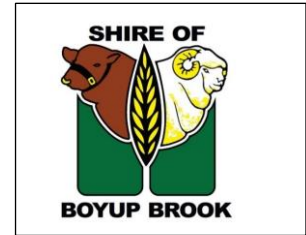


Date: 4 February 2025

To: Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors
Community



Minutes – Rylington Park Committee Meeting

4 February 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Long", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Leonard Long
Chief Executive Officer

Contents

1.	Declaration of opening.....	3
2.	Record of attendance.....	3
2.1	Attendance	3
2.2	Apologies	4
2.3	Request for leave of absence	4
3.	Deputations, petitions and presentations	4
3.1	Deputations	4
3.2	Petitions.....	4
3.3	Presentations.....	4
4.	Public question time	4
4.1	Response to previous public questions taken on notice	4
4.2	Public question time	4
5.	Declarations of interest.....	4
5.1	Financial and / or proximity interest	4
5.2	Disclosures of impartiality interest that my cause conflict	4
6.	Previous committee meeting minutes / out of session confirmation	5
6.1	Committee meeting minutes – 12 December 2024	5
6.2	Committee out of session resolution – 17 January 2025	6
6.3	Sub-Committee out of session resolution – 13 January 2025	7
7.	Reports of Officers	8
7.1	Chief Executive Officer.....	8
7.1.1	Rylington Park activity report for December 2024	8
7.1.2	Rylington Park Updated Agronomy Report 2025	13
7.1.3	Rylington Park Greening Australia, ECU and AWI Joint Project.....	16
8.	Members questions on notice	19
9.	Late items / urgent business matters	19
10.	General Business.....	19
11.	Next meeting and closure	19

Agenda

1. Declaration of opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7:00am.

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 made publicly available on the Shire website.

2. Record of attendance

2.1 Attendance

Councillors

Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors

Cr Richard Walker
Cr Helen O'Connell
Cr Michael Wright
Cr David Inglis
Cr Darren King

Community Members

Mr Andy McElroy
Mr Joshua Stretch

Edith Cowan University

Prof Kerry Brown (Non-voting)

Council Officers

Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer
Farm Working Manager

Leonard Long
Magdalena Le Grange
Peter Grainger

Observers / Public Members**2.2 Apologies**

Members
Cr Charles Caldwell

Council Officers
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

- Greening Australia (Via Teams)

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 – 12 December 2024

Moved: Cr. King

Seconded: Cr. Inglis

Committee Resolution RP 25/02/001

That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 7/0

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

6.2 Committee out of session resolution – 17 January 2025**Moved: Cr. O'Connell****Seconded: Cr. Wright****Committee Resolution RP 25/02/002**

That the following resolution by the Rylington Park Committee taken on 17 January 2025 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

“The Rylington Park Committee:

1. Authorises the following sponsorship proposal for the Rylington Park Womens Day 2025:

a) Option 2:

One entry ticket \$500 - \$1,000, two entry tickets \$2,000 and an additional entry ticket for every additional \$1,000.

All sponsors will get recognised on the marketing materials and on the day by mentioning them and putting up their banners in the shed. Sponsorships over \$4,000 can have larger logos on the marketing materials.

2. Approve the sale of entry tickets to be \$70/ticket.

3. Approve the use of Trybooking for ticket sales in addition to sales over the counter at the Shire Administration Office.

CARRIED

For: Cr Walker, Cr King, Cr O'Connell, Cr Inglis, Cr Caldwell, Cr Wright

Against: Mr McElroy”

CARRIED 6/1

For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Cr Wright, Cr Inglis, Cr King, Mr Stretch

Against: Mr McElroy

6.3 Sub-Committee out of session resolution – 13 January 2025**Moved: Cr. Inglis****Seconded: Cr. Wright****Committee Resolution RP 25/02/003**

That the following resolution by the Rylington Park Sub-Committee taken on 13 January 2025 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

“The Rylington Park Sub-Committee:

- 1. Authorises the Rylington Park Working Farm Manager to sell approximately 260 XB lambs for approximately \$100 per lamb at the Katanning Sales Yards.***

CARRIED 7/0

***For: Cr Walker, Cr Caldwell, Cr Wright, Cr Inglis
Against:”***

CARRIED

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

7. Reports of Officers

7.1 Chief Executive Officer

Notes:

1. Actuals to be included in report

7.1.1 Rylington Park activity report for December 2024	
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: Mr A. McElroy

Seconded: Cr. Wright

Committee Resolution RP 25/02/004

That the Committee:

1. Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for December 2024.

CARRIED 7/0

For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Cr Wright, Cr Inglis, Cr King, Mr McElroy, 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

- Sprayed around sheds.

Infrastructure and Equipment Maintenance

- Repairs to sheep yards chains on gates.
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences.
- Repairs to poly pipe leaks replaced trough in paddock 2
- Cleaned all water troughs
- Cleaned out silos
- Serviced auger
- PTO guard on old field bin
- Serviced hay buggy

Crop Management

- Completed harvest
- Reviewed Agronomy package with David Lane

Livestock Sales

- 130 Cull for Age old ewes sold to VV Walsh \$86/head
- 376 XB lambs to feedlot Boyanup \$115/head on farm

Feed on Hand

- Barley Barley 180 tonnes
- Lupins 3 tonnes
- Barley straw 264 Bales
- Hay 476 bales.

Feeding program

- Barley trail feeding ewes 150 grams per week
- All lambs on lick feeders 200 grams per week

Livestock Handling and Management

- Drenched all lambs with 3:1 plus trace elements moved on to stubble paddocks
- Moved mobs as required to maximise paddock feed

Livestock Inventory

- White Suffolk Rams: 18
- Merino rams: 31
- Merino Ewes: 2033
- XB lambs 256
- Merino ewe lambs 446
- Merino Wether lambs 466
- TOTAL: 3250

Wool Sales

- None - 45 bales in shearing shed.


Shearing Schools, events & trials

- 3-day improver school all went well.

OHS

- Working through the check sheet for the farm.

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	<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

Financial

Nil

Workforce

Nil

End

7.1.2 Rylington Park Updated Agronomy Report 2025	
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:	7.1.2A - Agronomy Report 2025 Draft 3

Moved: Cr. O'Connell

Seconded: Cr. King

Committee Resolution RP 25/02/005

That the Committee:

- 1. Acknowledge the updated agronomy report for 2025 as per attachment 7.1.2A.**
- 2. Request the Chief Executive Officer to arrange a workshop to be held at Rylington Park to finalise the agronomy report.**
- 3. Request an updated agronomy report be presented to the next committee meeting.**

CARRIED 7/0

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

Summary

The Committee is requested to consider the proposed updated agronomy report for the 2025 cropping season.

Background

For the 2025 cropping season, having an agronomy report is essential for any farm to ensure optimal crop performance and long-term sustainability.

An agronomy report provides detailed insights into soil health, nutrient requirements, and pest or disease risks, all of which are critical for making informed decisions on crop selection and management practices.

“Committee Resolution RP 24/12/082

That the Committee:


1. *Acknowledge the updated agronomy report for 2025 as per attachment 7.1.2A.*
2. *Request an updated agronomy report be presented to the next committee meeting.*

Carried 6/0

For: Cr Walker, Cr O’Connell, Mr McElroy, Mr Stretch, Cr King, Cr Wright”

Report Detail

See attachment 7.1.2A Updated Agronomy report for 2025.

	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

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	Without an agronomy report there is a risk that the farm will not produce high yield of crop.

Consultation

Nil

Resource Implications

Financial

Nil

Workforce

Nil

End

7.1.3 Rylington Park Greening Australia, ECU and AWI Joint Project	
File Ref:	RP/01/002
Previous Items:	Nil
Applicant:	Nil
Author and Title:	Prof Kerry Brown, Edith Cowan University
Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority
Attachment Number:	7.1.3A Proposed Planting Map

Moved: Cr. King

Seconded: Cr. O'Connell

Committee Resolution RP 25/02/006

That the Committee:

- 1. Approve the development of a detailed proposal prepared by Greening Australia to consider a research project on the topic of Using integrated native planting to restore farm landscapes for environmental, economic and productivity improvements funded externally through independent sources.**
- 2. Request that prior to the commencement of the project Greening Australia provide a program of activities as well as detailed financials to the committee for consideration.**

CARRIED 7/0

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

Against: Nil

Summary

To consider a collaborative project with project partners Greening Australia, Edith Cowan University, and AWI together with Shire of Boyup Brook Rylington Park Committee located at Rylington Park Farm through the Rylington Park Agricultural Research and Training Institute. Following a Rylington Park Farm visit on Monday 9 December 2024 by Ruth Cripps, Land and Restoration Lead, Greening Australia, relevant areas for integrated management were identified and mapped. Two presenters from Greening Australia, Ruth Cripps and Adin Lang, Commercial Development Manager at Greening will outline a project proposal that seeks to develop a coordinated response to reversing farm environmental degradation and improving livestock management in a native vegetation forage system that is funded externally through independent sources.

Background

Greening Australia, AWI and ECU propose a project on the topic of *Using integrated native planting to restore farm landscapes for environmental, economic and productivity improvements*.

The project concept builds on and supports physical planting, restoration activity of degraded farmland, using a system of carbon credits, and research into use of native vegetation together with management of livestock grazing.

Objectives: enhance productivity, climate resilience, carbon mitigation and biodiversity by re-establishing perennial native plants across farmland:

- Assess ecosystem (carbon, biodiversity, overall sustainability) and productivity benefits using native vegetation plantings, apply learnings to whole-of-farm systems; extend results to producers.
- Validate Nature-based Solution approaches for mixed crop-livestock enterprises, providing critical information facilitating marginal/non-productive area uptake, a means to offset carbon emissions/increase operational sustainability

Report detail

Project Title: *Using integrated native planting to restore farm landscapes for environmental, economic and productivity improvements*.


Project Aims: To develop and better understand several integrated systems of carbon credits, restoration of degraded areas, and Shade, Shelter, Forage planting and livestock management.

Objectives: To enhance farm productivity, carbon mitigation and biodiversity by using integrated management systems and perennial native plants.

The project concept builds on and supports physical planting, restoration activity, carbon credits, research into use of native vegetation and management of livestock grazing.

Project Duration: 3 years - May 2025-May 2028

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)

The project will not have a detrimental affect on the economy of the Shire and Region. In achieving its project goals, there will be a positive benefit to the Shire and Region in terms of building a viable model for better farm management of livestock and restoration of degraded farmland.

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
Low	There is no perceived risk to the committee or Shire should the proposed planting be approved.

Consultation

The project will require bi-monthly consultation with the Rylington Park Committee and regular ongoing consultation with the Farm Manager.

Resource Implications**Financial**

Nil

Workforce

Nil

End

8. Members questions on notice

Nil

9. Late items / urgent business matters

Nil

10. General Business

- (HO) Report to the committees next meeting to set a date for the annual field day.
- (AM) Is the RP Manager a member of the local fire brigade.
- (JS) Frequency of meetings to be considered.
- (AM) Would like to discuss the future format of the annual field day.
- (RW) Can we arrange a workshop to discuss the annual field day following the agronomist workshop.

11. Next meeting and closure

Next meeting to be held on 11 March 2025 at 7:00am in the Council Chambers.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:30am.

Presiding Member

Date

Outstanding Committee Resolutions		
Res #	Resolution	Status
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: 29 January 2025</u> 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.</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 29 January 2025:</u> Application form has been completed, staff will be progressing with the application.</p>	Pending
RP 24/03/036	<p>LANDCARE AUSTRALIA / NBN RYLINGTON PARK FERAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR TRIAL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the use of Rylington Park for a six-month trial managed by the Blackwood Basin 	Pending

	<p>Group (as from February 2024) to observe feral animal behaviours.</p> <p>2. Request the Landcare Australia / Blackwood Basin Group to provide a report on the outcomes to Council on conclusion of the trial.</p> <p><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.</p>	
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