



COMMUNITY CONNECT

Coonamble Shire community newsletter for the interest of residents and visitors

June 2020

From the Mayor's Desk



In accordance with the distancing guidelines currently in place, Council's last meeting was held in the Shire Chamber on Wednesday 17 June 2020 with all Councillors in attendance.

It's good to see that we are getting back to pre-COVID-19 in many areas. Thanks to our residents for their co-operation during this time – I'm sure it's because we all did everything required of us that our LGA remained very much virus free. Of course, like everyone else, I am looking forward to further easing of the restrictions, but we are still being warned to not become complacent.

The agenda for our June meeting included dealing with the Coonamble Shire Masterplan in conjunction with the submissions received during public exhibition.

On Monday evening prior to the meeting, Councillors attended a workshop to review all submissions received concerning the Masterplan, the associated costings, priority actions, tourism and branding, along with recommended changes. The workshop gave us the opportunity to look at the final document prior to the meeting.

On another positive note, Council has now received notification from Crown Lands that it has no objection to Council issuing a compulsory acquisition notice for the land on which to construct the mineral spa.

This will be quite a lengthy application process, information has to be obtained and submitted to the Office of Local Government to begin the process and I'm pleased to advise that staff is undertaking appropriate research and investigations to prepare and submit an application. This is the first step in the right direction to commence our much-sought after mineral spa project. I'll certainly keep our residents informed of progress.

I am aware that Council staff assisted the Coonamble Show Society to prepare for the *Coonamble Shownotshow 2020* with the installation of bunting and the street banner, printing of posters, schedules and voting forms. The 2020 Coonamble Show was to have been held on 28 and 29 May, however due to the pandemic, suffered the same fate as all other events and was cancelled. I commend the Show Society members for their initiative in displaying exhibits in shopfronts along Castlereagh Street. This attracted significant interest and I have heard from very reliable sources that the schools' sections were very popular. Congratulations to the Show Society on this wonderful initiative and thank you to Council staff for offering assistance and support.

Should anyone wish to contact me to discuss issues or concerns, please phone **0427 887 666** – I look forward to hearing from you.

Ahmad Karanouh
Mayor

Council adopts masterplan



New Council logo approved

Coonamble Shire Council has adopted a Masterplan for the Local Government Area (LGA) which outlines a vision to guide growth and development over the next 20 years.

The Masterplan process identified what is important to our community and how the character and quality of our LGA can be conserved, improved, and enhanced.

This high-level plan sets out objectives and strategies to manage development and change over time.

Now that the Masterplan has been adopted by Council, implementation can commence.

Over the next twenty years, this will involve;

- capital works - infrastructure and public space improvements
- industry opportunities - supporting the local business community
- ongoing community engagement - the community will continue to be involved at each stage of development.

Councillors considered all submissions made to the draft Masterplan before debating recommendations and changing some actions listed in the Masterplan.

Council has called for investigation into

options for reconfiguration of traffic management within the Coonamble CBD.

Branding was included in the Masterplan, and as a result Council has a new corporate logo and the LGA has a refreshed tourism logo.

Tourism and marketing opportunities were reflected by the Masterplan as a high community priority, and the provision of strong branding will support the execution of these future projects.

The total cost estimate for the implementation of the Masterplan is a \$48,625,325 investment over twenty years. This averages \$2,431,266 per year for each of those twenty years, which equates to approximately 8.6 per cent of the estimated operational expenditure for 2020/21.

The Masterplan will ensure greater return on investment of Council's expenditure by strategically allocating spend to projects of greatest value to the community.

Additionally, the adopted Masterplan provides Council with greater confidence in accessing Federal and State grant funding, as Council is strongly positioned to demonstrate the evidence of community engagement and prioritisation of projects and programs included in the Masterplan.

Meeting mentions

Adoption of Operational Plan for 2020/2021

During the course of the June meeting Council adopted the 2020/21 Operational Plan and Budget and made and levied rates and charges. One submission was received and considered in conjunction with Council's determination.

2020/2021 highlights include \$335,000 to fund the Coonamble CBD revitalisation project design, \$1,074,780 to construct the visitor information centre, \$200,000 for the Coonamble Mineral Spa design costs and \$800,000 for the construction of housing units. Fees and Charges for products and services were also adopted and will become effective from 1 July 2020.

New building for NSW Fire and Rescue

Council was requested to provide 'in-principle' approval of a suitable site for the new building for NSW Fire and Rescue.

Two sites were provided to the meeting as options; one adjacent to the current State Emergency Services headquarters on Aberford Street, the other in Lions Park, the area bounded by Mendooran, Dubbo and Tooloon Streets, Coonamble.

Preliminary investigations have commenced and discussions held with a representative of the current owner of the Aberford Street site, the Coonamble Local Aboriginal Lands Council (LALC).

At this point in time, it appears the LALC may be prepared to release 2000 square metres of the area, which would provide adequate space

for the development. Prior to a final decision, negotiations will continue as the land will require surveying and subdividing prior to any further action.

Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program

Council has been allocated an amount of \$929,818 under the Federal Government's \$500 million Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program. The aim of the program is to support local councils in delivering priority local road and community infrastructure projects.

The Mayoral Minute suggested that \$200,000 of this funding be allocated to the Quambone Resources Committee to construct a toilet facility at Quambone Park, however after giving the matter further consideration, the Mayor withdrew the recommendation.

Following ongoing discussion and a cost estimate, Council resolved to allocate \$60,000 to the Quambone toilets, with the balance of funds being allocated to the local roads network.

A meeting of the new Roads Committee which includes independent ratepayer representatives, Councillors and staff will be convened shortly and will identify priority projects for Council's consideration.

New skate bowl

The much anticipated skate bowl in Macdonald Park has caused quite a lot of excitement with local skateboarders and scooter riders.

The construction of the bowl is now complete



and auxiliary work to install fencing, seating, bins and security such as cameras and lighting will be carried out in the coming weeks.

Reinstatement of the lawn will need to be carried out at the start of Spring.

This project was funded by the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Round 2 program and a co-contribution from Council.

Creative input sought for amenities

Coonamble Shire Council is calling for expressions of interest (EOI) and creative submissions for the design and artwork of a new public amenities building and its surrounds. The amenities building will be located on the currently vacant block at 79 Castlereagh Street, Coonamble.

There is scope to make suggestions for public art opportunities on the external walls of the amenities building (three sides will be clearly visible) and neighbouring wall, and for the landscaping of the site. EOIs and creative submissions can incorporate one or all components, being the amenities building, wall, and surrounds.

The external of the amenities building is entirely customisable by way of photo film wrap produced from photographs, designs or images supplied. Additionally, the building may be painted once on-site.

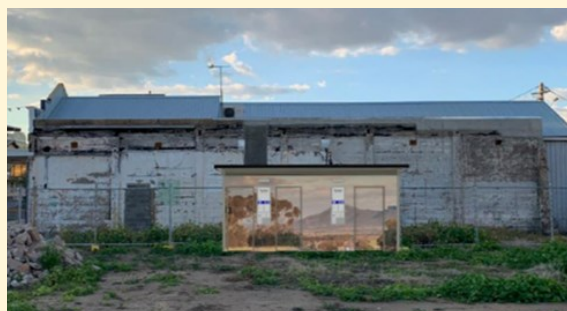
The wall behind the building should be complementary to the artwork on the building. It may be painted or used as a blank canvas to display panels with customisable artwork.

EOIs and creative submissions can be made in any form appropriate to the concept and must be received by Council before 5.00 p.m. on Monday 20 July 2020 addressed to: The General Manager Coonamble Shire Council PO Box 249 COONAMBLE NSW 2829, the Coonamble Shire Council Office at 80 Castlereagh Street, COONAMBLE NSW 2829, or via email council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au.

A technical panel of appropriate community and sector representatives will be appointed to consider all submissions and provide Council with a shortlist of

recommendations for final artwork and design of the site.

Building and site plans and site images are available on Council's website and upon request. Questions about this Brief for Design Submissions should be directed to Council's Economic Development Officer Pip Goldsmith on 02 68227 1900 or council@coonambleshire.nsw.gov.au



FOR INFORMATION

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

Bruce Quarmby
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

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