



**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup>  
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**6.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**6912 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Jackson that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council, held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008 be confirmed.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**(a) “Keep It Local” Campaign – Min No. 6847**

In response to a question from Cr. Jackson, the General Manager said that this matter was discussed at length at the recent Shires Conference. Mr. Griffiths said there was a lot of speculation. He said that the President of the Shires Association, Cr Bruce Miller, said that the Government was being dishonest and malicious in dealing with this issue. The General Manager stated that in response, Mr. Frank Sartor said that the Association is being misled and misrepresented.

**(b) Finances – Upcoming Local Government Elections**

Councillors were informed that no response has yet been received to Council's letter concerning fees estimated for this Council for the local government elections in September. Council noted that every Council is concerned about this issue and with no information forthcoming from the Electoral Commission, nothing can be done.

**(c) Castlereagh – Macquarie County Council**

The Director of Corporate Services advised the meeting that he obtained a copy of the Financial Report of the Castlereagh – Macquarie County Council and copies were handed out for Councillors' information. Mr. Warren said he had requested that Coonamble Shire Council be included in the mail-out of Agendas and Minutes in the future.

**7.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE**

**6913 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Jackson and Canham that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

**(a) Brewarrina Shire Council – Public Enquiry Min No. 5226**

The General Manager advised that the items listed as outstanding in this resolution cannot be addressed at this time.

He pointed out that in respect of S94 Contributions Plan – legislation is being altered and it would be pointless to do anything until this has been resolved. Mr Griffiths said that 20 councils do not have any plan at this stage.

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Regarding development of Charters for Council Committees, this will be addressed in September following the election and when new Councillors are being nominated for and elected to various Committees.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the Social Plan is due for updating within the next twelve months.

**8.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

The Mayor reported verbally of his activities since the last Council meeting, touching on the following :

- Shires Association Conference
- Campbelltown City Council visit

**6914 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Horan and Jackson that Council write to Campbelltown City Council, thanking it for being represented at various functions in Coonamble over the June long weekend and for the strong "sister city" relationship being maintained with Coonamble Shire Council.

Councillor Callaghan referred to the amount of effort the Tourism Development Manager put into the weekend and she said Council should thank him. The Mayor said this would be done when Mr. Baldwin was at the meeting to present his report later in the day.

**6915 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Callaghan that the Mayor's Activity Report be noted.

**9.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**6916 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Callaghan that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

**Section A – Matters for Action by Council:**

**9.1 USU REPRESENTATIVE S6-10 (27893)**

Requesting Council to recognize Friday, 4 September, 2008 as its employees annual picnic day and regard it as a holiday for USU financial members.

The General Manager stated the request again is outside of Council's policy in that it is for USU "financial members only". Mr. Griffiths said that given the persistence with a request that has been declined over the past few years, Council should seriously consider not granting a picnic day as a holiday, which would comply with the NAPSA currently in force.

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**6917 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Canham that, in accordance with Council's policy, Friday 4 September 2008 be recognized as a public holiday for Employees' Annual Picnic Day.

**9.2 GOWEST C2 (27897)**

Referring to a recent Community Economic Development Conference at which a presentation was given by the Manager Member Benefits of Campervan Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA).

Advising the talk presented opportunities for towns by encouraging this growing RV market to stay in our centres, effectively helping the economy. Forwarding information and advising that by implementing schemes and projects Council can reduce the environmental impact in its community, maintain services and facilities and increase the stay of visitors. Referring to some of the projects in which CMCA is involved.

The General Manager reminded Council that at its May meeting a letter was tabled from the Tourism Industry Council (TIC). Mr Griffiths said this letter dealt with "illegal" camping currently being offered by a minority of Councils. He pointed out that "illegal camping" is where land (often showgrounds or other public lands, i.e. rest areas, etc) is offered for regular overnight stays for caravans, motorhomes or tent camping.

The General Manager stated that the letter referred to the fact that this land does not comply with the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds & Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005 or have an "Approval to Operate" based on compliance.

Mr. Griffiths said the letter from TIC stated that its objection to "Illegal" camping has been supported by the Department of Local Government (through the Director General), Department of Lands & Tourism NSW. Mr Griffiths said that TIC encouraged all Councils in NSW to support legitimate caravan parks and to ensure that illegal camping sites are not permitted to operate and Council passed a resolution, noting information contained. The General Manager said that following the May meeting the Tourism Industry Council (TIC) was advised that illegal camping is not permitted within Coonamble Shire.

The General Manager said it was his belief that if Council is to become a Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly town (Coonamble and Gulargambone), it would have an enormous impact on the two caravan parks which currently operate in each town.

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Council was advised that the Deputy Chair of Gowest has indicated a desire to meet with representatives of Council to sort our problems which have arisen in the past and endeavour to create an amicable relationship between the two organizations.

Mr. Griffiths said he had had discussions with Gowest regarding the *Dump Point Subsidy Program* referred to in the letter, and was following up on this as it may be beneficial to Gulargambone.

At this juncture, Councillor Cullen arrived at the meeting.

**6918 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Canham that Council advise Gowest that it is not willing to breach Government legislation, as suggested, by allowing illegal camping in this Shire **AND FURTHER** that its letter be referred to the Department of Local Government for advice.

**9.3 VIBE ALIVE C8-5 + D7 (27840)**

Thanking Council for the opportunity to present its festival program on Monday 28 April and advising it will be launching Vibe Alive on 20 and 21 August. Setting out details of assistance required from Council.

The General Manager said that requests were vague and clarification was sought from Vibe Alive on actual requirements. Mr. Griffiths informed Council that further information has been provided and was the subject of an urgent business report (Item 10.7).

**URGENT BUSINESS – GENERAL MANAGER’S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

**6919 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Swansborough that the following item be classified ‘Urgent Business’ and dealt with in conjunction with Item 9.3.

**10.7 VIBE ALIVE EVENT – AUGUST 2008**

The General Manager stated that this report provided more details of the requests for Council assistance and he suggested that Council go through each one and make determinations so that staff can be directed accordingly.

Council acknowledged the enormity of this event and noted it is the very first of five to be held Australia wide – Coonamble being chosen as the venue for the NSW Festival. The General Manager referred to the aims and objectives of the Festival, which were listed in the report.

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**6920 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Atkinson that Council advise Vibe Alive as follows:

- (1) Vibe Alive to reach agreement with Senior Rugby & Junior League for use of the football oval, as the ground is booked by those organizations from 19 – 22 August for training.
- (2) Council will arrange the provision of skip bins where possible, with other bins being emptied by Council staff daily, plus 44 gallon drums will be placed at various locations.
- (3) Council will clean amenities morning and afternoon on Festival days (i.e. 20 & 21 August) and each morning on other days.
- (4) Technical expertise will need to be accessed regarding access to/distribution of power and Vibe Alive will be advised accordingly.
- (5) Council can loan star pickets and equipment for ramming, however has no crowd control barriers, but can supply witches hats, fire extinguishers should be sought from the Rural Fire Service.
- (6) Vibe Alive to make arrangements for security staff.
- (7) Council will provide an Overseer for the entire week (Monday to Friday, 18 – 22 August) for traffic management, amenities and venue generally.
- (8) Existing lighting at the sportsground is all that Council can supply.
- (9) Council can loan star pickets for the event (refer item 5).
- (10) Council to seek further clarification in respect of the Li'l Vibe – Story Time and activities for children under 5.
- (11) Vibe Alive to approach Murdi Paaki regarding use of bus during the festival to transport participants.
- (12) Council will hang banners on existing poles.
- (13) Closure of street – separate response will be provided by Council.
- (14) Publicity and promotion – TDM is a member of the Working Party and is providing this assistance.
- (15) Council provide Vibe Alive with use of canteen and adjoining bar area at sportsground
- (16) Vibe Alive be advised that Council has no residence in McCullough Street that can be used.

**9.4 LIFELINE CENTRAL WEST NSW D7 (278989)**

Advising that in 2006/2007 Lifeline volunteer telephone counselors answered more than 10,000 calls for help from people who had nowhere else to turn. Pointing out that almost 27% of those calls were suicide related. Seeking financial support from Council.

The General Manager advised that Council contributed \$200 to Lifeline Central West NSW in 2007.

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**6921 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Jackson that Council agree to contribute \$210 to Lifeline Central West NSW.

**9.5 QUAMBONE POLOCROSSE CLUB INC D7 (27960)**

Inviting Council to become a sponsor of the Club which has been in existence for approximately 32 years. Advising that the carnival is held in June and attracts attendance from as far away as Orange and the Hunter Valley. Setting out how Council's contribution will be acknowledged should it become a sponsor. Saying they are happy to accept monetary donations or supply of goods.

The General Manager informed the meeting that in 2006 Council contributed \$200 to the Quambone Polocrosse Club, however he expressed concern that Council has singled out one particular sporting organization for a contribution.

**A MOTION**

**PROPOSED** by Cr Jackson **SECONDED** by Cr. Swansborough that Council not agree to contribute to the Quambone Polocrosse Club as requested, however advise the Club that Council will carry out works to the value of \$200 **WAS LOST**.

**6922 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council agree to sponsor the Quambone Polocrosse Club as requested by contributing an amount of \$200.

**9.6 NSW REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL C13**

Advising that determination was made on 30 April 2008 pursuant to s.241 of the Local Government Act 1993 regarding the annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to Councillors and Mayors, effective on and from 1 July 2008, as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Councillor/Member Annual Fee</b>		<b>Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee*</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
4	6,870	9,060	7,300	19,790

The General Manager said that Coonamble Shire Council is a Category 4 Council. Mr. Griffiths pointed out that last year Council resolved to increase the 2006 fees by 4% and based on that percentage increase, the fees payable for 2008 would be:

Mayor/Chairperson (Additional.Fee)      \$12,420  
Councillor/Member (Annual Fee)      \$ 7,560)

Councillors debated this issue, noting there would be a savings in fees following the next election, with only seven councillors in lieu of the current nine. This is **Page 7/3773** of minutes of ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

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**6923 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that the 2007 fees be increased by 4% and, effective from 1 July, 2008, the following fees apply:

Mayor (Additional Amount)	\$12,420
Councillor (Annual Fee)	\$ 7,560.

The General Manager referred to Item Nos. 9.7 to 9.11 and suggested they be dealt with in conjunction as they refer to removal of the fence from Macdonald Park.

**9.7 KRISTIE NAIRNE, FAMILY DAYCARE P1-4 (27925)**

Stating she uses Macdonald Park for outings with the children, e.g. picnics, playgroup, etc. Pointing out that removal of the fence would mean that the park could not be used for these purposes. Acknowledging that the play area is fenced, however stating that the equipment is not age appropriate for the children she cares for. Saying she is willing to discuss any options Council may have in mind.

**9.8 AIMEE SWANSBOROUGH, FAMILY DAYCARE P1-4 (27926)**

Stating she uses Macdonald Park for outings with the children, e.g. picnics, playgroup, etc. Pointing out that removal of the fence would mean that the park could not be used for these purposes. Acknowledging that the play area is fenced, however stating that the equipment is not age appropriate for the children she cares for. Saying she is willing to discuss any options Council may have in mind.

**9.9 MacKILLOP RURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES P1-4 (279927)**

Stating the organization conducts a number of supported playgroups each week in Macdonald Park which are attended by families – at times 24 children are present. Pointing out that Aberford Street is a busy highway thoroughfare and urging Council to reconsider its decision to move the fence which provides a barrier to assist parents in ensuring children's safety.

**9.10 KRISTIE NAIRNE & LUCY ROBINSON P1-4 (27971)**

Forwarding a petition signed by five residents of Coonamble requesting that the fence at Macdonald Park remain. Pointing out the danger to children without a front fence as they can readily access the main highway.

**9.11 MS BEVERLEY AULT P1-4 (27949)**

Saying she is upset to hear that the front fence at Macdonald Park is being removed. Pointing out that the fence forms a barrier to protect a lovely garden and the park provides a nice area for families to bring their children for parties and playgroup activities.

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The General Manager stated that when the removal of the fence was taking place the Mayor held discussions with executive staff who pointed out that a significant financial commitment has been made to purchase the bollards. Mr. Griffiths said that whilst these could be utilized in another area, Council's Management Plan does not outline any works over the next three years. The General Manager stated it would appear that little or no attention has been paid by the community to the actual plans of the Park Redevelopment which have received significant media coverage.

The General Manager also stated it is disappointing that Councillors have not fully informed the public of such plans when approached regarding removal of the fence as the safety issues were thoroughly discussed by Council when considering the redevelopment.

Mr. Griffiths said that given criticism of staff for not acting promptly on Council resolutions, the decision has been made to comply with Council's resolution.

There was considerable deliberation on this issue. The Mayor enquired whether, by removing the fence, Council would be liable should an incident occur. The Director of Engineering said that Council has no liability whatsoever, pointing out that should the fence remain (noting that it was not childproof) and two gates fronting the highway were always open, may have posed more of a risk from Council's point of view if there had been an accident.

**6924 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Swansborough that the above correspondents be advised that work will proceed on the redevelopment of Macdonald Park, however further consideration of their concerns has been deferred to the July meeting until the work is completed and the park operational and consultation will be held with the complainants.

At this juncture, 10.23 ;a.m., Cr. Taylor arrived at the meeting.

**9.12 ROBERT (BOB) GLASSON                      A19 (27934)**

Responding to Council's notice concerning the Alcohol Free Zones and acknowledging he was a councillor when the original zones were established. Stating he now believes that it can be improved if exemptions can be made for specific times, places and events – e.g. Coonamble Showground car park during the annual show and there would be other events and situations that could be considered.

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Saying that if an exemption is not made patrons may not attend future shows – many of who come to enjoy exhibits and events and have a picnic in the car park. Commenting that if an alcoholic drink cannot be consumed with lunch a number of patrons have indicated they will not attend the event in the future.

The General Manager advised the meeting that whilst it may be possible to exempt the showground and other venues on a permanent basis, it is not permissible to single out individual events held on those lands. Mr. Griffiths said concern is expressed that should the AFZ not apply to the lands, security may become a major issue and, as has occurred in other towns, Police may decline to assist with the crowd behaviour or control.

The General Manager also pointed out that by allowing alcohol to be consumed outside the “designated” area at individual events, an organization is in breach of the Liquor Licensing laws and could be subject to a \$5,000 fine (together with a \$500 for the individual).

Mr Griffiths said given the potential negative impact on organizations, such as the Show Society, it is felt that Council should not take any steps that may result in changes to the current arrangements.

The Mayor said he was of the opinion that individuals should not be making applications on behalf of organizations – those organizations should do so if they wish and each application considered on its merits.

Council noted that the formal declaration to declare Alcohol Free Zones in the towns of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone is included in the Director of Engineering’s report at this meeting.

**6925 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Callaghan that Council not vary the Alcohol Free Zonings that apply to the three centres of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone and that Mr. Glasson be advised accordingly.

**9.13 MRS CARMEN MILLER A19 (28008)**

Realising the purpose of the Alcohol Free Zone, but pointing out it has limited the enjoyment for responsible citizens. Stating the wired area around the bar at the show was similar to being in a hotel scene. Pointing out that a lot of people, especially women, prefer to sit quietly, enjoy a picnic lunch with friends and a beer or glass of wine. Stating this custom has been in practice at the show for at least 46 years to her knowledge.

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**6926 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Jackson that Council not vary the Alcohol Free Zonings that apply to the three centres of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone and that Mrs Miller be advised accordingly.

**9.14 DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
A3-3 (27932)**

Advising councils of the release of the draft Capital Expenditure Projects Guidelines (the Guidelines) for comment. Stating that Councils are required to notify the Department of capital expenditure projects where they are expected to exceed \$5 million. Saying notification in writing is to include a brief description of the project, its estimated cost and estimated start date. Council is invited to provide comment by Friday 20 June 2008 via email.

Council noted that this is obviously the result of the Hastings (Port Macquarie) Council's Glasshouse Development.

**6927 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Taylor that Council not provide comment on the Department of Local Government Guidelines in respect of Capital Expenditure Projects.

**9.15 BARBARA O'BRIEN G1-4 (27954)**

Referring to the recycling shed placed on property owned by the CDEP by the Flying Ahead Committee prior to the new waste transfer station being established. Suggesting that it be closed and the recycling be set up at the waste transfer station. Pointing out that the Gulargambone township is provided with a kerb-side recycling service and the subject shed is used only by country residents.

**6928 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that Council agree to close the recycling shed situated in Armitree Street, Gulargambone near the corner of Coonamble Road and set up the recycling site for country residents at the Waste Transfer Station.

At this juncture, Mrs. Anna Russell arrived at the meeting.

**PRESENTATION OF G A TAYLOR MEDAL**

At this juncture, Mr. Mark Turner of the IPWEA was welcomed by the Mayor and spoke about the prestigious award to be made to Council's Director of Engineering, Mr. Murray Russell, for his presentation of the paper on Climate Change at the recent Conference of Engineers.

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Mr. Turner said that G A Turner was a founding Local Government Engineer with vision and this Award is in his honour. He said that the award is funded by the Engineers Foundation and is given for the best paper presented at the Engineers' Conference each year. Mr. Turner said that along with the medal and plaque, Mr Russell also won the honor of attending a Conference somewhere in Australia or New Zealand to present the paper to Engineers from all over the world.

Mr. Russell accepted the award and thanked Council for its insight and courage in making such an "out there" decision to take steps to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 100% in two years. Mr. Russell said that in this field Coonamble Shire Council is leading by example and is an inspiration to others who wish to get serious and do something to help in Climate Control.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Turner for coming to Coonamble today especially to make the presentation and congratulated Murray and the Council on achievements in this important field.

At this juncture, 10.31 a.m. the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 11.05 a.m.

**PRESENTATION – COMMUNITY INTERNET ACCESS**

Upon resumption of the meeting, the Mayor welcomed Mr George Kaloudis, representing myKP to address Council on an instand localized internet access for the community, with no setting change, no software to navigate and no confusing configurations to negotiate.

Mr. Kaloudis said myKP presents Council with an opportunity to take advantage of the benefits of wireless internet with absolutely minimal financial and management implications. He said myKP is a young Australian company utilizing the attractiveness of the internet and technology to promote local communities and businesses in the area.

Council was informed that Gilgandra Shire Council has been participating in the scheme for approximately eight months and is very happy with the results. Mr. Kaloudis said it was important to have a local presence, and in this regard, can involve computer businesses in the town. Council noted there is a \$5,000 initial cost with no further costs. It was pointed out that the company utilizes Country Energy towers for the installation of equipment to provide the service.

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Mr. Kaloudis said that there is a two year contract term at the end of which the company would discuss with Council upgrading of equipment, etc. In answer to a question, Mr Kaloudis said that it would take approximately eight weeks from signing of the agreement to deploy the equipment, etc., with two weeks testing and then a local launch.

At this stage, 11.30 a.m. Mr. Kaloudis left the meeting and Councillor Jackson declared an interest in the following matter and also left the room.

**9.16 MS VICKII MURRAY R8-11 (27962)**

Seeking permission to close the lane running behind her property at the northern end of Namoi Street. Pointing out it is not only a noise hazard, but a safety issue as well because children live in the area. Stating it is not uncommon for this illegal practice to take place at 2 a.m. – disturbing residents and dogs alike. Advising she has spoken with neighbours and has their support in her request to close the lane. Stating all property owners adjoining the lane have agreed to her proposal.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council cannot authorise a gate across a public road and the proposal would involve a road closure and sale/lease of the area in question. Mr. Griffiths said that Council's Engineering staff have met with Ms Murray, discussed the proposal and inspected the lane.

**6929 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Swansborough and Atkinson that Council consult with the affected landowners and advertise its intention to erect barriers on the northern end of the subject lane, prior to taking any further action.

Councillor Jackson returned to the meeting.

**9.17 MS JUDITH HUNT PR1304 (27280)**

Referring to her property at 47 Aberford Street, Coonamble and saying accommodation in the units would be equivalent of small family usage only as there is occupancy for single persons to reside in each. Pointing out that that one is occupied for one week/month. Requesting if Council would review the 4 x sewerage access charge and the 4 x domestic waste charge. Saying that one domestic waste service per week would suffice.

The General Manager stated that sewerage access charges are basically per residential unit and domestic waste management charges are currently charged on the same basis across all multiple occupancies in the Shire. He said that should this request be acceded to, it could have a significant impact on Council's revenue base.

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**6930 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Atkinson that Council decline to reduce the 4 x sewerage access charges and the 4 x domestic waste management charges as requested.

**9.18 LEW LAING, REGIONAL MANAGER, ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY  
R8-18 (27977)**

Advising it is with some regret that he will be retiring from his position with the RTA at the end of July after having spent 20 years in the role of Regional Manager. Stating it has been a rewarding period, particularly the relationship with local government and friendships made with Councillors and Staff. Saying that the new Regional Manager will be Peter Dearden, who is currently the Project Services Manager.

**6931 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Callaghan that Council write to Mr. Laing, thanking him for his assistance with RTA related works and wishing him well in his retirement.

**9.19 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Informing councils about a Councillor Development Strategy that is being prepared to assist councillors elected on 13 September 2008 to undertake their role. Stating the strategy is a joint initiative of the Department of Local Government and the Shires Association of NSW.

A copy of this circular was provided as an appendix to the Business Paper.

**6932 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Atkinson that Council advise the Department that it concurs with the recommendation.

**9.20 BRIGIDINE 125 YEAR REUNION R8-10 (28037)**

Advising that on 21 June 2008, in conjunction with the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Brigidine Sisters' arrival in Coonamble, it is planned to hold a street parade and markets. Seeking permission to close the main street and seeking assistance in placement of barricades – asking that the area be closed from 8 a.m. and reopened at 1 p.m.

The meeting noted that in lieu of the time frame between the meeting day and the event, approval was given to the request to close the main street, between the Peace Tree and the Aberford Street intersection, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday 21 June, 2008. Council noted that organizers of the event had approached shop owners and obtained their consent to the proposed closure.

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**6933 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Taylor that Council endorse the action taken by staff in authorizing the closing of the street as requested.

**Section B – Matters for Information Only:**

**9.21 DIRECTOR GENERAL – DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
C13 (27830)**

Issuing a circular, the purpose of which is to remind council officials of their obligations with respect to the proper use of council resources, particularly in the lead-up to the local government ordinary elections in September 2008.

To provide each Councillor with the opportunity to read this circular in full, a copy was attached to the Business Paper.

**9.22 HEART FOUNDATION D7 (27898)**

Informing Council that the Heart Foundation's annual doorknock appeal is being conducted Australia-wide during September 2008. Advising that in NSW it will take place between Monday 1 and Tuesday 30 September and will involve 25,000 volunteer collectors. Stating that the law in NSW permits collections between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

**9.23 ANDREW BROWNING E125 (27904)**

Informing Council of his resignation as IT Officer, believing that he will not be well enough to return to work within a reasonable time and not wishing to continue to be a drain on Council resources. Thanking the Director of Corporate Services for his support and patience during his term of employment.

Councillors noted that Mr. Browning was employed by Council for a period of 3 years 9 months in the position of IT Officer.

**9.24 THE HON PAUL LYNCH MP E2 (27912)**

Replying to Council's letter of 25 February 2008 regarding a change of date for the 2008 local government elections. Saying the Local Government Amendment (Election Date) Act 2008 commenced on 19 March 2008 with the object of amending the Local Government Act 1993 to change the date of ordinary elections of councillors from the fourth to the second Saturday in September every four years, starting 2008 to avoid holding elections during school holidays.

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**9.25 JOY SWARBRICK, PROPERTY MANAGER - TOWER & GENERAL  
REAL ESTATE PR1943-1 (27908)**

Advising she is the manager of property situated at 28b Namoi Street, Coonamble and acknowledging receipt of Council's letter of intent to issue a demolition order. Requesting, on behalf of the owners, a one month's extension prior to Council taking further action.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Ms Swarbrick was advised by telephone that the property must be secured as a priority due to its unstable nature. Mr. Griffiths said that the Health and Building Officer agreed to a one month extension of time to 6 June 2008.

**9.26 COONAMBLE HIGH SCHOOL D7 (27936)**

On behalf of the Principal, staff and students thanking Council for the donation towards the SRC 2008 Gallipoli excursion which was a great success and benefit to students.

**9.27 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW C17  
(27959)**

Drawing to Council's attention the results of last year's annual cost shifting survey and thanking councils who participated. Stating the survey received an overwhelming response clearly indicating that cost shifting represents a significant issue for NSW councils. Stating that the survey results will support the Associations' argument for the practice of 'cost shifting' to end and assist in monitoring compliance with the national intergovernmental agreement.

**9.28 UNITED SERVICES UNION S6-2 (28003)**

Thanking Council for support shown to members during 2008. Saying the Union is currently running campaigns to protect RTA funding, S94 levies and Water/Sewer functions. Saying Council will be kept up to date on this issue.

**9.29 NSW ELECTORAL COMMISSION E2 (28030)**

Confirming that the NSW Electoral Commission will accept the returning Officer (RO) accommodation offered by council. Stating that the RO, Mr. John Whitney, has agreed that the offices located at 80 Castlereagh Street are suitable for the purposes of conducting business associated with the election to be held on 13 September, 2008. Requesting that the accommodation be reserved for use by the RO from 1 July – 30 September 2008.

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**9.30 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION L9 (28020)**

Confirming that the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is convening Constitutional Summit – a special National General Assembly in December 2008 to consider the options and processes for constitutional recognition of local government, a long held goal of local government and the subject of two previous referendums. Advising the Summit will be held at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre from 8 – 11 December. Inviting Council to attend the Constitutional Summit in Melbourne.

**6934 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that the information contained in Item Nos. 9.21 to 9.30 inclusive be noted.

**URGENT BUSINESS – CORRESPONDENCE**

**6935 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Jackson that the following items be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with:

**9.31 COONAMBLE & DISTRICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION D7 (28052)**

Providing an update on activities during 2007/2008 and inviting Council to continue its generous support of the Foundation by contributing \$3,000 to the Scholarship Program and \$2,000 to the Outward Bound Program for 2008/2009.

Councillors noted that last year's Outward Bound Program was subsidised by another body resulting in the contribution from Council being reduced. The General Manager stated that contributions requested are in line with previously agreed amounts.

**6936 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Callaghan that Council agree to contribute \$3,000 to the Scholarship Program and \$2,000 to the Outward Bound Program for 2008/2009.

**9.32 COUNTRY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW M3 (28053)**

Inviting the Mayor and General Manager to attend the next meeting of the Association on Friday, 13 June, 2008 in Sydney. Pointing out that Country Mayors is an incorporated association with membership exclusively conferred upon the Mayor and General Manager of Rural and Regional Local Government Areas in NSW.

**6937 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Callaghan and Atkinson that Council not attend the Country Mayors' Association meeting in Sydney on 13 June, 2008.

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**9.33 FOXEARTH HOLDINGS PTY LTD (DEAN BOYCE) D6**

Acknowledging Council's decision to not grant the 5% variation in contract and saying that the CPI increases of 1.5%/annum since 2006 have had no significant bearing on rising operational costs. Advising that the Company will reduce expenditure by cutting staffing levels, by the second ranger becoming part-time. Pointing out that the decision will have no impact on services supplied to Council.

**6938 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Jackson and Taylor that Council note the changes in the service level and that this is in line with the initial tender.

**9.34 VIBE ALIVE R8-10**

Seeking approval and assistance to close McCullough Street from Castlereagh Highway to Dubbo Street on 20 August and 21 August 2008 during the festival.

The General Manager informed Council that in an attachment forwarded with the letter Vibe Alive proposes to close McCullough Street at the following three points:

- Castlereagh Highway
- Maule Street
- Dubbo Street.

Mr. Griffiths said the hours of closure proposed on Wednesday, 20 & Thursday, 21 August 2008 are from 6.00 a.m. until 4.30 p.m. and that Vibe Alive would set up and remove the basketball courts each day.

The Director of Engineering has spoken with the Production Manager who has agreed to the closure of only the west bound lane of McCullough Street which will enable access to residents throughout the event.

**6939 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Taylor that Council agree to the closure of McCullough Street (west bound lane only) on 20 and 21 August, 2008 between the hours of 6.00 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. daily for the Vibe Alive event.

**9.35 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PATROL**

Forwarding copy of report of activities for the month of May 2008 and mentioning some issues of concern.

**6940 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and Taylor that the information be noted.

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**9.36 ROTARY CLUB OF COONAMBLE INC D5 + L3 (28075)**

Referring to Council's letter concerning the Business Directory in the local Rotary Telephone book and appreciating that Council will be making a financial contribution to cover additional costs involved in printing a 'business section'. Stating the Club has approached the printer regarding additional costs involved with inclusion of the 'business section' and advice is that it basically doubled the cost, i.e. the additional cost of the first run would have been \$3,000 and the second run \$1,000.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council made a budget allocation about two years ago in respect of this project however that vote has long since expired. Mr. Griffiths said Council should be noted that Rotary is charging \$8/book.

**6941 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that Council make contribution of \$2,500 as a final payment towards the Business Section of the Rotary Local Telephone Book and fund this from the Economic Development Section of the budget.

**9.37 DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT R2-1 (28074)**

Referring to correspondence from Council to the Minister for Transport regarding grain haulage and apologising for the delay in responding. Pointing out that the NSW Government will invest an additional \$45 million in funding for country rail infrastructure, including an additional \$30 million over the next year to support operations on the country regional network and \$15 million to maintain the branch line network. Stating these investments are in addition to the \$115 million ongoing baseline funding for the country regional network. Advising that Pacific National will continue with branch line operations until 30 June 2009.

**6942 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Taylor that a further letter be forwarded to the Minister reminding him of the meeting Council representatives had with him in Sydney, when it was stated that the Coonamble/Dubbo line was budgeted for and seeking information on what happened to that money.

**9.38 BEVERLEY AULT P1-4 (28079)**

Referring to removal of fence from Macdonald Park – saying Orange, Dubbo, Bathurst do not have fences around parks, with Orange and Dubbo having an optional highway bypass. Advising she is disappointed that the fence has been removed and listing concerns.

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**6943 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Jackson that Council note this matter has already been dealt with, refer to Item 9.11 earlier in the day.

**9.39 LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION G5-1 (28095)**

Thanking Council and staff for the cooperation, assistance and hospitality extended during the recent visit. Saying the Commission appreciated the opportunity to meet Council to explain its approach to the assessment of grants and trusting Council found the discussion of issues helpful.

The General Manager informed Council that the indigenous component of the Council's total grant is \$36,000.

**6944 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Council note the information provided by the Grants Commission during its recent visit.

**9.40 DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES & INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS G5-5 (28072)**

Advising that an offer of \$1,000 plus \$100 (GST) has been approved in respect of 2007 for assistance in costs associated with the Transition to the Child Care Management System (CCMS). Asking that the letter of offer be executed and returned within a specified time.

**6945 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Taylor that Council accept the offer of \$1,000 (plus \$100 GST) and authorise the affixing of the Seal to the relevant documents.

**9.41 NSW DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES C8-6 (27884)**

Advising that funding of \$5,915 has been provided to the Coonamble Vacation Care Centre and forwarding two copies of the 2008/09 Service Agreement. Asking that both copies of the Agreement be executed and returned to accept the funding.

**6946 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Callaghan that Council accept the funding of \$5,915 for the Coonamble Vacation Care Centre and that authority be given to affix the Seal to the relevant documents.

**10.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER**

**6947 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

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**10.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

**6948 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Council note no Development Applications nor Complying Development Applications had been approved during the month of May 2008.

**10.2 RECOGNITION OF LONG SERVING STAFF**

The General Manager reported that at Council's April meeting it reviewed its unwritten policy on recognition of long serving staff members. Councillors noted that although the policy was unwritten, the practice was presentation of a watch for 30 years' service (presented at retirement) and the employee was invited to attend luncheon with councillors/senior staff on a meeting day following the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The policy formulated at the April 2008 meeting was placed on public exhibition for the prescribed period and no submissions were received.

**6949 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Atkinson that Council formally adopt the following policy for the Recognition of Long Serving Staff, noting that the appropriate presentation is made upon resignation or retirement on each occasion:

- 15 years' continuous service Certificate of Appreciation
- 20 years' continuous service Luncheon with Council
- 25 years' continuous service Gift to value of \$200
- 30 years' continuous service Gift to value of \$400
- 30 plus years' continuous service Gift to value of \$500

**AND FURTHER** that the policy become effective immediately.

**10.3 POLICY ON DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES – URBAN AREAS**

At the April 2008 meeting Council noted that no written policy existed on the provision of driveway entrances. A draft policy was placed on public exhibition for a 28 day period and no submissions were received from the public.

**6950 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Council formally adopt the following policy for the provision of driveway entrances in urban areas:

- 1) Payment for laybacks is required in all instances where alternative access (such as laneways) is available;
- 2) Council provide, at no charge, layback access to all residential properties where no existing alternative is available.

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Council's Economic Development Manager, Mrs Lee O'Connor, was present at the meeting.

**10.4 EXTENSION OF INDUSTRIAL SUBDIVISION**

Council noted the report by the General Manager which advised that Council's industrial subdivision in the vicinity of Buckley Drive has been fully sold for a number of years with no industrial land being available should prospective businesses make enquiry in respect of setting up.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council has the opportunity to extend the existing subdivision to the north and preliminary discussions have been held with the landowner involved which have resulted in a positive response to the potential sale of a portion of the property.

The Mayor said the budget dictates that to develop the whole area immediately or in one stage is well beyond Council's means and suggested that it should progress as staged development. Cr Horan said he was of the opinion that Council should keep its industrial land in one location, instead of having a myriad of small industrial areas throughout the urban area.

A draft layout plan was presented to the meeting, showing the 16 blocks provided for have a total area of 73,300 square metres and vary in size from 2400 sq. metres to 9200 sq. metres.

Costs associated with the development of the area were provided in the report and the General Manager pointed out that there would be difficulties associated with attracting purchasers due to the high costs. The Economic Development Manager said there have been enquiries for land, with one heavy industrial company looking to expand and she pointed out that Council should have something to offer prospective businesses.

**6951 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Cullen that Council:

- (1) Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to negotiate prices of the block of land and the strip of land for the roadway back to the existing subdivision;
- (2) Stage the development to allow for the creation of Lots 1 – 8 initially;
- (3) Borrow half the cost of the proposed first stage development (Lots 1 – 8), including the purchase of the land in its entirety and the strip of land for the road
- (4) Classify the land as "Operational Land" under the Local Government Act;
- (5) Authorise the affixing of Council's Common Seal to the relevant documents;

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- (6) Authorise staff to proceed with the project subject to clause (1) above.

**CARETAKERS RESIDENCE POLICY**

Council discussed the possibility of formulating a Caretakers Residence Policy for the proposed new industrial subdivision estate.

The Mayor congratulated Council on its decision in this matter. At this juncture, 12.10 p.m. Cr. Horan vacated the Chair and did not return to the meeting. Cr Canham took the Chair.

**15.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS**

**6952 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that the report by the Economic Development Officers be received and dealt with.

Mrs O'Connor said that further information is awaited on the following three items and until that is forthcoming, they are on hold:

- Coonamble Report from Demand Farming;
- Great Artesian Basin Water Sharing Plan;
- Solar Thermal Power.

Other items mentioned were:

- (a) **Employment & Education Field Day** – held at Coonamble Racecourse on 29 May – 350 people attended – very positive outcomes.
- (b) **Welcome Pack – New Residents** – 60 new residents (adults) have arrived in the Shire.
- (c) **Retail Business Presentation** – Further workshop being organized, so far 22 responses to attend.
- (d) **Country Week Advertising** – Council has taken out a motivational advertisement “*Live the Dream*” – which gives extensive coverage.
- (e) **Heavy Vehicle Inspections/Defect Notices** – Moody’s Motors will have staff trained in August.
- (f) **Bore Baths** – Council is preparing a written Statement of Intent to the Department of Water & Energy regarding three potential sites.
- (g) **myKP Presentation** – Mr. George Kaloudis’ presentation offering instant localized internet access for the community. Mrs O'Connor informed Council that she has contacted the EDO at Gilgandra whose response to this scheme was positive. It has provided benefits for local residents, businesses and travellers.

**6953 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Atkinson that Council authorise the Economic Development Managers to proceed by requesting a formal offer from myKP, noting that should Council proceed, the initial \$5,000 could be sourced from the EDO budget.

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(h) **New Businesses** – two businesses in the Shire have (or will) change hands within the short term:

- Canham's Taxi
- Wallaby Track Café at Gulargambone.

**15.1 PAST & FUTURE NET MIGRATION TRENDS – COONAMBLE SHIRE**

**6954 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Atkinson that the information provided in this report be noted and that the Economic Development Managers be thanked for their contribution.

**15.2 GULARGAMBONE CARAVAN PARK – APPLICATION TO BUSINESS ASSISTANCE FUND 2007/08**

Council noted that the current owners of the Gulargambone Caravan Park purchased the business (sight unseen) at the end of 2007 and relocated from Western Australia. The EDM advised that they have submitted a long list of necessary and desirable works to be undertaken to improve the Park, one of which is the replacement of the central water pipe. Council noted that problems with the pipe have been ongoing since it was installed by Council staff when Council owned the Caravan Park.

The EDM informed the meeting that later on extra people will be employed and it is important to offer an incentive to the new owners to bring the park up to an acceptable standard to provide current users who are seasonal workers with reasonable accommodation in Gulargambone

**6955 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Atkinson that Council agree to provide up to \$10,000 from the 2007/2008 Business Assistance Fund for the replacement of the central water pipe in the Gulargambone Caravan Park.

**PRESENTATION – MS SUSAN AINGE – CLIMATE CONTROL**

At this juncture, 12.50 p.m. Cr. Canham welcomed Ms Ainge to the meeting and invited her to address Council. Cr. Taylor left the meeting at 1.00 p.m. and did not return.

Ms Ainge handed Councillors a presentation titled *Production Carbon Trading*. She completed the lengthy presentation and answered questions from Councillors. Council noted that Ms Ainge is a member of the NSW Farmers Association and does extensive research for and presentations to that body.

Council's Director of Engineering thanked Ms Ainge on behalf of Council for the presentation and she left the meeting.

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**MR. IAN KELLY – CASTLEREAGH – MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mr. Kelly was present to speak with Council, pointing out he was requested by the Mayor to attend today's meeting. Council noted that the County Council's Financial Report had been received and copies were available.

Councillors asked Mr Kelly questions concerning his Council's financial position, which he described as very strong. He informed the meeting that the CMCC has a \$1.5m budget, which includes a \$77,000 contribution from Coonamble Shire Council, along with contributions from the other four Shires within its boundaries. He pointed out that various grants are made available for administration and running of the County Council, together with money earned from private works. He said it is the largest county council in area and has five employees in its Coonamble base.

Councillor Canham thanked Mr. Kelly for making himself available to speak with Council and Mr. Kelly left the meeting and he left the meeting at 1.25 p.m..

**10.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO. 014/2008 – PROPOSED MULTI PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICE – COONAMBLE.**

The General Manager reported that this proposal involves the demolition of the existing hospital complex and the construction of a new Multi – Purpose Health Service at an estimated value of ten million dollars. The proposal aims to retain the existing chapel on the site and incorporate it into the proposed new Multi – Purpose Complex.

Council noted the construction of the project will be managed by the Department of Commerce for the Greater Western Area Health Service.

**6956 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Swansborough that Council approve Development Application No 014/2008 subject to the following conditions:

1. That the development, as identified in the application received by Council (D.A. 014/2008 ), be carried out in accordance with this consent, except where amended by the conditions of consent.

Notes:

- Any alteration to the drawings and/or documentation, as approved by Council, will require further Council consent, as per S96 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- No other works, other than those approved by this consent notice, shall be carried out without the prior consent from Council.

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- Where there is an inconsistency between the documents lodged with this application and subsequent approval, and the following conditions, the conditions shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

*REASON:- To confirm the application to which this consent relates.*

2. Before any site works, building or demolition begins the applicant must:
  - (a) erect a sign in a prominent position on the site that can be read easily by anyone in a public road or other public place adjacent to the site. The sign is to be erected before the commencement of works and is to display the principal contractor's name, business telephone number, licence number, site address and the name, address and telephone number of the Principal Certifying Authority (PCA) and stating that unauthorized entry to the work site is prohibited. The sign or signs are to be maintained while the demolition and building works is being carried out and must be removed when the work has been completed.
  - (b) provide a temporary on-site toilet if access to existing toilets is not adequate
  - (c) protect the public land or place from obstruction, inconvenience or damage due to the carrying out of development.

*REASON: Council requirement to maintain public health, safety and convenience, protect the environment and compliance with statutory requirements.*

3. The developer shall notify Council, not less than forty eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the 'work (s)' of:
  - date of commencement of the 'work (s)';

*REASON:- Statutory Requirement.*

4. Prior to the commencement of construction of the structure, the developer lodge with, and receive approval for the following listed S68 Local Approval (s):
  - B1 – carry out water supply work
  - B4 – carry out sewerage work
  - B5 – carry out stormwater drainage work

*REASON:- Statutory Requirement.*

5. All surplus roof water from rain water tank overflow and down pipes from the structure is to be discharged to Council's stormwater system all to the requirements of Council's Engineering Services Department.

*REASON:- Statutory Requirement.*

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6. The proposed land/building/structure/dwelling be connected to a 240 volts AC mains electrical supply as per the regional electricity supplier's requirements.

*REASON:- Provision of essential utility services.*

7. The building is to comply with the requirements of the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Notes:

- The granting of this consent does not imply or confer compliance with requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 and/or the Building Code of Australia.
- The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 provide that it is an offence to discriminate against a person in a number of different situations.
- Compliance with part D3 of the Building Code of Australia – Access for people with disabilities, will be deemed to meet the requirements for the provision of access for people with disabilities to Class 3, 5, 6, 7, & 9 buildings. The applicant should ensure that these matters are addressed in the plans and specifications submitted with the construction certificate application.

*REASON:- Statutory Requirement.*

8. Any use of the subject land shall not commence until all relevant conditions of consent have been met or unless other satisfactory arrangements have been made with Council.

*REASON:- To ensure compliance with conditions of consent.*

9. All work associated with the implementation/construction (not operation) of the approved development activity, involving the use of electric or pneumatic tools, or other noisy operations, shall be restricted to the following hours of operation:

Monday to Saturday	7am to 6pm
Sunday	8am to 4pm
Public Holidays	8am to 4pm

Notes:

- All noise generating activities are subject to the requirements of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, and The Protection of the Environment (Noise Control) Regulation 2008.
- This condition of consent does not relieve the developer (or employees, contractors, etc) from the requirements of the relevant Noise Control legislation.

*REASON:- Statutory Requirement.*

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10. All road works carried out with regard to ingress and egress at the development including any works to the intersection with the Castlereagh Highway shall be to the requirements of Council's Engineering department and the Roads & Traffic Authority NSW.

*REASON: - In the interest of public safety and to ensure compliance with Statutory provisions.*

**URGENT BUSINESS – GENERAL MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT  
– ITEM 10.6**

**6957 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that the information contained in this item be classified "Urgent Business" and dealt with.

**10.6 SHIRES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The General Manager reported that, in company with the Mayor, Cr. Cullen, Cr. Canham and Cr. Taylor, he attended the 2008 Annual Shires Association Conference which was held in Sydney from 3 – 4 June, 2008.

Mr. Griffiths said that the President of the Shires Association of NSW, Cr. Bruce Miller, addressed the Conference and put forward the following items which he referred to as "an attack on local government" :

- Planning – stripping of powers; cost of community facilities; winners private company developers. Some changes are necessary.
- Investments - restrictions on council ability to earn a reasonable rate of return; Sec 94 contributions may be lost; effects of SubPrime Mortgage crisis on some councils, but not the LGSA.
- Asset Management - necessary due to lack of control and identification of assets.
- NSW Government has no will to work with Local Government for benefit of community.
- Cost shifting amounted to \$380 million for 2006 and \$412 million for 2007.
- IPART Review does not include rate pegging.
- Electoral Commission will reap about four times the revenue with no explanation to local government.
- Water & sewerage review process appears to be fair, at this time.

The General Manager listed topics discussed in addresses from other VIPs, mentioning in particular the cost of the forthcoming local government elections and the anger amongst councils at individual costs, with no information becoming available from the NSW Electoral Commission.

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Mr. Griffiths thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the Conference which, he said, was one of the best he has attended. He said that whilst it costs in the order of \$7,000 to attend it still provides "value for money".

**6958 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Swansborough that the report submitted by the General Manager on the 2008 Shires Association Conference be noted.

At this juncture, 1.32 p.m. the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 2.20 p.m.

**11.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

**6959 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Atkinson and Jackson that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

**11.1 RATE COLLECTIONS**

**6960 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 May 2008 be noted.

**11.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS**

**6961 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Jackson that that the Investments held at 31 May 2008 be noted.

**11.3 STATEMENT OF RESERVES**

**6962 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Swansborough that Council note the Reserves Estimated as at 31 May 2008, noting the following printing errors:

•	Aerodrome	Closing Balance	\$	9,531.61
•	After School Care	Transfer From	\$	8,269.48
•	Bridges	Transfer From	\$	2,469,600.00

**12.0 REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING**

**6963 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that the report by the Director of Engineering be received and dealt with.

**12.1 ALCOHOL FREE ZONES**

The Director of Engineering referred to Council's decision at the April meeting to renew existing alcohol free zones over all public land within the town limits of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone (including roads, footpaths, car parks, playgrounds and sporting fields) for a period of three years from 1 July 2008 on a 24 hour basis.

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In accordance with Section 644 of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and Ministerial guidelines for the establishment of alcohol free zones Council advertised its intention in the Coonamble Times on 23 April 2008; 30 April, 2008 and 7 May 2008. Council invited objection/comment to the proposal and at the expiry date of Friday 23 May, 2008 one had been received. Another objection was received after the closing date. These two objections were presented to the meeting in Correspondence.

**6964 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that Council formally declare the renewal of alcohol free zones over all public land within the town limits of Coonamble, Gulargambone and Quambone (including roads, footpaths, car parks, playgrounds and sporting fields) **FURTHER** that the declaration remain in force until 30 June 2011 on a 24 hour basis **AND FURTHER** that this resolution be advertised and signs updated to record the extension.

## **12.2 WATER TREATMENT**

The Director of Engineering reported that since Council resolved to treat Coonamble's water supply, the main aim of which is removal of iron, progress on the project has included:

- A call for Expressions of Interest for the design and construction of a complete treatment plan in 2005, most of which were considered inappropriate or too expensive
- A design by Dept of Commerce for a full treatment plant at Bore 4, with dual rising mains from Bore 3 which was also considered too expensive

Mr. Russell informed the meeting that a pilot scale version of this filter has been established on Bore 3 for 5 weeks, with positive results to date, with no tests being higher than the 0.30mg/l limit during the trail period. He said one of the issues for Council to consider is the process required to purchase the proposed water treatment plant and listed possible options:

1. Tender for full design and construct
2. Tender for components, with design and project management by Council
3. Negotiation for purchase of components, with design and project management by Council

**6965 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Jackson that Council:

- 1) endorse the proposed construction of water treatment plants at each of the three Coonamble bores at an estimated total cost of \$1,500,000;
- 2) construct the proposed water treatment plants in a sequence commencing at Bore 4;

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- 3) call tenders for the supply of the oxidation and filtration equipment required;
- 4) manage the design and construction process in house with technical assistance from specialists and component suppliers as required;
- 5) seek the necessary approval from the Department of Water and Energy for the proposed treatment process.

**12.3 WORKS PROGRAM UPDATE**

The Director of Engineering provided an update on progress on various works since last meeting.

- Tender for new pavilion close 25 June 2008;
- Macdonald Park Toilets complete; old toilet block demolished and re-development proceeding;
- Smith Park Toilets commenced – expected completion towards the end of June;
- Teridgerie Bridge (Baradine Rd) complete and open to traffic;
- Frasers Bridge (Shire Road 3) is structurally complete awaiting approach roadworks;
- Wambelong Bridge (Shire Road 6) is structurally complete and awaiting approach roadworks;
- Gulargambone Bridge is structurally complete and awaiting approach roadworks;
- Urawilkie Bridge has been demolished in preparation for structural work;
- Yarraman Bridge is awaiting the installation of a side track and the relocation of Telstra cables (both expected within the next week) before demolition work;
- Design work is complete on Kennedys Bridge with design work underway for both Tourable and Billeroy Bridges;
- Precasting of components is continuing;
- Tree planting complete, guards to be installed on highway planting by community service labour
- Fencing of Tooloon Street project expected next week

The Director of Engineering said that work on the skate park will commence shortly – saying that a contractor has been selected for the slab and components for ramps have been ordered.

**6966 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Atkinson that the Works Update provided by the Director of Engineering be noted.

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Councillor Canham informed the meeting that he would have to vacate the Chair and leave the meeting. Councillor Cullen was elected to take the Chair. At this juncture, 2.37 p.m., Cr. Canham left the meeting and Cr. Cullen took the Chair.

**16.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

**6967 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Atkinson that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be received and dealt with.

Mr. Baldwin was at the meeting to present his report.

- Smith Park signs – have been erected.
- Campbelltown City Council – Memorandum of Understanding discussed and proposed to be signed in November during the Fisher's Ghost Festival. The General Manager informed Council that he wishes the M of U to be signed as a priority, particularly prior to the forthcoming elections. Mr. Baldwin undertook to have this completed.
- Art Exhibition – Campbelltown – when Council forwards art to Campbelltown in future for display it will be on exhibition at a confirmed Art Exhibition, where it will be eligible to compete for awards.
- Campbelltown City Council – delegation to Coonamble over the June long weekend. Members of the delegation enjoyed the activities and presented a prize at the Campdraft. They thank Council and staff for hospitality.
- Train arrived in Coonamble on Sunday – visitors stayed for 3 hours – had lunch at the museum and visited attractions in the town. This will be slotted in as a regular occurrence in the future.
- Bush Poets – very good crowd, good venue (Plaze Theatre) and positive comments. The TDM was requested to convey Council's thanks to the Streets Ahead Committee for its effort.
- Coonamble Railway Station project – Council allocated money towards the redevelopment. Some funding has been expended on the Heritage Plan for the site. Requesting that the remaining funding be used for the development of the Strategic Business Plan.
- Coonamble Map and Information Pad – draft completed and copies handed out at the meeting.

**16.1 MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD**

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**6968 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Swansborough that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2008 be noted, along with the names of the new Chairperson (Don Schieb) and Vice Chairperson (Sonia Miller).

Mr. Baldwin left the meeting at 3.00 p.m.

**13.0 ADOPTION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2011**

**6969 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Callaghan that the Management Plan for 2008 – 2011 be adopted.

**13.1 MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The General Manager referred Council to the two submissions received which were included in the Business Paper as Appendix C.

**(a) Mrs. Barbara O'Brien**

The issues raised by Mrs. O'Brien were considered individually – Council was of the opinion that they were operational matters and would be addressed as such.

**6970 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Swansborough and Callaghan that Council respond to Mrs O'Brien's submission and advise her of action to be taken concerning issues raised.

**(b) Mrs Amanda Colwell - Crisis Care Service for Women at Coonamble**

Requesting Council to act as the auspice body for the project and form partnerships with relevant services and agencies with the goal of progressing the project.

The Director of Corporate Services said that as an auspice body for any project Council must acquit grant funding and must be aware of how and where the monies have been spent and that expenditure is in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant. Mr. Warren says this places responsibility on Council to provide correct information.

**6971 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Swansborough and Jackson that Mrs. Colwell be advised that Council fully supports the establishment of a Crisis Care Service for Women at Coonamble, however it declines to auspice the project and suggest that an approach be made to the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre or the Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre.

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**6972 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Jackson that in accordance with S406 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the management plan and revenue policy, with the submissions received, noting that in compliance with S405 the management plan was advertised and exhibited for the prescribed period of 28 days, with advertisements being placed in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 2008, 30 April, 2008 and 7 May 2008.

**13.2 ADOPTION OF LEVY OF RATES AND CHARGES**

**6973 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Atkinson that Council adopt the levy of rates and charges as follows:

**(a) Ordinary Rates**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2008 to 30/6/2009 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2008 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Ordinary Rates and that in accordance with S492, S493 and S529 of the Local Government Act 1993 the following ordinary rates be levied on all rateable land within the Shire for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009:

Type of Rate	Cents in \$	Minimum (S548)
Ordinary	3.11	294.00
Farmland	0.642	263.00
Small Rural Holdings	0.87	340.00
Rural Residential	1.641	294.00
Business	3.745	376.00

**(b) User Charges - Water and Sewerage**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2008 to 30/6/2009 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2008 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the User Charges and that in accordance with S501 and S502 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy on such land on which water and sewerage is connected or able to be connected in accordance with S552 as follows:

**(a) Water:**

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Town/ Village	Access Charge (\$)	Usage Charge 1 <sup>st</sup> Tier (c/kl)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier Pricing Limit (kl)	Usage Charge 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier (c/kl)
Coonamble	68.00	36	370	55
Gulargambone	110.00	49	430	74
Quambone	114.00	51	430	76

Item	Coonamble (\$)	Gulargambone (\$)	Quambone (\$)
Access charge (20mm meter)	68.00	110.00	114.00
Access charge (25mm meter)	106.00	172.00	178.00
Access charge (40mm meter)	272.00	441.00	454.00
Access charge (50mm meter)	426.00	689.00	710.00
Access charge (75mm meter)	957.00	1549.00	1594.00

**(b) Sewer:**

Council has adopted a user charge applicable to residential and commercial use – there is no land value based charge.

**(i) Residential:**

Town/Village	Annual Domestic Charge
Coonamble	\$324.00
Gulargambone	\$408.00
Coonamble - Each Flat/Unit	\$267.00
Gulargambone – Each Flat/Unit	\$337.00

**(ii) Non-Residential:**

The sewer charge for non-residential services is at minimum charge of:

Coonamble \$324.00 and

Gulargambone \$408.00

Non-residential services are also subject to sewer discharge factor (usage charge) related to water consumption. Further information is contained in Council's Water and Sewer Management Plan.

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**(c) Domestic Waste Management Service (Garbage)**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2008 to 30/6/2009 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2008 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the Domestic Waste Management (Garbage) Rates and that in accordance with s496 and s501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council levy a charge for the year 1 July, 2008 to 30 June, 2009 as follows:

Coonamble	\$252.00
Gulargambone	\$330.00
Quambone	\$285.00
Vacant	\$ 42.50

**(d) Fees and Charges:**

**WHEREAS** the draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for the year 1/7/2008 to 30/6/2009 was prepared by Council in accordance with S402 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2008 in accordance with S405 **AND WHEREAS** a period of 28 days since the publication of that notice was given and during the period no objections or submissions have been received in making the fees and charges and in accordance with S501 of the Local Government Act 1993 Council adopt the fees and charges for period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 **AND FURTHER** that Council, in setting these charges, examined the criteria detailed in S539.

**3. ADOPTION OF 2008/2009 ESTIMATES**

**6974 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Swansborough and Callaghan that Council hereby votes for expenditure for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 the sums set out in the draft estimates considered by Council on 9 April 2008 and advertised in the Coonamble Times on 23 April, 30 April and 7 May 2008, details of which are as follows:

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Details	Expenditure	Income
Administration	6,104,486	8,505,474
Public Order & Safety	788,322	565,657
Health	231,191	15,220
Community Services & Education	70,566	49,500
Housing & Community Amenities	935,872	492,751
Recreation & Culture	916,239	75,200
Mining, Manufacturing & Construction	1,227,000	1,239,500
Transport & Communication	7,534,605	6,019,867
Economic Affairs	678,792	305,930
Capital	4,868,920	3,690,000
Sub Total General Fund	23,355,993	20,959,099
Sewerage Fund	1,144,749	821,923
Water Fund	3,016,455	2,872,000
TOTALS	27,517,197	24,653,022

**14.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

**6975 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Callaghan that the reports from various Committees be received and dealt with.

**14.1 MINUTES OF MEETING OF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

**6976 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Atkinson and Callaghan that the minutes of the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on Tuesday, 20 May, 2008 be noted.

**14.2 MINUTES OF MEETING OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**6977 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that the minutes of the meeting of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee held on 3 June, 2008 be noted.

**2.5 Amendment to Quarry & Council Drug & Alcohol Policies**

The Director of Engineering gave Council notice that he was pushing for compulsory random drug and alcohol testing for all staff. Currently staff are tested on suspicion, except for the Quarry where it is compulsory. Mr. Russell said that the Union is against this move, so he was advising Council in advance that there may be representations to Council from the Union on the matter. In answer to a question, the Director of Engineering said that a refusal to take a test was taken as a "positive".

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**17.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER**

**6978 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Jackson and Callaghan that the report by the Saleyards Manager for the month of May 2008 be received and noted.

**18.0 REPORT BY CONTRACT RANGER**

**6978 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Swansborough that the report submitted by the Contract Ranger for the month of May 2008, be received and noted.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Councillor Swansborough**

- Ants coming through pavers in the main CBD – Director of Engineering to arrange spraying.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/3767 – 38/3804) were confirmed on the ..... day of .....2008 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 11 June 2008.

MAYOR

MAYOR

GENERAL MANAGER