

COONAMBLE

SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES

**Ordinary Council Meeting
Wednesday, 15 April 2026**

**MINUTES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE
ON WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2026 AT 9 AM**

PRESENT: Mayor Daniel Keady, Deputy Mayor Steven Butler, Cr Karen Churchill, Cr Adam Cohen, Cr Paul Fisher, Cr Margaret Garnsey, Cr Phillipa Goldsmith, Cr Ahmad Karanouh, Cr Paul Wheelhouse

IN ATTENDANCE: Greg Hill (General Manager), Bruce Quarmby (Director Corporate Services), Kerrie Murphy (Director Infrastructure), Tony Payne (Director Sustainable Communities & Planning), Rebecca Payne (Executive Assistant)

1 OPENING MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9.04am, advising the attendees of the following:

- The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website and a person's image and/or voice may be broadcast;
- Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and /or voice being webcast (time will be allowed by the Chairperson for people to leave the meeting before it starts);
- All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing any personal information about another individual without their consent;
- Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending the meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments;
- The recording will be available on Council's website for a minimum of 12 months and retained as a Council record;
- Individuals acting in a disorderly manner can be asked by the Chairperson to leave the meeting under the Council's Code of Meeting Practice;
- The meeting must not be recorded by others without the prior written consent of the Council in accordance with the Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet today, the Wailwan people and the Gamilaroi people and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Nil

4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RESOLUTION 2026/31**

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 11 March 2026 and the Extraordinary Council Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Thursday, 19 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct records of the proceedings of the meetings.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Adam Cohen

CARRIED 8/0**6 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Adam Cohen declared a Pecuniary Interest declaration with:

Item 9.1 Corporate Services Progress Report as he has a contract with the Coonamble Pool. He indicated he will stay in the meeting to debate and vote on the matter.

7 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

8 MAYORAL MINUTE**MAYORAL MINUTE****RESOLUTION 2026/32**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Mayor Daniel Keady

That the Mayoral Minute for April 2026 be noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil
Absent: Cr Adam Cohen

CARRIED 8/0

SUPPORT FOR CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTION 2026/33

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher
Seconded: Mayor Daniel Keady

That council:

- 1. Notes the Country Mayors Association of NSW “Invest in US” campaign advocating for increased Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to Local Governments. The campaign seeks to restore at least 1% of total Commonwealth taxation revenue for local Councils across Australia.**
- 2. Recognises the critical role Local Government plays in delivering essential services and infrastructure that underpin community wellbeing, economic vitality and national resilience.**
- 3. Supports the campaign’s core message: ‘invest in us so we can invest in them.’**
- 4. Commits to participating in the campaign by:**
 - a. Sharing campaign materials through Council communication channels.**
 - b. Engaging with local media and community stakeholders to raise awareness.**
 - c. Lobbying Federal representative to support the funding increase.**
- 5. Requests the Mayor to write to the relevant Prime Minister, Treasurer, Federal Minister for Local Government, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, our local Member of Parliament and Senator expressing Council’s support for the campaign and urging their commitment to the proposed funding increase.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil
Absent: Cr Adam Cohen

CARRIED 8/0

At 9:20 am, Cr Adam Cohen attended the meeting.

9 SECTION A - FINANCE**9.1.A SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS - 2026/27 OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET UPDATE****RESOLUTION 2026/34**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That Council accepts the following item, 9.1.a - 2026/27 Operational Plan and Budget Update, as Supplementary Business.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

RESOLUTION 2026/35

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

- 1. Receive and note the 2026/27 Operational Plan and Budget Update report.**
- 2. Councillors to have a more active role in the budget process.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

9.1 CORPORATE SERVICES - PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/36**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Receive and note the Corporate Services Progress report.

- 1. The investments from 1 March 2026 to 31 March 2026 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

At 9:44 am, Cr Paul Wheelhouse left the meeting.

At 9:46 am, Cr Paul Wheelhouse returned to the meeting.

9.2 DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN - WATER AND SEWER

RESOLUTION 2026/37

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen

- 1. That Council receive and note the contents of the draft Water and Sewer Asset Management Plan.**
- 2. That the draft Water and Sewer Asset Management Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days, with submissions invited for a period of at least 42 days.**
- 3. That Council receive a further report following the completion of the public submission period, with a view to adopting the draft Water and Sewer Asset Management Plan.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10 SECTION B - GOVERNANCE AND GENERAL MANAGER

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLUTION 2026/38

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That the Correspondence Report for March 2026 be received and noted.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.2 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS/ACTIONS UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2026/39

Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council receive and note the Council Resolutions report and status.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

At 9:57 am, Cr Phillipa Goldsmith left the meeting.

At 9:58 am, Cr Phillipa Goldsmith returned to the meeting.

10.3 MORRIS PIPER – QUARTER 1 2026 PERFORMANCE REPORT

RESOLUTION 2026/40

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Receive and note the report.

- 1. That the General Manager prioritise utilisation of the remaining retainer allocation towards high-value grant opportunities and business case development aligned to Council's strategic priorities**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.4 COONAMBLE ARTESIAN BORE BATHS - LAND TENURE OPTIONS (CROWN LAND VS ACQUISITION)

Cr Margaret Garnsey – Clarified that there is no Coonamble Turf Club. The additional land manager is the Coonamble Racecourse and Recreation Land Manger who manages it in cooperation with the needs of the Coonamble Golf Club and the Coonamble Jockey Club. Coonamble Shire Council has been approved by the Coonamble Racecourse and Recreation Land Manger to manage a section of the reserve.

RESOLUTION 2026/41

Moved: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That council:

- 1. Proceed with the acquisition of the land.**
- 2. Request a further report be presented to Council at an appropriate stage**

of the project outlining:

- updated project costs and funding position
- detailed assessment of land acquisition costs, including native title implications
- long-term operational and asset management considerations
- a recommended position on land tenure (retain Crown land or proceed with acquisition).

3. **Note that Council will continue to engage with NSW Crown Lands and relevant stakeholders regarding appropriate tenure arrangements for the site as the project progresses.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Crs Steven Butler and Phillipa Goldsmith

CARRIED 7/2

10.5 GOVERNANCE QUARTERLY REPORT

RESOLUTION 2026/42

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Report on activities undertaken within the Corporate Governance division for the period January to March 2026.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.6 DRAFT DISPOSAL OF ASSETS POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/43

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen

That Council:

1. **Places the Draft Disposal of Assets Policy on public exhibition for 28 days and allow 42 days to receive submissions.**
2. **A further report be presented to Council with or without any changes to the Draft Disposal of Assets Policy.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and

Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.7 QUARRY UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2026/44

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

That Council receive and note the Mt Magometon Quarry Operations and Sales Report for the period July 2025 to March 2026.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

10.8 MINUTES OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ARIC) MEETING

RESOLUTION 2026/45

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

That Council receive and note the DRAFT minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 4 March 2026.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

11 SECTION C - PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

11.1 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND PLANNING DIRECTORATE REPORT

RESOLUTION 2026/46

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

That Council receive and note the Sustainable Communities and Planning

Directorate report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

The Council Meeting paused for recess at 10:33.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith, Ahmad Karanouh and Paul Wheelhouse

Against: Nil

CARRIED 9/0

At 10:33 am, Cr Paul Wheelhouse left the meeting.

11.2 KERBSIDE RECYCLING**RESOLUTION 2026/47**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

- 1. That Council does not introduce a kerbside recycling collection service at this time and that business as usual operations continue in the short term.**
- 2. That community consultation be carried out to determine appetite for a kerbside recycling service, given the likely increase to the Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC).**
- 3. That the expanded cardboard recycling and return and earn programs be acknowledged as achievable, cost-efficient environmental improvements in the interim.**
- 4. That staff continue to monitor regional recycling markets in anticipation of grant or partnership opportunities.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

11.3 MOORAMBILLA SOLAR FARM**RESOLUTION 2026/48**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Receive and note the Moorambilla Solar Farm update report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

11.4 PLANNING PROPOSAL FINALISATION: REZONING AND REMOVAL OF MINIMUM LOT SIZE OF OLD SHEEP SALEYARDS, BACK GULAR ROAD (PP-2025-345)

RESOLUTION 2026/49

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Adam Cohen

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the changes made to the Planning Proposal as outlined below in accordance with the requirements of the gateway determination, and**
- 2. Proceed with the amendment of the Coonamble Local Environmental Plan 2011 (Council ref: PP001/2025, Dept ref: PP-2025-345) to finalisation, and**
- 3. Request the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure, as planning proposal authority, proceed with and exercise the functions as local plan making authority for this amendment under section 3.36(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

11.5 SIGNAGE AUDIT UPDATE

RESOLUTION 2026/50

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the signage audit update report.**
- 2. Endorse option 2 of this report, which proposes the upgrading of the existing sign structures at the seven (7) current entrance sign locations along with adding two (2) new structures at entrance points on**

Tooraweenah Road and Carinda-Coonamble Road.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

11.6 COONAMBLE MUSEUM & STABLES – EMERGENCY REMEDIATION WORKS**RESOLUTION 2026/51**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That Council receive and note the report on the Coonamble Museum remedial conservation works assessment.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

11.7 HERITAGE REVIEW - COONAMBLE REFLECTIONS**RESOLUTION 2026/52**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the report.**
- 2. Provides feedback in the form of comments, questions or suggestions relating to the Stage 1 report of the Coonamble Reflections – Heritage Review project.**
- 3. That Councillors endeavour to attend one or both Information Sessions to be held in Coonamble and Gulargambone on 22 and 23 April 2026 – locations and times to be advised.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0**12 SECTION D - INFRASTRUCTURE****12.1 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS****RESOLUTION 2026/53**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh
Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Receive and note the Infrastructure Services - Works in Progress report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0**12.2 TOORAWEEAH ROAD UPGRADE - MONTHLY STATUS UPDATE****RESOLUTION 2026/54**

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey
Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Receive and note the Tooraweenah Road Upgrade Monthly Status report.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0**13 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil

14 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLUTION 2026/55**

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey
Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

14.1 Closed (Public Excluded) Extraordinary Council Meeting of the

Coonamble Shire Council - 19 March 2026**14.2 Sale of Land Unpaid Rates General Manager Contract Delegation**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(ii) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

14.1 CLOSED (PUBLIC EXCLUDED) EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL - 19 MARCH 2026**RESOLUTION 2026/31**

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

That the minutes of the Closed (Public Excluded) Extraordinary Council Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Thursday, 19 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

14.2 SALE OF LAND UNPAID RATES GENERAL MANAGER CONTRACT DELEGATION**RESOLUTION 2026/32**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

Receive and note the report.

- 1. Council considers the acquisition of the identified allotments at the upcoming auction for unpaid rates**
- 2. Authorise the General Manager to participate in the auction and bid on the allotments identified in this report, up to a maximum cumulative value of \$125,000.**
- 3. Authorise the affixing of the Council seal pursuant to Reg400(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2021**

- 4. Endorse the setting of reserve prices for all allotments at the Valuer General’s land valuations**
- 5. Authorise the Director Corporate Services to vary reserve prices at the time of auction (where necessary) to encourage competitive bidding and facilitate the sale of properties.**
- 6. That a deposit of 10% of the of the purchase price be paid immediately upon the fall of the auctioneer’s hammer and held as security for completion of the sale.**

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

RESOLUTION 2026/56

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad Karanouh

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr Paul Wheelhouse

CARRIED 8/0

15 Conclusion of the Meeting

The Meeting closed at 11:52.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council held on 13 May 2026.

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CHAIRPERSON