

**MINUTES OF THE COONABARABRAN COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETING HELD AT
COONABARABRAN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 8 APRIL 2019 COMMENCING AT
5:30PM**

PRESENT: Cr Kodi Brady, Cr Aniello Iannuzzi (Deputy Mayor), Cr Fred Clancy Cr Ray Lewis, Cr Ambrose Doolan, Cr Peter Shinton, Cr Anne-Louise Capel, Peter Small, Juleen Young, Sue Baker, Lyn Sanson, Amanda Jones, Wes Leedham, Julie Shinton, John Whitehead, Jane McWhirter, Richard Thornton, Paula Brookfield, Robert Brookfield, Simon Tighe, Zoe Holcombe, Craig Foster, Paula Foster, Guy Andrews, Dianne Dow, Joel Amiet, Laurie Dawson, Ang Fairman, Demi Knight, Celia Canham, Jessica Taylor, Sally Taylor, Peter Jackson, Rodney MacCallum, Peter Brookhouse, Semret Goitom, Steve Turner, Dave Hunter, Anne Harris, Rhonda Jewiss, Robert Dean, Stephen Lill, Julianne Thompson, Stephen Coe, Ian Cormie, Kira Alexander, Sam Bragg, Mark Prugger, Peter Samios, Roger Bailey (General Manager), Leeanne Ryan (Director Development Services), Kevin Tighe (Director Technical Services, Claudia Westoby (Minutes)

APOLOGIES: Cr Denis Todd (Mayor), Cr Wendy Hill

INTRODUCTION

Cr Iannuzzi welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the General Manager (GM), the Director Technical Services (DTS), the Director Environment and Development Services (DEDS). Cr Iannuzzi outlined how the meeting will be run.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Community Consultation Meeting held in Coonabarabran on Monday, 29 October 2018 were discussed. Minutes were tabled at the December 2018 Council meeting and were sent out to attendees of the October meeting as well as being available on Council's website.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Guinema Road

Concerns raised about the Guinema Road included;

- Corrugates in the road were extreme causing damage to cars.
- Flood Damage from the server rain.
- Community members were told Council could not grade it due to the lack of water but no community members were asked about using local water.
- Exposed pipes in the road due to the rain
- No road signage to indicate the road was washed out.
- Is the gravel pit on Box Ridge Road to be used for this road maintenance.

Director Technical Services (DTS) advised that Council is working to repair all that have been damaged due to the server rain. The class of road which Guniema Road is classified as it should be graded every 12-18 months, but is subject to change with weather conditions and water. Council is happy to receive called regarding damaged roads and Council is looking into insurance funding due to flash flooding in areas which will fund all the repairs. DTS requested to catch up with Zoe Holcombe regarding the gravel pit on box ridge road after the meeting.

Action: DTS to investigate

General Waste and Water Rates

Has already been answered

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Charles Street Maintenance

Concerns raised around the footpath and the gutters and the edge of the footpath. Needs maintenance at the school end of Charles Street as it is very dangerous to walk along with many holes in the path. Located up Charles Street is the Vinnies nursing home which makes it difficult for these people to walk along to footpath forcing them to walking along the road. Request for Council to investigate and allocate a budget to fixing the issue.

Action: DTS will investigate the footpath on Charles Street.

Fluoride in town water supply

Community members raised concerns around the status of fluoride in the Coonabarabran Town Water supply. Issues which were raised included;

- Why is it taking so long to get this problem resolved.
- Not enough communication to the public regarding the status of the project/repair.
- Who is the specialist consultant that Council is working with to resolve the issue.

The General Manager advised that Council is working closely with the NSW Department of Health to resolve the issue and had a meeting with Councilors and NSW Health a couple of weeks ago. Council is working on the issue but it is not only Warrumbungle Shire Council area which is encountering these problems.

Action: Council will look into release more information to the public regarding the progress of this project.

Help the community with the effects of the drought

Community member raised issues regarding the affects of the drought and how they have effected the community. Issues included;

- Community members want to know what Council has done to help the affects of the severe drought.
- Small business owners can no longer afford apprentice, school based trainees and no more employees
- Rates have been increase
- No roads maintenance for farmers
- gone forward with the Tourist roads including Timor Road being to narrow.
- No truck parking and no service station for Trucks.
- Main Street has lost its vibe as small business are closing and the town is waiting more restaurants and shops.

General Manager advised that Council has received over \$960,000 worth of funding from the Federal Government as an injection into our local economies during this drought. Council have also made representations to local members regarding the drought and help for our community.

Director Environmental Development Services (DEDS) advised that the Economic and Tourism Strategy has been released, which has areas which will economic development in our small towns, small business idea with government industries and Council is hosting a new business idea workshop which should provide more opportunities.

Acting Mayor Cr Iannuzzi told the community that everyone has been affected by the drought and we all are in similar situations, he addressed the following issues;

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- Rates is a council issue and unfortunately we do have some departments who have to pay there own way such as water and sewer. Council is unable to stop rate payments but Council has written to government members regarding rate relief.
- Road repairs have been put on hold due to the lack of water.
- Customer Service is flagged as a problem.
- Truck bypass is out of Councils hands as it will be funded by state or federal government
- Council has applied for Free Wifi in the shire towns.
- Council is looking into the Main Street
- Community need to look into the Donations Council offers.

Its important for Community members to come and talk to Council separately about the issues.

Local business owner told the community that local business are usually happy to price match to keep the local economy strong.

The community would like to see more aesthetically pleasing seating areas in the main street for the community and travelers and would like Council to consider looking into making the town streets a place for people to come together and promote community.

The community would also like to see CCTV camera installed in the car parks in Coonabarabran to prevent crime. General Manager advised that Council has received \$94,000 in funding for the installation of CCTV camera in Coonabarabran and Coolah. The aim is to have this project completed before this financial year.

COUNCIL UPDATES AND INFORMATION

Town Water Supply

Supervisor Warrumbungle Water North Martin Gordon provided the community with an overview on the water situation in Coonabarabran and what Council has put in place as part of the emergency funding.

Items discussed included;

- Level 6 water restrictions were introduced in March of 2018
 - Council has not drawn any water from the Dam since May 2018
 - Council installed 8 new bores with emergency funding to secure the towns water supply, one of these bore did not supply sufficient water to warrant equipping.
 - Council now received \$2,042,500 in funding for emergency water works in Coonabarabran.
 - Bore 12 is at Timor dam and is due to be finalised in May 2019
 - Council has not drawn water from the river for town supply since January 2019
 - 10 out of 12 bores are operational in Coonabarabran
 - Restrictions in Coonabarabran have now been decreased to Level 4
 - Council is currently producing between 0.8ML and 1.1ML a day at the Water Treatment Plant depending on demand.
 - All new bores are equipped with level sensors and this is monitored daily as well as flow from each bore.
 - At this stage there has been no significant drop in bore levels
 - Timor Dam received 66ml of rain from the rain event 29 March 2019 - 30 March 2019 with this the dam rose 500mm and is currently sitting at 20.26% or 6.7m below the crest.
 - Whilst the river is now flowing again through the v-notch at the weir Council have not resumed taking any water from the weir pool.
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Community request for Council to look into dredging the Top Weir and Drum Street Weir.

Action: Manager Warrumbungle Water (MWW) will investigate and take that on notice.

New Business Ideas Workshop

The DEEDS spoke about the New Business Ideas Workshop being held at Coonabarabran Council Chambers on Wednesday, 10 April 2019. The Workshop will discuss tendering and new projects. Speakers include a representative from Inland Rail to discuss business opportunities that will be available to the community, and the requirements of engagement, eg licences and insurances.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Town beautification committee

Community member notified the meeting that there is a letter in the pipe line and the letter will go to the next Council Meeting held in April 2019.

Grant for My Community Project 2019

Community member advised that there is a grant open at the moment call My Community Project and is a great grant for local projects and ideas.

MEETING CLOSED: 7:18PM
