

Rural Industry Liaison Committee Minutes of Meeting

Held on 2 August 2016 at 5:00pm



PRESENT: Tate Ryan (Chair), Ally Dench, James Bell, Joe Grima, Carolyn Whitten, Ed Biel, Sue

Gordon, Louise Davies, Katie Hirono, Peter Sproule

APOLOGIES: Cr Kate Terry, Andrew Docking (DPI), Jacqueline Chevis, Tony Biffin

DESCRIPTION		ACTION
1.	Acknowledgement of Country	
2.	Disclosure of Interests	
	Nil	
3.	Apologies	
	Noted	
4.	Adoption of Previous Minutes	
	Moved: Ed Biel Seconded: James Bell	
	Correction: The Minutes have been amended to refer to the University of Sydney not Western Sydney at 7.2.	
	The Minutes were tabled and adopted as true and correct Carried	
5.	Introduction CHETRE Katie Hirono from Centre for Health, Equity, Training, Research and Evaluation (CHETRE) at UNSW attended the meeting as an observer. CHETRE is a partner in a project with Council and Population Health, South Western Sydney Local Health District to investigate ways to integrate health considerations into Council's land use planning processes.	
	There was some discussion around what is health? Access to fresh food, what things have impacts on people's wellbeing, quality of urban design, different perspectives of rural living and healthy farming practices	
6.	Matters arising from previous minutes (was item 5)	
	2013/2014 Rural Forum Outcomes Paper Implementation No update	Ongoing

DESCRIPTION	Action
1/2013 Sydney Catchment Land Rezoning No update	Ongoing
10/2014 Respond to State and Federal engagement opportunities in line with the draft agriculture action plan No update	Ongoing
11/2014 Agriculture Standard Conditions & 2/2016 - Look at the possibility of facilitating a workshop with Councillors on agricultural development consents. – Planners and DPI to attend.	Ongoing
This has been addressed through the Poultry Industry Forum (8 June and 9 June 2016) and subsequent discussions with Councillors and public agencies.	
A number of meetings have been held with Councillors. There have also been discussions with public agencies such as DPI and EPA.	
Tate Ryan and Joe Grima provided feedback from a meeting with the EPA over their guidelines:	
The focus of the meeting with the EPA was on the Noise Industry Policy and how Councils across the area are interpreting it. EPA expressed a view that they did not agree with how Council are interpreting the policy.	
However, Council's interpretation is in part guided by the courts interpretation of the policy in other cases.	
The EPA didn't feel their noise policy should have an impact on the rural industry.	
Tate reflected on the outcome of the meeting and indicated that it was felt that EPA left the meeting prepared to consider reviewing their policy though no commitment was made. The extent of changes may not be significant but could involve the inclusion of case studies.	
Shari Hussein to be invited to next meeting to provide an update on the outcome of the meeting with the EPA.	
24/2015 - Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011 No Update	Ongoing
3/2016 - Council to write to Director Bio Security on the issue of the apple orchard on Steveys Forest Road. Contents of letter to be guided by Ed Biel.	Completed
Ed Biel has received a letter from Bio Security to confirm that they will talk to the owner of the orchard. They have secured an undertaking from the landowner that the problem with the orchard will be resolved by spring.	

	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
	This matter can now be removed from the Agenda	
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7.	Notified Items (was item 6)	
	 7.1 Planning Team Update - Carolyn Whitten (was item 6.1) NSW Government made two announcements of interest last week: <u>Wilton New Town</u> Wilton New Town – The minister for Planning announced that Wilton New Town will be declared a priority growth area. This will be included within the State Environmental Planning Policy for Growth Centres Anticipated to be 16,600 dwellings. <u>West Appin</u> The area previously exhibited as the Menangle Park & Mount Gilead Growth Centre has been amended to include the West Appin area and land to the north. West Appin has been identified to acknowledge its long-term capacity for housing. Planning Proposals in The Oaks The draft planning proposal for land at 760 Montpelier 	
	Drive, The Oaks has not been supported by Council (at the southern end of The Oaks); The draft planning proposal for land to the north of The Oaks has been supported in an amended form submitted by the proponent. The zone is now to be R5 Large Lot Residential and development will be limited up to the transmission lines that cross the site. General Discussion: Lack of faith in the consultation process and the value in	
	 wilton New Town – health impacts should be considered of green zones (public open space used for community purposes). What is the opportunity for Council driven initiatives for green houses, so people can grow businesses in green zones around houses? A lack of innovation. Concern with no infrastructure. Concern with the focus on the urban area rather than the decaying rural area. Eating up agricultural land. Suggestion to acknowledge that the land within the growth centres are largely owned by a few developers and it needs to be acknowledged that this land is going to be 	
	developed so that we can move on and focus on the	
	adjoining areas in terms of preserving green space and	Page

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
agriculture.	
7.2 Greater Sydney Commission and opportunity to provide input into the District Plans - Ally Dench, Tate Ryan & Carolyn Whitten (was item 6.2)	
David Smith has been seconded to the Greater Sydney Commission to work on the District Plans (2 days a week). Ally Dench provided an update on the preparation of District Plans. Integrated approach for the whole of the Sydney Basin. The term 'peri-urban' is starting to be used. Rural land study is being undertaken. District Plans are going to be statutory documents and will be linked to Council's Local Environmental Plans. They're looking a blue zones, green zones, canopy covers, all the corridors, metro rural framework. Ally Dench spoke favourably about the process and the involvement of local governments. The consultants working on the metro rural framework are Rob Gillespie of Gillespie Economics and Michael Clarke of AgEconPlus Pty Ltd. Website for the Greater Sydney Commission is www.greatersydneycommission.nsw.gov.au . Phone number for the GSC provided. District Plans have to be adopted by January next year (2017). There was discussion on the status of hierarchy of plans. After the District plans have been adopted Council's will then need to review their Local Environmental Plans. Glenda Briggs (DPI) is trying to pull together a case study to better inform the consultants and decision makers to be incorporated into the metro rural framework. The consultants at the SPUN meeting queried the sustainability and future of commercial agriculture in the Sydney peri-urban areas. Glenda is looking for examples of industries and business/commercial enterprises that could be used as good examples of successful innovative agribusiness managers to include in a case study for the consultants. Put Ed and Peter forward. Any other suggestions of suitable examples of businesses should be sent to Ally to pass on. Concern raised that Wollondilly would be overrun by metropolitan/urban requirements as it was the	

	DESCRIPTION	Action
	 M9 is integral. Concern raised that these plans should not be made until the route of the M9 is known. Consultation opportunities discussed. 	
	 7.3 Poultry Farm Forum Report (was item 6.3) Tate Ryan provided a copy of the outcome of the Poultry Industry Forum report prepared by facilitator – KJA Engaging Solutions Poultry Farm Forum Report, 23 June 2016. Council will work on policies – e.g. conditions of consent. Tate Ryan encouraged committee members to be proactive when development applications are lodged to make their views known. 	
8.	 8.1 Growing Farmers (Sue Gordon) Attended an interesting talk recently on starting to get young people onto farms. Supports there being land available in the Shire for young people. 8.2 Local Election Local Election to be held on 10 September 2016. Nominations for candidates close on 10 August 2016. Discussion around opportunities for canvassing candidate/Councillor views on agriculture. RILC will now dissolve. It will be up to the new Councillors to erect committees. However there will be strong recommendations for the RILC to remain and current members are encouraged to reapply. 8.3 Presentation – Turkey Farming (Jo Grima) Gave PowerPoint presentation he gave to Councillors on the poultry (turkey farming) industry. 	
	 Issue originated from a compliance matter issued to a farmer in February 2016. Suggestion to hold a workshop with Council staff to inform them on the realities of the poultry industry. On 11 May 2016 an on-farm workshop which was attended by 5 senior council staff and 5 councillors. This was the presentation presented at the workshop. Presentation covered all stages of the farming activities for turkey - (At the beginning, Heating, Feed Deliveries, dead bird disposal, bird pickup, clean out, shed spraying, New bedding/shavings, General Farm Upkeep/Biosecurity, benefits, challenges). 	

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	8.4 Value of RILC It was stated that since the RILC was not receiving updates on DAs and other planning matters the Committee didn't seem as effective. Other members endorsed this and felt that rural issues had been overtaken by other issues and motivation to remain involved by committee members was waning The committee were thanked for their contribution and expertise that they had given to the committee over this current and previous terms of Council. It was expressed that this input was invaluable for Council and members were encouraged to continue to be a voice for the rural sector and stand again for a position on a committee in the next term of Council	
	8.5 RILC Contact List List of contacts for RILC members has still not been distributed.	
	8.6 Newspaper article from Wollondilly Advertiser, Wednesday July 27, 2016 "Resolution necessary in poultry fight" distributed.	
9.	Next Meeting The RILC will now dissolve for the electoral term and this will be the last Committee meeting.	
	Meeting closed at 7:10pm.	

WOLLONDILLY RURAL INDUSTRY LIAISON COMMITTEE OPEN ACTIONS AS AT 2 AUGUST 2016

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
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
24/2015	Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011.	Carolyn Whitten	ONGOING
2/2016	Look at the possibility of facilitating a workshop with Councillors on agricultural development consents. – Planners and DPI to attend.	Tate Ryan	ONGOING
3/2016	Council to write to Director Bio Security on the issue of the apple orchard on Steveys Forest Road. Contents of letter to be guided by Ed Biel.	Tate Ryan / Ed Biel	COMPLETED