

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 1/4018

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

VICTORIAN BUSH FIRE TRAGEDY

The Mayor referred to the devastating bush fires in Victoria and the enormous loss of life. As a mark of respect for the victims Council stood in one minute's silence. The General Manager said that the flags in front of Council's Administration Centre are flying at half-mast also as a mark of respect.

7438 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council donate \$1,000 to the Australian Red Cross Appeal for victims.

7439 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Schieb that an approach be made to the public, through the local press, appealing for houses that could be used short-term for victims, if any so desired.

3.0 APOLOGY

7440 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that an apology for non attendance be accepted from Cr. Karanouh.

4.0 DELEGATIONS

One delegation was booked to attend the meeting, that being from Coonamble Cottage Industries to discuss the increased rental for shop premises within the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre.

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

7441 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 10 December 2008 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Minute No. 7368 – Demolition of Structure – Maule Lane

In answer to a question from Councillor Canham concerning this matter, the General Manager advised that a tender has been accepted for demolition of this building – Council will not be responsible for payment, as the owner has taken action to have the work done.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 2/4019

(b) Minute No. 7399 – Small Community Awareness Fund - Broadband

Councillor Schieb referred to this issue and pointed out that funds for broadband installation are available. The General Manager stated that applications for funding have been made for the three urban areas of the Shire

(c) Alcohol Free Zones

In response to a question Councillors were advised that Superintendent Mark Gallagher has investigated matters raised at the December meeting and has requested staff to provide extra signage.

(d) Macdonald Park – Alcohol Free Zones

The Mayor referred to Macdonald Park and asked whether there had been any alcohol related incidents since the park is now unfenced. The A/Director of Engineering stated that there have been no reports of any problems in the area.

7.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

7442 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Canham that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

(a) Min No 5166 – Fluoridation of Water Supplies

The meeting noted that the equipment cannot be installed until staff training is undertaken and this is scheduled for March.

(b) Min No 6965 – Water Treatment (Removal of Iron)

The A/Director of Engineering advised that Council is waiting for approval from the Department of Water and Energy. The General Manager said approval may not be forthcoming until the water and sewerage reforms are undertaken. It was suggested Council write to the Department to ascertain when approval may be forthcoming as the successful tenderer is waiting on this information.

8.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

The Mayor said that January was a very quiet month and he did not have a lot to report, however he welcomed Councillors back for another year and thanked those who attended the recent "C" Division Conference in Lightning Ridge.

Cr. Horan said that the Australia Day Celebrations were very successful, noting the change of venue from Coonamble Pool to Smith Park. He said the earlier start was a good idea as activities were over by about 11.30 a.m. The Mayor stated that recipients of all categories were very worthy nominees and congratulated Peter Gray on a well done job as Coordinator of the event.

7443 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that the Mayor's Activity Report be received and adopted.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7444 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A – Matters for Action by Council:

9.1 COONAMBLE BUSINESS ACTION GROUP R8-6-2 + P1 (29441)

Bringing the following matters to Council's attention:

1. Surface of laneway from Tooloon Street into the public car park requires urgent repairs.
2. Stones carried onto the footpath by cars from laneway between Cant Bros & Global Village causing a slip hazard for pedestrians
3. Footpath along the northern side of Aberford Street (between Bag-a-Bargain & Murray's Floorcoverings) covered in pigeon droppings
4. Garden beds in car park immediately at the rear of the RTC are untidy.

The General Manager informed the meeting that these matters have been passed to the Engineering section for report and/or action as appropriate. Mr. Griffiths said the question of pigeon droppings has previously been considered by Council and passed back to the property owners concerned. However, Council will periodically clean areas where pigeon droppings are a concern.

Council noted that the laneway referred to in item (2) is privately owned and as such would be the responsibility of owners. Cr. Canham suggested that Council could get a quote to seal section of the lane to stop gravel, however the General Manager said this would set a precedent.

It was noted that the laneway from Tooloon Street – item (1) – is too narrow for a grader to work and there is also concern regarding water mains located there. Council noted that it could use a bobcat to carry out some maintenance.

7445 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that a letter be written to the owners of the laneway between Cants and the old Easons Building, seeking their cooperation in having maintenance carried out to the lane to reduce the slip hazard caused by stones being carried onto the footpath.

7446 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council advise the Business Action Group that the matters raised will be attended to in due course and that in respect to Item (2), as the lane is privately owned, letters have been written to the owners seeking their cooperation in reducing the hazard of stones being carried onto the footpath and causing a slip hazard.

9.2 COONAMBLE BUSINESS ACTION GROUP T5 + C6-13 (29449)

Raising safety issues caused by angle parking on Castlereagh Street near the Post Office and saying that the need to stop and reverse with a nose into passing traffic was a serious safety issue. Suggesting that parallel parking may be a safer option and requesting Council discuss this matter with the RTA to seek a possible alternative.

The meeting noted that this matter was raised some time ago, when the Roads and Traffic Authority would not agree to the proposal.

7447 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the Business Action Group be advised that this matter has been dealt with and rejected by the RTA through the Traffic Committee and Council will not be referring it to the Committee again.

9.3 COONAMBLE AQUATIC CLUB D7 + P1-13 (29471)

Advising that the December 2007 flood caused considerable damage to the Warrena Creek Weir which is used extensively by Club members during summer. Appealing to Council to help with repairs to contain water in the weir so it can be used for recreational activities. Saying the main damage is the gouging out of the bank on the north-eastern section which allows water to escape instead of directing it over the weir wall. Stating that following recent rain the weir filled up and Council temporarily 'plugged' the hole twice – thanking Council for its efforts.

Appealing to Council to construct a more significant wall where the repairs are required to permanently block water and send it over the weir wall. Advising that the AGM of the Aquatic Club is scheduled for 13 December at which the new committee will discuss what has to be done to return the area to a more inviting place of recreation. Saying there are approximately 55 members who use the area frequently and the Club hopes it can continue to provide a recreation area and hope Council will accede to the request for assistance.

The General Manager presented a copy of the licence issued in respect of the Warrana Weir and suggested Councillors peruse same to familiarize themselves with the requirements.

7448 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that Council advise the Aquatic Club:

- (1) That no funding exists in the current year;
- (2) Grant funding has been sought from the Central Catchment Management Authority to stabilize the weir wall;
- (3) Problems with the structure have been exacerbated by attempts to heighten the spillway area which has now been cleared;

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 5/4022

- (4) That Council is appreciative of the efforts of the Club in continuing to maintain the area;
- (5) Request the Club to be aware of the Licence Conditions.

9.4 CENTROC WEIGHT OF LOADS GROUP O5 (29497)

Advising that the current Centroc Weight of Loads Deed of Agreement expires on 30 June 2009 and it is necessary for each member council to indicate its intention to continue membership of the Group for another four years.

Councillor Cullen referred to the continued employment of the Group and suggested that because there are stringent laws in place regarding overloading, there is little need to re-employ the Weight of Loads Group. The General Manager informed the meeting that the Group works in the Shire throughout the year, not just at harvest time and it does issue infringements for other offences as well as overloading.

A MOTION

PROPOSED Cr Webb that Council agree to continue its membership of CENTROC Weight of Loads Group for another four years from 1 July, 2009, **WAS WITHDRAWN.**

7449 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that a report be provided to the next meeting of Council in connection with the Centroc Weight of Loads Group prior to a decision being made to extend the employment contract.

9.5 NSW RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK D7 (29566)

Inviting Council to participate in the 2009 Bush Bursary/Country Women's Association Scholarship Scheme which are offered annually to selected medical students. Stating that should Council wish to participate, NSW Rural Doctors Network (RDN) will invoice it \$3,000 (plus GST) which will be provided to the medical student who will agree to spend two weeks of "rural placement" in the Shire in the University holidays during the year or over the Christmas break.

The General Manager reported that over past years Council has declined the invitation to participate in this scheme.

7450 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council not participate in the 2009 Bush Bursary/Country Women's Association Scholarship Scheme.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 6/4023

9.6 J.M.PHILLIPS PR1162 + R4 (29567)

Writing concerning the non payment of quarterly rate instalment plus interest on property at Gulargambone and advising that the initial instalment notice was not received. Saying when he returned home after spending time in hospital he contacted Council's office and requested that the interest charge be waived, pointing out he has been paying rates to Council for 30 years without any default.

The General Manager informed Council that the interest charge on this default amounted to \$10.64. Mr Griffiths said the instalment amount of \$1,494 was paid via BPay on 18 December 2008.

7451 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council agree to waive the interest charge of \$10.64.

9.7 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY RADIO INC C8-8 (29614)

Thanking Council for its ongoing support and advising that the Station, with the help of Council, has come closer in the planning process for the extension of the broadcast area, as well as accumulating seed funding for the project. Enclosing invoice in the amount of \$5,000 for the period May 2008 to April 2009.

7452 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that Council agree to contribute \$5,000 to the Coonamble Community Radio Inc. for the 12 months from May 2008 to April 2009 and that the amount be funded from Council's Advertising Vote, noting that Council receives services as and when required for its contribution.

9.8 NEW SOUTH WALES FIRE BRIGADES B11 (29655)

Advising that NSW Fire Brigades (NSWFB) will be charging for the inspection of a premise for the purpose of providing a final fire safety report and the charges are:

- a) \$215 for an initial inspection taking under 2 hours – including travelling time to and from the premises;
- b) \$430 for a re-inspection taking under 2 hours – including travelling time to and from the premises;
- c) \$200 for each additional hour or part of an hour.

Stating there will also be a \$180 charge for each individual Category 2 fire safety provision inspected by the NSWFB at the time of the visit. Advising the charges will be applied to all inspections from 2 February.

The General Manager stated that requests for inspections are to be forwarded electronically to the NSWFB and when the inspection and report have been finalized an invoice containing all information required to pay the charge will be provided.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 7/4024

Councillor Schieb asked how much Council allocates annually towards the Rural Fire Service (RFS). The Director of Corporate Services stated the amount was \$225,000, however Council's actual share is \$71,000 – Warren and Walgett are also included in the region. The General Manager informed the meeting that when Council made its submission to host the Regional Headquarters in Coonamble it offered the 'account paying service' and is reimbursed by the RFS.

7453 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council add the inspection charges, as listed by the NSWFB, to its Fees and Charges under the heading of NSW Fire Brigades Fire Safety Reports in the Development Application Section.

9.9 KEITH GLOVER R8-11 + PR1894 (29658)

Requesting to purchase a portion of lane which adjoins his property at 12 Mendooran Street – the part in question runs from Mendooran Street to the rear of his block. Advising the only person using the lane at present can gain access from Bimble Street to the rear of his property. Stating he wishes to purchase the portion of lane for safety and security reasons as vehicles are kept at the rear of their premises. Pointing out that the lane is unsafe for pedestrians to use as a thoroughfare.

The General Manager said that the issue of partial lane closures is addressed in a report from the A/Director of Engineering later in the day. Mr. Griffiths said that this is a direct request to purchase the portion of the lane and Council could agree, subject to the proponent lodging a deposit of \$5,000 to meet the costs associated with survey, road closure application and advertising, subject to no objections being received.

Cr Schieb suggested that \$5,000 deposit seemed an excessive amount, however the General Manager explained that lodgement and survey expenses are in the vicinity of \$4,800 with additional legal fees. Mr. Griffiths also pointed out that the Department of Lands has advised there is a three year delay with transactions of this nature.

7454 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that Council advise Mr Glover:

- (1) That it is willing to accede to his request for lane closure under the following conditions:
 - (a) lodgement of a \$5,000 deposit;
 - (b) no objections being received from other potential users of the lane;
 - (c) survey costs to be met from the above deposit;
 - (d) road closure costs to be met from the above deposit;
 - (e) advertising costs to be met from the above deposit;

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 8/4025

- (f) acknowledgement that the process could take over three years to complete;
- (2) That Council authorise the affixing of the Common Seal on relevant documents should the purchase proceed.

DELEGATION FROM COONAMBLE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

At this juncture, the Mayor welcomed Mesdames Beryl Butler, Rene Reynolds and Connie Edgar to the meeting. Mrs Edgar pointed out that the rental of the Group's shop in the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre has risen from \$55/week to \$132/week and will be unsustainable over the long term.

Mrs Butler said the Group is a not-for-profit organization that sells local produce and craft for a small commission. It also donates to charity groups as well as Angel Flight. Mrs. Reynolds informed the meeting that Coonamble Cottage Industries does have money in the bank, but it would not be sufficient to pay rental at the rate proposed.

The Group is seeking Council's assistance in approaching the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre on its behalf to endeavour to have the increased rental reduced.

The General Manager informed the meeting that he had received a letter from Coonamble Cottage Industries in this matter and it was included on the agenda as Urgent Business - Item 9.37 (Supplementary Precipis of Correspondence).

Councillor Cullen informed Council that a meeting of the Coonamble Rural Transaction Committee would be held shortly and this matter would be considered. Mrs Butler advised that a letter had already been forwarded to the RTC from the Group.

At this juncture, Mesdsames Butler, Edgar and Reynolds left the meeting.

COONAMBLE VACATION CARE & COONAMBLE COMMUNITY RADIO

The Mayor welcomed Ms Lisa Murray (Vacation Care) and Ms Emma Lewis (Community Radio) to the meeting. They wished to address Council concerning the future use of the building from which both services are conducted.

Ms Murray informed the meeting that a lot of work has been carried out by Vacation Care volunteers in setting up the Centre and during the holidays it provided care for on average 21 children daily. She said that the Centre is licensed to have 35 children at a time. Ms Murray said that the Committee is very active having some new members and also that the Service provides employment on a casual basis for a number of carers.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 9/4026

She pointed out that a lot of young people coming home for holidays from University work at the Centre to get experience. Ms Murray said it would be difficult to find another location from which to conduct the Service and requested that Vacation Care be kept informed of any proposed sale of the building.

Similarly Ms Lewis said she was concerned regarding loss of the building for the Radio Station, as it would be a very expensive exercise to relocate and the Committee would not be in a position to meet such an outlay. Ms Lewis estimated that it would cost in the vicinity of \$20,000 - \$25,000.

The General Manager stated that he has recommended the appointment of a working party to discuss the whole issue of the proposal sale and relocation to suitable sites of the two services and if Council adopts his recommendation there would be consultation with all relevant parties.

**9.10 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY E5-3
(29666)**

Inviting the Mayor, General Manager, all Councillors and any staff who wish to attend the first luncheon seminar for 2009 which is slightly different in that it is being presented in collaboration with the LGSA. Advising the date of the Seminar is Friday 27 February, morning tea 10 a.m. for a 10.30 start and lunch will be provided after the seminar which will be held at Lazy River Estate in Dubbo.

The General Manager said he forwarded this invitation to Councillors with only one response of inability to attend. Councillor Schieb informed the meeting that he would now be available to attend.

7455 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Councillor Schieb attend the Natural Resource Management Session on 27 February, 2009 and that he tender an apology on behalf of the Mayor

9.11 WATERFORD RYAN PR1553 (29683)

Enclosing Discharge of Mortgage for execution under Seal in relation to a Housing Advance that has been paid out. The subject property is described as Lot 15 of Section 13 in Deposited Plan 758282, Parish Moorambilla, County Leichhardt.

Councillors were advised by the General Manager that the Discharge of Mortgage relates to property covered by Rate Assessment No. 1553 and previously in the name of Anderson and is the last of the housing advances made by Council.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 10/4027

7456 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council authorise the affixing of the Common Seal to the Discharge of Mortgage in relation to property covered by Assessment No. 1553.

9.12 SPECIAL BROADCASTING SERVICE (SBS) R3 (29706)

Referring to the application for SBS Self-help Retransmission Subsidy for Gulargambone and advising that decision to give approval to the site will require additional information. Stating SBS is prepared to give further consideration to the application if there are special circumstances affecting the community which were not included in the original application. Saying SBS will hold the application until any additional information can be provided to substantiate the submission.

The General Manager reported that the presentation given to Council in respect of having SBS radio transmitted in its Local Government Area included statements to the effect that special Indigenous programs would be of interest to the Aboriginal population of the Shire.

7457 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the funding body be informed that Indigenous Programs would be of interest to the high Aboriginal proportion of the population of Gulargambone.

9.13 COONAMBLE AG SUPPLIES (C.A.S.) PR2169.01 + PR1492 (29721)

Advising their business is growing and they are looking for a main street premises with good access and enough space to build a shed at the rear. Seeking to enter into discussions with Council concerning the purchase of premises at the corner of Tooloon/Castlereagh Streets, plus the vacant lot behind (previously the site of the Pathology service). Stating the business currently employs three people on a casual basis and by expanding into a shop front it would be looking to employ one or two more. Saying they have recently been working with a new merchant who is not only a chemical supplier, but also provides agricultural merchandise which is the area in which the business is expanding. Saying they are aware that MTM FM and Vacation Care utilize the premises currently.

Pointing out that they believe traffic will continue to flow freely as both Castlereagh and Tooloon Streets are wide enough to handle vehicles that will deliver goods. Saying that during the planning phase they have had discussions with Council's EDMs and Building Officer. Stressing that they are the only Coonamble owned and operated agricultural reselling business and money spent will remain in town.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 11/4028

The General Manager reported that the properties sought are currently surplus to Council's needs, with the exception of the casual use by the Vacation Care Service and the Coonamble Community Radio. Mr. Griffiths stated that relocation of the latter will be particularly expensive but it should not be insurmountable to find suitable premises for both activities.

7458 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Webb that this matter be deferred until later in the day when Council's Economic Development Manager is present at the meeting.

Section B: Matters for Information:

9.14 COONAMBLE BUSINESS ACTION GROUP B7 (29440)

Advising is has no objection to the palm trees being removed from the main street garden bed and suggests they should be replaced with evergreen shade trees that are not messy and are drought tolerant.

9.15 HON WARREN TRUSS MP L3 (29456)

Thanking the Mayor for taking time to meet with Member for Parkes, Mark Coulton and himself on 14 November. Advising that he has raised the issue of cancelled local air services in the Parliament and sought further information on how the en-route subsidy scheme will apply to any potential new operator on the route. Saying he will keep Council informed.

9.16 NETWASTE G1-5 (29460)

Enclosing invoice for Council's contribution toward the regional recycling tender for Collection and Processing of Recyclables for Dubbo, Coonamble and Wellington Councils. Advising the project is being jointly funded by Netwaste and the participating Councils and Coonamble's contribution has been calculated as \$3,660 which contributes towards development of tender documentation and Impact Environmental Consulting's involvement in the process.

9.17 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10 (29464)

Making Council aware of a major project to be undertaken by the Department of Lands to capture key information about all Crown land in NSW. Saying the project will assist the Department of Lands and stakeholders, including councils, by improving the quality of information available about Crown land across the State. Stating that this is a major undertaking by the Department of Lands and its success will require the cooperation of all Reserve trustees (including councils) and encouraging council to participate.

Councillors noted that this Council will participate by providing information requested to assist the Department of Lands in successfully implementing the project.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 12/4029

9.18 HON IAN MACDONALD MLC D506 (29491)

In a letter to the Chair of the 2008 Coonamble Women's Gathering saying he has heard very positive feedback from women who attended this year's Women's Gathering at Coonamble and thanking the Committee for its efforts. Advising the thought and courage into tackling the accommodation challenge of a small community hosting this large event has now been tested through the "Gathering Village" tent city concept which promoted lots of extra networking opportunities. Advising that, through his colleagues who attended, he feels assured that sponsorship of the event was a good use of resources.

**9.19 QUAMBONE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES AUXILIARY
PR2957 (29490)**

Informing Council regarding progression of the sale of the Quambone Community Health Services Association Inc (QCHSA). Advising a public meeting was held on 23 September to discuss the future of the Centre, it was agreed that maintenance of the existing Health Centre is beyond the QCHSA and local community and it was resolved that the Centre be sold. Advising that funds from the sale would be used to provide the following:

1. A smaller health/first aide clinic more suited to community needs – possibly a portable building placed behind the Quambone Library.
2. Maintenance of such a building.

Thanking Council for its loan and for waiving of rates for the Health Centre over many years.

The General Manager stated that the Quambone Community Health Centre is situated on Crown land and he expressed concern at the loss of amenity by the placing of a portable building behind the Quambone Library. Mr. Griffiths said that considerable thought should be given to this proposal when (and if) it eventuates.

**9.20 WATERMAN AGRICULTURE PTY LTD PR3233-1 + PR3233-01
(21511)**

Thanking Council for ceasing actions regarding the alleged development without consent. Saying it is great to put closure to such a lengthy process and offering his personal thanks to the present Council for the very professional way in which it handled a difficult matter. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

9.21 THE HON CARMEL TEBBUTT MP G5-4 + G5 + C7 (29508)

Advising that Council's application for assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief Program in respect of restoration of eligible assets damaged by the December 2007 flood has been approved.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 13/4030

Saying a grant of \$52,035.75 has been approved which is the maximum allowable under the guidelines and represents 75% of the cost of eligible restoration works, or actual cost whichever is the lesser. Advising the grant must be finalised by June 2010.

The General Manager informed Council that this grant covered 75% of expenditure on repairs to scouring along the levee and the installation of two storm water pipes. He said the actual costs incurred were \$69,381, breakdown of grant received being \$7,035.75 levee and \$45,000 storm water).

9.22 NSW DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE H5 (29569)

Advising that the Minister has appointed a local holiday on Wednesday, 20 May 2009 within the Coonamble Shire Council area for the second day of the Coonamble Annual Show.

The General Manager informed the meeting that a letter advising of this proclaimed public holiday has been forwarded to the Coonamble Business Action Group so that the information can be conveyed to business owners. Mr. Griffiths said that a notice of the holiday will also be published in the Coonamble Times from time to time and copies of the gazettal notice are available at Council's Office upon request.

**9.23 DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
A19 + L10-1 (29493)**

Advising of amendments to legislation concerning Alcohol Free Zones.

Councillors noted that a copy of this circular was included with the Business Paper.

9.24 PAUL & LORRAINE JOHNSON S16 + S16-1 (29608)

Writing in relation to continuing problem with horses being kept at the vacant block adjoining their residence. Advising that, following a prior complaint, they were assured that the horses would be removed – this was done for a short period, however they have been returned. Saying that at times there have been seven horses on the block and dust, flies and odour is their concern. Stating their block was purchased as a building block, not a small farm holding and saying they need the matter resolved or further action will be taken. Asking that the letter be presented to Council.

The General Manager informed the meeting that this is an “operational” matter which has been referred to staff and action is being taken to resolve problems being experienced. Mr. Griffiths said that requirements in respect of distance from a dwelling and odour issues are not being observed and an Emergency Order will be issued as a priority.

**9.25 DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES – FISHERIES
CONSERVATION MANAGER (TAMWORTH) E5 (29617)**

Responding to Council's request on advice on matters that the Department wish to see addressed when preparing supporting information for a development application on behalf of Mr. Chris Newbold concerning sand extraction from the Castlereagh River.

The General Manager stated that as this letter contains detailed information on the requirements a copy was included with the Business Paper for Councillors' information.

**9.26 INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (ICAC) I2
(29657)**

Forwarding copies of the final reports for two recent investigations undertaken by the Commission : *Investigation into bribery and fraud at RailCorp – Corruption Prevention* and *Investigation into tendering and payments in relation to New South Wales Fire Brigades capital works projects*.

Copies were available at the meeting for Councillors' perusal if required.

**9.27 DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND
THE ARTS E5 (29654)**

Saying Council may be aware of the Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields (MDBSY) project which has been conducted by the CSIRO on behalf of the Australian Government to determine current and future water availability in the Basin. Advising the final report – *Water Availability in the Murray-Darling Basin* – was released in November 2008. Forwarding a copy of the final report and executive summary for Council's information.

These reports were available at the meeting.

**9.28 DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT G5-34 + G5-40 (29688)**

Thanking Council for its application to the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program – Strategic Projects for the Coonamble Equine & Events Stadium project. Advising that the analysis of the project will now commence and it is expected that the Minister will announce successful projects by the end of February 2009.

9.29 WESTERN COUNCILS LAND USE STRATEGY T4-2 (29687)

Advising that the proposed cost of Councillor Briefings (as requested by the Steering Committee) is an additional \$15,584 (excl GST), payments for the Strategy to date total \$124,961.97 and remaining invoices (according to GHD's original tender) total \$68,827 (incl. GST).

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 15/4032

Stating that in the original tender by GHD their upper limiting fee was \$182,269 (incl. GST) and the addition to the scope of works would raise the upper limiting fee to \$207,582.84 (incl. GST). Pointing out that the grant from the Department of Planning for the project was \$220,000 (incl. GST).

Stating that in accordance with the contract documents for the Land Use Strategy, the project brief may be varied at any time in writing with the mutual agreement of the Steering Committee, GHD and the Department of Planning. Requesting Council's agreement in writing to this variation of the scope of works and uplift of the total contract value to \$207,582.84 (incl. GST).

The General Manager informed the meeting that he responded to the request agreeing to the variation as stated, as concurrence of all parties was required prior to the variation being approved.

**9.30 DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
D6 (29722)**

Drawing attention to recent tragic events concerning dog attacks and reminding councils that it has been a requirement for many years to submit reports to the Department on dog attacks. Advising that the Minister for Local Government, Hon Barbara Perry, MP has issued a Direction under section 429 of the Local Government Act that requires all councils to provide dog attack reports to the Department. Stating that, pursuant to this Direction, dog attack reports must be submitted within 72 hours of council becoming aware of the attack and as additional information becomes available, the record must be updated. Pointing out that this Ministerial Direction has been issued pending an amendment to the Companion Animals Regulation 2008 that will require councils to report dog attacks to the Department.

Council was advised that its Ranger has been issued with a copy of this correspondence. The General Manager stated that Council complies with requirements in this regard.

**9.31 THE HON BARBARA PERRY MP, MINISTER FOR LOCAL
GOVERNMENT T5 (29773)**

Writing to all NSW councils about the important issue of road safety, particularly around school zones as the school year begins. Advising the Department has completed a review of council parking enforcement and encourages councils to implement initiatives contained in Circular 08-36. Reminding councils and their authorised officers of their responsibility to understand and enforce the applicable provisions of the Australian Road Rules. Encouraging councils to focus their efforts on patrolling school zones on school days to enhance road safety and the safety of children, particularly near schools. Drawing attention to the importance of Council's contribution to ensuring the safety of streets.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 16/4033

The General Manager advised that Council's Ranger periodically monitors the local school zones and it has become obvious that compliance by parents/guardians is very poor in this Shire. Mr. Griffiths said that Council has again placed an article in its weekly advertisement pre-warning users of school zones of pending enforcement action. He said that late last year information sheets were forwarded to all schools to be included in newsletters sent to parents and guardians.

9.32 J K RYAN, GULARGAMBONE G1-6 (29728)

Referring to the re-siting of the recycling bin at the Gulargambone Tip and stating it has been placed on the Highway which causes an eyesore to people approaching Gulargambone. Advising that he has been cleaning the rubbish from the end of the tree line to the sawmill on the Highway for two years on a voluntary basis. Pointing out the position of the bin is going to cause "one big mess". Enclosing a map of what could be done to improve the situation at very little cost.

Councillors noted that a sketch plan was tabled at the December Council Meeting but this did not reach operational staff and the contractor to allow the requirements to be carried out. The General Manager reported that this will be corrected.

The Mayor asked the A/Director of Engineering what action was proposed and Ms Atkins replied that the recycling facility will be made less conspicuous when the gate relocated.

At this juncture, 10.25 a.m., the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 10.56 a.m. Upon resumption, Council's Economic Development Manager, Mrs. Lee O'Connor, was present at the meeting.

**9.33 WALGETT ABORIGINAL MEDICAL SERVICE CO-OPERATIVE LTD
A5**

Advising that the Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service Cooperative Limited (WAMS) is a local organization with 22 years of operation, providing local and regional health and social services to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people across the State, within the Shires of Walgett, Brewarrina, Moree, Gunnedah and Narrabri. Referring to the recent announcement by REX that from 20 December 2008 services from Dubbo to Bourke, Cobar, Coonamble, Lightning Ridge and Walgett, as well as Mudgee to Sydney, will no longer operate. Advising that this will have a serious and adverse effect on individuals and service providers who commute on a professional and personal level, but also residents of towns to access essential services.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 17/4034

Saying it is common knowledge that health services are being withdrawn in the 'bush' and it is imperative that the health industry maintain and sustain those personnel who are willing to work in our communities. Advising that should REX not reverse its decision, asking Government to either increase the current subsidy to sustain the current level of service or investigate alternative arrangements that could provide an air service to these rural and remote communities. Saying that whilst both the Federal and State Governments have given commitment to 'closing the gap' of health status for Aboriginal people and this decision will have severe and ongoing ramifications.

The General Manager reported that this Council has expended some effort in attempting to have the Air Service resumed, but it would appear that this is growing more doubtful as each month passes. Mr Griffiths said that calling of fresh tenders resulted in one interested party not previously involved in the commercial operation of an air service.

9.34 GREATER WESTERN AREA HEALTH SERVICE M5 (29561)

Stating the Greater Western Area Health Advisory Council (AHAC) is the body which advises the Chief Executive on policies, plans and health-related initiatives in the area. Pointing out it is there to ensure that all involved in health care have a say in the way the advice is provided and used. Stating that GWAHS AHAC has 13 members (6 practicing clinicians and 6 consumer/community members, plus chairperson). Advising there is currently a vacancy for a consumer/community member and seeking assistance in distributing information relating to the vacancy.

The General Manager said he had circulated information concerning this position with no positive response from Councillors.

9.35 SPECIAL BROADCASTING SERVICE (SBS) R3 (29701)

Advising that Council's application for an SBS Self-help Retransmission Subsidy for Coonamble was approved on 19 January 2009. Enclosing a Letter of Deed and confirmation of the subsidy level for the application to the value of \$15,675 (including GST). Requesting that Council confirm acceptance of the terms of subsidy.

Stating that when the SBS Analogue Radio self-help facility is completed and commissioned Council will need to provide SBS with an audited Establishment Cost Statement following which the subsidy funding will be provided. Saying this Statement must be forwarded to SBS within three months of commencement of the service and must be signed by the same person who signed the Letter of Deed.

Council noted that further information has been sought in respect of the terms of the subsidy and upon receipt of this, the Acceptance will be signed.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 18/4035

7459 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb & O'Brien that the information contained in Item Nos. 9.14 to 9.35 above be noted.

Item No. 9.13 – COONAMBLE AG SUPPLIES (C.A.S.)

Request to discuss the proposed purchase of Council owned premises located on the corner of Tooloon and Castlereagh Streets for their business.

This matter was discussed at length. Cr. Schieb stated that when the Company he managed worked from the premises it was found to be unsuitable because of lack of space to unload large trucks. He stated that permission to use the lane at the rear of the premises was denied and the Company found the site to be impractical and moved. Cr. Cullen said he was of the opinion that it was a good opportunity to enhance the main street with another business. Mention was made regarding the storage of chemicals, however it was pointed out that other same type businesses store chemicals close to houses. The General Manager said his main concern was with unloading and causing disruption to traffic.

7460 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that Council form a working party comprising the Mayor, Cr Cullen, the General Manager and an Economic Development Manager to:

- (1) Find suitable alternative accommodation for Vacation Care and Coonamble Community Radio, in consultation with those organizations;
- (2) Negotiate an acceptable sale price of the building and land for submission to Council for approval;
- (3) The relocation of Coonamble Community Radio and Coonamble Vacation Care to be at the expense of the purchaser.
- (4) Inform the prospective purchaser that development approval will be required for the "change of use" of the premises, which will include compliance with AgSafe requirements for licensing;
- (5) Obtain advice from the Traffic Committee on the proposal;
- (6) That a period of six (6) months be given for a definite course of action with the proposal.

15.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

At this juncture, the EDM gave updates on some items included in the report:

- Coonamble Regional Abattoir – no further news on sale
- Contacted by person offering a temporary transfer of 5000 megalitres water – EDM advised sheep feedlot – water charges have not been released to date.
- Two new businesses are starting up – (1) stock handling, (2) welding.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 19/4036

- Submitted application for funding of indoor arena – no word at this stage.
- Nickname Hall of Fame – two portraits available for next round – one story completed.
- Submitted three expressions of interest for free wireless broadband to State Government.
- Advised Gular Bowling Club money available from Woolworths Drought funding for small towns – repair pipes to Club pool.
- Notes on Round Table at Gulargambone on 9 December being finalized.

7461 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and adopted.

15.1 NOTES – COONAMBLE HERITAGE & HISTORICAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING

7462 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the notes from the meeting of the Coonamble Heritage and Historical Museum Meeting held on 10 December, 2008 be noted.

At this juncture, 11.37 a.m., Council's Tourism Development Manager was at the meeting to present his report.

16.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The TDM went through items in his report, giving updates on some as follows:

- Consultants for Railway Station Project will be in Coonamble on 19 – 20 February for workshops, interviews and public meeting. Will meet with business owners, BAG, Streets Ahead and Heritage Committee. Councillors/GM should meet with them. Consultants will provide a Strategic Business Plan setting out appropriate uses and will enable a five year plan to be achieved. It was noted that, for example, the area may be suggested as a truck parking area – a way to make some use of wasted space. It was noted that the former Railway Station may be an appropriate site for the Radio Station should the need arise for that service to be relocated.
- Dinner Under the Stars 28 February – RSVPs close Friday 12 February – Crs. Cullen and O'Brien said they would be attending; the Mayor was hopeful that he would also be available.
- Presented Councillors with a draft of the new website –agreed to draft; a test site to be approved by Council will be the next step.
- Assisted Aboriginal Community Facilitator in lodging three funding applications for projects at Warrena Weir, Tin Town and Gulargambone – \$40,000 confirmed.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 20/4037

- Coonamble & Gulargambone VIC accredited – signage to be installed shortly.
- Working towards event to be held 4 April – Heritage Day – activities will be held at the Museum, Archives and an evening function at Mt Magometon.
- Vibe Alive – this year double the attendance is expected. May request use of the new Showground Pavilion to accommodate some of the participants.
- RTA approved new signs at turn into Smith Park. Information sign will be erected near the Bore. 12 applications have been received for the 10 spaces on the sign already erected – these are \$95/year.
- Campbelltown City Council – agreed to send delegation and sponsor rodeo again – Council will send 10 art works and sponsor Art Exhibition.

7463 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Webb that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be received and adopted.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

7464 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the following matters be classified “urgent business” and dealt with.

**9.36 MURDI PAAKI REGIONAL ENTERPRISE CORPORATION (MPREC)
C8 (29744)**

Referring to the strong interest within the Coonamble community to investigate the establishment of a ‘Safe House’. Advising that currently a business plan is being prepared for the purpose of attracting funds and it is expected that the plan should be completed by March 2009. Raising concerns with the current work group’s capacity to deliver on this project and pointing out that with MPREC’s experience in establishing community projects, putting forward an expression of interest that MPREC assume the responsibility for overall project management for the development of a ‘safe house’

The General Manager informed the meeting that the former Community Facilitator, who operated out of Council’s building, was involved in the project, however Council has not actually been involved. Mr. Griffiths said he is not aware of the composition of the current work group’s makeup and Council has no community services personnel to be involved.

7465 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb & O’Brien that Council raise no objection to Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation assuming responsibility for the ‘safe house’ project.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 21/4038

9.37 COONAMBLE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES T3 + D5-4 (29770)

Stating they have been advised by the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre (RTC) that following the transfer of the Tourist Information Centre from their shop, rent for the premises has increased by 150%. Advising it will rise from \$55/week to \$132/week. Stating that this would be detrimental to the main street as well as local members of the community who sell their handcrafted wares and products at the shop. Saying they are a non profit organisation which has been operated entirely by volunteer labour for the past 35 years. Asking if Council would appeal to the RTC on its behalf, seeking a reduction in the increased rental.

The General Manager advised that the rental subsidy to Coonamble Cottage Industries was originally an incentive for not only the relocation, but also to provide a Visitors' Information Centre (VIC) for Coonamble. Mr. Griffiths said that in the early stages of negotiations both Council and the RTC Committee believed there was a need for a VIC however there was no operational budget available to the latter, while Cottage Industries was able to provide the manpower necessary. He said that Council reduced the rental for the RTC from \$46,000 over five years to \$39,000 which was always portrayed as in return for the provision of VIC services. The General Manager pointed out that the rental has increased from \$55/week to \$132/week, including GST, or 140%.

7466 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council make representations on behalf of Cottage Industries to the Rural Transaction Centre in an endeavour to have the increased rental reduced to a more sustainable amount.

**9.38 CR TIM OVERALL, MAYOR, QUEANBEYAN CITY COUNCIL S3
(29791)**

Advising that the City of Queanbeyan will host the 56th Annual Conference of the Australian Local Government Women's Association NSW Branch from Thursday 19 March to Sunday 22 March 2009. Extending an invitation to attend the Conference, the theme of which is "*Women in Leadership – the Roadmap*". Saying that Premier Nathan Rees has agreed to be a Guest Speaker.

Council noted that non-member "early bird" registration is \$500 and must be paid by 13 February, 2009, and 'normal' registration is \$550 for non-member councils.

7467 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the information be noted.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 22/4039

**9.39 DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
C13 (29771)**

Writing in regard to the Department's Councillor Information Seminars held at various regional and metropolitan locations between October and December last year. Confirming that Councillors Schieb, Karanouh and O'Brien completed the attendance form at one of the seminars. Trusting the information will be of assistance in reporting on councillor attendance at seminars to the first meeting of Council for 2009 in accordance with his earlier request.

Requesting that Council provide a web link to the online copy of the relevant council minutes that record this information. Advising that a further two 'catch-up' seminars are being planned for late February in a regional location and late March in Sydney. Saying this is to enable attendance by councillors elected at recent by-elections, as well as those not able to attend previously.

The General Manager included a copy of the *Councillor Development Strategy Implementation Update* which was provided with the letter for Councillors' information. Mr. Griffiths said that as soon as the minutes of the meeting are available, the web link will be provided to the Department as requested.

7468 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb & O'Brien that Council note the attendance of Councillors Schieb, Karanouh and O'Brien at the Department of Local Government's Councillor Information Seminar.

**9.40 DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT A5
(29772)**

Advising that in November the Ministry advertised nationally for expressions of interest from air transport operators to service regional air transport routes between Sydney and the regional centres of Bourke, Cobar, Coonamble, Lightning Ridge, Mudgee and Walgett. Stating that on 5 December the Ministry of Transport had received one expression of interest for the Mudgee-Sydney route, with another expression of interest received in respect of all air routes as mentioned. Saying these operators were invited to submit air transport licence applications by 16 January, 2009, however at the closing date no licence applications had been received. Stating the Ministry of Transport will continue to consider other options for these routes, including any new expressions of interest from eligible airlines.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council presented a motion to the "C" Division Conference which will now be actioned following the Shires Conference in June 2009.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 23/4040

7469 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council note the lack of interest in providing air services to the north west area of New South Wales.

DELIVERY OF COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS

The Mayor referred to a request from Cr Karanouh following the September 2008 elections that agendas for Council Meetings be prepared and delivered earlier to give Councillors longer to read the business papers in readiness for the meeting. Cr Horan said that this has been done, however it causes an unacceptable amount of late or 'urgent' business and he suggested that the delivery of business papers return to the later time, i.e. Thursday afternoon/Friday morning of the week preceding the meeting.

7470 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the delivery of business papers for Council's ordinary meeting revert to the Thursday afternoon/ Friday morning of the week preceding the meeting.

10.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

7471 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

10.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Cr. Schieb said he was informed that it was not necessary to submit a development application for installation of a swimming pool in the rural area and enquired if this was correct.

The General Manager called the Health and Building Officer to the meeting and Cr. Schieb was advised that it is necessary to submit a Complying Development Application.

In respect to Complying Development Application No. 046/2008 which is listed as approved on 7 January 2009, the General Manager advised that this was not the case, as further information was requested. He said that the information has now been received and approval has been given, however the approval date will alter.

7472 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council note Development Application Nos. 042/2008, 044/2008, 045/2008 and 048/2008, together with Complying Development Application No 049/2008, have been approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

10.2 POLICY – FOOTPATH DINING, SIGNAGE DISPLAY & STREET TRADING

Council noted that this draft policy was placed on public exhibition following the November meeting, inviting written submissions closing on Friday, 19 December, 2008 - no submissions were received. The General Manager informed Council that copies of the draft policy were distributed to business houses and the Coonamble Business Action Group, which was asked to comment, however no response has been forthcoming.

Mr. Griffiths again stressed that Council must ensure it is indemnified from any liability arising from the use of the footpath for purposes authorised under this policy by way of notation on businesses' insurance policies.

7473 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council formally adopt the Footpath Dining, Signage Display and Street Trading Policy, noting that no submissions were received and that the fees outlined below be included in Council's Fees and Charges:

- Application Fee \$30.00
- Street Dining \$10.00 per table per year
- Display of Goods \$ 2.00 per lineal metre of property frontage pa.
- Advertising Boards \$ 2.00 per sign pa
- Street Vending \$75.00 pa
- Busking No charge
- Raffle Ticket Selling No charge.

Councillor O'Brien referred to problems being experienced on the footpath next door to the twoeighttwoeight hall, where a child's swimming pool is placed and occupants of the dwelling sit on the footpath. Council's Health and Building Officer said he would investigate this matter and inform the residents that the practice is not permissible.

At this juncture, 12.17 p.m. Council's Health and Building Officer left the meeting.

10.3 POLICIES – FIXED BARS ON COMMERCIAL PREMISES & EXEMPT AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT DCP & CDC

The General Manager reminded Councillors that this matter was raised following the installation of a roller shutter to the Castlereagh Street frontage of the Plaza Theatre.

Council resolved, at the November, 2008 meeting, to place the amended policy on public exhibition, together with the Exempt and Complying Development Control Plan and Exempt Development Code which also contained the amendment. No submissions were received.

7474 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council formally adopt the amended polices for Fixed Bars on Commercial Premises and the Exempt and Complying Development DCP & CDC, noting that no submissions were received during the exhibition period.

10.4 POLICY - HIGHER MASS LIMITS APPROVAL

At the December 2008 meeting Council resolved to place the draft policy on public exhibition inviting submissions from the public. Council noted that the policy developed is based on the consideration of two main engineering criteria, which are:

(1) Capacity of structures & (2) Suitability of the pavement.

An initial assessment of pavements (based on the policy) would see the following sealed roads considered for HML approval subject to an assessment of the structures:

1. MR383 **Warren Rd** – From Castlereagh Highway to the Shire boundary
2. MR7515 **Pilliga Rd** (including MR129B Barradine Rd to the intersection of MR7515) – Coonamble to the Shire boundary
3. MR129Q **Quambone Rd** – From Coonamble to a location 46km west
4. SR19 **Bourbah Rd** – From Gulargambone to Warren Rd
5. SR12 **Back Combara Rd** – From Graincorp Silo to end of seal
6. SR4 – **Emby Rd** – From Quambone Rd to end of seal

Council noted that in addition, unsealed feeder roads that connect to these routes will also be considered for HML approval. The General Manager said that Council will be provided with a report when routes are considered for HML advising whether or not the proposed route was approved and, if not, the reason.

7475 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council formally adopt the Policy on Higher Mass Limit Approval on Roads within Coonamble Shire, following its public exhibition, noting that no submissions were received.

10.5 AMENDED WASTE COLLECTION ZONE – COONAMBLE TOWNSHIP

At the December 2008 meeting an amended Waste Collection Zone Map was presented to Council, due to the unclear definition of the current map, which does not cover the northern or southern extent of the town. It was noted that the current map extends from Reid Street in the south to Edward Street in the north, despite the fact that the urban limits and the existing collection service extend beyond that.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 26/4043

The General Manager stated that the amended map was placed on public exhibition, inviting comment from the public, however none was received. Mr. Griffiths reported that Council is required to define the waste collection area for the purpose of identifying properties that are to be charged domestic waste rates and receive domestic waste collection.

7476 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb & O'Brien that Council formally adopt the Waste Collection Zone as defined on the map presented to the December 2008 meeting, noting that no submissions or comments were received.

10.6 MANAGEMENT PLAN 2009 – 2012 – TIMETABLE

The General Manager submitted a timetable to ensure the orderly progress of the 2009 – 2012 Management Planning process.

Mr. Griffiths said the workshop proposed for 25 February will provide Councillors with the opportunity to convey projects they wish to be included in the Management Plan over the next three years and allow staff time to prepare budget estimates for them, in addition to making changes to operational focus that Councillors may desire.

The General Manager pointed out that the following aspects will be included in the draft Management Plan:

- Allowance to be made for an increase of 4% in wages and materials.
- Sewerage annual charges to increase by 4% in Coonamble and 8% Gulargambone.
- Domestic waste charges to increase by 4%.
- General rates to increase by 4%, with the minimums to increase by \$16.
- Water access charges and usage charges to increase by 10%.

The General Manager said it should be noted that fuel charges continue to impact on operating costs due to the low Australian dollar and the dramatic fall in interest rates will negatively impact the 2009-2012 Management Plan. Mr. Griffiths said that the presentation of the Management Plan to the community has been carried out for the past three years with minimal impact. The continuance of this process is a decision that Council needs to make however, it is suggested that education of the community takes time. In other areas it has become an accepted method for the community to convey projects to Council.

Council noted that it must place the Management Plan for the coming three years on public exhibition for a minimum of twenty eight days and must consider any submissions made by the public.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 27/4044

7477 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council adopt the Management Planning Timetable as follows:

Date	Function
<i>04 March 2009</i>	<i>Workshop – Council Chambers – 9.00 a.m.</i>
<i>08 April 2009</i>	<i>Draft Management Plan (considered as part of April 2009 Council meeting) and placed on public exhibition</i>
<i>06 May 2009</i>	<i>Public Meeting (evening) for Council to present its Management Plan to the Community.</i>
<i>13 May 2009</i>	<i>Submissions from the public close</i>
<i>10 June 2009</i>	<i>Management Plan adopted (at normal monthly Council meeting)</i>

10.7 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE – AMENDMENT

The General Manager advised Council concerning a number of instances over the past six months involving Councillors from other Local Government Areas who have failed to apologise for non attendance at ordinary and/or extraordinary meetings. Mr. Griffiths explained that when three consecutive meetings are missed, this will lead to a vacancy in civic office occurring where Council has not granted leave of absence. He said that, similarly, instances have occurred where Council has not accepted the reason for non attendance.

Mr. Griffiths said that the Act and Regulation are silent on the method of apology however, the Department of Local Government has issued guidance that apologies must be given in writing, in advance and include a reason for absence which is required to be accepted by Council. He said it would appear to be inconvenient for Councillors to provide an apology which states the reason for an intended absence etc. but some form of formal practice needs to be adopted to ensure consistency in dealing with non attendance at meetings.

7478 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Canham that Council note the report submitted by the General Manager.

10.8 REQUEST FROM CR SCHIEB FOR MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED FOR DISCUSSION

The General Manager reported that on Wednesday, 28 January 2009 a letter was received from Cr Schieb listing eight items for inclusion on this meeting agenda and a copy was attached to the Business Paper for Councillors' information.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 28/4045

The General Manager provided responses in his report to each of the issues raised by Cr. Schieb, as follows, and Council dealt with them individually.

(1) *Showground Pavilion*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(2) *Airport Fencing*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(3) *Overtime at the Pool*

(4) *Overtime*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(5) *Parks & Gardens*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(6) *Mowing of Highways & Road*

(7) *Lease of Area East of Showground*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(8) *Submission of Roach's Land for Purchase.*

Cr Schieb acknowledged acceptance of information provided.

(3) *Overtime at the Pool*

Council noted that this issue is the subject of a report by the A/Director of Engineering later in the day.

(6) *Mowing of Highways and Road*

In considering this matter, Council suggested that the A/Director of Engineering to direct overseers to use two slashers when working on the Highway to get the most efficient use of the pilot vehicle where possible.

Council has found that this is the most effective option to meet RTA requirements and for the protection and safety of its employees working on the Castlereagh Highway and the travelling public. This system is only required on the Highway because of the volume of traffic utilising the road.

(8) *Submission of Roach's Land for Purchase*

As the minutes of the December 2008 meeting reflect, Council believed there was no benefit in inspecting the property which appeared to be grossly over-priced and of no value to Council except for the loam deposit in one of the paddocks.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 29/4046

7479 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council formally resolved not to purchase the land offered by Mr. Roach, in accordance with the instruction given at the December meeting.

7480 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that the report be received and the contents contained therein, be noted.

At this juncture, 1.07 p.m. the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 2.05 p.m.

10.9 RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE

The General Manager reminded Council that it agreed to participate in a joint tender with Dubbo City Council and Wellington Shire Council in a Regional Recycling Collection Service, with no obligation to proceed when final figures are to hand. Mr Griffiths reported that the process is being facilitated and partly funded by NetWaste.

He said tenders have now closed and preliminary discussions held with operational staff on the most suitable offer made. The General Manager said that whilst all tenders are conforming, there are issues that need clarification from all tenderers. Mr. Griffiths said that the next step in the process is for management and Councillors to take place in a round table discussion to gain knowledge of the various proposals which will ensure an informed decision is made. It is proposed that a forum be held for General Managers, Mayors and a couple of other Councillors from each of the three Councils in Dubbo at a time and date yet to be fixed.

The General Manager reported that Council has been requested by a number of groups and individuals to introduce a full recycling service in Coonamble on the basis of protecting the environment and pointed out that the majority of Councils now offer such a service, but at a significant cost.

7481 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council continue to participate in the tender process for a Recycling Collection Service with Dubbo and Wellington Councils, by nominating Councillors Cullen, O'Brien and Canham, together with the General Manager to attend the Information Forum to be held in Coonamble on 25 February 2009 at 2.00 p.m.

10.10 REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SERVICES FOR NON-METROPOLITAN NSW

The General Manager reported that in September 2007 the Minister for Water announced an Independent Inquiry into the above and said that Council made submission in April 2008. Mr. Griffiths said a full copy of this and the above report were provided to Councillors some time ago to ensure sufficient time for reading and comprehension prior to this meeting.

Mr. Griffiths referred to Council's submission, where it indicated it is more than happy to work with Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Councils by way of forming a Strategic Alliance to improve water supply and sewer service levels. He said that Council's former Director of Engineering represented this Council and gave a presentation to the Inquiry when it held its forum in Tamworth.

The General Manager said it is intended that the Mayors and General Managers of the five Councils will meet to investigate a way forward in respect of the suggestion of a Binding Alliance Model. He reminded Council that the Minister for Water, The Hon Phillip Costa MP, is conducting an Information Session at the Coonamble Bowling Club on 18 February 2009 between 12 noon and 2.00 p.m.

Mr. Griffiths reported that the independent panel has taken the formation of an Alliance to a new level and included Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains Councils. He said Coonamble was also included in Option 2 and in the submission from Walgett, Brewarrina and Bourke Councils as potentially being included with them as Barwon Darling Region.

In reporting on costs, the General Manager said there is sure to be "devil in the detail" and there would be little doubt that the price of water supply and sewer services would increase significantly under an Alliance Entity. Mr. Griffiths reminded Councillors that Council has already resolved to increase water charges by 20% over five years to pay for expenses related to the improved quality of water.

7482 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council advise the Minister that its preferred option is a Binding Alliance with Gilgandra and Warrumbungle Councils as detailed in the original submission, pointing out that other areas proposed do not have similar methods of water supply.

11.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

7483 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Canham that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 31/4048

11.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

The Director of Corporate Services stated that debt recovery is constantly under review and Council works towards maintaining a satisfactory level, noting that it must treat each case on its merits.

7484 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 January 2009 be noted.

11.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

The Director of Corporate Services stated that income from investments will continue to be down due to the falling interest rates. Mr. Warren explained Council's investment strategies and answered questions from Councillors.

7485 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Canham that that the Investments held at 31 January 2009 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

11.3 (BUDGETED) RESERVES AT 31 DECEMBER 2008

7486 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Estimates Reserves at 31 December, 2008, as reported by the Director of Corporate Services, be noted.

11.4 STORES AND MATERIALS UNACCOUNTED FOR & STORES AND MATERIALS WRITTEN IN – PERIOD 1 JULY 2008 TO 31 DECEMBER 2008.

7587 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council authorise the writing in of stores and materials in the sum of \$973.48 and the writing off of stores and materials in the sum of \$286.79, as shown below, for period ending 31 December 2008:

(a) Items Unaccounted for:

Stores No	Description	Quantity	Amount
107	Concrete pipe 12 RC	1	66.61
109	Concrete pipe 15x8	2	220.18
			\$286.78

(b) Items in Excess:

Stores No	Description	Quantity	Amount
110	Concrete pipe 18"	3	488.09
143	Diesel	180	244.98
326	Handle shovel	1	13.84
472	Petrol	163	226.57
			\$973.48

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 32/4049

(c) **Summary:**

Items in Excess	\$973.48
Items Unaccounted For	\$286.79
Total S&M Written On	\$686.69

11.5 RECORDS – DESTRUCTION OF

The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that the State Records Act allows Council to dispose of particular records after the expiration of certain time frames. Mr. Warren said that in order to maximize available storage and maintain appropriate records management, the records (details of which appeared in Item 11.5 of his report) will be destroyed by burial.

The Director of Corporate Services was requested to clarify one item listed in the records for destruction, i.e. “Journals – 2005/2006 – 12.7.1 – 6 years – destroy 2008”.

7488 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that Council note the destruction of the subject records in compliance with the State Records Act 1998, following clarification of the above item.

12.0 REPORT FROM A/DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

7489 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the report by the Director of Engineering be received and dealt with.

**12.2 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
PROJECT 2**

The A/Director of Engineering said that at its November meeting, Council resolved to formally apply for grant funding available from the Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) to construct a wetland for the amelioration of storm water runoff generated from the western side of town (Resolution No. 7276). Mrs Atkins advised that the total project budget was \$95,000 comprised of a \$70,000 grant from the CMA and Council contributing the balance with funds from the climate change tree planting budget. The application was successful.

Mrs Atkins informed the meeting that the project involved construction on Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB) controlled land, and although an earlier approach had been made to the RLPB which, at the time, it was supportive of the project. She said, however, that at its final Board meeting held last December RLPB withdrew all support for the project.

Council noted that following the Board’s decision, the CMA was contacted advising of the impossibility of that particular project proceeding and it indicated that it would be interested in funding an alternative project with a similar budget if Council had any other proposals that met the grant eligibility criteria.

Mrs Atkins said that a meeting was held with CMA representatives on the 29th January in Coonamble to discuss the matter further and the Warrena Creek Weir overflow area was identified as one such possibility.

7490 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council:

- (1) Acknowledges the impass involved with continuing with the wetland project to the west of Coonamble as specified in Resolution 7276.
- (2) Fully scope the overflow spillway and in-channel wetland at the Warrena Creek Weir and re-apply to the CMA for funding towards the project.
- (3) Lodge a Development Application for the project when funding is approved by Central Catchment Management Authority.
- (4) Notify the Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries Branch of Council's intention to undertake work at the Warrena Weir.

12.2 POOL REVIEW

The A/Director of Engineering advised that following consideration of this matter by Council at its December meeting, the opening hours were reduced to 8 hours and this has already reduced the wages bill by \$8,300 from \$42,000 for the same period last season. Mrs Atkins reported that the local swimming squad requested to train outside of normal opening time and pool staff volunteered their time to facilitate this. She said that to date Council has not received any comment from the general public in relation to the change in hours.

Councillors discussed this matter at length – Cr Canham said that the pool operating hours have been “cut to the bone” and there is no way they can be further reduced. It was noted that the pool is a “community service” and will always be run at a loss.

In dealing with the report, Council noted that contracting the pool to a corporation would result in loss of control of all aspects of the pool including entry fees, preventative maintenance and service levels and leasing to an individual(s) is counter-productive as payment levels need to be no less than that of an employee. It was also noted that maintenance and repairs on Council's facilities is growing as the pools age and increasingly the legislative requirements that the pools must operate within are also tightening.

7491 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the report be noted, pool hours remain as they are, i.e. 6.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m., 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. and that overtime be monitored.

Councillor Schieb requested that his name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 34/4051

At this juncture, 3.12 p.m., Councillor Canham left the meeting and did not return.

12.3 LANE CLOSURES

The A/Director of Engineering reported that Council occasionally receives requests from the public to purchase, lease or close lanes adjoining private property. She said that the process of closing a lane and transferring it to "operational land" that can then be sold or leased is a costly and lengthy process. Mrs Atkins said that under the Roads Act 1993 (part 4), Council must make application, survey, advertise and gazette prior to being able to lease or sell a road or lane.

Mrs Atkins said there are often a number of properties affected by a lane closure which makes entering into a lease impractical, even when the current residents are in agreement and Council must look at any long term effects.

Council noted that in other Local Government areas, Councils erect heavy duty gates across a laneway at one point only to limit through traffic while maintaining access to residents and because this is not a lane closure, does not need formal applications and surveys. The A/Director of Engineering stated that Council would still advertise the intention to restrict through traffic at a lane and call for public comment and the cost of the gates and installation should be passed onto the applicant.

Council noted that the estimated cost of constructing and installing heavy duty gates is \$2,500 compared to approximately \$5,000 to formally close a laneway. It was also noted that the Department of Lands has advised there is currently a back log of applications and delays of up to three years can be expected.

7492 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that Council place the proposed Policy on Lane Closures on public exhibition for twenty eight days, inviting comment from the public and formally adopt the Policy at the next available meeting, together with any submissions received.

12.4 WORKS PROGRAM UPDATE

Council noted the progress report submitted by the A/Director of Engineering of works currently being undertaken, which included the following:

- Showground Pavilion, internal lining complete, fit out of kitchen, bar and toilets commenced.
- Fluoridation system delivered and awaiting connection.
- Water treatment tender awarded. Currently seeking approval for concept from Dept Water and Energy.
- Water mains replacement due to start early March.
- Airport resealed and fencing installed.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 35/4052

- Urawilkie Bridge approach works complete, stabilisation and sealing due early February.
- Flood damage 60% complete.
- SR19 and SR2 reconstruction commenced.
- Reconstruction of SH18 south of Gulargambone due to commence early February.
- MR7515 reconstruction of 1.3km complete early March.

7493 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Works Updated be noted.

13.0 MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW & QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 DECEMBER, 2008

The Director of Corporate Services reported that, in accordance with Section 407 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the General Manager must report to Council within two months of the end of each quarter the extent to which the performance targets of Council, set by the Management Plan, have been achieved and submit a review of the estimates of income and expenditure for Council's consideration.

Mr. Warren presented Council with a list of budget variations and gave reasons for those variations. As Council's responsible accounting officer he informed the meeting that in his opinion, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure and the quarterly review of these estimates at 31 December 2008, that Council is in a satisfactory financial position.

The Director of Corporate Services stressed that it was difficult to maintain a balanced budget and with the global economic downturn it will be a tough year ahead. He again reminded Council that the anticipated reduction in income due to lower interest rates will be in the vicinity of \$85,000. Council noted that water and sewerage are self-funded and thus balance out.

Mr. Warren said that there will be no room in the upcoming Management Plan for capital works, Council will have to concentrate on maintenance items. The General Manager informed the meeting that he is not confident of Federal Government funds, in his opinion they are more designed for metropolitan centres.

The Mayor drew attention to the \$10,000 promised for the Skate Park following the completion of the Murdi Paaki Partnership Program and requested that the Director of Corporate Services investigate this contribution.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 36/4053

In response to a question concerning Ranger Services, the General Manager explained how they work, however he agreed to report back to Council, with further information.

At this juncture, 3.40 p.m., the General Manager was called from the meeting.

The overexpenditure on the Showground Pavilion was discussed at length and will be further investigated at a later meeting.

7494 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Schieb that a detailed report on the Showground Pavilion over-expenditure be submitted to the March meeting.

At this juncture, 3.58 p.m., the General Manager returned.

7495 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council:

- (1) note the Management Plan Review;
- (2) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents;
- (3) note that in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
- (4) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 31 December 2008.

14.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

7496 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the minutes of meetings of various committees be received and dealt with.

14.1 MINUTES OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7497 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the minutes of the Consultative Committee meeting held on 25 November, 2008 be received and noted.

17.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

7498 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the report by the Saleyards Manager for the months of December, 2008 and January 2009 be received and adopted.

18.0 CONTRACT RANGER'S REPORT

7499 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the information contained in the Contract Ranger's report for the month of December 2008 be received and adopted.

19.0 & 20.0 CLOSED SESSION

7500 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A 2(a) "*personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)*" and Section 10A 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*".

7501 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

7502 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLOSED SESSION

7503 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council adopt the recommendations from Closed Session, being Recommendation Nos. 19.1 and 20.1 as set out hereunder:

19.1 SALE OF LAND FOR OVERDUE RATES

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council:

- (1) Appoint AJF Brien & Sons to conduct the auction of properties identified to be sold for overdue rates and charges;
- (2) Authorise the General Manager to negotiate a suitable date for sale with the appointed auctioneer, complying with legislative requirements.

20.1 TENDER TO24/2009 – NORTHERN INLAND REGIONAL WASTE & NETWASTE REGIONAL TENDER FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF USED MOTOR OIL

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council:

- (1) Reject all tenders as non-conforming; and
- (2) Authorise the General Manager to negotiate and execute a Contract with Transpacific Industries Group based on its non-conforming tender.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Webb:

- o Reported bad condition of part of Limerick Street – A/DofE advised that roadworks and kerbing and guttering are programmed for that area.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 38/4055

Cr O'Brien:

- Requested names of Australia Day Awards winners be included on website.
- Guttering on Yalcogrin Street dwelling needs repair.
- Awning over footpath at Library – needs repair.

7504 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that repairs be carried out to stop birds from roosting under the awning.

- Requested that footpath in Gular be cleaned to remove the build up of bird droppings.
- Gular meeting – Expressions of interest for venue and catering.

Cr Schieb:

- Referred to request by Richie Williams – loaming Billeroy Road. The General Manager said this would be actioned under normal policy.
- Shires Association calling expressions of interest for funding – advised that the EDM will be taking this information to a meeting of the BAG – Council will support application.

General Manager:

- Informed grant available for Climate Change – maybe Quarry / Saleyards – applications close 25 February 2009.
- Santos drilling on road reserves in Shire for natural gas – tests will be carried out on private land.
- Asked Councillors to think about fees and conditions for use of new pavilion at the Showground. Need input regarding leasing out, control, fees & charges for various functions, etc exemptions (if any), conditions of use. Information will be needed to include with fees/charges for next year.
- OROC meeting Friday 13/2 – General Manager & Cr Webb attending.
- Interview with Prime TV – local HSM resigned going to Wellington AHS; local hospital will be run from Gilgandra
- Needs direction from Council – should Mayor/GM meet with Clare Blizzard to advise concerns regarding HSM restructure proposal.

7505 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that the Mayor and General Manager liaise with Gilgandra Shire Council to ascertain its stand, then meet with the CEO of the Greater Western Area Health Service, Clare Blizzard regarding these serious health issues.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 39/4056

Mayor:

- The Mayor referred to an Order issued by Council on a dwelling in Tooloon Street and made enquiries regarding the matter.
- 30,000 tonne wheat stored at depot – made land available as a service to farming community. Owners being charged for storage.
- Fence at Gulargambone around playground – A/DofE advised Council is waiting on the outcome of grant applications – it will be the same as the Macdonald Park playground fence.
- Hospital – General Manager declared an interest, however before leaving the room, he said he attended a meeting on Tuesday, 10 February – the tender has not been cancelled, nor has the project been cancelled. Mr Griffiths left the meeting at 4.45 p.m. Mayor advised that at a meeting some 3 – 4 months ago he was asked to sign a confidentiality agreement, which he declined. Government has no money – hospital was supposed to be finished this year. 14m allocation has been reduced – accordingly the scale of the building has been cut back. Must not drop quality – fight for hospital on the scale of the original proposal. Need to make public these issues - wonders why the secrecy surrounding the whole project. Cr O'Brien said that if we don't fight for what we want now, it will be too late and she urged Council to take strong public action in letting the community know how much the original project has been scaled down.

7506 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council make this a public issue and:

- (1) Request the State Government to provide information regarding the future of the proposed Multi Purpose Service;
- (2) Request that the original plans of the facility be supplied for comparison with what is now being proposed;
- (3) Request a report on the status of the Health Services Manager and the proposal to reduce Nurse Managers hours, noting it is proposed to manage Coonamble hospital from Gilgandra;
- (4) Demand a commitment from the Government regarding future health services in Coonamble.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH
FEBRUARY, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.10 A.M.**

Page 40/4057

Cr. Schieb:

- Drew attention to the overgrown state of the Pilliga Scrub on Council's boundary and said that Council should take some sort of action.

7507 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and O'Brien that a letter be written to the appropriate Department requesting that urgent attention be given to the overgrown Pilliga State Forest on Council's boundary to avoid the risk of fire.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/4018 to 40/4057) were confirmed on the day
of2009 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the
ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 11 February 2009.

MAYOR

MAYOR

GENERAL MANAGER