

Coonabarabran:

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Calls from within Shire
1300 795 099

Calls from outside Shire area
Coonabarabran:
02 6849 2000

Coolah: 02 6378 5000

Fax: 02 6842 1337

Email:
info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au

Coonabarabran - Coolah - Dunedoo - Baradine - Binnaway - Mendooran

Please address all mail to:
The General Manager

Please refer enquiries to: **Rachael Carlyle**
Doc ID: 123387

10 November 2020

Leanne Redfern
Chief Executive Officer
Cooinda Coonabarabran Limited
12-14 Neate St
Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Email: admin@cooinda.coona.com.au

Dear Ms Redfern

**Cooinda Water Debtors Account update – Rates Assessment 10045417
\$71,554.33 outstanding as at 9 November 2020**

Further to Council's brief discussion with David Cholson week ending 8 November 2020, I advise the following in relation to the water usage and charging for Cooinda to date.

At the Council water account for the amount of \$50,263.02, issued 4 October 2019 (meter read August 2019), it was found that one of the water meters (no: 15002973) had changed its registering value from 2kl to 11,145kl.

This large variation was questioned by Cooinda, the meter was reread and the reading was confirmed. Due to the high consumption it was thought that there must be a severe leak on the Cooinda side of the meter. When this was not evident Council replaced the meter and sent it for testing.

A week later the newly installed meter was read and the rate of consumption on this meter appeared to confirm the level of water consumption on the old meter if extrapolated back to its original installation date (29/02/2016). This brought into doubt whether the meter had been missed for reading from installation until August 2019. However, the Director Environment and Development, on questioning the meter readers, was reassured that this was not the case.

The water meter test on the original meter was received by Council 16 December 2019 and unfortunately only identified a meter recording error over read of 4.53%. Council staff then applied this recording error to the readings and recalculated what the quarterly bills would have been if applied over the life of the original meter, (29/02/2016 installation date to the replacement meter date of 25/11/2019). The total of the 'correction' was \$9,581.53 and this was applied to the Cooina Account.

The new meter continues to record water consumption that reinforces the extrapolated usage referred to above.

The current Water Account outstanding balance amount of \$71,554.33 is therefore is considered correct at this time. However, Council understands the budgetary constraints on organisations such as Cooina and that the impact on Cooina of the unexpected additional water billing may be difficult to cater for.

Under the circumstances Council is willing to hold interest on the account subject to the following:

- The outstanding balance of \$71,554.33 be paid in monthly payments of at least \$10,000.00 to clear the arrears by 30 November 2021, and
- subsequent quarterly bills are paid as they are issued for payment.

Please respond to this letter by the 27 November 2020 and for further enquiries on this matter please contact Council's Kim Parker or Rachael Carlyle at Council's Offices.

Yours Sincerely



KIM PARKER
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES