

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE,  
2010 COMMENCING AT 9.16 A.M.**

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**PRESENT:** Cr Tim Horan, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. J. Canham, T. Cullen, B. O'Brien, D. Schieb, M. Webb and A. Karanouh.  
Also present were the General Manager, Mr. John Griffiths, the Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Warren, the A/Director of Engineering Services, Mrs Atkins and Mrs Moorhouse.

**2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

Prior to beginning the meeting, the Mayor acknowledged the original owners of the land, both past and present.

**3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No member of the public was in attendance during public question time.

**4.0 APOLOGY**

Nil

**5.0 DELEGATIONS**

Council noted that Mr. Richard Bourne, AGM of Telstra Country Wide – North West Region, would be addressing the meeting at 10.15 a.m.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Mr Robert Khan would be in Coonamble today and he invited him to come to the meeting to brief Council on his proposed venture. Council noted Mr Khan would attend between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. The General Manager suggested that the discussion with Mr. Khan be in Closed Session because of its 'commercial-in-confidence' nature.

Councillors mentioned other sites which may be of interest to Mr. Khan. The Mayor advised that Mr. Heiken (Festival) had approached him and said he may be interested in establishing a supermarket in the Bag-a-Bargain building. Councillors noted that there are a range of issues which would have to be addressed, as regulations have changed significantly since the supermarket was located in that building.

**6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made at the meeting.

**7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES – ORDINARY MEETING 14/4/2010**

**8410 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held 14 April 2010 be confirmed.

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**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**(a) Mr Don Gamage – former Director of Engineering Services**

Cr Canham asked for an updated on this matter. The General Manager said he attended the ICAC Public Inquiry on Monday & Tuesday, 31 May and 1 June and appeared before the Inquiry. Mr. Griffiths said that Mr Gamage may be charged for offering a bribe to a recruitment officer to obtain a position, however Mr Gamage made a counter-claim that he was asked to provide \$15,000 if he got the job! The General Manager said that statements were given by a number of persons, none of which supported Mr. Gamage. Mr. Griffiths said it was obvious that the falsification of documents by Mr Gamage was evident in all his applications for positions.

Mr Griffiths said he was questioned on the process used for recruitment of senior staff. The General Manager stated that the referee given by Mr Gamage was not the person he stated to be. He was a qualified chemical engineer who had not worked with Mr Gamage at the company specified – which did not even exist.

Council noted that the Defence has until this Friday to address the findings of the Prosecution, however the general feeling is that the matter of the bribe may be referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

**(b) NSW Department of Planning (Min No 8438)**

Cr Karanouh was advised by the General Manager that submissions were made as per Council's instructions, however no response has been received. The General Manager said he does not expect that Council's submission will have any bearing on the Department.

The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that during the recent Shires Association Conference, Minister Kelly said he would look at LEPs where Councils were not happy and would become more involved in the process.

**(c) Showground**

Cr. Schieb made mention of the removal of the inside fence at the Showground and said it has made a big difference for the better.

The General Manager said that Council was ready to put the pads down for the new yards at the Showground, but was asked to 'hold off' for this year. The Rodeo Association is addressing internal issues and it hoped that works will be undertaken following this year's event.

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**(d) “The Meglo” Proposal – Rindfleish**

In response to a question from Cr. Karanouh the General Manager said that the purchasers were aware that a septic system would be required and this would be addressed as part of the development application approval process. The General Manager said he understood that in the initial stages the purchasers would be using a generator to provide power.

**(e) Joint Venture – Gilgandra Shire Council**

The General Manager informed Councillors that a meeting had taken place between representatives of the two Council and that Gilgandra Council is making a similar allowance in its budget to provide equipment to be used in conjunction with the truck and spreader being purchased by this Council.

**(f) Ginty Estate**

The General Manager advised that work on this project has not progressed, as Council was working on the Industrial Estate and “The Meglo” subdivisions. The Director of Corporate Services stated that, in connection with the river subdivision proposal, the Project Engineer has drawn up a new plan accommodating Council’s suggestions.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES – EXTRAORDINARY MEETING 21/5/2010**

**8411 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O’Brien that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 21 May, 2010 be adopted, subject to the deletion of the last sentence in the final paragraph on Page 1/4473, as follows:

*Delete: “He also referred to the Darnley Chase Road which has not had significant recent work carried out, but remains in a good condition”.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**(a) Discussion Paper – Modernising Local Government**

The General Manager referred to this matter and said he thought it was prudent for Council to consider it sooner rather than later. He made comment that a lot of councils represented at the recent Shires Conference have not even downloaded the discussion paper.

**(b) Local Roads Maintenance**

Cr Webb referred to comments he has received regarding local roads and the way complaints are being handled. The General Manager said it is difficult to return phone calls, especially when staff are in the process of handing over duties to newly appointed members. The General Manager said complaints could be lodged by phone as a ‘service request’ and followed up in a short time.

Cr. Schieb referred to the bad condition of the Wingadee Road – he said it is nothing short of dangerous. Plant is working on the road, however grass is

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being pushed up with black soil and a padfoot roller is being used – he said the road is rough, necessitating a travelling speed of 35km/hr – 40km/hr and something needs to be done to have better methods of road maintenance put in place. The General Manager said processes have not changed, however the Team Leader of this work is on leave and follow up inspection will be carried out shortly.

Cr. Karanouh referred to reports that the Tooraweenah Road is in a bad condition and very dangerous to travel – he said this comment has been made by travellers who have recently traversed the road.

The General Manager informed Council that three applications had been received for the position of Director of Engineering Services – applications closed on Friday 4 June.

Cr. O'Brien suggested that when the new Director of Engineering Services commences the local roads be a priority. She said it may be a good idea for the DES, the General Manager and others to carry out an inspection of the roads network.

**ADDRESS BY MR RICHARD BOURNE – TELSTRA COUNTRY WIDE**

At this juncture, 10.03 a.m, Mr. Bourne was welcomed to the meeting. He spoke about the work Telstra is doing in the area to provide high speed broadband services, better customer service and generally to provide consumers with a better service overall. Mr Bourne said customer service is an area in which Telstra is not regarded highly and they are working to correct this, resolve complaints and generally provide a solution to problems in a more acceptable timeframe. He referred to video conferencing which is becoming more and more popular in lieu of travelling expansive distances.

Mr. Bourne asked whether Council had any questions, particularly about 'black spots' as Telstra is wanting to address this as much as possible. Cr. Canham referred to spots from Coonamble to Quambone where there is no service. Cr. Schieb also referred to problems he experiences at his property 8 kms from Coonamble. Mr. Bourne undertook to take the concerns on board and have the matters addressed.

The General Manager asked would landlines be discontinued over time and was advised that Telstra was obliged to provide the service so he did not envisage this becoming reality.

The Mayor thanked Mr Bourne for his address and invited him to join Council for morning tea. The meeting adjourned at 10.25 a.m. and resumed at 10.45 a.m.

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**8.00 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE**

**8412 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

**(a) Minute Nos. 6676 & 6951- December 2007 Flood & Extension of Industrial Subdivision**

In response to a question from Cr Canham, the General Manager said Council is still waiting on works to be carried out by the RTA in relation to repairs to damaged storm water pipes and valves. In connection with the extension of the Industrial Estate, all except the Telstra estimate was completed so it could be removed from the outstanding resolutions.

**(b) Coonamble Railway Station Restoration (Min No 7266)**

Cr Cullen referred to the rules and regulations that have been imposed on the RTC in connection with this project. He said it was nearly impossible to make any progress and referred to the training required by the Manager – Environmental Services – 2 lots of 3 days – to enable him to work at the site. The General Manager said anything which involved a community project was difficult to manage. Councillors questioned what the site will be used for when the restoration is complete – a suggestion was made that the Radio Station be located there.

**(c) Warrena Weir**

In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the General Manager said the Aquatic Club was not a Council Committee under S355 but is charged with the management of the Warrena Creek Weir.

**(d) Seats in Main Street - Min No 8318**

**8413 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the placement of two seats in the main street (as per Council's minute 8318) be deferred for the time being until a plan of beautification of the whole CBD area has been presented and discussed.

**(e) River Level Gauges – (Min No 8251)**

Cr Schieb was advised that these gauges have been ordered, but not yet installed. Investigations are still being carried out.

**(f) Risk Assessment – Council Footpaths (Min No 8404)**

Cr Karanouh referred to this matter and asked whether any progress had been made. The General Manager stated that three streets have been done and the work would continue.

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**(g) Water Treatment Plant – Min No 8386**

When asked whether this work will proceed, the Director of Corporate Services advised that the water fund would not sustain the expenditure of \$2.5m – however staged work commencing in 18 months – 2 years could be achieved. He pointed out that Council has carried out significant mains replacements and this type of expenditure is ongoing.

**(h) Lighting – Peace Tree – Min No 8405**

**8414 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Canham and Webb that Council not proceed with lighting of the Peace Tree which was estimated to cost \$3,500.

**(i) Police Attendance at Council Meetings (Min No 8423)**

The General Manager stated that Inspector Taylor advised that due to lack of staff, no Police representative would be at the meeting, however Insp. Taylor would be in Coonamble tomorrow and was meeting with the General Manager. Mr. Griffiths said the purpose of the meeting was to set time frames for the Crime Prevention Committee.

Cr. O'Brien said it is very encouraging to see recent patrols of Gulargambone by police serving the community.

**9.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Mayor said he had not prepared a report because he had been away for a month, however he would comment on the recent Shires Association Conference which he attended in company with Crs. Schieb and Karanouh and the Director of Corporate Services.

Cr. Horan said it was made clear that no forced amalgamations would take place. He referred to an address regarding the huge threat to water levels in the Surat Basin and the Great Artesian Basin by expansive mining operations. Cr. Horan said that while mining is very good for the economy, it also has a detrimental effect on the environment and, in this case, future water supply.

**8415 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and Webb that the Mayor's Report be adopted.

**10.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**8416 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

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**Section A – For Consideration by Council:**

**10.1 NRC BUSES PTY LTD R8-10 (32054)**

Referring to wet conditions earlier in the year which necessitated some of the school bus routes (unsealed roads) to be closed for some time. Asking Council to consider an alternative arrangement for school buses to reduce the number of days the bus routes are closed, both for the convenience of the school children and the maintenance of roads. Proposing that Council increase the level of rainfall necessary to close school bus routes from 5 millimeters to 12½ millimeters.

The General Manager provided the following comments in support of Council's actions in closing unsealed roads following rain:

- *Protection from serious damage by vehicles as a result of wet weather;*
- *Protection of members of the public from any hazards on the road;*
- *Protection of vehicles and other property from damage on the public road.*

Mr. Griffiths pointed out that if Council neglects these responsibilities it is open to litigation. He said that in instances where a school bus is involved Council needs to be especially mindful of its duty of care – it is not logical or practical to have a situation of a road being closed to the general public but deemed safe enough for a bus load of children to travel on.

Cr. Schieb asked that when roads are cut by water and have to be closed could the sign be more precise, e.g. “Road Closed – Water Over Road at ????” Cr O'Brien referred to the situation at Gulargambone during the flood when all services were stopped because Gilgandra Shire Council put a road closed sign, when there was no water over the road between Gilgandra and Gulargambone.

Cr Cullen said he disagrees with closing roads after 5mm rain – he suggests around 12mm. Both the General Manager and the Director of Corporate Services said that Council has to make decisions, taking into account its duty of care, condition of the roads and what suits this Shire. It was pointed out that it is the nature of the Insurance company to negate any liability.

Cr. Schieb referred to the Pilliga Road being closed and said it was trafficable to the Hollywood turnoff. The A/Director of Engineering Services said Walgett Shire requested that the road be closed.

**8417 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the new Director be requested to submit a detailed report on closing of unsealed roads during wet weather conditions and this be a priority when he commences duties and that this information be conveyed to NRC Buses.

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**10.2 NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING T4-2 (32447)**

Concerning the Draft Western Councils (Coonamble) Land Use Strategy and apologizing for the delay in responding. Stating the Department understands the main issues Council wishes to further consider are:

- The provision of rural lifestyle development opportunities in and around the Coonamble township.
- The reduction in the minimum lot size for a dwelling in the Rural Zone from 1000ha to 200ha.

Saying the Department is willing to assist Council to work through the process and Departmental staff are available to meet with Council staff to conduct a workshop if this may facilitate the process moving forward.

The General Manager pointed out that a copy of this letter was attached to each Councillors business paper for their information. Mr. Griffiths referred to the email he forwarded to councillors with a view to calling expressions of interest from consultants to produce an amended land use strategy and develop a new LEP. He said as the LEP is to be developed late in the 2011 calendar year, Council now needs to make a decision on how it wishes to progress the issue.

**8418 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that the General Manager be authorised to commence the process and call expressions of interest to engage a consultant to produce an amended Land Use Strategy and develop a new LEP.

**10.3 UNITED GROUP SERVICES PTY LTD C6-13 + ST17-2 (32476)**

Advising they manage the premises situated at 16 Tooloon Street, Coonamble occupied by the Department of Community Services. Saying it has come to their attention that Skillmans Lane is narrow with restricted vision and there are a number of safety issues from speeding traffic, in particular speeding cars coming out of the car park at the end of Skillmans Lane. Pointing out that this practice causes severe safety issues to DoCS clients and staff and requesting that Council install speed humps along the Laneway.

**8419 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canaham and O'Brien that this matter be referred to the next meeting of the Local Traffic Committee for inspection and appropriate action.

**10.4 NSW DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE P5 + B7 (32509)**

Advising that Juvenile Justice provides three main areas of service, namely community services, custodial services and youth justice conferencing to young people who have committed criminal offences to maximize their capacity and opportunity to choose positive alternatives to offending behaviour. Seeking a partnership with Council to provide an avenue for young people to complete their Community Service Order (CSO) hours in a Graffiti / Beautification Program.



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The General Manager informed the meeting he understands Council participated in a program similar to this in the past however the minimal work associated with graffiti removal and the inconsistent work rate proved to be counterproductive. The Mayor said he thinks it is a good opportunity and Council should consider participating.

**A MOTION**

**PROPOSED** by Cr. O'Brien **SECONDED** by Cr Webb that Council decline to participate in this scheme, **WAS LOST.**

**8420 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council agree to participate in the Graffiti / Beautification Program as part of the Community Service Order Project.

Cr O'Brien requested that her name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

**10.5 COUNTRY ENERGY E3 (32470)**

Saying recently it received a request from Cobar Shire to donate a Power-mate energy meter to keep in the library and lend to the public. Extending this offer to all councils in the north western region, saying the Power-mate is a simple device that plugs into appliances and gives full power and greenhouse gas measuring capabilities, which allows customers to consider various options. Asking Council if it wishes to participate in the offer.

The General Manager commented that once again Council is being asked to carry out the function of another government agency. Cr O'Brien said she disagrees and would like Council to accept Country Energy's offer.

**8421 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council accept the offer from Country Energy to administer the Power-mate energy meter.

**10.6 NSW GOVERNMENT – OFFICE OF WATER S4 + W1 (32466)**

Referring to the need for council to achieve full cost recovery for its sewerage business in accordance with the requirements of *National Competition Policy* and the *NSW Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines 2007*. Pointing out that Coonamble is now the only NSW utility with over 1000 connected properties not achieving full cost recovery for sewerage and saying to overcome its 2008/09 negative operating result, a residential sewerage charge of about \$375 will be required for Coonamble in 2010/11. Asking Council to advise its proposed 2010/11 sewerage tariff.

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Council noted that the proposed sewerage charge for Coonamble for 2010/11 is \$346 and for Gulargambone \$492. The General Manager advised that the average sewerage charge would amount to \$359 whereas the Department is saying a charge of \$375 is required. He said it should be noted that interest on investments is not considered income by the Department and this is expected to equate to \$163,800 for the 2010/11 year which equates to about \$139 per connection.

The Director of Corporate Services informed Council that the real issue was Gulargambone, saying there is a \$100,000 deficit every year with the provision of the service. The General Manager stated that there is a 10% increase in charges for Gulargambone each year. He pointed out that capital works reduce maintenance costs and Council should consider putting in place a strategic plan to address concerns.

**8422 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council acknowledge the concerns of the NSW Office of Water and advise that it is confident the charges set for the 2010/11 year are sufficient to meet the operating needs of the Coonamble and Gulargambone sewerage services, with every effort being made to curtail expenditure during that year.

**10.7 J&P GOLDSMITH, D&D BURTONSHAW, D WRIGHT & J CAMPBELL & J&C HISCOCK SR65 (32517)**

Advising the last time Gadsens Lane was graded the culvert near the Oaks Bore was destroyed, causing water to run down the southern side of the road which cuts access to Goldsmiths' and Wright's/Campbell's properties. Stating this is the only access road to properties owned by Hiscock, Goldsmith, Wright/Campbell and Burtenshaw, plus employees of the feedlot access the road on a daily basis. Requesting that a council representative meet with the concerned ratepayers to discuss the problem.

The General Manager informed the meeting investigations reveal that Council did not remove the steel culvert near the Oaks Bore. He said a new design for that section of road has been developed by the former Roads Manager and will be implemented after details are conveyed to the landowners.

**8423 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Schieb that Council implement the amended design of the roadway in question following consultation with landowners in the vicinity.

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**10.8 GREG KILBY R8-6-2 + SR20 (32530)**

Advising that the northern end of Killara Lane is in a serious state of disrepair following recent continuous heavy rain and flooding. Saying he would like to buy a large quantity of rock fill to put on the northern end of Killara Lane and would like some of the flood grant money allocated as a subsidy to purchase and transport the rock fill from the crusher. Stating he would like the Shire to grade it in like previously with other roads.

The General Manager pointed out that this issue was covered at the recent Extraordinary Meeting of Council with the advice from Roads Staff to decline the request.

At this juncture, 11.48 a.m, Cr Webb left the meeting – Mr. Robert Khan arrived.

**8424 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Mr. Kilby's requests be declined.

**MR. ROBERT KHAN – DISCUSSIONS WITH COUNCILLORS**

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Khan to the meeting and thanked him for taking the time to come to the meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**8425 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993, section 2(c) *"information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposing to conduct) business"*.

**8426 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

Mr. Khan informed the meeting what projects his company is involved in at the present time and their intentions for the future.

At the conclusion of his address, Mr. Khan left the meeting.

**RESUME OPEN MEETING**

**8427 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council resume Open Meeting.

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**10.9 PHILLIP MALONE SR 11**

Thanking Council for its response to his previous letter and acknowledging the Shire plant has done work on SR11 but pointing out the inadequate result of such work. Suggesting the state of the road is not directly related to flood damage but due to poor maintenance and the wet period has caused the problem to become greater. Referring to issues with water-logging caused by the road retarding the flow of water and saying Council did not comment on this issue. Referring to other issues in relation to the maintenance of this road. Stating that he cannot afford to risk the potential loss of recently sown crops as a result of water being retarded against its natural flow.

The General Manager reported that the section of road in question has been inspected and no fault can be found with the work carried out, with the exception of a "small tail" left on the actual causeway which has been listed for attention when equipment is available. Mr Griffiths informed the meeting that Mr Malone has also written to the Office of Water complaining of Council's actions.

**8428 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Horan that Council advise Mr Malone that a small tail in the causeway will be removed, but no further works will be carried out at this time.

**10.10 JB & A TANCRED, THE MAZE GROUP SR11 (32582)**

Advising they are landowners on the Bullagreen Road and advising of the "dreadful state" of the road. Pointing out that at present the Bullagreen Road is not safe and requires attention. Asking that the road be top dressed and graded and, although "a big ask", this will ensure that the road does not cause any accidents or injury.

Council noted that this road has already been attended to in terms of the above.

**8429 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that JB & A Tancred be advised that the road has received attention recently, with no further works being envisaged at this time and drawing attention to Council's policy to close all unsealed roads after 5mm of rain at which time roads should not be traversed.

**10.11 SPENCER STEER A12 (32547)**

Advising they attended Council's Offices to conduct the interim audit in respect to the year ending 30 June 2010 and are pleased to report that Council's books and records are being well maintained and up to date. Listing matters which came to their notice during the conduct of the audit procedures and providing recommendations on how to address them.

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A copy of the Audit Management Letter from Spencer Steer was attached to each Councillors business paper.

The Mayor congratulated staff on this result – the Director of Corporate Services went through each item listed by the Auditors, pointing out that they are all minor issues and will be addressed.

**8430 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that Council note the information contained in the Audit Management Letter as a result of the interim audit to 30 June 2010.

**10.12 COONAMBLE HACK & PONY CLUB INC S5 (23580)**

Seeking permission to erect a fence around the Clubhouse at the Showground. Stating the Club undertakes responsibility for maintenance of the ground within the fenced area. Saying if permission is forthcoming, the Club would like to have the fence erected prior to the June long weekend.

The General Manager advised that he carried out an inspection of the site and found that a fence in that location would be a hindrance to traffic manoeuvring and would restrict usage of the Rodeo storage container. Mr. Griffiths said he suggested to the Pony Club the placing of bollards in front of the posts or a “hitching rail” as alternatives and instructed that temporary barricades be placed in front of the building for this year’s rodeo as protection.

It is understood that now the Hack and Pony Club would be happy to have the fence 2 metres out from the building.

**8431 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council endorse the action of the General Manager and he further negotiate with the Coonamble Hack and Pony Club noting that if only 2 metres out from the Clubhouse is now required, he be given authority to approve the request.

**10.13 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW E2  
(32601)**

Seeking help in improving access to polling places for people with a disability and encouraging improved physical access to community and privately owned publicly accessible facilities to enable those people to fully participate in their communities. Asking Council to nominate an accessible building in its LGA which would be suitable for use as a polling place.

The General Manager said he understood that the venues utilized in this Shire, viz: Coonamble High School Multi Purpose Centre, Gulargambone Central School and Quambone School, all comply with disabled access provisions.

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**8432 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council nominate the three venues as complying with NSW Electoral Commission requirements for disabled access.

**10.14 DONNA SWANSBOROUGH S6 + D5 (32636)**

Suggesting Council commence a program of training on the job, recognising the initial cost would be substantial but the benefits would be worthwhile. Suggesting Council commence 'in house' training for grader drivers, engineers, payroll and accountant staff, as well as plant operators. Pointing out that some time ago a former General Manager suggested cadetships and this may be something for this Council to again debate.

The General Manager reported that Council has extensively employed trainees in the water and sewer, carpentry/trades, mechanics, cadet engineer, electrician and other areas. He said presently there are vacancies in the water and sewer area which will be filled in due course with trainees. Mr Griffiths said the training of plant operators and the like is an ongoing process to allow employees to progress to the next skill level under Council's salary system. The General Manager said, however, despite these training efforts staff, for various reasons, elect to move on as occurred recently.

He pointed out that an alteration to Council's organizational structure creating new positions would be required should Council look favourably on this suggestion.

Cr Karanouh suggested that Council look at ways to get young people into jobs so they will remain in town. Cr. Cullen suggested that Council get trainees from the High School and endeavour to provide training in various sections of the workforce. It was suggested that Council get information from the Employment Circle on who to contact and where to apply for funding and look at options that may be available, noting that if it can proceed Council will commit an additional one or two positions on its organization structure.

**8433 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that Council make enquiries concerning funding available for trainees and discuss options available following receipt of information from the Employment Circle as to where enquiries should be directed, noting that should the need arise Council will commit an additional one or two positions and make provision for them on the organization structure.

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**10.15 GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES BOARD OF NSW N1 + P1 (32651)**

Advising that the following four naming proposals have been finalised:

- Coonamble Lions Park
- Bill Delaney Park
- Coonamble Sportsground
- Broome Park

Stating Gulargambone Sportsground has already been gazetted (name assigned on 4/9/1987) Advising as follows with regard to the other four applications:

- Janet Cant Memorial Apex Park – proposed name too long.
- Smith Park – origin of name unknown, suggests Council may wish to take advantage of this and use the opportunity to propose a new name.
- McDonald Park – Board suggests that as origin is unknown Council take advantage of this and use the opportunity to propose a new name
- Warrena Creek Weir Recreation Area – name too long.

Awaiting on Council's instructions regarding the four reserve names to commence public consultation stage by placing a notice in the Coonamble Times and the NSW Government Gazette.

At this juncture, 12.45 p.m., Cr Webb returned to the meeting.

The General Manager advised that this matter was previously agreed to by Council and placed before the Geographical Names Board who have returned four of the suggestions for reconsideration.

**8434 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Canham that Council agree to the following names and take action to have them gazetted:

- Janet Cant Park
- Smith Park
- Macdonald Park
- Warrena Weir Reserve

At this juncture, Council's Economic Development Manager was at the meeting to present the report.

**16.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

**8435 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and dealt with.

- Abattoirs – progress looking positive; also another enquiry which has been passed on to the owners.
- Packaging facility – following the rail upgrade meeting an enquiry was received regarding a packaging facility being established.

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At this juncture, 12.40 p.m., Cr Karanouh left the meeting.

- Business Awards – nominations open 1 July/close 30 August – Dinner 11 September.
- Two enquiries for new residents packs – Orange and Tasmania
- Meeting to be held 17 June @ Golf Club – neighbouring Chamber of Commerce representatives will speak.
- Industrial Estate progressing – GANT chart attached to business paper.
- Eco-Spa – J Rand & Associates selected as consultants – first visit around 15 June – must select appropriate site and address water issue.
- University of NSW representatives will visit on 24 June – morning site inspection and meeting in the afternoon.

**8436 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that the report by the Economic Development Manager be adopted.

**LOCAL HERITAGE FUND ANNUAL REPORT**

**8437 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Coonamble Local Heritage Fund Annual Report be noted.

**16.1 MINUTES OF COONAMBLE EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE MEETING**

**8437 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that the minutes of the Coonamble Employment Circle meeting held on 20 April 2010 be noted.

**16.2 MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COONAMBLE EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE MEETING**

**8438 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that the minutes of the special meeting of Coonamble Employment Circle held on 11 May 2010 be noted.

**16.3 COONAMBLE INDOOR ARENA – PROJECT SUMMARY**

**8439 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the report be received and noted.

**16.4 COONAMBLE MUSEUM ADVISORY SERVICE REPORT – 2009/2010**

The EDM gave a brief overview of progress of works at the Museum and details of what is planned in the future.



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**8440 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council:

- (1) Work actively with the Heritage Advisory Committee and the Museum Advisor on developing strategies for recruitment of museum volunteers.
- (2) Develop policies and procedures to ensure continuity of practice in all aspects of museum operations.
- (3) Provide a venue for the Advisor to develop and deliver a series of evening community workshops on specific areas of museum thinking and work
- (4) Authorise the Curator and Museum Advisor to meet school teachers to plan and develop education resources.
- (5) Support the concept of re-branding the Museum with a more specific marketing focus.
- (6) Defer publication of the new brochure until a decision has been made on re-branding the Museum .
- (7) Meet the design and production costs for the new brochure from the Tourism Development Manager's budget
- (8) Provide better signage to direct cars up Skillman's Lane to the car park behind the Museum in the next financial year.
- (9) Undertake to provide funding of up to \$200/year for minor expenditure (e.g. archival materials, displays etc)
- (10) In conjunction with the Heritage Advisory Committee carefully consider the plan and assist in identifying funding opportunities to meet the cost, when the Advisor has completed a detailed outline and costing for the proposed new permanent exhibition in the stables.
- (11) Agree that if external funding cannot be secured to meet 50% of the cost of the new exhibition, consider providing up to \$15,000 in the 2011/12 budget.
- (12) Support the Museum and Heritage Advisor in planning and securing funding to ensure that the stables are vermin-proofed.

Councillor Cullen thanked the Economic Development Managers for arranging the rail upgrade meeting which he said was very well attended and ended with a positive note.

**PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE (continued)**

**10.16 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY E5-3  
(32665)**

Advising that Council is a participant in the Central West Regional State of the Environment Report and has committed to participating in the next two Supplementary and one Comprehensive Reports for the 2010, 2011 and 2012 reporting periods.

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Stating that based on the quote of \$161,349.96 (GST exclusive) for the three reports, the annual contribution for each council will be \$2,750 and requesting council to sign off on this commitment so that Bathurst Regional Council can invoice councils for the first year at the commencement of the 2010/11 financial year.

**8441 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council participate in the Central West Catchment Management Authority's Central West Regional State of the Environment Report and commit \$2,750 as its contribution for 2010/11.

**10.17 HON TONY KELLY MLC, MINISTER FOR PLANNING D5-22  
(32696)**

Proposing that the Regional Panel Chairs delegate Regional Panel applications in three circumstances (i.e. Straightforward Applications, Designated Development and Areas and Precincts) where Council has agreed that these applications will be determined by appropriate senior staff and not by the full Council or Council committee, consistent with the theme of depoliticizing the planning system. Saying a written commitment to confer the delegations to an appropriate level of officer and other information outlined in the letter, must be with the Department within 21 days of the letter. Stating it is envisaged that the proposed delegations will be in operation for a 12 month trial period prior to a review being carried out.

The General Manager said this "about face" by the Minister for Planning is in recognition of the difficulties associated with planning approvals. Mr Griffiths said that as Council has no professional planning staff, the delegation should be made to the General Manager.

**8442 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that Council accept the proposed delegation and nominate the General Manager as the appropriate officer of Council to determine these classes of development applications.

**10.18 CATHERINE McKENZIE L4 (32690)**

Advising that she has donated a copy of the book she has written *We Only Had Hoes* to the 'Coonamble Shire Library. Stating the book is about her father, Rod McKenzie's World War II experiences in the Malaya Campaign and as a PoW in Changi and on the Thailand-Burma Railway.

**8443 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council commend Catherine McKenzie for preserving her late father's experiences during World War II and thank her for the donation of the book *We Only Had Hoes* to the Coonamble library.

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**10.19 GULARGAMBONE JOCKEY CLUB D7 (32712)**

Asking Council to consider a sponsorship role for the 2010 Gulargambone Gold Cup Races on Saturday 21 August. Pointing out what a race day sponsor will receive and hoping that Council will again participate.

The General Manager informed the meeting that last year Council agreed to a contribution of \$500 towards marketing/advertising of the races.

**A MOTION**

**PROPOSED** by Cr Webb **SECONDED** by Cr Cullen that Council decline to make a donation to the Gulargambone Jockey Club for the 2010 Gulargambone Gold Cup Races, **WAS LOST.**

**8444 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council agree to make a donation of \$200 to the Gulargambone Jockey Club for the 2010 Gulargambone Gold Cup Races.

**10.20 QUAMBONE POLOCROSSE CLUB INC D7 (32711)**

Thanking Council for its support in 2009 and asking for a continuation of that commitment in 2010. Saying last year Council provided a cash donation of \$200 which was used to buy prizes. Advising what is offered in return for a sponsorship.

**8445 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council agree to contribute \$200 to the Quambone Polocrosse Club for this year's event.

**10.21 NSW OMBUDSMAN O4 (32725)**

Advising that the Ombudsman's jurisdiction includes local councils, councillors and council staff and saying that since the initiation of council Internal Ombudsman in 1999 he has observed the office and manner in which it functions within councils with interest. Advising an issues paper was developed in order to highlight and illustrate some relevant issues about Internal Ombudsman and this paper was initially forwarded to councils that have Internal Ombudsman, the LGSA, LGMA (NSW), Division of Local Government and ICAC, seeking comment. Forwarding copy of issues paper to council and seeking responses by 22 June 2010.

The General Manager said that the position of Internal Ombudsman is confined to larger Councils and this Council has never participated.

**8446 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council not make comment on the Issues Paper forwarded by the NSW Ombudsman.

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**10.22 LIFE EDUCATION NSW                      A19 (32726)**

Writing to the Mayor seeking his support in motivating Australia to once again abstain from drinking alcohol for one month during October 2010 and to raise money to support drug and health education. Suggesting he sign up to take part at [www.ocsober.com.au](http://www.ocsober.com.au) – contact local media about Council’s participation in the scheme, remind people that the pledge for October is “cut it out” for 30 days. Saying if Council’s Mayor signs up, a kit will be sent to fully support the Campaign.

**8447 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs.O’Brien and Webb that the Mayor, together with Crs O’Brien and Cullen, participate in the Ocober 2010 campaign.

**10.23 DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS                      W1 (32724)**

Inviting Council to a public community information session on Australian Government water related policies and programs at Dubbo RSL on Friday 18 June 2010 from 2.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saying that to identify issues of most interest to Council and to tailor the program to suit your needs, asking Council to contact them in advance – this will also help with catering of light refreshments.

**8448 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Webb that Council not participate in the public community information session on Australian Government water related policies and programs conducted by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

**10.24 LGSA CIRCULAR – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL C13**

Advising that pursuant to s.241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to councillors, mayors, members and chairpersons of county councils, effective on and from 1 July 2010 have been determined.

	<b><i>Councillor/Member Annual Fee</i></b>		<b><i>Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee*</i></b>	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
Rural	\$7,250	\$9,570	\$7,700	\$20,890

The General Manager informed the meeting that Coonamble Shire Council’s Category is “Rural” and the above table indicates minimum/maximum amounts for councillors and the additional amount for mayors. Mr Griffiths said that in 2008 Council increased fees by 2.5%, however in 2009 no increase was made.

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**8449 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council increase the current fees by 2½%, effective from 1 July 2010.

**10.25 COMMUNITY SERVICES – DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Forwarding two copies of the Service Agreement for funding for the financial year 2010/2011 and requesting that they be executed by Council.

**8450 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council authorise the affixing of the Common Seal to the Service Agreements for funding for the 2010/2011 financial year.

**10.26 COONAMBLE BOWLING CLUB LTD T6-2**

Seeking permission to remove the large fig tree on the eastern side of the Club boundary and providing reasons for the request. Pointing out that if permission is granted to remove the tree, three new ones will be planted.

The General Manager pointed out that Council has been given a copy of the letter from A1 Tree Service (NSW) Pty Ltd to the Bowling Club which states, amongst other things, that the tree has previously been indiscriminately lopped causing a much thicker and denser canopy which is also regarded as more weakly attached re-growth. Mr. Griffiths said the Arborist also referred to very large exposed lateral roots associated with this species of tree which also can be very damaging to foundations and building structures alike. The General Manager reported that, in the opinion of the Arborist, the removal of the tree is inevitable for the maintenance and longevity of the bowling green area.

**8451 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council agree to the removal of the large fig tree from Bowling Club premises, in accordance with advice given by A1 Tree Service (NSW) Pty Ltd., noting the Club will plant other trees in the vicinity.

**Section B – Information Items Only.**

**10.27 KEVIN HUMPHRIES, MP P5 (32437)**

Referring to representations on behalf of Council to the Minister for Police regarding police numbers in Coonamble. Advising he has received a response from Minister Daley's Office and saying Council will note advice that the authorised strength of the Command for the Coonamble area as at 31/12/2009 was 68. Referring to further advice from the Minister that police officers are made aware that their employment with the NSW Police Force and their duties as police officers must take precedence over any other employment.

A copy of this letter was attached to Councillors' business papers.

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**10.28 NETWASTE G1-5 (32436)**

Advising that Sims Metal Management has revised its pricing for collection of scrap metal for Councils in the NetWaste region and for April 2010 the rebate value will increase from \$135/tonne + GST to \$175/tonn + GST.

**10.29 ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS 05 (32433)**

Forwarding the Adopted Strategic Plan which reflects changes agreed upon at a recent meeting.

The General Manager provided a copy of the adopted OROC Strategic Plan for 2010 – 2015 to each Councillor.

**10.30 DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER & CABINET T7 (32449)**

Advising that the Local Government (General) Amendment (Tendering) Regulation 2010 commenced on 9 April 2010 and saying the Regulation is published on the NSW legislation website [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)

**10.31 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW L9 (32479)**

Reminding Council that NSW Local Government Week 2010 is being held from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August, with the theme *Building a Brighter Future*. Stating it is an opportunity to focus the community on council's achievements and plans for the future. Saying that participation in LG Week can be as simple as using the LG Week logo on Council's website.

**10.32 WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL R8-4 (32514)**

Advising that Warrumbungle Shire Council has agreed to support ongoing dialogue between Coonamble and Gilgandra Shires on developing a strategy to upgrade the Coonamble to Mendooran Road. Saying Council is also pleased to note that this Council has offered to contribute to the project. Pointing out that at this stage Gilgandra has not indicated its formal support of the project, however Warrumbungle Council will continue to facilitate a meeting between the three Councils, possibly at the Shires Conference, to gain a united understanding and approach.

**10.33 RAIL TRAM AND BUS UNION, NSW BRANCH R2 (32507)**

Referring to Council's correspondence in relation to the proposal to upgrade branch rail line between Armatree and Coonamble and advising the Union would support Council to have the section of branch line upgraded to a Level 3 Classification. Saying this would significantly improve safety and reliability for the transport of grain by rail from Coonamble for its members.

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**10.34 BOB GREEN E710 (32496)**

Giving formal advice of his intended retirement from c.o.b. Friday 2 July 2010. Saying he would be more than happy to assist with any emergency or, in fact, at any time Council feels his services would be of assistance. Thanking Councils, both past and present, also work colleagues for their support and assistance over 36 years.

Cr Cullen asked if a farewell function has been arranged for Mr Green – the General Manager said that a dinner will be held on Friday, 30 July at the Tong Fong Restaurant. He asked Councillors to note the date.

**10.35 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10-1 (32529)**

Advising councils that the Swimming Pools Amendment (Penalty Notice Offences) Regulation 2010 commenced on 9 April and is published on the website at [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)

The General Manager indicated that Councillors should pay particular attention to this amendment as staff are now obliged to prosecute non-compliant owners of swimming pools. It is expected that complaint to councillors will occur when staff carry out regulatory obligations.

**10.36 LIFELINE CENTRAL WEST L3 (32566)**

Thanking Council for its generous donation, appreciating difficulties faced by all councils during these economic times and valuing Council's support of the service. Also thanking Council for arranging a 'drop off' point at the library for book donations for the Lifeline Central West Book Fair.

**10.37 MATERIAL GIRLS L4 (32571)**

Requesting permission to use the Coonamble Library on Saturday & Sunday, 12 & 13 June for the Annual Quilt Exhibition. Stating a Council employee will be in attendance at all times during the Exhibition which will be from 9.30am to 4.00pm daily. Thanking Council for its past support, saying that last year \$1,750 was raised for local charities/organizations.

Councillors were advised that permission has been granted for use of the Coonamble Library for the Exhibition on 12 & 13 June under the same conditions as in previous years. The General Manager said a notice has been published in Council's column of the Coonamble Times advising of this annual event.

**10.38 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (ICAC) F2 (32578)**

Advising that the ICAC's recently released *Development Assessment Internal Audit Tool* can be downloaded from the ICAC website at [www.icac.nsw.gov.au](http://www.icac.nsw.gov.au)

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Advising the document was developed to assist in the audit of local councils' development assessment and determination processes.

**10.39 NSW GOVERNMENT – DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER & CABINET  
N4 (32608)**

Writing in response to Council's letter to the Premier concerning the "Health Waiver Scheme" in NSW and saying the matter has been forwarded to the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Health for attention.

**10.40 NSW DEPARTMENT INDUSTRY & INVESTMENT 16 (32611)**

Informing Council that on 18 December 2009 the NSW Land Based Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy (NSWLBSAS) along with an amendment to *State Environmental Planning Policy No 62 – Sustainable Aquaculture* (SEWPP62) were gazetted. Pointing out important amendments to SEPP62. Pointing out the documents are available at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/aquaculture/publications/general/nsw-ibsas](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/aquaculture/publications/general/nsw-ibsas).

**10.41 THE A R BLUETT MEMORIAL TRUST A17 (32615)**

Inviting Council to submit an entry for the AR Bluett Memorial Award this year. Saying entries close on 31 July 2010.

**10.42 WATERFORD RYAN LD7/2009 + E230 (32650)**

Advising they have written to Mr Gamage in response to his unfair dismissal claim and attaching a copy of the letter. Saying it is their understanding that termination of Mr Gamage's employment was justified as it was based on legitimate grounds. Further stating that should the matter proceed to Court, considering that Council is in a strong position to defend any claims that may be brought.

**10.43 THE HON LINDA BURNEY MP – MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES C8 (32649)**

Writing to all councils asking for support in a foster care recruitment campaign in partnership with non-government agencies. Pointing out that while the Government is committed to reducing numbers of children in care, there will always be those who must be removed from families for their own safety. Encouraging residents to learn about foster care so they can decide whether to become involved.

The General Manager informed the meeting the information has been posted on Council's website and included in the Coonamble Times.

**10.44 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION D2 (32647)**

Notifying of a new ICAC research report from the *Profiling the NSW Public Sector II Series entitled Report 3: Differences between Local & State Government*. Saying the report can be accessed on the ICAC's website [www.icac.nsw.gov.au](http://www.icac.nsw.gov.au)

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**10.45 MAYOR, DUBBO CITY COUNCIL P-4 (32646)**

Inviting Council to attend a High Performance Vehicle (HPV) Trial / Demonstration being held in Dubbo on 21 June 2010. Stating Dubbo Council is looking at how it and other regional local government partners can assist with granting access to all 'suitable routes' to 'suitable HPVs' within their respective LGAs. Proposing to meet at 11 a.m. for a pre-trial briefing and inspection of HPVs; 12 noon lunch; 12.30 p.m. trial start and 2.30 p.m. trial finishes, with a debriefing session and question time (allocated 1 hr) – coaches will be provided to transport guests around the trial circuit.

**10.46 NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK M5-1 (32634)**

Enclosing a copy of a pamphlet "*We want a Doctor – then start with a Student*" which outlines ways to showcase the community and lifestyle aspects of rural life. Encouraging Council to sponsor a medical student for a training placement.

**10.47 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION I2 (32657)**

Advising that ICAC will again be offering scholarships in 2010 for public sector employees to attend the Corruption and Anti-corruption Executive Program to be held at the Australian National University (ANU) campus in Canberra. Saying the scholarships are intended for employees who are responsible for the development and implementation of corruption prevention strategies within their council, who are in a position to influence the direction of their council in dealing with corruption risks. Inviting applications from local government employees and detailing the requirements.

**10.48 KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP N4 (32655)**

Writing in relation to Council's letter regarding the introduction of the Health Waiver Scheme in NSW and saying the issue has become widespread throughout the State. Pointing out that he has made representations to the Minister for Health, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt and will be in touch with Council when a response is received which outlines the Government's intentions.

**10.49 NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING D5-22 (32697)**

Advising that the Department has recently completed the Interim Review of Operation for the Joint Regional Planning Panels and saying the finds are encouraging. Thanking council and staff for its cooperation.

**10.50 GULARGAMBONE WAR MEMORIAL MECHANICS INSTITUTE HALL COMMITTEE D7 (32719)**

Thanking Council for rewiring the Hall and saying it will enable the Committee to progress with future improvements.

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**10.51 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT F2 + L10-1 (32710)**

Advising that changes have recently been made to the Investment Policy Guidelines as a result of feedback. Pointing out that the Investment Policy Guidelines are available from the Publications page of the Division's website at [www.dlg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au)

The General Manager informed the meeting that staff will review Council's Investment Policy and make the necessary changes to ensure compliance in due course.

**10.52 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10-1 (32703)**

Advising that the Division of Local Government, Department of the Premier and Cabinet issued the revised and updated *Practice Note 16 – Meetings Practice* on 31 August 2009. Stating this was developed to assist councillors and staff conduct council and committee meetings in accordance with best practice standards.

A copy of this information was provided with the business paper.

**10.53 INFINITY ENVIRONMENTAL W1-13 (32609)**

Advising Infinity has met with Bill Ho from the NSW Office of Water and saying the outcome was extremely positive, believing Mr. Ho's issues and concerns have been addressed. Saying Infinity Environmental would still like to work with council to provide a cost effective solution for its drinking water requirements. Understanding the project will go back to tender shortly with a full design and construct scope of works. Asking that Council advise when the tenders are called.

The General Manager pointed out that the issues raised by the NSW Office of Water have been only partially conveyed to Council staff with the major consideration being explained as a dissatisfaction with the introduction of new technology.

**10.54 NRMA INSURANCE – COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM G5**

Thanking Council for submitting an application and advising that the project titled "*Security for Victims of Crime*" has not been successful. Saying the equipment requested is unable to be supported.

**10.55 DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, RLCIP TEAM**

Thanking Council for submitting its 30/4/2010 progress report for RLCIP Project *Upgrade of Solar Facilities at the Coonamble Museum* and advising no further action is required in relation to the report unless Council is contacted by the Department.

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**8452 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.27 – 10.55 inclusive, be noted.

**URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE**

**8453 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that the following information be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

**10.56 CENTRAL WEST LIVESTOCK HEALTH & PEST AUTHORITY N7  
(32749)**

Responding to Council's letter regarding noxious weeds and advising the Authority is currently in the process of developing operating plans for 2010/2011 and would be happy to make a presentation to Council on the TSR component or on all its functional areas in July/August. Saying rain in late December 2009/January 2010 generated an extraordinary weed problem and while the Authority has made every effort to control growth, it is limited by available resources.

**8454 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that Council apologise to LHPA for the use of unconfirmed information and invite it to make a presentation at the July 14th meeting.

**10.57 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW C17  
(32746)**

Asking for Council's assistance in better quantifying the extent of cost shifting to NSW Local Government by completing the Associations cost shifting survey for 2008/2009. Saying the survey indicated that the total burden of cost shifting may amount to approximately \$430 million/annum (financial year 2004/2005). Pointing out that the inquiry recommended the Associations build on its work and undertake an annual survey of all councils to establish the total amount of cost shifting onto NSW local government and the Associations adopted that recommendation. Saying completion of the survey is due on 2 July 2010.

**8455 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council note the survey will be completed by staff and returned to LGSA by the due date.

**10.58 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY E5-3  
(32743)**

Announcing the next seminar in the luncheon seminar series especially designed for councillors and council managers will be held on Friday 23 July 2010 at the Dubbo Golf Club at 10 a.m. (luncheon 12.30 p.m.). Asking that council respond by 8 July 2010.

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**8456 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Canham that Council note that the Director of Engineering Services or nominee will attend the session at Dubbo on Friday 23 July 2010.

**10.59 GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL R8-6-1 (32741)**

Advising of the outcome of the first meeting of the Australia Wide Rural Road Group (AWRRG) held in Canberra on 15 March 2010. Pointing out that a number of councils who could not be represented at the initial meeting indicated their desire to formally join the group, as did Coonamble Shire Council.

Stating the next meeting will be held in Canberra on 14 June 2010 to coincide with the National General Assembly and would be a great opportunity for Council to be represented at the meeting. Enclosing an Appointment of Proxy form for consideration should Council not be able to attend.

**8457 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Cr. O'Brien attend the meeting if she is available, noting that she will be in Canberra at that time.

**10.60 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING B11 (32740)**

Advising the Department has extended the transition period to continue to allow complying development to occur under either the Codes SEPP or the local councils existing development control plan or an environmental planning instrument until 31 December 2010. Saying if council's uptake of complying development is likely to be adversely affected by the expiry of the transition period because its local complying development controls contain more generous standards, include more development types or have a narrower range of exclusions than the Codes SEPP, Council is invited to provide the Department with information on the variance.

The General Manager reported that Council already has a policy for exempt and complying development and, at this point in time, does not need to expand this area further.

**8458 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council not participate in the review of exempt and complying development SEPP.

**10.61 SALEYARDS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC S1 (32774)**

Giving notice of a special general meeting to be held on 7 July 2010 at Wagga Wagga RSL Club commencing 8.30 a.m. Stating the purpose of the meeting is for members to consider proposed changes to the Saleyard Operators Association of NSW Inc Constitution.

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Saying the special general meeting has been timed to coincide with the Saleyard Operators Association of NSW Annual Conference and the annual general meeting in Wagga Wagga in July 2010 to ensure the matter can be considered by the full membership. Asking Council to ensure it has representation at this important meeting.

The General Manager pointed out it is usual practice for the Saleyards Manager and one Councillor (normally Cr Cullen) to attend the Saleyard Operators Association of NSW Inc. annual conference and as this meeting will coincide with the Conference, the attendance of two representatives from Council would suffice.

**8459 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Canham that Council authorise the attendance of Cr. Cullen and the Saleyards Manager at the special general meeting to be held in Wagga Wagga on 7 July, 2010 and they represent Council at the Saleyard Operators Association Conference at the same time.

**10.62 PAM & GRAHAM CARROLL, GULARGAMBONE CARAVAN PARK  
H2-2 (32772)**

Drawing attention to the easy availability of "party packs" at the Gulargambone hospital. Pointing out that many syringes have been found along the road on nature strips and in front yards of premises close to the hospital. Saying they are aware of the law to supply injections, but asking if something can be done to make them less accessible and the disposal of old needles more enforceable.

The General Manager reported that in April 2008 this matter was raised with GWAHS who made a number of suggestions in respect to Council cleaning up the mess, but did not actually do anything themselves. Mr Griffiths said Council staff have reported no increase in the number of syringes in public places with the last event being the recovery of two about four weeks ago and, prior to that, it was some months previous that syringes were recovered.

**8460 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council forward the letter of complaint to GWAHS with a request for better supervision in respect of the distribution of 'party packs'.

**10.63 COONAMBLE BOWLING CLUB LTD                      L11 (32767)**

Responding to the reply from the Wanderers Tennis Club and pointing out the request by the Bowling Club was for lease and closure of the laneway for the purpose of utilising the area for storage (i.e. placement of a shipping container). Hoping Council will deal favourably with their request and pointing out the area will be kept tidy and, if permitted, the Club will look at planting a hedge or shrubs along the Tennis Club fence.

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The General Manager referred to the copy of the letter from Coonamble Bowling Club which was attached for Councillors' information. He said Council instructed him to negotiate with the Wanderers Tennis Club and the Bowling Club to reach consensus and it appears that, given the latter is willing to fund screening of the rear of the premises, agreement has been reached.

**8461 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that this matter be deferred for consideration in conjunction with Item 11.4 of the General Manager's report.

**10.64 COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL M3-1 (32756)**

Advising in a letter signed by the Student Representative and the Year Advisor that the Coonamble High School Girls will not be participating in the Mayor's Debutante Ball to be held on 24 July. Saying extenuating circumstances caused confusion within the group and offering sincere apologies on behalf of the School.

**8462 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the information be noted.

**10.65 HELEN RACKHAM SR1**

Writing regarding Council's policy of closing all unsealed roads, particularly the Billeroy Road and saying it is understood the current procedure is for Council to assess (either physically or ringing a list of people) and if there is 5mm or more of rain a blanket closure is made of all unsealed roads. Pointing out they are totally in favour of safety and minimum damage to roads, however the current policy on road closures is unworkable and needs to be amended.

Council noted that this matter will be the subject of a detailed report from the new Director of Engineering Services as a priority upon his commencement of duties.

**8463 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that the writer be informed that Council will be considering a detailed report on road conditions during wet weather and a decision made at the first available opportunity, however in the interim Council advise its current policy on the closing of unsealed roads due to wet conditions and inform all school bus operators that they should desist from requesting parents to convey students on closed roads.

**10.66 NSW ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY R8-12 (32787)**

Responding to Council's request for assistance and confirming that grant, as follows, are available to assist with restoration:

- \$ 257,335 for Regional Roads
- \$1,811,653 for Local Roads.

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Saying the work should be completed before May 2011. Pointing out that due to the extent of damage of the flood event, RTA payments will be spread over two financial years, viz 2009/10 and 2010/11.

**8462 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that this information be noted.

**11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**

**8463 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Canham and Webb that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

**11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**8464 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that Council note no Development Applications were approved for the month of May 2010 and also note that Complying Development Application No. 014/2010 was approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

**11.2 LEADERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BRIEFING**

The General Manager informed Council that he attended the above Briefing, hosted by the Division of Local Government -Department of Premier and Cabinet, at Parliament House, Sydney on Tuesday, 4 May 2010. Mr Griffiths said the meeting was held under the guise of State and Local Governments in NSW working together.

A detailed overview of issues raised by various speakers was provided for Council's information. Mr. Griffiths advised that the briefing session then split into five workshops which discussed the salient points relating to structural reform. He said there was general recognition of a need to devise a better system for LG with each council having a wide and varied range of ideas to address the present shortcomings.

In his report on this matter, the General Manager suggested various options Council may consider in relation to proposed structural reform.

**8465 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that Council note this matter was dealt with at the Extraordinary Meeting held on 21 May 2010 and Council act according to the resolution passed at that meeting.

**11.3 SHEDS FOR HOUSING OF FLUORIDE PLANT**

The General Manager referred to this matter which was considered at the April meeting when Council instructed (Minute No 8459) that quotes be sourced from external builders for the construction of sheds to house fluoride equipment.

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However, the General Manager explained that, in an effort to expedite the project, the former Director of Engineering Services had written Council's Official Order to a local firm for the erection of the sheds and that contractor had already ordered materials. Mr Griffiths informed the meeting that he authorised cancellation of the external quotes and instructed that the local firm continue with the construction to ensure that the project was not unduly delayed and Council liable for breach of contract.

Councillors noted that the local contractor will be constructing two sheds suitable to house the fluoride equipment at No. 3 and No. 4 Bores – with the project cost being in the vicinity of \$110,000. Councillors expressed the view that this incident occurred because of a communication breakdown and suggested that staff be reminded of Council's purchasing policy and the need for approval from Council prior to the commitment of significant funds.

**8466 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that Council endorse the actions of the General Manager in approving the completion of the two sheds to avoid litigation and that staff be reminded of Council's purchasing policy and the need for prior approval from Council before expenditure of significant funds.

**11.4 LANEWAY BETWEEN COONAMBLE BOWLING CLUB AND  
COONAMBLE WANDERERS TENNIS CLUB**

In his report, the General Manager referred to Council's decision at the April meeting that concurrence be sought from the Wanderers Tennis Club with a proposal from the Bowling Club to close the laneway and place a shipping container for safe keeping of equipment on the site. Mr. Griffiths advised that the meeting was held on 30 April, 2010 and was attended by Mrs Natalie Thurston (Bowling Club), Mrs Lisa Wheeler & Mr. James Hegarty (Wanderers Tennis Club) and Council representatives.

Points raised and discussed at the meeting were listed in the report and the General Manager pointed out that these conditions would be included in any agreement between the three parties.

Council noted that responses from both Clubs have now been received and are included elsewhere in this business paper. Council noted that as the land in question is Crown land approval from the Department of Lands will be required.

Mr. Griffiths informed the meeting that he was of the opinion that the matter could now proceed as it appeared that issues have been resolved.



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**8467 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Karanouh that the General Manager be authorised to progress this matter, subject to agreement between the Bowling Club and the Tennis Club.

**URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**

**8468 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that the following matter be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

**11.5 REVIEW OF PLANT RESERVE & REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

The General Manager reported that in August 2009 Council instructed the former Director of Engineering Services to review the Plant Replacement Program due to the non-sustainable projection of the current schedule. He pointed out he has now undertaken that review in accordance with Council's instruction when formulating the draft management plan and considering the purchase of a truck and spreader to be utilized in conjunction with Gilgandra Council's pulvey mixer.

Mr Griffiths attached an amended replacement program for Council's approval, pointing out that it still requires an immediate 'top up' to account for the current cycle to continue and will remain in a critical state for the next five years.

The General Manager emphasized that continuous review is necessary to ensure the program is affordable and he envisaged that annual adjustments will be made to avoid further 'top ups' being required. He said no attempt has been made to verify the changeover values however, it must be stated that the fleet vehicles' replacement needs review within the next twelve months, as the continual increase is unacceptable.

Cr Schieb asked the A/Director of Engineering Services whether the Pavement Cleaner has been purchased, pointing out that this was agreed some time ago. The A/Director said she is waiting to get results from other councils who have recently purchased similar units.

In the report, the General Manager referred to the type of vehicle that is suitable for the Director of Engineering Services and others within that department and pointed out that a minor alteration to the Fleet Management Plan is needed under Section 2 Fleet Standard sub-sections 2.2.3 and 2.2.4. Mr. Griffiths suggested that to enhance flexibility when attracting and retaining staff the option of a Holden Captiva CX be included for these replacement categories.

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Council noted that no additional allowance has been made to move towards environmentally advantageous vehicles, nor have the effects of bio-fuels been included. The General Manager referred to the occupational health and safety needs of Council's plant fleet and the necessity for continuous upgrading as legislative requirements are upgraded.

In his report the General Manager informed the meeting that the \$190,000 "top up" for the 2010/2011 year has been provided in the draft management plan and pointed out that the majority of the 2009/2010 program has not been achieved and moved to the 2010/2011 replacement schedule. In referring to plant rates not having been altered, the General Manager said such action would reduce the amount of actual road works, etc. achievable under the management plan. He said there is no scope for additional plant items and it is hoped that the new regime within the Engineering Section will bring fresh ideas to mitigate the need for some equipment whilst introducing new technological advancements.

**8469 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council adopt the amended plant replacement program for 2010/2011 into both its Fleet Management Plan and the adopted Management Plan of Council for the ensuing three years and include the option of a diesel Holden Captiva CX, which is an additional \$800, under sub-sections 2.2.3 and 2.2.4 of the Fleet Management Plan.

**12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

**8470 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Webb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

**12.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

**8471 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb & Canham that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 May 2010 be noted.

**12.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS**

**8472 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that that the Investments held at 31 May 2010 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.

**12.3 ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY OF NSW – COUNCIL AGENCY AGREEMENT**

The Director of Corporate Services reported that the Agreement between Council and the RTA for the provision of agency services terminates on 30 June 2010. Mr Warren said the RTA has forwarded an Agreement for a further three years for Council to consider.

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The Director pointed out that provision of RTA agency services at location remote from the Administration Centre is resource intensive referring, in particular, to provision of relief staff to cover RDOs, sick leave and annual leave which proves difficult. He said another area of concern is the refusal of the RTA to conduct driver licensing on a different day other than the relief Friday, therefore putting an additional burden on the relief staff who are often not fully conversant with RTA policy and procedural changes.

Mr Warren said the provision of a complete year salary to this operation equates to 65 weeks wages over a 52 week period. He said the following are results of the past three years agency operations:

Year	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/ (Deficit)
2007/08	71,023.07	73,474.65	(2,451.58)
2008/09	57,235.49	58,058.52	(823.03)
2009/10 (20/5/10)	54,009.48	51,628.84	2,880.74

The Director referred to the location of the Agency at the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre and said that if, in the future, the need arose for the Agency to be relocated, Council should make the RTA aware that it would be at the Authority's expense.

- 8473 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council:
- (a) enter into the agreement to provide agency services to the RTA for the period 1/7/2010 to 30/6/2013;
  - (b) authorise the affixing of the Common Seal to the Agreement;
  - (c) formally request the RTA to change the driver licensing days to when Council's RTA Officer is not on a RDO;
  - (d) advise the RTA that if the Agency has to be relocated within the Contract period, or any time in the future, the relocation would be at the Authority's expense.

**13.0 REPORT BY A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES REPORT**

- 8474 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the report by the A/Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

**13.1 COONAMBLE POOL**

The A/Director of Engineering Services referred to Council's decision in December 2009 to extend the opening hours during the school holidays and in February 2010 to waive entry fees for the remainder of the 2009/2010 season. She said both these decisions will impact on staffing and income and Council should now decide how it wishes to proceed for next swimming season.

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The A/Director reported that Council has a duty of care to the public to ensure that the pools are adequately manned and that staff are not worked excessively long hours. She said waiving admissions to the pools will potentially cost Council \$30,000 p/a while extending pool hours will increase the running costs of the pool. The Director said that each hour the pool opens, in addition to normal hours, it costs Council approximately \$65 per man hour on average and pointed out this represents a potential increase of \$50,000 if the opening hours are extended for the entire season.

Ms Atkins also referred to the need for Council to negotiate the remuneration offered for the operation of the kiosk or consider ceasing the kiosk service at the Pool.

The A/Director said it had been reported that free admission did allow some families who would not otherwise be able to attend the pool access and suggested that Council offers 12 season tickets to underprivileged families – at a “fees & charges” value of \$2,340.

**8475 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Karanouh that Council retain admission charges for the next swimming season.

Cr. Cullen requested that his name be recorded as voting against this Resolution.

**A MOTION**

**PROPOSED** by Cr. Canham **SECONDED** by Cr O'Brien that Council retain the opening hours of the Swimming Pools, i.e. 6.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. seven days/week.

**AN AMENDMENT**

**8476 PROPOSED** by Cr. Horan **SECONDED** by Cr Cullen that the opening hours of the Swimming Pools for the 2010/2011 Swimming Season be: 6.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

On being put to the vote, the **AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED** and on becoming the motion was carried.

Cr. Canham requested that his name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

At this juncture, 3.03 p.m., Cr Canham left the meeting and did not return.

Cr. Schieb suggested that this may be an area where Council would place a trainee. The Mayor suggested that when a review of the organization structure is being undertaken this suggestion be examined.

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**13.2 COONAMBLE WASTE COLLECTION**

The A/Director of Engineering Services informed the meeting that the current contract for the kerbside collection of waste in Coonamble & Gulargambone expires at the end of June 2010. She said staff were requested to investigate the viability of Council undertaking this service in-house.

Ms Atkins reported that in order for Council to provide a waste collection service in-house it would need to purchase a collection truck. She pointed out that waste removal is one of councils' core functions and must be provided to residences within the collection zone and paid by a levy on each assessment. The A/Director informed the meeting that staff could not find any other LGA that provides the service in-house.

She said Council would have an initial outlay of approximately \$200,000 for the purchase of a fully fitted collection truck and revise the organisation structure to include an additional driver as the current staffing levels would not meet Councils needs. Ms Atkins said a cost comparison was carried out on contracted services verses in-house services, with the current contract costing \$103,000 pa compared with approximately \$166,000 if it was attempted in-house. The A/Director said there would be an added strain on administration staff to manage the collection process.

**8477 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council call tenders for the Waste Collection Service at the expiration of the current contract.

**13.3 SWIMMING POOLS MAINTENANCE**

The A/Director of Engineering Services referred to the request at Council's March 2010 meeting for a report on maintenance required on the Council pools and she provided a list of works that have been identified for the three swimming centres in the Shire.

Council noted that the following funds have been voted in the 2010/11 budget.

Disabled facilities - Coonamble	\$33,000
Coonamble Pool	\$50,000
Gulargambone Pool	\$30,000
Quambone Pool	\$20,000

However, it is estimated that the list of works identified will be in excess of \$315,000. The A/Director said applications have been made for grant funding to provide a chair lift, however they have been unsuccessful

**8478 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Webb that the information be noted.

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**13.4 PROGRESS REPORT**

The A/Director of Engineering Services provided a progress report on work that is being carried out, including works on the State Highway, Regional Roads and Local Roads. Council noted that when the NSW Office of Water has inspected the fluoride injectors at Gulargambone and No 5 Bore Shed a claim can be made for subsidy.

Cr. Schieb referred to the sportsground lights being left on following training and said there should be some method in place that when training is over the lights can be switched off. He suggested that significant expenditure is being incurred unnecessarily when this happens.

**8479 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Karanouh that a report be prepared on the use of lights at the Sportsground and alternate methods be investigated in an endeavour to ensure that lights are not left on when training is finished.

**8480 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that the progress report on works being undertaken be noted.

**URGENT BUSINESS – REPORT BY MANAGER – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**8481 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the following matter be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

**UNAUTHORISED LAND USE**

The General Manager referred to complaints from residents living in the vicinity of this unauthorized business and informed the meeting that Council has been endeavouring for some time to have the business relocated to an appropriate area. Mr. Griffiths said it is alleged that fencing has been removed to allow trucks to manoeuvre around and traverse the area and he has instructed that Council's land be fenced off so that trucks and other items of plant cannot traverse the area in future. He said this may help to reduce dust and noise levels in the neighbourhood.

Council noted that the property in question is located at the corner of Barton and Forgione Streets, Coonamble (Lots 80 & 81 in DP 3693) and is currently being used as a truck depot for which no approval has been given.

The owner of the property previously owned a part of "The Meglo" which would have provided the ideal location to establish his business, however he has since disposed of that land. The problems being experienced by residents in the area are of a serious nature and were listed in the Manager's report to Council.

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Council noted that there are also traffic issues which pose a safety risk and the proximity to the Primary School is also seen as a high risk with heavy trucks moving in the area. The Manager referred to another safety issue with children playing around the trucks and said this could have dire consequences. Mr. Cock said odour was being caused because of dumping of grain which has caused windblown pollutants to give off an unhealthy smell.

The meeting noted that the site in question consists of a residential dwelling, carport and storage shed. The Manager stated that Council approved the use of the shed as "storage shed" when the former owner made application for such use. Mr. Cock said Council has not received any application by the now owner for the current use of the site.

The General Manager said the current truck depot constitutes an illegal land use and can be discontinued by Council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act but, in this instance, may incur the cost of legal action.

Various options were put forward for Council's consideration as a means of resolving this issue to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Cr. Schieb and Cr Karanouh both said the owner of the business was endeavouring to find suitable land to relocate and suggested that Council not take any action at this time.

**8481 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb & O'Brien that Council approach the owner of the site to determine his intentions for the long term use of the area.

#### **TREE SERVICE COMPANIES**

Cr Schieb asked the A/Director of Engineering Services why Council always uses A1 Tree Services, when there are others in the area providing the same service. Ms Atkins said A1 Tree Services provide all the regulatory documentation and until recently she was not aware of the other provider. Cr. Schieb said on at least two occasions he is aware that the prices given by Active Tree Services have been lower than A1 Tree Services. The A/Director was requested to get quotes from both companies for future works.

#### **14.0 ADOPTION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**8482 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that the Management Plan for 2010 – 2013 be adopted.

The General Manager referred to the Addendum to his report and suggested that this matter be dealt with prior to proceeding with the general matters of the report.

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**14.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE – BUDGET ALLOCATION**

The General Manager reported that the information supplied by the Economic Development Office for its budget allocation for 2010/11 was incorrectly interpreted and he tabled a budget summary for Council's information. Mr. Griffiths said an additional \$30,000 is required in the economic development area.

**8483 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council provide the economic development area with the additional \$30,000 required and the amount be funded from the \$50,000 budget surplus.

Councillors also suggested that Council residences be upgraded as they are in an untidy and dilapidated state and urgently in need of maintenance work.

**14.1 MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The General Manager informed the meeting that one submission was received from the public in response to the exhibition of Council's draft management plan for 2010 – 2013.

***Submission from Kylie Parry:***

*Saying she has approached Council several times in the past about the possibility of sealing Effie Durham Drive. Advising she has read the following paragraph from the Draft Management Plan:*

***“7.3 Strategic Road Upgrades:***

***It is recommended that Council:***

- 6. undertake no further extension of sealed local roads using existing funding sources until after 2009/2010”***

*Asking “is it possible change Council's mind on one little (very important!!)street in Coonamble??”*

**8484 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that in accordance with S406 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the management plan and revenue policy, noting that one submission was received and considered and that in compliance with S405 the management plan was advertised and exhibited for the prescribed period of 28 days, with advertisements being placed in the Coonamble Times on 14 April, 2010, 21 April, 2010 and 05 May, 2010.

**8485 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that Council agree to include sealing of Effie Durham Drive east from its intersection with Wilga Street towards the Castlereagh River.



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**14.2 ADOPTION OF LEVY OF RATES**

**8486 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh & Webb that Council adopt the levy of rates and charges as follows:

**(a) Ordinary Rates**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2010 to 30/6/2011 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 14 April, 21 April and 05 May 2010 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Ordinary Rates and that in accordance with S492, S493 and S529 of the Local Government Act 1993 the following ordinary rates be levied on all rateable land within the Shire for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011:

Type of Rate	Cents in \$	Minimum (S548)
Ordinary	1.65	325.00
Farmland	0.503	294.00
Small Rural Holdings	0.74	371.00
Rural Residential	0.652	325.00
Business	2.61	407.00

**(b) User Charges - Water and Sewerage**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2010 to 30/6/2011 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 14 April, 21 April and 05 May, 2010 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the User Charges and that in accordance with S501 and S502 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy on such land on which water and sewerage is connected or able to be connected in accordance with S552 as follows:

**(a) Water:**

Town/Village	Access Charge (\$)	Usage Charge 1 <sup>st</sup> Tier (c/kl)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier Pricing Limit (kl)	Usage Charge 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier (c/kl)
Coonamble	82.00	44	370	67
Gulargambone	133.00	60	430	89
Quambone	137.00	62	430	92

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Item	Cble (\$)	Gular (\$)	Q'bone (\$)
Access charge (20mm meter)	82	133	137
Access charge (25mm meter)	130	208	215
Access charge (40mm meter)	330	532	550
Access charge (50mm meter)	516	832	860
Access charge (75mm meter)	1,160	1,865	1,925

**(b) Sewer:**

Council has adopted a user charge applicable to residential and commercial use – there is no land value based charge.

**(i) Residential:**

Town/Village	Annual Domestic Charge
Coonamble	\$346.00
Gulargambone	\$492.00
Coonamble - Flats	\$286.00
Gulargambone – Flats	\$408.00

**(ii) Non-Residential:**

The sewer charge for non-residential services is at minimum charge of:

Coonamble	\$347.00 and
Gulargambone	\$492.00

Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. Further information is contained in Council's Water and Sewer Management Plan.

**(c) Domestic Waste Management Service (Garbage)**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2010 to 30/6/2011 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 14 April, 21 April and 05 May 2010 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Domestic

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Waste Management (Garbage) Rates and that in accordance with s496 and s501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy a charge for the year 1 July, 2010 to 30 June, 2011 as follows:

Coonamble	\$270.00
Gulargambone	\$353.00
Quambone	\$305.00
Vacant	\$ 45.00

**(i) Commercial Waste Management Charge:**

Coonamble	\$270/service
Gulargambone	\$353/service
Quambone	\$305/service

**(d) Interest on Outstanding Rates and Charges**

In accordance with section 566 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, interest on outstanding rates and charges is set at 9% per annum for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June, 2011.

**(e) Fees and Charges:**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2010 to 30/6/2011 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times Coonamble Times on 14 April, 21 April and 05 May 2010 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the fees and charges and in accordance with S501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the fees and charges for period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 **AND FURTHER** that Council, in setting these charges, examined the criteria detailed in S539.

**14.3. ADOPTION OF 2010/2011 ESTIMATES**

**8487 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb & Schieb that Council hereby votes for expenditure for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 the sums set out in the draft estimates considered by Council on 14 April 2010 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 14 April, 21 April and 05 May 2010, details of which are as follows:

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Details	Expenditure	Income
Administration	6,706,232	9,129,782
Public Order & Safety	535,854	257,333
Health	253,182	14,900
Community Services & Education	140,732	105,200
Housing & Community Amenities	1,107,691	630,000
Water Supplies	766,321	3,611,700
Sewerage Services	829,878	748,430
Recreation & Culture	1,076,894	68,900
Mining, Manufacturing & Construction	1,343,596	1,453,900
Transport & Communication	7,149,279	5,570,100
Economic Services	856,932	523,900
Capital - General	2,921,564	1,607,000
Capital – Water	3,110,000	-
Capital – Sewerage	281,730	195,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,079,885</b>	<b>23,916,345</b>

**15.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

**8488 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the reports from various committees be received and dealt with.

**15.1 MINUTES OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**8489 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. that the minutes of the meeting of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee held on 13 April, 2010 be received and dealt with.

**3.1 Council Grandstands**

Council noted this matter has been addressed and work is being carried out to address issues of safety,.

**3.2 Coonamble Treatment Works – Safety Rails**

The meeting noted that the rails have been ordered and will be erected upon receipt.

**8490 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the minutes of the OH&S Committee meeting be noted.

**15.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE QUARRY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**8491 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that the minutes of the meeting of the Quarry Management Committee held on 4 May 2010 be received and dealt with.

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**4(b) Slab – Storage of Oil**

The General Manager informed Council that the concrete slab required at the Quarry to comply with requirements for the storage of oil will cost approximately \$6,000 (\$1,000 more than quoted in the minutes). The work has been approved and will be completed shortly.

**3. Relocation of Elevator**

The recommendation by the Committee that alterations be undertaken following quotations being in accordance with Council policy was noted. The General Manager stated that the work will be in excess of \$50,000 and the proper process will need to be followed. A specification of work required needs to be prepared so that each quotation is given on the same scope of works.

The General Manager referred to an incident when Council was required to source 7mm product from Dubbo because all Council's aggregate had been sold to Walgett. He asked what was Council's priority – its own works or providing product for sale. Mr. Griffiths said Council must plan ahead to enable sufficient product for its own works to always be available and suggested this is something that should be taken up with the new Director.

**8492 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that Council's works are first priority for quarry product and that staff be instructed to forward plan so that the Production Manager is aware of what is required and have it available at the quarry.

**8493 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that the Minutes of the Quarry Management Committee be noted.

**15.3 MINUTES OF AFTER SCHOOL CARE (Vacation Care) AGM MEETING**

**8494 RESOLVED** on motion of Crs. Webb & O'Brien that the minutes of the meeting of the After School Care (Vacation Care) AGM held on 24 March 2010 be noted.

**15.4 MINUTES OF AFTER SCHOOL CARE (Vacation Care) MEETING**

**8495 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that the minutes of the After School Care (Vacation Care) meeting held on 26 May 2010 be noted.

**18.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER**

**8496 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Webb that the report by the Saleyards Manager for the month of May, 2010 be adopted, noting the following:

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Saleyards A/c to 31/5/2010:	
Income	\$176,938.60
Expenditure	<u>(111,585.46)</u>
Surplus	\$ 65,353.14
Balance General Fund 1/7/2009 (\$59,550.19)	
Current Balance	\$ 5,802.95

**19.0 REPORT BY CONTRACT RANGER**

**8497 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Contact Ranger for the months of April & May, 2010 be adopted.

**Dogs in Main Street Area:**

Cr. Karanouh said there is still a problem with dogs roaming in the main street area. He said there are two dogs which are continually in the street and requested that the Ranger be advised so that action can be taken.

**17.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

Mr Baldwin was at the meeting to present his report and asked whether Councillors had any specific questions. Prior to going through the report, Mr. Baldwin introduced Chris Forbes, a High School Student, who is interested in Information Technology and is doing work experience with Council.

The following issues were raised:

- Gulargambone brochure will be ready next week.
- Coonamble Rodeo/Campdraft – individual invitations would be provided to Councillors.
- Representatives from Campbelltown will be in Coonamble for the weekend and to attend the rodeo and other events.
- New banners have been received – they are retractable so can be moved to any location – there is a Corporate banner, and one for each of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone.
- Cr O'Brien congratulated TDM on increased numbers at 2828 – gained a lot of publicity from the media article published recently.

**8498 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be adopted.

**17.1 MINUTES OF COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE MEETING**

**8499 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Cullen that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2010 be received and noted.

**17.2 COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE – TREASURER'S REPORT**

**8500 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Treasurer's report be received and noted.

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**Tables / Chairs – Showground Pavilion**

Cr. Cullen referred to a previous decision to purchase appropriate tables (round) and chairs for use at the Showground pavilion and requested that the matter be expedited as the pavilion was booked for at least one wedding later in the year.

**URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

**8501 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the following matter be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

**17.3 2010 LANDMARK COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT**

The TDM reported that during planning discussions for the development of the covered arena at the Showground, the CEO of Regional Development Australia (RDA) indicated there was some interest from the ABC in filming the 2010 Rodeo/Campdraft. He pointed out the footage would also be useful in the ongoing negotiations with the University of NSW and other potential partners.

Council noted the 'shoot' would cost between \$3,500 and \$5,000, however there has been no indication where funding could be sourced, noting that neither TDM or EDM have budgeted for the expenditure. Mr. Baldwin pointed out that the Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft Committee has not been formally approached at this time.

The Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Warren, said this is an example of unfunded expenditure that crops up through the year when Council has adopted its management plan and set the budget.

**8502 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and O'Brien that Council agree to fund the project up to \$5,000 and the money be sourced from the unspent balance in the Business Assistance Vote.

**Use of Smith Park – Additional Camping – Rodeo Weekend**

**8503 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that if required, the portion of Smith Park used last year for camping, be made available again.

**20.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**8504 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council resolve to Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993:

- sub section 2(a) "*personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)*";

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- sub section 2(c) *“information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business”;*

**8505 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

**RESUME OPEN COUNCIL**

**8506 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council resume Open Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLOSED SESSION**

**8507 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien and that Council adopt the recommendations of Closed Session, being Recommendation Nos. 20.1, 20.2, 21.1 and 21.2 as set out below:

**20.1 BETH CORNWELL**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council not write off the costs of \$464.00 associated with the recovery action taken on this debt.

**20.2 DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP (FAMILY & HEALTH POLICY BRANCH)**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that the information contained in the report be noted and that Council write to the NSW Industry and Investment Agency.

**21.1 TENDER FOR PROCESSING OF GARDEN ORGANICS & WOOD & TIMBER (NETWASTE TENDER 145/534/987/1)**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council:

- (1) Award the contract to Haulaway Recyclers;
- (2) Confirm its involvement in the contract through NetWaste;
- (3) Staff discuss options for use of waste locally;
- (4) Authorise the affixing of the Common Seal to contract documents.

**21.2 SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF BULK FUEL, LUBRICANTS & ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANKS (TENDER T11011OROC)**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that:

**(1) For the Bulk Fuel Supply, Council:**

- i) Accept the tender offered by Caltex Energy as the single source supplier for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2012, and
- ii) Allow provision for a 12 month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance which may take this tender through to June 2013.



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**(2) For Above-Ground Storage Tanks, Council:**

- i) accept all submissions for Above Ground Storage Tanks by Council for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2012, and
- ii) Allow provision for a 12 month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance which may take June 2013

**22.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

**(a) Department of Community Services –** Cr O'Brien said the Roundtable held recently in Gulargambone indicated there is no DoCS service available in Gulargambone.

**8508 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council write to the Department of Community Services asking how many hours are allocated to Gulargambone on a weekly / monthly basis.

**(b) Syringes – Party Packs –** Council resolved earlier in the meeting to take this matter up with GWAHS.

**23.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Karanouh:**

- Tabled a letter from the Health Services Manager regarding an evacuation plan for the Hospital in times of flood emergencies. Cr. Horan also had a copy of this letter and indicated it was also forwarded to the General Manager. The meeting agreed that the letter be noted and clarification be sought from Ms Burnheim of her intentions and reported to next meeting.
- Asked why an access from the front of premises situated at 11A Aberford Street could not be provided. The General Manager said that a front access would be provided at the owner's cost, noting that the property is currently accessed from the rear.
- Regarding enquiry Conimbia Street was advised the area is a TSR and also provides a route for agricultural equipment.
- Beautification plan for main street – advised plan is in motion – Mayor suggested we apply for grants for a consultant.

**8509 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council call for expressions of interest to further beautify the main street area, consider ideas put forward and source funding for the project.

At this juncture, 4.20 p.m., Cr. Karanouh left the meeting and did not return.

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**Cr Schieb:**

- In response to a question Cr Schieb was advised that the powerpoint was installed at Quambone some six weeks ago.
- Regarding burn-offs in Pilliga Forest, the Director Corporate Services said he has spoken to the Zone Manager and the matter would be raised at the meeting on 16 June.
- Culvert No 40 on Castlereagh Highway approx. 8kms south of Coonamble – problem being caused by water. Requested that staff inspect and forward a letter to the RTA to remedy the problem, noting that culvert numbers 38 & 39 are dry culverts.

**Cr O'Brien:**

- Stated that a 'disabled parking' space has been approved in front of the Twoeighttwoeight Hall, but it has not been installed. Manager – Services advised that staff were on site to install and were requested to not install it at that time. Cr O'Brien said she would raise the matter at the next 2828 meeting.

**General Manager:**

- Referred to a meeting arranged by Kevin Humphries on 24 June with the Minister for Transport regarding the Coonamble – Armatree rail line upgrade.

**8510 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and O'Brien that Council provide a full brief to Christine Robertson, Duty Senator for Barwon, to bring her up to date on this issue.

**A/Director of Engineering Services:**

- In response to a question from the Mayor the A/Director advised that the levee is still being designed by the Department of Commerce.

**8511 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and Webb that Council write to the Department of Commerce, pointing out that this project has been on the drawing board for a lengthy period and requesting that it be expedited.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 4.28 p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/4504 to 50/4554 were confirmed on the ..... day  
of .....2010 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the  
ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 9 June 2010.

MAYOR

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