

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH JULY
2018, COMMENCING AT 9.04 A.M.**

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

Also present were the General Manager, Mr Warren, the Director of Community Services, Ms Ryan, the Director of Corporate and Urban Services, Mr Quarmby, the Director of Engineering Services, Mrs Atkins, the Manager of Environmental Services, Mr Cock and Mrs Moorhouse.

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

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

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Three people have indicated they would be addressing Council during this time. Ms Karen Flakelar (Coonamble Women's Shed group); Mrs Anne Kennedy (proposed Health Forum to be held in Narrabri in August) and Mrs Annie Haling (Pave the Way to Gular Art Festival). Council also noted that Mrs Haling would be joining it for morning tea.

Mr Brian Fernando who has been employed by Council for 39 years has decided to retire. He will join Council at 12.15 p.m. and accompany Councillors and Senior Staff to lunch.

3.0 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations are booked to attend the meeting.

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following two Councillors declared an interest in matters on the agenda:

- i) Cr Wheelhouse Item 13.4 Proposed Footpath Replacement (Contractor) Pecuniary Interest.
- ii) Cr Webb Item 18.3 Tender for Water Mains Replacement (Related to tenderer) Pecuniary Interest.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3950 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Fisher that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 13 June 2018 be confirmed, subject to the following amendment:

***Minute No 3926 – Cr. Churchill seconded this resolution
NOT Cr Walker.***

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7.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

i) Bore Baths

Cr Wheelhouse referred to this matter – the Director of Community Services said a report would be tabled at the August meeting putting forward concept ideas that may lead to community consultation.

ii) Coonamble Clay Target Club

In response to a question from Cr Fisher, the Manager of Environmental Services said he would be meeting with representatives of the Club on Thursday 19 July. It was mentioned that Council has a piece of land on the north-western corner of the Meglo with entry from the Quambone Road that may be suitable. Other locations were also mentioned, as was the fact that the Club would like to join with the Pistol Club at its location on the Castlereagh Highway.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

3951 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Walker that the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

9.0 MAYORAL REPORT

3952 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Webb that his Mayor's Activity Report be received and dealt with.

The Mayor reported that he has spoken to mayors and councillors of surrounding areas regarding Council's decision to join the Far West Joint Organisation. He said Council has had positive feedback from Bourke Shire Council and is waiting on advice now from the Office of Local Government.

Councillors noted that the JO to which this Council wants to be included was proclaimed last week – it contains the Shires of Bourke, Cobar and Walgett. The Mayor said that Brewarrina Shire has not yet joined, although it has again been encouraged to do so. Cr Webb said he would keep Council informed of any developments in this matter.

The Mayor also drew attention to the fact that a Coal Seam Gas & Public Health Conference is being held in Narrabri on 15 August 2018 and informed the meeting that he would be attending and asked that other interested Councillors advise so arrangements for travel can be made.

Cr Webb thanked Cr Walker and Council's Director Community Services for meeting the train visiting Coonamble last Sunday and welcoming the visitors, who had about 3 hours free time in Coonamble.

3953 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Webb that his activities report be noted.

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URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY MAYOR

3954 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Webb that his supplementary report be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

9.2 JOINT ORGANISATION

Discussion ensued regarding the future of water and sewer funds held by Councils who become members of a JO – the Mayor pointed out that each Council is its own entity, not like amalgamated councils. The General Manager said that the roles JOs will undertake are unknown at this stage.

3955 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that in accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Act), the Coonamble Shire Council (Council) resolves :

1. That the Council inform the Minister for Local Government (Minister) of the Council's endorsement of the Minister recommending to the Governor the establishment of a Joint Organisation (Joint Organisation) in accordance with this resolution.
2. To approve the inclusion of the Council's area in the Joint Organisation's area.
3. That the Joint Organisation be established to cover the Council's area and any one or more of the following council areas:
Brewarrina, Cobar, Bourke, Walgett, Coonamble.
4. That, on the expiry of a period of 28 days from the making of this resolution, the General Manager provide the Minister:
 - a) with a copy of this resolution including the date on which Council made this resolution; and
 - b) inform the Minister that this resolution has not been rescinded, for the purpose of the Minister issuing a certificate under Section 400P of the Act.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

3956 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Wheelhouse that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – For Council's Consideration:

10.1 HAYDEN PAGE – AUSTRALIAN LMS TEAM D7(51877)

Advising he has been selected to represent Australia at the first ever Last Man Stands (LMS) Cricket World Series in England in August 2018. Advising he is seeking assistance in the order of \$5000 to cover the cost of his trip. Pointing out the promotional benefits to Council.

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A MOTION

PROPOSED by Cr Churchill to provide a Tier 2 Sponsorship of \$1,000 **WAS WITHDRAWN.**

3957 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Churchill that Council agree to provide a Tier 1 – Major Sponsorship of \$2,000 to Hayden Page to compete and represent Australia at the Last Man Stands (LMS) Cricket World Series in England in August 2018.

10.2 SANTOS LTD E5(51885)

Offering Council a tour to operational sites within the Narrabri Gas Project area for the local community, government, landholders and others interested in finding out more about the project. Asking Council to contact the company if it would like to participate in the tour or require further information.

3958 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Thomas and Wheelhouse that Council advise Santos that three Councillors, namely the Mayor, Cr Walker and Cr Thomas, will participate in the tour organised by Santos and scheduled for Wednesday 18 July 2018

10.3 COONAMBLE CHALLENGE & CAMPDRAFT T3(51821)

3959 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Churchill that Council resolve to provide a \$2,000 Gold Sponsorship from the donations vote towards the 2019 Coonamble Challenge and Campdraft Event

Section B – Matters for Information Only

10.4 NSW PREMIER & CABINET G5(518890)

Informing Council that the 11 projects submitted under Round 2 Stronger Country Communities Program will proceed to the next stage of assessment – community choice modelling.

10.5 NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY P10-5(51912)

Informing Council that the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (the Act) will come into force on 1 July 2018 and will repeal a number of Acts, including the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (CLA) and *Western Lands Act 1901*. Providing details of changes which will also be introduced to the fee schedule.

3960 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Churchill that the information in the above two items be noted.

i) Ms Karen Flakelar – Coonamble Women's Shed Proposal

At this juncture, Ms Karen Flakelar, accompanied by a group of ladies, was welcomed to the meeting. Ms Flakelar explained the group is working

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towards establishing a Women's Shed in Coonamble where people can meet, chat, be supported and feel part of the community. Ms Flakelar said that presently the group meets twice weekly at private residences.

Ms Flakelar said the group is hoping Council can support it for a 12 month period – she said they want to become involved in volunteering in the community and will continue to fundraise to get established. The group is also looking at suitable premises where they can meet and have sufficient room for their activities.

The Mayor thanked Ms Flakelar and said the matter will be discussed later in the day and a decision made.

ii) Mrs Anne Kennedy – Forum in Narrabri

At this juncture, 9.40 a.m. Mrs Anne Kennedy and Mr David Chadwick were welcomed to the meeting. Mrs Kennedy referred to the ongoing campaign with coal seam gas and referred to a Public Health Conference to be held in Narrabri on Wednesday 15 August. She said keeping the Great Artesian Basin water safe and uncontaminated was the biggest challenge we have faced and speakers at this conference have considerable knowledge of the health risks associated with coal seam gas mining. The Mayor informed Mrs Kennedy that Council would be represented at the Conference.

Mr Chadwick said the offer was still available for Councillors to visit areas in Queensland to see first hand the devastation caused by coal seam gas mining there. Mrs Kennedy said an investigative journalist will be in the area next week and she would be pleased if the Mayor would speak with that person.

The Mayor thanked Mrs Kennedy and Mr Chadwick for their input and they left the meeting at 10.00 a.m.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

3961 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

3962 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Churchill that Council note no Development Applications or Complying Development Applications have been approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.2 COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES & FACILITIES POLICY

3963 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Wheelhouse that Council formally adopt the policy for Payment of Expenses and Provision

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of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors, noting that the draft was placed on public exhibition for the prescribed period and no submissions or comments were received.

11.3 RESOURCES FOR REGIONS – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

3964 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Fisher that Council submit an application under the Resources for Regions Program 2018/19 for \$1,000,000 for reconstruction on the sealed section of the Tooraweenah Road, citing social disadvantage and making a co-contribution to the proposal of \$100,000 to be sourced from the Sealed Roads Reserve.

11.4 STABLES – COONAMBLE SHOWGROUND

3965 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Fisher that Council apply to the Drought Communities Funding Program for \$50,270 to construct 20 horse stables at the northern end of the Coonamble showground and Council contact the nominated user group representatives to seek their input.

11.5 RETURNS DISCLOSING PECUNIARY INTEREST

Forms for completion were handed to Councillors at the meeting.

3966 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Fisher and Karanouh that Councillors provide the completed Pecuniary Interest Declarations by the September 2018 meeting.

11.6 COST OF AUDIT SERVICES

3967 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Fisher that Council note the cost involved and the amount paid to the NSW Audit Office for the 2016/17 financial audit; forward a letter to the NSW Government drawing attention to the additional cost being placed on Councils with the function being mandated to the NSW Audit Office, and submit a motion to the Local Government NSW annual conference regarding the increase in the cost of audit services.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

3968 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that the report by the Community Services Director be received and dealt with.

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS UPDATE

3969 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Walker that the information contained in this item be noted.

The Director reported briefly on several topics included in her report, namely:

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- Writers' Group – 25 participants
- School holiday programs in Gulargambone and Coonamble – saying that with other services also involved it makes for a very comprehensive activities program.
- Caravan Park – report would be presented at September meeting regarding tenders for stage one of this project.
- “Have Your Say” – toilet plans – very good feedback still being received – further report will be presented to Council – funding application outcome expected in August.
- Pilot project – Boot Camp – being investigated.
- PCYC funding has been allocated to Walgett – it was noted that an area has to have sufficient police numbers to run such a facility. Information already available on various suitable sites. Director suggested that Council should lobby for the next round of funding for PCYC to come to Coonamble.

3970 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Thomas and Karanouh that Council lobby for a PCYC to be funded and established in Coonamble and that, subject to regulatory requirements, the land opposite the Wanderers Tennis Club be nominated by Council as an appropriate site.

iii) Mrs Annie Haling – Pave the Way to Gular Art Festival

At Mrs Annie Haling was welcomed to the meeting at this point. She thanked Council for its financial and in-kind assistance towards the 2018 Pave the Way to Gular Art Festival. Mrs Haling said that tourists visit the area and the festival certainly has had a flow-on effect.

On behalf of the organising committee, Mrs Haling presented Council with a canvas collage of some of the works completed during the festival. The Mayor thanked Mrs Haling and invited her to join Council for morning tea.

12.2 COONAMBLE WOMEN'S SHED – REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

3971 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Thomas and Fisher that Council support the establishment of the Coonamble Women's Shed – 12 month pilot project – by providing \$120/week towards the rental of an appropriate premises and \$2,000 towards operational costs – total cost of \$8,420.

At this juncture, 10.30 a.m., the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 10.55 a.m.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

3972 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that the report by the Director of Corporate and Urban Services be received and dealt with.

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13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

3973 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Churchill that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 30 June 2018 be noted.

13.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

3974 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Fisher that the list of investments as 30 June 2018 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 COUNCIL POLICY (OPERATIONAL): RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE

The Director reported that Council adopted this policy to provide guidance in complying with Council's requirement to prepare its General Purpose Financial Statements in accordance with Australian accounting Standards, in particular AASB124 Related Party Disclosures. A copy of the policy was included for Councillors' information, together with a form for completion.

3975 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Fisher and Wheelhouse that the information be noted.

Cr Wheelhouse declared a pecuniary interest in the following matter and left the room while discussion and voting took place.

13.4 FOOTPATH REPLACEMENT – REQUEST FOR WORKS

Council received a request from the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service to replace the footpath in front of the newly relocated Castlereagh Health Centre at 27 – 31 Tooloon Street. Concerns were raised regarding the current condition of the area and the presumed increase in pedestrian traffic utilising the facility.

3976 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Thomas and Churchill that this matter be deferred until next meeting and that the scope of works be extended to include the footpath from the corner of Castlereagh Street adjacent to the former youth centre.

Cr Wheelhouse returned to the meeting.

13.5 WORKS IN PROGRESS

3977 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Karanouh that Council note the information in this item of the Director's report.

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13.6 BOUNDARY CHANGE – MINOR NON-CONTENTIOUS – PROPERTY OWNED BY McISAAC

The Director said he had been approach by a landholder who had recently purchased a length of closed/green road located in Gilgandra Shire to have that portion included in Coonamble Shire with the balance of his property. Mr Quarmby said that Gilgandra Shire Council has agreed to the landowner's request and because it is a minor non-contentious boundary change there would be no other party involvement.

3978 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Fisher and Churchill that Council approve, in principle, the proposed LGA move from the previous road centreline to the western boundary of Lots 17//752550, 1//10047515 and northern boundary of Lots 17//752550 and 28//752550 to be included with property owned by Mr McIsaac.

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

3979 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Karanouh that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

3980 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Fisher and Churchill that Council note the Director's report on works in progress.

Councillors referred to the following issues:

- The causeway near TAFE – Director to inspect – water is ponding in the area.
- Back Combara Road – the Director said this work has been identified and will be programmed.

15.0 REPORT BY MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

3981 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Fisher that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – JUNE 2018

3982 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Fisher that the Ranger's report for the month of June 2018 be noted.

16.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

Nil

17.0 SALEYARDS REPORT – JUNE 2018

3983 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Karanouh that the saleyards report for June 2018 be dealt with.

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17.2 Saleyards Account

3984 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Churchill that the Saleyards Account to 30 June 2018 showing a reserve balance deficit of \$348,591.55, be noted

18.0 CLOSED SESSION

3985 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Thomas and Churchill that Council resolve into Closed Session, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Section 10A:

“section 2 :

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors);

(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business”.

3986 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Thomas and Churchill that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

3987 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Fisher that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLOSED SESSION

3988 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Fisher that Council adopt the recommendation from Closed Session, being Recommendation No. 18.1 to 18.4, as set out hereunder:

18.1 Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC)

Council resolves that:

- 1) *it supports the ongoing operation of the OROC on the same basis as it currently operates, with the oversight of the LMWUA remaining with the OROC;*
- 2) *it does not support the oversight and management of the LMWUA by either a single JO or combination of JOs;*
- 3) *it resign from the LMWUA should OROC be disbanded at the November 2018 meeting of the OROC Board.*

18.2 Coonamble RFS / SES Joint Facility

Council resolves that it not proceed with the construction of the shared facility, instead utilising the current allocated funding to renovate and upgrade the existing State Emergency Service building.

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The Mayor, having declared a pecuniary interest in the following matter, vacated the Chair and left the meeting. The Deputy Mayor, Cr Walker took the Chair.

18.3 Water Main Replacement – Contract TD18-03

Council resolves:

- i) *to accept the portion on the Interflow Complying Tender submission for the Munnell Street, Gulargambone section of the project;*
- ii) *to accept the portion on the Interflow Alternative Tender submission for the Castlereagh Street, Coonamble section of the project;*
- iii) *to note both components of the tender amount to \$202,785.24.*

The Mayor returned to the meeting and took the Chair.

At this juncture, the General Manager, Directors and Staff left the meeting.

18.4 General Manager's Performance Appraisal

Council resolves to:

- a) *endorse the General Manager's Performance Review Committee's appraisal;*
- b) *endorse the Review Committee's recommendation for a 2.5% increase in remuneration, based on the outcome of the review being assessed as average 4.16 "Area of Strength" and "More than Satisfactory" result.*

Management and staff returned to the meeting. Mr Brian Fernando was also in attendance. The Mayor congratulated Brian on his 39 years' service with Council and thanked him for his efforts. Councillors noted that a staff farewell will be arranged for Brian prior to his retirement later this month. Brian was invited to accompany Council and management to lunch.

3989 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Thomas that Brian Fernando be presented with a \$500 Open Order Voucher to the business of his choice in Coonamble for his 39 years' service to Council.

19.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

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20.0 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

i) Carinda Road

Cr Wheelhouse referred to the condition of section of Carinda Road – the Director said that particular work is already funded under the Fixing Country Roads Program.

ii) Santos Tour

Cr Karanouh said he would not participate in the tour – leaving the Mayor, Cr Thomas and Cr Walker to visit the Pilliga sites.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 12.09 p.m.

These minutes Pages (1/6189 to 12/6200) were confirmed on the **8th** day of **AUGUST 2018** and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on **11th July 2018**.

MAYOR