
PRESENT: Cr Peter Shinton (Mayor), Cr Gary Andrews, Cr Anne Louise Capel, Cr Fred Clancy, Cr Denis Todd, Cr Ron Sullivan, Steve Loane (General Manager), Stefan Murru (Director Corporate & Community Services), Leeanne Ryan (Director Development Services), Kevin Tighe (Director Technical Services), Louise Johnson (Manager Children's & Community Services), Jack Ayoub, Brenda Baker, Kodi Brady, Michelle Brady, Barbara Broeksema, Sue Brookhouse, Peter Brookhouse, Karyn Cain, Dianne Dow, Liz Fox, Robin Groves, Jane Judd, Louise Knight, Warwick Knight, Inspector David Maher, Joy Pickette, Annette Roach, John Sawyer, Julie Shinton, Peter Small, Debbie Taylor, and Peter Thompson.

APOLOGIES: Cr Victor Schmidt, Cr Chris Sullivan

CHAIR: Steve Loane (General Manager)

MINUTES: Louise Johnson (Manager Children's and Community Services)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED that the Minutes of the Coonabarabran Community Consultation Meeting, held on 23 March 2015 be accepted.

Cr Shinton/Cr Capel

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Development Group

The new Development Group for Coonabarabran was discussed.

RDA Toilet

The repair of the RDA toilet was brought up at the meeting.

Petroleum Licence

The fact that petroleum licence 450 is out of date by three years was mentioned at the meeting. It was suggested that Council could write to the relevant government department about this.

AGENDA ITEMS

Fit for the Future

The General Manager provided an overview of the Fit for the Future process and current challenges being faced by Council. The meeting discussed the proposals put forward by Council. If any of the proposals outlined in the Extraordinary Business Paper were to be implemented then consultation would be undertaken with the community.

The proposed rate rise has been included in the later years of the proposal. It is hoped that this would not be required. Any proposed rate rise would require extensive community consultation and would be tied to special projects.

2015/16 Budget

The Director Corporate and Community Services distributed a document providing an overview of Councils' 2015/16 budget, including items specific to Coonabarabran. This information, as well as information for other towns, will be available on Council's website.

Residents asked:

- a) If information regarding how projects are funded could be included in future documents.
- b) How Council's implementation of solar power is progressing. Uralla Council was noted as having completed a similar project.

Meeting was advised the solar power project is progressing well. In the next stage, Council will call for an Expression of Interest to supply solar power on buildings across the Shire.

Customer Service Charter

The Director Corporate and Community Services distributed Councils new Customer Service Charter and provided an overview of the process as well as the Charter. Residents were asked to review the Charter and provide feedback. Cultural Awareness training was also discussed.

Electronic Housing Code

The Director Development Services distributed information on the Electronic Housing Code. This, and further, information is available on Council's website.

Comprehensive Property Addressing System Program

Council distributed information on the Comprehensive Property Addressing System Program. Residents were asked to provide feedback on the map and also experiences with addressing.

Councils Investments

Residents asked about Council's ethical investment strategy. It was noted that as well as seeking the best return, Council could consider ethical investment in addition to this. Council's investments are noted in the Business Paper which is available on Council's website.

Disability Respite Home

Residents noted that there are around 26 parents in the local community who require respite for their adult children who have a disability. Currently parents need to travel to Gilgandra or Narrabri to access respite. Council to investigate the matter further.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Mobile Phone and Internet Coverage

A representative from the Coonabarabran Chamber of Commerce requested that Council write to relevant levels of Government regarding poor mobile phone and internet coverage in Coonabarabran and surrounds.

Woolworths Carpark Lane

Residents raised concerns regarding parking and use of the Woolworths Carpark Lane. This is not Council property and Council have no jurisdiction over this.

WACCI Art Gallery

Residents raised the possibility of an Art Gallery being established in Coonabarabran. Council will work with WACCI on this through Council's Tourism Team.

Coonabarabran Pool Hoist

The meeting discussed concerns regarding the pool hoist at the Coonabarabran Swimming Pool. The hoist is not in operation at present and therefore people with a disability are not able to access the pool. Council will investigate this issue.

Warkton Road Bridge

Concerns were raised about the replacement of Warkton bridge.

Weeds

Weed control is the responsibility of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) and all matters regarding weeds should be reported directly to the CMCC

Coonabarabran Youth Club

The current status of the Coonabarabran Youth Club was discussed. It was noted that there is an agreement in place with the current users.

Mowing of Footpaths

Question was raised regarding mowing and the frequency footpaths are mowed at Ulamambri. Council advised footpaths are mowed on an as needed basis.

Ulamambri Hall

Meeting discussed if Council would consider taking over as the Trustee of Ulamambri Hall. Council suggested a meeting should be booked with Council to discuss this.

Communication of Council Programs and Initiatives

Council was commended on the excellent programs and initiatives being implemented. It was suggested that Council consider more promotion of current programs and initiatives.

Meeting Closed: 4:45pm