

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD AT QUAMBONE RACECOURSE ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER,
2009, COMMENCING AT 9.27 A.M.**

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

Mr. Terry Dray, USU Organiser, was also present to address Council at 9.30 a.m.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

Prior to beginning the meeting, the Mayor acknowledged the original owners of the land, both past and present.

4.0 APOLOGY

Cr Karanouh submitted an apology to the General Manager for non-attendance – due to a family commitment.

7967 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the apology submitted by Cr. Karanouh, giving reason for his absence from the meeting, be accepted

5.0 DELEGATIONS

(a) ADDRESS BY USU ORGANISER, MR. TERRY DRAY

At this juncture, the Mayor welcomed Mr. Dray who thanked Council for the opportunity to address the meeting on the issue concerning Coonamble Shire Council permitting all employees leave on the picnic day. Mr. Dray said that the holiday is intended for financial members of the Union and Council's actions contravenes Award conditions. He said that Council has referred to the holiday as the Coonamble Shire Employees Picnic and argued that this should not be the case.

Mr. Dray gave examples of what other councils do in connection with their employees, in particular Dubbo and Wellington, who allow non-Union members the day off if they take leave, i.e. annual, time in lieu, etc. He said that if Council does not comply with the Award conditions, the matter may be referred to the Industrial Relations Commission.

The General Manager informed the meeting that this Council has been allowing all employees the holiday for many years and he did not see the necessity for non-Union members to apply. Mr. Griffiths said that because it is a small organization it would not be practical to operate and would prove counter-productive should Council try to do so.

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Mr. Griffiths said he does not believe any breach of the Award has been committed, although if Council wishes to review its policy he will prepare a draft document for consideration and adoption.

Councillor Canham said that on this occasion he disagrees with the General Manager and pointed out that the holiday should be for financial members of the Union and the policy should be reviewed.

7968 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council, in conjunction with the United Services Union (USU), review its policy regarding employees' leave for the picnic day and the draft policy be submitted to Council for consideration.

At 9.40 a.m., Mr. Dray thanked Council and left the meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Two declarations of interest were submitted:

- (a) Mr. John Griffiths Item 10.4 – President of Lions Club
Cancer Council Relay for Life – Lions Club coordinating
logistics for the event
- (b) Cr Michael Webb Item 10.7 – Licensee of Commercial
Hotel

7969 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the Declarations of Interest for today's meeting be noted.

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

7970 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held 12 August 2009 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(a) Future Plans for Coonamble Showground

Councillor Canham referred to this matter and said he was expecting a report on the outcome of the recent meeting held with User Group representatives. The Manager – Services said the meeting went well, however there is nothing to report at this stage as Council is waiting on feedback for a further meeting next month, following which a report will be prepared for Council.

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(b) Lease of Pavilion – Coonamble Showground

Councillor Schieb said at the Showground User Group Meeting he raised the issue of leasing the pavilion to recoup some of the expenditure incurred by Council in its construction and representatives were in favour of this initiative.

The General Manager clarified the position with expenditure of the structure and informed the meeting that Council allocated funding at every stage of development.

Various suggestions were made regarding uses for the pavilion, however the issue of a commercial lease for a long term was not an option agreed to by Council.

Cr Schieb requested that Council advertise the availability of the structure and call for expressions of interest, stating that perhaps Council could include details on its website. He said that a condition of any agreement to lease the pavilion include a clause that it must be vacated for events booked at the ground.

The General Manager reminded Councillors that Council has a policy whereby Council venues are not to be hired to outside traders. He said that it may be prudent to revisit the hire fees recently set with a view to reducing them, making it a more affordable venue.

7971 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs.Schieb and O'Brien that staff investigate and come back with a discussion paper to the October meeting covering use and fees for the Showground Pavilion and include any short term commercial initiatives that may utilize the structure.

(c) Energy Efficient Light Bulbs – Disposal

The General Manager referred to a request from Cr O'Brien that Council advertise the correct disposal procedure for the subject items and informed the meeting that Council has no capacity to collect and dispatch these items.

DELEGATION – QUAMBONE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

At this juncture, Mrs Margaret Garnsey and Mr. David O'Brien were present to address Council on the various matters raised by the Quambone Resources Committee. Mrs Garnsey thanked the Director of Engineering Services and the Manager – Services for attending at Quambone for a meeting with the QRC on Thursday, 3 September.

A copy of the report from the Director addressing various issues following that meeting was provided to Mrs. Garnsey and Mr. O'Brien.

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Mrs Garnsey stated that the installation of a fuel tank with automatic eftpos facility was a real need for the Quambone community. She said that presently the pump is located on private ground and it would be difficult to operate separate from the shop area.

The representatives asked that Council identify a site, however the General Manager said Council has no expertise in this area and it must be privately developed. He said that Crown land is not capable of being developed

Councillor Cullen informed the meeting that GrainCorp hopes to set up a container of fuel (with eftpos facility) for use during the harvest and he hoped to have further information after a meeting with GrainCorp.

Regarding showers at the Sportsground, Mrs Garnsey said it was hoped that Council would be able to furnish portable amenities for the functions held at the ground – it was not proposed to build an amenities block.

Council was informed that Marthaguy Races had to be called off not because of the condition of the track, but because of the waterlogged condition of the access road. Mr O'Brien requested that Council provide topdressing to improve the road.

7972 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council investigate the cost of providing sufficient top dressing for the access road into the Racecourse, noting that spreading of the material would be done by volunteer labour.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MEETING (cont'd)

(d) Minute No. 7889/21 – Performance Appraisal

Councillor Canham asked the General Manager whether he has decided on the offer made by Council concerning extending his term of employment. The General Manager indicated that he did not have a response as yet.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

7973 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and Canham that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

(a) Fencing – Racecourse adjacent to Highway (Min.No.7669)

In response to a question, the General Manager advised that he was speaking with the Chairman of Trustees who informed him that no grant funds were forthcoming and the cost of materials is \$2,000. The Chairman said that the Trust and others are prepared to erect the six wire fence.

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Cr. Cullen questioned the suitability of such a fence and said that in any event a grader would be required to flatten the area and generally tidy it up prior to erecting the new fence.

7974 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that Council obtain costings from local contractors for the erection of the subject fence and tidying up of the adjacent entrance gate and contribute up to \$3,000 from the Racecourse Reserve **AND FURTHER** that the fence meet Council's specifications.

At this juncture, 10.30 a.m., Council adjourned for morning tea and resumed at 11.00 a.m.

(b) Honorarium – Museum (Min.No.7958)

The Mayor raised this matter – the General Manager said that no action has been taken at this stage, as he was still looking into the legalities of this proposed action.

9.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

The Mayor said that because he was absent for the past month, he had nothing to report, however he did wish to thank Cr Cullen for his involvement in the Civic Reception Council held for the Brigidine Sisters, prior to their leaving Coonamble.

Cr. Horan also thanked Cr Webb for attending the rally in Dubbo with the General Manager in support of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The General Manager said he was not hopeful that the required outcome would be achieved, as the tender process is progressing. Mr. Griffiths said that moral obligation and the significant benefits to the outback over the past 81 years were not issues that would be taken into consideration.

7975 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Webb that the Mayor's Activity Report be received and adopted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7976 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A Consideration by Council

10.1 ROTARY CLUB OF COONAMBLE INC P1 (31040)

Referring to Council's decision to formalize park names and, in particular, the area adjacent to Macquarie Street containing the Scout Hall. Pointing out that, upon further investigation, the Rotary Club was not involved with the area, however the former Apex Club may have had involvement.

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Fully supporting the proposal that the area be named as a memorial to the late Janet Cant and saying it would also be nice if Apex could be given some recognition.

7977 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council agree to change the name of the subject area and take action to formalize the name to Janet Cant Memorial Apex Park, due to this further information being received.

10.2 COONAMBLE JOCKEY CLUB D7 (31048)

Inviting Council to enter the Local Business Houses Sweepstake Draw with the chance of becoming the major sponsor of the 2009 Coonamble Gold Cup to be held on 11 October.. Pointing out that \$110 sponsorship will give Council the opportunity to win naming rights for the event and advising what other opportunities the winner will receive.

Councillor Canham said Council should take the opportunity to become involved and pointed out that, in his opinion, the \$110 sponsorship would be money well spent.

A MOTION

PROPOSED by Cr O'Brien **SECONDED** by Cr Webb that Council not participate in the Business Houses Sweepstakes Draw to become a major sponsor of the 2009 Coonamble Gold Cup, **WAS LOST.**

7978 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council agree to pay the \$110 sponsorship to enter the Local Business Houses Sweepstake Draw for the 2009 Coonamble Gold Cup to be held on 11 October, 2009 and the amount be funded from the Donation Vote.

10.3 INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL L9 (31050)

Advising that IPART is currently conducting a review of the revenue framework for local government and has recently released a draft report and is holding a number of public workshops in Sydney and regional centres. Inviting the Mayor to attend one of these workshops, the purpose of which is to provide a brief outline of IPART's proposed framework for determining revenue from rates and to seek feedback.

The General Manager informed the meeting that the Dubbo workshop is scheduled for Friday, 11 September, 2009 – Dubbo RSL – 10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

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7979 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council note its Director of Corporate Services will attend this workshop on Friday 11 September 2009.

The General Manager declared an interest in the following matter as President of Coonamble Lions Club, which is in charge of logistics for the event.

10.4 CANCER COUNCIL RELAY FOR LIFE P1-1 (31079)

Requesting permission for the Coonamble Relay for Life Committee and the Cancer Council NSW to hold the inaugural 2010 Relay for Life in Coonamble on Saturday & Sunday, 10 & 11 April at the Coonamble Sportsground. Advising it will start at 3.45 p.m. Saturday and finish 10.00 a.m. Sunday. Pointing out that access would be required from 8.00 a.m. Saturday, 10th and finishing midday Sunday 11th.

Requesting that Council support the event, as follows:

- Venue hire, lighting and 3 phase power for the duration of the event ;
- Provision of rubbish bins and collection of bins after event;
- Cleaning toilets, shower block and kiosk before and during the event (to include provision/restocking of toilet rolls, hand towels and soap)
- Witches hats/safety bunting as required
- Small pile of dry sand for candle bags for the candle light ceremony
- Track linemarking
- Putting a Council team in the event.

Asking for guidelines and rules regarding noise curfew and alcohol at the event.

The Director of Corporate Services made the following comments in connection with requests made by the organizers:

- Venue hire – as the booking was received prior to any other, Council should accede to the request for use of the Coonamble Sportsground.
- Lighting – the use of floodlighting, along with the venue hire, could form Council's contribution to the event.
- Three phase power – this is not available to the venue.
- Rubbish – provision of bins and collection should not be a problem. It is expected that the ground will be left in a tidy condition.
- Toilets/showers – The Relay for Life organizers should be informed that toilets and shower block will be cleaned before the event and consumables checked on the Sunday morning.
- Witches hats/safety bunting – these can be provided subject to their return.
- Small pile dry sand – no problem.

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- Track linemarking – the athletics track is normally marked however should additional be required, the cost could be met by Council as a further contribution.
- Council team – Councillors should indicate their willingness to participate.

Mr. Warren said that entertainment by way of bands, etc. should cease no later than 10.00 p.m. as the ground is surrounded by a residential area. He referred to restriction on consumption of alcohol in a public place which includes the Sportsground area unless the appropriate Liquor License is obtained.

Cr O'Brien pointed out the need to have "rest tents" erected for participants to take regular breaks. She acknowledged the fact that tents can be erected around the outside of the arena, but said the tents in the middle of the walking track were a necessity.

7980 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that Council agree to the hire of Coonamble Sportsground for the Relay for Life event on Saturday/Sunday, 10 & 11 April, 2010 in accordance with the comments by the Director of Corporate Services above, noting that "rest tents" may be erected in the centre of the ground subject to staff giving instructions where pegs are placed.

10.5 GULARGAMBONE LIONS CLUB INC P1-9 (31064)

Advising the Club has concerns regarding safety at Lions Park. Stating that with construction of the new bridge and the realignment of the approaches, traffic is now at the same level as the park grounds. Suggesting that a barrier is needed, perhaps continuing the Armco railing to the corner of the park and the old truck bypass road. Advising there have been occasions where cars have been driven into the park grounds and whilst there are logs placed, a more substantial barrier is required.

The General Manager reminded Council that at the August meeting a motion was passed that the Director of Engineering Services clarify the fencing issue with the Gulargambone Lions Club. Mr. Griffiths said it would appear that this letter is a whole new approach to the issue and a costly one at that!

7981 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council instruct the Director of Engineer Services, through the General Manager, to meet with members of Gulargambone Lions Club to ascertain their requirements and develop a cost-effective solution to their perceived problems.

10.6 GULARGAMBONE CARAVAN PARK C2-2 + A8 + T5-1 (31108)

Raising the following issues:

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- (1) Dump point at Caravan Park:
Stating they will pursue this issue in the future.
- (2) Wishing to replace an existing gateway between Caravan Park & small park near pool and offering discount tokens to patrons from the caravan park who use the pool.
- (3) John Oxley Memorial – Proposed Toilets - how practical, cost effective and safe would they be at this site? Asking who would maintain the toilet facilities and keep the site clean as there is no such thing as a 'no maintenance' toilet block. Saying toilets will turn this site into a freebie and encourage overnight campers.
- (4) "No Camping" Signs - saying that the points raised above are valid reasons to request that Council erect "No Camping" or "No 24 Hour Camping" signs at the John Oxley Memorial site and the Gulargambone Rest Area in the near future. Pointing out that toilet at the John Oxley Memorial site could have devastating consequences for Gulargambone.

The General Manager made the following comments on the issues raised:

- (1) No action required at this time.
- (2) Council's pool fees are quite low when compared to other facilities and if further discount is to be applicable surely it should be to the people who pay for the service, i.e. ratepayers. Additional entrances to the pool only serve to make security more difficult and it cannot be suggested that this request be acceded to.
- (3) The issues raised are similar to those that I conveyed when Council was considering the request to become a "RV Friendly" town. I concur that the John Oxley Memorial site should not be a camping ground, nor should it contain toilet facilities.
- (4) The erection of "No Camping" signs would not be expensive and perhaps deter the illegal use of the reserve sites.

7982 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that Council:

- (1) Not grant discount pool fees to Gulargambone Caravan Park patrons.
- (2) Raise no objection to replacement of the existing gate, subject to the work being at no cost to Council.
- (3) Concur with the proprietors of the Gulargambone Caravan Park in denying use of the John Oxley Memorial site as a camping facility.

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- (4) Agree to erect "No Camping" signs on both the John Oxley Memorial Site Reserve and the Gulargambone Rest Area.

Councillor O'Brien requested that her name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

At this juncture, Cr. Webb left the meeting after declaring an interest in the following matter.

10.7 GARY WOODING (COMMERCIAL HOTEL) B11

Advising that he has a price of \$21,468 (plus GST) – i.e. \$10,734 each -for the type of fence he proposes between the Hotel and Council. Advising he would like Council's engineer to advise on the footing size. Making comment that he was endeavouring to keep the old wash house, but due to circumstances it will not be possible.

The General Manager reported that it has been pointed out to Mr Wooding that Council has no budgetary provision for such a project . Mr. Griffiths said the issue of the old wash house being demolished has been referred to Council's Heritage Advisor and Mr Wooding was requested to suitably stay the existing fence to prevent complete collapse.

Council noted that Mr. Wooding's response is that the new fence should be built as a matter of urgency. The General Manager pointed out that Council's Manager of Services has obtained a quotation for the fence to be erected in 1800mm Colorbond for a total cost of \$7,500 (plus GST) which would equate to a cost of \$3,750 each.

7983 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council give Mr. Wooding the opportunity to provide his own quote and advise its contribution to the boundary fence would equate to \$3,750 (plus GST) **AND FURTHER** advise Mr. Wooding that any additional cost of replacing the fence would be at his expense.

At this juncture, Cr. Webb returned to the meeting and Council's Economic Development Manager and Tourism Development Manager were both in attendance.

16.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

7984 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and dealt with.

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- (a) **Great Artesian Bore Water Auction – Future of Proposed Sheep Feedlot**
7985 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs Cullen and O'Brien that Council make representations for year-round application process for commercial type licences for sustainable business enterprises.
- (b) **Proposed Pulse Plant – Rail Access**
7986 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council take a strong stance on pursuing rail access for future enterprises, noting that GrainCorp has bought all available rail time **AND FURTHER** that Council continue to lobby for upgrading of the line.
- (c) **Keep Coonamble Kicking Promotion**
7987 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the Economic Development Manager liaise directly with businesses to complete this project, noting that funding has been approved by the DSRD to match Council and business contributions.
- (d) **Small Business Seminar – 21 September 2009**
The EDM reported that three Gulargambone businesses are booked to attend the Seminar with Robbie Sefton on Monday 21 September 2009.
- (e) **Museum Collection – Application for Grant**
7988 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council endorse the EDMs' action in submitting an application to Volunteer Initiated Small Grants to fund filing cabinet and cupboard for the Museum collection.
- 16.1 NAMES OF WINNERS & NOMINEES OF BUSINESS AWARDS**
7989 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council note this information.
- 16.2 NOTES FOR NICKNAME HALL OF FAME MEETING**
7990 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the notes from the Nickname Hall of Fame Meeting held on 11 August, 2009 be noted.
- Councillor Schieb enquired whether Neville Owen is a candidate for inclusion in this project. He indicated that Neville's contribution to the town and district should be recorded. It was pointed out that Mr Owen did not have a nickname.
- 16.3 COONAMBLE SHIRE HERITAGE & HISTORICAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING**
7991 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 August, 2009 be noted.

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(a) Restoration of Old Horse Trough

7992 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council adopt the Committee's recommendation that the horse trough remain at Coonamble Showground while it can be used, when appropriate Council will provide a plaque describing its history and the trough be kept intact and, if possible, listed in Council's LEP.

16.4 REPORT BY HERITAGE ADVISOR

7993 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report submitted by Mr. Ray Christison, Heritage Advisor, be noted.

At this stage, the Tourism Development Manager presented his report.

17.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

7994 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be received and adopted.

Mr. Baldwin discussed the following issues:

- Visit by Southern Aurora – advised that the train, carrying 120 passengers, will be at Coonamble Railway Station on Sunday, 4 October at 5.00 p.m. Final details are yet to be advised. Passengers will dine in Coonamble and if time permits, a bus tour of the town will be organized. Cr. O'Brien said the museum should be included if there is sufficient time.
- New website nearly complete – hope to have it live next week.
- Les Lane from Matilda Photography has been appointed to take professional photographs of Gulargambone, Coonamble and Quambone for use in future signage/brochures, etc.
- Funding for promotion of 2010 Rodeo/Campdraft – will be submitting an application for \$10,000 - \$15,000 for the promotion of next year's event.
- Campbelltown Art Exhibition – being opened on 30 October, 2009.

At this juncture, 11.50 a.m., the EDM and TDM left the meeting

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE (cont'd)

10.8 QUAMBONE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Providing a submission to Council's meeting, which provides a follow up to the 2008 submission and dealing with numerous issues which were listed in the précis.

A copy of the submission was attached to the Business Paper.

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The General Manager informed Council that most of these issues were addressed at the meeting held on Thursday 3 September, 2009 between representatives of the QRC, the Director of Engineering Services and the Manager – Services. He said that the recommendations/suggestions from the Director were discussed this morning.

The Manager – Services informed the meeting that during the morning tea recess she obtained costing for loam to topdress the access road to the Racecourse and advised it would be in the order of \$6,000 - \$7,000.

7995 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that Council:

- agree to include costing for loam to topdress the access road to the racecourse (\$6,000-\$7,000) for consideration in conjunction with the management plan/budget for the 2010/2011 financial year;
- endorse the Director of Engineering Services intention to discuss with the CMA Green Team the planting of trees as part of Council's Greening Australia policy;
- include consideration to replace doors at the Quambone Hall in the 2010/2011 management plan;
- instruct QRC to proceed with repairs to cement work under the supper room door in conjunction with current repair work (noting there will be a minor additional cost);
- agree to QRC lobbying State/Federal members for funding to install a fuel tank/automatic eftpos facility in Quambone and instruct the EDM to look for grant funding that may become available;
- include consideration for \$3,500 to provide gas hot water system for existing showers at the Sportsground in conjunction with the 2010/2011 management plan;
- investigate grant funding to provide all weather access road into the Sportsground;
- agree to support QRC in its negotiations with Country Energy to upgrade transformer;
- agree to QRC lobbying State/Federal members for funding to provide an emergency airstrip upgrade;
- agree to QRC liaising with the Department of Education for funding to install a street light in front of the School.

10.9 COMBARA HALL COMMITTEE D5-2 (31154)

Advising names of Executive of the Combara Hall Committee:

President:	Peter O'Connor
Vice President:	Mark Regan
Secretary/Treasurer:	Donna Butler.

Pointing out that the Committee is a section 355 Committee of Council.

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7996 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council note the names of the Executives of the Combara Hall Committee and continue to delegate the care, control and management of the Combara Hall to the aforementioned Executive.

10.10 ELIZABETH LAMBELL P1-1 (31163)

Seeking permission to use the Gulargambone pool for an aerobic exercise class on Wednesday of each week between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. Advising the group will have at least two instructors who will be auspiced under the Greater Western Area Health Service.

The General Manager informed Council that this arrangement has been approved by the Pool Superintendent at Gulargambone. He suggested that although the risk of injury to persons participating in the exercise sessions would be low, Council point out that public liability insurance for the classes should be borne by GWAHS.

7997 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council approve the use of the Gulargambone Pool each Wednesday between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. for aerobic exercise classes, with participants being responsible for payment of the usual admission fee that that public liability insurance cover be the responsibility of Greater Western Area Health Service.

10.11 GREATER WESTERN AREA HEALTH SERVICE M5-3(31144)

Referring to Council's concerns regarding bed numbers and saying changes being proposed at the Coonamble Health Service are only in the consultative stages and further information will be gathered from key stakeholders. Assuring Council that nothing will be implemented that would disrupt the day-to-day management and care of patients, including unjustifiable transfer to other facilities. Also advising that, although things have been slower than anticipated, recruitment for staff and Coonamble's Health Service Manager have recently been advertised and permanent staff can be expected in the near future.

7998 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council note the advice from GWAHS and forward a copy of the response to the Coonamble Branch of the Nurses' Association.

Section B – Matters for Information Only.

10.12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW A2 (31041)

Encouraging Council to take into account the services of the Western Institute of TAFE NSW (WIT) and its Aboriginal programs, pointing out that it is the largest NSW provider of vocational education and training for Aboriginal Australians.

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Advising that the Aboriginal education coordinators can tailor TAFE courses to meet the specific employment and education needs of Aboriginal students and communities in NSW.

10.13 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE NORTH WEST ZONE B13 (31080)

Advising that as part of the ten year strategic plan for the Zone the Brigade Station at Gulargambone was identified as requiring an update to better support volunteers who protect our communities. Requesting Council approval to use the land and saying that funding has been obtained through the Rural Firefighting Fund with no financial burden on Council. Also requesting permission to place a 22,500 litre water tank at the rear of the shed. Advising the upgrade will improve the standard of facilities and also address several OH&S issues, e.g. toilets, shower.

The General Manager informed Council that the NSW RFS has been requested to submit a development application for the proposed works and these items will be addressed in conjunction with its consideration when signing as owner.

10.14 NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING E5-2 (31072)

Thanking Council for submitting an expression of interest for project funding under the Planning Reform Fund (PRF) Round 6. Saying over 94 expressions of interest for funding were received from councils – unfortunately Council's interest for funding for the Replacement of the Shire Standard Local Environmental Plan and updating of Development Control Plans was not successful.

The General Manager pointed out that with the reprioritization of the LEP it was a natural course that the funding contribution from the Planning Reform Fund would not be forthcoming at this time.

10.15 TOURISM NEW SOUTH WALES T3-8 (31101)

Thanking the TDM for submitting an Expression of Interest through Tourism NSW 2010 Regional Flagship Events Program and advising that the 2010 Coonamble Rodeo & Campdraft has been selected to apply for funding. Stating that a written application should be forwarded by 29 September, 2009.

10.16 MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP G5 + C8 (31091)

Informing of a new initiative of the NSW Government, the Local Partnership Grants Program provided by the Community Relations Commission. Advising the Local Partnership Grants enable councils to enter into an agreement with the Commission to address the specific needs of a newly arrived or emerging community. Saying that the closing date for applications is 18 September 2009.

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10.16a MURDI PAAKI REGIONAL ASSEMBLY A2

Forwarding copy of minutes from the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly – Local Government Forum held in July 2009. Requesting that Council respond advising of a suitable range of dates for the November meeting.

A copy of the minutes were enclosed with the business paper. The General Manager said that when he reported on this meeting to the August Council meeting, the minutes were not available.

10.17 NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION G5-1 (31134)

Advising that the 2009/2010 estimated entitlement under the financial assistance grant is \$2,808,254, consisting of two components:

- A general purpose component \$1,640,906
- A local roads component \$1,167,348.

Pointing out that the local roads component comprises of a population and local road length formula amount of \$1,114,037 and a bridge length formula amount of \$53,311. Stating that the amounts are preliminary and may vary, up or down, from financial entitlements which will be advised shortly.

Stating that payments consist of the 2009/2010 estimated grants less an adjustment for 2008/2009 which amounts to \$13,755, being made up of \$7,358 (general purpose component) and \$6,397 (local roads component).

The General Manager pointed out the actual amount paid under the financial assistance grant in 2008/2009 was \$2,759,290 with the budget allocation being :

General purpose component	\$1,682,000
Local roads component	\$1,187,725.

Mr. Griffiths said there is a shortfall of \$75,226 in Council's 2009/2010 budget which will need to be found at the September budget review.

10.19 NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING E5-2 (31037)

Referring to the Department's proposal to reprioritize the Standard Instrument LEP Program. Pointing out that the fact remains that delivery of the program means that resources must now be focused on achieving the gazettal of a number of LEPs over the next two years. Attaching a list of those local government areas where a proactive and focused approach to delivery of Standard Instrument LEPs will now be commenced. Pointing out that financial and advisory support will continue as before. Advising that if councils are able to develop draft Standard Instrument LEPs faster than expected, the Department will make every effort to accommodate revised time frames and continue to provide advice and assistance as required.

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The General Manager commented that he verbally reported this decision to the last meeting – noting that the letter arrived on Tuesday 11 August and that Coonamble Council was not on the list to proceed and its LEP process has been deferred for two years.

Mr. Griffiths said that residents affected by the Land Use Strategy have now been informed and comment has been received from one landowner, with the two year deferral raising the opportunity to again examine potential alterations to that strategy.

7999 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.12 to 10.19 inclusive be received and noted.

In discussions concerning the above matter, the Mayor asked whether there was any way, at this time, that the land along the Castlereagh Highway could be subdivided. The General Manager replied there is not, as provision for this would need an amendment to the LEP which was gazetted in 1997. Mr. Griffiths said that there may be more flexibility in 2 – 3 years, however if not small subdivisions will be lost.

The Mayor asked if there was any action available to present landowners and the General Manager said they could take their case to the Land and Environment Court, at great expense. Mr. Griffiths said the Department of Planning is of the opinion this type of development would breach State legislation as it would take too much water away from areas downstream.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

8000 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that the following items be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

10.20 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & WORKPLACE RELATIONS P1-13 + E5-3 (31189)

Thanking Council for its submission to Round One of the Jobs Fund and advising that, following the assessment process, the application for Warrena Creek Weir Overflow has been unsuccessful. Advising the Department will be conducting feedback sessions by telephone between Monday 21 September and Friday 20 October 2009 and should Council wish to take the opportunity to receive feedback on its proposal it should make a booking.

8001 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Director of Engineering Services, through the General Manager, be instructed to discuss the unsuccessful application through the feedback sessions.

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8002 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that authority be given to the General Manager to lodge a submission should grant funding opportunities arise.

**10.21 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW T4-2
(31184)**

Advising that over the past 18 months the Associations have been running two significant projects focusing on improving Local Government's role in Natural Resource Management (NRM). Saying that the projects have developed a range of tools and resources to assist councils in achieving good environmental outcomes for their local communities, the most significant resource is a set of *Guidelines on Integrating Natural Resource Management into Local Government Operations*. Enclosing a copy of the Guidelines, along with all other tools and resources developed by the Associations, for Council's use.

8003 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that this information be noted.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

8004 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

8005 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council note Development Application Nos. 026/2009 & 029/2009, together with Complying Development Application Nos. 028/2009 & 033/2009 & 036/2009, have been approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

11.2 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN NO 1 – COONAMBLE TOWNSHIP & SURROUNDS – DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND USE

In accordance with a request from Council, the General Manager submitted a report on requirements for the expanded industrial estate being developed and, in particular, restriction on residential use within that zone. He said Councillors should be aware that the existing industrial subdivision has become as much a residential area as one utilized for business.

Mr. Griffiths referred to the draft of an Annexure that will affix to DCP No. 1 was included with the business paper and said Councillors need to carefully examine each of the provisions to avoid misunderstandings and difficulties when the conditions are imposed.

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The General Manager said in respect of residential provisions specified under clause 2.7(d), these have been developed having regard to other councils' requirements. He said it is considered that the development requirements are not onerous, contain many of the provisions contained in legislation and are needed to ensure the orderly development of the industrial estate extension.

Councillors were reminded that a statement of environmental effects is required under the provisions. The General Manager reported that the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act allows Council to both develop and amend development control plans, however only one DCP can apply to any individual parcel of land.

Mr. Griffiths asked for Councillors comments. He said Council must allow the construction of a caretaker's flat on developments, if requested, however the building is not to be any more than 55 square metres.

8006 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council place the amended draft Development Control Plan No 1 on public exhibition for a period of twenty eight days, allowing an additional fourteen days for public submissions and again consider the adoption of the Instrument, along with those suggestions by the public, at the November 2009 Council meeting.

11.3 PRACTICE NOTE NO 9 – COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT IN COUNCILS

The General Manager reported that the Department of Local Government, in conjunction with the NSW Ombudsman, released the above Practice Note and this was considered by Council at its August meeting. He said that provisions of the Practice Note have been examined and found to basically align with the practices currently undertaken in dealing with complaints and/or service requests.

Mr. Griffiths said he found that insufficient monitoring/follow-up of requests was being effected and this procedure has now been modified. He said the reporting of poor customer service in respect of complaints/requests has been minimal for the past two years.

8007 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Webb and O'Brien that Council note the provisions of Practice Note No. 9 – Complaints Management in Councils – are being complied with and in the future more emphasis will be placed on following up of complaints.

11.4 REVIEW OF STATE PLAN

The General Manager pointed out that during discussions with Department of State and Regional Development issues were raised in respect of Government Departments placing obstacles in the path of developments in this Shire. Mr. Griffiths said that as a result he received an invitation on 24 August 2009 to

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attend the Dubbo forum dealing with the Review of the NSW State Plan on 25 August.

The General Manager reported on many of the issues raised at the forum and provided Council with a list of priorities for this area, pointing out that this whole area was omitted from the review. He said approximately 180 people attended the workshop.

Priorities for this area:

- Government departments cooperating and working towards positive outcomes;
- 'One size fits all' approach, such as provision of child care facilities in small centres; assistance to businesses on State-based formula; lack of flexibility in land use planning;
- Water auction disadvantaged potential employment-based businesses;
- Rail policies not holding up to scrutiny – main line loading;
- Extraction of sand from river – five Government departments involved, but declined to hold planning focus meeting;
- Lack of infrastructure to allow area involvement in renewable energy and bio-fuels.

8008 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council note the late invitation to participate in the Review of the NSW State Plan and confirm the priorities submitted.

**11.5 REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
– ROUND TWO**

The General Manager referred to advice to the July 2009 meeting that another grant is available from the Federal Government under the above Program. He said it was suggested that Council could utilize the \$30,000 funding to simply assist with the expansion of the industrial subdivision or, alternatively, provide photovoltaic panels for a community building and claim the 60 cents/kilowatt hour green energy subsidy available from the State Government.

Mr. Griffiths said that whilst Council has submitted a further application under the Local Infrastructure Fund of the State Government for a grant towards the industrial subdivision expansion, the result of that will not be available for some time. He referred to the Director of Corporate Services' report that an additional amount has been added to reserve funds for the business precinct project.

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The General Manager informed the meeting that quotation has been received from LJWSolar Pty Ltd in an amount of \$36,000 for the supply and installation of a 5kw interactive solar system capable of connection to the electricity grid. He said it is felt that an ideal location would be the Museum with the resulting income from subsidy helping to defray ongoing costs associated with that facility. Mr. Griffiths said that Council is working towards a carbon neutral footprint and this project would assist in those endeavours, given that Country Energy cannot supply 100% green power.

Council noted that the subsidy is estimated to reap up to \$5,000/annum and this could go towards operational costs of the Museum or, alternatively, placed in reserve for additional solar units in the future. The General Manager pointed out there is a range of other worthy projects and Council may wish to consider one or more of these in lieu of the one suggested above.

8009 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council agree to provide photovoltaic panels on the north side of the Coonamble Museum building with the \$30,000 funding, claim the 60 cents/kilowatt hour green energy subsidy available from the State Government and fund the extra \$6,000 from the Development Reserve.

**11.6 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – DELIVERY OF SERVICES –
NSW DEPARTMENT OF STATE & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT &
COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL**

The General Manager reported that Council has, for many years, dealt cooperatively with the NSW Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) and the mutual benefits that have accrued contributed to the betterment of business in this Shire. He said DSRD is currently trialling a new Memorandum of Understanding with a few Councils in the western area and requested that Coonamble participate by signing a similar agreement.

Mr. Griffiths provided a copy of the agreement, as signed, to each councillor and said that it does not commit Council to any expenditure and/or workload with the exception of the provision of a quarterly activity report. He said that in negotiating the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding it was identified that Council was not receiving updates on the outcome of referrals, nor with the result of new economic activity in this area and these items have been incorporated into the document.

The meeting noted that DSRD will now pay Council a set fee of \$8,000 per annum to recognize its role in the conduct and promotion of business workshops and provide temporary office access when Departmental staff visit this area.

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8010 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Webb that Council endorse the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for delivery of services between DSRD and Council.

11.7 USE OF COUNCIL EQUIPMENT

The General Manager reported that organizations continually request use of Council equipment, such as lectern, data projector, overhead projector, public address system, display boards, guillotine and folding machine. He said that whilst Section 355 Committees of Council are welcome to use any items that may assist their organizations in carrying out the functions delegated to them by Council, fringe organizations, including businesses, make requests to borrow items.

Council noted that the lectern was donated by the Coonamble Art Society in 1990 for 'Coonamble Community' and that it was recently refurbished by the Men's Shed at a small cost to Council. The General Manager said he has issued instruction that it is not to be utilized outside of the Council Chambers, pointing out that this item, in particular, has been damaged during transit, being placed in the back of utilities and the like.

The General Manager sought Council's guidance as to the handling of future requests.

8011 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and Canham that the lending and/or hiring of Council's equipment, such as described in the General Manager's report, be on a case by case basis at the General Manager's discretion.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

8012 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that the information submitted in regard to rates is not yet showing write-offs from the recent sale of land for overdue rates/charges. He informed the meeting that there are still some outstanding transactions.

8013 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 31 August 2009 be noted.

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12.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

Council noted the investments and that interest rates have risen. A question was asked regarding Reliance Credit Union rate of 3.25% and the General Manager said this investment does support a financial institution in Gulargambone. The Mayor said Council's investments are a good result.

8014 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that that the Investments held at 31 August 2009 be noted and it also be noted that Council's Investments comply with s625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

12.3 RESERVES – 30 JUNE 2009

12.4 COUNCIL INTERNAL RESERVES

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a comprehensive report on this matter, together with list of the reserves indicating transfers from and transfers to and suggested that the reports be considered in conjunction. He pointed out that the amount transferred from reserve reflects the activities of Council over the 12 month period and the expenditure amounts funded from this reserve. He listed amounts transferred to reserves that reflect assumptions made by senior staff to address Council's sustainable operations.

Mr. Warren reported that at the end of the 2008/2009 financial year Council held \$12,314,528.15 in cash and submitted the following information to show how the cash is allocated and restricted.

Cash		\$12,314,528.15
External Restrictions (less)		
• Unexpended grant funds	\$ 223,901.14	
• Domestic waste management	\$ 207,497.30	
• Water fund	\$4,428,402.81	
• Sewer fund	\$2,220,667.74	
Unrestricted		\$ 5,234,059.16
Internal Restrictions (less)	\$5,210,287.78	
Unrestricted cash		\$ 23,771.38

8015 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council note the reserves as at 30 June 2009.

The General Manager informed the meeting that the Director of Corporate Services has informed him that the position of Council's plant replacement reserve is not strong and should be reviewed.

8016 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council:
(1) Adopt the movements in its internal reserves and the balance of unrestricted cash;

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- (2) Conduct a review of the plant replacement program and plant requirements – such review to include a review of:
- (a) plant hire rates
 - (b) replacement program
 - (c) cycle of replacement
 - (d) rationalization of plant fleet.

12.5 RETURNS – DISCLOSING PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Director of Corporate Services reminded Councillors and designated persons that they are required to complete and lodge disclosure of interest returns by the end of September each year. Mr. Warren said these returns are to be tabled at the next meeting of Council after 30 September and that they cover the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

8017 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that this report be noted and any outstanding Pecuniary Interest forms be returned to the Director of Corporate Services before 30 September, 2009.

12.6 FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

Council noted that Spencer Steer, Council's Auditors, have completed their audit of Council's records for the year ended 30 June 2009 and provided a report to Council.

The Director of Corporate Services said that it is a requirement that Council's Financial Reports and Auditor's Report be presented at a public meeting within five (5) weeks of Council receiving the audit report. Mr. Warren said these reports are tabled at this meeting and a copy has been provided to each Councillor with their Business Paper.

The Director reported that Council has unrestricted cash and investments amounting to \$24,000 available to provide liquidity for day to day operations and that in the opinion of the Auditors Council's overall financial position is sound. He said Council has received an unqualified audit opinion relating to its financial reports.

8018 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council note the tabling of the presentation and tabling of its Auditor's Report and Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2009, noting that Coonamble Shire Council was the third council in the State to have audited statements to the Department and that the Director and his staff be congratulated and thanked for their efforts.

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12.7 COST STATEMENTS – QUARRY, SALEYARDS & COMMON RESERVES

The Director of Corporate Services tabled statements detailing income and expenditure of the Quarry, Saleyards and Common for the year ended 30 June 2009.

8019 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that the statements showing details of income and expenditure of the Quarry, Saleyards and Common for year ended 30 June 2009 be noted.

LOADING RAMP – COONAMBLE COMMON

The Mayor reported that he has received complaints about the inefficiency of the loading ramp at the Coonamble Common and requested that the Manager – Rural Industries investigate and remedy the problem.

12.8 RATE CERTIFICATE AT LEVY 2009/2010

Council noted that the 2009/2010 rate notices were levied according to the minimums and cents in the dollar adopted for each rate category at a meeting on 10 June 2009 and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act. A copy of the Rate Certificate at Levy 2009/2010 was attached to the business paper.

8020 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and O'Brien that Council note the Rate Certificate at Levy for 2009/2010 and authorise the affixing of the Seal to the document.

At this juncture, 1.05 p.m., the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 1.45 p.m.

13.0 REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

8021 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

13.1 PROGRESS REPORT – AUGUST 2009

The Director of Engineering Services provided an update of works in progress, works rostered and status of other projects during the month of August.

Councillor Schieb asked why overtime was being worked on the Highway – the Manager – Services said she was not sure, however would expect that contractors were booked. She pointed out that if Council is not ready for them to proceed, there is often a lengthy hold up with that particular job.

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Councillor Schieb also asked why traffic lights are still in operation on the Highway when work is not in progress. The Manager informed him that the area is still a 'work site' and speed limits are enforced to protect the travelling public.

8022 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the progress report submitted by the Director of Engineering Services be noted.

13.2 FUEL ADDITIVES

The Director of Engineering Services reported that Council has been approached by a local fuel additive distributor with the expectation of developing a contractual relationship with the council to supply diesel fuel additive. The Director reported that the issue has been considered by Council previously, when it resolved:

“As a matter of policy not introduce or use any fuel additive in any of its vehicles unless the additive has been endorsed for usage by the manufacturer”

Mr Gamage stated that in a letter dated 01/12/1992 Caterpillar advised Council that “damage which occurred to Caterpillar engines and which could be directly related to the use of another manufacturer’s product in our engine would not be to Caterpillar’s account”. He said Council had received similar responses from various vehicle companies.

The Director said there is a lot of written material on the use of fuel additives and savings of fuel costs. He reported that the most impressive article was one of Professor Dongke Zhang of the University of Western Australia for the “Mining Australia” magazine, April 2009 edition.

Mr. Gamage said that according to the magazine, the Professor has developed a fuel additive that has the ability to deliver fuel savings and engine performance improvements. The Director stated that again according to the magazine, early investigation at BHP’s Mt Keith Nickel mine showed large savings in Caterpillar dump trucks.

8023 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Webb that Council continue with the existing policy and not use any fuel additive that is not endorsed by the manufacturer.

13.3 FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

The Director of Engineering Services reported that since 1 July 2004 NSW Health has offered 100% subsidy to Water Supply Authorities who wish to upgrade or commence fluoridation of public water supplies of the capital costs. Currently no statement has been made by NSW Health with regards to the completion date of the subsidy program.

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Mr. Gamage referred to other towns within the greater local area which are fluoridated including Dubbo, Wellington, Gilgandra, Nyngan, Cobar, with the following towns being naturally fluoridated Warren (1.19ppm), Trangie (0.69ppm), Dunedoo (0.62ppm) and Carinda (0.84ppm). He said those considered not to have a level of fluoride to achieved beneficial effect (1ppm) are Coonabarabran, Coonamble and Gulargambone .

Council noted that the levels of natural fluoridation within the Shire's three water supplies are:

- Coonamble 0.37 ppm
- Gulargambone 0.2 ppm
- Quambone 0.54 ppm

The Director pointed out that a public meeting was held at the Coonamble Bowling Club with 19 people present (general public 8 off, Councillors 3 off, Council Staff 3 off, NSW Health 4 off, Anti fluoridation speaker 1 off). No separate public meeting for Gulargambone community was held however the Coonamble meeting was advertised as covering this area. Mr. Gamage provided a summary of the meeting in his report.

Mr Gamage pointed out that because of the extreme toxicity of the chemicals used for fluoridation, there is a strict Code of Practice to be adopted by water supply authorities. He said training of operational staff, daily plant inspection (including Christmas Day), and daily water testing for overdose are some of the strict requirements of the Code. The Director said that five employees from the Engineering section (including himself) undertook the training last month - results are expected shortly.

The Director further reported that while Gulargambone is ready to start fluoridation, commissioning Coonamble plant is not possible as yet since only one of three water pumping stations is equipped with a fluoridation plant. He said an application to the Department of Heath has been made for additional funding and the Department has indicated that financial assistance (almost 100%) will be provided to install plants for the remaining pumping stations.

Council noted that on 5 October 2006, Director General of the Department of Health granted approval to add fluorine to Coonamble and Gulargambone town water and this was published in the Government Gazette on 13 October 2006.

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The Director of Engineering Services reported that the cost of supply and installation of two fluoridation plants as required for the remaining two pumping stations is \$140,000. He said that approximately 96% of this will be reimbursed by the Department of Health however, the cost of laboratory facilities, staff training costs, operation costs and material costs will not be reimbursed.

8024 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council endorse the actions of the Director of Engineering Services in seeking and gaining additional funding to complete the fluoridation project for Coonamble and note the information provided by the Director.

The General Manager informed Council that the Director of Engineering Services has been advised the Department of Water and Energy will not approve Council's proposed method of removing iron, however Council may be successful if it submits another application for full treatment of the Coonamble Water Supply.

Mr. Griffiths said the Director of Engineering Services is attending a Water Conference in Deniliquin to follow up potential grants for both fluoridation and water filtration. The General Manager commended his report on fluoridation.

14.0 MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW & QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 30 JUNE 2009

In accordance with Section 407 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 it is necessary to report Council within two months of the end of each quarter the extent to which the performance targets of Council, set by the Management Plan, have been achieved and submit a review of the estimates of income and expenditure for Council's consideration – (attached A3 sheets).

The Director provided a list of major budget variations/reason for Council's consideration and answered questions as Councillors perused the various items and commented on the following:

- Gulargambone Sewerage – being propped up by Coonamble Sewer
- Water Funds – looking at the operation of these funds and will submit a report to the February 2010 meeting.
- Telephone – Commander System currently used is old – replacement will be in next year's budget.

8026 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that Council:
(1) note the Management Plan Review;
(2) approve the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents;

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- (3) note that in the opinion of the responsible accounting officer, Council is in a satisfactory financial position;
- (4) note the position of Council's estimated Reserves at 30 June 2009.

The Mayor congratulated the Director of Corporate Services and the Finance Staff for their efforts.

15.0 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS COMMITTEES

8027 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the reports from various Committees be received and dealt with.

15.1 MEETING OF OH&S COMMITTEE

8028 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that the minutes of the OH&S Committee meeting held on 4 August 2009 be received and dealt with.

(a) Item 3.6 - Council Grandstands

It was noted that the Committee recommends that Council grandstands be taken out of service until they are assessed by a structural engineer.

8029 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Cullen and O'Brien that Council not adopt the recommendation and the grandstands continue to be used when required and instruction given to have them assessed by Council staff as a priority.

(b) 10kph Speed Limit – Council Car Park

8030 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Webb that not adopt the Committee's recommendation to install speed humps – Council does not agree to the installation of speed humps in the Council car park area.

15.2 MEETING OF AFTER SCHOOL CARE (Vacation Care)

8031 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the minutes of the After School Care (Vacation Care) meeting held on 22 July 2009 be noted.

18.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

8032 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Webb that the Saleyard Manager's Report for the month of August, 2009 be adopted.

19.0 REPORT BY CONTRACT RANGER

The General Manager explained that the Contract Ranger has been away to attend to a family commitment. She is now back on duty, however did not have sufficient time to submit a report for August 2009.

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8033 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Webb and Canham that Council note due to unforeseen circumstances the Contract Ranger was unable to submit a report to this meeting.

General Business:

Cr Canham:

- Future Meetings in Quambone
- 8034 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that if the Quambone Hall is not available for September Council meetings in future, they be scheduled at Coonamble.
- Grading of Park Street – requested why Council does carry out maintenance grading down to McHugh's property at the very end of Park Street. The Director of Engineering Services has been asked to look into this request.

Cr. Webb:

- Industrial Signage – asked staff to look into the provision/erection of appropriate signage for the new industrial area. Commented that he has raised this matter previously and nothing has been done.

Cr Schieb:

- RTA – Heavy Vehicle Inspection Station – Coonamble – suggested Council approach RTA direct, ascertain requirements – he is sure that the cost is not as high as previously reported to Council. GM said there is no certainty that the RTA will resume the service at Coonamble.
- 8035 RESOLVED** on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council make direct contact with the RTA, seeking minimum requirements for a heavy vehicle inspection station and ask whether it would be prepared to enter into a contract regarding the service **AND FURTHER** that representatives of the RTA be invited to address Council to clarify this issue and explain its terms and conditions
- Removal of tree stump – A1 Tree Services – in receipt of letter from the Cypress Motel proprietor regarding the removal of a tree stump near the Motel by A1 Tree Services – stating the work was carried out at night. Asked whether Council paid overtime. The Manager – Services said Council does not pay overtime to this Service.

Cr. O'Brien:

- Councillor Weekend – thanked Council for the opportunity to attend and also thanked Raquel for organizing the event in such an excellent fashion.

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Director of Corporate Services:

- I.T. Position – informed Council that the employment of I.T. Officer was terminated on Monday 7 September. Local contractor will provide service for the time being – may advertise position again for the day to day running of the system.

General Manager:

- I.T Position – has been suggested to get trainee for the position – however Council needs a level of expertise higher than could be expected of a school leaver.
- OROC Executive Officer – Belinda Roberts has commenced in this position – working from Narromine. Next meeting will be held on 25 October, 2009.
- Police Radio – Land for Radio Tower – informed Council they have equipment on the old silo at present. Looking for somewhere to re-install the equipment – suggested end of Wilga Street at the airport. Another suggested was the Pound (cnr Quambone Road/Memorial Drive).

Cr O'Brien:

- Council house – Gulargambone – GM advised that the house is not under offer at the present time.

Mayor:

- Tree removed from area adjacent to Council building (near bus shelter) – needs to be replaced.
- Treatment Works – is being used – what is the situation? Council was advised that lease with former lessee not renewed because the land is required for Council use.
- Parks & Gardens – looking good – asked staff to arrange to have garden beds in Macdonald Park planted with flowers early - also the beds in the main street – preferably before Moorambilla to have looking colourful.
- Aurora / Demand Farming – contact seems to have been lost – Council paid to be part of the projects proposed – what is present situation?

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8036 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Webb that Council contact Demand Farming asking the organization to clarify its position and to advise Council of plans as a matter of urgency.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 2.45 p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/4265 to 32/4296) were confirmed on the day
of2009 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the
ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 9 September 2009.

MAYOR