



### COUNCIL TO PURSUE DEMERGER

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) held an extraordinary Council meeting on Wednesday 18 October 2023 to discuss options associated with the recent announcement made by Minister for Local Government, Hon Ron Hoenig MP, regarding the demerger of the Council and the reinstatement of the two former Cootamundra and Gundagai Shire Councils.

Effectively the Minister has put the ball back into Council's court, requesting Council present a case to him, that would show how the two councils would be financially viable if a demerger was to be granted.

Councillors had the opportunity to meet with the Minister on 3 October 2023, after months of attempting to get a meeting. The Minister made his announcement at this meeting and again at a scheduled press conference held directly after the meeting with Councillors.

All Councillors expressed their disappointment with the Ministers statement and reasoning regarding his decision not to proceed with the demerger under the current legislation.

Councillors requested the Interim General Manager Mr Steve McGrath to investigate options, legal channels, and financial issues, and present them with a detailed report outlining where Council will stand should it decide to pursue the demerger.

This report was presented at the extraordinary meeting. Councillors held a workshop prior to the meeting to work shop the options and discuss freely their questions.

CGRC mayor Cr Charlie Sheahan opened the meeting, and all listened to a Gundagai resident at the open forum state the view that in his opinion Gundagai residents remain committed to a demerger and the return of the Gundagai Shire as a standalone entity.

Cr Sheahan adjourned the meeting into a full committee which allowed all Councillors to comment on the four options put forward in the Interim General Managers report. Cr Sheahan then reopened the meeting and asked all councillors to vote on the option Council should pursue.

A unanimous decision was in favour of option four.

Council will seek further legal advice through its Solicitors, including the engagement of senior counsel, to provide advice to Council to progress the demerger of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.

Council will engage Counsel House to undertake a campaign of advocacy and lobbying on behalf of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council in pursuit of the demerger of Council to form two new Councils, Cootamundra and Gundagai.

Council has resolved to prepare a detailed implementation plan which creates two sustainable councils in preparation for lodgement with the Minister for Local Government and the Local Government Boundaries Commission to pursue the demerger of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.

Council will allocate the sum of \$230,000 in its 2023/24 budget for demerger planning, such funding will reduce the projected operating surplus for the 2023/24 budget year.

Councillor Logan Collins also moved that Council seek meetings with the Shadow Minister for Local Government, Wendy Tuckerman and local MP Steph Cooke to discuss the implications of the NSW Government's new method for a demerger as a matter of urgency.

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST LEASING OF LANDS

Expressions of interest are sought from interested persons for the lease of land at Cootamundra Aerodrome for agricultural purposes.

Any person wanting to submit an Expression of Interest is required to provide their offer of yearly rent in writing before close of business on Friday, 17 November, 2023.

All Expressions of Interest may be delivered to the Administration Centres at Cootamundra or Gundagai, or posted to the Interim General Manager, PO Box 420, Cootamundra NSW 2590 or emailed to [mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au).

Further information may be obtained by contacting Mark Ellis on 1300 459 689

Visit the CGRC Website for more information.

## HURRY TIME IS RUNNING OUT

### NOMINATIONS FOR AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS CLOSING

17 November 2023



### THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 2023

The ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 November 2023 at the Gundagai Council Chambers, Sheridan Street Gundagai.

Starting at and livestreamed from 6pm. Please refer to Council's website for meeting agenda.

Members of the public may address Council on matters related to associated agenda item only, as part of the Public Forum.

**COUNCIL IS CALLING FOR COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON ROAD SAFETY PROPOSALS FOR COOTAMUNDRA:**

Parker Lane Cootamundra – One Way traffic from Bourke St to Wallendoon St. Relocating pedestrian crossings at Wallendoon and Cooper Streets to safer locations. High Pedestrian Activity Area (HPA) along Parker St, extending from Adams to Wallendoon Streets. Speed limit in HPA is 30km. Your feedback is important please complete the survey by clicking on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KGT2TTW>. Alternatively call into the CGRC Administration Offices in Cootamundra for a hard copy.

**POSITION VACANT: ACCOUNTANT**

Applications are invited from interested persons for the above permanent full-time position of Accountant to be based at our Cootamundra Office.

This position provides professional assistance to the Manager of Finance. This role is to co-ordinate and prepare financial documentation for review within defined strategic parameters and co-ordinates and oversees the functions of the Cootamundra finance team.

Benefits: \* Salary Range \$1,889.39 to \$2,210.60 gross per week. \* 11% superannuation. Superannuation is in addition to the salary range. \* 9-day fortnight working arrangement.

Applications close 5p.m. on Friday 3 November 2023.

Position Description and information for the above is available by contacting Council's Human Resources Department on 1300 459 689 or by visiting [www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/positions-vacant/](http://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/positions-vacant/)  
NOTE: Applicants must adequately address the selection criteria contained in the Position Description and include a resume in their application. Failure to do so may result in your application not being considered.

Applications are to be addressed to the Interim General Manager, and can be submitted by post to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, PO Box 420, Cootamundra NSW 2590, or delivered to Council's offices at Cootamundra or Gundagai, or by email to [mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au)

**FROM THE MAYOR:**

Council has been delivered a major disappointment with the announcement from the Minister of Local Government, Hon Ron Hoeing MP, a media release on the front page has an overview of Council's stance on the subject of the demerger. I did have the pleasure of attending Parliament House in Sydney during October to attend Question Time and meet with several Ministers this was coordinated by Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Council's (REROC). The community can be rest assured that we will continue to lobby and consult regarding our position in the demerger debate.

It's that time of year again, where Council is calling for nominations for Australia Day awards, we all know someone who goes above and beyond in serving their community, whether they be young or old, and a sports person or team who have achieved some great goals throughout. Nominations do close on 17 November 2023, so please get them in now. Nominations are considered at the November council meeting. Happy to see an expression of interest from the Coota Co-Op to host the Cootamundra Christmas Street Party. Council endorsed the Coota Co-Op's management and event hosting for 2023 and I'm sure we will all enjoy an event that promotes local businesses, entertainment, and Christmas spirit.

Until next time  
Stay safe and be kind to one another.

**Charlie Sheahan**  
Mayor CGRC



**GUNDAGAI STREET STALL APPLICATIONS 2024:**

Application forms for 2024 Gundagai Street Stalls are now available from the Gundagai Administration Office.

Applications close 21 December 2023

All organisations intending to hold street stalls during 2024 are requested to submit their applications prior to 21 December 2023 for date allocations.



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:**

Council is in receipt of a Development Application for consent to carry out proposed works at 1570 Old Cootamundra Road, Cootamundra NSW. The application has been lodged by EnviroAg Australia on behalf of Envolve Pastoral Co Pty Ltd. **Development Application DA2023/109 (Planning Portal Reference No. PAN-362874)** is seeking approval for a staged sheep feedlot (15,000 head standard sheep unit) and associated infrastructure at the abovementioned property. The subject application is Integrated Development under Schedule 1 of the Protection of Environmental Operations Act 1997 and Designated Development in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulations made thereunder. The development application and accompanying documentation including the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are available for public inspection on the NSW Government Planning Portal DA Exhibition webpage and on Council's website between **10 October 2023 and 10 November 2023**. Persons wishing to make a submission on the proposal may do so either via the NSW Planning Portal or directly to Council before the close of business on **10 November 2023**. Please note that all correspondence should be addressed to the General Manager and quoting Development Reference DA2023/109 as Council will be the consent authority for this development. If a submission is made against the proposal, unless the Independent Planning Commission has held a public hearing, any submission made in objection to the development by making a submission, and who is dissatisfied with the determination of the consent authority to grant development consent, may appeal to the Court. If the Independent Planning Commission holds a public hearing, the Commission's determination of the application is final and not subject to appeal.

For more information visit [DA Exhibitions | Planning Portal – Department of Planning and Environment \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://www.nsw.gov.au/DA-Exhibitions-Planning-Portal-Department-of-Planning-and-Environment)

**LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER?**  
Keep your eye on Council's Career Page @

[POSITIONS VACANT | Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://www.nsw.gov.au/POSITIONS-VACANT-Cootamundra-Gundagai-Regional-Council)

**Mayor Cr Charlie Sheahan, Deputy Mayor Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Leigh Bowden, Cr Abb McAlister, Cr David Graham, Cr Penny Nicholson, Cr Logan Collins, Cr Trevor Glover, Cr Les Boyd.**

Visit <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/>

or like the Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/CootamundraGundagaiRC/>