

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE, ON WEDNESDAY, 8TH
FEBRUARY 2017, COMMENCING AT 9.07 P.M.**

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PRESENT: Cr Michael Webb, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. John Walker, Karen Churchill, Tom Cullen, Bill Fisher, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse.

Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Warren, the Director of Community Services, Ms Davids, the Director of Corporate and 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 – past, present and future.

3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

It was noted that Mrs Barbara Deans & Mr Don McKenzie will be attending the meeting at 9.30 a.m. to discuss the Inland Rail project.

4.0 APOLOGIES

Nil

5.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No official deputations or delegations have been booked for the meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

2405 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 14 December 2016 be confirmed.

Business Arising from Minutes:

a) Footpath in front of McKeown's Store – Dubbo Street

Cr Wheelhouse referred to this matter, raised at last meeting and reported that the footpath work has not been completed. The matter was mentioned later in the meeting.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

2406 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

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9.0 MAYORAL REPORT

2407 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Webb that his Mayoral activity report be received and dealt with.

Cr Webb provided a report on his activities on Council's behalf since the December meeting was held, which included:

- End of year presentations – three schools in Coonamble
- Roads inspection
- Australia Day celebrations
- Global Geo Park meeting which was held in Coonamble
- North Western Library Cooperative meeting – Warren

The Mayor informed the meeting that on Thursday 2 February he attended a meeting of the Macquarie Marshes Environmental Landholders Association. He said the Association is currently preparing a submission to the Murray Darling Basin Authority's proposed amendments to the Northern Basin Plan. The closing date for the submission has been extended to 24 February 2017 and the Association is seeking Council's support.

Cr Webb said a letter has been provided to Council, however due to the Telstra system being down it was not received and he personally collected it – the letter was tabled at the meeting. It states that the detailed submission will oppose proposed amendments to the Northern Basin Plan which will have extremely detrimental impacts on a number of Association members.

The General Manager said as soon as the submission is received he will forward a copy to Councillors – it will then be decided whether to provide support.

2408 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that if the submission is in accordance with Council's thoughts following feedback from Councillors, a letter of support will be provided.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

2409 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – For Council's Consideration:

10.1 COONAMBLE SWIMMING CLUB

S13-1

Endeavouring to have opening hours at the Coonamble pool extended and seeking permission to use the facility between 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. each morning during school holidays.

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Councillors noted that the Club was advised that should its request be approved, it must provide evidence of the following:

1. Public Liability Insurance
2. Deed of Release indemnifying Council for any public liability claims
3. Risk Assessment & Management Plan for use of pool outside Council hours.

2410 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that the Coonamble Swimming Club be advised that its request to use the pool between 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. during school holidays has been approved subject to the Club providing the documentation mentioned above.

10.2 LOWER MACQUARIE WATER UTILITIES ALLIANCE C13

The General Manager reminded Councillors that the information concerning this workshop was forwarded on 11 January 2017 for their information.

Councillors were provided with this information in January – with a request they advise of their intention to attend the Asset Management Training which will be carried out at Warren. It was noted that the workshop is funded by the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance but is available to all OROC Councils. The General Manager stated the course will cover requirements and expectations of the State Government in connection with asset management.

2411 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Councillors interested in attending the Asset Management Training Workshop at Warren on Thursday 23 February 2017 advise the General Manager so registrations can be forwarded, noting that Crs Webb and Walker will attend.

10.3 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE, GRANVILLE A5(48977)

Seeking approval for the RFS to conduct practical aviation training of volunteers and drop diluted fire suppressants at Coonamble airport on Sunday 7 May 2017. Pointing out use of the facility would be required from Friday 5 May to put equipment in place.

2412 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council approve use of the Coonamble airport from 5 to 7 May 2017 for the practical aviation training and it liaise with the Director of Engineering Services in relation to the proposed exercise.

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Section B: For Information Only:

10.4 NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY A2-1-1(48890)

Advising the Minister has determined that Aboriginal Land Claim 15117 lodged by NSW Aboriginal Land Council in relation to Lot 7015 DP1025123 at Gulargambone has been approved and the land will be transferred to the Weilwan Local Aboriginal Land Council.

10.5 NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY A2-1-1(48889)

Advising the Minister has determined that Aboriginal Land Claim 12762 lodged by NSW Aboriginal Land Council in relation to Reserve 33569 – Lot 1 Section 13 DP758480 at Gulargambone has been approved and the land will be transferred to the Weilwan Local Aboriginal Land Council.

10.6 NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY A2-1-1(48780)

Referring to Aboriginal Land Claim 6698 lodged by the Coonamble Local Aboriginal Land Council in relation to Lot 48 DP754178 at Gulargambone. Advising the Minister has determined the subject land was not claimable Crown Land and subsequently refused the Claim.

2413 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Cullen that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.04 to 10.06 be noted.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

2414 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that the report by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

2415 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Fisher that Council note Development Application Nos 029/2016 to 032/2016 have been approved during the month.

11.2 PROCUREMENT POLICY

The General Manager referred to the decision at the December 2016 meeting to defer consideration of this matter until this meeting. A copy of the current Procurement Policy document was again included with the business paper.

2416 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Karanouh that consideration of this matter be deferred until later in the day.

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11.3 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

2417 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council formally adopt the Code of Meeting Practice, noting it was placed on public exhibition for the required 28 days and 42 days were allowed for receipt of submissions **AND FURTHER** note that no submissions were received.

11.4 GARBAGE SAVING AREA – COONAMBLE DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE

2418 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Fisher that Council accept the proposed scavenging district boundaries as detailed in the Domestic Waste Service map tabled at the meeting, place the map on public display for 28 days seeking submissions and consider any submissions received prior to formally adopting the Domestic Waste Management Scavenging District boundaries which will become effective 1 July 2017.

11.5 AIRPORT MAINTENANCE – VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

2419 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council advise the Coonamble Aero Club it has reconsider its decision upon the Club demonstrating it has the strategy, capacity and resources to undertake the role and is agreeable for the contract to proceed.

11.6 RENEWAL OF LEASE – COONAMBLE RURAL TRANSACTION CENTRE

2420 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council resolve to charge the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre a commercial rent for the site of \$300 (plus GST) per week, which is considered appropriate for this building and enter into a five year lease agreement on the same terms and conditions as previously.

INLAND RAIL DEPUTATION

At this juncture, 10.40 a.m., Mrs Barbara Deans, Mr. Don McKenzie and others were welcomed to the meeting. Mrs Deans said the reason for addressing the meeting is to ask that Council prepare a submission to ARTC requesting that alignment of the rail come past Coonamble. She said advice has been received that ARTC will be meeting with landholders mid-February and there is a need to have a solid plan in place to put a case for change to the route.

Mrs Deans said there have already been some changes to the original route and it is not too late to request that the line run past Coonamble, citing the benefits it would bring in encouraging other business to the area. Mrs Deans said that ARTC has advised that it is prepared to study alternate line options and now is the time to put our case forward.

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The Mayor referred to a previous resolution of Council made in August 2016 when it agreed to consider options for preparing a business case for the realignment of the inland rail to Coonamble.

Mrs Deans thanked Council and Mr. Don McKenzie asked for permission to speak on another matter – the Mayor agreed.

WESTERN SLOPES PIPELINE

Mr McKenzie said it has just been announced that APA is undertaking preliminary studies for construction of a 450 kilometre gas pipeline – the Western Slopes Pipeline – to connect natural gas from Santos' proposed Narrabri gas project to the NSW gas transmission pipeline system. It is understood that a comprehensive program of regulatory approval, landowner and community consultation will be undertaken in two weeks.

The Mayor thanked Mr. McKenzie who provided a copy of the brochure for Councillors' information.

MRS MARGARET GARNSEY – QUAMBONE FUEL PROPOSAL

Mrs Garnsey said she was present to discuss further details of the Quambone fuel outlet proposal and was under the impression that Council had a copy of the business plan.

The General Manager said the business plan document was received with no covering letter or comment – he said that prior to submitting it to Council further information was required as the business plan does not contain adequate information to support a decision by Council.

11.7 DROUGHT FUNDING STATUS

2421 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Churchill that Council:

- Note the status of projects approved under the Drought Communities Program and that the Quambone Hall relining project is currently being prepared for submission;
- Resolve to submit a program of replacement of grids and gates to a total of \$250,000;
- Include proposal for a single toilet block and pergola to be erected at the Coonamble cemetery;
- Investigate costings for a bore baths (similar to Pilliga bore) at the Coonamble racecourse and include as a project for funding.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

2422 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Wheelhouse that the report by the Director of Community Services be received and dealt with.

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12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS

2423 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Churchill that the information contained in the Community Services progress report be noted.

12.2 DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN (DIAP)

2424 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Wheelhouse that Council formally adopt the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, noting that comments received during the public exhibition period have been considered.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

2425 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Karanouh that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

2426 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 January 2017 be noted.

13.2/13.3 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

2427 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that the list of investments as 31 December 2016 and 31 January 2017 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.

13.4 CCTV CAMERA NETWORK REPAIRS / UPGRADE

The Director reported that the existing network of cameras is approaching the end of their useful life, with five that have either stopped working or the quality of feed has deteriorated to such an extent that footage is useless. The Director provided Council with costings to install two multisensory cameras in the vicinity of the former Macs Dry Cleaners building, CJ's Country Kitchen and the NAB Bank and also provide a 6m pole for associated equipment to connect to the CCTV network.

2428 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council allocate the additional funding of \$12,579 from the current operational budget surplus as at the December 2016 review to allow for all works to be carried out in the current financial year, noting that initial funding was provided from the surplus of the March review.

13.5 2017/2018 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN

2429 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that the information in this report be noted and items to be included for consideration in conjunction with the 2017/2018 estimates be handed to the Director of Corporate and Urban Services no later than Wednesday 8 March 2017.

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At this juncture, 10.25 a.m., the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 10.40 a.m.

13.6 SMITH PARK – PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION

2430 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that Council purchase a mixed design of playground and fitness equipment at an estimated cost of \$66,295 (GST exclusive) and the installation include equipment for the 0 – 5 year age bracket.

Council noted that to complete these works, it 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 the playground certificate mulch – which would require expenditure of approximately an additional \$8,000 and this has been included in the above costing of \$66,295.

13.7 COUNCIL POLICY (OPERATIONAL): RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

Council noted that the Australian Accounting Standards Board has determined that from 1 July 2016 AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures will apply to Local Government. The Director reported that Council must now disclose related party relationships, transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments in the Annual Financial Statements. A draft policy was included in the business paper.

2431 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that Council note the report and adopt the Related Party Disclosure Policy as tabled.

13.4 WORKS IN PROGRESS

2432 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council note the information contained in this section of the report.

Crs Karanouh and Fisher congratulated staff on the presentation of the sporting fields and open spaces, as well as the appearance of the sportsground since the new trees have been planted.

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

2433 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Walker that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

2434 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Fisher and Wheelhouse that Council note the Director's report on works in progress.

The Director informed the meeting that:

- the retaining wall at the quarry should be completed next week

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- the new bore at Gulargambone is complete, with testing to be carried out shortly;
- stage 2 of the levee upgrade commenced in February and is progressing well, taking into account the extremely hot weather conditions
- works have been completed on the highway, Bourbah Street, Yarran Street and the lane adjacent to the High School. Cr Walker said teachers and staff thank Council for work undertaken in the access lane during the holidays.

**14.2 REPLACEMENT OF TRUNK MAIN – CASTLEREAGH STREET
COONAMBLE AND PROCUREMENT OF STANDBY GENERATOR**

The Director provided information to Council regarding the inadequate condition of the trunk mains and the need to replace the old 225AC main in Castlereagh Street. He said tender documentation has been prepared and it is anticipated that work will commence in June this year.

Council also noted that a stand-by generator was purchased in the 2015/16 financial year, together with a trailer for transportation due to insufficient area to install the unit at the water treatment plant

Burtenshaws General Welding has been employed to undertake modifications to the trailer and HJ&A Wiatkowski will be installing the high voltage switchboard and carrying out PLC modifications. Both companies have advised the work will be completed late March 2017.

2435 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that the information supplied by the Director be noted.

14.3 CARINDA ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN

2436 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that Council consider works on the Carinda Road in forthcoming budget cycles.

14.4 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR ESSENTIAL WORKS

2437 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council transfer \$200,000 from Unsealed Rural Roads to Urban Sealed Roads to allow shoulder resealing works in Aberford Street to proceed.

15.0 REPORT FROM MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

2438 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Karanouh that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2016

2439 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that the Ranger's report for the month of January 2017 be noted.

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15.2 SWIMMING POOLS WITHIN THE SHIRE

2440 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council note the Regulation in relation to swimming pools and that Council officers are undertaking inspections in accordance with requirements of the Office of Local Government.

15.3 DOMESTIC ANIMALS POLICY / COMPANION ANIMALS ACT

2441 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council formally adopt the Domestic Animals Policy, noting that no submissions were received during the public exhibition period.

16.0 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – 31/12/2016

The Director of Corporate and Urban Services invited Councillors to ask questions as he informed the meeting of several significant adjustments to the December quarterly review, which were listed in his report and included Coonamble and Gulargambone water supplies; lower than expected interest rates and the Block Grant.

2442 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Walker that Council:

- a) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents;
- b) note that in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
- c) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 31/12/2016.

17.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

2443 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council note the minutes of the following meetings:

17.1 Traffic Committee – held on 7 December 2016.

Cr Wheelhouse referred to "Stop" signs at the Railway Crossing and asked if they could be replaced with "Give Way" signs. The General Manager said he thought the matter had been to the Traffic Committee previously – if so he would bring back the minutes – if not, it would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Traffic Committee.

18.0 SALEYARDS REPORT – DECEMBER 2016 & JANUARY 2017

2444 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Cullen that the saleyards reports for the two months be received.

18.1 Sales / 18.2 Saleyards Account

2445 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that the above two items in both Saleyards Reports be noted.

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The Manager of Environmental Services informed the meeting that a report is being prepared on the future of the saleyards and options for Council to consider. He said at the present time the agents run the sales without any assistance from Council – it was also noted the fees charged at Coonamble yards are the cheapest of six other selling centres contacted.

Mrs Barbara Deans and others, who were observers at the meeting and the press, were asked to leave the room.

19.0 CLOSED SESSION

2446 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Walker that Council resolve into Closed Session, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Section 10A:

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

(i) Prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it”.

2447 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Walker that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

URGENT BUSINESS – CLOSED SESSION

An offer for a block of land in Council’s Industrial Estate was submitted as late business for Closed Session

2448 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Walker that this matter be classified “urgent business” and dealt with.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

2449 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLOSED SESSION

2450 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that Council adopt the recommendations from Closed Session, being Recommendation Nos. 19.1, 19.2 and 19.3 as set out hereunder:

19.1 Coonamble Riverside Caravan Park

Council resolves to engage Sustainable Park Solutions to undertake a master plan redesign and business plan, then identify the immediate and strategic sources of funding to redevelop the caravan park.

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19.2 Offer – Industrial Estate

Council resolves to accept the offer from Woodham Petroleum of \$50,000 (plus GST) for the sale of Lot 1 – Industrial Estate – Hooper Drive, Coonamble and authorises the affixing of the Common Seal to relevant documents.

19.3 Submission – Inland Rail

Council resolves to prepare a submission to ARTC setting out the benefits of having the Inland Rail route realigned to pass near Coonamble.

At this juncture, the observers returned to the meeting – Mrs Deans was informed of Council's decision regarding the submission to ARTC and requested to provide information to the General Manager to assist in preparing a submission. It was requested that the information be provided by 17 February.

Prior to leaving the meeting, Mrs. Deans thanked Council for its decision and also congratulated Council staff on keeping the road network in good condition under extremely difficult conditions throughout the harvest period.

11.2 PROCUREMENT POLICY

Earlier in the meeting, Council resolved to defer consideration of this matter until now.

The General Manager explained how the policy is managed and the various 'weightings' for local suppliers. He also made it clear that any purchase over \$150,000 has to have a resolution of Council. Mr Warren said that Council always makes the decision regarding awarding of tenders for goods/services in excess of \$150,000 and it does not have to accept the lowest tender.

2451 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Karanouh that the Procurement Policy be amended with variations that address the weighting given to local suppliers and it be re-submitted to Council.

20.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

21.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Karanouh:

- Suggested that the Mayor/General Manager put to the next OROC meeting this Council's desire to not participate in a Joint Organisation now that amalgamations are not proceeding.

At this juncture, 12.20 p.m., Cr Karanouh left the meeting.

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Cr Wheelhouse:

- Suggested that all unsealed streets in Coonamble be included in the budget for 2017/18 budget for resealing.
- Referred to the recently cut tree which is now in the river – the GM said Council has a Tree Preservation Order and an infringement notice could be issued if Council so desires.
- Requested that the area at the weir be levelled so that it can be used, as advertised, by RV Friendly vehicles
- Asked about mobile CCTV cameras to record dumping of litter on stock routes – the Manager of Environmental Services said he has retrieved names from some litter and will be taking action.
- Provide in the estimates funds for a sign to advertise “What’s On Locally”.

Cr Fisher:

- Passing on complaint regarding Shire vehicle/staff driving past branches blown onto the roadway, which could cause damage – asked if staff could be more observant.

Cr Cullen:

- Thanked staff for the work done on the Billeroy Road.

Cr Walker:

- Commented on the improved presentation of Coonamble landfill site.

Mayor:

- Referred to lighting at Smith Park – suggested that Council defer any action with upgrades at this time as the third stage of the levee upgrade will be in that vicinity and it may be more prudent to wait until works are completed.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

Pages (1/5977 to 13/5989) confirmed on the 8th day of **MARCH 2017** and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 8TH February 2017.

MAYOR

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