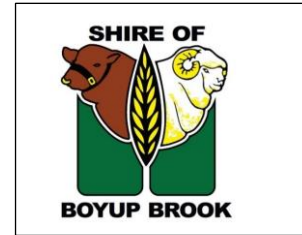


Date: 17 September 2024

To: Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors
Community



MINUTES – RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

16 September 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard Long". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "L".

Leonard Long
Chief Executive Officer

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AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5:04pm.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

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

Committee Meetings are public meetings.

Committee Members and staff risk being held personally liable if their comments are defamatory, or breach any duty of confidentiality.

Statements made during Committee Meetings are solely those of the person making them. Nothing expressed at a Committee Meeting can be attributed to the Shire unless it is adopted by a resolution of Council.

The Confirmed Minutes of a Committee Meeting are the official record of that Committee Meeting. Verbatim Minutes are not required.

Please make sure your mobiles are turned off or on silent for the duration of the Meeting.

This meeting will be audio recorded for minute-taking purposes.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Councillors

Shire President

Cr Richard Walker

Deputy Shire President

Cr Helen O'Connell

Councillors

Cr Darren King

Community Members

Mr Andy McElroy

Mr Joshua Stretch

Edith Cowan University

Prof Kerry Brown

Council Officers

Chief Executive Officer

Leonard Long

Working Farm Manager

Peter Grainger

Observers / Public Members

Nil

2.2 APOLOGIES

Councillors

Cr Charles Caldwell

Cr Michael Wright

Cr David Inglis

Executive Officer

Magdalena Le Grange

2.3 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

3. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

3.1 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

3.2 PETITIONS

Nil

3.3 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TIME

4.1 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

4.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5.1 FINANCIAL AND/OR PROXIMITY INTEREST

Nil

5.2 DISCLOSURES OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST THAT MAY CAUSE CONFLICT

Nil

6. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES / OUT OF SESSION CONFIRMATIONS

6.1 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 18 JULY 2024

Moved: Cr. O'Connell

Seconded: Cr. King

COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/09/062

That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 18 July 2024 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 6/0

For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch

Against: Nil

7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

7.1.1 RYLINGTON PARK ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Peter Grainger, Working Farm Manager
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	Nil

Moved: Cr. King

Seconded: Mr A. McElroy

COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/09/063

That the Committee recommends Council:

- 1. Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for the month of August 2024.**

CARRIED 6/0

**For: Cr Walker, Cr O’Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch
Against: Nil**

SUMMARY

The monthly report is to provide Council with an update on the operations at the Rylington Park Farm.

BACKGROUND

The Rylington Park Institute for Agricultural Training and Research, known as Rylington Park, is a key agricultural asset located 27km from Boyup Brook, in Mayanup.

This 650-hectare property was donated to the Shire of Boyup Brook in 1985 by Mr. Eric Farleigh for agricultural research and training, aimed at the betterment of the Boyup Brook community. Managed by the Shire, the property runs various agricultural programs, including shearing schools and fertiliser and seed trials.

It also offers scholarships to youth in agriculture and has a strategic relationship with Edith Cowan University for research and education, with the intent to share findings with the local farming community. Rylington Park is committed to supporting the agricultural industry and the regional community through its various initiatives.

REPORT DETAIL

Weed Control

- Completed comprehensive broad post emergence spraying for all barley paddocks; sprayed additional paddocks for Capeweed and Silver Grass-paddocks 1, 2 and 10.
- Late fungicide and 40 litres Flexi-N spray in paddocks 21, 15, 44, 38.
- Late fungicide on Canola paddocks.

Infrastructure and Equipment Maintenance

- Changed configuration of sheep yard fencing to facilitate better throughput of sheep.
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences.
- Cleaned out machinery shed.
- Major repairs after spraying have been completed.
- Continued cleaning up workshop and farm surrounds in preparation for field day.
- Serviced Front End Loader tractor.

Crop Management

- Spreading up to date.
- Spraying up to date.
- Barley crop – All looking good apart from small amount of powdery mildew – treated with fungicide.
- Canola crop – Looking good apart from paddock 21 has small amount of radish and could need crop topping.
- Hay/silage looks good - half paddock 15 to silage to control for Silver Grass and Winter Grass.

Livestock Sales

- Sold 297 Blue Tag Hoggets Approx \$100 per head received from Hillside Meats.

Feed on Hand

- Barley 38 tonnes.
- Lupins 3 tonnes.
- Barley straw 12 bales.
- Hay 20 bales.

Feeding program

- Barley straw where needed.
 - Double calcium lick blocks.
 - Proposed: All barley straw post- harvest – sell half and retain the other half for farm use.
-

Livestock Handling and Management

- Crutched Merinos mated to Crossbred 780.
- Moved mobs as required to maximize paddock feed.
- Merino sheep count and merino lamb marking is due to be carried out mid-August.
- Marked Merino lambs 1,070.
- 16 Deaths due to Pregnancy toxemia.

Livestock Inventory as of 11/07/2024

- White Suffolk Rams: 19
- XB Lambs: 0 (31 sold)
- Merino ewe Hoggets: 596
- Merino rams: 26
 - Good merino rams – 21
 - Destroyed – too old - 2
 - Broken mouth - 3
- Merino mixed sex Hoggets to sell: 191
- Merino Ewes: 1,759
- **TOTAL: 2,591**
- Matt Chambers and Peter Forrest to attend in September to undertake final count for auditing purposes.


Wool Sales

- Nil

Shearing Schools, events & trials

- NBN Landcare Camera still in place.
- Shearing Schools are due to start again on the 19th of September.
- Preparation underway for the Field Day 12 September 2024. Clearing and tidying of yard, organizing with Australian Wool Industry for shearing demonstration using Shearing lead up race.

SHIRE OF BOYUP BROOK STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2021 - 2031

	Key Imperatives	Natural Environment
	Objective	Manage natural resources sustainably.
	Outcome	Work with key stakeholders to manage land, fire disease, pest animals and weeds.

OTHER STRATEGIC LINKS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

SUSTAINABILITY AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

Rylington Park Farm contributes economically to both the Shire and Region by providing education and skill development in agriculture which can enhance the workforce, leading to more efficient and innovative farming practices.

Conducting agricultural research can lead to better farming techniques and increased productivity, positively impacting the local economy. The farm also hosting field days and the event draws visitors locally and regionally which can stimulate local spending.

Offering scholarships encourages local youth to pursue careers in agriculture, potentially leading to a more skilled labour pool. Shearing schools support the sheep industry, vital for the local economy. These activities can lead to job creation, increased productivity, and the overall growth of Boyup Brook's agricultural sector.

Social – (Quality of life to community and / or affected landowners)

Rylington Park Farm can impact the quality of life in the Boyup Brook community by enhancing access to agricultural training and education, boosting local economy through job creation and agricultural advancements.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

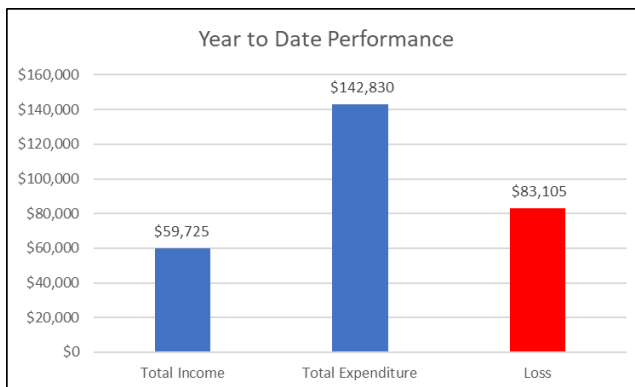
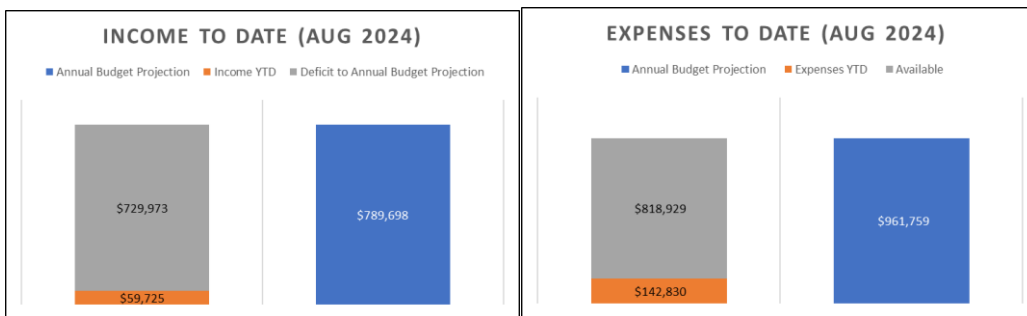
Shire of Boyup Brook's commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	<p>The Shire's risks regarding Rylington Park Farm include costs of operating the farm and funding programs may not always be covered by revenue or grants. Fluctuations in agricultural markets can affect the farm's economic viability.</p> <p>Extreme weather events could impact farm operations and ensuring all farming practices meet regulatory standards.</p>

CONSULTATION

Nil

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS



Workforce
Nil

End

7.1.2 PURCHASE OF RAMS	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	Nil

Moved: Cr. King Seconded: Cr. O'Connell

COMMITTEE DECISION 24/09/064

That Council suspend Standing Orders as per clause 15.6 of the Standing Orders Local Law No. 1 to allow free and open discussion on the matter.

CARRIED 6/0

**For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch
Against: Nil**

Moved: Cr. O'Connell Seconded: Cr. King

COMMITTEE DECISION 24/09/065

That Council resume Standing Orders as per clause 15.6 of the Standing Orders Local Law No. 1.

CARRIED 6/0

**For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch
Against: Nil**

Moved: Cr. King Seconded: Cr. O'Connell

COMMITTEE DECISION 24/09/066

That the Committee recommends Council:

1. Authorise the Working Farm Manager to purchase the required rams for the upcoming breeding season subject to:
 - (a) All purchases of rams to be within the allocated budget limit.
2. Authorise the purchase in (1.) above without the requirement to comply with Policy G9 – Purchasing, due to the fluid nature of purchasing livestock.

CARRIED 6/0

**For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch
Against: Nil**

SUMMARY

This report highlights the critical importance of purchasing high-quality rams for the upcoming breeding season and requests the Committee to authorise the Working Farm Manager to undertake the required purchase of rams.

BACKGROUND

The current Working Farm Manager has the experience to be able to make the critical selection of rams to benefit the Rylington Park sheep program.

The selection and purchase of quality rams are essential for improving flock genetics, productivity, and economic sustainability. Rams are vital for achieving genetic improvements in areas such as wool quality, meat production, and disease resistance.

REPORT DETAIL

The purchase of rams for the breeding season involves selecting rams that best meet the genetic needs of the flock.

Genetic Potential: Rams with superior traits such as enhanced wool quality, growth rates, and disease resistance must be prioritised.


Health Status: Rams should be free from diseases and internal parasites.

Breed and Purpose: The rams chosen must align with the specific goals of the flock, whether for wool, meat, or dual-purpose production.

Cost Consideration: Investing in high-quality rams can be costly upfront but will yield significant long-term benefits through improved productivity.

These purchases are vital for ensuring the sustainability and profitability of the sheep program on Rylington Park.

SHIRE OF BOYUP BROOK STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2021 - 2031

	Key Imperatives	Governance and Organisation
	Objective	Demonstrate effective leadership, advocacy, and governance.
	Outcome	Provide transparent decision making that meets our legal and regulatory obligations, reflects the level of associated risk, and is adequately explained to the community.

OTHER STRATEGIC LINKS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

SUSTAINABILITY AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

Nil

Social – (Quality of life to community and / or affected landowners)

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy G9 - Purchasing

“Over \$10,000 and up to \$100,000 - Seek at least two written quotations from suppliers following specified written requirements, from:

1. *the open market, supporting buy local, where possible and practicable.*
2. *an existing panel of pre-qualified suppliers administered by the Shire; or*
3. *pre-qualified suppliers on the WALGA Preferred Supply Program or State Government CUA.”*

Due to the nature of purchasing livestock in a competitive market the requirement to obtain two (2) quotes is not possible due to purchase prices changing rapidly.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Boyup Brook’s commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	A poor breeding season due to suboptimal ram selection would negatively impact financial sustainability of the farm.

CONSULTATION

Nil

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial

The budget to purchase rams is included in the 2024/2025 annual budget.

Workforce

Nil

End

7.1.3 BUDGET AMENDMENT – PURCHASE OF TRAILER AND FIREPLACE	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	Nil

Moved: Cr. O'Connell Seconded: Cr. King

COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/09/067

That the Committee recommends Council:

- 1. Authorise the following amendment to the 2024/2025 adopted budget, to facilitate the purchase of a trailer and fireplace for Rylington Park:**

Account	Description	Increase	Decrease
149502	Capital Expenditure – Fuel tank trailer 2000L		\$12,000
149502	Capital Expenditure – Trailer purchase	\$6,000	
149502	Capital Expenditure – Fireplace purchase and installation	\$6,000	

CARRIED 6/0

**For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Mr Stretch
Against: Nil**

SUMMARY

The Committee is requested to consider the amendment to the 2024/2025 adopted budget to facilitate the purchase of a trailer for operational purposes and the purchase and installation of a fireplace in the main residence.

BACKGROUND

The farm currently has one (1) double cab Ute, to assist with the transportation of large / bulky goods which requires a trailer.

The current fireplace in the residence is not adequate and the other results in smoke entering the residence.


REPORT DETAIL

During the preparation of the 2024/2025 Rylington Park budget an amount of \$12,000 was allocated to the purchase of a fuel trailer.

Due to the urgent need for a trailer to assist with the day-to-day operations on the farm it is recommended the current fuel tank be retained and the funds be reallocated for the purchase of a trailer with the balance used to fund the purchase of a fireplace for the residence.

During recent works undertaken at the residence it was identified that the two fireplaces either do not heat the house sufficiently or allow smoke to enter the residence which on its own is a health and safety hazard.

SHIRE OF BOYUP BROOK STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2021 - 2031

	Key Imperatives	Economic Development
	Outcome	Support a strong and inclusive economy.
	Objective	Partner with key stakeholders to maximise economic development opportunities through regional and sub regional initiatives.

OTHER STRATEGIC LINKS

Nil

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

SUSTAINABILITY AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Economic – (Impact on the Economy of the Shire and Region)

Nil

Social – (Quality of life to community and / or affected landowners)

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Boyup Brook's commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	Not purchasing the trailer could impact operations on the farm negatively. Similarly, not addressing the heating system would impact the health and safety of the resident.

CONSULTATION

Nil

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial

Nil

Workforce

Nil

End

8. MEMBERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

9. LATE ITEMS / URGENT BUSINESS MATTERS

Nil

10. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Nil

11. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSURE

Next meeting to be held on 2024 at 5pm at the Council Chambers.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5:34pm.

Presiding Member

Date

Outstanding Committee Resolutions		
Res #	Resolution	Status
RP 24/02/004	<p>WESTERN AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION (WAARC) RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Provides in principle support for the use of the Rylington Park Farm should the Edith Cowan University's project on Soil Health be successful with its grant submission to the Western Australian Agricultural Research Collaboration.</p> <p><u>Prof Brown Update:18 July 2024</u> The grant was unsuccessful, and no further action is proposed at this point.</p>	Pending
RP 24/03/024	<p>RYLINGTON PARK POTENTIAL SCHOOL PROGRAM - AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR STUDENT EQUITY AND SUCCESS (ACSES) FUNDING</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If successful, approves a contribution of \$20,000 towards the grant submission to Australian Centre for Student Equity and Success being prepared by Prof Brown. 2. The contribution approved in (1.) above is to be funded out of Councils Co-contribution reserve. <p><u>Prof Brown Update: 18 July 2024</u> The ACSES grant titled Pathways to University Program for Regional Students was submitted by the due date of 6 June 2024 for \$179,954 (total grant budget: \$199,954). Team headed by Kerry Brown, includes ECU School of Business and Law academics and Boyup Brook High School Principal Melissa Reimers. The team has been given feedback that requires further information mainly relating to scale up costs which is due 19 July. The team expects to hear the grant outcomes by early August 2024.</p>	Pending
RP 24/03/033	<p>PROPOSED HEMP TRIALS AT RYLINGTON PARK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports the trials for growing Hemp on 1ha of land at Rylington Park. 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to submit an application for the relevant Hemp Licence to the relevant department. <p><u>CEO Update 18 July 2024:</u> Application form has been completed as far as possible and sent to Prof Brown and Cr King on 24/06/2024 to assist with some details.</p>	Pending

RP 24/03/036	LANDCARE AUSTRALIA / NBN RYLINGTON PARK FERAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR TRIAL 1. Approve the use of Rylington Park for a six-month trial managed by the Blackwood Basin Group (as from February 2024) to observe feral animal behaviours. 2. Request the Landcare Australia / Blackwood Basin Group to provide a report on the outcomes to Council on conclusion of the trial.	Pending
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