

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE TWOEIGHTTWOEIGHT HALL, GULARGAMBONE ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH MARCH 2008 COMMENCING AT 10.00 A.M.

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PRESENT: Cr Tim Horan, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. J Canham, T. Cullen, M.Callaghan, D. Swansborough, M. Webb, D.Taylor and B.Jackson.

Also present were the General Manager, Mr. Griffiths, Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Warren, the Director of Engineering, Mr Russell and Mrs.Moorhouse.

3.0 APOLOGY

6698 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that an apology for non attendance be accepted from Cr. J. Atkinson.

WELCOME BY TWOEIGHTTWOEIGHT REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Angela O'Brien welcomed Council to the twoeighttwoeight hall and thanked Councillors for their ongoing support of Gulargambone over the past year. Mrs. O'Brien tendered an apology on behalf of Mr Greg O'Brien, who is the President of twoeighttwoeight. She wished Council a successful meeting.

4.0 DELEGATIONS

GULARGAMBONE SPORTING CLUBS & SCHOOL - SPORTSGROUND FACILITIES

Prior to the meeting, Council welcomed representatives from the Gulargambone Rugby League and Rugby Union Clubs, the Gulargambone Cricket Club and the Gulargambone School who discussed the unsatisfactory state of toilet facilities at the Gulargambone Sportsground.

Mr. Alan King, representing the Cricket Club, advised that in their present condition the toilets, especially the women's amenities, cannot be cleaned. All four representatives acknowledged that the Council employees do the best they can, but the facilities are very old, worn and outdated, having been constructed over 40 years ago. The School representative advised that a girl's cricket team will be playing in Gulargambone and requested that the amenities be inspected and some work done prior to the carnival.

The representatives were of the opinion that to bring the facilities up to a satisfactory standard requires a major overhaul. Mr King said that since the reformation of the cricket club the toilets are used regularly through the summer season, then the rugby and league season commences, as well as school sporting activities throughout the year and pointed out that the toilets are in constant use. Mr. King also referred to a safety issue with water ponding on the floor.

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The Mayor thanked the deputation for coming to the meeting and said that the Director of Engineering would endeavour to have minor works carried out. It was agreed that Mr. Allan King would be the contact person for the Clubs, School and Council. Cr. Horan said the matter would be referred to the Management Planning Workshop later in the day for consideration in the 2008/2009 budget.

At this juncture, 10.01 a.m., Council's Tourism Development Manager was at the meeting to present his report.

15.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER (TDM)

6699 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that the Tourism Development Manager's report be received and dealt with.

(a) Railway Redevelopment Proposal

The TDM informed Council that a consultant has been selected to prepare a strategic business plan and it is expected that this work will commence in late March.

(b) Coonamble Shire Website

Mr. Baldwin informed Council that he has prepared a brief and requested quotes for the development of a new site which will combine tourism and shire sites and the current www.coonamble.org will remain as a community site.

(c) Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft

The TDM informed the meeting that the event has a major sponsor on board for 2008 event and an announcement will be made shortly. Mr. Baldwin said he has prepared sponsorship packs for distribution to other prospective sponsors. He said last year's event raised a considerable amount of money, however costs are increasing significantly.

(d) Moorambilla Festival

Mr. Baldwin advised that the event will now be held from 18 – 21 September 2008.

(e) Cabins at Riverside Caravan Park

In response to a question from Cr. Canham, Mr Baldwin said that the cabin returns for January and February have been low and he will follow up to ascertain that Council is receiving the correct percentage amount for their use.

(f) Gulargambone Caravan Park

Mr. Baldwin informed the meeting that new owners have taken over the Gulargambone Caravan Park and are proposing to submit a development application for siting of cabins at the rear of the park for temporary long stay residents.

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(g) 2008 NSW Women's Gathering

Mr. Baldwin said that to cater for this event it is proposed that a "Tent City" be erected at Coonamble Racecourse, either in the car park or the centre of the track. The TDM said that State Government funding to the tune of \$40,000 has been received.

(h) NSW National Trust Heritage Open Day

Council noted that this day will be 5 April, 2008 when four venues (viz: Archives, Museum, Commercial Hotel Coffee Shop and Plaza Theatre) will be open to the public.

At this juncture Mr. Baldwin left the meeting.

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Two declarations of interest were submitted :

(a) Cr Swansborough
Relationship with EM Kelly – Complying Development Application –
Item 10.1

(b) Mr Murray Russell
Executive – Coonamble Community Shed Incorporated –
Item 9.6

6700 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Canham that the Declarations of Interest submitted for this meeting be noted.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

6701 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council, held on 13 February 2008 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Item 10.4 – Lease of Portion of Lane – South from McCullough Street (Min.No.6662)

Councillor Taylor referred to this matter to the \$50 previously paid by Mr. Buckley. The General Manager informed him that this was for the lease of the other portion of lane which was subsequently cancelled by Council.

7.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

6702 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Jackson that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

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(a) Min.No.4828/1 Illegal Development – “Pillicawarrina”

The General Manager informed Council that legal advice has been received. Mr. Griffiths said he will now contact landowners and will proceed according to the legal advice.

(b) Min.Nos.5957 & 5980 – Warrana Creek/Common Area & Department of Lands – Crown Lands Division

Councillor Jackson referred to these two resolutions and informed the meeting that representatives of the Coonamble Rural Lands Protection Board indicated they were not aware of the extent of the rubbish problem in these areas. The Director of Engineering advised that the application for grant funding was successful, with \$5,000 being approved. Mr. Russell said work will be undertaken to expend these funds.

(c) Min.No.6614 – Demolition of old Pathology Building

The meeting noted that demolition of the building and cleaning of the site has now been completed.

(d) Min.No.6679 – Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The meeting noted that the planting of trees as proposed by the Director of Engineering could be performed by a community group. It was noted that the Rural Lands Protection Board has given permission for the trees to be planted on land under its control.

8.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

The Mayor gave a verbal report of his activities since the last meeting, referring to the two hour parking issue, a recent inspection of land for the staged development of further industrial land. Cr Horan indicated that a report on this matter would be presented at the April meeting. The Mayor also referred to a letter sent to the Hon Graeme West, Minister for Gaming and Racing, expressing Council's disappointment at not being successful with its funding application for the skate park development.

Cr Horan said that funding would not be provided by the Federal Government without funding from the State Government and vice versa. However, Mr. West is looking into the matter.

6703 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the Mayor's Activity Report for period since last meeting be received and noted.

At this juncture, 10.24 a.m. the meeting adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 11.10 a.m.

9.00 CORRESPONDENCE

6704 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

SECTION A: MATTERS FOR ATTENTION

9.1 KE & CM DELANEY, QUAMBONE R8-11 (27221)

Advising they would like to purchase the lane between Lots 1, 2, 3 & 9, 10 & 12, Section 12 (DP758861) Quambone. Offering \$120, saying the lane is no longer in use and the reason for their interest is that they have property on both sides of the lane.

6705 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that this matter be deferred and considered in Closed Session later in the day.

9.2 ROTARY CLUB OF COONAMBLE INC A13 (27240)

Saying Club members were pleased to assist at this year's Australia Day Celebrations at the Pool. Putting forward ideas for consideration for future events saying they are based on member observations and discussions:

6706 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that Council:

- (1) refer items (1) and (2) to the Australia Day Coordinator to discuss with the Australia Day Committee ;
- (2) advise the Rotary Club of Coonamble Inc that a Honour Board is included in McCullough Hall and a perpetual trophy is not considered necessary;
- (3) advise the Rotary Club that the Citizen of the Year cannot represent the Shire, however could be part of formal Council functions in this Shire.

9.3 COONAMBLE EASTER COMMITTEE H5 (27239)

Seeking permission for the usual staff to assist in the erection and removing of figures representing the Easter Celebration as has been done in past years.

Advising that staff would be required early morning 20 March, Saturday night 22 March and Tuesday 25 March.

Also requesting a clean up of the Memorial Arboretum shortly before Friday 21 March so that the Ecumenical Way of the Cross can be held there.

6707 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that Council agree to the requests from Coonamble Easter Committee to assist with the erection and removal of figures over the Easter Celebrations and that the Memorial Arboretum be cleaned up prior to the Good Friday Service.

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9.4 COONAMBLE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC. D7 (27238)

Advising that Seniors Week will be from 7 – 11 April 2008 and this year no grant funding will be received. Seeking a contribution from Council of – say - \$250, however if this is not possible any amount Council would provide would be greatly appreciated. Extending an invitation to representatives from Council to attend any of the functions.

6708 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Callaghan that Council contribute \$250 to the Coonamble Senior Citizens Association Inc to assist it in providing morning tea and two luncheons for senior residents of the Community during 2008 Seniors Week.

9.5 ORANA LIFE EDUCATION D7 (27241)

Asking for Council's support on the basis of \$2/each child at Schools in the Shire serviced by the Life Education Van and saying that equates to \$2 for 452 children as follows:

Coonamble Public School	226
St Brigid's Primary School	169
Gulargambone Central School	57.

The General Manager informed the meeting that last time Council contributed to Orana Mobile Life Education Centre Association Inc. was 2005 when it donated \$600, the prior year (2004) the contribution was \$1,312 which was based on \$2/child. Mr. Griffiths pointed out that based on the figures supplied in the letter Council's contribution would be \$904.

6709 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that Council not contribute to the Life Education Van due to financial constraints.

9.6 DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER & CABINET I6-1-1 (27237)

Advising that the Federal Government has recently announced its commitment to further funding the Murdi Paaki Partnership Project in line with that of the NSW Government's contribution. Strongly encouraging all stakeholders to participate to ensure views are heard.

Stating that Ms Kate Sullivan has been employed as the consultant and her brief will be to look at the Murdi Paaki Partnership Project objectives in line with the Memorandum of Understanding and the Community Facilitators position descriptions.

Council was advised that formal advice is still awaited concerning the extension of the Community Facilitator position through the MP3 to 31 December 2008.

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6710 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that Council continue to assist the Murdi Paaki Partnership Program and the independent evaluation of the project.

9.7 SHIRE OF WALGETT E5-2 (27274)

Inviting Council to raise any matters it would like considered during preparation of the draft LEP and saying that formal comments should be provided in writing by cob 24 March 2008.

6711 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the General Manager convey progress reports on the Land Use Study being undertaken with other Councils in this area.

9.8 PAUL F T McGIRR T5 (27286)

Confirming strong objection to the two hour parking restrictions and stating, amongst other things, that his financial interests have been damaged by the decision. Pointing out that Council has not properly considered all matters or heard from the affected parties, therefore the decision is legally invalid and Council is leaving itself open to considerable claims for damages and legal costs.

The General Manager informed Council that as this is a lengthy and detailed letter a copy was included in the business paper for Councillors' information. Mr. Griffiths pointed out that this matter is included in the General Manager's report for consideration later in the meeting.

6712 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Jackson that the letter be received and noted.

9.9. SHANE HORAN E140 (27306)

Confirming advice to the General Manager that he intends to retire from his position with Council effective 15 July, 2008, however from 8 April to 15 July 2008 he will be on annual leave. Thanking current and past Councils, Management and Staff for their friendship and support over his 42 years employment and wishing Council all the best for the future.

Council was informed that Mr. Horan will be invited to join Council for luncheon at the August 2008 meeting.

6713 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Swansborough Council write to Mr. Horan thanking him for his loyal service, wishing him well in his retirement and make a presentation to him in accordance with policy **AND FURTHER** that Council's policy on presentation on retirement be reviewed.

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9.10 COONAMBLE JOCKEY CLUB D7 (27307)

Requesting that Council again consider the arrangement currently existing for financial assistance to the Club for the 2008/2009 year and asking that this request be considered in conjunction with formalizing the next budget. Advising that racing in Coonamble is set for a big year, with four meetings set down (February, April, June and October).

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council currently contributes an amount of \$2,750 each quarter to the Coonamble Jockey Club and use of Council plant to the value of \$5,000.

6714 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Canham that Council agree to continue its financial contribution to assist the Coonamble Jockey Club by the payment of \$2,750 (inclusive of GST)/quarter and the use of Council plant to a value of \$5,000.

9.11 COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC

Referring to a meeting between the Director of Engineering and a sub committee of the Show Society and listing four issues of concern that the Society has in connection with the 2008 Show to be held on 29 & 30 April. Acknowledging that the grandstand will be demolished prior to the show. Seeking Council's assistance in addressing these areas of concern prior to the 2008 annual show on 29 and 30 April.

The Director of Engineering said he has not firmly costed the requested works, however it would be around \$1,500 to provide a temporary office for the Secretary during the two days of the Show.

The Mayor referred to Council's decision to demolish the grandstand prior to the 2008 Show and expressed disappointment that the work has not yet commenced. The General Manager said that quotes to hand were being actioned, pointing out that fresh quotes had to be obtained following Council's decision.

6715 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Taylor that the requests were noted and that the Director of Engineering be authorised to liaise with the Show Society Inc. in connection therewith.

9.12 RAE MURRAY & MAUREEN NAIRNE S13-1

Requesting that all members of the Water Aerobics classes conducted by them be allowed a flat rate of \$50, in line with that approved by Council for pensioners attending the classes.

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The General Manager reminded Councillors that this matter was raised at the February meeting when Council requested it be included on the agenda for consideration today. Mr Griffiths pointed out that a number of groups utilize the pool for activities and the granting of a flat rate to one group could lead to numerous requests for such discount with the result that not only Council's fees would be reduced, but also those of the kiosk lessee.)

6716 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council not agree to the request for a \$50 flat fee for all members of the Water Aerobics classes, as is the case for pensioners.

9.13 CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA L3-1 (27263)
Calling for Council's support for the Federal Parliament to enact the Homeowners and Bank Protection Bill of 2008. Forwarding a copy of the petition, together with the proposed Bill.

Councillors noted that they have each received a copy of this correspondence, either by mail or facsimile.

6717 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that Council not support the proposed Home Owners and Bank Protection Bill of 2008.

Councillor Swansborough requested that her name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

9.14 NSW SPORT AND RECREATION G5-38 (27258)
Writing concerning Council's application under the 2007/2008 Capital Assistance Program for the construction of a skate park at Smith Park and advising the project was unsuccessful. Pointing out that total grant funding across the State was \$4m to assist with project costs totaling over \$12.8m.

9.15 NSW SPORT AND RECREATION G5-33 (27257)
Writing concerning Council's application under the 2007/2008 Capital Assistance Program for the installation of a chair lift to enable access at the Coonamble Swimming Pool and advising the project was unsuccessful. Pointing out that total grant funding across the State was \$4m to assist with project costs totaling over \$12.8m.

The General Manager informed the meeting that following receipt of the above two letters discussions were held with the Mayor, who signed a letter to the Minister pointing out that the skate park project would now not be possible, even though several other sources of funding had been obtained.

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Mr. Griffiths said that also included in the letter was an objection to reduction in the number of greyhound race meetings proposed for Coonamble as the Minister is responsible for both portfolios. Council noted that the Minister has been requested to explain why Coonamble has been singled out for negative treatment.

Council noted that this issue was raised by the Mayor earlier in the meeting.

6718 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the actions of the Mayor in forwarding a letter seeking explanation be confirmed.

9.16 PETER COLLINS, ORGANISER, UNITED SERVICES UNION

Forwarding copy of letter forwarded to all councils across the State in relation to the proposed changes to the RTA funding, together with letter to the Minister for Roads – the Hon Eric Roozendaal, MLC, for Council's information. Stating that this is in addition to the proposed changes to water and sewage operations, Section 94 developer levies and library funding. Saying USU intends to campaign against any proposed changes to funding arrangements that will adversely affect local councils.

The General Manager informed Councillors that both letters were attached to the business paper. He pointed out that the requested information is being prepared and will be sent prior to the meeting.

6719 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council appoint the Director of Engineering as its management representative on the Industry Reference Group proposed by the United Services Union.

9.17 KEVIN BUCKLEY R8-11

Thanking Council for granting him lease of the northern end of the lane between King and McCullough Streets. Seeking clarification on the former lease namely the southern end of the same lane. Saying he is of the belief that this lease is still in effect as advised by his solicitors. Requesting that this letter be tabled as Council may have been misled on the authenticity of the original application.

Council was informed by the General Manager that the lease was cancelled by way of letter dated 18 September, 2007 and again confirmed on 15 November 2007. Mr. Griffiths said that it should be noted that the subject land is required by Council to continue to provide access to other properties.

6720 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that Council through the General Manager seek legal advice and clarification of the process that should be followed in connection with this matter.

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9.18 COONAMBLE RODEO & CAMPDRAFT ASSOCIATION INC

Seeking support of Council through a financial contribution to assist with hiring portable toilet and shower facilities and saying last year costs were over \$4,000. Stating that if Council agrees a sponsorship arrangement will acknowledge the donation.

The meeting noted that Council did not contribute last year as the request was received after a very successful event.

6721 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Cullen that Council agree to contribute an amount of \$4,000 to assist the Rodeo Committee with the provision of portable toilet and shower facilities for the 2008 Rodeo and Campdraft event.

Section B – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

9.19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW A19 (27214)

Advising that media attention continues to report on the harmful impacts of alcohol and other drug misuse in the community and for council it remains an important issue because of the impacts this misuse may have in local communities. Stating that the LGSAs have recently completed the *Local Government Drug Information Reference Guide for NSW Councils* – copies will be distributed in the near future.

9.20 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW E5 (27215)

Updating Council on the Sustainable Choice Program run by the LGSA with funding from the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change. Providing a list of councils which have jointed the program to date and advising that the Sustainable Choice Program is free for all NSW councils and has an impressive range of tools and resources.

9.21 LINDA BURNEY, MINISTER FOR YOUTH G5-9 (27208)

Forwarding cheque for \$1,100 as a grant to Council to assist with funding of the 2008 Youth Week Program. Stating that Youth Week will be held from 5 – 13 April with the National slogan “*Shout, Share, Live, Unite*”.

9.22 NSW POLICE FORCE – CASTLEREAGH LOCAL AREA COMMAND P5 (27244)

Reminding Council of the Police Accountability Community Team (PACT) meeting on Monday, 17 March 2008 at Coonamble Shire Council Chambers between 11 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

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9.23 THE HON FRANK SARTOR MP B11 (27242)

Referring to the State Government's decision last year to reduce both State and local development levies in order to improve housing affordability and facilitate investment in new homes. Writing to correct the record on a number of matters.

The General Manager referred Council to comments in the following item from the LGSA.

9.24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW B11 (27288)

Clarifying claims made in a letter to councils from Minister for Planning, Frank Sartor relating to development levies (see above). Stating this is merely an attempt to "water down" the significant impacts of the proposed changes, blue the issue and diminish trust in Local Government. Saying it is crucial that councils keep up the pressure on this issue and calls on the Government to delay implementation of the changes.

9.25 DALY INTERNATIONAL T2-3 (27248)

Formally advising Council that Telstra is proposing to install a new tele-communications facility at Nebea on the Coonamble-Baradine Road. Advising the facility will be installed at an existing site without development application and will improve local services on the new Next G Network.

9.26 PRECEDENT PRODUCTIONS D5-20 (27261)

Advising that following the success of the 2007 Regional Business Awards the program for 2008 is being planned. Stating that the Central West launch will be held on Monday 21 April, with a Presentation evening on Wednesday 25 June. Seeking Council's involvement in the Awards and inviting ideas for 2008.

9.27 "C" DIVISION SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW S3-3 (27319)

Forwarding copy of Minutes of the annual "C" Division Conference held at Narromine on 5 February, 2008.

9.28 STATEWIDE MUTUAL I4 (27295)

Enclosing a cheque in the amount of \$3,300 representing Council's share of a Risk Management Incentive Bonus for 2006/2007.

9.29 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW L9-3 (27212)

Advising that the Associations have been approached by a small number of councils seeking advice as to whether a class action court case could be taken against Grange Securities/Lehman Bros in respect of investment losses sustained by those councils. Saying the Associations are interested to hear from councils who, in turn, are interested in pursuing this option further.

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The General Manager informed the meeting that Council does not hold any investments through Grange Securities/Lehman Bros.

6722 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the information contained in Item Nos. 9.19 to 9.29 inclusive be received and noted.

URGENT BUSINESS - CORRESPONDENCE

6723 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the following items be classified "urgent business" and dealt with:

9.30 SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL D7

Offering Council an opportunity for Coonamble to "make a difference" through the inaugural "Gold Town" award in support of the Sydney Children's Hospital at Randwick.

6724 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Webb that Council not participate in the "Turn the Town GOLD" initiative being run by the Sydney Children's Hospital.

9.31 ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY G5 (27340)

Advising that Bike Week is a State-wide promotion initiated by the RTA to raise the profile of bicycles in the community as a viable transport mode as well as promoting health, safety and supporting the environmental benefits associated with bicycle use. Stating that Bike Week 2008 is from Saturday 20 September to Sunday 28 September. Inviting Council to submit a funding proposal for Bike Week 2008 event and advising submissions close Monday 21 April 2008.

6725 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that Council take no action in respect to Bike Week 2008 proposed by the Roads and Traffic Authority.

9.32 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW A19 (27339)

Advising that the second Local Government Leaders Forum of 2008 will take place on Friday 11 April in Sydney to discuss the issue of alcohol and violence and the part NSW Government's Liquor Licensing reforms play in responding. Stating that the meeting will be held at North Sydney Council's office at 200 Miller Street, North Sydney from 10 a.m. until 12.30 p.m.

6726 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that Council not be represented at the second Local Government Leaders Forum for 2008 on 11 April.

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9.33 COONAMBLE ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICE M5-2 (27373)

Requesting Council to supply and fit the following items at the site of the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service – 17 Tooloon Street – for use of patients of the Service and Symbion Pathology:

- Rubbish bin
- One or two bench seats (similar to those at RTC)

The General Manager stated that provision of a further rubbish bin does not appear to present any difficulties, however he said the seating referred to comes at a cost of \$1,500 per seat for which funds are not available in the current year's budget.

6727 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Swansborough and Taylor that Council agree to provide one rubbish bin and one only bench type seat for use of patients at the Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service.

9.34 THE HON TONY KELLY MLC G5 (27323)

Advising approval of a grant of \$5,000 to Council, as corporate trust manager of Warrena Weir Recreation Reserve, towards the cost of rubbish removal at the reserve. Stating that provision of the grant is subject to the trust undertaking to meet the balance of funds to complete the project.

The General Manager reminded the meeting that Council previously made application for funding to clean up the Warrena Creek reserve area.

6728 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Jackson that Council agree to the terms of the grant, authorise the affixing of the Common Seal of Council to any relevant documents and thank the Minister for approving Council's application for funding.

9.35 COONAMBLE SHOW SOCIETY INC D7 (27354)

Advising the Society will be holding an exhibition at the show on 29/30 April and needs to shift dirt from the old motorcross track to the showground. Stating that at the completion of the show the dirt will be removed back to the motorcross track. Requesting to use council plant on a voluntary basis to move the dirt.

The Director of Engineering said it was his understanding that Council staff had agreed to operate the items of plant on a voluntary basis, however Mr. Russell said at this stage the extent of work is not clear and this would indicate the amount of type of plant required.

6729 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Cullen that Council authorise the Director of Engineering to liaise with the Show Society and agree to use of plant to the extent of \$1,500.

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At this juncture, Mr. Murray Russell declared an interest and left the room.

9.36 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY SHED INC D7 + PR2409-1 (27355)

Thanking Council for the 12 months lease of the shed at the rear of premises 32 Yarran Street. Advising they are meeting with members to discuss ideas for use of the shed and planning what equipment is to be purchased. Requesting consideration of waiving of fees required for the development application.

The General Manager informed Council that the basic fee for a development application is \$155 and it is anticipated that no inspections would be necessary.

6730 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Taylor that Council agree to donate the equivalent amount of development application fees payable by the Coonamble Community Shed Inc.

9.37 COONAMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL T5 + C6-13 (27359)

Advising that the OH&S Committee has identified two areas of concern at the School and making application to Council for a disabled parking space in front of the school and access and signage for ambulance. Stating the school has disabled students confined to wheelchairs and they experience difficulty with access. Pointing out that under Departmental OH&S regulations there is a need to identify an ambulance route into the school grounds and asking for Council's assistance and guidance.

The General Manager reported that the request for a "disabled" parking space should be referred to the Traffic Committee, however Mr Griffiths said that Council is not responsible for access to properties nor for signage and given that Coonamble Public School is funded by the State Government, Council should not be allowing cost-shifting of these matters to it.

6731 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the request for a disabled car parking space in front of the Coonamble Public School be referred to the Traffic Committee for consideration and determination and the School be advised it is not Council's responsibility to provide access to properties nor signage for those purposes.

9.38 OUTBACK RADIO 2WEB R3 (27361)

Offering Council an annual advertising package with 2WEB – saying for the 2008/2009 year the package is \$5,000 (+GST) which entitles Council to unlimited announcements for 12 months.

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Council noted that over past year it has not accepted the invitation to take up an annual advertising package with 2WEB. The General Manager advised that Council utilises its local community station and during 2007 Council paid \$1,843 in advertising costs to 2WEB.

6732 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Council advise Outback Radio 2WEB that it does not wish to purchase an annual advertising package for 2008.

9.39 DENISE FURNER – MANAGER RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK T5 (27376)

Advising that as manager of the Caravan Park she has had a lot of visitors return from town complaining about the lack of parking in the main street, saying they noted that the same cars seem to be parked in the street for the whole day. Stating also that visitors are surprised to find some of the shops closed for lunch – some people choose to go back later whilst others wait until the next town. Pointing out that businesses are missing sales and when word travels, some people just decide to drive through Coonamble and not stop.

6733 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that Council consider these comments when determining the outcome of the trial period for two hour parking limit in Coonamble.

9.40 DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT E2 (27393)

Advising that the Local Government Amendment (Election Date) Bill 2008 has been approved by Parliament and is awaiting assent. Saying the object of the Bill is to amend 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 in 2008, therefore the next ordinary elections of local councils will be held on 13 September 2008.

6734 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that this information be noted.

9.41 COONAMBLE RUGBY UNION & LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUBS P1-11 + DA49/078 (27397)

Expressing concerns about the proposed relocation of the storage shed at Coonamble Sportsground, saying that the site selected for relocation (next to the cricket nets) is inappropriate for a number of reasons. Pointing out that the distance from the oval is a major concern and equipment consists of some “hefty” items.

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Proposing that the shed be erected over at the fence on the northern end of the oval (anywhere from directly behind the goal posts up to the score board) as this would enable clubs utilising the shed access from the oval, promoting an easier set up directly onto the ground. Advising that both clubs have vested a lot of time and money in providing quality sport for the children of Coonamble and surrounding areas and now looking to Council for support.

The Mayor referred to the “on site” inspection this morning when Councillors were shown the proposed site for relocation of the shed, noting that Little Athletics will use a storeroom within the Canteen building.

6735 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Taylor that Council note the comments submitted in Item 9.41 and confirm its previous decision to relocate the shed to the northern side of the ground adjacent to the cricket nets

At this juncture Council’s Economic Development Managers (EDMs) were at the meeting to present their report.

14.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

6736 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Taylor that the report by the Economic development Managers be received and dealt with.

(a) Final Report – Coonamble Abattoir Opportunity Analysis

The EDM advised Council that the final report would be presented at a meeting in McCullough Hall at 5 p.m. this afternoon. The EDM advised that a copy of the report had been distributed to stakeholders.

(b) Agronomist – Department of Primary Industries

Council was advised that the Extension Agronomist with the Coonamble Office of the Department of Primary Industries has resigned and there is a threat of closure of the Coonamble office, which will include the loss of three positions. The EDM suggested that Council request a review of the position and determine what the needs of the district are in respect to services provided by the DPI.

6737 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that Council write a letter of support to keep the Department of Primary Industries Coonamble Office open and request a review of the Agronomist position in conjunction with the needs of the district.

(c) Community Telco

The EDM informed Council that an approach has been made regarding joining a community owned Telco (as per Bendigo Bank) as a way of spreading competition and raising income for community projects. Council noted that further information has been sought.

(d) Railway Station Redevelopment Project

Council noted that a copy of the draft Conservation Plan was attached to the Business paper for adoption, pending minor changes. The EDM advised that with this plan in place gives greater leverage in applications for grant funding.

6738 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Webb that Council adopt the draft Conservation Management Plan for Coonamble Railway Station and instruct the Tourism Development Manager to submit applications for funding.

(e) Employment Circle

The EDM informed Council that the Employment Circle is performing well. She said that TAFE has a Rural Skills Course available and is endeavouring to get enough participants to run a Small Business Management Course. Council noted the new representatives for Coonamble High School are Paul Cleary and Priscilla Harvey.

(f) Gowest

Council noted that following the closure of the Mitsubishi plant in Adelaide, Gowest has been actively involved in the placement of affected persons within this area. The EDM said that a response has been forwarded to Gowest advising there is a position at Moodys Motors and self-employment for an auto electrician.

At this juncture, the EDMs left the meeting.

10.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

6739 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

10.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

6740 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Canham that Development Application No. 002/2008, together with Complying Development Application No. 001/2008, as detailed in the report, be noted.

**10.2 NEW LEGISLATION – PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT (POPE)
AND TEMPORARY STRUCTURES**

Council noted that this legislation transfers the regulation of places of public entertainment (POPE) and temporary structures from the Local Government Act 1993 to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and aims to streamline the approval process.

6741 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Jackson that Council:

1. Note the contents of this report.
2. That Council continue the practice of undertaking annual audits on Places of Public Entertainment and charge a fee as prescribed by Council's 2007/08 Fees and Charges:

Up to 250 persons	\$199
251-500	\$249
501-750	\$314
751-1000	\$386 plus \$80 per additional 1000 person capacity.
3. Adopt a fee for Complying Development Certificates for use of an existing premises as a Place of Public Entertainment not requiring building work of \$180.00.
4. Adopt a fee for Development applications that do not involve building works to a maximum fee of \$220.
5. That Council examine the use of Council owned premises, including public halls and determine if approval is required for use as a Place of Public Entertainment.

10.3 TWO HOUR PARKING LIMIT

The General Manager reported that this matter was referred to the Traffic Committee and considered on 29 November 2007 at which time it was agreed that it was impractical to introduce the restrictions so close to Christmas. Mr. Griffiths said it was then considered that the month of January would not give a clear indication of potential problems and the moratorium discussed by Council has commenced from 26 February 2008 and from 25 March 2008 fines will be issued.

Mr. Griffiths pointed out that several matters have been drawn to his attention however, he suggested that the trial end on 30 June 2008 with a report being considered by Council at the July 2008 meeting. Council also noted the General Manager's suggestion that the proposed extension of the area to include the Post Office and Commonwealth Bank precincts be deferred until the main street trial has been completed.

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- 6742 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that Council:
- (1) defer further extension of the trial to the Post Office and Commonwealth Bank precincts until the trial in the main street has been determined;
 - (2) end the trial end on 30 June 2008 and Council consider the relevant data collected from the trial, together with representations made by various persons/groups;
 - (3) authorise the General Manager to respond to Mr. McGirr's letter, after seeking legal advice.

10.4 GOWEST LUNCHEON – HON MICHAEL COSTA, MP

The General Manager informed Council that he attended the luncheon, in company with Deputy Mayor Cr Michael Webb, as authorised at Council's February meeting and gave a report on proceedings.

- 6743 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Canham that the report be received and noted.

10.5 MURDI PAAKI REGIONAL ENTERPRISE CORPORATION LTD - GULARGAMBONE YOUTH SERVICE

Council noted that Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation utilizes Council's youth centre at Gulargambone for the conduct of a youth service and with the proposed extension of the premises it is probable that a formal arrangement, such as a lease, will be necessary as the funding body wishes to place caveat on the land protecting its interest in the new building. The General Manager informed the meeting that Council may lease property to legal entities under the Local Government Act 1993.

- 6744 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Council authorise the entering into a long term lease of the Gulargambone Youth Centre site for a nominal rental with Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation and permit a caveat over the land by the funding body, with the relevant documents to be executed under Common Seal of Council.

10.6 MOORAMBILLA FESTIVAL INC

The General Manager informed Council that a three year proposal has been received from Moorambilla Festival Inc for 2008, 2009 and 2010. Mr. Griffiths stated that specific requests of Council are:

- \$6,000 towards administrative support paid directly to RTC.
- \$6,000 towards marketing – a brief concept for that marketing spend is included.

Mr. Griffiths stated that operational requests and request for involvement of the Tourism Development Manager have also been included.

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The General Manager pointed out that Council has not been provided with any statement of finances from previous events although it is known that grants made up the majority of the income totaling some \$140,000 last year. He stated that he has concerns about probity with the event and any council contribution needs substantive acquittal to ensure compliance with our Charter.

6745 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Cullen that Council:

1. Express its thanks to Moorambilla Festival Inc and the Artistic Director for the opportunity to partner in the Festival;
2. Grant a cash contribution of \$5,000 towards administration for 2008, \$5,500 for 2009 and \$6,000 for 2010 to be paid direct to the Coonamble Rural Transaction Centre;
3. Grant a cash contribution of \$5,000 towards marketing for 2008 and subject to acquittal being received by 1 December 2008, \$5,500 for 2009; and subject to acquittal being received by 1 December 2009, \$6,000 for 2010; with grant acquittal to be received by 1 December 2010. Further it should be stipulated that marketing should be directed at attracting people to the town by the use of sound marketing principles including times, contact details, experiences to be had and how to obtain tickets;
4. Advise that dates for the hanging of banners, etc will be subject to other events around that time;
5. Not raise any objection to the use of the former Youth Centre subject to approval being obtained from the lessees, Coonamble Vacation Care, and all lanterns, materials and equipment being removed by 22 September 2008 and other dates as agreed in future years;
6. Not agree to the provision of other operational assistance with the exception of attending to issues resulting from excessive rain;
7. Include festival promotional material in with rates notices provided the necessary quantity is received by 1 July each year and it constitute only one A4 page;
8. Agree to the other requests contained in the three year proposal;
9. Instruct the General Manager to limit the involvement of the Tourism Development Manager to the three areas requested;
10. Provide such support subject to a full (whole of event) financial report being provided for 2008 and subsequent years.

11.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

6746 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Jackson that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

11.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

6747 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 29th February 2008 be noted.

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11.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

6748 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that that the Investments held at 29th February 2008 be noted.

11.3 STATEMENT OF RESERVES

6749 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that Council note the Reserves held at 29 February 2008.

11.4 NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY

The Director of Corporate Services reported that Council currently has four areas of its operation that are “declared business activities” in fulfilling its obligations under National Competition Policy (i.e. water supplies, sewage services, quarry and saleyards operations).

Mr. Warren stated that each year Council is required to prepare Special Purpose Financial Reports for each of these activities, however recent discussions with Council’s Auditors indicate there is no need to treat the saleyards operation as a “business activity” given the volume of activity in this area.

6750 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Callaghan that Council resolve that the saleyards operations no longer be considered a “business activity” under National Competition Policy from the financial year 2007/2008.

12.0 REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

6751 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the report by the Director of Engineering be received and dealt with.

12.1 RTA SINGLE INVITATION MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (SIMC)

The Director of Engineering stated that the RTA discussion paper on the SIMC was released and he made a submission on Council’s behalf. Mr. Russell said the options discussed are numerous, but it appears that the RTA still intend to enter into a contract with Council for the maintenance of the Castlereagh Highway within its boundaries.

Mr. Russell stated that there are issues of concern which were expressed to the RTA in Council’s written submission, one of which is the proposal by the RTA to competitively tender, or even remove from the contract, the annual resealing program. He stated that Council is currently working with other OROC Councils and Hunter Councils Procurement to prepare a regional tender for resealing that is likely to be worth \$5m/annum.

6752 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Callaghan that Council endorse the submission made to the Roads & Traffic Authority by the Director of Engineering in relation to the Single Invitation Maintenance Contract Discussion Paper.

12.2 MACDONALD PARK REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Director of Engineering submitted a series of diagrams showing the proposed works to complete the redevelopment project identified by Council over the past years. Mr. Russell stated that replacement of toilets is nearly complete the works proposed would utilize unspent funds from this project.

6753 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Taylor that Council proceed with the proposed redevelopment project in Macdonald Park with a budget of \$40,000 to be provided from surplus funding from the replacement of toilets project.

12.3 SHOWGROUND PAVILION

The Director of Engineering referred to a previous resolution to replace the Showground Pavilion and, as this project will require a Development Application, he submitted information and concept plans prior to lodging the DA.

6754 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Taylor that Council proceed with the proposed Showground Pavilion redevelopment project.

12.4 SHOWGROUND CARPARK

The Director of Engineering submitted three options, with estimates, for constructing a carpark at the southern end of the showground adjacent to the greyhound track. He informed Council that the total area of the carpark is approximately 10,000 square metres, which would provide for approximately 300-350 cars.

6755 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Taylor that Option 1 be selected, noting that the area will be sealed at a cost of approximately \$135,000 and that work be commenced as soon as possible, noting that it may be completed prior to the June long weekend, subject to availability of staff and plant.

12.5 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION

The Director of Engineering pointed out that Council set a target of a 50% reduction in greenhouse gases by the end of 2008 and stated in order to achieve such a target it will be necessary to make some rapid improvements in greenhouse emissions.

Mr. Russell proposed that Council take advantage of the tree planting service to undertake an initial roadside tree planting of approximately 2,000 trees and said this would form part of Council's greenhouse gas reduction undertaking.

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Council noted that the planting of 2,000 trees, when combined with the 900 trees proposed for Tooloon St, will achieve a reduction in greenhouse gases of approximately 12% and would see Council getting close to its 50% reduction target for 2008.

6756 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Taylor that Council proceed with the planting of approximately 2,000 trees in established tree planting compounds in the vicinity of Coonamble, at an estimated cost of \$4,000, subject to approval from the Rural Lands Protection Board.

12.6 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Director of Engineering In February attended the 48th Annual Floodplain Management Conference and provided Councillors with a summary of some of the discussions at that event.

6757 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Taylor that the report on the 48th Annual Floodplain Management Conference be noted.

12.7 WORKS PROGRAM UPDATE

The Director of Engineering submitted a report on the progress of works and indicated that Macdonald Park toilets will be completed shortly and then Smith Park toilets will be commenced. Mr. Russell said that the trial water treatment plant has been more difficult than expected but it is hoped that it will be progressed within the next few weeks.

6758 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Taylor that the works program update be noted.

At this juncture, 1.14 p.m., the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 2.00 p.m.

13.0 REPORTS BY VARIOUS COMMITTEES

6759 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that reports submitted by various Committees be received and noted.

13.1 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

6760 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Callaghan and Cullen that the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held on 7 August 2007 be noted.

13.2 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

6761 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Canham that the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held on 23 November 2007 be noted.

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13.3 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

6762 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on 29 November, 2007 be noted.

13.4 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

6763 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Jackson and Webb that the minutes of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee meeting held on 5 February 2008 be noted.

Item 3.1 Consultation Statement

6764 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Jackson and Webb that the Occupational Health and Safety Consultation Statement submitted to the meeting be adopted.

13.5 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE – 21 FEBRUARY 2008

The meeting noted that the Traffic Committee meeting called for 21 February 2008 did not have a quorum.

6765 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Jackson that the information provided be noted.

14.1 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

6766 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held on 26 February, 2008 be noted.

14.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS' MEETING

6767 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the minutes of the Economic Development Officers' meeting held in Dubbo on 21 February 2008 be noted.

14.3 SKILLS AUDIT MEETING

6768 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Taylor that the minutes of the Skills Audit meeting held in Dubbo on 21 February 2008 be noted.

14.4 COONAMBLE BUSINESS ACTION GROUP MEETING

6769 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that the minutes of the Business Action Group meeting held on 19 February 2008 be noted.

15.1 COONAMBLE STREETS AHEAD MEETING

6770 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the minutes of the Coonamble Streets Ahead meeting held on 21 February 2008 be noted.

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16.0 REPORT BY COMMUNITY FACILITATOR

6771 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Webb that the report submitted by the Community Facilitator for period December 2007 – February 2008 be noted.

17.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

6772 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Taylor and Webb that the report by the Saleyards Manager for the month of February, 2008 be received and noted.

18.0 REPORTS BY CONTRACT RANGER

6773 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that reports for the months of January and February 2008, submitted by the Contract Ranger, be received and noted.

19.0 CLOSED SESSION

6774 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10(2) (b) *“the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer”* of the Local Government Act 1993 .

6775 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Jackson that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

6776 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Taylor and Jackson that Council resume Open Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

6777 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Jackson that Council adopt the recommendations from Closed Session, being Recommendations 1 and 2 as follows:

18.1 OVERDUE RATES – LAND AT QUAMBONE [LGA Sec 10(2)(B)]

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council not take the blocks but waive the interest charges under the Hardship Policy subject to the owners continuing to pay the outstanding amounts.

18.2 REQUEST TO PURCHASE LANE – QUAMBONE

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that the Director of Corporate Services liaise with the applicants, advising the costs that are associated with the purchase and transfer of the subject lane and seek a response as to whether or not they wish to proceed by the end of the calendar year (i.e. 31 December 2008)

GENERAL BUSINESS

RAIL SYSTEM – GRAIN HARVEST

6778 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Jackson that Council write to the Minister for Transport, John Watkins, seeking information on the overall picture of the rail system as it affects this year's grain harvest, pointing out that some work has been done on the branch line to Coonamble, however more is required **AND FURTHER** that the Minister be asked to convey information on what action is being taken to prevent grain having to be transported by road.

APOLOGY – APRIL MEETING

Cr Swansborough advised she would not be attending the April meeting of Council and requested that an apology be accepted.

SHELL DEPOT CORNER

Councillor Swansborough drew attention to the unsightly appearance of the former Shell Depot site on the corner of Aberford Street and the Quambone Road.

GULARGAMBONE FOOTPATHS – MAIN STREET

Councillor Swansborough asked if the Engineering Department could arrange for cleaning of the footpaths in Gulargambone main street, pointing out that bird droppings are a problem and making the area look unattractive.

REST ROOM SIGN

Councillor Swansborough said it has been pointed out that the "Rest Rooms" sign is in the wrong place and she requested that Council staff liaise with the twoeighttwoeight committee concerning this particular sign and others that need attention.

WESTRAC MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Councillor Jackson asked if the Service Agreement with Westrac still applies and whether Council is getting value for money. The Director of Engineering replied that a number of vehicles are still covered by this maintenance agreement and Council is happy with the service from Westrac at this time.

LATE DELIVERY OF TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Councillor Jackson said he wished to record his disappointment at the late delivery of a meeting notice/agenda for the Traffic Committee meeting held on 21 February, 2008. He pointed out that Police representatives did not receive a timely notice either. Councillor Jackson received an apology from the General Manager and the Director of Works regarding this matter.

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SMOKING IN FRONT OF BUSINESS PREMISES

6779 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Taylor that a letter be sent to business premises requesting proprietors to direct patrons to the designated smoking areas instead of congregating around entrances on the footpath.

MOWING MAINTENANCE

In response to a question the Director of Engineering informed the meeting that there is a full crew on the Parks and Gardens gang and that considerable mowing maintenance work is being undertaken. Councillors said that park areas are now looking good and requested that this maintenance be continued.

TRAVEL POLICY – STAFF

The Mayor asked if Council's Travel Policy for staff was adequate – the General Manager said it is in accordance with the award rate and did not need to be reviewed.

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

These Pages (Page 1/3670 – 28/3697) were confirmed on the day of2008 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 12 March 2008.

MAYOR

MAYOR

GENERAL MANAGER