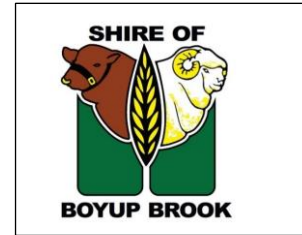


Date: 25 October 2024

To: Shire President  
Deputy Shire President  
Councillors  
Community



## NOTICE AND AGENDA – RYLINGTON PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

A Rylington Park Committee will be held in the Council Chambers (Lesser Hall) on 28 October 2024 at 9:00am to consider the matters set out in the attached agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard Long", is written in a cursive style.

Leonard Long  
Chief Executive Officer

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## Agenda

### 1. Declaration of opening

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at ..... am.

#### 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

Community Members  
Edith Cowan University

Mr Andy McElroy  
Prof Kerry Brown

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**Council Officers**

Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Officer  
Working Farm Manager

Leonard Long  
Magdalena Le Grange  
Peter Grainger

**Observers / Public Members****2.2 Apologies**

Councillor  
Community Member

Cr David Inglis  
Joshua Stretch

**2.3 Request for leave of absence****3. Deputations, petitions and presentations****3.1 Deputations**

Nil

**3.2 Petitions**

Nil

**3.3 Presentations**

Nil

**4. Public question time**

The presiding member will receive questions from the public. Public questions are to be confined to 5 minutes per person and a maximum of 15 minutes and are limited to questions regarding items in the agenda.

**4.1 Response to previous public questions taken on notice**

Nil

**4.2 Public question time****5. Declarations of interest****5.1 Financial and / or proximity interest****5.2 Disclosures of impartiality interest that may cause conflict**

**6. Previous committee meeting minutes / out of session confirmation**

**6.1 Committee meeting minutes – 16 September 2024**

<p>Moved: ..... Seconded: .....</p> <p>Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...</p> <p>That the minutes of the Rylington Park Committee Meeting held on 16 September 2024 be confirmed as being a true and accurate record.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">..... For: Against:</p>
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**7. Confidential Items of business**

**7.1 Proceed behind closed doors**

<p>Moved: ..... Seconded: .....</p> <p>Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Proceed behind closed doors as per Section 5.23(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>, to consider item 7.2, Consideration of the appointment of the Working Farm Manager, the time being .....am.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">..... For: Against:</p>
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<b>7.2 Confidential Consideration of the appointment of the Working Farm Manager</b>	
<b>File Ref:</b>	RP/01/002
<b>Previous Items:</b>	Nil
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nil
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Absolute Majority
<b>Attachment Number:</b>	7.2A – Resume

### 7.3 Proceed with the meeting in public

**Moved: ..... Seconded: .....**

**Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...**

**That Council:**

- 1. Proceed with the meeting in public, the time being .....am.**

.....  
**For:**  
**Against:**

## 8. Reports of Officers

### 8.1 Chief Executive Officer

<b>8.1.1 Rylington Park activity report for the month of September 2024</b>	
<b>File Ref:</b>	RP/01/002
<b>Previous Items:</b>	Nil
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nil
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Peter Grainger, Working Farm Manager
<b>Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Attachment Number:</b>	Nil

**Moved: ..... Seconded: .....**

**Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...**

**That the Committee:**

- 1. Receive the monthly activity report for the Rylington Park Farm for the month of September 2024.**
- 2. Approves the reduction of ewes to 1500 to free up additional paddocks for cropping.**
- 3. Approves the change in mating times to January annually for all ewes.**

.....  
**For:**  
**Against:**

### 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 fire breaks.

### Infrastructure and Equipment Maintenance

- Repaired sheep yards and rehung gates. New gate next to crutching race to help crutched sheep return to yards.
- Ongoing fencing maintenance and cleared fallen branches from fences.
- Cleaned out the workshop.
- Greased 6125m tractor.
- Cleaned out heritage shed next to machinery shed.

### Crop Management

- Spraying up to date.
- Barley crop – looking good small amount of rye grass showing in paddock 38.
- Canola crop – looking good small amount of rye grass showing in paddock 51.
- Hay / silage looks good.

### Livestock Sales

- 202 blue tag hoggets sold early September.

### Feed on Hand

- Barley 38 tonnes.
  - Lupins 3 tonnes.
  - Hay 20 bales.
  - Barley straw 4 bales.
-



### Feeding program

- Barley straw as needed.

### Livestock Handling and Management

- Crutched the rest of the merinos.
- Moved mobs as required to maximize paddock feed.
- Repaired pipe to main dam water tank.
- 6 deaths in ewes.

### Livestock Inventory as of 11/10/2024

- White Suffolk Rams: 19
- Merino ewe Hogget's: 406
- Merino rams: 31
- Merino mixed sex Hogget's to sell 202
- Merino Ewes: 1,763
- XB lambs 960
- Merino lambs 920

TOTAL: 4301


### Wool Sales

- Nil

### Shearing Schools, events & trials

- NBN Landcare Camera taken away.
- Shearing School was a success with 14 students attending.
- Field day was a success.

### Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 - 2031

	<b>Key Imperatives</b>	<b>Natural Environment</b>
	<b>Objective</b>	Manage natural resources sustainably.
	<b>Outcome</b>	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**

### **Financial**

Nil

### **Workforce**

Nil

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End

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<b>8.1.2 Amendment to the Rylington Park Committee Terms of Reference</b>	
<b>File Ref:</b>	RP/01/002
<b>Previous Items:</b>	Nil
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nil
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Absolute Majority
<b>Attachment Number:</b>	8.1.2A - Amended Terms of Reference

**Moved: ..... Seconded: .....**

**Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...**

**That the Committee recommends Council:**

**1. Approves the amended Terms of Reference for the Rylington Park Committee as per attachment 8.1.2A.**

.....  
**For:**  
**Against:**

**Summary**

The Committee is requested to consider the proposed Rylington Park ‘Terms of Reference’.

**Background**

It is important for any committee to have ‘Terms of Reference’ to ensure the committee operates smoothly and within the authority approved by Council.

**Report detail**

The Shire has a close working relationship with ECU and would like to continue this relationship regarding any prospective trials or educational opportunities to be held at Rylington Park.

However, the ECU representative is currently a voting member on the Committee and required to attend all meetings. This is considered unnecessary and very time consuming for the ECU representative. This could also be seen to potentially be a conflict of interest due to the operational type of decisions the Committee is required to make.

### 3. Membership

- (a) The Committee will consist of the Shire President, six (6) Councillors, one (1) (non-voting) representative of Edith Cowan University and two (2) community members.

The following staff, although not Committee members, will represent the Shire at Committee meetings:


- Chief Executive Officer
- Working Farm Manager
- ~~Farm Coordinator~~

### 11. Voting

Only the ~~nine (9)~~ eight (8) Councillors / Members are permitted to vote on any item presented for consideration. Should there be a ~~stale~~ tied vote the Shire President will cast the deciding vote.

All Councillors / Members are required to vote and may not abstain from voting.

### Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 - 2031

	<b>Key Imperatives</b>	<b>Governance and Organisation</b>
	<b>Objective</b>	Demonstrate effective leadership, advocacy, and governance.
	<b>Outcome</b>	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
Low	Given that majority of Councillors (six) are on the committee and the decision made at the committee level is likely to be further approved by the full Council, the risk is considered moderate.

**Consultation**

Nil

**Resource implications**

**Financial**

Nil

**Workforce**

Nil

End

<b>8.1.3 Australian Wool Innovation – WoolPoll 2024 Voting</b>	
<b>File Ref:</b>	RP/01/002
<b>Previous Items:</b>	Nil
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nil
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Absolute Majority
<b>Attachment Number:</b>	Nil

**Moved:** ..... **Seconded:** .....

**Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...**

**That the Committee recommends Council:**

- 1. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to register the Shire of Boyup Brook WoolPoll levy rate at ...%.**

.....  
**For:**  
**Against:**

**Summary**

The Committee is requested to consider what percentage if any the Shire should register with regard to the WoolPoll Levy.

**Background**

WoolPoll is a biennial (every two years) voting event run by Australian Wool Innovation (AWI), giving Australian woolgrowers the opportunity to influence how much of their wool income is invested in industry research, development, and marketing. WoolPoll allows woolgrowers to vote on the levy rate they contribute from the sale of their wool. The levy is a percentage of their wool sales revenue, and growers can vote for different levy options, which range from 0% to 2%.

The funds raised through this levy are managed by AWI and are used to support a variety of activities aimed at advancing the wool industry, such as improving wool production, sustainability initiatives, marketing campaigns to promote wool globally, and supporting shearing and wool-handling training.

The origins of WoolPoll date back to the early 2000s when the wool industry sought a more democratic process for determining the levy rate.

Woolgrowers, who pay the levy, gained the right to vote on how much they should contribute through this transparent system, ensuring that AWI's investments align with the priorities of the growers.

The outcome of WoolPoll is crucial as it determines the level of funding AWI receives to carry out its programs, directly impacting the industry's development and competitiveness. WoolPoll is a significant part of the governance structure of AWI, and it empowers woolgrowers to have a direct say in how their industry is shaped.

### **Report detail**

WoolPoll 2024 is an important event for Australian woolgrowers, giving them the chance to vote on the levy rate that will fund Australian Wool Innovation's (AWI) research, development, and marketing activities for the next three years. Voting opened on 20 September and will close on 1 November 2024, with the results to be announced on 15 November during AWI's Annual General Meeting.

Woolgrowers can choose between four levy options: 0%, 1%, 1.5% (the current rate), and 2%. The AWI has provided the following snapshot of the benefits linked to each levy option:

#### **Levy Option 1 - 0% (\$4,600,000 revenue)**

AWI will close

#### **Levy Option 2- 1% (\$42,900,000 revenue)**

No investment into the following:

- No breeding leadership.
- No new flystrike vaccine.
- No sheep classing workshops.
- No funding for scientific research in relation to the wool's eco credentials.
- No methane emissions reduction research.

Reduced investment into the following:

- Capacity building activities e.g. Lifetime ewe management training.
- Extension networks consolidated so fewer local programs.
- Cutting face to face flystrike extensions activities.
- Shearer training.
- Marketing spend focused on China primarily.
- Bio harvesting.



**Levy Option 3 – 1.5% (\$54,600,00 revenue)**

No investment into the following:

- No sheep classing workshops.
- No new flystrike vaccine research.

Reduced investment into the following:

- Internal parasite research reduced.
- Capacity building e.g. breeding leadership, lifetime ewe management.
- Defence of wool's environmental credentials in Europe only, with no work in Asia or North America.
- Limited support for wild dog programs.
- Reduced opportunities for collaborations and jointly funded grant applications.
- Marketing spend focused on China, limited spending on other markets.

Priority investment:

- Shearer training.
- Bio harvesting.

**Levy Option 4 – 2.5% (\$66,100,000 revenue)**

Reduced investment into the following:


- Marketing spend focused on China, Japan, Korea, Europe and America.
- Some support for state / regional wild dog control programs.

Priority investment:

- Shearing training.
- Accelerating bio harvesting research.
- Emerging markets program.
- Visual scoring apps / tools for woolgrowers.
- Internal parasite research.
- Flystrike vaccine funding secured.
- Continued research to support wool's environmental credentials.
- Capacity building investment in breeding leadership and lifetime ewe management training.
- Sheep classing workshops.

AWI has warned that without an increase to 2%, some programs may face cuts due to lower wool prices and reduced production forecasts. The outcome of WoolPoll will determine the levy rate effective from 1 July 2025.

### Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 - 2031

	<b>Key Imperatives</b>	<b>Governance and Organisation</b>
	<b>Objective</b>	Demonstrate effective leadership, advocacy, and governance.
	<b>Outcome</b>	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.

<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>Moderate</b>	Should the investment be less than 1.5% it may have an impact on Rylington Park regarding the continued provision of Shearers training. However, there will not be any impact on the financial sustainability of the farm.

**Consultation**

Nil

**Resource implications**

**Financial**

Nil

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**Workforce**

Nil

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End

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<b>8.1.4 Rylington Park Agronomy Report 2025</b>	
<b>File Ref:</b>	RP/01/002
<b>Previous Items:</b>	Nil
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nil
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Declaration of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Voting Requirements:</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Attachment Number:</b>	8.1.4A – Agronomy Report 2025

<p><b>Moved: ..... Seconded: .....</b></p> <p><b>Officer Recommendation RP 24/10/...</b></p> <p><b>That the Committee:</b></p> <p><b>1. Approves the agronomy report for 2025 as per attachment 8.1.4A.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">..... <b>For:</b> <b>Against:</b></p>
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**Summary**

The Committee is requested to consider the proposed 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.

**Report detail**

See attachment 8.1.4A Agronomy report for 2025.

**Shire of Boyup Brook Strategic Community Plan 2021 - 2031**

	<b>Key Imperatives</b>	<b>Governance and Organisation</b>
	<b>Objective</b>	Demonstrate effective leadership, advocacy, and governance.

	<p><b>Outcome</b></p>	<p>Provide transparent decision making that meets our legal and regulatory obligations, reflects the level of associated risk, and is adequately explained to the community.</p>
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**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
<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>Without an agronomy report there is a risk that the farm will not produce high yield of crop.</p>

**Consultation**

Nil

**Resource implications**

**Financial**

Nil

**Workforce**

Nil

End

**9. Members questions on notice**

Nil

**10. Late items / urgent business matters**

Nil

**11. Next meeting and closure**

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

There being no further business the meeting closed at ... am.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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<b>Outstanding Committee Resolutions</b>		
<b>Res #</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Status</b>
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><b><u>Prof Brown Update: 18 July 2024</u></b>  <b>The grant was unsuccessful and no further action is proposed at this point.</b></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"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. The contribution approved in (1.) above is to be funded out of Councils Co-contribution reserve.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Prof Brown Update: 18 July 2024</u></b>  <b>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.</b></p>	Pending
RP 24/03/033	<p>PROPOSED HEMP TRIALS AT RYLINGTON PARK</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <del>Supports the trials for growing Hemp on 1ha of land at Rylington Park.</del></li> </ol>	Pending

	<p>2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to submit an application for the relevant Hemp Licence to the relevant department.</p> <p><b><u>CEO Update 18 July 2024:</u></b>  <b>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.</b></p>	
<p>RP 24/03/036</p>	<p>LANDCARE AUSTRALIA / NBN RYLINGTON PARK FERAL ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR TRIAL</p> <p><del>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.</del></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>Pending</p>