

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE WAR MEMORIAL HALL, GULARGAMBONE ON WEDNESDAY,
13TH MARCH 2019, COMMENCING AT 9.03 A.M.**

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PRESENT: Cr Ahmad Karanouh, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. John Walker, Karen Churchill, Bill Fisher, Michael Webb and Paul Wheelhouse.
Also present were the A/General Manager, Mr Inglis, the Director of Community Services, Ms Ryan, the Director of Corporate and Urban Services, Mr Quarmby, the Director of Engineering Services, Mrs Atkins, the Manager of Environmental Services, Mr Cock and Mrs Moorhouse.

1.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

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

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

i) Gulargambone School Students:

At this juncture, students from the Gulargambone Central School arrived at the meeting. An apology was submitted on behalf of Mr Dominic Spora, Principal – the Teacher-in-Charge provided a list of questions prepared by the students to the Mayor and asked for permission for them to address the meeting.

On behalf of Mr Spora the teacher-in-charge thanked Council for its assistance through the year in preparation of sporting grounds and the pool for the swimming carnival.

The Mayor invited the students to put their questions to Council – the issues raised included the possibility of establishing a native garden, recycling issues and a message of thanks for the recently installed splash pad at the pool.

Notes:

The Director of Engineering Services said that treated effluent is not really suitable for the watering of plants, however she would investigate it and other alternatives and liaise with the school – perhaps joining with students to carry out a project.

The Mayor said that the Gulargambone Lions Club is currently negotiating with a company to arrange a recycling program – the Director of Engineering Services referred to a former recycling trial at Gulargambone which was unviable.

The A/General Manager referred to election promises from both parties for the forthcoming election and said that \$760m/year is charged to metropolitan councils as a ‘waste levy’. He said only a small proportion is returned to local government however following the elections recycling initiatives will be enhanced and these may be passed on to schools.

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Cr. Churchill asked that the request for thermal blankets at the Gulargambone pool be included for consideration in the estimates.

ii) Gulargambone Preschool:

At this juncture, the Gulargambone Preschool represented by Ms Amii Marchant (Director) and Mr Ash Walker (Project Manager) addressed the meeting. A letter explaining that a new facility was to be built at Gulargambone with grant funding of over \$1m was handed to Councillors, together with plans of the proposed facility.

Mr Walker said the Committee was taking the opportunity of informing Council of its intentions going forward and the request for various forms of assistance prior to Council setting its budget for the next financial year. Councillors agreed to inspect the site of the proposed new facility after the meeting.

The A/General Manager said a report addressing the issues put forward by the Gulargambone Preschool would be presented to the Council meeting on 10 April 2019.

iii) Mr Colin Ryan OAM:

Mr Colin Ryan OAM welcomed Council to Gulargambone and made mention of the Council staff at Gulargambone who do a wonderful job keeping the town and surrounds in good shape. Mr Ryan also thanked Council for the free water made available to residents outside the reticulation area.

iv) Let's Dance Carinda Tribute Committee:

Mrs Judith Regan addressed the meeting in support of a letter and documentation forwarded by the Committee asking for financial assistance to run this year's event at Carinda. She pointed out that Carinda has a "big association" with Coonamble listing numerous businesses with whom residents trade. This item is listed in the Precis of Correspondence later in the meeting and has an appendice attached to the business paper.

v) Messrs Keith & Dennis Glover:

Mr Keith Glover referred to his letter requesting permission to close the lane between Bimble and Mendooran Street to through traffic by installing a gate at the rear of his business premises. He referred to incidents of break and enter and vandalism which has occurred over past years and said if given permission, this would secure his premises and residence.

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Mr Dennis Glover addressed the meeting, saying that there have been access problems and reiterated remarks made that this would assist with security and would probably be appreciated by local police who are often called to deal with incidents.

vi) Coonamble Rodeo Association:

Mr Steven Butler, Secretary of the Rodeo Association, referred to a letter on today's agenda requesting that Council provide upwards of \$6,000 towards a promotional/marketing campaign. He pointed out that it was intended to promote the Shire as a whole, businesses and annual events as well as the June long weekend rodeo and campdraft. Mr Butler said a sub-committee has been formed to start promoting the 2020 event which will be the 65th anniversary.

vii) Mr Paul Fisher:

Raised various issues which Council and staff noted:

- Portable shade at the cemetery was damaged
- Road to cemetery and around cemetery – asked that it be shaped and gravel laid – include the section on the southern side at the memorial gates.
- Country roads budget – suggesting funds be allocated every year for reconstruction of roads – say 5km – 10km specific road/annually.

viii) Gulargambone Community Enterprises Co-operative Limited:

Mrs Annie Haling, on behalf of the Co-operative, spoke to a letter for Council's consideration seeking funds for project management of the Co-operative's main street beautification project. She said the request was for an amount of \$5,000.

ix) Mr Dave Frazer – Gulargambone Caravan Park:

Reiterated the comments made earlier in the day by Mr Colin Ryan OAM that the Council staff at Gulargambone do a great job keeping the town clean and tidy. He thanked them for their support and assistance to the town and its residents.

3.0 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4255 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Fisher and Wheelhouse that Councillor Robert Thomas application for leave of absence be approved.

4.0 DEPUTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

No deputations were booked for the meeting.

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(a) Cr Wheelhouse declared a conflict of interest in Item 10.1 *Coonamble Aquatic Club* of the Business Paper, for the reason that he is President of the Club. Cr Wheelhouse further stated that it was a non-pecuniary interest but he would leave the room and not participate in the debate.

(b) Cr Wheelhouse declared a conflict of interest in Item 10.7 *Coonamble Rodeo Association* of the Business Paper, for the reason that he is President of the Association. Cr Wheelhouse further stated that it was a non-pecuniary interest but he would leave the room and not participate in the debate.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

4256 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Churchill and Webb that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 13 February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting, subject to the following amendment of **Minute No 4235** to read:

Seconded by Cr Fisher NOT Cr Churchill

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

i) Mayor – Grids on Rural Roads

Cr Webb referred to this matter, stating that in 2017 (Minute No 2421) Cr Karanouh moved that the \$800,000 project be reduced and again in 2018 (Minute No 3088) Cr Karanouh moved to reduce the amount for the project to \$50,000. The funds were reallocated to other projects.

ii) Minute No 4242 – Re-allocation of DCP – Extended Funds

Cr Wheelhouse referred to Project 2 in this resolution – saying it was his understanding that Coonamble F.I.T. was allocated \$15,000 to be submitted as a new project for assessment. Cr Wheelhouse was advised that the amount allocated for assessment was, in fact, as recorded - \$10,000.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

8.1 Resolutions in Progress

4257 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Churchill that the nine items listed in the Resolution Book Update be received and noted.

8.2 Resolutions Completed

4258 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Churchill that Council note the completed resolutions.

9.0 MAYORAL REPORT

4259 RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Karanouh that the Mayor's Activity Report be noted.

Notes:

The Mayor reported briefly on the following matters:

- Attended Country Mayors' Association meeting in Sydney on 8 March – referred to issues discussed including recycling, amount superannuation is costing councils annually is estimated at \$40m.
- Met with representatives of the Department of Premier & Cabinet, Susan Harris, Acting Business Development Manager and Anna Shaw, the new Deputy Director for Regional Economic Development. Discussed local issues, including any assistance that may be provided with Crown Lands for the bore baths, better management of stock permits by LLS, policing – numbers and incentives, matters of law and order, not being able to join the preferred JO, subsidising for Combara water.
- Kevin Humphries' visits – 22 February and 6 March – noting on the second occasion announcing that an amount of \$513,000 was approved, being funding under the Safe and Secure Water Program for :
 - Coonamble and Gulargambone Hospital Water Security scoping study - \$60,000 + \$141,000
 - Coonamble Sewage Treatment Plant scoping studies \$240,000
 - Coonamble WTP Sedimentation Lagoon improvement \$72,000.

4260 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and Fisher that this information be noted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

4261 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Webb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Note: At this stage, having declared an interest in the following matter, Cr Wheelhouse left the room.

10.1 COONAMBLE AQUATIC CLUB D7(53101)

4262 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that Council investigate grant opportunities that may assist the Coonamble Aquatic Club to meet the cost of its insurance renewals.

Note: Cr Wheelhouse returned to the meeting.

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10.2 PRESIDENT, COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY D9-2

4263 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that Council request Coonamble Show Society Inc to provide a full copy of its financial statements prior to Council making a determination regarding financial assistance towards the main entertainment attraction at this year's Coonamble Show.

10.3 COONAMBLE GOLF CLUB LTD G4(53224)

4264 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Churchill that Council:
(a) investigate the matter to ascertain whether the purchase and installation of a diesel pump is, in fact, the most cost effective method of addressing the Club's issues; and

(b) if so, recommend funding sources to the Club to enable grant applications to be submitted.

10.4 NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY W1-1(53196)

4265 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Fisher that the information contained in this correspondence be noted.

MEETING ADJOURNED – MORNING TEA

4266 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Webb that, at this juncture 10.37 a.m., the meeting be adjourned for morning tea.

The meeting resumed at 11.10 a.m.

10.5 GULARGAMBONE COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED D7(53241)

4267 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Fisher that Council contribute \$5,000 from the Donations Vote to the Gulargambone Community Enterprises Co-operative Limited to employ project management, marketing and promotional costs for its event in September 2019.

10.6 K&H GLOVER PR1894(53226)

4268 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Fisher that Council approve the request to part close the lane between Bimble Street and Mendooran Street to through traffic by installing a gate at the rear of property owned by K&H Glover to better secure business and residential premises **AND FURTHER** that all associated costs be the responsibility of K&H Glover.

Note: Cr Wheelhouse, having declared an interest in the following matter, left the room.

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10.7 COONAMBLE RODEO ASSOCIATION D7

4269 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that Council request the Coonamble Rodeo Association to provide a full copy of its financial statements prior to Council making a determination regarding a financial contribution towards a promotional campaign which will focus on the area, businesses and other events.

Note: Cr Wheelhouse returned to the meeting.

10.8 LET'S DANCE CARINDA TRIBUTE COMMITTEE D7

4270 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that Council provide \$5,000 from its donations vote towards sponsorship of the 2019 Let's Dance Carinda Festival to be held over the October long weekend.

Section B – Matters for Information Only:

10.9 NSW TREASURY S4-3-1(53128)

Confirming that the Restart NSW Funding Deed has been executed for the \$240,000 designed to fund the Coonamble Sewerage Treatment Plan – Scoping Study Project (Safe and Secure Water Program).

10.10 NSW ROADS & MARITIME SERVICES R8-13(53183)

Advising the Government has established the School Bus Safety Community Advisory Committee to examine school bus safety in rural and regional NSW. Writing to Council in reference to Recommendation 18 (below):

That TfNSW and RMS develop a standard methodology for fixed Rural Bus Stop Locations/Design, with reference to existing "best practice" examples, for use by Local Councils.

Saying a guide has been developed and is subsequent to the 2016 guidance on informal school bus stops and is available at <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/school-bus-stops.html>

10.11 SENATOR THE HON BRIDGET MCKENZIE D9-2(53215)

Advising that funding has been approved under the Drought Communities Program Extension to Council for the following two projects:

- Coonamble Shire facility upgrades & community beautification projects - \$311,686;
- Coonamble Shire Council's tourism initiative & improvements to established community assets project - \$120,010.

4270 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.9 to 10.11 be noted.

11.0 REPORT BY ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

4271 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Churchill that Council note no Development Applications or Complying Development Applications were approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.2 2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4272 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Webb that Council in relation to the report *2019 National General Assembly of Local Government*, Council :

- (a) nominate Mayor Cr Ahmad Karanouh to attend this Conference; and
- (b) not submit any motions to the 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government.

11.3 CONDUCT OF THE 2020 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

4273 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Fisher and Walker that in relation to the report *Conduct of the 2020 Local Government Elections*, Council:

- i) pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act"), that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of Coonamble Shire Council;
- ii) pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a Council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all Council polls of Coonamble Shire Council, if required; and
- iii) pursuant to s.296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s.18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of Coonamble Shire Council, if required.

11.4 INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING PROCESS

4274 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Fisher that Council note the information pertaining to the timetable for the 2019/20 Budget and Operational Plan process.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

12.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRESS UPDATE

4275 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Walker and Wheelhouse that the information contained in this item be noted.

Note: The Director of Community Services, Ms Robyn Ryan, said 27 projects are currently in hand and she and her staff will be working with various community organisations to get them over the time within the allocated timeframe.

13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & URBAN SERVICES

13.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

4276 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Fisher that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 28 February 2019 be noted.

13.2 INVESTMENTS – FEBRUARY 2019

4277 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Fisher and Wheelhouse that the list of investments as 28 February 2019 be noted, and it also be noted that Council's investments comply with s625(2) of Local Government Act 1993, s212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

13.3 WORKS IN PROGRESS

4278 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Churchill that Council note the information in this item of the Director's report.

13.4 STORES & MATERIALS UNACCOUNTED FOR AND STORES & MATERIALS WRITTEN IN – JULY TO DECEMBER 2018

4279 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Fisher that Council authorise the writing in of stores and materials in the sum of \$2,740.61 and the writing off of stores and materials in the sum of \$2,232.46, as presented to Council, for the period ending 31 December 2018.

14.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

14.1 WORKS IN PROGRESS

4280 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Walker that Council note the Director's report on works in progress.

14.2 SEALING EFFIE DURHAM DRIVE

4281 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Churchill and Wheelhouse that Council refer the sealing of Effie Durham Drive, from Wilga Street to the Back Gular Road, to the 2019/2020 estimates for consideration.

15.0 REPORT BY MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

15.1 RANGER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2019

4282 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Fisher that the Ranger's report for the month of February 2019 be noted.

16.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

16.1 MINUTES OF SHOWGROUND USER GROUPS REPRESENTATIVES

4283 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Webb that the minutes of the Showground User Groups representatives, held on 25 February 2019 be received and dealt with.

4284 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Wheelhouse and Webb that the following recommendations from the meeting be adopted:

1) *“That the stables remain at the current location, with no further action being taken until the 10 year Masterplan has been developed and the user groups have a better understanding of the overall facility”.*

2) *“That Council write to each of the user groups, requesting a list of capital works and major maintenance works expected to be required over the next 10 years to enable the development of a Masterplan”.*

3) *“That a designated road be identified at the Stockman's Challenge event, using witches' hats as a trial to ascertain the feasibility of a permanent road for access of emergency service vehicles”.*

4) *“That Council be advised the request from Coonamble Show Society Inc for 80,000 gallons of water for an entertainment attraction at the show has been withdrawn”.*

5) *“That the meeting agree the current representatives of the various organisations continue to participate on this committee”.*

17.0 SALEYARDS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2019

17.1 + 17.2 Sales & Saleyards Account 01/07/2018 – 28/02/2019

4285 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Wheelhouse and Webb that this information be noted.

18.0 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

19.0 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

(1) Cr Wheelhouse – Avadata Charge:

Questioned the charge by Avdata at the Coonamble truckwash facility. The Director of Corporate & Urban Services advised this charge is in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges for 2018/19.

(2) Cr Webb – Recovery Action – Status Report:

Requested a report be provided to Councillors detailing the status of recovery action for the demolition of fire damaged buildings on the corner of Aberford and Castlereagh Streets, Coonamble.

(3) Cr Webb – Clarification Regarding Payment of Rates:

Requested clarification on payment of rates and charges – asking whether some ratepayers did not have to meet their obligations.

(4) Cr Fisher – Rubbish Bins:

Referred to previous requests for 44 gallon drum to be left at cnr Pilliga/Baradine Roads for use by truckies, also suggested one drum outside town limits on the Baradine Road. The Director of Engineering Services said she would investigate the possibility, however due to those sites not being official 'truck stops' it may not be possible.

(5) Cr Wheelhouse – Dumping of Rubbish on Route:

Referred to illegally dumped rubbish along the route adjacent to the Warrena Creek and Coonamble Common - asked whether Council could arrange to have the area cleaned up. Cr Wheelhouse also referred to cameras being installed in the vicinity.

(6) Cr Wheelhouse – Painting of Pool Infrastructure:

Suggested that painting of the exterior of the Coonamble pool infrastructure may improve its currently 'drab' appearance.

(7) Cr Wheelhouse – Rubbish – Castlereagh Street Vacant Block:

Asked that Council's officer investigate options to have recently dumped rubbish cleaned up from the vacant block on the corner of Castlereagh Street and Aberford Street – referring to it as an eyesore on the approach to the main street.

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22.0 CLOSED SESSION – URGENT BUSINESS

4286 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Churchill that Council resolve into Closed Session, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Section 10A(2)(d)(i):

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

4287 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Churchill that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

22.1 OFFER TO PURCHASE LAND – INDUSTRIAL ESTATE BLOCKS

The A/General Manager informed the meeting that Council had received an offer from Ray White Coonamble to purchase Lot 2 and Lot 3 in the Hooper Drive Industrial Estate. He said the purpose of the late report was to seek Council’s approval to proceed.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

4288 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Wheelhouse that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION OF CLOSED SESSION

4289 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Wheelhouse that Council adopt the recommendation from Closed Session, being Recommendation No 22.1 as set out hereunder:

22.1 Tender – Offer to Purchase Land – Industrial Estate Blocks

Council resolves to accept the offer submitted through Ray White Coonamble Real Estate dated 8 March 2019 for the sale of Lot 2 and Lot 3 in D.P.1169793, Hooper Drive, Coonamble for the sum offered as described in the report.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 12.10 p.m.

These minutes Pages (1/6296 to 12/6307) were confirmed on the **10th** day of **APRIL 2019** and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on **13TH March 2019**.

MAYOR