
Date: 20 July 2023



MINUTES – RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Leonard Long". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leonard Long
Chief Executive Officer

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AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5:01pm.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

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

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Councillors

Shire President	Cr Richard F Walker
Deputy Shire President	Cr Helen C O'Connell
Councillors	Cr Charles A D Caldwell
	Cr Darren E King
	Cr Kevin J Moir

Community Committee Member	Andy McElroy
	Joshua Stretch
ECU	Prof. Kerry Brown

Council Officers

Chief Executive Officer	Leonard Long
Rylington Park Farm Manager	Marc Deas
Rylington Park Farm Coordinator	Erlanda Deas

2.2 APOLOGIES

iHempWA	Iggy Van
ECU	Kristy Gillian
Executive Officer	Maggie Le Grange

Not Attended

iHempWA	David Chick
iHempWA	Rebecca Redman
iHempWA	Colleen Roberts
Kojonup Agricultural Supplies	Alec Smith
Community Committee Member	James Johnston

2.3 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 FINANCIAL AND PROXIMITY INTEREST

Nil

4.2 DISCLOSURES OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST THAT MAY CAUSE A CONFLICT

Nil

5. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

5.1 RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING – 14 JUNE 2023

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RP 23/07/004

That the Minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 14 June 2023 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

Moved: Mr McElroy

Seconded: Cr King

CARRIED 8/0

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Rylington Park Future Trial Plans

Professor Brown to liaise with Mr Smith regarding the projects that were previously discussed with the Committee and report back at a subsequent meeting.

Prof. Brown has not been able to contact Mr. Alec Smith, matter to be held over to a future meeting. Cr Caldwell to make contact with Mr. Alec Smith regarding trials.

6.2 Rylington Park Aeration Trials

Feedback on the aeration of the soil done by Cr King.

Cr King nor Mr Deas has seen any movement on the trial area. Mr McElroy also been out and not seen anything, it was suggested to have small cages / fence to stop sheep from grazing the trial area. Mr Deas noted that he will be happy to install the required fence / cage as suggested.

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

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

Prof. Brown still waiting for the ag collaboration to open regarding climate change and Greening Australia, ECU researcher has put in some grants. Waiting for their outcome which could have flow on effects for future trials at Rylington Park.

Prof. Brown will be providing further feedback on the issue at either the October or November meeting.

6.4 Production of Dry Land Hemp

Cr King to provide update and way forward, given the Dry Land Hemp proposal is yet to be presented to the Committee.

Cr King spoke to Erlanda regarding coming to field day. Item to be placed on hold until after field day.

6.5 Decision Tree – Grant Application

As per the Committee Resolution 23/06/001, the Decision Tree grant application has been submitted to Wendy Perdon from South West Timber Hub. It is anticipated to get feedback on the application in the coming months.

CEO advised that Decision Tree will now send the application through to consultants. The funding for the \$3,000 will pay for the forestry consultant to conduct the applicable study.

6.6 ECU Drone Usage Report

Prof. K Brown to provide feedback on the current projects that the drone is being used for.

Prof. Brown: Dave Blake went to Rylington Park, used 2 types of drones, one sheep count and multi spectrum imagery for biomass estimates.

The apps used did not do specifically what was needed, an ECU student to look at developing an app fit for purpose.

David Blake looking at coming to do a presentation at the field day in September.

Prof. Brown provided info from David Cooke, will be hoping to run a workshop at the field day on LoRaWAN (restricted local area network) and live cattle crossing hoping further funds can be sourced from West Australian ag Collaboration. David Cooke looking at developing a digital twin of RP still in its infancy stage - modelling of activities across the farm (digital map).

Road crossing system is sensor based to allow safer sheep crossings over public roads, concept is to place one on either side of Rylington Park crossing on the bends.

6.7 Farm Coordinator Drone Usage Report

E. Deas to provide feedback on the use of the drone on Rylington Park.

Covered above.

7. REPORT OF OFFICERS

7.1 Rylington Park – June 2023	
File Ref:	Nil
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Erlanda Deas, Farm Coordinator Marc Deas, Farm Manager
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number	7.1 Financials July 2022 to June 2023

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RP 23/07/005

That the Rylington Park Committee Resolve to:

- A. Receive the Farm Manager’s Report in relation to the activities at Rylington Park for the month of June 2023 and**
- B. The Financials July 2022 to June 2023.**
- C. Committee Members are to forward all potential field day exhibitors directly to the CEO.**

Moved: Cr O’Connell
Seconded: Cr Caldwell

CARRIED 8/0

SUMMARY

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

BACKGROUND

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

Sheep

- All ewes are busy lambing
- All end of financial year sheep counts were done and signed off
- Dave Blake and student visited farm to trial sheep counting with the drone
- Checking ewes, pulling lambs, etc
- 15 bales wool (2785kg) in Perth to sell

Cropping

- Spraying according to agronomist’s recommendations and cropping plan
- NKS 21 and Urea MOP were spread

Trials

- GRDC oat NVT
- Boyup Brook Ag Supplies trials
- Summit fertiliser retained seed trial
- Phil Nichols (UWA) sub clover variety trial
- Decision Tree – grant application sent in
- DPIRD red legged earth mite trial

Schools / Events

- Kojonup/Boyup Brook Ag Supplies trial walk & talk with clients Thursday, 6 July

General

- Replaced 2 water troughs
- Marc attended a forklift course
- Marc on leave from 3 – 10 July
- Wood for the roof was delivered 23 June 2023 by Southern Forest Home Improvement – waiting to hear when Matt Jansen can commence roof replacement
- Field day organising
- Setting up categories for Synergy program
- Budget draft has been submitted
- EOFY counts/records done

What lies ahead

- Checking lambing ewes
- Spraying
- Checking crops and pastures
- Setting up Synergy program to suit Rylington's reporting
- Field day organising
- Lamb marking and crutching
- Shearing school discussions

Calendar:

- Annual Rylington Park field day 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

REPORT DETAIL

As per attachment 7.1

Workforce

Nil

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

- **UWA Sub Clover trials – CEO 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.

CEO is currently reviewing the agreements and will in due course put a '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.

- **Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members**

CEO to provide Committee Members who are not Councillors with a copy of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

- **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, needs resourcing and funding.

- **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. FURTHER BUSINESS

Handouts distributed at the meeting:

- 2023-24 Rylington Park Budget and associated worktables
- Rylington Park Sheep Head Count as at 30 June 2023

10. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE OF MEETING

Next meeting to be held on 7th August 2023 at 5:00pm at the Council Chambers.

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Walker thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 7:16pm.

Presiding Member

Date