Date: 29 August 2025

To: Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors
Community

Minutes – Rylington Park Committee Meeting

27 August 2025

Jason Forsyth
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Boyup Brook Corporate Values

Proactive

Embrace creativity, adaptability and continuous improvement seeking new ideas and solutions to address challenges and seize opportunities to ensure sustainability.

Leadership & Teamwork

Lead through collaboration, promote diversity, have pride in our work and partner with the community to achieve shared visions and aspirations.

Accountability & Integrity

Demonstrate respect, transparency, honesty and inclusivity in all interactions with the community.

Commitment

Build and share knowledge, act professionally and develop relationships that make a positive contribution to our community.

Engaging Community

Show respect, understanding and compassion for others and work collaboratively with community for better outcomes.

SHIRE OF BOYUP BROOK

Proactive, Leadership & Teamwork, Accountability & Integrity, Commitment, Engaging Community

Growing our community together

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Agenda

1. Declaration of opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7:37am.

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 and may be made publicly available on the Shire website.

2. Record of attendance

2.1 Attendance

Councillors

Shire President	Cr Richard Walker
Councillors	Cr Michael Wright
	Cr David Inglis
Community Members	Mr Andy McElroy
	Mr Joshua Stretch
Edith Cowan University	Prof Kerry Brown (via MS Teams)

Council Officers

Acting Chief Executive Officer	Jason Forsyth
Executive Officer	Magdalena Le Grange
Manager Financial Services	Malcolm Armstrong
Manager Community Services	Nicola Jones
Records Officer & Events Coordinator	Erlanda Deas

Observers / Public Members

Nil

2.2 Apologies

Deputy Shire President	Cr Helen O'Connell
Councillors	Cr Charles Caldwell
	Cr Darren King
Farm Working Manager	Peter Grainger

2.3 Request for leave of absence

Nil

3. Deputations, petitions and presentations

3.1 Deputations

Nil

3.2 Petitions

Nil

3.3 Presentations

Nicki Jones and Erlanda Deas presented on Rylington Park Field day program 2025.

4. Public question 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 my cause conflict

Nil

6. Previous Committee Meeting Minutes / Out of Session Confirmation

6.1 Committee Meeting Minutes – 4 June 2025

Moved: Cr. Wright **Seconded: Mr A. McElroy**

Committee Decision RP 25/08/018

That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2025 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 5/0
For: Cr Walker, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Mr Stretch, Cr Wright
Against: Nil

7. Reports of Officers

7.1 Community Services

7.1.1 Rylington Park Integrated Agriculture and Carbon Project	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Magdalena Le Grange, Executive Officer
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number	Nil

Moved: Cr. Inglis **Seconded: Cr. Wright**

Committee Decision RP 25/08/019

That the Committee:

1. **Acknowledge a decision made by Greening Australia Executive on 19 June 2025 to remove the Rylington Park project from the 2026 Aggregation for the following reasons:**

   - **Timing Issues – they don't see the landholder agreement being finalised in time which could impact other landholders.**
   - **Project Viability – further additions to the project budget will see this become the most expensive project in the aggregation and they're not sure it will be accepted by the funding partner.**

CARRIED 5/0
For: Cr Walker, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Mr Stretch, Cr Wright
Against: Nil

Summary

The Rylington Park Integrated Agriculture and Carbon Project is a unique project that seeks to understand and demonstrate that carbon and agriculture can co-exist while improving livestock health and on farm productivity, restoring degraded landscapes and capturing carbon.

Background

The project is a joint effort between Greening Australia, ECU, AWI, the Rylington Park Research and Training Institute and the Shire of Boyup Brook. The following actions have been undertaken to date:

- December 2024: Greening Australia conducted a site visit of Rylington Park with the property manager, ECU and committee representatives to understand parameters of a potential project and identify locations for plantings.

- February 2025: Greening Australia and ECU presented to the Rylington Park Committee the proposed project and the Committee granted permission for the detailed exploration of the proposed project.

- May 2025: Greening Australian and ECU presented the proposal to the Shire CEO.

- June 2025: Greening Australia and ECU presenting the proposal to the Rylington Park Committee.

Report Detail

At the Rylington Park Committee meeting held on 4 June 2025, the Committee resolved:

'Moved: Cr. King Seconded: Cr. Wright

Alternative Motion:

Committee Decision RP 25/06/013

That the Committee:

1. *Defer this item to allow the Chief Executive Officer to obtain additional information:*

    a) *Detailed breakdown on all costs involved.*
    b) *Detailed breakdown on the project (i.e carbon credits, land lease.)*
    c) *Detailed explanation of the Non-Exclusive Call Option Deed.*

2. *Request 3rd party to fund the required legal advice from the Shire's Attorneys.*

CARRIED 6/0
For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Cr Wright
Against: Nil'

Prior to the Chief Executive Officer actioning the Committee decision, the Executive Team of Greening Australia informed the Shire of Boyup Brook on 18 June 2025 that they had made a decision to remove the Rylington Park project from our 2026 Aggregation for the following reasons:

- ‘Timing Issues – we don’t see the landholder agreement being finalised in time which could impact our other landholders.
- Project Viability – further additions to the project budget will see this become the most expensive project in the aggregation and we’re not sure it will be accepted by our funding partner.’

Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031

	Key Imperatives	**Economic Development**
	Outcome	Be a business friendly Shire and create conditions for economic growth.
	Objective	Partner with key stakeholders and support development of industry/ business incubation, innovation and entrepreneurship using a planned approach.

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 the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	The key risk to the Shire of Boyup Brook in allowing the Rylington Park project to proceed lies in the potential long-term land use commitments or restrictions that may arise from carbon sequestration obligations, which could limit future flexibility.

Consultation
Nil

Resource Implications

Financial
Nil

Workforce
Nil

End

7.2 Chief Executive Officer

7.2.1 Rylington Park monthly activity report for May 2025	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Peter Grainger, Farm Working Manager
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	Nil

Moved: Cr. Wright **Seconded: Cr. Inglis**

Committee Decision RP 25/08/020

That Council:

1. **Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for May 2025.**

CARRIED 5/0
For: Cr Walker, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Mr Stretch, Cr Wright
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

- Hand spraying and pulling weeds melons.

Infrastructure and equipment maintenance

- Repairs to sheep yards.
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences.
- Cleaned all water troughs.
- Repaired Chamberlain combine serviced replaced worn out points.
- Serviced seed super bin ready for seeding.
- Serviced FEL.

Crop management

- Sprayed second knockdown on all cropping paddocks completed seeding all crop.
- Cleaned up fallen branches and trees in crop paddocks.

Livestock sales

- None.

Feed on hand

- Barley 105 tonnes.
- Lupins 25 tonnes.
- Barley straw 200 Bales.
- Hay 360 bales.

Grain sales

- None.

Feeding program

- Barley trail feeding ewes 220 grams per week.
- All lambs on lick feeders of barley/lupin mix 250 grams per week plus hay ad lib in feedlots.
- 1 hay bale per 100.

Livestock handling and management

- Lick blocks to sheep in the feed lot.
- Moved mobs as required to maximize paddock feed.
- Weighed last of the sale lambs decided to keep feeding to achieve a high price.

Wool sales

- None.

Shearing schools, events & trials

- None.

Work Health and Safety

- Working through the check sheet for the farm.
- No incidents.

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.

The farm also brings community members together during events and field days, and through its training encourages young people to consider futures in agriculture, aiding in community retention.

Policy Implications
Nil

Risk Management Implications

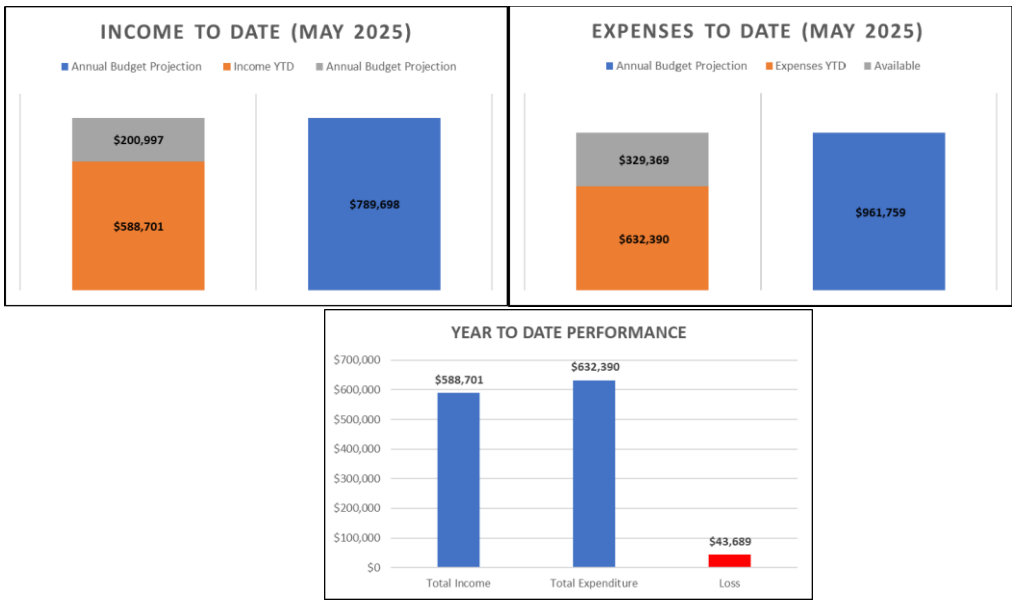
Shire of Boyup Brook's commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	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. Extreme weather events could impact farm operations and ensuring all farming practices meet regulatory standards.

Consultation
Nil

Resource Implications

Financial



Workforce

The position of farmhand is currently vacant.

End

7.2.2 Rylington Park monthly activity report for June 2025	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Peter Grainger, Farm Working Manager
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	Nil

Moved: Cr. Wright **Seconded: Mr. McElroy**

Committee Decision RP 25/08/021

That Council:

1. **Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for June 2025.**

CARRIED 5/0
For: Cr Walker, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Mr Stretch, Cr Wright
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
- Hand spraying around house and sheds.
- Spot sprayed melons.

Infrastructure and Equipment Maintenance
- Repairs to sheep yards.
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences.
- Cleaned all water troughs trough blocks.
- Cleaned out seeding gear.
- Repaired pencil auger.
- Greased FEL.
- Replaced flow meter on boom spray.
- Repaired oil leak on sprayer.

Crop Management
- Sprayed all post emergence broad leaf grasses and fungicide.
- Seeded grass mix for hay crop and pastures.
- Baited slugs.

Feed on Hand
- Barley 90 tonnes.
- Lupins 25 tonnes.
- Barley straw 200 Bales.
- Hay 290 bales.

Grain Sales
Nil.

Feeding program
- Barley trail feeding 600 ewes 600 grams per week.
- Barley straw as needed.
- Ewe hoggets 500 grams per week of lupins.

Livestock Handling and Management
- Crutched ewe hoggets and dry ewes.
- Moved mobs as required to maximize paddock feed.

Wool Sales
- 3 bales.

Shearing Schools, events & trials
Nil.

OHS

- Working through the check sheet for the farm.
- No incidents.

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.

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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.

The farm also brings community members together during events and field days, and through its training encourages young people to consider futures in agriculture, aiding in community retention.

Policy Implications
Nil

Risk Management Implications

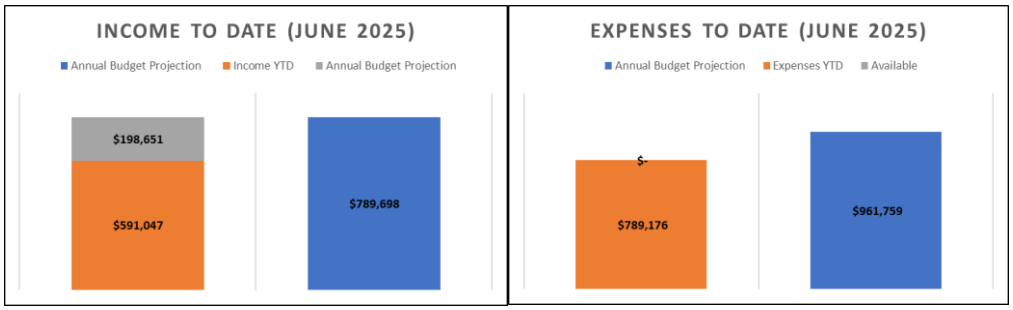
Shire of Boyup Brook's commitment to the identification and management of risks that may impact on the achievement of its business objectives.

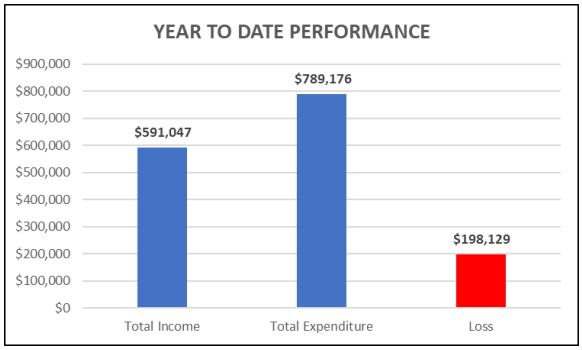
Risk Level	Comment
Moderate	The Shire's risks regarding Rylington Park Farm include costs of operating the farm and funding programs may not always be covered by revenue or grants. Fluctuations in agricultural markets can affect the farm's economic viability. Extreme weather events could impact farm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

Consultation
Nil

Resource Implications

Financial





Workforce

The position of farmhand is currently vacant.

End

8. Members questions on notice

Nil

9. Late items / urgent business matters

Nil

10. General Business

10.1 Upcoming Ram Sales
The CEO to find out if the Farm Working Manager is aware of his budget to buy rams as nothing has been reported in the activity reports.

10.2 Bushfire Brigade
The CEO to require the Farm Working Manager to become a member of the local bushfire brigade.

10.3 Rylington Park monthly activity report
That the CEO require the Farm Working Manager to provide more detail on what is happening on the farm.

10.4 Identifying research projects
Institutions are doing research projects with farming groups but members of the Committee only read about it in for e.g. the Farm Weekly and would like to know who is supposed to drive the projects.

10.5 Co-owned drone
That the CEO through Prof Brown locate the drone and look into utilising the drone for farming activities.

10.6 Proper budget vs actuals
That the CEO present budgeted vs actual figures at every Committee meeting.

10.7 Committee Meeting Location
The Committee conceded that every second meeting be held at Rylington Park, the first being 8 October 2025.

11. Next meeting and closure

Next meeting to be held on 8 October 2025 at 7:30am at Rylington Park.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:22am.

_____ _____

Presiding Member Date

Outstanding Committee Resolutions		
Res #	Resolution	Status
RP 24/03/024	RYLINGTON PARK POTENTIAL SCHOOL PROGRAM - AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR STUDENT EQUITY AND SUCCESS (ACSES) FUNDING 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. **Prof Brown Update: 29 January 2025** **While the grant outcome was advised as unsuccessful in the granting round in 2024, the team has been in discussion with ACSES to understand if a) if the project would be eligible to be considered for the new rolling grant system that replaced the annual call for projects b) whether the project could be considered with modification for funding. The responses have been positive so there has been further discussion about the changes required for the grant application and how these changes would support consideration for funding.**	Pending
RP 24/03/033	PROPOSED HEMP TRIALS AT RYLINGTON PARK ~~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. **CEO Update 29 January 2025**: **Application form has been completed, staff will be progressing with the application.** **Licence application paid for 28 February 2025.**	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.~~	Pending

	2. Request the Landcare Australia / Blackwood Basin Group to provide a report on the outcomes to Council on conclusion of the trial. **<u>CEO Update 29 January 2025</u>** **Landcare has not yet been requested to provide a report. This will be done for the next RPC meeting**.	
RP 25/02/006

	A decision has been made by Greening Australia Executive to remove the Rylington Park project from the 2026 Aggregation for the following reasons: • **Timing Issues – they don't see the landholder agreement being finalised in time which could impact other landholders.** • **Project Viability – further additions to the project budget will see this become the most expensive project in the aggregation and they're not sure it will be accepted by the funding partner.**	