

BUSINESS:

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Stronger Country Communities Fund – Round 2 (G.03-51)

PRESENT: Clrs John Seymour, David McCann, Jeremy Crocker, Steven Jones, Colin McKinnon, Kathy Maslin, Kerrilee Logan, Alan White and Bruce Hutcheon.

STAFF: Tony Donoghue, General Manager;
Courtney Armstrong, Executive Manager, Corporate & Community Services;
Jessica Inch, Community Development Officer

APOLOGIES: Nil

1) APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

Clr Seymour declared a non-pecuniary significant interest due to his son and daughter-in-law's roles on the Executive/Board of one of the applicants.

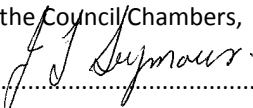
Clr Logan declared a non-pecuniary significant interest due to her husband's role on the Executive/Board of one of the applicants.

Clr Jones declared a non-pecuniary significant interest due to his wife's role on the Executive/Board of one of the applicants.


Clrs Seymour, Logan & Jones left the meeting at 9.28am.

2) STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND – ROUND 2 (G.03-51)

At the March Council Meeting, Councillors were advised that the Round 2 funding opened on the 12th March, 2018. Council have until 4th May, 2018 to make its recommendation and submissions to the State Government in regard to this funding.


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MAYOR


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GENERAL MANAGER.

The difference between Round 1 and Round 2 is the doubling of money with a minimum of 50% being required for sport facilities. The funding available is approximately \$1.5 Million. This can be broken down to approximately \$770,000 for community work and \$770,000 for sports based infrastructure.

Coolamon Shire Council are somewhat unique in that they do not own, run or manage any major sporting facilities and therefore this portion of the funding will be predominantly selected from an open application process that all Sporting Organisations were advised of. The exception to this are the Council trusteeships for the Showgrounds, Pools and Touch fields (old Saleyards).

Similarly non-Council owned or operated community facilities were advised of the same opportunity to apply for the community benefit component of this funding.

Council notified the community of these opportunities both generally and specifically. The closing date for submission was set at COB 23rd April 2018, thus giving adequate time for applications to be properly investigated and submitted. A copy of the communication log has been attached. [Attachment No. 1](#)

There were 18 applications received, the majority for sporting activities (14), with four (4) from various community organisations. A copy of all applications received in full have been provided for your consideration. [Attachment No. 2](#)

In order to help summarise - these applications they have been included into a table that identifies amount, CSP alignment, other funding contributions etc. [Attachment No. 3](#)

Similar to the first round of this fund, Coolamon Shire Council staff have also identified community based opportunities for funding that were identified through community meetings or via Section 355 Committees of Council. All of the Round 1 funding items considered but not successful have been included. A second table has also been provided of those items identified by Council in relation to community assets. [Attachment No. 4](#)

Of the applications received it should be noted that some Section 355 Committees of Council put in their own submission (ACDC, Bike/Walking Trails, Advance Marrar) whilst others contacted Council to express their desire for projects to be included and considered.

As can be seen a total of \$5.2 Million has been requested under this funding. Approximately \$3.7 Million from applications and \$1.5 Million from Council identified and/or previously considered opportunities from Round 1.

As advised, Council has a total of \$1.5 Million to allocate.

It must be noted that Coolamon Shire Council are the body responsible for submitting and then acquitting any funds and therefore will be the responsible body associated with the tendering, management and acquittal. As some of these applications are in excess of \$150,000, should they be chosen, then a formal tendering process must be conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act. This adds cost and time by Council staff to manage this process and maybe in conflict with how some organisations believe the money will be allocated. The Council are permitted to take a management charge for undertaking this work with 15% being the permissible standard. It is believed that Council should cover their costs with a 10% management fee associated with any allocated application being considered adequate.

Coolamon Shire Council are also conscious of the fact that there are six separate communities within the LGA and the amount of money available will not satisfy all sporting or community groups. All appropriate groups were notified and encouraged to submit the best application possible which has been made available for you to read and analyse. Councillors need to consider maximum benefit to the widest cross section of users. With the exception of ACDC, no other organisation has indicated any financial contribution to the project proposed.

Council will note that some of the community based applications as provided by Council Staff, after review of community documents, have not yet had a complete application process commenced. This is because staff are awaiting direction through decisions from this meeting to ensure that resources can be put to the appropriate application forms. This can be achieved once the resolutions of this meeting are finalized and prior to the submission date being the 4th May, 2018.

In order to commence discussion and start the process of considering the community based projects that would meet the intention and requirements of the application, a table has been developed that would maximize the projects and benefit to the community. This is meant to be an indicative example of how Council can manage the process by allocating amounts that meet certain components of projects that achieve maximum outcomes for the money available.

Once again Council can consolidate different projects under similar headings as they did in the previous round of funding. One of these could be healthy communities with a combination of walking trails, paths and fitness equipment. Similarly the remaining Museum and Halls component could be combined to make a single project. These have been collated in table 3 for your information.

It should be noted that the paths and fitness could be included in the sport component of the project if desired. [Attachment No. 5.1](#)

Ultimately Council are required to recommend what projects will be funded, a copy of all of the applications received, and the amounts requested identified have been included in a table. This also highlights a 10% management fee cost. [Attachment No. 5.2](#)

It should be noted that Council has also now received a Media Release from the Member for Cootamundra, Steph Cooke advising that the third round of infrastructure grants are on offer, these are available for Sport, Arts & Culture and emergency provisions. A copy of the Media Release is attached and indicates that submission dates will close after Council makes this decision. All Organisations will receive this information and will be in a position to submit applications with the work they have already completed for this project. [Attachment No. 6](#)

Recommendation

For Council consideration and decision.

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr McCann and seconded by Clr McKinnon that the prioritized applications be made to Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 2 as follows: [83/05/2018](#)

1. **Advance Ardlethan – Museum Establishment - \$210,000**
2. **Coolamon Rovers Football & Netball Club – Netball Courts/Irrigation/PA - \$177,132**
3. **Ganmain Grong Grong Matong Football & Netball Club – Netball Courts - \$303,945**
4. **Marrar Football & Netball Club – Change rooms - \$275,000**
5. **Ardlethan Recreation Reserve - \$113,680**
6. **Coolamon Bowling Club – Bowling Green - \$165,000**
7. **Bike/Walking Trails - \$237,260**
8. **Cultural Centre/Hall Upgrades - \$120,000**

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr McCann and seconded by Clr Crocker that Council make representations regarding the extended time that it has taken for the grant program for Round 1 of the Stronger Country Communities Fund. [84/05/2018](#)

Meeting Closed at 12.05pm

Confirmed and signed during the Meeting held this 17th day of May, 2018.

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MAYOR

J J Seymour
..... MAYOR

Maughan
..... GENERAL MANAGER.