
**SALEYARDS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MURRAY ROOM ON
TUESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 8:35 AM**

PRESENT

Councillor Scott Groat (Chair), Councillor Doug Curran, Donald Barbaro (Community Representative), Grant Elwin (Community Representative), Rodney Evans (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Team Leader - Saleyards, Les Warren and Minute Secretary, Jessica Bertacco

Governance Manager, Leanne Austin was present for CL01

1 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

Absent: Councillor Christine Stead.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Donald Barbaro that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 April 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 INDUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS - MANDATORY

Leanne Austin, Governance Manager, provided an overview of the Committee induction process which Committee members may access on Council's website. Committee members are required to read the Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures, Code of Meeting Practice Policy, Statements to the Media Policy, Social Media Policy, Information Protection Principles and Child Safe Policy. Committee members are also required to complete the online policy acknowledgement form. Explanation was provided in relation to the requirement to declare any Conflicts of Interest members may have in their consideration of Committee matters.

Jessica Bertacco, Minute Secretary, to send reminder link to Committee members to acknowledge.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Grant Elwin that Committee members note the Committee Induction requirements and complete induction process outlined in this report.

Leanne Austin left the meeting at 8:45am.

CL02 SALEYARDS SOLAR FEASIBILITY REPORT

Mr Gordon presented the Solar Feasibility Report to the Committee. The Committee reviewed and made comment.

Councillor Groat presented examples of car parks using solar panel roofing and questioned why power from the Saleyards could not be run through the nearby substation directly to the Water Reclamation Plant.

Mr Gordon and Councillor Curran explained connecting via the substation would require additional funding, while connecting directly to the sewer plant could have allowed cost recovery through the Sewer Fund. However, using Sewer Funds for Saleyards infrastructure would breach Office of Local Government (OLG) financial rules.

Mr Gordon advised that Essential Energy regulations prevent solar panels on one site from supplying another site unless both are on the same property title. A large roof structure would be required to support 500+ solar panels, resulting in higher capital, cleaning, and maintenance costs (including pigeon issues).

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Grant Elwin that Mr Gordon contact Essential Energy to confirm whether solar panels at the Saleyards could feed into the grid via the substation while still providing 100% energy credit to the Water Reclamation Plant. If feasible, he is to explore funding eligibility with OLG.

CL03 PROPOSED NEW WATER TROUGHS DESIGN

Mr Gordon presented the report. The Committee reviewed the proposed new water trough design and requested 5 additional troughs along the loading pens.

Mr Gordon estimated the total cost to be approximately \$30,000 including labour.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Doug Curran and Rodney Evans that:

(a) The Committee accept the 20 water trough design plus an additional 5 troughs.

(b) Capital funding be reallocated to support the water trough project.

CL04 PROPOSED STAGED ROOF STRUCTURE PLANS FOR THE GRIFFITH LIVESTOCK MARKETING CENTRE

Mr Gordon presented the report regarding proposed staged roof structure plans for the Saleyards.

Councillor Doug Curran left the meeting at 9:38 am.

The Committee reviewed and approved designs for a tin roof with Perspex panels to allow natural light. Mr Gordon to consult with Essential Energy to determine the feasibility of installing solar panels before finalising material choices for the staged roof structure.

The Committee noted and discussed the attached plans for future reporting and budget options.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Donald Barbaro and Grant Elwin that Mr Gordon enquire with Essential Energy to confirm whether the Saleyards solar panels can receive 100% energy credit for the Water Reclamation Plant.

CL05 PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2026

The proposed meeting dates were noted. The Committee suggested they meet again before the end of the year.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Grant Elwin that the Committee meet on 9 December 2025 and note the proposed meeting dates for 2026.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee discussed and updated the Outstanding Action Report.

Mr Barbaro questioned overall costings, profits and losses. Mr Gordon to bring a breakdown of budget and operational costs to the next meeting. To be added to the Action Report.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Blanking off posts

Mr Barbaro raised the issue of installing gale sheeting to blank off the gate posts in pen 425. Mr Warren acknowledged the task is scheduled to be completed but noted that staff shortages and high sheep numbers have delayed the work.

7.2 eID Tagging system

MR EVANS RAISED CONCERNS THAT OUTCROSS IS NOT OPERATING EFFECTIVELY, NOTING THAT OTHER SALEYARDS HAVE REVERTED TO PAPER-BASED SYSTEMS OR ALTERNATIVE PLATFORMS DUE TO PERFORMANCE ISSUES. SALEYARDS AGENTS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT OUTCROSS WITHOUT RECEIVING A RESPONSE. MR WARREN TO CONTACT OUTCROSS TO FOLLOW UP ON THE ISSUES. BROOKE GOWAN IS TO BE INVITED TO THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS FURTHER.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Saleyards Committee is to be held on Tuesday, 9 December 2025 at 8:30 am.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 10:22 am.