

**PRESENT:** Cr Kate Terry, Tate Ryan (Chair), Ally Dench, Andrew Docking (DPI), Leonie Coleman (LPI), Joe Grima, Louise Davies, Edgar Downes, Peter Sproule, Jacqueline Chevis, Carolyn Whitten, James Bell, Tony Biffin,

**APOLOGIES:** Cr Hilton Gibbs, Cr Ray Law, Cr Lou Amato, Sue Gordon, Ed Biel, Chris Stewart, David Smith, James Bell, Edgar Downes, Cr Judith Hannan

DESCRIPTION		ACTION
1.	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b>	
2.	<b>Disclosure of Interests</b> Nil	
3.	<b>Apologies</b> Noted	
4.	<b>Adoption of Previous Minutes</b>  Moved: Cr Kate Terry Seconded: Louise Davies  The Minutes were tabled and adopted as true and correct Carried	
5.	<b>Matters arising from previous minutes</b>  <u>2013/2014 Rural Forum Outcomes Paper Implementation</u> Tate Ryan provided an update. To go to Council for adoption. Question raised as to whether it would be going to go out to exhibition? Not sure yet. Potential workshop with Councillor.  <u>1/2013 Sydney Catchment Land Rezoning</u> No update  <u>10/2014 Respond to State and Federal engagement opportunities in line with the draft agriculture action plan</u> Update provided by Ed Biel. Deloitte was asked by the state government to do a study on the future of western Sydney and the Future Cities Program. Tate Ryan and Ed Biel attended a meeting at the Department's office. Discussed the future of agriculture, if any, - raised the issue of agricultural credits and other issues.  'Shaping Future Cities - Designing Western Sydney' Report launch - 130 recommendations relating to the future of western Sydney in all its aspects which were crucial to the future development. One of the recommendations was that the agricultural enterprise credits scheme be trialled within a timeframe of 18 months. This is well received.	  Ongoing  Ongoing  Ongoing

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<p><b>ACTION 1/2016</b>  <b>Email a link on Shaping Future Cities report to RILC members.</b></p> <p>Request for a copy of the recommendations.</p> <p>Disappointing that there hasn't been more interest from the Minister on the agricultural credit scheme. Ally Dench suggested there may be another opportunity. There is plenty of interest from America.</p> <p>Profile may be starting to lift a little.</p> <p>Cr Kate Terry requested that Ed Biel forward the report to Jai Rowell as soon as possible.</p> <p>Tate Ryan had invited the author of the report to speak tonight but they weren't available.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Tate Ryan</b></p>
<p><u>11/2014 Agriculture Standard Conditions</u></p> <p>Joe Grima raised that this issue needs to be continually revisited. Need information on facts &amp; figures about the implications these have on farmers/producers. Issue raised with Councillors voting on DA applications on the basis of whole of community view and that more weight should be given to agricultural industries.</p> <p>Concern raised with incoming residents from non-rural areas who think Wollondilly is 'utopia'. Frustration with Council not upholding land zoning.</p> <p>Ally Dench suggested that this matter may need to be more strongly expressed in the issues paper for the upcoming election – that this is a big issue for Wollondilly.</p> <p>Ed Biel - It was noted that more education needs to be provided to front counter staff, planners, administrative side of Council. Who is responsible for this education? Not the RILC.</p> <p>Further concern with implementation of standard conditions - Concern with comment at previous RILC about the conditions being subject to the where the development application is lodged.</p> <p>Particular concern with poultry (the most contentious type of development) – suggestion that a poultry farmer could speak to Council staff and Councillors directly about their experience in a workshop style format. There was some discussion about whether a farmer who had had a development consent refused is likely to want to speak with Councillors. Peter Sproule noted that it wasn't just rural residential residents but also producers themselves.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Ongoing</p>
<p><b>ACTION 2/2016</b>  <b>Look at the possibility of facilitating a workshop with Councillors on agricultural development consents. – Planners and DPI to attend.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Tate Ryan</b></p>

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<p>Cr Kate Terry advised that RILC needs to be more specific about which conditions of consent are the biggest problems. Is it a broadly applied condition or can it be personalised to the site. What are the issues which are grinding development to a halt? It is well known that Wollondilly will not approve a market garden in Wollondilly and that this is a no go.</p> <p>Andrew Docking – Council could refer specific conditions to DPI for advice as to whether they are reasonable. They tend to focus on the strategic side of things and don't have the resources to comment on referrals.</p> <p>Particular concern with farming activity that has not gone ahead because the conditions of consent were too stringent (poultry and market gardening used as particular examples).</p> <p>Ed Biel would like to see a standard set of conditions prepared. Are there standard conditions or not? The RILC would like to see these and have input.</p> <p>Recent Council report suggested one option could be to send draft conditions of consent to the applicant prior to finalising the application. This could then provide an opportunity for a– supported by Louse Davies.</p>	
<p><u>16/2015 - Add dog/cat issues onto Fact Sheets for new residents</u> No update</p>	Ongoing
<p><u>19/2015 - Cr Kate Terry to raise a NOM to Lobby the State Government for a policy exemption or change</u> Completed</p>	Completed
<p><u>23/2015 - Council to provide advice about the abandoned Apple orchard on Steveys Forest Road; with fruit fly; pestilence; disease prevalent</u> Update provided by Ed Biel - A regulatory officer from DPI was sent out to inspect the abandoned farm and spoke with the landowner and nothing has happened.</p> <p>Question to DPI – Clarification on why can't the DPI do any action now? Despite a new act coming in later this year relating to biosecurity which apparently will give them power.</p> <p>DPI suggested going to Director of Bio Security, Bruce Christie – and then go to the Director General if that doesn't work.</p>	Ongoing
<p><b>ACTION 3/2016</b> <b>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.</b></p>	Tate Ryan / Ed Biel
<p><u>24/2015 - Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011</u> Covered in Notification Item 7.2.</p>	Ongoing

DESCRIPTION	ACTION
<p><b>6. Presentation by Laure-Elise Ruoso (PhD Student) – Leasing farmlands (new Item)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why are farmers leasing land?</li> <li>- Things to consider – suitability of the property for leasing</li> <li>- Types of lease (oral agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, Letter of Agreement, Written lease agreement).</li> <li>-</li> <li>- License (authorisation to use the land for a specific purpose as an alternative to a lease).</li> <li>- Types of payment (cash rent, flexile cash lease, sliding pay scales, share leases, In-kind rent).</li> <li>- Length of lease.</li> <li>- How to put landowners and farmers in contact?</li> </ul> <p>Main source: Land for Good (2012), <i>A Landowner's Guide to Leasing Land for Farming</i>.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council should provide/host a website where potential lessees could advertise land for farming.</li> <li>- RILC felt there was demand.</li> <li>- Land Share Australia website partly does this (as an example).</li> <li>- Council needs to start acting not just speaking.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. Notified Items (was item 6.)</b></p> <p><b>7.1 Planning Team Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carolyn Whitten provided general information on a draft planning proposal for 760 Montpelier Drive in response to a recent enquiry from an RILC member. Questions about rezoning process answered.</li> </ul> <p><b>7.2 Outcome of report to Council on Assisting Agriculturalists and Thanks from Councillors</b></p> <p><b>ACTION 4/2016</b>  <b>Carolyn Whitten to forward report and minutes to RILC on Assisting Agriculturalists and Thanks from Councillors.</b></p> <p><b>7.3 Sydney's Food Futures Project (SPUN &amp; UTS Initiative)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update provided by Ally Dench.</li> <li>- Well done to Ed Biel and Tony Biffin for article in the paper for advocating for the Food Futures project. Council has had a lot of enquiries in response to this article.</li> <li>- Workshop this Friday to launch Sydney's Food Futures</li> <li>- On C45.3? talking about it. How much land will be lost?</li> <li>- The next meeting of SPUN is on this Thursday. Beck Dawson and resilience of cities another form of advocating for agriculture.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;">Carolyn Whitten</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tony Biffin noted that ABC had been in contact to do a story (tv and radio).</li> </ul> <p><b>7.4 Agriculture Forum</b> Tate Ryan advised that an Agriculture Forum is planned for this year and will seek feedback from members in the future.</p>	
<p><b>8. General Business</b> <i>(was item 7)</i></p> <p><b>7.1 Economic Development Strategy</b> Tate Ryan has a Rural Survey and would like to send it out to interested people.</p> <p><b>7.2 Events Forum</b> Tate Ryan noted Events Forum went well.</p> <p><b>7.3 WTAI Report &amp; Launch</b> Not discussed.</p> <p><b>7.4 Visitor Guide</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visitor Guide is a big project for Council.</li> <li>- Copies available at meeting for anyone who is interested.</li> </ul> <p><b>7.5 DPI Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DPI – DPI and Regional Development Australia have been talking to Council's about Land Use conflict. Because the EPA has approached them to find out how they can deal with this. DPI are putting together a discussion paper.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION 5/2016</b> <b>DPI to distribute discussion paper.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Related to this, Right to Farm Policy document.</li> <li>- Will provide an update to the next meeting on progress.</li> <li>- Will distribute the discussion paper on landuse conflict for comments.</li> <li>- Ed Biel - raised question as to developers providing a buffer to boundaries. Critical of the Right to Farm Policy when there is still a conflict. Andrew Docking noted that the policy may lead to legislation change.</li> </ul> <p><b>7.6 Other</b> Tony Biffin requested to be added to the list of people who receive a copy of the RILC minutes.</p> <p><b>ACTION 6/2016</b> <b>Tony Biffin to be added to RILC contact list.</b></p> <p>Survey Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ed Biel provided feedback from other respondees who indicated they did not like the question relating to income. Also didn't like the question relating to the description of machinery on the farming.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Andrew Docking, DPI</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tate Ryan</b></p>



**WOLLONDILLY RURAL INDUSTRY LIAISON COMMITTEE  
OPEN ACTIONS AS AT 23 FEBRUARY 2016**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Responsible Person(s)</b>	<b>Update/Status</b>
2013/2014	Rural Forum Outcomes Paper Implementation.	Ec Dev	<b>ONGOING</b>
1/2013	That the RILC be kept informed in the upcoming review of the Sydney Catchment Land Rezoning.	Planning	<b>ONGOING</b>
10/2014	Respond to State and Federal engagement opportunities in line with the draft agriculture action plan.	Ec Dev	<b>ONGOING</b>
11/2014	RILC would like to review standard conditions imposed on agricultural development consents.	Planning	<b>ONGOING</b>
16/2015	Add dog/cat issues onto Fact Sheets for new residents.	Carolyn Whitten	<b>ONGOING</b>
23/2015	Council to provide advice about the abandoned Apple orchard on Steveys Forest Road; with fruit fly; pestilence; disease prevalent.	Carolyn Whitten	<b>ONGOING</b>
24/2015	Planning section to explore potential for criteria to enable extensive horticulture as exempt development within the WLEP 2011.	Carolyn Whitten	<b>ONGOING</b>
1/2016	Email a link on Shaping Future Cities report to RILC members.	Tate Ryan	<b>ONGOING</b>
2/2016	Look at the possibility of facilitating a workshop with Councillors on agricultural development consents. – Planners and DPI to attend.	Tate Ryan	<b>ONGOING</b>
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	<b>ONGOING</b>
4/2016	Carolyn Whitten to forward report and minutes to RILC on Assisting Agriculturalists and Thanks from Councillors.	Carolyn Whitten	<b>ONGOING</b>
5/2016	DPI to distribute discussion paper.	Andrew Docking, DPI	<b>ONGOING</b>
6/2016	Tony Biffin to be added to RILC contact list.	Tate Ryan	<b>ONGOING</b>
7/2016	Thank you to Finance team for a well thought out survey and process.	Tate Ryan	<b>ONGOING</b>
8/20106	Investigate if a representative from the RILC can sit on the Sydney Water Consultative Committee.	Tate Ryan	<b>ONGOING</b>