



Coonamble Shire Council

**Recreational Facilities
Management Plan
2017/2018 – 2027/2028**

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Executive Summary

This Plan provides an initial review of the parks, gardens and other public space within Coonamble Shire. It identifies the general standard of maintenance that will be achieved by Council, as well as identifying a five year works program aimed at improving facilities for both ratepayers and tourists.

This plan will contribute to the development of Council's 2017/18 – 2020/21 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Key outcomes from this plan include:

1. Identification of a vision and a standard of maintenance for each of the parks within the Shire
2. Identification of future works including:
 - Medium term plans for upgrade of playground facilities at various parks

1. Introduction

Council have had a Recreational Facilities Management Plan for several years. This Plan aims to meet Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act to have a plan of management for all community land.

The management of all public space encompassed by this Management Plan can be split into two Categories -:

- Routine Maintenance (mowing, weeding, etc)
- Planned Upgrades (Park development, installation of irrigation, garden development etc)

This plan aims to address both of these areas; with a long term vision identified for each Major Park, as well as discussion on improved maintenance standards.

In addition, a review of the operations of the local pools has been included, as well as discussion of a number of other "public space projects" that have been proposed.

2. Recreational Facilities Overview

The table below provides a brief summary of the public space available within Coonamble Shire and its current use.

Park	Location	Current Use
Coonamble Showground	South of Coonamble on Castlereagh Hwy	Coonamble Show, Coonamble Rodeo, along with the Stockman's challenge/ camp draft and various other active recreational activities
Smith Park	West of Castlereagh Hwy, south of Coonamble CBD	Netball and other active recreation. High volume of travellers utilise the facilities and it planned to further improve the presentation of the park through a refit of the public toilet facilities at the park and improving tourism signage.
Coonamble Sportsground	East of Castlereagh Hwy, south of Coonamble CBD	Rugby League, Rugby Union, Cricket, Soccer, Touch Football, School Sports Carnivals and other active recreation
McDonald Park	Aberford St adjacent swimming pool	Casual active and passive recreation.
Lions Park, Coonamble	Corner of Aberford St and Dubbo St	Casual passive recreation.
Broome Park	Corner of Macquarie St and Bimble St	Casual active and passive recreation.

Janet Cant Memorial Park	Corner of Macquarie St and Mundooren St	Casual passive recreation.
Tully Park	McCullough St adjacent to Coonamble Preschool	Currently leased to adjoining child care
Arboretum	Auburn St, at eastern end of Warrena St	Open space. Rarely used. Preserves the old cemetery
Smith St Park	Smith St, adjacent to Eurimie Ck	Open space. Rarely used.
Warrena Weir	Baradine Rd	Aquatic recreation
Gulargambone Sportsground	Yollundry St, Gulargambone	Rugby League, Rugby Union, Cricket, School Sports Carnivals and other active recreation.
Gulargambone Park, Gulargambone	Castlereagh Highway, Gulargambone	Casual active and passive recreation.
Lions Park, Gulargambone	Bourbah St, Gulargambone	Casual passive recreation.
Bill Delaney Park, Gulargambone	Breelong St, Gulargambone	Active recreation.
Quambone Park	Tucka Tucka St, Quambone	Casual active and passive recreation.
Quambone Sportsground	Quambone	School Sports Carnivals and other active recreation.

Council continues to apply for grant for funding where and when it becomes available for the upgrade of its recreational facilities otherwise the only available funding for management of parks is from within Council's General Revenue. Council may choose to draw on reserves for this function, particularly for major redevelopment works, however the long term reliance on reserves is not sustainable.

3. Future Vision

3.1. Coonamble Parks

3.1.1. Coonamble Showground

The Showground is a key part of Coonamble's recreational infrastructure. It provides facilities for rodeo, camp draft and stockman's challenge as well as the annual Show. It is felt that the facilities should be of a relatively high standard; as such Council has increased the level of maintenance to the facility in an effort to ensure these standards are being met.

A recent meeting of the Coonamble Showground users group was held during the 2015/2016 financial year. At this meeting user's identified suggested works that Council may wish to carry out to improve the functionality of the

facility. Over the past number of financial years Council has been able to , with the assistance of grant funds carry out a number of the major projects identified at the meeting. Future works are identified in Councils Showground management plan

Buildings in the Showground are showing some signs of deterioration and require ongoing maintenance to ensure that the facilities can be provided at a reasonable standard.

3.1.2. Smith Park

Smith Park is a key park to Coonamble, particularly as it provides a stopping point for tourists. It is felt that the facilities should be maintained at a relatively high standard. As such a planned refit/upgrade of the toilet facilities is due to be carried out during the 2016/2017 this will involve the installation of improved ventilation and additional lighting.

Further development of Smith Park will be carried out in the 2016/17 year with installation of a combined children playground / Outdoor Fitness station to further improve the facilities for the community.

3.1.3. Coonamble Sportsground

Coonamble Sportsground is the major sporting facility within the Coonamble Shire. As such it is maintained to a high standard and this will continue. Recently Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding for upgrading of the change room facilities which has been carried out.

Council was able to replace the perimeter fence of the Sportsground during the 2016/17 Financial Year utilising grants monies to fund the works. The playing surface also underwent significant maintenance as the main oval and Netball Courts were aeriated, fertilised and top-dressed.

Other upcoming projects currently include the use of raw water to irrigate the sportsground, this will be carried out in conjunction with the mains replacement program.

3.1.4. Macdonald Park

Macdonald Park is a key facility within Coonamble, providing active recreation for children through its playground. It also provides for picnics as well as a convenient stopping point for travellers.

As one of the main parks in Coonamble, Macdonald Park's facilities have been improved in recent years with the removal of equipment that had deteriorated, and the installation of a new playground. Additional Age appropriate playground equipment for the 0 – 6yrs age group has been installed during the 2016/17 financial year.

Future planned works include the refit/ facelift of the picnic facilities in the park, Council continues to strike a balance between the amount of maintenance required and the availability of resources.

3.1.5. Lions Park

Lions Park is categorised as being mainly used for casual passive recreation, largely due to a lack of built facilities and a lower standard of maintenance.

It is envisaged that this park could be improved by providing active recreation facilities for older children. This may include the installation of a playground to cater for late primary/early high school children or the construction of other active recreational equipment such as fitness stations. As Council have identified other higher priorities, it is anticipated that the vision for this park will not be achieved for some time.

3.1.6. Broome Park

Broome Park is located away from the main travel routes. It is used for active and passive recreation. Broome Park is being maintained at an appropriate standard and over time may provide active recreation facilities for younger children. Given this fact during 2016/17 Council resolved to carry out the installation of additional age appropriate playground (0 – 6 age group). Council have also commenced installation of restroom facilities at this location

Future planned works for the facility include the installation of turf and an automated irrigation system around the newly installed equipment. Coupled with this it is also planned to give the older existing playground equipment and Softfall a facelift with painting and replacement of the existing Softfall with new playground mulch.

3.1.7. Janet Cant Memorial Park

Janet Cant Park provides for passive recreation, Council recognises the adequacy of this facility and the appropriate standard of maintenance undertaken. The facility is also located away from the main travel routes. It is envisaged that this park will remain as open space with a relatively low priority.

3.1.8. Tully Park

Council have resolved to lease this park to the adjacent pre-school, it can be used in associated activity with the facility.

3.1.9. Arboretum

The Old Cemetery Park is not used for active recreation purposes, however does have some value in conserving part of Coonamble's heritage. As such, it is felt that the continued maintenance of this park is of benefit, however there are no plans to further develop the park in the term of this Plan.

There has been some suggestion that the heritage value of the park may provide access to grant funds to enable improvements. This possibility should be examined further.

3.1.10. Smith St Park

Smith St Park is rarely used and poorly located, however is one of the few public spaces on the western side of Coonamble. Investigation should be undertaken into disposing of the park, being cognisant of the accesses that may be serving the rear of properties fronting Smith Street.

Some work has been done in this regard, however other priorities have prevented staff from seeing this vision through. It is felt that this project should be progressed as soon as other major works are completed.

3.2. Gulargambone Parks

3.2.1. *Gulargambone Sportsground*

Gulargambone Sportsground is the major sporting facility within the village of Gulargambone. The grounds are reasonably well maintained and are well used by local sporting clubs and residents.

The buildings have deteriorated slightly due to a combination of a lack of maintenance and vandalism and as such they will require an increase funding during the term of this plan to allow for additional maintenance to be carried out ensuring the ongoing provision of services from this facility.

3.2.2. *Gulargambone Park, Gulargambone*

This park is used for active recreation for children, with a playground and picnic facility. It provides a stopping point for travellers and is well used by locals. The development and installation of a new skate park was carried out during the 2015/2016. In 2016/2017 through the assistance of grant funding shad shelter was installed over the new skate park.

Future planned works include the renewal of the playground facilities erected in this park during the 2018/19 financial year.

3.2.3. *Lions Park, Gulargambone*

This park provides open space and picnic facilities. It encourages travellers to stop with well-maintained facilities within walking distance of the main street.

3.2.4. *Bill Delaney Park, Gulargambone*

This park provides active recreation for children with the provision of an attractive playground in close proximity to the residential area on the east of town.

3.3. Quambone Parks

3.3.1. *Quambone Sportsground / Primitive Campground*

The Quambone Sportsground has limited use by the local school. Facilities at the Primitive campground continue to be maintained by Council staff.

3.3.2. *New Park - Quambone*

Residents of Quambone have developed a park facility on the western side of the main street. During the 2015/16 financial year Council installed new play equipment and shade sails to ensure the can be utilised to the fullest of its potential.

The new park provides a stopping point for travellers and is within easy reach of the main businesses in the village. Given these key characteristics, the site offers an excellent opportunity to establish a tourism information bay at minimal cost to council.

3.4. Pools

3.4.1. *Coonamble Pool*

Along with the sportsground, the Coonamble pool is the most significant infrastructure for active recreation within the Shire. As such, its ongoing operation and maintenance is considered to be a high priority for Council.

It is felt that the recent improvements at the pool, including the refurbishment of the filtration system and the replacement of the main circulation pump, have lifted the standard of the facility, and that some further improvements are needed to maintain the service potential of the facility. The past year it has seen the repair of several major leaks which occurred at the pool, the following works have been further identified

- Replace hydraulic chair for disable access to pool
- Replace concrete concourse sections
- Cladding of the 2nd floor of the administration complex
- Replace valves on inlet pipes 25m pool and baby pool
- Reconfigure chlorine access to make safe
- Wooden seating needs replacing (10)
- Renew bins

It should be recognised that the facility is ageing, and scheduled replacements will soon become necessary. The funding arrangements for these works still need to be determined.

3.4.2. *Gulargambone Pool*

The Gulargambone Pool is one of the most significant active recreation facilities in the village. As such, its ongoing operation and maintenance is considered a high priority.

The pool is currently well served with shade structures and other facilities. Staff have identified the starting blocks will require replacement as they no longer comply with relevant standards. Following is a list of works that still require attention

- Pipes from 25m to baby pool repair/replace
- Window sills, eaves and gutters all need painting
- Replace starting blocks
- Office needs air conditioner and sliding windows

The planned long term maintenance of the pool will be critical to the ongoing operation. It will be necessary to develop a scheduled replacement program

and associated funding arrangements to ensure the existing standard can be maintained.

3.4.3. Quambone Pool

The Quambone Pool is the most significant active recreation facility in the village. As such, its ongoing operation and maintenance is considered a high priority.

- New fence
- Pipe work need repairs
- Replace concrete concourse sections
- New signs

Following an inspection and review of the facility it will be necessary to develop a scheduled replacement program and associated funding arrangements to ensure the existing standard can be maintained.

3.5. Other Public Space

During the 2016/17 year Council has continued work in upgrading the streetscape of the Coonamble main street. This work included the upgrading of garden beds in the main street and the replacement of trees with more appropriate species for street gardens. It is envisaged that this program of works will continue in Coonamble during the course of this plan with the possibility of extending the works to other areas within the Council.

4. Major Maintenance and Redevelopment

A number of park facilities are in need of major maintenance, or are likely to require major maintenance in coming years. In addition, in order to achieve the vision that has been presented in Section 3, it will be necessary to undertake a number of major projects in coming years.

Park	Project	Year	Estimated Cost
Broome Park	Installation of Turf and automated irrigation system around the new developments carried out in the 2016/17 Fin year to improve the presentation of the facility	2017/18	\$25,000
Gulgargambone Pool	Replacement/upgrade starting blocks	2018/19	\$25,000
Gulgargambone Park	Replacement of existing playground	2019/20	\$70,000

5. Funding

The proposed major maintenance and development works identified in Section 4 have been programmed over 5 years to fit Council's funding constraints. It is hoped that some projects may be eligible for grant funding.

	2016/17 Original Budget	2016/17 Revised Budget	2017/18 Budget	2018/19 Budget	2019/20 Budget	2020/21 Budget	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Budget
Operating Income												
User Fees & Charges	-33,900	-33,900	-34,748	-35,617	-36,507	-37,420	-38,356	-39,315	-40,298	-41,305	-42,338	-43,396
Total Operating Income	-33,900	-33,900	-34,748	-35,617	-36,507	-37,420	-38,356	-39,315	-40,298	-41,305	-42,338	-43,396
Operating Expenditure												
Parks & Gardens	279,700	254,700	261,068	267,595	274,285	281,142	288,171	295,375	302,759	310,328	318,086	326,038
Sporting Grounds	187,200	187,200	191,880	196,677	201,594	206,634	211,800	217,085	222,522	228,085	233,787	239,632
Swimming Pools	493,900	493,900	506,248	518,904	531,877	545,174	558,803	572,773	587,092	601,769	616,813	632,233
Other Sport & Rec	9,200	9,200	9,430	9,666	9,908	10,156	10,410	10,670	10,937	11,210	11,490	11,777
Depreciation	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399	175,399
Total Operating Expenditure	1,145,399	1,120,399	1,144,025	1,168,241	1,193,063	1,218,365	1,244,069	1,271,312	1,298,769	1,326,791	1,355,575	1,385,079
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	-1,111,499	-1,086,499	-1,109,277	-1,132,634	-1,156,556	-1,181,085	-1,206,227	-1,231,997	-1,258,411	-1,285,486	-1,313,237	-1,341,683
Capital Income / Transfer from Reserves												
Capital Grants - Non-recurrent	-	253,494	-	-	-	-75,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trf Reserves	-	346,604	-	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Total Capital Income	-	600,098	0	25,000	25,000	100,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Capital Expenditure												
Urban Services - Capital Upgrades / Renewals Works	-	427,350	25,000	25,000	70,000	100,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-	50,000	25,000
Swimming Pools	140,000	178,104	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Other Sport & Rec	-	605,454	50,000	50,000	95,000	125,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	25,000	75,000	50,000
Capital Surplus/(Deficit)	-	5,356	50,000	25,000	70,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Transfer to Reserves (Expenditure)												
Urban Services	-	-	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Pool	-	-	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Total Transfer to Reserves (Expenditure)	-	-	25,000									
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	-1,111,499	-1,091,855	-1,184,277	-1,182,634	-1,251,556	-1,231,085	-1,256,227	-1,281,997	-1,308,411	-1,310,486	-1,363,237	-1,391,683

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

6.1. Routine Maintenance

It is recommended that Council:

1. It is recommended that Council conduct routine maintenance of parks to a standard identified in the visions statements of Section 3.

6.2. Major Maintenance and Upgrades

It is recommended that Council:

2. Implement a 5 year program of major maintenance and upgrades in accordance with Section 4

6.3. Other

It is recommended that Council:

3. Continue the improvement program at the Shire Pools
4. Review their tree planting and maintenance process and identify areas for improved streetscape landscaping for inclusion in future plans

7. Risk Ratings

PARKS & RESERVES

Facility	Ratings						General Measures
	Development	Population use	Frequency of use	Natural Hazards	Road Hazards	Facility Risk (FRR)	
McDonald Park	3	2	3	1	5	14	Provide a barrier between playground equipment and major hazard / screen hazard from playground equipment (type variable, may include dense vegetation or mounding) to increase distance between hazard and playground equipment to be greater than 30m; signage warning of the two highest rated hazards and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Gular Lions Park	2	1	1	3	3	12	Signage relevant to site, depicting top rated hazard and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Weir	2	2	2	5	1	11	Signage relevant to site, depicting top rated hazard and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Smith Park	3	1	2	3	1	8	Signage relevant to site, depicting top rated hazard and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times

PARKS & RESERVES

Facility	Ratings						General Measures
	Development	Population use	Frequency of use	Natural Hazards	Road Hazards	Facility Risk (FRR)	
Gular Highway Park	1	1	2	1	5	8	Signage relevant to site, depicting top rated hazard and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Lions Park	0	1	1	3	2	7	Signage relevant to site, depicting top rated hazard and information indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Broome Park	1	1	2	1	2	5	Signage relevant to site, indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Gular Bill Delany Park	1	1	2	1	2	5	Signage relevant to site, indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Janet Cant Memorial Park	0	1	1	1	2	3	Signage relevant to site, indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times
Quambone Park	1	1	1	1	1	3	Signage relevant to site, indicating importance of parental / carer supervision at all times

Pools

Facility	Ratings			Facility Risk (FRR)	General Measures
	Development	Population use	Frequency of use		
Coonamble Pool	5	2	4	14	Signage containing the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the pool • A general warning message • All Council's Ordinances that apply to the pool should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms • All hazards identified within the pool should appear on the sign as warning symbols • Any information symbols relevant to the pool A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the pool. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other highly visible areas
Gulargambone Pool	4	2	4	12	Signage containing the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the pool • A general warning message • All Council's Ordinances that apply to the pool should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms • All hazards identified within the pool should appear on the sign as warning symbols • Any information symbols relevant to the pool A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the pool. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other highly visible areas
Quambone Pool	4	1	3	7	Signage containing the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The name of the pool • A general warning message • All Council's Ordinances that apply to the pool should appear on the sign as prohibition pictograms • All hazards identified within the pool should appear on the sign as warning symbols • Any information symbols relevant to the pool A sign should appear at all entrances provided by Council to the pool. Consideration should be given to placing signs in other highly visible areas