

**COONAMBLE**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 13 November 2024**

**MINUTES OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE  
ON WEDNESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 9:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Daniel Keady, Cr Steven Butler, Cr Karen Churchill, Cr Adam Cohen (via video link), Cr Paul Fisher, Cr Margaret Garnsey, Cr Phillipa Goldsmith, Cr Ahmad Karanouh,

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Paul Gallagher (General Manager), Bruce Quarmby (Director Corporate Services), Kerrie Murphy (Director Infrastructure), Barry Broe (Director Community, Planning, Development & Environment), Jennifer Maundrell (Executive Manager Corporate Governance), Marina Colwell (Executive Support Officer), Deborah Tatton (Manager Finance), Kylie Kerr (Manager Roads), Lesley Duncan (Manager Planning, Regulatory & Compliance), Mick Bell (Manager Parks & Urban Services), David Levick (Manager Economic Development & Growth)

## **1 OPENING MEETING**

The Mayor opened the meeting at 9.00 am, 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

Mr Garret Barry spoke in favour on 11.3 being the Notice of Motion – Heritage Study 2008-2010.

### 4 APOLOGIES/APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

#### APOLOGY

##### RESOLUTION 2024/245

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That the apology from Cr Wheelhouse be noted and approved.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

### 5 DEPUTATION/DELEGATIONS

Nil

### 6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### RESOLUTION 2024/246

Moved: Cr Margaret Garnsey

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Coonamble Shire Council held on Wednesday, 9 October 2024 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

**CARRIED 8/0**

**MOTION**

**RESOLUTION 2024/247**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

**The application for the 2025 Public Holiday for the Coonamble Show should be formally withdrawn as the Coonamble Show Society will not be holding the event.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**7 DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

**8 MAYORAL MINUTE**

**MAYORAL MINUTE**

**RESOLUTION 2024/248**

Moved: Mayor Daniel Keady

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

**That the report be received and noted.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**SECTION A - MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL**

**SECTION B - MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**9 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil

**10 REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**10.1 CORRESPONDENCE**

**RESOLUTION 2024/249**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That the report be received and noted.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLUTION 2024/250**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

**That Council receives and notes the information in the Community Development report.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.3 MINUTES OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 2 OCTOBER 2024**

**RESOLUTION 2024/251**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That Council receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Wednesday 2 October 2024.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.4 APPOINTMENT TO THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE****RESOLUTION 2024/252**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

**That Council:**

- 1. Receives and notes the information contained in the 'Appointment to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee' report.**
- 2. Appoints Cr Goldsmith as a non-voting member of the Coonamble Shire Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee until the next ordinary election of the council due in September 2028.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.5 COUNCILLOR CONDUCT AND MEETING PRACTICES DISCUSSION PAPER****RESOLUTION 2024/253**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

**That Council endorses the draft submission on the Office of Local Government Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practices discussion paper.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.6 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE****RESOLUTION 2024/254**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That Council:**

- 1. Note the report on the Code of Meeting Practice.**
- 2. Endorses the reviewed Code of Meeting Practice to go on public exhibition for at least a period of 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft Code of Meeting Practice.**
- 3. Receive a further report following the exhibition period including any submissions made on the Code of Meeting Practice, or if no submissions are received, formally adopt the Code of Meeting Practice without any changes following the exhibition period.**
- 4. That the business paper be circulated to Councillors and published four (4) business days prior to the Council meeting.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**RESOLUTION 2024/255**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

Seconded: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

**That members of the public wishing to speak at an ordinary council meeting must complete and submit a request form at least 24 hours in advance. The public forum will be held from 8:30 am to 9:00 am before the meeting, with each person allocated five (5) minutes to speak.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.7 DRAFT COUNCILLOR AND STAFF INTERACTION POLICY****RESOLUTION 2024/256**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That Council:**

- 1. Note the report on the draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy.**
- 2. Endorses the draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy to go on public exhibition for at least a period of 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft policy.**
- 3. At the end of the public submission period:**
  - (a) Receive a further report following the exhibition period including any submissions made on the draft Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy, or**
  - (b) If no submissions are received, formally adopt the Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy without any changes, noting that the new policy will supersede the Councillor Access to Staff and Premises Policy.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**



**10.8 COUNCILLORS EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY****RESOLUTION 2024/257**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

**That Council:**

- 1. Receive and note the report on the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.**
- 2. Endorses the reviewed Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy to go on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment on the draft policy.**
- 3. Following the exhibition period:**
  - a. Receive a further report including any submissions made on the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy, or**
  - b. In the event that no submissions are received within the prescribed 42 days, Council formally adopts the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy without changes as a policy of Council.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.9 RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTIONS - OCTOBER 2024****RESOLUTION 2024/258**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

**That Council receives and notes the information provided in the rates and charges collections report.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

The meeting paused for a break for morning tea at 10.14am  
Council resumed the meeting at 10.33am

**10.10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH - PROGRESS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2024/259**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That Council receives and notes the Economic Development and Growth report.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0****10.11 STATUS OF INVESTMENTS - OCTOBER 2024****RESOLUTION 2024/260**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

**That Council receives and notes the list of investments from 1 October 2024 to 29 October 2024 and that these investments comply with section 625(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and Council's Investment Policy.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0****10.12 WASTE OPERATIONS REPORT OCTOBER 2024****RESOLUTION 2024/261**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That the monthly report on waste activities be received and noted.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.13 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 2024****RESOLUTION 2024/262**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler

- 1. That Council approves the variations to votes as listed in the budget review documents distributed under separate cover.**
- 2. That Council notes, in the opinion of the Responsible Accounting Officer based on the information as presented in the September Budget review; that Council will be in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2025.**
- 3. That Council notes the classification and position of Council's estimated restricted (reserve) funds as at 30 September 2024.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**10.14 PLANNING, REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE PROGRESS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2024/263**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That the Planning, Regulatory and Compliance Progress Report be received and noted.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

Cr Margaret Garnsey provided a verbal report on the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held on 28 October 2024.

**10.15 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - WORKS IN PROGRESS****RESOLUTION 2024/264**

Moved: Cr Phillipa Goldsmith

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

**That the information be received and noted on the works in progress within Council's Infrastructure Directorate.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0****SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS****RESOLUTION 2024/265**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

**That Council suspend standing orders to conduct a confidential workshop.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0**

The meeting was suspended at 11:49am for the purpose of a confidential workshop.

**RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS****RESOLUTION 2024/266**

Moved: Cr Paul Fisher

Seconded: Cr Karen Churchill

**That Council resume standing orders.**In Favour: Crs Daniel Keady, Steven Butler, Karen Churchill, Adam Cohen, Paul Fisher, Margaret Garnsey, Phillipa Goldsmith and Ahmad KaranouhAgainst: Nil**CARRIED 8/0**

The meeting resumed at 6:20pm

## 11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE/RESCISSION MOTIONS

### 11.1 QUESTION - FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR THE BATHING EXPERIENCE

The following question on notice was received from Cr Karen Churchill.

#### QUESTION

*The funding that has been allocated for the “Bathing Experience”, could it be used to upgrade existing infrastructure? If so, can the 25m pool at the swimming complex be heated to service the community all year round for swimming training, Physical Therapy, Aquatic Aerobics, learn to swim programs and for general leisure?*

*If not, could Council investigate and report back to Council on how much it would cost to upgrade and heat the 25m pool as well as what it would cost to maintain?*

#### MANEX RESPONSE

The Council funding was a condition of the Grant and required to secure the state funding. It cannot be allocated to a different project. If it was, the grant funding of \$5.5 Million would be lost.

In addition, part of this funding allocation has already been used to buy the land for the project on the site adjacent to the Showground and fund preliminary investigation works in preparation of a DA and bore licence application, i.e. geotechnical hygienist and review of environmental factors report.

The request to investigate the feasibility and business case to upgrade and heat the 25m pool would need to be considered and decided on by Council, and funding allocated to this work.

There are cases of councils heating existing pool structures with heating rods which has allowed the complex to open one month earlier and prolong the swimming seasons for up to six weeks (reference Macksville, West Wyalong and Rylstone Aquatic centres). There is a significant cost to install these, along with the operational costs.

Staff resources are currently fully allocated, and a report would not be forthcoming until mid-April 2025 as this will need research to be undertaken and an analysis of cost, time and opportunity. This will also allow opportunity to investigate grant funding.

From an Asset management perspective, the age of the complex will also need to form part of the investigation and consider whether it is beneficial to try and retrofit heating as the pool complex is nearing the asset service life and investigations will also need to consider a potential new swimming pool complex.

**Cr Karen Churchill acknowledges and accepted the response.**

**11.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - RACECOURSE AND RECREATION LAND RESERVE 520089 (CR CHURCHILL)****RESOLUTION 2024/267**

Moved: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

Seconded: Cr Paul Fisher

**That Council receive an update on the status of Resolution 2023/203 Point 4 and seek advice whether the previous application can be used or restarted.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0****11.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - HERITAGE STUDY 2008-2010 (CR CHURCHILL)****RESOLUTION 2024/268**

Moved: Cr Karen Churchill

Seconded: Cr Margaret Garnsey

**That:**

- 1. Engages a suitably qualified consultant in line with Council's procurement processes to review the Coonamble Shire Community Based Heritage Study 2008-2010 with the aim of amending the Local Environmental Plan to reflect the recommendations of a contemporary Heritage Study.**
- 2. Writes to the property owners regarding the recommended heritage status of their property based on the findings of the revised Heritage Study.**
- 3. Notes that owners of historic buildings of State significance have an option to register their property with the State.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**11.4 NOTICE OF MOTION - MUSEUM (CR CHURCHILL)**

**RESOLUTION 2024/269**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Steven Butler  
Seconded: Cr Ahmad Karanouh

**That Council receive a copy of the structural report for the museum and the proposed next steps.**

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

Against: Nil

**CARRIED 8/0**

**12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

**13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

The Meeting closed at 6.26 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council held on 11 December 2024.

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**CHAIRPERSON**