNSW’s work to improve the reform process were welcomed. Pointing out that feedback at such meetings is vital to highlight common issues impacting councils. Saying LGNSW is currently advocating on the composition and processes of the proposed independent Expert Panel, the treatment of Local Water Utilities and how to take forward John Comrie’s recent work on the *Fit for the Future* assessment criteria and benchmarks.

Pointing out LGNSW’s Learning Solutions unit is running boot camps starting 23 February to help councils assess their options and prepare their proposals ahead of the June 2015 deadline. Encouraging councils to register early.

LGNSW State Election Priorities 2015

Advising that the NSW Opposition has revealed its initial policies in regard to Local Government and LGNSW has informed its members of the detail in those announcements, which covered:

- Popularly-elected mayors for 41 Sydney councils
- Congress of Mayors under the Greater Sydney Commission
- No forced amalgamations
- Tests for voluntary mergers.

Saying that as further detail emerges, LGNSW will ensure its members are kept informed.

Advising also that he gave an in-depth briefing to *The Land* newspaper on fair funding for bridges – another key part of LGNSW’s integrated package of State Election priorities. Saying it will soon be sending out a Toolkit to councils to help campaign and promote the key issues and proposed solutions in its *State Election Priorities*.

**10.5 NSW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY
G1-1(44871)**

Advising the NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014-2021 has been adopted and is available for download from the EPA website www.epa.nsw.gov.au/wastestrategy/warr.htm Saying the new strategy

provides a framework to lift waste and recycling performance in NSW on every front, setting higher recycling and diversion targets and providing clear direction on how they will be achieved.

10.6	STUDENTS OF QUAMBONE PUBLIC SCHOOL	L3(44909)
-------------	---	------------------

Thanking Council for all the work it has done and is planning to do in Quambone. Saying the Warren Road, on the Coonamble Shire side, is smoother and safer to travel and vehicles don't have to get off the road to pass. Noting Council moved the swings from the pool to the park across the road from the shop and this allows easier access and more equipment to play on. Saying their "biggest thanks" goes to Council's plan to put in brand new equipment in the park – this will make the park safer and allow them to get away from the television.

10.7	NSW TREASURY	H5(44920)
-------------	---------------------	------------------

Advising that the Minister for Industrial Relations has declared a public holiday for Wednesday 20 May 2015, being the second day of the Coonamble Show.

10.8	DUBBO CITY COUNCIL	A5(44889)
-------------	---------------------------	------------------

Pointing out it is preparing a new Masterplan for the Dubbo City Regional Airport and saying Council is undertaking the process of targeted consultation with key stakeholders. Seeking this Council's input across a wide variety of topics including the following:

- What is the nature of your business or interest in the Dubbo City Regional Airport
- What you see as the strengths of the facility
- What you see as the weaknesses of the facility
- What improvements can you suggest that can be made to the facility
- Can you identify any future infrastructure needs of the facility
- What is your ultimate vision for the facility.

Asking that the information be returned by 13 March 2015.

10.9	KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP	W1-5(44942)
-------------	---------------------------	--------------------

Forwarding a copy of the letter sent to Cr Schieb in connection with the pumping of water from the Castlereagh River. Saying that the NSW Office of Water has lodged a compliance breach report to investigate concerns about the pumping of river water in breach of the Water Sharing Plan.

In his letter to Cr Schieb, Mr. Humphries states that 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. Saying this reach of the river consists of extensive in river sand beds and flows are highly variable, with large sections of the sandy riverbed often dry. Pointing out that although there was a significant rainfall event across the catchment areas in mid-August, there were minimal inflows into the river systems. Advising that the Office of Water hydrologist believes the main reason for this is that the rainfall event 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.

RICK WARREN
General Manager
3 March 2015

**11. REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015**

**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
2/15	Mrs Sharon M Smith	Mr James Smith	Erection of shed	69-71 Namoi Street Coonamble	19/02/2015

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 Application No. 002/2015 was approved under delegated authority since last meeting.

11.2 LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program –
11.3.2 Maintain certification of Aerodrome to CASA Regulations.
12.3 Share access to local facilities to fully realise the potential of
local infrastructure.***

Background:

At the Council meeting of 11 February 2015 Council discussed the location of the proposed maintenance hangar. No formal resolution was adopted.

Issues:

After a site visit it appears Council is in agreement with the hangar being located next to the Aero Club hangar in a general north/south alignment. It is noted there is no sealed pavement area that would front the proposed building and Council will probably need to consider this in the future.

Mr Backhouse, as representative of the Aero Club, has been informed that a Development Application will need to be lodged with Council and that no work can be undertaken prior to approval of any lodged DA.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

N/A

Financial Considerations:

Council has resolved to provide \$50,000 to assist in the development of this project.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:**That Council note:**

- (1) the location of the proposed workshop is next to the Aero Club's current hangar;**
- (2) a Development Application will need to be lodged prior to any work commencing.**

11.3 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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

L1.2 Promote opportunities for leaders to learn feature of good leadership

L1.4 Encourage and promote high level of leadership in the community.

Background:

Each year the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) holds the National Assembly in Canberra. The Mayor attended the 2014 Assembly. This year the event will be held from 14 – 17 June at the National Convention Centre.

Issues:

The theme for this year is *Closest to the Community : Local Government in the Federation*. The ALGA believes local government is an important player in the Australian system of government as it provides crucial local planning, services, program and infrastructure that underpins the life of every local community. ALGA intends to make submissions to the Green Paper and believes this forum is important in formulating these submissions.

The 2015 Assembly is an opportunity for councils to put forward motions relative to policy and matters of the work of local government nationally. Motions are to be submitted by 11.59 p.m. Friday 17 April 2015. Should Council wish to submit a motion to the conference it will need to have a Council resolution at the April meeting.

Should Council wish to send a delegate it will also need to have a Council resolution by or at the April 2015 meeting. Further information please see **APPENDIX A**.

Sustainability / Legislative Provisions:

N/A

Financial Considerations:

Should Council wish a delegate to attend the Assembly, the following costs would be expected:

• Registration	\$ 899.00
• Buffet dinner/per person	\$ 100.00
• Accompanying partner	\$ 240.00
• Regional Development Forum	\$ 395.00
• Accommodation \$250/night	\$1,000.00
• Travel (vehicle)	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
	<u>\$3,134.00</u>

Options:

- (1) Not attend the National Assembly of Local Government
- (2) Delegate attend the National Assembly of Local Government.

Recommendation:

That Council note the information pertaining to the 2015 National Assembly of Local Government.

11.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING PROCESS

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

Background:

A time table is required to ensure the orderly progress of the 2015 – 2019 Delivery Program and Operational Plan process. The requirements of the Integrated Planning and Reporting are applicable to this year's management plan.

Issues:

It is suggested that the following time table be adopted:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Function</i>
Council to determine date – late April	Draft Delivery Program & Operational Plan to be considered on ????? and placed on public exhibition
Tuesday 26 May at 7.00 p.m.	Public meeting for Council to present its Delivery Program & Operational Plan to the Community.
??????	Submissions from the public close
Wednesday 10 June	Delivery Program & Operational Plan adopted (at normal monthly Council meeting)

It is proposed that the workshop be for Councillors to discuss projects relating to the following year's Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Estimates.

Rates will increase by the 2.4% approved by IPART - this is an overall increase in total rates, not an individual amount. IPART calculated the rate peg amount in the following manner:

September 2014 Local Government Cost Index	2.47%
Deduct productivity factor	<u>.04%</u>
	<u>2.43%</u>

Rounded to 2.4% effectively giving a productivity factor of .07%

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

Council is required to place its Operational Plan for the coming year on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and must consider any submissions made by the public.

Financial Considerations: Variable.

Options: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council note the information, determine a date for the workshop and note the proposed percentage increase in rates for the 2015/2016 financial year draft budget.

11.5 SUBSIDISED DE-SEXING SCHEME – COMPANION ANIMALS

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

Background:

Council has received a request from the local veterinarian, Dr Kylie Parry, to assist with a subsidised de-sexing scheme for pets in Coonamble Shire. These schemes have been conducted in the past – 2004 and 2005 with support of RSPCA and Council's involvement in later years, however it is six years since the last program was run.

Issues:

Unfortunately the RSPCA will no longer provide any direct funds for programs such as this and to subsidise this scheme, it is proposed that funding will come from the NorthWest Vets, Council and the pet owners – refer following table:

Animal	Normal Price	Owner	Council	Vets
Female dog	\$250-\$375	\$120	\$100	\$30-\$155
Male dog	\$190-\$270	\$70	\$70	\$50-\$130
Female cat	\$185	\$70	\$60	\$55
Male cat	\$90	\$30	\$25	\$35

The local veterinarian suggests that, with Council ranger's help, the program should target low-income earners. Council is also requested to pay for the microchips for each un-chipped animal, with vets and nurses doing the actual chipping and the vets will provide a free vaccination and worming to each animal. I believe this is the basis of responsible pet ownership and should be borne by the animal's owner.

It would be more beneficial for Council to assist those who are complying with the Companion Animals Act and other legislation in that they have their pets micro-chipped and registered. The cost of de-sexing animals is expensive and it may well be that people who are displaying responsible pet ownership are not in a position financially to pay the de-sexing costs. With this in mind, should Council decide to participate in this scheme, inform the local veterinarian that it agrees to de-sexing only micro-chipped and registered animals and request the veterinary clinic to provide details of microchip and registration with the invoice.

It is planned to conduct this scheme on two separate occasions – April/May and October/November

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Companion Animals Regulation 2008

Financial Considerations:

Council's requested contribution is \$5,000 plus the cost of micro-chips for animals that are not 'chipped'.

Options:

1. Council agree to contribute \$5,000 for a de-sexing program for pets within the Shire, targeted at low income earners, plus provide cost of microchip for any animal not already micro-chipped.
2. Council agree to contribute \$5,000 for a de-sexing program for pets within the Shire, subject to de-sexing only animals which are already micro-chipped and registered.
3. Council decline to participate in the program.

Recommendation:

That Council agree to contribute \$5,000 for a de-sexing program for pets within the Shire, subject to de-sexing only animals which are already micro-chipped and registered.

11.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Author: *Economic Development Manager – Lee O'Connor*

PROJECT (Delivery Plan Reference)	ACTIONS	PROGRESS/OUTCOMES
Eco Spa + Caravan Park [EC2.1.7, I2.1.2]	Investment attraction: consulting with NSW Trade & Investment and Destination NSW to guide advertising and process.	Underway
Support new and existing business [EC 2.1.2]	Support Business Start-Ups and Expansions: provide information, advocacy and referral.	Responded to inquiries from: Nakadoo re tourism development; Jockey & Golf Clubs re water on reserve & funding; Assisting approval process for Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station.
[L1.1.3]	Chamber of Commerce – attended February meeting.	Visual Merchandising Workshop 24 March. Energy Management Workshops & site visits 5&6 May.
[P1.3.3]	Business Awards – referred 2014 winners to Central West Orana Business Awards and M Meers to State Training Awards.	Central West Orana Business Awards closes 13 th March. NSW Training Awards close 27 th March.
[EC 2.1.5]	Inquiries New Residents – respond to online inquiries from prospective residents.	1 information pack distributed to inquiry from Lismore.
	Business Bulletin – prepared Feb/March edition. APPENDIX B	Bulletin distributed to approx. 320 local business plus other stakeholders. APPENDIX B
	Small Business Friendly Councils Program – quarterly report submitted. Drafted survey of business.	Report submitted. Survey of approx. 30 business to occur in March.
	Vacant government-owned premises – followed up letter sent 8.12.14.	Ambulance Station had passed in at sale previously. Awaiting information on date and process for next offering. No word from DPI re former Dept of Ag offices.
	Passenger Air Services - provided list of local contacts to proponents for market research.	Feedback expected by mid March.

	Aircraft Engineering Facility - assist Aero Club with approvals and planning.	Aero Club preparing documentation for Construction Certificate and DA.
Green Power [14.1.1]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arranging Energy Management Basics Workshop & Site Assessments for Business in partnership with Chamber of Commerce. 2. Local Energy Audit, Pre-Feasibility & Business Case for community renewables project 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshops to be held 5&6 May. Will include advice on renewables. 2. Awaiting outcome of Environment Group funding application.
Employment Circle [EC2.1.4, EC3.3.1]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convened Employment Circle meeting held 17 Feb. 2. Learner Driver Programs – co-ordinate discussions re funding and delivery. 3. Orana Workforce Planning & Development Project – 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See Employment Circle meeting notes attached. Next meeting 24 March, 11am. 2. Coonamble RTC program complete. Neighbourhood Centre 'Drive Your Life' offering second round of scholarships. 3. Local Training Plan to be developed in partnership with TAFE Western and Chamber.
Economic Development Committee [EC2.1.1]		Next meeting TBA.
Advocacy [EC2.1.5]	1. Meetings with candidates for NSW State Election	1. Provided information on local ED priorities and projects to National and Independent candidates.
Orana EDO Network [P1.3.3] [EC3.4.5]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Relocation Project – participate in branding decisions. 2. Country Week – planning underway to attend this year using marketing collateral from Regional Relocation Project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Website and social media launch due end March. 2. Country Week at Sydney Olympic Park 31 July to 2 August.

Recommendation:

That the information in the Economic Development Manager's report be noted.

RICK WARREN
General Manager
2 March 2015

12. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES **COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015**

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

Background:

In line with Council's 2014/15 Operational Plan, this report presents a summary of community services progress and activities for the period February 2015.

Issues:

1. Community Development

1.1 Play. Grow. Connect!

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

Council staff worked with Gulargambone High School, and two eight two eight café, to develop a project brief and project plan for the Royal Agricultural Society's Community Futures funding program.

The project, *Play Grow Connect!*, will use capacity building and leadership development to assist young people engage with the broader community to create a social space.

Through place making activities, the project will aim to strengthen the connection between young people and commercial spaces within the Gulargambone main street. The tangible output will take the form of a safe and productive natural play space area at the Gulargambone two eight two eight café.

The main elements of the project are:

- Develop a project team of young people from the Gulargambone Central School. The project team will engage in research, planning and community consultation.
- Create a natural play space reflective of community needs and aspirations.
- Create a community herb garden.

Play Grow Connect! project goals are:

1. Increase young people's level of community pride.
2. Increase young people's teamwork, leadership and communication skills.
3. Create a vibrant, safe, productive and sustainable community space.

1.2 Drug and Alcohol Forum

***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 Coonamble Drug and Alcohol Advisory Group will host a Drug and Alcohol Forum on Wednesday 29 April 2015. The Forum will be an invitational event driven by Council, Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service and Uniting Care. Hosted by Julie McCrossin, the forum will aim to gather stakeholder views and develop local solutions. The data gathered will underpin further lobbying and action planning.

1.3 Gular Women's Group

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

In September 2014, Council was successful in its application for a \$4000 Creative Ageing grant from LGNSW and Family and Community Services. The Creative Ageing program was designed to encourage and support arts and crafts involvement for seniors.

The program was run in Gulargambone in conjunction with Uniting Care and the Gulargambone Women's Group. A number of workshops were conducted with workshop numbers growing as the project moved forward. Twenty five women were registered for a nutrition workshop.

As a result of the Creative Ageing program, there has been an increase in participation in the Gulargambone Women's Group, as well as input from the community on the activities it would like to see.

Uniting Care and the Gulargambone Women's Group will be working with Council to build on the workshops, using the successes of the program to source other program funding.



1.4 Youth Council

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

Youth Council dates have been set for the 2015 year as follows:

- 2 & 24 March; 6 May; 11 June; 24 July, 17 August; 15 September; 21 October & 12 November.

The first Youth Council meeting will focus on progressing planning for Youth Week 2015 (11- 19 April), together with prioritising issues identified at the 2014 Youth Forum.

The current draft Youth Week program includes the following activities –

Date	Activity
11.4.15	Drawing / painting workshop
13.4.15	Bus trip to Dubbo
14.4.15	Cinema Under the Stars – Coonamble
15.4.15	Workshops – Tie Dye T shirts & clay sculpting
16.4.15	Big Day Out – Walgett Bus Trip
17.4.15	Talent Competition + music/ skate demonstration and competition.
All week	Writing competition Photography competition

2. Public Art Policy

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – I2.1.4
Develop a Coonamble Shire Public Art Policy and Procedure.***

Council staff have commenced consultation for the Coonamble Shire Public Art Policy. Stakeholder meetings will take place during March 2015 and both a paper and electronic survey has been developed.

3. Ageing Population Strategy

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – P4.2.3
Develop an Ageing Population Strategy for the Shire.***

Consultation for Council's Positive Ageing Strategy has commenced and will continue during March 2015.

The strategy will outline Council's commitment to meeting the needs of older people and maximising the benefits of an ageing population.

Consultation is planned with older people, the broader community, government and non- government agencies.

4. Home Safety Campaign

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program – P2.1.4-
Conduct home safety campaign focussed on elderly and vulnerable
residents.***

Following from the Burglar Beware project in 2012 and 2013 the Safe Seniors campaign encourages home security awareness in residents. The campaign is media driven, through the Council Column and via the Coonamble and Gulargambone Libraries.

5. Library

***Link to Community Strategic Plan / Council Delivery Program- 12.2.2
Provide high quality library services that are responsive to community
need. 12.2.3 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. P4.2.1 Provide strategic
early intervention community development programs for children and
young people.***

- Completed Summer Reading Club with twenty five participants. The winners had their photo taken and uploaded onto the Coonamble Shire Library facebook page. Prizes included books, talking books and puppets and book shop gift vouchers. The program encourages children to continue reading over the school holidays.
- Increased DVD collection. The Library is currently the only place in Coonamble that has DVD movies available.
- Valentine's Day books were featured on the central pyramid including picture books, non fiction and fiction books.
- Book of the Week and Reader Recommended book continues to be popular with a quick turnaround of books.

- Weeding of old North Western Regional Library stock has commenced. Both Coonamble and Gulargambone will undergo weeding.
- Housebound deliveries to patrons with copy of seniors magazine continue every fortnight.
- Big Screen movie nights continue Friday fortnightly with 10-15 attendees typically between the ages of 5-15. The attendees are offered popcorn, sandwiches, fruit and water.
- Interact Employment Service utilised meeting room.
- Home work help and after school activities continue at the Coonamble Library with 418 children attending during the reporting period (Home work help - 20, after school activities – 398).

Library statistics

Service	Total Issues	New Memberships	WiFi	Internet	Visits
Coonamble	1412↑	10↓	80↑	297↑	920↑
Gulargambone	118↑	1↑			

Patron assistance	Reference Enquiries	Technology Enquiries	Local History Enquiries
Coonamble	31↑	25↑	16↑

6. 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.

- New Coonamble Tourism Website completed with information for visitors as well as local residents, who host visiting friends and relatives.
- Nature's Way (state tourist drive 3) Guide designed by Council staff. The state tourist route includes Inverell, Bingara, Narrabri and Coonamble.
- Administration of the Regional Flagship Funding for the annual Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft on behalf of the Coonamble Rodeo Association.

Visitor Statistics for Reporting Period (January 15)

Visitor Numbers	Visitor Type	Visitor Home State	Enquiry Type	Enquiry Details*
65	Retiree 40	NSW 55	Local 50	Directions 50
	Worker 20	QLD 8	Regional 15	Attractions 42
	Family 5	TAS 2		Eateries 11
				Toilets 33
				Souvenirs 3
				Accommodation 11

*Some visitors had more than 1 enquiry

7. Grants

- Fixing Country Roads – successful applications (Railway Street and Pilliga Road) totalling \$615,000.
- Creating Liveable Communities Competition (funded by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) and administered by Local Government NSW). \$31,800 awarded to Council for the development of a disabled access toilet and ramp at Quambone Hall.

8. Museum Under the Bridge

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

Facebook Total: 1,446 (increase of 13 from previous month).

Planned exhibits for 2015:

- “Tracker” Robinson.
- William Baccon, a local ten year old boy who walked for many miles in the bush to locate help for his dying Mother.
- Norman Moody, a photographer who pioneered the first vehicle to cross the Warrumbungle Ranges.
- The Zither.
- Leonards Shoe Store celebrating one hundred years in business.
- Coonamble Ambulance.
- Coonamble “All Blacks” Football team in the 1960’s.
- One hundred year anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli.
- Coonamble Red Cross.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Library Act 1939

Financial Considerations:

Nil.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

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

12.2 COONAMBLE VACATION CARE SERVICE

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

Background:

I refer to my report to the February 2015 meeting on the Coonamble Vacation Care Service and Council's resolution to advertise its intention to cease operation of the Service.

Issues:

Council's decision was made on the grounds that two local operators are offering the service and intend to for their programs to continue.

Advertisements were placed in the Coonamble Times on 18 & 25 February and 4 March outlining this decision. The closing date for comment was 4 March and no comment and/or objection was received.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Financial Considerations: Nil.

Options: N/A.

Recommendation:

That Council cease its Coonamble Vacation Care facility as local child care providers are delivering the service and note that no objection and/or comment was received to Council's intention to cease providing its service.

LIANNE TASKER

Director of Community Services
2 March 2015

**13. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN
SERVICES**
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

Total Combined Rate Collections to 28/02/2015 compared to 28/02/2014:

	28/02/2015	28/02/2014
Arrears 30 th June previous year	777,517.47	791,468.50
Plus 2014/2015 Combined Levy	5,814,335.96	5,683,195.68
Add Transfer from Postponed	-	-
GROSS LEVY	6,591,853.45	6,474,664.18
Less: Pensioner Concession (State)	(64,706.95)	(62,382.97)
Pensioner Concession (Council)	(52,942.05)	(51,040.61)
Transfer to Postponed	-	-
Abandoned	-	-
NET TOTAL LEVY FOR YEAR	6,474,204.45	6,361,240.60
Less Collections	(4,736,311.50)	(4,175,977.77)
Plus Refunds	-	-
NET TOTAL BALANCE	1,737,892.95	2,185,262.83
Plus Postponed	-	-
GROSS TOTAL BALANCE	1,737,892.95	2,185,262.83
Collection % of Total Receivable	73.16%	65.65%
Arrears % of Total Receivable	26.84%	34.35%

Recommendation:
Submitted for Council's information.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS – FEBRUARY 2015

Financial Institution	Invest Rating S&Ps	Investment Type/Maturity Date	Current Rate	Term	Amount (\$)
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 09/04/2015	3.41%	90 Days	2,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 29/05/2015	3.45%	150 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 28/04/2015	3.40%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
St George	A1+	Term Deposit - 16/04/2015	3.35%	120 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 01/05/2015	3.40%	120 Days	1,000,000.00
Reliance C/U	Unrated	Term Deposit - 03/03/2015	3.30%	90 Days	500,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 21/04/2015	3.35%	92 Days	1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	Term Deposit - 25/05/2015	3.00%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
IMB	A2	Term Deposit - 12/03/2015	3.40%	92 Days	1,000,000.00
National Australia Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 16/04/2015	3.45%	120 Days	2,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 17/03/2015	3.15%	90 Days	1,500,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 27/05/2015	3.00%	90 Days	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A3	Business Online Saver - at call	2.75%	N/A	1,000,000.00
ME Bank	A1+	Term Deposit - 25/05/2015	3.00%	90 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 28 February 2015 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 QUAMBONE PARK – PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION

***Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:
P3.1.3 Investigate and develop further age appropriate play areas
that meet the needs of ages 0 - 5 and 6 - 12 years
I2.1.9 Continue to upgrade and maintain infrastructure that
supports cultural, recreational and leisure activities.***

Background:

The upgrade of playground equipment at Quambone was first raised prior to the preparation of the 2013/14 financial estimates. As required under Council's integrated planning and reporting requirements, Council staff conducted a community consultation process with the relevant parties to determine the user's preferences for activities at the facility.

Issues:

Due to financial constraints during the preparation of the 2013/14 and 2014/15 operational estimates the project was included conditional on Council being successful in obtaining grant funding to allow the works to proceed.

During consideration of the December 2014 Budget review, Council resolved to allocate \$50,000 from its budgeted operating surplus to allow the works to proceed. Quotes have been sought and, at the time of the writing of this report, only one company has responded to Council's request.

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- New South Wales Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

Two alternative designs have been provided for Council's consideration. First the larger of the two options is option 1 at a cost of \$49,810 (GST Exclusive) for the supply and installation of the equipment. To allow for the completion of the works Council would be responsible for site preparation costs, including the cutting and removal of turf, plus installation of timber edging, weed matting and the spreading of "playground" certified mulch. This is estimated to cost Council an additional amount of \$3,500, bringing the total estimated cost for the project to \$53,310.

Option 2 is a smaller design and, as such, has been quoted at a cost of \$46,351 (GST Exclusive) for the supply and installation of equipment. Once again, to allow for the completion of the works Council would be responsible for site preparation costs as detailed above, with the estimated cost being \$3,500, which would bring the total estimated cost of the project to \$49,851.

Diagrams and plans detailing the layout for Options 1 & 2 have been included for Council's information and consideration in **APPENDIX C**. It should also be noted that neither of the options include the cost of erecting shade shelter covering the equipment. Council may wish to consider the installation of the shade shelter as part of its 2015/16 estimates process.

Should Council resolve to proceed with one of the options, the estimated timeframe for completion is approximately 12 weeks.

Options:

1. Select Option 1 and allocate the funding required to allow for the completion of the works at an estimated cost of \$53,310.
2. Select Option 2 and allocate the funding required to allow for the completion of the works at an estimated cost of \$49,851.
3. Seek further quotations for the supply and install of playground equipment at Quambone

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

13.4 RURAL FIRE SERVICE ESTIMATES 2015/2016
--

***Link to Community Strategic Plan/Council's Delivery Program:
13.2.1 Liaise with RFS to provide operational & strategic fire
protection in Coonamble***

Background:

Coonamble Shire Council is a member of the North West Zone NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) - other members are Walgett Shire Council and Warren Shire Council. The cost of providing the service is funded by local government to an amount of 11.7%, insurance companies fund 73.7% and the State government funds 14.6%. Of the 11.7% funded by local councils in the North West Zone, Coonamble Shire Council is responsible for 24%; Warren Shire Council 25% and Walgett Shire Council is responsible for 51%

Issues:

Initially, the RFS proposed a budget of \$4,090,524 which would represent an increase to Coonamble Shire Council of 35.7%. Included in this increase is a contribution from Council reserves of \$30,126 to fund repair works at the Coonamble Fire Control Centre, which is Council's responsibility. This decision was made to maximise the funding available to carry out the works as through the bids and estimate process the state government will top up the funding by another 98.3 % to allow for the completion of works.

At the Service Level Agreement meeting held on 21 January 2015, the councils of Coonamble, Warren and Walgett proposed cuts to the RFS budget that, in effect, reduced the proposed increase to 1.8% (excluding Council contribution to Building repairs \$30,126). This was achieved by reducing the replacement of second hand vehicles to achieve a savings of \$101,772. This would see the RFS Zone budget reduced to \$3,936,162 - \$460,531 to be funded by the three councils

Sustainability/Legislative Provisions:

- Crown Lands Act 1989.
- Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2013.
- New South Wales Local Government Act 1993

Financial Considerations:

Council's contribution for 2014/2015 will be \$101,418 with the proposed 1.8% increase making Council's total contribution \$133,423 approximately. Of this amount \$30,126 will be funded from the Emergency Services building maintenance reserve. It should also be noted that when taking into account potential reimbursable items the net contribution will be further reduced by this amount, in the 2014/15 year this equated to a reduction of approximately \$19,000.

Options:

N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the budget of \$3,936,162 for the North West Zone of the NSW Rural Fire Service for the 2015/2016 Financial Year, noting Council's contribution will be approximately \$133,423.

13.5 WORKS IN PROGRESS

Parks & Gardens:

- Works program continues to focus on improving the presentation of Council open spaces. During the last month particular focus has been on improving the presentation of the Coonamble cemetery.
- Repairs to two of Councils wide area mowers have been completed, staff will address the backlog of mowing of Councils open spaces over the next fortnight.

Vandalism Update:

- The current cost of repairing vandalism damage to Council's facilities for the 2014/15 financial year is \$26,055.
 - 12/02/2015 - Security Camera on Library Roof was kicked off the mounting.
 - 14/02/2015 - Museum under the Bridge broken into
 - 15/02/2015 - Perimeter Fence cut at Coonamble Pool.
 - Security Lights installed at McDonald Park destroyed (installed on the 13/02/2015).
 - 19/02/2015 - Toilets in McDonald Park vandalised.
 - 21/02/2015 - Perimeter fence at the Coonamble Pool was cut.
 - 22/02/2015 - Coonamble Pool fence was cut with the upstairs area broken into
 - 12/02/2015 - Quambone Pool was vandalised with the facility closed for two days as a result

Pools:

- Sensor lights for rear of the main complex at the Coonamble Pool have been installed
- Coonamble Pool played host to 3 school carnivals with positive feedback received by staff.

Buildings:

- The refit / repainting of the toilets at the Gulargambone memorial Hall have been completed
- Replacement of the CCTV camera in MacDonald Park has been finalised.
- Minor Repairs carried out to buildings.

Recommendation:

That the information contained in this item be noted.
--

BRUCE QUARMBY

Director of Corporate and Urban Services

2 March 2015

14. REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES **COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015**

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

(a) Plant/Workshop:

- Plant repairs completed on as required basis.
- Routine servicing of transport vehicles completed on “as required” basis.

(b) Saleyards:

- New loading ramp - Project completed to RMS satisfaction allowing for invoicing of the remaining part of the grant.



Coonamble Saleyards – New Loading Facility

(c) Airport:

- Routine maintenance completed as required.
- Management plan scheduled to be reviewed in the next 2 months.

(d) Depot:

- Routine maintenance to depots and buildings as required.

(e) Water Treatment Plant & Reticulation:

- Repairs have been completed to water mains, meters and services as required in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.
- Warrena St, Coonamble water supply pipework replacement commenced 9th February 2015. The existing AC main is being replaced with PWC pipework. The work includes AC main replacement and reconnection of the existing services.
- Coonamble Water Treatment Plant - Aquatec Maxcon undertook some modification works addressing problems identified to date. Further work will be undertaken by the Aquatec Maxcon shortly. Pending management approval of the scope.

- Removal of sludge and sediments from No1. Sedimentation Pond has been completed. The works were delay by significant seepage from No. 2 Sedimentation Pond.



Coonamble WTP – Sedimentation Pond

(f) Sewerage:

- Removal of sludge and sediments from the evaporation pond still on hold due to the recent rainfall.
- Routine maintenance and clearing of blockages have been undertaken at Coonamble and Gulargambone.

(g) State Highway:

- Works Completed

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Comments
1	B55 Castlereagh Hwy – Heavy Patches	\$50,000.00	
2	B55 Castlereagh Hwy – Telstra Tower Rehabilitation Works	\$1,000,000.00	
3	B55 Castlereagh Hwy – Telstra Tower Culvert 121 reconstruction	\$15,000.00	



B55 Castlereagh HWY – Heavy patches



B55 Castlereagh HWY – Telstra Tower rehabilitation

- Works Scheduled to Commence and Underway

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Comments
1	B55 Castlereagh Hwy (SH18) - Culvert replacement south of Gulargambone	\$75,000.00	
2	RMS Castlereagh Hwy (SH18) reconstruction 5 km north of Coonamble.	\$100,000.00	Site preparation & survey works on the schedule of rate basis

(h) Urban, Local and Regional Roads:

- Works Completed.

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Comments
1	Maintenance grading shire roads 36, 93, 17c, 30, 2, 126, 93, 15.		
2	Culvert rehabilitation shire road 86		
	Heavy Patches shire road 86		
	Shoulder widening shire road 86		
	Resealing shire road 2, 19, 87.		



Shire Road 36 - Beanbah Rd maintenance

- Works Scheduled to Commence

Item	Task	Cost (if relevant)	Comments
1	Ongoing regular maintenance: potholes, weed spraying etc		
2	Heavy patches: Warren Rd Carinda Rd Quambone Rd		Scheduled for March – April 2015
4	Culvert maintenance/replacement Quambone Rd		Scheduled for April – May 2015
5	Pilliga Rd causeway repair		
7	Installation of various road signs. We plan to cover the entire Shire (especially unsealed roads) replacing old and otherwise substandard signage. We also plan to install better delineation and signage at approaches to bridges and other locations	Approx. \$50,000.00	Ongoing
8	Guard rail repairs (timber post replacement and improved end terminals)	Approx. \$100,000.00	
9	Replacement of Dubbo St causeway		Pending completion of water main replacement in Warrena St
10	Nash St, Coonamble rehabilitation		Scheduled for March – April 2015
11	Rehabs of sections of road: Tooraweenah Rd. Box Ridge Rd		

(i) **Levee:**

- Under construction. Expected completion April 2015
- Levee Designer NSW Public Works approved realignment of the levee north of Gordon St. proposed to avoid construction of the levee bank over the contaminated land located north of Gordon Street.
- Realignment works commenced on 27 February 2015.

(j) **Quarry:**

- Current major orders include: RMS Newel HWY 8,000.00 tonnes and RMS B55 Castlereagh Hwy - Dallas reconstruction 20,000.00 tonnes. RMS oversize rock 800 tonne.

- Rock blast has been scheduled for the week commencing on 2nd March 2015.

(k) Coonamble High School:

- Shed hard stand completed.



Coonamble High School shed hard stand

(l) Bus Stops:

- Construction works commenced.

Recommendation:
That the information be noted

PETER CHUDEK
Director of Engineering Services
2 March 2015

15. REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2015

**15.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO: 004/2015 –
 CASTLEREAGH HALAL REGIONAL ABATTOIRS PTY LTD**

Applicant details:	Castlereagh Halal Regional Abattoirs P/L 6 John Street BEXLEY NSW 2207
Description of development:	Enlargement/Reconfiguration of existing treatment ponds and construction of two additional ponds.
Ownership:	Castlereagh Halal Regional Abattoirs P/L 6 John Street Bexley NSW 2207
Zoning:	RU1
Site:	Lot 56 DP754199 Scotts Road Coonamble NSW 2829

Comment:

A development application was received on 22 January 2015 for the enlargement/reconfiguration of existing treatment ponds and construction of two additional ponds. On the same day, the application and accompanying documents were forwarded to the Regional Operations Officer, NSW Environment Protection Authority, Dubbo for investigation and concurrence.

On 19 February 2015 the EPA completed its General Terms of Approval – Issued advising Council that it had reviewed the information provided and has determined that it is able to vary the existing EPA licence for the proposal, subject to a number of conditions and forwarded the general terms of approval which, if Council granted approval, were to be incorporated into the consent.

The application has been assessed and the following determination is recommended to Council, which includes the conditions imposed by the EPA.

Recommendation:

That Council approve Development Application No. 004/2015, submitted on behalf of Castlereagh Halal Regional Abattoirs Pty. Ltd., for the enlargement/reconfiguration of existing treatment ponds and construction of two additional treatment ponds on Lot 56 DP 754199, Scotts Road, Coonamble, subject to the following conditions:

1. Except as expressly provided by these general terms of approval, works and activities must be carried out in accordance with the proposal contained in:

- i) the development application DA 004/2015 submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority on the 27 January 2015; and**
- ii) Environmental Management Plan submitted to the EPA on the 12 January 2015.**

Reason: Statutory Requirement

2. The applicant must, in the opinion of the EPA, be a fit and proper person to hold a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, having regard to the matters in section 83 of that Act.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

3. *Pollution of Waters:* Except as may be expressly provided by a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation of the development, section 120 of the protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 must be complied with in and in connection with the carrying out of the development.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

4. *Waste:* The licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste generated outside the premises to be received at the premises for storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal or any waste generated at the premises to be disposed of at the premises, except as expressly permitted by a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

This condition only applies to the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of waste at the premises if it requires an environment protection licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Reason: Statutory Requirement

5. *Hours of Operation:* All construction work at the premises must only be conducted between 07:00 to 18:00 hours Monday to Friday, 08:00 to 13:00 hours Saturdays and at no time on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

6. Activities at the premises, other than construction work, may only be carried on between 07:00 to 18:00 hours Monday to Friday.

This condition does not apply to the delivery of material outside the hours of operation permitted by Conditions 5 and 6, if that delivery is required by police or other authorities for safety reasons; and/or the operation or personnel or equipment are endangered. In such circumstances, prior notification is provided to the EPA and affected residents as soon as possible, or within a reasonable period in the case of emergency.

The hours of operation specified in Conditions 5 and 6 may be varied with written consent if the EPA is satisfied that the amenity of the residents in the locality will not be adversely affected.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

7. Odour: No condition of this licence identifies a potentially offensive odour for the purpose of section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act)

Section 129 of the POEO Act provides that the licensee must not cause or permit the emission of any offensive odour from the premises but provides a defence if the emission is identified in the relevant environment protection licence as a potentially offensive odour and the odour was emitted in accordance with the conditions of a licence directed at minimising odour.

Cooking of offal and/or other products is not permitted onsite.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

8. Dust: All operations and activities occurring at the premises must be carried out in a manner that will minimise emissions of dust from premises.

Trucks entering and leaving the premises that are carrying loads must be covered at all times, except during loading and unloading.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

9. Stormwater/sediment control – Construction Phase: A Soil and Water Management Plan (SWMP) must be prepared and implemented. The plan must describe the measures that will be employed to minimise soil erosion and the discharge of sediment and other pollutants to lands and/or waters during construction activities. The SWMP should be prepared in accordance with the requirements for such plans outlined in Managing Urban Stormwater: Council Handbook (available from EPA).

Reason: Statutory Requirement

10. Stormwater/sediment Control – Operation Phase: A Stormwater Management Scheme must be prepared for the development and must be implemented. Implementation of the Scheme must mitigate the impacts of stormwater run-off from and within the premises following the completion of construction activities. The Scheme should be consistent with the Stormwater Management Plan for the catchment. Where a Stormwater Management Plan has not yet been prepared the Scheme should be consistent with the guidance in Managing Urban Stormwater: Council Handbook (available from EPA).

Reason: Statutory Requirement

11. Waste Water Utilisation Areas: Waste water must only be applied to the irrigation area in EMP (Drawing 003 Proposed Ponds and Irrigation Area).

Spray from waste water application must not drift beyond the boundary of the waste water utilisation area to which it is applied.

Effluent application must not occur in a manner that causes surface runoff.

12. Maintaining Waste Water Utilisation Areas - The areas must effectively utilise the waste water applied to those areas. This includes the use for pasture or crop production, as well as ensuring the soil is able to absorb the nutrients, salts, hydraulic load and organic materials in the solids or liquids. Monitoring of land and receiving waters to determine the impact of waste water application may be required by the EPA.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

13. Monitoring Records. The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by the EPA's general terms of approval, or a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, in relation to the development or in order to comply with the load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in Conditions 14 and 15.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

14. All records required to be kept by the licence must be:

***in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form;**

***kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place; and**

***produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.**

Reason: Statutory Requirement

15. The following records must be kept in respect of any samples required to be collected: the date(s) on which the sample was taken:

***the time(s) at which the sample was collected;**

***the point at which the sample was taken; and**

***the name of the person who collected the sample.**

Reason: Statutory Requirement

Requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged

16. For each monitoring/ discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the applicant must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1. The applicant must use the sampling method, units of measure, and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns:

Reason: Statutory Requirement

Water and/or Land monitoring Requirements

17. Monitoring groundwater quality from monitoring bores B1, B2 and B3 as shown in revised drawing "004 Monitoring Plan" of EMP received by EPA on 12 January 2015.

Pollutant	Units Measure	of	Frequency	Sampling Method
Calcium (dissolved)	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Conductivity	micro siemens/cm		Quarterly	Representative Sample
Magnesium	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Nitrate	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Oxidised nitrogen	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
pH	pH		Quarterly	Representative Sample
Phosphate	microgram/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Potassium	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Sodium	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Standing Water Level	Metres		Quarterly	Representative Sample
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample
Total Phosphorus - unfiltered sample	mg/L		Quarterly	Grab sample

Effluent quality monitoring from monitoring point S1 as shown in revised drawing "004 Monitoring Plan" of EMP received by EPA on 12 January 2015.

Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method
Ammonia	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
Oxidised nitrogen	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
Total Phosphorous - unfiltered sample	milliequivalents per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
Phosphate	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
Ammonia	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Grab Sample
pH	pH	Special Frequency 1	Representative Sample
Conductivity	microsiemens per centimeter	Special Frequency 1	Representative Sample

BOD	milligrams per litre	Special	Grab Sample
Effluent quality monitoring from point S2 as shown in revised drawing "004 Monitoring Plan" of EMP received by EPA on 12 January 2015.			
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method
BOD	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Conductivity	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Representative sample
Oxidised Nitrogen	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Total Phosphorous-unfiltered sample	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Ph	pH	Quarterly	Representative Sample
Phosphate	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Ammonia	Milligrams per litre	Quarterly	Grab Sample
Soil monitoring point as detailed in the EMP revised drawing "002 survey and soil sample sites" received by the EPA on 12 January 2015.			
Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method
Ammonia	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Nitrogen (total)	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Available phosphorus	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Phosphorous sorption capacity	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Exchangeable calcium	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Ammonia	milligrams kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
pH	pH	Yearly	Special Method 1
Exchangeable magnesium	milligrams per kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Exchangeable potassium	milligrams per kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Exchangable sodium	Milligrams/kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Organic Carbon	milligrams per kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1
Salinity	milligrams per kilogram	Yearly	Special Method 1

For the purpose of this licence, Special Method 1 means:
***monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant in top soils (0-10cm);**
and
***sub-soils (90-100cm).**

For the purpose of this licence, Special Frequency 1 means monitoring the concentration of a pollutant in runoff water from the runoff containment structure associated with the effluent irrigation area following any discharge from the runoff containment structure.

Testing methods - concentration limits

18. Monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant discharged to waters or applied to a utilisation area must be done in accordance with:
***the Approved Methods Publication; or**
***if there is no methodology required by the Approved Methods Publication or by the general terms of approval or in the licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation to the development or the relevant load calculation protocol, a method approved by the EPA in writing before any tests are conducted, unless otherwise expressly provided in the licence.**

Reason: Statutory Requirement

Reporting conditions

19. The applicant must provide an annual return to the EPA in relation to the development as required by any licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation to the development. In the return the applicant must report on the annual monitoring undertaken (where the activity results in pollutant discharges), provide a summary of complaints relating to the development, report on compliance with licence conditions and provide a calculation of licence fees (administrative fees and, where relevant, load based fees) that are payable. If load based fees apply to the activity the applicant will be required to submit load-based fee calculation worksheets with the return.

Reason: Statutory Requirement

20. All associated works are required to conform to EPA's statutory and licensing requirements.

15.2 RANGER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2015

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

Compliance Issues

Correspondence	<u>December/January 2014/2015</u>	<u>Year to Date 2014/2015 Total</u>
Official Correspondence	33	120
Infringements (Animals)	11	73
Infringements (Other)	0	12
Microchipped dogs	27	146
Registrations	1	51
Nuisance dog declaration	0	1
Dangerous dog declaration	0	3
Restricted dog declaration	0	0
Impoundments		
Dogs	36	167
Cats	8	82
Stock	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL ANIMALS IMPOUNDED	44	249
Motor vehicle	0	2
Breakdown of impoundments		
Dogs destroyed	23	93
Dogs surrendered by owner	22	79
Dogs re-housed	12	56
Dogs released	1	21
Cats destroyed	8	70
Cats re-housed	0	3
Cats released	0	0
Gulargambone dogs impounded	7	24
Quambone dogs impounded	0	0

Dog Attacks:

Three dog attacks occurred during the period – one in Gulargambone; the other two in Coonamble. All have been dealt with.

Recommendation: That Council note the information
--

MATTHEW COCK

Manager – Environmental Services
March 2015

16. REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

**16.1 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COONAMBLE EMPLOYMENT
CIRCLE HELD IN THE CSC COMMITTEE ROOM ON TUESDAY 17
FEBRUARY 2015 AT 11.00 A.M.**

Present: Kate Keizer (CNC), Colin Shuttleworth (APM), David Floyd (Breakthru), Shane Kilby (TAFE), Annie McLaughlin (CHS), Lee O'Connor (CSC), Jenny Caslick (MA), Tracey barkley (MA), Sandra Harrison (CRTC), Wayne Cole (Centrelink),

Apologies: Trish Butler (Joblink), Cr John Walker (CSC), Steve Howarth (DAA), Andrew Rose (DAA), Steve Hodder (Verto), Michael Cooper (STS), Duncan Lovelock (CHS), Mark Noonan (APM), Howard Aldis (Dept of Employment), Deon Allen (NCAP), Katie Phelan (Joblink), Bobby Jones (CAHS), Tracey Burns (Centrelink), Chris Suey (Centrelink), Ana Pateman (WSC), Chris Scales (DPC), Mark Merchant (DPM), Michael Cooper (STS), Corrie Taylor (MacKillop), Janelle Whitehead (MPREC), Grant Fish , Garry Brown (WSC)

Chair: Shane Kilby

Notes: Lee O'Connor

1. Agency / Staff Changes

- 1.1 Mission Australia** – Jenny Caslick is new HASI worker (housing and accommodation support), Tracey Barkley homelessness and housing support.
- 1.2 State Training Services** – Michael Cooper has moved to TAFE. Grant Fish is now our rep as Training Co-ordinator for STS.
- 1.3 Dept of Aboriginal Affairs** – Lee to inquire whether staffing has been finalised.

2. Employment Pathways

2.1 Shearing, Crutching & Wool – Email received from Geoff Bastian regarding courses available to Coonamble students, jobseekers and workers in the industry. Discussion re opportunities in the region for people with suitable skills due to ageing workforce and shrinking pool of skilled workers. Suggested to promote on Facebook and Coonamble Buy Swap Sell – need to create excitement around the opportunity.

ACTION: Lee to distribute Geoff's email.

Kate and others to promote the opportunities available through TAFE training.

Lee to ask Geoff re combining school-aged and adult students for local short courses.

Test level of interest in sheep/wool courses with students, jobseekers, workers – Annie, Col, Lee.

- 2.2 Employers into Schools** – reverse expo idea. School would prefer to invite small groups of employers in different industry sectors. Needs to be discussed by school executive. Annie to advise preferred dates and format.

3. Community Working Party

ACTION: T Fernando will advise progress following Regional Assembly and local Working Party meetings are held.

4. Driver Licensing

- 4.1 In Gear** – Sandra reported that the RTC have expended their funding. Supported 15 participants for approx. 3 hrs each with qualified instructor. So far, 1 has gained their P plates and 2 attending soon. Group included 2 seniors brushing up on skills.

- 4.2 Drive Your Life** – Kate reported that the CNC received a large number of EOLs for scholarships so 18 participants were assisted (2 x 10 hrs, 16 x 5 hrs). So far, 3 have licence. Lot of interest in further scholarships. Target from funding was 25 people assisted, so we need to support at least another 7. It was agreed to offer further scholarships to 7 people for 5 hrs @ \$70/hour. Kate to liaise with Karen Churchill and panel members to select suitable recipients. Closing date for interest before end March.

- 4.3 Birrang Enterprise Development Company** – offering FREE 5 week course from 10th March for those seeking both L plates and P plates. To run Tues, Wed, Thurs 9-12.30. Contact 0427300604 or 63619511.

ACTION: Lee to check age limit, and min/max numbers with Birrang.
NB: no limit. Must be 16 to get L's.
Lee to ask Birrang if CNC can help to promote and take bookings.

5. Centrelink Issues

Wayne Cole, Service Centre Manager, Dubbo was in attendance to respond to questions. There is a lot of change occurring around self-service and digital gateways with a strong push for people to take these up.

Q: How to obtain a Centrelink Income Statement for people seeking food parcels when clients don't have username or password?

A: Clients need to register, ideally with photo ID. Centrelink staff need to sight a photo. This can happen at RTC or MPREC agencies. People with smartphones can get an app that allows them to download a pdf of their Income Statement and email it to the Centrelink office.

5.1 Delays and other issues with access to Centrelink services:

Q: Could local Agency staff have access to a phone number so they don't have to wait for an hour or more? Cordless phone batteries go flat while waiting.

A: Agencies have a 'silver spoon service' but there are no direct numbers available. Need to go through Call centres. It is particularly busy at this time of year. When phone wait times exceed 1-1.5hrs the Call Centre line will dial busy. Dubbo Office has 14.5 FTE staff and a volume of traffic approx. 300 per day. Those staff also man the phone service and 4 work online, which reduces face to face service. With annual leave, sick leave etc, there are often only 6-7 people servicing 300-400 face to face inquiries. There are also several self-service terminals in Dubbo Office supported by 1 FT staff member as 'digital ambassador' assisting anyone who strikes a problem during self-service. In Coonamble, self-service is available on computers/phone at RTC and MPREC agencies.

Q: Interactions with Walgett Office of Centrelink have been reported to be much quicker to achieve outcomes. Why is this and is it possible for Coonamble organisations to access Walgett office instead of Dubbo?

A: Walgett Office would have a much lower volume of traffic. This is a boundary issue and would need to be taken up with someone higher in the organisation.

Q: If boundaries can't be changed, is there a possibility of lobbying for more staff in Dubbo to match volume of traffic?

A: New positions are completely off the table. Vacant positions are advertised in rounds internally within the Australian Public Service. Some digital work is shifted to other centres when Dubbo office is short staffed.

Q: Is it possible to email documents to Dubbo Centrelink rather than faxing as this is costing Neighbourhood Centre money?

A: Scan option is available on the website or through the mobile app. You can take a photo of documents and email through.

Q: Other local organisations are approached for assistance when RTC phone and computers are occupied, and this means that these groups are essentially subsidising Centrelink services with their own limited staff and phone/computer resources. What are the chances of getting additional phone line at RTC?

A: Dale Frew works with all agencies and reviews contracts, volume of queries etc at least annually. Wayne will take it up with Dale Frew and the Regional Manager. It can be difficult to justify additional resources because Coonamble has 2 agencies and between them they have more phone lines/computers than some smaller Centrelink offices.

ACTION: JSAs, CNC, MA and other organisations to record the occasions where clients use their phones/computers to access Centrelink services as evidence of need for increased local resources from DHS. Seek a meeting with federal Member Mark Coulton to discuss options for reducing wait times.

5.2 Local Barriers to Access DHS services

Q: If attendance at a Centrelink Office is a requirement for compliance, then how are Coonamble people assisted?

A: Coonamble residents are exempt from this requirement.

Q: What is available for people in Coonamble with limited literacy or digital literacy? Most unregistered users have issues with literacy, trust of the system, or privacy concerns. This is a major barrier.

A: A lot of work has been done to improve the online experience and smartphone apps. Very user friendly and secure. Impossible to access someone else's records unless you know their CRN and password.

Q: Centrelink offers a telephone callback service to clients to avoid long waiting times. Many local clients don't have either a landline or a mobile, so callback comes back to the RTC but is often well after the client has given up and gone. RTC have lobbied for an extra phone line for 2 years. What can be done?

A: Wayne will speak to Dale Frew as above.

Q: We have seen food parcels swapped for drugs so are carrying out extra checks to ensure the food parcels are really needed. Are clients able to apply on-line for Adversity Payments?

A: Centrelink has both Crisis Payment and Hardship Payment options. Crisis is for house fires, accidents etc. Hardship payment protocol is that they ring the normal number connected to their particular type of payment and request a hardship payment. The Call Centre approach to Hardship Payments, rather than face to face appointments, is to ensure consistency.

Q: Could Coonamble host an information session on how to use on-line and digital services?

A: There is a power point presentation available with the message of 'why wait when you can do it yourself?' People need to be re-educated that they don't need a person to help them.

ACTION: CEC to liaise with Wayne Cole re hosting an educational presentation on Centrelink/DHS services.

5.3 Compliance Processes and Issues

Q: JSAs receive very little response when participation reports are rejected. Often no comment or explanation at all. This is not helpful. Why does it happen?

A: Centrelink has Participation Teams based at other sites (eg. Parkes) who deal with all those determinations. Wayne will make some inquiries about providing better feedback to JSAs.

Q: Compliance around attendance at training is an issue for us in Coonamble. Is there a chance that the Centrelink might take a stricter approach?

A: The Federal Government has some programs in its last budget that have not yet been passed that were considered very strict eg. 3 months on 3 months off payments. Whether it is this or something else, there needs to be mechanisms in place for Centrelink to apply. At the moment Centrelink is limited in what it can do if clients don't attend courses. If Coonamble agencies have suggestions as to what might work then Mark Coulton is very familiar with Human Services.

ACTION: Discuss at next meeting what mechanisms could work to improve attendance and engagement in training programs.

Comment by Wayne: Pushing people to take up the self-serve option is as much about encouraging them to take responsibility for their own affairs, learn some basic IT skills (eg. how to use a mouse), and be aware of their own situation, as it is about managing resources in the Department of Human Services.

Sandra Harrison left the meeting.

5.4 Debt Prevention

Q: There is a real problem with people not reporting correctly and incurring debt. It is not done intentionally but many don't understand the difference between gross and net income and other terms. Can this information be included in the educational presentations?

A: There is a lot of talk in DHS re debt prevention. Most debt is accumulated by people inadvertently declaring the wrong amount. The new Indigenous Services Officer, Chris Suey, is doing work and education around participation, compliance and debt prevention. He is trialling it in Dubbo and could possibly offer it in Coonamble.

Q: Is there a way of limiting the level of Centrepay deductions that can be withdrawn from someone's account each fortnight? CNC has clients who are left with less than \$300 a fortnight to live on (with children) once their rent and other automatic deductions occur. The TV-advertised short term finance offers are a major culprit.

A: Unfortunately Centrelink/DHS has no control over what deductions people request. The Basics Card is available and is only for essentials. People need to be educated to live within their means.

ACTION: Employment Circle to liaise with Chris Suey to jointly host a presentation. CEC can arrange venue, catering, promotion and encourage clients to attend.

Thanks to Wayne for taking the time to attend the meeting and begin the conversation to address local concerns.

6. Orana Workforce Planning & Development

Final report available on RDA Orana website:
<http://www.rdaorana.org.au/research-into-the-workforce-capacity-of-the-orana-region.htm>

6.1 Next Steps: RDA is discussing the report with the 20 or so stakeholders who either funded or designed the initial project to determine next steps at the regional level. CEC is welcome to provide a local response including suggestions for regional initiatives and what can/is being done at the local level.

6.2 Local Training Plan: Leah Burnheim is putting together a survey for business/employers to discover and group their immediate training needs. A Local Workforce Training Plan will be developed so employers can share the costs and organisation of local delivery of training. Leah is working with the Chamber and the Economic Development Manager (Lee) on this.

7. Work for the Dole

7.1 Identified projects/opportunities for Voluntary Work Experience: The Neighbourhood Centre and CHS Canteen are both still keen to host jobseekers.

ACTION: JSAs to refer any suitable clients to Kate at CNC and CHS Canteen (via Lee).

7.2 Work Placements for TAFE students – TAFE has students undertaking Education Support training who require work placements in schools, preschools. They are available to work as Voluntary Education Support Officers.

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

8.1 Smart & Skilled Rollout – the process of getting students enrolled in TAFE courses is proving very slow. Students receive a unique identifier which needs to be provided to State Training Services before they can enrol. There is at least a 2 week turnaround.

8.2 Training Scams – ASQA has contacted Lee and Kate. To help their investigations they are seeking evidence from local people re the 'cash + laptop' sign-up session at the RSL last year.

ACTION: If you have any information, please refer to Shona Tannock, Manager – Complaints, Australian Skills Quality Authority Tel: 02 9297 9345 E shona.tannock@asqa.gov.au

9. General Business

9.1 Proof of Identity – Wayne Cole advised that people needing proof of identity can take a Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or similar to Service NSW (ie. RMS in Coonamble RTC) and get a Proof of Age card. This is available for people who don't have a Birth Certificate.

9.2 OCTEC Home Care Course – Annie Bell reported that she received no contact and no referrals from Coonamble for the proposed course following her visit in December. Any feedback on why would be welcome.

9.3 Jobseeker Literacy –

ACTION: Kate to raise at Interagency for joint action.

9.4 Funding opportunities – a dual control car is needed for the Volunteer Mentor Driver program. Tracey B advised that she was a Mentor Driver in another town and would not want a dual control vehicle as it showed lack of trust in the learner driver. They had access to a manual car donated by a local motor vehicle dealership. Discussion re safety issues without dual control. Tracey offered to help seek sponsorship from Toyota.

ACTION: Lee to check YouthSafe guidelines for Learner Driver Mentor Programs to see if dual control is required.

9.5 Business Training Opportunities – a Visual Merchandising workshop has been offered for Tues 24 March (evening). It would be suitable for business owners, managers, staff plus students and jobseekers interested in retail. An Energy Management Basics workshop is also in the wind. **ACTION:** Lee to circulate info when it becomes available.

Meeting closed 12.55pm.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 17th March 2015, 11AM. CSC COMMITTEE ROOM

**16.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SALEYARDS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM ON
THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2015 COMMENCING AT 2.35 P.M.**

PRESENT: Cr Danny Keady, in the Chair, with Cr. Tom Cullen, Messrs. David Thompson, David Chadwick, Matthew Prentice, Peter Bush and Jim Hiscock.
Also present was the Manager of Environmental Services, Matthew Cock and Jill Moorhouse (Minutes).

APOLOGIES

The Committee Accepted apologies for non attendance from Mr Peter O'Connor and Mr Stephen Colwell.

NOTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING OF COMMITTEE

The Committee Recommends that the notes taken at the previous meeting of the Saleyards Committee held on 26 August 2014 be received and dealt with.

Business Arising:

i) Promotion:

Mr Prentice stated that templates had been received however a breakdown of how the funds allocated for promotion of the yards was not provided. Cr Cullen said he understood a large proportion of the \$20,000 provided was paid for the logo design.

Reference was also made to the suggested name change for the saleyards – the Manager of Environmental Services said that to date no action on this suggestion has been taken.

ii) HVSPF Funding:

In discussing this matter, the meeting noted that expenditure for these works was not sourced from revenue – Council was successful in obtaining grant money. The Manager informed the meeting that the project will be complete when the electricity pole is installed. He said the pole has been ordered, noting that it has to be significantly higher than average.

iii) Hospital Pen Allocation:

The Manager of Environmental Services stated that arrangements are in hand to register staff in the special course specifically for euthanizing injured cattle inside a truck. He informed the meeting that these courses are being conducted and Council staff will be enrolled.

iv) Communication between Council & Agents:

The Manager informed the meeting that Dan Veer is contactable on the saleyards phone (0427 408 183).

The Agents noted that Mr Veer finishes work at 4.00 p.m. on sale yards and asked the reason when, in fact, his presence at the yards makes it easier for agents to complete their duties. In response, the Manager advised that on a previous occasion, when there was a larger yarding, Mr Veer worked unacceptable overtime hours. Mr Prentice was of the opinion that revenue from the sale would compensate for any overtime worked.

The Manager said he was monitoring staff involvement on sale days and asked the meeting what specifically is required of staff. In response, he was advised that ideally there needs to be two people at the yards, one to operate the air gates and the other to do the manual check on sale proceedings. It was pointed out that on days of bigger yardings, two staff members are definitely required. The Manager said he would discuss this with the General Manager, however he could see no problem if Council was given notice.

In response to a question, the Manager stated that Mr Veer commences work at the yards on sale days at 6.00 a.m. and finishes at 4.00 p.m. Mr Cock said he would be prepared to agree to 2 hours overtime – 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. The meeting noted this is an internal issue for Council to address.

v) Scanner:

The Chairman referred to the old scanner and asked whether it had been sold – in response the Manager said it was still in Council's possession. A suggestion was made that the Coonamble Feedlot may be a prospective buyer.

vi) Complaints – New load-out section of yards:

Those present at the meeting reiterated that they are satisfied with the works completed. It was also noted that sufficient time was given for consultation and feedback. No further action is required.

At this juncture, 2.55 p.m., the Director of Corporate and Urban Services was called to the meeting to discuss the financial statement presented. The Agents questioned the amount of \$89,092.30 shown in the expenditure as Cattle Yards M&R. Mr Hiscock said he could not see where this amount was expended, being aware of the very limited work carried out. The Director said that this expense also includes the following:

- Contractors payments, including washing of the yards
- Plant hire
- QA qualification and certification
- Licence fees – EPA
- Insurance
- ABC reporting fees.

Mr Prentice said this is very misleading as M&R would normally only include actual maintenance and repairs. He said if Council wants the Coonamble Associated Agents to take over the yards under a lease arrangement it should be prepared to provide more precise expenditure figures.

There was also a suggestion that the sheep saleyards should not be linked to the cattle saleyards – noting that there is expenditure of \$6,000 recorded and saying the yards have not been used for at least 10 years. The Director said that rates are still payable, as well as maintenance in clearing vegetation when the area becomes unsightly. A suggestion was made that the sheep yards could be leased at a set figure – it was pointed out that as owner of the facility, Council would still be responsible for the upkeep, rates, etc.

The Director said that the sheep and cattle saleyards were grouped together for ease of management as a 'business unit'. It was further suggested that should the Coonamble Associated Agents be interested it would be prudent for the Association to submit a proposal for Council's consideration. The feeling of the meeting was that both the sheep yards and the truck wash should be segregated from the cattle saleyards.

Mr Chadwick referred to Council's staffing of the complex and stated that when throughput started to decline and sales were suspended due to drought, Council should have addressed its staffing levels at that time, noting that no changes were made until August 2014. He said if this action had been taken the deficit of \$39,000 would surely have been less because of the savings on wages.

Further questions were asked concerning the expenditure and the Director referred to this year's management plan, including the budget for 2015/2016, which will shortly be prepared. He said this year's data will be used as a basis to estimate for the forthcoming financial year.

The Director of Corporate and Urban Services answered other questions concerning the statement of income and expenditure. He left the meeting at 3.25 p.m.

The meeting discussed ways of improving our saleyards – it was noted however that Swifts, the biggest export company, is not represented at our local fat sales, preferring to consign cattle 'from paddock to plate'. The feeling of the meeting was that good seasons will again boost throughput and nothing positive can be done until the seasonal conditions improve.

Cr Keady referred to the responsibilities of Council and the Duty Agent – it was noted that the agents agreed to continue employing a casual to operate the scales following Council's restructure of staff, however Council usually provided a staff member for this role. Mr Prentice said that it is

important to have someone doing a manual check during the selling period in case of any dispute.

The Manager of Environmental Services referred to safety regulations at the saleyards and said that children under 12 years are not allowed within the complex. He said that complaints are still being received regarding breach of this safety regulation.

FEES AND CHARGES

The Manager of Environmental Services said he has made enquiries from other selling centres regarding their fees and procedures, saying that the Coonamble yards are cheaper in some cases and in line with other centres. Mr Hiscock referred to 2½% increase in fees

There was discussion about the 'holding fee' charged to buyers without prior notice. Mr Hiscock said this is the first time such a fee has been charged and he said its imposition, without notice, upset buyers. The Manager said the fee has always been included in Council's adopted fees and charges. He said this rule has been changed, following a Council resolution, cattle can remain in the yards after sale until midnight on the Monday. Mr Thompson agreed that this is sufficient time.

The Committee Recommends (*Hiscock/Prentice*) that Council notify buyers operating at Council's yards that Council has changed the time allowed for cattle to remain in the yards after sale, without having to pay a 'holding fee' and advise them of the amended time frame.

In response to a question concerning contract –v- council staff, the Manager said that, at this point in time, it was more prudent to hire a contractor. Cr Keady referred to the crush and asked why it was replaced – the Manager said the front end let go and the crush would not now be able to be used at the common, as initially planned.

In closing, the Chairman said that Council will be conducting a whole organisational restructure in accordance with requirements of the *Fit for the Future* local government reform and the saleyards will be just part of that process.

Finally, the meeting agreed that the Agents and Council keep the lines of communication open and both organisations will endeavour to maintain costs to a minimum. Cr Cullen said that if the Agents feel their Association can run the yards more cheaply, to submit a proposal to Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.50 p.m.

NOTE BY GENERAL MANAGER:

That agents be advised of Council's charges through the process of setting fees and charges for the 2015/16 financial year.

17. SALEYARDS REPORT
FOR COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

17.1 SALES

CATTLE:

Date	Type	Scale	Amount (\$)	VA	Amount (\$)	Total Cattle/ Sheep	Total Amount (\$)
13/02/15	Fat Sale	1178	1767.00	0	0.00	1178	1767.00

TOTALS:	Scale	1178 head	\$ 1767.00				
	VA	0 head	\$ 0.00				
	Private Weigh	0 head	\$ 0.00				
	Casual Weigh	0 head	\$ 0.00				
	NLIS Tag Income	0 head	\$ 0.00				
	Preg Testing Income	0 head	\$ 0.00				\$1,767.00

17.2 SALEYARDS ACCOUNT 01/07/2014 – 28/02/2015

Saleyards Operations:	Income	\$62,715.31
	Expenditure	\$83,905.24
	Deficit	\$21,189.93

Truckwash :

Income	\$14,044.38
Expenditure	\$ 8,283.69
Surplus	\$ 5,760.69

Summary:

Income	\$76,759.69
Expenditure	\$92,188.93
Deficit	\$15,429.24

Saleyard Reserves:

Balance 01/07/13	\$ 59,884.26
Balance 01/07/14	\$ 39,426.95
Operational result to date	\$ 15,429.24
Projected 30/06/15 Reserve Balance Deficit	\$114,740.45

Recommendation:

That Council note the information in the report.

BRUCE QUARMBY

Director – Corporate & Urban Services

3 March 2015

18. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 MARCH 2015

NIL

19. GENERAL BUSINESS
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2015