

PRESENT: Ally Dench; Tate Ryan; David Smith; Louise Davies; Carolyn Whitten; Laure-Elise Ruoso; Joe Grima; Jacqueline Chevis; James Bell; Ed Biel; Sue Gordon; Edgar Downes; Mark Wright; Ashley Christie; Peter Sproule; Simone Fisher; Tony Biffin; Philip Bartolo; Toni Spence

APOLOGIES: Cr Ray Law; Cr Col Mitchell; Cr Lou Amato; Cr Kate Terry; Andrew Docking

DESCRIPTION		ACTION
1.	Tate Ryan welcomed all to the meeting. Tate Ryan acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place.	
2.	Disclosure of Interests Nil	
3.	Apologies Noted	
4.	Adoption of Previous Minutes Moved: Ed Biel Seconded: James Bell The Minutes were tabled and adopted as true and correct Carried	
5.	Matters arising from previous minutes <u>2013/2014 Rural Forum Outcomes Paper Implementation</u> Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented to Executive; challenges regarding Advocacy acknowledged ACTION 9/2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide feedback on action plan at next meeting <u>1/2013 Sydney Catchment Land Rezoning</u> Ongoing <u>9/2014 Rates Comparison</u> Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councils Manager Finance – Ashley Christie and Revenue Team Leader – Simone Fisher were introduced to the Committee by Tate and asked to present information and answer questions. 	Tate Ryan

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Draft farmland Assessment Policy was tabled by Ashley and distributed to the Committee for comment and input. The policy will be going to the November Meeting of Council. • The Council process for review of rates was outlined by Simone. <p>Issue: Rates Value Based</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns that Farmland is rated even if only one house is on the property. • Ongoing issue since the beginning of the committee – trying to protect farmland in Wollondilly. • Impression that farmland rating in Camden is cheaper • Farmers pay penalty for owning a valuable block of land • Simone responded that the rate in the \$ for farmland is 50% of the rate for residential properties. • Simone also stated that she has checked adjoining Councils and found that Wollondilly’s farmland rates are comparable. <p>Issue: Comparative Ratings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camden does not have as many large lots and is not comparable to Wollondilly <p>Issue: Rates scales / Unimproved Capital Value</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Valuer General sets rate – would be fairer to compare farm sales. • Rating and the rate rise is going to be an issue for farmers. Rating should be linked to whether a parcel is used for agricultural use as opposed to hobby farm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. The application form for rating allows an opportunity for mixed farming to be lodged. Guidelines from the OLG regulates the parameters, case law has to be considered as well with applications • A. Suggestions have merit but need to negotiate through legislation. <p>ACTION 10/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor to support the Committees concerns by raising a NOM to lobby the Valuer General in relation to farmland rating. <p>ACTION 11/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new clause to the policy. 4.34 – Mixed farming uses. <p>ACTION 12/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to meet to discuss issues raised in the Committee meeting. <p>The Committee members thanked Simone Fisher and Ashley</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Ally Dench</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ashley Christie</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ashley Christie</p>

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<p>Christie for attending the meeting.</p> <p><u>10/2014 Respond to State and Federal engagement opportunities in line with the draft agriculture action plan</u> Ongoing</p> <p><u>11/2014 Agriculture Standard Conditions</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Smith tabled and distributed two consents to the Committee. One in relation to Poultry Farm the other an Educational Facility - Horticulture. • He advised in relation to the Chicken Farm council worked with Farmers and Objectors and improved conditions of consent. <p>Issue: Standard Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q. Are these very typical consent conditions? Can you change the consents? For example limitations of using machinery i.e. tractor before 9.00am. • A. Many conditions will appear on all consents – however every proposal is unique. A Planner chooses conditions which are checked by a senior staff member. • Q. Planners need clear direction from elected representatives on what is expected. Want agriculture but bow down to complaints. • A. Councillors have consistently approved poultry farms and horticulture. <p>Issue: Pick Up Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q. Poultry farms have different welfare issues i.e. Turkeys v Chickens. Turkey plant starts at 4.30am birds cannot be picked up until 2.30am. Needs to be consideration to put restrictions on vehicle noise – not farms. The work is carried out inside - most farms will not make noise. <u>Conditions should be on trucks – not farm operations.</u> • A. Council approves poultry farms – need two separate conditions one for chickens one for turkeys. Proponent can suggest their own way of dealing with an issue – like doing a risk assessment. • Q. Can you appeal a consent • A. Yes – the timeframe within six months. • Q. Is there any benefit to gather poultry farmers with planners to discuss issues? 	

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Poultry Association need to take to next level – to State Government to get support for farms. <p>ACTION 13/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the 28th September Councillor Workshop will draft into the presentation to Councillors to raise the issue for poultry farms. <p><i>Note: After the RILC meeting this Councillor Workshop was rescheduled so that it will now take place on 26 October.</i></p> <p>ACTION 14/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise with SPUN the issue of consistent conditions of consent and requirements for agricultural land used across the Peri-Urban areas. This fits in with the SPUN action plan in Action 1 – under VALUE. <p>ACTION 15/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tate Ryan to meet with David Smith to look at issues raised to discuss. <p>Issue: Complaints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q. How many complaints does council receive about farms? A. More than one a day but at the moment one of the most common complaint is “truck depots” - where tradies take trucks home and the business grows. The next most common complaint is dogs. <p>Issue: New Resident Kits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Resident Kits need to be updated – Rural Handbook and Fact Sheets. This should include the fact that people are moving into a rural area and should also include dog/cat issues. <p>ACTION 16/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add dog/cat issues onto Fact Sheets for new residents. <p>IDEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Students (High Schools) to make you-tube presentation with links in pack and/or Council website to educate people/community members about farm practices 	<p>David Smith</p> <p>Ally Dench</p> <p>David Smith / Tate Ryan</p> <p>Carolyn Whitten</p>

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<p><u>1/2015 Can SPUN advocate for farming cadetships and traineeships</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be addressed through SPUN Action Plan. Draft Action Plan was tabled and discussed. <p><u>2/2015 Could SPUN look at developing a standard guideline for peri-urban farming.</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be addressed through SPUN Action Plan. Draft Action Plan was tabled and discussed. <p><u>3/2015 Greater Macarthur Investigation Area Report</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet have made a decision and we are expecting to hear from them shortly. <p>ACTION 17/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email decision about Greater Macarthur Investigation to Committee when received. <p><u>4/2015 Badgerys Creek Airport</u> Complete</p> <p><u>5/2015 Truck weight limits on Agriculture</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentioned with team – Picton Centric – will keep researching <p>Issue: Load Limits for Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The load limit is 50 Tonne – because they are going home drivers will be allowed to use Montpellier Road even if returning to the Truck Depot. Should not load limit the road to deliver goods – 50 tonne limit – trucks not allowed off B-Double routes. This causes a problem for deliveries. Milk trucks not allowed to use these roads as they are over the limit. <p>ACTION 18/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite Director Infrastructure to attend next Committee meeting. 	<p style="text-align: right;">Tate Ryan</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tate Ryan</p>

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<p><u>6/2015 Investigate naming of building or site – Lt. Col Astley John Onslow Thompson VD</u> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louise will send email to Tate re: Thirlmere railway – kangaroo walk. <p><u>7/2015 – Invite Hydrologist to attend Sydney’s Food Futures</u> Complete</p> <p><u>8/2015 – Urban Ecological Systems - Complete</u> Cost of empty land too high</p>	
<p>6 Notified Items</p>	
<p>6.1 <u>Presentation on Upcoming Research</u></p> <p>Laure-Elise Ruoso (PhD Student at Institute for Sustainable Futures) thanked Council for allowing her to present to the Committee. Laure talked about her work at the Institute and noted that she was looking to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of farmers in the community Changes in the landscape Focus how changes are perceived Focus on farmers individual experience on their own land <p>Laure-Elise would like to hold interviews with Farmers and left details for them to contact her.</p> <p>The Committee invited Laure-Elise to attend future meetings.</p>	
<p>6.2 <u>Nangarin Vineyard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Wright thanked the Committee for allowing him to attend and discussed issues in relation to Viticulture and Nangarin Vineyard. The Nangarin Vineyard is 40 acres. They do not have the facilities to crush their own fruit so they need to send it to other facilities but this also poses problems. <p>Some of the issues the vineyard faces are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can’t take whole fruit only juice out of zone Smaller vineyards can crush their own grapes No longer crusher in Badgerys Creek due to airport Last test for Phylloxera in the area showed negative results Orchard Hills is no longer viable Mark also tabled Industry & Investment Conditions 	

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark is requesting support from Committee/Council to assist to remove restriction. • It was agreed that if there is an action plan the committee will support the request for exemption. • The issue of the new Act was raised as it is black and white with no flexibility. <p>ACTION 19/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Kate Terry to raise a NOM to Lobby the State Government for a policy exemption or change. <p>ACTION 20/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tate Ryan to liaise with Mark Wright to word a NOM. <p>ACTION 21/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tate Ryan to raise issue with State Member at his next meeting with Council. 	<p style="text-align: right;">Cr Kate Terry</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tate Ryan</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tate Ryan</p>
<p>6.3 <u>SPUN Action Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Draft Action Plan tabled to Committee. • To be endorsed – with changes as per action in relation to agricultural land use in peri-urban areas. 	
<p>7. General Business</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>Issue: Wollondilly Community Nursery (WCN) – Effect of recent increase in Prices</p> <p>Raised by: Louise Davies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns have been raised that new prices points for stock being sold at WCN are now uncompetitive that may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Likely force local buyers elsewhere ○ Increase wastage of unsold product ○ Raise conflict if prices have been set in order to support the Council’s own regeneration projects with little care taken to consider access to competitive prices to local ratepayers. ○ Threaten the purpose of a local, community based group supplying locally produce native vegetation for regeneration of local lands - will be at risk if prices do not remain competitive. • Example: Price for bulk Tube Stock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Wollondilly Community Nursery</u>: @ \$3.10 per tube ○ <u>Wariapendi Nursery at Hilltop</u>: which mostly provides tube stock for native plants from the Southern Highlands sells 	

DESCRIPTION		ACTION
	<p>7.11 Tony Biffin raised the idea that with land purchase – long term lease with rate relief as an incentive. Will provide information (business plan).</p> <p>ACTION 248/2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011. 	<p>Carolyn Whitten</p>
8.	<p>WHS Nil</p>	
9.	<p>Meeting closed at 7:47pm</p>	

**WOLLONDILLY RURAL INDUSTRY LIAISON COMMITTEE
OPEN ACTIONS AS AT 15 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Action	Description	Responsible Person(s)	Update/Status
2013/2014	Rural Forum Outcomes Paper Implementation.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
1/2013	That the RILC be kept informed in the upcoming review of the Sydney Catchment Land Rezoning.	Planning	ONGOING
9/2014	Look at rates in comparison to nearby Councils.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
10/2014	Respond to State and Federal engagement opportunities in line with the draft agriculture action plan.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
11/2014	RILC would like to review standard conditions imposed on agricultural development consents.	Planning	ONGOING
1/2015	Can SPUN advocate for farming cadetships and traineeships?	Ec Dev	ONGOING
2/2015	Could SPUN look at developing a standard guideline for peri-urban farming. This will be an important industry for food security and for Australia adapting to climate change.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
3/2015	Could the Greater Macarthur Investigation Area Report come to RILC when it is exhibited.	Planning	ONGOING
4/2015	Could more information about the Badgery's Creek Airport come to RILC?	Planning	ONGOING
5/2015	Add issues relating to truck weight limits on agriculture to investigation into traffic issues facing business in Wollondilly.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
6/2015	Could Council investigate naming a building or site after Lt Col Astley John Onslow Thompson VD.	Ec Dev	ONGOING
8/2015	Urban Ecological Systems.	James Bell & Tate Ryan	ONGOING
9/2015	To provide feedback on Action Plan at next meeting.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
10/2015	Councillor to support the Committees concerns by raising a NOM to lobby the Valuer General in relation to farmland rating.	Ally Dench	ONGOING
11/2015	Add a new clause to the policy. 4.34 – Mixed farming uses.	Ashley Christie	ONGOING
12/2015	Staff to meet to discuss issues raised in the Committee meeting.	Ashley Christie	ONGOING

Action	Description	Responsible Person(s)	Update/Status
13/2015	At the 28th September Councillor Workshop will draft into the presentation to Councillors to raise the issue for poultry farms.	David Smith	ONGOING
14/2015	Raise with SPUN the issue of consistent conditions of consent and requirements for agricultural land used across the Peri-Urban areas. This fits in with the SPUN action plan in Action 1 – under VALUE.	Ally Dench	ONGOING
15/2015	Tate Ryan to meet with David Smith to look at issues raised to discuss.	Tate Ryan / David Smith	ONGOING
16/2015	Add dog/cat issues onto Fact Sheets for new residents.	Carolyn Whitten	ONGOING
17/2015	Email decision about Greater Macarthur Investigation to Committee when received.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
18/2015	Invite Director Infrastructure to attend next Committee meeting.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
19/2015	Cr Kate Terry to raise a NOM to Lobby the State Government for a policy exemption or change.	Cr Kate Terry	ONGOING
20/2015	Tate Ryan to liaise with Mark Wright to word a NOM.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
21/2015	Tate Ryan to raise issue with State Member at his next meeting with Council.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
22/2015	Wollondilly Community Nursery new prices will be raised with Council staff.	Ally Dench	ONGOING
23/2015	Council to provide advice about the abandoned Apple orchard on Steveys Forest Road; with fruit fly; pestilence; disease prevalent.	Carolyn Whitten	ONGOING
24/2015	Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011.	Carolyn Whitten	ONGOING