



## **RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Held on

**Wednesday 17 May 2023**

Commenced at 10.05am

Shire of Boyup Brook Council Chambers, Boyup Brook

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Clarke", is located below the meeting details.

**Peter Clarke**  
Acting Chief Executive Officer



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**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS AND DISCLAIMER**

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet and work.

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Councillors:	Shire President	Richard F Walker
	Deputy Shire President	Helen C O'Connell
	Councillor	Darren E King
		Kevin J Moir

Community Committee Members:	Andy McElroy
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Invited Guests:	ECU	Prof. Kerry Brown
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Staff:	Acting Chief Executive Officer	Peter Clarke
	Deputy CEO	Carolyn Mallett
	Rylington Park Farm Manager	Marc Deas
	Rylington Park Farm Coordinator	Erlanda Deas
	Executive Assistant	Maggie Le Grange

<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Councillor	Charles A D Caldwell
	Community Committee Member	James Johnston
	Community Committee Member	Joshua Stretch
	ECU	Kristy Gillian
	iHempWA	Iggy Van
	iHempWA	David Chick
	iHempWA	Rebecca Redman
	iHempWA	Colleen Roberts
	Kojonup Agricultural Supplies	Alec Smith

<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE:</b>	Nil
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**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

<b>4.1 Rylington Park Committee Minutes – 9 March 2023</b>
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**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 4.1**

**That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on Thursday 9 March 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record.**

**MOVED: Cr O'Connell**

**SECONDED: Mr McElroy**

**CARRIED 5/0**

**Res 23/05/069**

## 5. REPORT

### 5.1 Rylington Park – March – April 2023

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Erlanda Deas, Farm Coordinator
Authorising Officer:	Marc Deas, Farm Manager
Attachments:	Financials – July 2022 to April 2023

#### **SUMMARY**

This report is for the Rylington Park Committee to receive the update on the activities at Rylington Park.

#### **BACKGROUND/COMMENT**

The March to April 2023 activity report of the Management for Rylington Park is below:

#### **Sheep**

- Matt Chambers picked up oddments before the ladies day – 1164kg = \$5356.20
- Sold 29 bales (5190kg) for \$52918
- Preg scanned all ewes:

	Number scanned	Singles	Twins	Dries	Scanned %
Ewes mated to White Suffolk rams	1025	405	585	35	153.7%
Ewes mated to Merino rams	1466	759	653	54	140.9%
Total	2491	1164	1238	89	146%

- Most sheep are in confinement feeding
- 89 dry ewes sold- Walshes \$ 76.87 average
- We have 15 bales wool (2785kg) to sell plus oddments
- Mobble report on current sheep numbers

#### **Cropping**

- Lime, super and Gran NS were spread
- Dan Glover (CSBP) did soil sampling
- Pasture reseeding done in 3 paddocks. Busy seeding hay
- First knockdowns done for barley and canola. Marcus Gifford seeding crop from Thursday

#### **Trials**

- DPIRD oat National Variety Trials (NVT)
- Boyup Brook Ag Supplies trial
- Summit fertiliser retained seed trial
- Phil Nichols (UWA) sub clover variety trial

### **Schools / Events**

- Shearing school 27 Feb – 3 March  
We had 14 students, 10 male and 4 female. 5 students are rousies and want to shear of which one has a learner stand lined up. 5 students are pressers and want to shear. One student shears alpacas and they would like to be able to shear sheep for small hobby farms as well. One of the ladies is a shearing contractor who wants to be able to shear as there is such a shortage of shearers. We had 2 raw learners of which one is a qualified bricky – he booked himself in for another school and advertised himself on facebook and now has a job with a contractor. We had a shearer shearing alongside them to be able to get through the sheep. They shored 934 for the week.
- Ladies day – 24 March
- Shearing school 1-5 May  
We had 14 students, 10 male and 4 female. 6 students are rousies of which one wanted to learn to press, one is going to get her classer's stencil and the rest want to shear. 5 of the students are currently pressers for various contractors. One student is not working in the industry at the moment and was going back after the school. One student works as a shearer and brought his 14 year old son who works in the sheds during school holidays and over weekends. We used a different wool handling trainer, Roxanne King, who helped us to register for WoolClip and set us up to do our wool species online. The students shored 474 green tag full wool ewes.

### **General**

- Flexi-N tank delivered and filled with 20000 litres of Flexi N
- Dug trenches for pipes to flexi-n tank, water tanks, etc and connected everything
- Serviced and fixed seeder
- Replaced water pump
- Ladies day preparations and clean-up
- Hot water system at house was replaced
- Feeding all sheep hay, grain and mineral lick
- Stubble was raked and burned
- WA Shearing Contractor's Association did a SafeShed inspection and registered us on their app to be able to put in place a schedule of repairs but also to use for inducting students at shearing schools
- Attended MLA MeatUp workshop in Albany
- Attended sheep productivity workshop in Kojonup

### **What lies ahead**

- Feeding sheep grain & hay
- Seeding and spraying
- Spraying for red mite
- Fixing and replacing water troughs
- Capsules in ewes
- Sheep counting for end of financial year
- Working on doing reporting from shire synergy program from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July

### **Calendar:**

Nil

- Attachments:**
1. Financials - July 2022 to April 2023
  2. Storm in a Teacup 2023 Financial Report
  3. Mobble Report 16 May 2023

## **CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS**

Council committees must comply with the *Local Government Act 1995* subdivision 3 – Matters affecting council and committee meetings.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

- **Members Raised the following matters in response to the Report/s presented.**
- **Appropriate responses from the Farm Manager and Farm Coordinator are in *italics***

### **Query as to why Labour Overheads are contained with Financial Report:**

- *Cost incurred when Shire Deport workers are engaged to perform work at Rylington Park (painting, moving chairs, setting up marquees etc.) and the requirement for their hourly rate plus 126% Overheads to be taken into account.*

### **Query raised in respect to Cropping expenses and whether they relate to Financial Year or Calendar Year:**

- *Includes chemicals and spraying jobs occurring after July 2022. An Excel spreadsheet is to be created with monthly statistics for ease of interpretation. The DCEO is looking at setting up income and expense codes in SynergySoft that will be split into units that could cover seasonal activities and not just financial year to see if Rylington Park had made a profit from last years' crop, potentially have seasonal budgets for crop and sheep enterprises.*

### **Question raised Shearing Schools:**

- *A loss was made due to 1 shearing school being cancelled, advanced shearing schools are more costly and should potentially be allocated to shearing itself.*

### **Question raised regarding financial outcomes of “Storm in a Teacup Ladies Day”:**

- *Farm Coordinator advised that investigations will be undertaken to consider increasing event pricing or alternatively source external event organisers and compare costs for hiring & set-up of chairs, marquees etc.*

### **Request for Calendar of Events to be included in future agenda items and to include;**

- *Farm Coordinator indicated that a Calendar of Events will be included in future Agendas that triggers actions that should be implemented to cover aspects such as maintenance, budget preparation, Ladies Day, Field Days etc.*

### **Date required to be set for 2023 Field Day**

- *It was agreed by the Committee that Wednesday, 13 or Thursday, 14 September 2023 be the preferred dates with the Farm Manager to liaise with Stock Agents as to a preferred date*

*and then confirm at the next Committee meeting. A list of potential speakers and issues should also be addressed.*

**When will the Committee be addressing 2023-2024 Budget considerations:**

- *It was generally agreed that Budget matters should be considered at the May Committee meetings which should then be presented to the Shire of Boyup Brook's May Ordinary Council Meeting for inclusion in Council's Draft Budget. In consideration that this timeframe had not been achieved, 2023-2024 budget estimates for income and expenditure should be developed in conjunction with Council staff and then presented to the June Committee meeting for consideration.*

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.1**

**That the Rylington Park Committee receive the Farm Manager's Report in relation to the activities at Rylington Park for the months of March to April 2023 and the Financials July 2022 to April 2023.**

**MOVED: Cr King**

**SECONDED: Cr O'Connell**

**CARRIED 5/0**

**Res 23/05/070**

## 5.2 Rylington Park Future Trial Plans

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Alec Smith, Kojonup Ag Supplies
Authorising Officer:	Peter Clarke, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to consider the identified research projects for Rylington Park.

### **BACKGROUND**

At the previous Committee meeting the following resolution was put:-

**Rylington Park Committee Meeting minutes 9 March 2023:**

### **RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 5.2**

**That Rylington Park Committee requests an elaboration of the projects outlined in the project brief submitted by Alec Smith setting out the problem definition, project description, benefits, costs, and duration and:**

- 1. Edith Cowan University to provide feedback on projects and what are achievable.**
- 2. Suggestions regarding aeration and use of soil wetters are to be incorporated in the trials.**

**MOVED: Cr Darren E King**

**SECONDED: Cr Kevin Moir**

**CARRIED 6/0**

**Res 23/03/029**

It is unknown as to whether any action has been taken in respect to the above resolution.

### **COMMENT**

Mr Smith had provided the following information at the previous meeting:-

As Senior Agronomist at Kojonup Agricultural Supplies it puts me across different areas of Agriculture. I am primarily the Senior Agronomist at Kojonup Ag Supplies, and a Partner in the business. We also own and run the store in Boyup Brook, Boyup Brook Ag Supplies.

In addition to my Agronomy work I am helping David Lane coordinate the trial work that we perform at Rylington Park. This trial work at Rylington has been running successfully for several years, with fantastic grower attendance and interaction all through the year. Wearing another hat, I am also the Vice Chairperson of Southern Dirt Incorporated, a not-for-profit organisation based in Kojonup that organises trial work and grower extension across the Great Southern.



The reason for my discussion with you, as stated, is to see if any of the proposed trial work that we are looking at over the course of the next few years aligns with your research focus, or available resources at Rylington.

I see a fantastic opportunity for Rylington Park, on the back of its collaboration with ECU, to tap into some of the benefits of the recent Federally Drought Fund. This fund, as you know, is aimed at improving resilience in farming communities, and is backed by a significant contribution from the Federal Government totalling \$8 million dollars over four years.

Looking at some of the successful applicants on the East Coast, I can see good reason why effective research and extension work in our area would a prime opportunity.

Name of person/organisation	Region	Legislative Purpose	Description	Payment Amount (GST exclusive)	Payment Date (GST exclusive)	Total Amount Paid as at 30 June 2022 (GST exclusive)	Total Amount Payable (GST exclusive)
University of New England	New South Wales	s21(1)(c) – Carrying out a project that is directed towards achieving	Drought Resilience Innovation Grants Program – Innovation Grant	\$1,897,111.38	30/06/2022	\$1,897,111.38	\$3,000,000.00
				\$538,731.78	31/03/2023		
				\$564,156.84	31/03/2024		

**figure 1.** Taken from the attached file "fdf-funding-information-innovation-grants.pdf" The context that UNE used was "Using a co-learning approach to increase the adoption of deep-rooted legumes and conserved forage as key drought resilient strategies for Northern Australian grazing systems." The aim is to achieve drought resilience by overcoming the knowledge gaps.

Listed below is some of the plans we have going forward for the next few years - most of which I have pitched to the Future Drought Fund.

- Soil amelioration. Obviously, there is a plethora of data in Wheatbelt to support amelioration to provide a bigger bucket by maximising rooting depth, reduce stratification of minerals, reduce non-wetting, clay dispersal, and frost mitigation. We have not broadly embraced it as we are not forced to. However, preliminary evidence shows 500kg yield gain on canola and 1t on cereals post Grizzly amelioration to 300mm.

Alternatively, Mouldboard Plows could be used. We have both a Grizzly "Tiny"460 and a Gregoire Besson 8 row Mouldboard plow available. We would run an EM38 survey first to determine depth of topsoil, then ameliorate in March/April. Alternatively, a spade/seeder could be used. Continued rotation would clarify long-term economic benefits. Incorporate a green manure in October would be another option to include biomass to depth to improve hostile subsoils. Monitoring with Soil Moisture probes would show increased utilisation of soil moisture.

- Deeper sowing. This could be implemented using existing systems, just duplicating replications to show benefits and risks. Deeper sowing offers more sowing options, mitigating less consistent or less significant opening rains. Showcase long coleoptile wheat material, as well as demonstrating the hybrid vigour of, say, 160,000 seed count/kg canola sown at 5cm.
- Manipulating fertiliser strategies to offset moisture stress - specifically foliar K in addition to standard K treatments. Higher tissue concentrations of Potassium allow better water regulation, both through osmoregulation, stomatal closure as well as uptake potential. 2% tissue concentration (Dry Matter) is a luxury level we never attain, we could get to 1.5% via foliar spray of KNo3 prior to flowering. This would apply to all crops, improving WUE and yield potential, as well as reducing fertiliser inefficiency.

- Harvest timing for cutting hay and Silage crops to optimise value of MJ/ME/KG, fodder conservation is an important part of Drought preparation. Silage is a better option for \$/MJ if on farm management solutions allows, newer technology is putting silage in grain bags. <https://versacorporation.com/> This allows effective, efficient fodder conservation on farm that ensures fodder is preserved for Drought conditions.
- Successful demonstration of integration of deep-rooted perennial pasture legumes into existing farm rotations. In conjunction with improved fodder conservation strategies, this will allow Farmers to see the short-, medium- and long-term benefits. Both economic (as well as environmental) analysis would be of benefit to local growers, again using modern agronomy. This would entail a complete Agronomy package, follow up with soil moisture monitoring, pasture management and best practice fodder conservation.
- A novel idea for Australian Canola producers is the use of in crop Plant Growth Regulators (PGR's) to optimise harvest index - leading to more efficient fertiliser usage, reduced evapotranspiration, improve WUE. In this space, Paclobutrazol (PBZ) leads to increased concentrations of Abscissic Acid (ABA) giving stress protection against salinity, ozone, heat, chilling and freezing. ABA increase is a result of Giberellic Acid blocking, resulting in better water regulation in the plant. Additionally, Cytokinins (CT) are destroyed during heat /stress events, and it takes weeks to return to normal hormone levels. We could manipulate stress with rainout shelter during flowering, while applying PBZ + CT treatments. Additional benefit to these treatments is that exogenous hormone applications are classified as Biological Chemical Treatments by the APVMA, so it's a bit easier to satisfy MRL/crop safety issues.
- Another novel idea utilising PGR's is to investigate their role in altering flowering timing in Winter cereals. Certain PGR's have been shown to hasten crop maturity, with specific application at specific time. It is environment and Variety specific, so need ground truthing. For instance, next year we will be planting Winter wheats such as Illabo, Wedgetail, Accroc and the Slow-Spring Denison. Sowing date will be 15<sup>th</sup> April, then manipulated to bring flowering forward by two or three weeks. This would allow us to access the longer growing season benefit of early sown cereals (remembering root growth of 12mm/day) whilst being able to "dial in" our preferred flowering window. This has the potential to be a game changer for all wheat growers, with a novel usage pattern of PGR's that could be applied from Merredin to Manjimup. Mitigation of frost, heat stress as well as optimising WUE.

## **CONSULTATION**

Consultation on projects will be undertaken with the Shire of Boyup Brook, Rylington Park Committee and Edith Cowan University.

## **STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS**

Nil

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The activities of Rylington Park must be aligned to the terms of the gifting and the MOU between the Shire of Boyup Brook, Rylington Park and ECU.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.2**

Submitted for further consideration of the Committee in light of the previous resolution passed at the March 2023 meeting.

*In consideration that Mr Smith was apology to this meeting, Professor Brown indicated that she would liaise with Mr Smith regarding the projects that were previously discussed with the Committee and report back at a subsequent meeting.*

*In respect to the aeration of the soil, Cr King indicated that he is prepared to utilise his machinery to undertake aeration trials and will liaise with the Farm Manager for suitable areas to undertake the trials.*

*Professor Brown also suggested that an ECU student could participate in the aeration trials for reporting purposes.*

**5.3 Western Australian Agricultural Collaboration (WAAC) – Research Funding Opportunities**

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Professor Kerry Brown, Edith Cowan University
Authorising Officer:	Peter Clarke, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

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**SUMMARY**

Professor Brown advised that the McGowan Government had announced that it was investing \$25 million over three years to grow agricultural research and development in WA that will lift research capability and secure a fairer share of industry funds and the funding underpins a new Western Australian Agricultural Collaboration (WAAC), bringing together universities and research bodies to form a 'Team WA' approach.

It was the intention of Edith Cowan University (ECU) to submit a grant funding application under the Climate Resilience Program of WAAC.

**BACKGROUND/COMMENT**

The Premier and Minister for Agriculture have advised that a new agricultural science collaboration will reinvigorate Western Australia's agricultural research and development capabilities.

The newly launched WA Agricultural Research Collaboration (the Collaboration) brings together leading scientists from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), Australia's national science agency CSIRO, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and The University of Western Australia.

The Collaboration will build on current research efforts to harness and apply cutting edge science and expertise to Western Australia's unique challenges and opportunities and contribute to national and international agricultural priorities.

It will also support WA primary producers to adopt new agricultural technologies across grains, livestock and irrigated agriculture.

Backed by Western Australian Government investment of \$25 million over three years, the Collaboration will attract additional funding from participants and other funders, including industry-based research and development corporations.

The Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) has announced an initial commitment of \$10 million over three years towards the initiative.

Six programs have been identified, with the first three focused on boosting agricultural productivity and profitability in the face of a changing climate.

The initial three programs are:

1. Northern Agriculture: Increasing the gross value of production through intensification of agriculture by 2030, focusing on sustainable growth of irrigated agriculture and the northern beef industry.
2. Grains Transformation: Transforming the WA grains industry to achieve an average 25 million tonne crop per annum by 2035, with 50% increase in fertiliser, crop protection and fuel input use efficiency.
3. Climate Resilience: Addressing the impacts of climate change through technologies that can deliver future landscapes that maintain agricultural productivity while reducing agricultural carbon emissions by 50% by 2035.

Current efforts are directed at developing joint research programs with researchers, industry, growers and external funding bodies for these.

The three further programs will act as cross-cutting initiatives to support growth and long-term sustainability of WA's agricultural industry, and will encompass agricultural technologies, Aboriginal participation and capacity building for growers.

The Collaboration will support opportunities for the next generation of leading scientists to develop larger programs of work with postgraduate scholarships supported by the participants and industry.

The WA Agricultural Research Collaboration participants will be working together over the next six to 12 months to finalise the programs of work, governance structure, industry engagement and employment of leadership and operational staff.

The Collaboration is expected to be fully operational in early 2023.

*Professor Brown advised that grants up to \$350K were on offer under a competitive model with applications having to be submitted by 2 June 2023. ECU will be competing for such a grant and would appreciate a letter of support from the Rylington Park Committee. At this stage no firm project has been identified by ECU.*

## **CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS**

Requirement for ECU to submit grant application to State Government.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Only in-kind support will be sought from the Shire of Boyup Brook.

**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.3**

That it be recommended to Council that it provides in-principle support to ECU for a research project to be undertaken at Rylington Park under the WA Agricultural Collaboration (WAAC) funding allocation within the Program of Climate Resilience. To assist ECU in its funding application, a letter of support from the Rylington Park Committee and Council be provided.

**MOVED: Cr Moir**

**SECONDED: Mr McElroy**

**CARRIED 5/0**

**Res 23/05/071**

#### **5.4 Production of Dry Land Hemp**

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Cr King, Councillor
Authorising Officer:	Peter Clarke, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

#### **SUMMARY**

Cr King presented a verbal request for Rylington Park to explore the idea of the production of dry land hemp production in the Shire of Boyup Brook.

#### **BACKGROUND/COMMENT**

As there needed to be more information for the Committee to consider Cr King was asked to provide more information for the next meeting.

#### **PREVIOUS COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS**

Rylington Park Committee Meeting minutes 9 March 2023:

#### **RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 5.3**

**The establishment of dry land Hemp production in the Shire of Boyup Brook be discussed at the next Rylington Park Committee Meeting.**

**MOVED: Cr Darren E King**

**SECONDED: Cr Helen C O'Connell**

**CARRIED 6/0**

**Res 23/03/030**

#### **CONSULTATION**

Nil

#### **STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS**

Council committees must comply with the *Local Government Act 1995* subdivision 3 – Matters affecting council and committee meetings.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The activities of Rylington Park must be aligned to the terms of the gifting and the MOU between the Shire of Boyup Brook, Rylington Park and ECU.

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.4**

Submitted for the Committee’s consideration.

*It was agreed to defer the Dry Land Hemp proposal until a representative from iHempWA was in attendance at a future meeting.*



## 5.5 Shearing Industry Case Study

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Bindi Murray, Sheep Producers Australia
Authorising Officer:	Peter Clarke, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

### **SUMMARY**

Industry case study on the importance of sheep production and the phasing out of live sheep export.

### **BACKGROUND**

Bindi Murray is a director of Sheep Producers Australia.

Ms Murray communicated with the Farm Coordinator regarding responding to a number of questions in relation to the above.

Ms Murray's comments in relation to the questions are as follows:-

*"We can decide whether we want to use all the questions or just some of it. It is about why sheep producing is so important to regional employment. Our interview will form part of the Sheep Producer Australia's submission against phasing out live sheep export."*

Questions would be along the lines of:

1. Can you tell me a little about your role – what you do, how long you have been involved in the sheep industry and how long you have been involved in training?
2. Can you help me understand how live sheep exporting impacts on your business?
3. How many of the trainees that go through the Rylington Park would shear sheep or handle wool from sheep that are destined for live export?
4. How much do you think demand for shearers could drop if live export was phased out?
  - a. Can you put a dollar value on that?
5. The sheep industry has experienced a lot of challenges in the past 30 years, why have you stuck with the industry?
6. If live export was stopped in one year, what impact would it have on your business, your family, yourself?
7. What about in five years or 10 years?
8. What support measures could be put into place to help the transition away from live export without losing employment opportunities in the regional communities? Planning workshops or change management? Financial support – what would that look like?

These next questions are to help us understand local economic impacts:

9. Where does your business currently get most supplies? How much of your business income is spent locally?
10. How many people do you employ locally including contactors?
11. In your experience is shearing a good employment opportunity for indigenous, disadvantaged, rural, female and or young people?
12. What geographical areas do graduates from your training go to work after completion?

13. What other regional employment opportunities would graduates have or transferable skills if there was a decline in shearer and shedhand demand?
14. How do you see the phase out would impact your town? Businesses? Other families? Community groups? School?
15. Do you have any comments about how the government consultation process has been run on the phase out?

**CONSULTATION**

Nil

**STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.5**

**That the Rylington Park Committee does not support the Farm Manager and Coordinator participating in the Live Sheep Export questionnaire/survey being undertaken by the Sheep Producers Association as this issue does not come under the remit of the Rylington Park Charter due to the political sensitivities relating to this matter.**

**MOVED: Mr McElroy**

**SECONDED: Cr King**

**CARRIED 4/1**

**Res 23/05/072**

## 5.6 General Business

### CURRENT ITEMS

- **Rylington Park Roof Replacement – A/CEO to update**

A letter was forwarded to Southern Forest Construction in Manjimup by the previous A/CEO advising that the Shire of Boyup Brook would not be continuing with their services due to a number of issues associated with the project. Southern Forest Construction did have timber stored in their yard in Manjimup and this will now be delivered to Rylington Park in the near future. This should account for all materials associated with the project.

The Farm Coordinator advised that Jason Forsyth, Manager Works and Services, is now negotiating with Matt Jensen who is a registered builder to take on the roof replacement work.

Rylington Park Farm Coordinator is to follow up on the quotation received from Matt Jensen.

- **UWA Sub Clover trials – Chairperson and Farm Manager to provide update**

Prof Phillip Nicols from UWA has set out an area of 80x70m required for the sub clover trials over a three-year period. DCEO has received a draft agreement from Prof Nicols for review.

It was queried as to whether there was a conflict with the MoU between Rylington Park and ECU regarding this UWA Trial, with Professor Brown from ECU advising that as the trial is a one-off, it does not override the collaboration agreement in place. Professor Brown did indicate that the Universities should be working together.

***DCEO was requested to have “Letter of Agreement” in place for all commercial and collaboration agreements and that it encapsulates that results of trials be communicated to the Committee and that researchers should showcase at Rylington Park Field Days.***

- **PF Olsen Meeting Wednesday, 10 May – Chairperson to provide update**

Cr Walker advised that together with the A/CEO, Farm Manager and Farm Coordinator, they had met with PF Olsen at Rylington Park to discuss development of the “Timber Hub/ Decision Tree Tool”, a software program/model that provides appropriate information as to production capacity of sites on properties for tree planting. Whilst this program shows positive outcomes in future planning for trees, it is not fully functional at this stage.

PF Olsen’s representative and the Farm Manager did inspect prospective sites at Rylington Park where small pockets of tree plantations could be trialed.

- **Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members**

Cr O’Connell queried whether community and external members of the Committee should be advised formally of their “Roles and Responsibilities” as a Committee Member, much like that which applies to Councillors under its Code of Conduct.

***The DCEO indicated that community and external members have the same role as Councillors, being official appointees to an Advisory Committee of Council. These Roles and Responsibilities, via Council’s Code of Conduct, would be circulated to these Members in order that they are aware of their responsibilities and an induction would be conducted if considered necessary.***

- **Redlegged Earth Mite Trial**

The Farm Manager advised that he had been liaising with representatives from DPIRD regarding trials associated with Predatory Mite Spray Trial would be undertaken over a 28-day trial period. A section of land had been identified and would be fenced at DPIRD's costs if required.

### **OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

- **Potential research projects proposed by Andy McElroy (were sent to ECU in 2022, however, there hasn't been any interest from researchers at present)**

Prof Kerry Brown was requested to revive the research list emailed to Rylington Park in November 2021.

- **Potential research project proposed by Greening Australia (rehabilitating creek line and establishing a native plant seed bank).**

ECU is in collaboration with Greening Australia on establishing native seed bank and rehabilitating the creek lines and Prof Kerry Brown will contact David Field and write a report to the next Rylington Park Committee meeting on the research project.

## **6. NOTICE OF MOTION/S FOR WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Notice of Motion have been received from Cr O'Connell

<b>6.1 That Edith Cowan University be invited to nominate a representative on the Rylington Park Committee</b>
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### **Motion**

That Edith Cowan University (ECU) be invited to nominate a representative on the Rylington Park Committee.

**That it be recommended to Council that Professor Kerry Brown be formally appointed as a Committee Member on the Rylington Park Committee as a representative of Edith Cowan University.**

**MOVED: Cr O'Connell**

**SECONDED: Cr King**

**CARRIED 5/0**

**Res 23/05/073**

## **7. FURTHER BUSINESS**

<b>7.1 Drone Report</b>
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It was requested that that ECU present a report of the footage of farm activities and sheep count at the next Rylington Park Committee meeting.

## **8. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Next meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 14 June 2023 at 5pm** at the Shire Council Chambers.

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Walker thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 12.21pm.