



COMMUNITY CONNECT

Coonamble Shire community newsletter for the interest of residents and visitors

November 2019

From the Mayor's Desk



Wednesday 13 November was Council's second last meeting for 2019, the final one is scheduled for Wednesday 11 December, and then Council will be in recess until February 2020.

Council was pleased to have, as an observer throughout the meeting, former Mayor and Councillor of Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Greg Matthews. Greg is now employed by Local Government NSW as a Mentor for Mayors and new Councillors and I invited him to come along to our meeting and provide us with 'a few tips' if we're not 'up to scratch'.

During Community Consultation, Mr Darren Boney addressed Council about his concerns with the location of the current skate park. Mr Boney said there are safety issues for the children, with the facility being located adjacent to a busy highway.

The General Manager provided an update to the meeting on the acquisition of land for the bore baths. Mr Basson has had further contact with Crown Land in an endeavor to get the process commenced. The bore baths project is an exciting venture and one the community is passionate about, so Council will do everything in its power to keep pushing for action. We have been advised there will be no problem for the acquisition, however it would be good to see some action as our application to acquire the land was submitted early this year.

During the month I attended a few events representing Council and I must congratulate the NSW Rural Fire Service Association (RFS) on organising a Volunteers' Family Day on Sunday 27 October. Volunteers and their families from Bogan, Bourke, Cobar, Coonamble and Walgett were invited to the event held at Coonamble Showground. The concept was developed to provide an opportunity for the welfare services of the NSW Rural Fire Service (Counselling and Chaplaincy) to be promoted and for the RFS to support volunteers for the role in protecting communities.

Council is again represented on the Coonamble Health Council by its elected delegate Cr. Barbara Deans. This came about following an invitation from the Health Council saying it would be beneficial to both the community and the hospital in an attempt to improve health outcomes. The late Cr. Walker was a member of the Health Council and kept Council informed on relevant issues.

Should anyone wish to contact me to discuss issues or concerns, please phone **0427 887 666**. I look forward to representing all our residents and encourage your phone calls.

Ahmad Karanouh
Mayor

CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14

8:30AM - 12:30PM

CASTLEREAGH STREET, COONAMBLE

Buy Local cash draw of \$11,500 + market stalls + scavenger hunt + Christmas tree competition + Santa photos + entertainment

Jingle all the way along the Castlereagh!

It won't be long until we hear the jingle of Christmas, and to celebrate Coonamble Shire Council has teamed up with the Coonamble Chamber of Commerce to hold a festive community celebration!

This year the Chamber will host their Buy Local Cash Draw on Saturday 14 December and have engaged the support of Council to host a Christmas Street Party.

From 8:30am Castlereagh Street will come alive with market stalls, live music and entertainment, scavenger hunt with huge prizes to be won and the ever-popular visit from the man in the bright red suit!

There will be lots of exciting activities including a kid's craft table, Best Dressed Santa and Best Dressed Bike competitions, a floral demonstration, Santa photos, free kid's activities and giveaways, as well as the much-

anticipated Chamber Buy Local Cash Draw.

Why not enter the Christmas tree competition? Get creative and design your own Christmas tree using whatever materials you like! There will be Chamber Cash prizes up for grabs in the following categories; Group (\$500), Individual (\$300) Child (\$200) and People's Choice (\$300). The trees will be displayed during the Street Party so have a wander around this outdoor gallery and make sure your vote for your favourite!

Save the date

Saturday 14 December

8:30am - 12:30pm,

and follow Council's Facebook page for event updates.

For further information please contact the Coonamble Visitor Information Centre on 02 6827 1923.

Water Restrictions

Due to the high demand on water supplies, Council is imposing water restrictions to ensure the demands of residents can be met.

Please ensure that fixed hoses and sprinklers are used only between the hours of 7:00pm and 7:00am.

Periods of water restrictions and use of appliances in accordance with the water restrictions in place will be policed by Council Officers.

Under the Local Government Act 1993, the maximum penalty that may be applied for a breach of imposed water restrictions is \$2,200 for corporations and \$220 for individuals.



Coonamble Shire ...getting to know you!

Council has been notified of consultation dates for the Coonamble Shire Masterplan

Community Consultation Workshops

Quambone:

Sunday 24 November
Quambone Hall from 3pm - 5pm

Gulgambone:

Sunday 24 November
Gulgambone Hall from 7pm - 9pm

Coonamble:

Monday 25 November
Coonamble Bowling Club from 7pm - 9pm

Face to face meetings with stakeholders, community groups, individuals and schools:

Monday 25 November

9am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm
Surveys and emails will be circulated for community input.

Meeting mentions

Additional \$1m for the community

Coonamble Local Government Area will receive an additional \$1m under the Government's Drought Communities Programme. Federal Member for Parkes, Mark Coulton MP recently announced the extra support which will assist to invigorate communities in the Parkes electorate as drought conditions continue. Council is currently waiting to receive the programme guidelines and project criteria.

Community Participation Plan

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, councils are required to provide a single document that the community can access that sets out all council's community participating requirements under the planning legislation, including all minimum mandatory exhibition timeframes. Councils must have their final version for the Community Participation Plan (CPP) published by December 2019.

The draft CPP document is on public exhibition, available on the Coonamble Shire website, at Council's Administration Office, Shire Libraries, Quambone General Store and Gulargambone Rural Transaction Centre. Submissions regarding the draft policy must be in writing and addressed to the General Manager, Coonamble Shire Council, PO Box 249, Coonamble, NSW, 2829 and be

received before 5pm Tuesday 10 December 2019.

Coonamble Show Society

The local Show Society are seeking funding for works at the Coonamble Showground through the Regional Agriculture Show Development Grants Program. Funding is specifically for the maintenance and upgrade of existing infrastructure and for the building, purchase, rent or construction of new infrastructure related to the running of an agricultural show on regional grounds. Only Agricultural Show Societies are eligible to apply for funding, however Coonamble Show Society have approached Council for support of the proposed projects.

Council convened a meeting of the Showground Users Group Representatives prior to the November meeting, so that all stakeholders were aware of the Show Society's plans. The outcome was united with all users supporting the proposed projects.

This grant application will be for the maximum amount available (\$500,000) and, if successful, funds will be spent as efficiently as possible, as an economic stimulus for local contractors and businesses and improvements made will provide benefits to all users of the facility. The application will be submitted in December 2019.

EOIs - Road Committee

Expressions of interest (EOIs) are invited from community members who would like to participate in Council's Roads Committee. The requirements for appointment to this Community Committee of Council are as follows;

- A commitment to the activities of the Committee and a willingness to be actively involved in Coonamble issues.
- Community representation nominated for the Committee must be a resident of the Local Government Area (LGA).
- Members must be prepared to actively serve the Committee until September 2020.
- Members must be prepared to operate under Council's Code of Conduct and Manual for Community Committees of Council.

Council has received one (1) EOI and has accepted this nomination for representation of the eastern sector of Coonamble Shire but resolved to continue to seek three (3) persons to represent the other parts of the Shire. EOIs must be in writing and addressed to the General Manager, Coonamble Shire Council, PO Box 249, Coonamble, NSW, 2829 will be received up until 12 noon on Friday 29 November 2019.

Financial Assistance Program

Coonamble Shire Council's Donations Committee held a meeting on Monday 28 October to consider applications for financial assistance which were received under the first round of Council's Donations Policy.

The Committee was elected to make recommendations to Council for determination at the November meeting. The annual donations vote is \$70,000.00, \$5,000.00 allocated for Mayoral Donations and \$7,000.00 already distributed prior to adoption of the policy (August 2019).

Council resolved to award the following community organisations with financial assistance;

- Coonamble Golf Club - \$9,150.00
- Gulargambone Tennis Club Inc. -

\$1,135.65

- Coonamble Children's Services Inc. - \$2,000.00
- Gulargambone Pioneers Memorial Presbyterian Church - \$1,000.00
- Coonamble & District Education Foundation - \$5,000.00 (sponsorship) and \$1,000.00 (in kind work).

The second round of funding will open in January 2020 and following the Donations Policy, the Committee have retained at least half of the funding for distribution to applications under that round.

A copy of the Donations Policy can be found on Council's website; www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au/PlanningDevelopment/

Council Christmas Shutdown

At the November meeting, Council determined the Christmas shutdown period for Council's Administration Office, Service NSW Agency, Coonamble Shire Library, Coonamble Visitor Information Centre, Coonamble Depot / Workshop and Quarry.

Council resolved that its services will close at the close of business on Tuesday 24 December 2019 and reopen on Monday 6 January 2020. Staff will be on call to attend to emergencies; Water and Sewerage 0428 217 420 / Ranger 0427 255 881 / Other 0458 271 881.



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARD NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

If you know of a person or community group dedicated to making Coonamble a better place, help us recognise their efforts and nominate them for a local Australia Day award!

Pick up a nomination form from Council's Administration Office or at www.coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au
Nominations close 6 January 2020.



AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS
SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2020
SHOWGROUND PAVILION



FOR INFORMATION

This newsletter has been produced by Coonamble Shire Council for the benefit of residents of the Coonamble, Gulargambone, Quambone and surrounding areas.

Hein Basson
GENERAL MANAGER

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