

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL, 2011, COMMENCING AT 9.07 A.M.**

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

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Before commencing the meeting the Mayor congratulated Jill Moorhouse on her 50 years' service with Council.

**2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND**

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

**3.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**4.0 APOLOGY**

Nil

**5.0 DELEGATIONS**

Nil

**6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES - ORDINARY MEETING**

**9049 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Canham that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council, held on 9 March, 2011 be confirmed.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**(a) Grant Funding: Accessible Communities Program (Min 8959)**

In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the Mayor advised that the Eco Spa Project was the subject of a report by the Economic Development Manager later in the day.

**(b) Learner Driver Hours**

Cr Karanouh asked whether Council wrote about reducing learner driver hours – the General Manager said a letter was sent, however no reply has been received to date.

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**(c) Law and Order**

Following a question from Cr. Schieb the Mayor stated that this issue would be raised later in the day.

At this juncture, 9.14 a.m., Cr. Cullen arrived at the meeting.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

**9050 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Schieb and Canham that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council, held on 1 April, 2011 be confirmed.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

**8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE**

**9051 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

**(a) Sale of Shares – Min No 7849**

The General Manager stated that the shares have not yet been sold – Council is still in the process of converting them from other names, however no trading in AWB shares has now recommenced and the matter will be progressed as quickly as possible.

**(b) Moorambilla Festival 2011 – 2013 - Min No 9025**

Cr Karanouh asked what progress has been made – the General Manager said a draft agreement has been forwarded to the Artistic Director for approval and signature. Mr. Warren said Ms Leonard has had discussions with the TDM who advised her that she would have to work through the local coordinator – not with Council directly. The General Manager clarified the funding issue, saying that \$8,000 would be paid to Outback Arts and \$8,000 would be paid to Moorambilla Festival Inc. Cr Karanouh said it would be prudent to have a meeting as soon as possible, however the General Manager stated he would prefer to wait until the Agreement is signed. Mr. Warren also stated that he has been endeavouring to contact Mrs White, who expressed an interest in being part of the Committee.

**9.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Mayor gave a verbal report on his activities throughout the month since the last meeting. Cr Horan mentioned the following issues:

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**(a) Saleyards Meeting**

Attended with Cr.Cullen – Committee recommended that Council agree to implement presale scanning – part of the deal would be that Council forego its 70cents/head scanning fee. Cr Horan said the Coonamble Associated Agents are prepared to pay all costs involved in the presale scanning process.

He said it was envisaged that a Dubbo Contractor be employed for a two year period, before inviting expressions for local interest.

Cr. Schieb mentioned that the yards should be redesigned to capture throughput – this would have to be done to avoid a ‘bottleneck’ when there are big yardings. The General Manager said if significant works (i.e. money) is required, it should be referred to the budget for consideration.

**(b) Indoor Arena Steering Committee**

The steering committee suggested that the strategic plan be updated, noting that it is about four years old. Three proposals were put forward by the students and all look good.

The Mayor said it is important to get funding application to Federal Government, however at this point in time, Council does not have definitive costings.

**(c) Senior Citizens Morning Tea - Gulargambone**

The Mayor said he attended the Citizens Morning Tea at Gulargambone – Cr Karanouh also attended. Cr Horan said presentations were made to Mr Paul Ferguson, Senior Citizen of the Year and Mrs Doris Kearney for her service to the community. Cr Horan thanked Cr O’Brien for arranging the morning tea.

**(d) Victims of Crime Meeting**

The Mayor said he attended the Victims of Crime meeting which was held in the Bowling Club Auditorium last Friday. He said there was a huge attendance, with some people leaving because they could not get into the Auditorium. Cr Horan said a lot of these people have since advised of their support.

The Mayor said he was disappointed at the perception of some people saying Council charged kids to play netball – he said this is not true – Council provides sporting facilities free of charge for junior organisations.

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Cr Horan said Council needs to continue to send letters to the Police Minister, the Local Area Command and the Local Member, asking for an Aboriginal Liaison Officer and “special remote” classification. Cr. Horan said a meeting of the Steering Committee should be called as a priority. He referred to Crime Statistics which will be released in April and said in the last three years Coonamble has tripled other centres in the amount of crime committed (and that is only the reported incidents).

Other issues raised while discussing this meeting were:

- The Local Member has said that the Young Offenders Act is going to be abolished.
- Council has received 24 written complaints to be forwarded to Police.
- Cr Webb referred to reporting a disturbance last Monday – he rang the local police and they attended in four minutes.
- It was noted that when an offence is reported, the Police Officer to whom it was made must contact the victim within seven days – this is normal procedure.
- Cr. Cullen gave a report of an incident where a person removed kids from his front lawn, the kids then started throwing stones aiming to break windows. The victim called 000, but the connection was bad, then phoned local station. The officer on duty could not attend because that officer was charging a person and could not leave.
- Cr Webb asked whether the Steering Committee could be a Council Committee under s355 – the General Manager would look at and advise. Cr. Karanouh said he was of the opinion that an independent committee would be more effective.
- The Mayor advised that the Rotary Club does not want to be the driving force behind this committee, so it would fall to Council to organise meetings.
- It was agreed that Councillors Webb, Schieb and O’Brien be members of the Steering Committee.
- Council must have support of the Working Party for its Crime Prevention Plan – this is to be able to apply for funding
- General Manager said Council can do a “letterbox drop” reminding people to burglar-proof their premises and encouraging the public to be vigilant and look out for one another.
- Cr Karanouh said it would be a better move if the area could be localised – ask for the LAC to be moved to Coonamble – it was noted that this would cause more administrative work.
- Cr Schieb said he was recently speaking with a Police Prosecutor who said stationing a detective in Coonamble would be a good start, as they are properly trained to interview and charge offenders with appropriate charges for the offence(s) committed.

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**9052 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and Webb that the report on Mayoral activities be adopted.

**10.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**9053 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs.O'Brien and Schieb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

**Section A –For Council's Consideration:**

**10.1 MRS ANNE KENNEDY W1 + E1 + D7 (34549)**

Advising The Great Artesian Group has arranged a community viewing of the documentary "Gasland" which it believes is important for Coonamble (and surrounding) communities to see. Pointing out it cost \$275 for its hire and \$90 for advertising in the local paper – a total of \$365.

Cr Karanouh said he attended the viewing and it is frightening to see what is happening to land that is being mined. He suggested that Council provide the \$365 requested for the hire of the documentary and advertising.

**9054 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. that Council not assist financially towards the cost of hiring and advertising in relation to the documentary "Gasland" and advise that Council has a policy requiring any request for financial assistance to be submitted prior to the event.

**10.2 KOREA WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION – NSW B2 (34559)**

Seeking Council's cooperation by erecting a Plaque on War Memorials in its area to honour all Korea War Veterans. Saying that Department of Veterans Affairs has advised that if they can get a "blanket" of Councils to participate it would expedite the grant to purchase plaques in memory of all Korea Veterans who fought in a "mostly Forgotten War".

The General Manager advised the meeting that Coonamble's War Memorial does honour the fallen soldier who served in the Korea War.

**9055 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs.Karanouh and O'Brien that Council advise the Association that Korea Veterans are already included on Coonamble's War Memorial.

**10.3 YOUNG LEADERS OF GULARGAMBONE C8-2 (34569)**

Signed by four young people supporting the building of a skate park at Gulargambone. Giving many reasons for their request and asking Council to see this as a positive strategy for their community and future generation.

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The General Manager reported that this was the proposal put to Council at its last meeting by Jessie-Lee Johnson, Andrew Wright, Taylor Hammond and Timeaka Hammond, along with Robyn Delaney, who all signed the request. Mr Warren said it may be appropriate for this group to provide a concept design of what is required.

Cr Canham said he is against going ahead with any proposal to build a skate park at Gulargambone – he referred to lack of use of the facility at Coonamble and suggested it would be the same at Gulargambone.

The General Manager said the intention was not to proceed at this stage, but to encourage the youth to get involved and channel their ideas through Council. He said it was hoped to look at establishing a BMX track adjacent to the Youth Centre. Mr. Warren said it is important for Council to be more involved with the community – we would have plans of the Coonamble facility and perhaps something similar could be designed for Gulargambone. He pointed out that money would not be available in the forthcoming budget, but may be available in the 2012/2013 year.

**9056 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council consider this request in conjunction with its 2011 – 2012 Management Plan and, in the meantime, request the group to provide Council with a concept design.

**10.4 HILL ROGERS SPENCER STEER A12 (34613)**

Providing Council with its Audit Management Letter following the interim audit in respect to the year ending 30 June 2011. Reporting that Council's books and records are being well maintained and up to date.

The General Manager said a copy of the report was attached to the business paper for Councillors' perusal and information. Mr. Warren informed the meeting that matters raised by the Auditors are of a minor operational nature and have been addressed.

**9057 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council note the Auditor's Report following the interim audit in respect to the year ending 30 June 2011.

**10.5 COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC D7 + S5 (34646)**

Cr Schieb asked whether the Rodeo Committee had been consulted on the power upgrades at the Showground. The Director explained that the upgrade to three phase power outlets would benefit all users.

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**9058 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council provide additional power outlets at the Coonamble Showground as requested and that funding of \$6,000 be sourced from the Showground reserve.

**SAFETY ISSUES – CAR PARKING AREA AT SHOWGROUND**

The Mayor said it has been drawn to his attention that there are safety issues with the members car parking area at the Showground and he wants the matter investigated so that Council knows where it stands legally. Discussions ensued about the relocation of the campdraft area and it was agreed that parking would not be a problem.

The General Manager said he would investigate the matter and bring a report back to the May meeting.

**10.6 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY SHED C8 + P10 (34674)**

**9059 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council offer the Coonamble Community Shed a further three (3) year lease under the same terms and conditions

**10.7 BARBARA O'BRIEN M5-1 + M5-3 (34712)**

Referring to a presentation from Barawunga Medical Service some four years ago when it promised a great comprehensive medical and outreach service for Gulargambone with a doctor based in Gulargambone. Stating that the service provided does not meet the expectations promised, with the doctor being in Gulargambone only one day/week. Pointing out she feels strongly that this service does not live up to the expectations given and saying the Youth Centre is very keen to run health programs and Gulargambone may be better serviced by another health provider.

The General Manager said that Council would be fully aware of the inadequacy of the service initially proposed by Barawunga. Mr. Warren stated that the provision of medical services is a responsibility of the State Government and Council is already heavily committed to the provision of medical services within the Shire.

The General Manager also said that, at this stage, Council is not aware, therefore unable to comment, on any proposal being put forward by the Youth Centre.

**9060 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that this information be noted.

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**10.8 KEVIN HUMPHRIES, MP E1 (34710)**

Referring to Council's letter in relation to truancy issues in the Shire and saying it is an escalating issue in many shires across the Barwon electorate. Recommending that Council meet with the Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the Department of Education to discuss ways in which truancy can be reduced in Coonamble Shire. Advising that following this meeting he would be interested in discussing with Council what issues were raised and work with Council to attempt to reduce the number of truant students.

**A MOTION**

**PROPOSED** by Cr Karanouh that Council arrange to meet with members of the Coonamble Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the Department of Education to discuss ways in which truancy can be reduced, then discuss the result of the meeting with Mr. Humphries **WAS WITHDRAWN**

Councillors debated this issue and were not happy with the suggestion that Council should arrange meetings to follow the matter up, then report back to Mr. Humphries. It was stated also that students on suspension from school should be made attend a venue set aside for that purpose.

**9061 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Schieb and Karanouh that Council write to the respective Ministers in connection with the truancy issues and advise the Local Member, Mr. Humphries, that it believes this is a matter for the Education Department to address, not local councils.

**10.9 THE A.R.BLUETT MEMORIAL TRUST A17 (34707)**

**9062 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that Council not submit an application for the 2010/2011 A R Bluett Memorial Award.

**10.10 LEONIE GOLDSMITH S13-1**

**9063 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Canham that Council endorse the General Manager's action is granting approval to this request for use of the pool for training purposes.

**10.11 SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

**9064 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Canham that Council note the dates of the 2011 Shires Association Annual Conference (viz Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> June) and that the following persons attend:

Mayor (Cr Horan), Crs Webb and O'Brien, together with the General Manager.

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**10.12 NSW FARMERS ASSOCIATION**

**9065 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien Karanouh that Council note the submission from the NSW Farmers Association – Gulargambone Branch regarding condition of roads in the district and refer it for consideration in conjunction with the 2011/2012 Management Plan.

**Section B: For Information:**

**10.13 NSW OFFICE OF WATER W1 (34550)**

Advising the NSW Office of Water supports local water utilities in providing water supply and sewerage services. Saying its website, [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au) provides valuable information on best practice management, financial assistance, technical support and training that councils already access on a regular basis by visiting the website.

**10.14 DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP N4 (34505)**

Acknowledging Council's letter of 20 January 2011 to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship concerning Dr Nihal Pathirana and his current application for permanent residence in Australia. Saying that Dr Pathirana's case officer has been in regular contact with him in regard to the health waiver process.

**10.15 COONAMBLE INTERAGENCY C8 (34533)**

Forwarding a copy of the minutes of the Coonamble Interagency meeting held on 2 March 2011.

**10.16 NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING E5-2-1 (34589)**

Reminding Council of its obligations for exhibiting and conducting a public hearing when reclassifying land from "community" to "operational" as per the Department's LEP Practice Note. Advising the planning proposal is to include a locality map identifying the relative location of the 17 parcels of land subject to reclassification in order to assist the community in locating the sites.

Pointing out that Council's request for the Department to draft and finalise the LEP should be made six weeks prior to the projected publication date. Stating the Government is committed to reducing the time taken to complete LEPs by tailoring the steps in the process to the complexity of the proposal and by providing clear and publicly available justification for each plan at an early stage. Saying that in order to meet these commitments, the Minister may take action under s54(2)(d) of the EP&A Act if the time frame outlined in the determination are not met.

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**10.17 NSW ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY F5 (34582)**

Confirming that a grant of the following amount is available to assist with restoration of flood damage (December 2010 event):

- \$ 540,834 for Regional Roads and
- \$2,024,315 for Regional Roads.

**10.18 NSW OMBUSMAN O4 (34571)**

Advising that recently a proclamation was gazetted commencing amendments to the *Protected Disclosures Act 1994* that were passed by Parliament in October last year and saying the Act is now called the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*. Advising the changes will come into effect in three stages – the first at the date of proclamation; the second on 1 July 2011 and the third will take effect on 1 January 2012. Further information is available at website [www.ombo.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ombo.nsw.gov.au)

**10.19 BEVERLEY DAVIDSON E430 (34610)**

Advising that for the last several years she has been studying to gain her Librarian Degree from the Charles Sturt University. Saying that during this time Council has been supportive in the purchase of text books and an allowance of study leave. Stating that this year she graduates and thanking Council for its past support. Enclosing a copy of her academic transcript.

**10.20 DR KENNETH ADAMS M5-1 (34547)**

Saying he is a GP Registrar completing his last year of training in Australia and asking whether this community has taken any steps towards recruiting doctors and nurses and, more specifically, are there any financial incentives or relocation packages available that would encourage a doctor and nurse to move here.

The General Manager advised that Council cannot forward a response or even acknowledge Dr Adams' correspondence, as he omitted to provide a return address.

**10.21 OFFICE SECRETARY, MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION E5 (34631)**

Forwarding a communiqué from the Murray Darling Basin Plan Forum held at Dubbo on 18 February, 2011. Advising it is now available as a public document and hoping to hand it to The Hon Craig Knowles next week. A copy of the communiqué was included with the business paper.

**10.22 JESSICA LEVEL, HEALTH PROMOTION OFFICE, COONAMBLE COMMUNITY HEALTH P1-1 (34632)**

Advising that the health promotion team at the Coonamble Community Health Multi Purpose Service is seeking permission to run a day event in conjunction with the National Heart Foundation on Sunday 15 May, 2011.

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Council noted that the Director of Engineering Services has approved the request, subject to Police approval being sought and obtained.

**10.23 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT L10-1 (34673)**

Advising councils that the Swimming Pools Amendment Regulation 2011 (the Amendment Regulation) will commence on 1 May 2011. Saying the Regulation was published on the NSW legislation website at [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au) on 3 March 2011. Advising councils to familiarize themselves with the requirements of the amended Regulation which is available at the above website.

**10.24 ROADS & TRANSPORT – LGSA R8-6-1 (34680)**

Advising that in April 2010 a group of local government councils from across Australia met in Canberra to discuss solutions to difficulties experienced in providing a viable and sustainable rural road network. Saying that group has become known as the Australian Rural Roads Group (ARRG) and in December 2010 released a discussion paper *“Going Nowhere – the Rural Local Roads Crisis and its National Significance and Proposed Reforms”*. Enclosing copy of letter recently sent by the LGSA to ARRG in response to that report.

**10.25 NSW EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT E4 (34700)**

Advising that in recognition of local government’s key role in leading disaster recovery efforts, Emergency Management NSW is hosting the NSW Local Government in Emergency Management Conference 2011. Pointing out the conference will run immediately after the Shires Association of NSW Annual Conference 2011 at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth. Saying that further details are available on the website [www.em.nsw.gov.au](http://www.em.nsw.gov.au)

**10.26 ANTHONY PLACE, ZONE MANAGER, RFS B13-5 (34733)**

Advising that he has taken a position with the State level mitigation crews working in the west of the State, based in Dubbo and will be leaving Coonamble on April 1, 2011. Thanking Council for its support and continued assistance during his three years as Zone Manager and listing some of the major achievements during this time.

**10.27 OUTBACK ARTS INCORPORATED A11 (34573)**

Attaching invoice for the 2011/2012 contribution to the Outback Arts Regional Arts Development Program and looking forward to working with Council in 2011. Saying the contribution Council makes will help support residents in applying for free membership and will allow all residents, if they so wish, to become individual members. .

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**10.28 NSW OMBUDSMAN P5 + P5-1 (34672)**

Thanking Council for its letter in relation to concerns about inadequate policing in Coonamble and surrounds. Advising Council's concerns have been discussed directly with the NSW Police Force Western Region Commander, Assistant Commissioner Peter Gallagher. Saying the Assistant Commissioner has indicated that he is aware of concern and crime statistics in the area. Saying that if members of the Coonamble community have any specific concerns about police responses they should raise these directly with the Local Area Command in the first instance and then to the Ombudsman.

**10.29 PUBLIC LIBRARIES NEW SOUTH WALES L4 (34684)**

Advising a new peak body for public libraries in NSW has been constituted – Public Libraries NSW Country (PLNSWC). Pointing out that PLNSWC has been recognized as a highly effective lobbying and advocacy agents for its constituency throughout its 22-year history and has enjoyed an exceptionally high level of membership during recent years (approx 95% of eligible councils). Stating that its executive officers will provide advice on fee structures and association benefits prior to commencement of the 2011-2012 financial year.

**10.30 AMBULANCE SERVICE OF NSW A7+PR102 (34682)**

Referring to Council's correspondence and advising approval is given to remove the clock mechanism from the tower in the former Ambulance Station at Coonamble. Stating that Council's request for consideration of returning the building to the community has been referred to the Assets & Infrastructure Department, State Headquarters, Sydney.

**10.31 WATERFORD RYAN P5 (34713)**

In response to Council's query regarding closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras advising that the footage is permissible in Court. Saying in the firm's experience, when CCTV footage of an event is available, rarely does it require presentation in Court as, when made aware of its existence, defendants are likely to plead to a matter where they may otherwise have been inclined to defend it. Pointing out this is true of the CCTV cameras in the streets of Coonamble, as well as those of pubs, clubs and private businesses.

**10.32 COONAMBLE AMATEUR THEATRICAL SOCIETY L3 (34743)**

Thanking Council for its donation of \$5,000 for the purchase of five microphones (estimated to cost \$1,000/each). Saying the theatrical group has never before sought donations or funding so it is delighted with Council's response. Pointing out it is currently waiting on written quotes for the wireless headset microphones and hoping that once received, the invoice for the five microphones can be sent directly to Council.

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**10.33 GREAT INLAND WAY PROMOTIONS GROUP INC T3-5 (34746)**

Requesting Council's continued support of the Great Inland Way (GIW) Promotions Group's ongoing development of the Great Inland Way Tourist Route. Enclosing a tax invoice for \$1,000 representing Council's contribution for 2011.

**10.34 SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

Calling nominations for President, Vice President General and nine (9) Executive Committee Members (one each for the nine Electoral Divisions).

The General Manager stated that if any Councillor is interested in nominating for the various positions he will provide the relevant forms.

**9066 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.13 to 10.34 inclusive be noted.

**11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**

**9067 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Karanouh that the General Manager's report be received and dealt with.

**11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**9068 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council note Complying Development Certificate Application No. 001/2011 has been approved under delegated authority since the last Council meeting.

**11.2 FRONT OFFICE CHANGES / RENOVATIONS**

**9069 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that Council approve the changes to the public reception area of the Administration Centre with funding to come from the Premises Refurbishment Reserve.

**11.3 REGIONAL & STRATEGIC ROADS (PROPOSAL)**

**9070 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that Council participate in the scoping exercise and agree to its \$5,000 contribution, which will be sourced from the Local Roads Vote.

**11.4 PREPARATION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR 2011/2012**

Again the General Manager drew Councillors' attention to the preparation of the management plan and reiterated previous reminders that items Council may wish to include, particularly of a capital nature, need to be advised in order to be costed into the budget process.

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Mr. Warren said Councillors should advise potential projects to enable them to be factored into the Management Plan. He said the draft plan/budget would be discussed at the May meeting of Council. The following items were put forward by Councillors:

- Tooraweenah Road
- Carinda Road
- Eco Spa
- Kerbside clean up (annual clean up days)
- Salaries/wages (should the review currently being undertaken reveal more staff is required)
- Indoor Arena (it was noted that plumbing, electrical, fittings, etc. would not be included and would be additional costs – the General Manager said Council should think carefully about what it will be responsible for. The Mayor referred to Council Policy that prior to committing to grant funding – council had to approve matching funds should the application be successful).
- Additional CCTV cameras and a wireless option for the Skate Park area (noting that this type is more expensive, but can be moved to other areas, if required).
- Coonamble Museum – electrical installation / eradication of possums.

At this juncture, 10.32 am Cr Karanouh left the meeting and returned at 10.34 am

The General Manager stated that Council has, in the past, adopted a balanced budget for the coming year by determining its priority and capital expenditure within available revenue resources.

**9071 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the above items be included and if Councillors had any further requests, they be submitted to the General Manager as a priority.

**12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

**9072 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

**12.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

**9073 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 March, 2011 be noted.

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**12.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS**

**9074 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the list of investments as at 31 March 2011 be noted, and it also be noted that Council's investments comply with s625(2) of Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

**12.3 LIBRARY SERVICES – QUAMBONE LIBRARY**

**9075 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Cullen that Council put the Quambone Library on notice that if there is no increase in membership within six months, the service will become monthly in lieu of weekly.

At this juncture, 10.42 am, Cr Cullen and the General Manager left the meeting.

**12.4 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW – INTERNET, EMAIL & COMPUTER USE (INTERNAL POLICY)**

**9076 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council adopt the revised Staff Internet, Email and Computer Use Policy.

**12.5 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW – DEBT RECOVERY POLICY**

The Director of Corporate Services reported that Council currently has in place two (2) separate policies for debt recovery, these being as follows

- Rates & Charges Recovery Policy - adopted 9<sup>th</sup> February 2005 Resolution 4501
- Debt Recovery for User Pays Water & Sewerage Accounts Policy - adopted 14<sup>th</sup> June 2006 Resolution 5407

**9077 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council place the draft policy on public display for a period of 28 days, inviting comments from the public, before formally adopting it after consideration of any submissions received.

**12.6 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW – PROCUREMENT POLICY**

**9078 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council place the amended Procurement Policy on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, inviting comment, before formally adopting it after consideration of any submissions received.

**13.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**

**9079 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

At this juncture, 10.45 am, Cr Cullen returned to the meeting.

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**13.1 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

Mr Brodbeck said that the NSW Roads & Traffic Authority, in its Delegation to Councils for the Regulation of Traffic, at s5.2 Members, states:

*“The LTC is to be made up of four formal members. The members are as follows:*

- *One representative of Council*
- *One representative of the NSW Police*
- *One representative of the RTA*
- *The local State Member of Parliament (MP) or their nominee.”*

**9080 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Webb that Council appoint Cr. Webb as its delegate to serve on the Local Traffic Committee, Council write to Mr. Humphries, Member for Barwon, suggesting that Cr. Karanouh be his nominee and alter the Committee’s current structure to accord with the Delegation to Councils for the Regulation of Traffic provided by the NSW RTA.

At this juncture, 10.47 am, the General Manager returned to the meeting.

**13.2 TESTING OF BITUMEN SEALED ROADS**

At this juncture, 10.48 am Cr Canham left the meeting and returned at 10.50 am.

**9081 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O’Brien that Council:

- (1) note the report relating to deflection testing of sealed roads;
- (2) note a further report on rehabilitation of the road network will be included in the 2011/2012 Management Plan.

**13.3 COONAMBLE LEVEE INVESTIGATION**

**9082 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Karanouh and O’Brien that Council note the information contained in the Coonamble Levee Concept Design report.

**13.4 WORKS IN PROGRESS**

**9083 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and Karanouh that the works in progress report be noted.

At this juncture, 11.00 am, the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 11.32 am. Upon resumption the Mayor was not present and the Deputy Mayor, Cr Webb, took the Chair. The Tourism Development Manager and the Economic Development Managers were also present.

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**17.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

**9084 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be received and dealt with.

Mr. Baldwin updated his report and answered questions from Councillors.

**CO OPERA – NO FUNDING FOR 2011**

**9085 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council write to Hon Simon Crean voicing concerns that funding has not been approved for the Co Opera to tour NSW, saying this is the first time in 18 years that it has not been successful and pointing out that small isolated country towns such as Coonamble do not have many opportunities to host this type of cultural event.

At this juncture, 11.40 am, the Mayor returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

**9086 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be adopted.

**17.1 COONAMBLE SHIRE HERITAGE & HISTORICAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING**

**9087 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the minutes of the meeting of the Coonamble Shire Heritage and Historical Museum Committee meeting held on 23 March 2011 be noted.

**17.2 COONAMBLE HERITAGE & HISTORICAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE**

The report submitted by the Tourism Development Manager listed three issues which need to be considered by Council:

1. Change of Name
2. Installation of Power Points in the old stables
3. Possum Problem

**9088 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council :

- (1) Confirm the name change of the Coonamble Historical Museum to *"The Museum Under the Bridge – Stories from Coonamble's History"*
- (2) Consider additional funding for the installation of power points in the old stables and pest remedial work in conjunction with the 2011/2012 budget.

At this juncture, the Tourism Development Manager left the meeting and the Economic Development Managers were in attendance to present their report.

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**16.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

**9089 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and dealt with.

The EDM reported on some items which were included in the report.

**GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

**9090 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Webb that if grant funding is successful, Council identify matching funds of \$100,000 from any surplus at end of year and/or development reserve for amenities at the Showground, noting that if the full amount of funding not be approved, Council's priority is for the Showground/Greyhound amenities block.

**9091 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and Karanouh that Council indicate its commitment for \$500,000 at this stage and funds be transferred from the Development Reserve to the Indoor Arena Reserve.

**RAIL LINE UPGRADE**

**9092 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council write to the new State Government asking that it reconfirm its commitment to the upgrade schedule and bring the time table forward.

**RENT A FARMHOUSE SCHEME**

**9093 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council, through the Economic Development Manager, work with community groups in Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone to host a further meeting in August to determine interest in operating the Rent-a-Farmhouse Scheme within Coonamble Shire.

**9094 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Economic Development Managers be adopted.

**16.1 COONAMBLE ECO SPA PROJECT – STAGE 2**

**9095 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Karanouh that Council allocate \$25,000 from the Development Reserve and seek matching State and Federal funding for Stage 2 of the Coonamble Eco Spa Project.

**16.2 EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE NOTES**

**9096 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that the Employment Circle notes taken at the meeting held on Tuesday, 8 March, 2011, be noted.

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**16.3 MEETING OF INDOOR ARENA STEERING COMMITTEE**

**9097 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the minutes of the meeting of the Indoor Arena Steering Committee held on 30 March, 2011 be noted.

The EDMs left the meeting at 12.45 pm. The Manager of Environmental Services was in attendance to present his report.

**14.0 REPORT BY MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**9098 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the report by the Manager of Environmental Services be received and dealt with.

**14.1 LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011**

**9099 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Schieb that Council:

- (1) Adopt the Instrument in its current form and submit to the Department of Planning for drafting under s59(1) of the EP&A Act.
- (2) Delegate authority to the General Manager to request that the Plan be made under s59 of the Act.
- (3) Resolve to undertake a Rural Lands Study and allocate \$25,000 in next year's budget to have this carried out by a suitably qualified professional.
- (4) Request the Department of Planning to draft the plan and advise how the conditions of the Gateway determination have been met.

In response to a question from Cr Cullen, Mr Cock stated that any developer proposing to subdivide is responsible for all infrastructure to be in place as well as access to various allotments.

At this juncture, 1.00 pm the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 1.49 pm.

**15.0 REPORTS BY VARIOUS COMMITTEES/DELEGATES**

**9100 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the reports by Various Committees/Delegates, as submitted, be noted.

**15.1 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION SESSION**

The General Manager submitted a report on the Councillor Information Session which he, Cr Schieb and the Director of Corporate Services attended on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 in Gilgandra. The Session was conducted by the Division of Local Government.

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Mr Warren said the session was informative and provided an insight into the views of the Department of Local Government on the following matters:

- Quarterly Budget Review Statements
- Employment of General Managers
- Code of Conduct.

He said the Department of Local Government (DLG) has legislated that a standard template shall apply for the budget review document from September 2011 review onwards and he included a copy of the format with the report.

With regard to the employment of General Managers, Mr. Warren advised that they must be employed using the standard contract determined by the DLG (a copy of which was attached to the business paper). He said this is the situation currently between the General Manager and Coonamble Shire Council. The General Manager reported that there are to be guidelines issued by the DLG in regard to recruitment and management of General Managers - it is expected these will be issued in the next few months and will be provided to Council at that time.

Councillors noted that the General Manager is the only appointment made by Council, all other staff appointments and management is made by the General Manager.

The General Manager advised that Council must adopt, at a minimum, the Model Code of Conduct. He said this is the case for Coonamble Shire – adopted 12 August 2009. Mr. Warren said Council may include additional provisions and adopt policies relating to Councillor behaviour or procedures. He again stated that Councillors need to be aware that the perception may be they are acting in an official capacity when there is no intention by the Councillor to give that impression.

Cr. Schieb said that in his opinion Council's code of Conduct is more a threat than a benefit. He said employees should also be made aware of the Code of Conduct and their obligations. The General Manager said that he had intended to arrange Code of Conduct training for all employees early in the year, however that did not eventuate but it will be slotted in during the second half of 2011. Mr. Warren said he has no issue with councillors/employees talking, however employees are not to be directed or questioned about their work.

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The General Manager said that the Code of Conduct covers conduct as councillors, however just by the fact that councillors are elected members, they are perceived by the general public as acting in that capacity a lot of the time. He said any alleged breach of councillor/staff should be reported to him as General Manager, however if the complaint concerns the General Manager it should be lodged with the Mayor. He said any breach reported to him must be in writing and have substance, he will consider its seriousness and then make a decision as to whether to proceed further to a reviewer. Mr. Warren said individuals would have different interpretations and would, therefore, make completely different decisions.

**9101 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the information contained in this report be noted.

**15.2 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF "C" DIVISION COUNCILS**

The General Manager provided Council with a report on his attendance at the "C" Division Annual Conference held in the Coonabarabran Bowling Club on 16 March 2011. He reported that two urgent motions were presented at the Conference and not included on the agenda. The two motions were:

- (i) *Moved by Dubbo Seconded by Wellington that representations be made to Infrastructure Australia expressing concerns relating to the future of country water and sewer supplies within its report.*
- (ii) *Moved by Dubbo Seconded by Wellington that representations be made to the NSW Government expressing the need for sexual assault kits and training of necessary medical staff be made available, with a minimum of at least one trained professional within each of the Police Local Area Commands.*

Council noted that under the "C" Division Charter the 2012 Conference will be hosted by Wellington Shire Council.

A copy of the Conference Business Paper/Agenda which contains motions submitted will be tabled for interested Councillors to peruse.

**9102 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that this report be noted.

**15.3 MEETING OF COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD COMMITTEE**

**9103 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the minutes of the Coonamble Streets Ahead Committee meeting held on 17 March 2011 be noted.

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Cr. Schieb informed the meeting that the Streets Ahead Committee would not be holding the Poets Breakfast during the June Long Weekend.

**15.4 MEETING OF ORANA REGIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP**

**9104 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the minutes of the Orana Regional Risk Management Group meeting held in Gilgandra on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 be noted.

**15.5 MEETING OF TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

**9105 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 2 March 2011 be noted.

**(a) Tourist Information Sign**

Cr. Karanouh asked whether the Tourist Information Sign had been approved. The Director of Engineering Services said there had been conflicting advice from the RTA – initially Council was advised that it would not be approved, then a letter was received saying it could be erected, subject to conditions. It is understood the sign has now been located against a building.

**15.6 MEETING OF SALEYARDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**9106 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Saleyards Management Committee held on 30 March, 2011 be dealt with.

**(i) Implementation of Pre-Scale Scanning Upgrade**

**9107 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that Council adopt the Committee's recommendation to implement presale scanning upgrade, noting if the Coonamble Associated Agents Pty Ltd pay the cost of purchasing the upgrade, Council will forego its 70cents/head scanning fee, and Council will adjust its budget accordingly.

**18.0 REPORT BY SALEYARD MANAGER**

**9108 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the report by the Saleyard Manager for the month of March 2011 be noted.

**19.0 REPORT BY CONTRACT RANGER**

**9109 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the report by the Contract Ranger for the month of March 2011 be noted.

**20.0 CLOSED SESSION**

**9110 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A (2) (b) "*the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer*"

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**9111 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

**RESUME OPEN MEETING**

**9112 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that Council resume Open Meeting.

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

**9113 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council adopt the recommendations of Closed Session, as set out hereunder:

**20.1 OVERDUE RATES – LAND AT QUAMBONE**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council revoke the consideration given on Assessment No 2967 in regard to 'hardship' and full interest rates apply from 13 April, 2011 in relation to this property **AND FURTHER** that Council not accept bids on land for sale for overdue rates if previous purchasers of these properties have not kept all rates and service charges current.

**URGENT BUSINESS – REPORT FROM GENERAL MANAGER TO CLOSED SESSION**

**9114 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the following matter be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

**21.1 ORGANISATION STRUCTURE**

**THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** that Council note the information contained in the report.

**22.0 QUESTION WITH NOTICE**

**9115 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council note discharging of septic waste into the Gulargambone sewer system would adversely affect the treatment works operations, therefore a dump point not be approved at the Gulargambone Caravan Park.

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**23.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Cr Karanouh:**

- Request Ranger to patrol the main street – dogs straying constantly
- Footpath in main street – some tiles have sunk, causing a safety issue.

**Cr Schieb:**

- Greg Kilby prepared to put \$15,000 flood grant into roadworks. Director of Engineering Services said he understood an offer similar to this was made previously and Council declined. The Director said the proposal would need to be costed – he would look at the proposal.

**Cr.Webb:**

- Condition of Hickey Street (eastern end) and Dubbo Lane – needs maintenance.

**Cr Cullen:**

**9116 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council purchase the lights that were loaned for the Matrons Ball at the Showground Pavilion.

**Cr Canham:**

- Pavers in main street – spoke with Team Leader about a month ago – the Director said it is planned to get some of the temporary employees engaged in this work and also kerbing & guttering replacement shortly.
- Burnt out car – Quambone Road – Director said matter in hand.
- Business Assistance Fund – what is the requirement for having a business operational when BAF money has been allocated. Referred to Child Care Centre (cnr Wilga/Reid Streets)

**Director of Corporate Services:**

- Informed Council that over the next few months a review of all policies would be undertaken.
- Invited Councillors to bring items forward for inclusion in the management plan.

**General Manager:**

- OROC survey – asked councillors to complete survey. The idea is to bring training to the area to reduce costs. Said that councillors will have a bigger role in the community in the future. Cr O'Brien said Walgett Shire will assist with preparation of a Culture Report, wherein Council must identify civic management of the environment.

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**Mayor:**

- Quambone at Meeting – Change of Month.
- 9117 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and O'Brien that the meeting scheduled for Quambone this year be held in the month of October rather than September as has been the practice in past years.
- Car Parking – Show Members
- 9118 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Horan and O'Brien that a report on car parking for members at the Coonamble Show be provided to the May Meeting.

**Director of Engineering Services:**

- Attended Planning Workshop organised by CMA – referred to the increase in investigations/reviews required by Part 5 of the EPA Act prior to carrying out any work – stating that a one page document has developed into 33 pages for a simple task of upgrading power. The Director said rules and regulations are becoming increasingly unmanageable.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 2.50 p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/4794 to 25/4823) were confirmed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2011 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 13 April 2011.

**MAYOR**

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