



RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held on

Wednesday 14 June 2023

Commenced at 5.04pm

Shire of Boyup Brook Council Chambers, Boyup Brook

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard Long", is positioned to the left of the printed name and title.

Leonard Long
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
		Darren E King
		Kevin J Moir
	Community Committee Member	Andy McElroy (arrived 5.22pm)
		Joshua Stretch
	ECU	Prof. Kerry Brown (via MS Teams)
Staff:	Chief Executive Officer	Leonard Long
	Rylington Park Farm Manager	Marc Deas
	Rylington Park Farm Coordinator	Erlanda Deas
	Executive Assistant	Maggie Le Grange
APOLOGIES:	Councillor	Charles A D Caldwell
	Community Committee Member	James Johnston
	Deputy CEO	Carolyn Mallett
Invitees:	ECU	Kristy Gillian
	iHempWA	Iggy Van
	iHempWA	David Chick
	iHempWA	Rebecca Redman
	iHempWA	Colleen Roberts
	Kojonup Agricultural Supplies	Alec Smith
LEAVE OF ABSENCE:		Nil

3. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

Wendy Perdon from South West Timber Hub provided a Verbal presentation on “Decision Tree.” The program explores the profitability of integrating a commercial tree crop on a farm as well as providing a range of support and management tools.

Mr McElroy indicated that he’s not in agreement with the project at Rylington Park.

Cr Moir found it all very interesting.

Cr King saw no harm in submitting the grant application.

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 3

That the Rylington Park Committee requests the Chief Executive Officer to submit a grant application. The Chief Executive Officer advised the committee that since there is no financial commitment at this stage Council approval to submit the grant was not required.

MOVED: Cr King

SECONDED: Cr O’Connell

CARRIED 7/0

Res 23/06/001

Ms Perdon left the meeting at 5.37pm.

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 Rylington Park Committee Minutes – 17 May 2023

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 5.1

That the minutes as amended of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record.

MOVED: Cr O’Connell

SECONDED: Cr King

CARRIED 7/0

Res 23/06/002

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

6.1 Rylington Park Future Trial Plans

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

Rylington Park Committee Meeting minutes 17 May 2023:

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.

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 6.1

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.

6.2 Western Australian Agricultural Collaboration (WAAC) – Research Funding Opportunities

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

Rylington Park Committee Meeting minutes 17 May 2023:

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

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 6.2

Professor Brown may wish to provide an update on the proposed grant application to WAAC.

Professor Brown indicated that she is actively pursuing opportunities for funding and will report back at a subsequent meeting.

6.3 Production of Dry Land Hemp

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

Rylington Park Committee Meeting minutes 17 May 2023:

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.

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 6.3

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.

7. REPORT

7.1 Rylington Park – May 2023

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Erlanda Deas, Farm Coordinator
Authorising Officer:	Marc Deas, Farm Manager
Attachments:	7.1A Financials - July 2022 to May 2023 7.1B Cropping and Sheep 2022/2023 7.1C Projected Budget Report 7.1D RLEM Trial

SUMMARY

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

BACKGROUND/COMMENT

The May 2023 activity report of the Management for Rylington Park is below:

Sheep

- Capsules were put into ewes mated to White Suffolk rams before they started lambing
- Busy putting capsules in the rest of the ewes and hoggets and putting them in their lambing paddocks
- Treating some ewes for pregnancy toxaemia
- We have 15 bales wool (2785kg) to sell plus oddments – waiting to be picked up and try to sell before end of financial year

Cropping

- All seeding and bare earth spraying done
- All paddocks rolled straight after seeding
- Spread slug baits
- Sprayed Flexi-N on some pastures

Trials

- GRDC oat NVT
- Boyup Brook Ag Supplies trials
- Summit fertiliser retained seed trial
- Phil Nichols (UWA) sub clover variety trial
- Decision Tree – possible trial (meeting/discussions started)
- DPIRD redlegged earth mite trial

Schools / Events

- The company G&E Brook is using the accommodation for 2 weeks, 5-16 June, for workers doing work on a PF Olsen farm in Chowerup

General

- Fixed slug bait spreader
- Sorted out water supply issues to troughs
- Feeding sheep hay, grain and mineral lick
- Finished ladies day reporting

What lies ahead

- Feeding sheep
- Checking lambing ewes
- Spraying
- Fertiliser spreading
- Checking crops and pastures
- Capsules in ewes
- Sheep counting for end of financial year
- Budget

Field Day

- Annual Field Day Planning Discussion

Calendar:

- Annual Rylington Park field day Wednesday, 13 or Thursday 14 September 2023
- Shearing schools – potential dates:
 - 2-6 October 2023
 - 23-27 October 2023
 - 13-17 November 2023
 - 11-15 December 2023
 - 15-19 January 2024
 - 26 February – 1 March 2024
 - 15-19 April 2024
- Ladies day – 15 March 2024

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

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 7.1

That the Rylington Park Committee receive the Farm Manager’s Report in relation to the activities at Rylington Park for the months of May 2023 and

- 1. The Financials July 2022 to May 2023; and**
- 2. Cropping and Sheep March 2022 to February 2023.**

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 how G&E Brook is using the accommodation at Rylington Park:

As contained in the Shire of Boyup Brook Adopted Fees & Charges for 2022-2023.

Query as to the inclusion of annual leave into the Calendar:

Calendar will be expanded with the information.

Date required to be set for 2023 Field Day:

Farm Manager liaised with Stock Agents on ram sale dates and as there are no sale on 14 September 2023, it was locked in for the Field Day.

MOVED: Cr King

SECONDED: Mr McElroy

CARRIED 7/0

Res 23/06/003

The Farm Coordinator tabled a Projected Budget Report and RLEM trial at the meeting

Projected Budget Report

Reefinator: provide program information and area layout at the next Committee meeting.

Council consider installing solar panels on the residential roof in the 2023/2024 budget.

RLEM Trials

Myles Prasser-Jones, operations manager of TrialCo in Katanning has communicated a potential trial layout, treatments and dimensions for the combined ADAMA and DPIRD RLEM trial to commence immediately.

The trial relates to the testing of chemicals on redlegged earth mite in Canola, covering an area of 40x25m.

Mr McElroy stated that “Returns from Commercial Trials” should be communicated.

On enquiring from Professor Brown as to the partnership agreement between Rylington Park and Edith Cowan University, she is looking to collaborate with other universities. However, she’s of the opinion that Rylington Park is in this instant being hurried into something that benefits others and not necessarily to the benefit of Rylington Park.

She has also confirmed that within the partnership there is room for Rylington Park to have other players on board.

The Rylington Park Committee agreed that the trial be planned properly for next year.

The Chief Executive Officer suggested that the proposed trial submission be presented to Council at least six (6) months prior to trial commencement.

7.2 Drone Report

Location:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Not applicable
Disclosure of Officer Interest:	None
Author:	Prof Kerry Brown, Edith Cowan University
Authorising Officer:	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

SUMMARY

It was requested at the Rylington Park Committee meeting held on 17 May 2023 that ECU present a report of the footage of farm activities and sheep count at the next Rylington Park Committee meeting.

BACKGROUND

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – Item 7.2

That the Rylington Park Committee receives the drone report.

It was agreed that the Monthly Drone Report becomes a standing item on the agenda and that it be reported what projects the drone is used for.

Drone footage was conducted of sheep counts. The drone is not only utilised for agricultural purposes.

Mr McElroy raised the question as to which software is used to capture/download footage. Unknown at this stage.

Cr King suggested the Drone also be used to identify feral species and areas such as reserves they frequent. Professor Brown identified this as an ACTION POINT for future meetings.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

CURRENT ITEMS

- **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.

DCEO to provide update.

In consideration that the DCEO was an apology to this meeting, it was agreed to defer the item to a subsequent meeting.

- **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.

DCEO to provide update.

In consideration that the DCEO was an apology to this meeting, it was agreed to defer the item to a subsequent meeting.

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.

Professor Brown communicated the research list at the time of the meeting.

- **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.

Professor Brown communicated that the collaboration with Greening Australia has been put back due to a delay at government level.

9. NOTICE OF MOTION/S FOR WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

10. FURTHER BUSINESS

Nil

11. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE OF MEETING

Next meeting to be held on 12 July 2023 at 5.00pm 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 7.14pm.

Presiding Member

Date