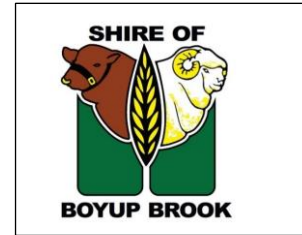


Date: 19 July 2024

To: Shire President
Deputy Shire President
Councillors
Community



MINUTES – RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

18 July 2024

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

Leonard Long
Chief Executive Officer

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AGENDA

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6:03pm.

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

Deputy Shire President

Councillors

Cr Richard Walker

Cr Helen O'Connell

Cr Charles Caldwell

Cr Michael Wright

Cr Darren King

Cr David Inglis

Community Members

Mr Andy McElroy

Council Officers

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Officer

Working Farm Manager

Leonard Long

Magdalena Le Grange

Peter Grainger

Observers / Public Members

2.2 APOLOGIES

Edith Cowan University

Prof Kerry Brown

2.3 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

2.4 NON - ATTENDANCE

Community Member

Mr Joshua Stretch

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 – 8 MAY 2024**

Moved: Cr. Wright

Seconded: Cr. Inglis

COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/07/059

That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2024 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.

For: Cr Walker, Cr O'Connell, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Cr Caldwell,
Cr Wright
CARRIED 7/0
Against: Nil

7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

7.1.1 RYLINGTON PARK ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 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. Inglis	Seconded: Cr. King
<u>COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/07/060</u>	
That the Committee:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for the months of May and June 2024. 	
CARRIED 7/0 For: Cr Walker, Cr O’Connell, Cr Inglis, Mr McElroy, Cr King, Cr Caldwell, 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

- Instituted comprehensive broad spectrum spraying program for weeds in preparation for cropping. Two separate sprays to control the weeds has worked well. Spraying program was developed in consultation with the agronomist, David Lane and undertaken by Working Farm Manager.

Infrastructure and Equipment Maintenance

- Worked with contractor to clean manure out of sheep yards
- Repaired sheep yard fencing and replaced two gates
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences
- Replaced three 'Cocky' gates on paddocks 10, 46 and 44
- Repaired boom spray (Working Farm Manager)
- Repaired gates and fences on sheep yards
- John Deere tractors were serviced by local mechanical services
- Fixed broken step on JD 6125M tractor
- Extensive cleaning and rubbish removal around farmhouse including pressure cleaning of house and clearing of overgrown vegetation, tree lopping and garden maintenance
- Extensive clearing of workshop including removal of disused and broken items, unwanted debris and swept and tidied-up
- Excavator completed cleaning of six dams
- Morris Mead (Blackwood Plant Hire) has been booked to grade contour banks

Crop Management

- Contractor seeded all crops and pastures
- Spread pre seeding Nitrogen and Potash mix Contractor
- Double knock down for weed control
- Rock picking is ongoing
- Post seeding insect control
- Monitoring for bugs and slugs so far no baiting necessary

Livestock Sales

- Sold 563 lambs to VV Walshe – approx \$80,176 after costs and charges
- 250-300 ewe and wether hoggets to be sold in July to ensure they are sold before they cut two teeth and become hoggets

Feed on Hand

- Barley 45 tonnes
 - Lupins 3 tonnes
 - Hay 37 bales
 - Barley straw 50 bales
-

- Oat Lupin mix 70:30 7 tonnes

Feeding program

- All lambing ewes were receiving 1kg barley lupin 70:30 mix 3 times a week plus straw and calcium lick blocks
- From the 5.6.2024 no longer feeding grain in paddocks 35,10,48 and still have straw and lick blocks. Other mobs are back to being fed grain twice a week
- Hoggets were receiving 1kg barley lupin mix twice a week plus hay
- Finished feeding hoggets grain 5.6.2024 only hay

Livestock Handling and Management

- Sorted hoggets into three different categories: wethers, top ewes and remainder
- Drenched and needled balance of ewes
- Moved mobs as required to maximise paddock feed
- Merino sheep count and XB lamb marking due to be carried out Week of 15 July 2024
- Merino sheep count and merino lamb marking due to be carried out mid August

Livestock Inventory as of 11/07/2024

- White Suffolk Rams: 19
- XB Lambs: 31
- Merino ewe lambs: 696
- Merino rams: 26
- Merino wethers: 191
- Merino ewes: 1,806
- TOTAL: 2,769
- All sheep numbers will be confirmed at lamb marking and when drafting blue tag hoggets for sale


Wool Sales

- 12 bales wool sold through Nutrien - \$19,374 after fees and charges
- Crutchings were sold through Nutrien (4 bales) – approx. \$2,000

Shearing Schools, events & trials

- NBN Landcare Camera trial in partnership with Blackwood Basin Group*
 - *Trial finishes in August 2024
 - Shearing Schools are due to start again in late September/October 2024 (zoom meeting booked with Working Farm Manager and AWI for Monday 15 July 2024 to discuss (Valerie Pretzel, AWI)).
-

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	The Shire's risks regarding Rylington Park Farm include costs of operating the farm and funding programs may not always be

	<p>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>
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CONSULTATION

Nil

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial for May and June 2024

Will be tabled at the Ordinary Council meeting to be held on 25 July 2024.

Workforce

Nil

End

7.1.2 AGREEMENT CHARTER FOR CONDUCTING TRIALS / RESEARCH AT RYLINGTON PARK	
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 – Agreement Charter

Moved: Cr. Caldwell

Seconded: Cr. Inglis

COMMITTEE DECISION RP 24/07/061

That the Committee:

- Approves the Agreement Charter for Conducting Trials / Research at Rylington Park as per attachment 7.1.2A.**

CARRIED 7/0

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

SUMMARY

This report presents a comprehensive overview of the proposed Agreement Charter (attachment 7.1.2A) for conducting trials at Rylington Park. The Charter aims to formalise the process, ensuring transparency, compliance, and mutual benefits for both researchers and the Shire of Boyup Brook.

BACKGROUND


Rylington Park is a key agricultural research and education facility in the Shire of Boyup Brook. The site hosts numerous trials and research projects, contributing to advancements in agricultural practices and technologies.

The absence of a formalised agreement charter could result in inconsistencies in reporting and data sharing. The proposed Charter seeks to address these issues, providing a clear framework for all parties involved.

REPORT DETAIL

The Agreement Charter outlines specific responsibilities and obligations for researchers conducting trials at Rylington Park. It includes provisions for documentation, compliance with regulations, reporting findings, confidentiality, intellectual property, liability, insurance, and dispute resolution. By establishing these guidelines, the Charter ensures that all trials are conducted ethically, safely, and transparently.

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)

The findings from these trials can lead to innovations that improve agricultural productivity, sustainability, and profitability, benefiting the local economy and the broader agricultural sector.

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

The Charter promotes transparency and accountability, enhancing the community's trust in the research conducted at Rylington Park. By ensuring that findings are made publicly available, the Charter fosters knowledge sharing and community engagement.

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 a formal Agreement Charter, there is a risk of inconsistent practices, and lack of transparency in research activities. This can lead to loss of credibility, and missed opportunities for collaboration and innovation.

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 confirmed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6:28pm.

Presiding Member

Date

Outstanding Committee Resolutions		
Res #	Resolution	Status
RP 24/02/004	<p>WESTERN AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COLLABORATION (WAARC) RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES 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	<p data-bbox="432 230 1126 293">LANDCARE AUSTRALIA / NBN RYLINGTON PARK FERAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR TRIAL</p> <ol data-bbox="432 331 1166 560" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="432 331 1166 432">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.<li data-bbox="432 465 1166 560">2. Request the Landcare Australia / Blackwood Basin Group to provide a report on the outcomes to Council on conclusion of the trial.	Pending
