

Minutes

Camden Town Farm
Reference Group Meeting
Alan Baker Gallery
"Macaria" Camden

Wednesday 19th February 2025



camden
council

MEETING DETAILS

Date: 19/2/2025

Location: Macaria, Camden

Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting opened:

7:03 pm.

Meeting closed :

9:40pm

Chairperson:

David Buckley

Minute taker:

Kieran Berryman: Camden Council (ex officio)

Acknowledgement of Country:

Acknowledgement read by Chairperson

CTF Reference group is operating in caretaker capacity pending appointment of new Reference Group by Council in March 2025.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

- David Buckley, community member
- Tony Biffin, community member
- Kerrie Flynn, community member
- Steve Cooper, Camden Community Gardens
- Simon Suters , Camden Community Gardens (alternate)
- Nicolet Westerhof, community member
- Cr. Peter McLean
- Kieran Berryman, TLCP (Team Leader – Camden Precinct Team), Camden Council (ex officio liaison officer)

Apologies and Absences:

- Sandy Davies, community member
- Cr. Damien Quinnell

Visitors:

- Nil

Motion: That the apologies be noted and leaves of absence granted

Moved: Kerrie Flynn, **Seconded:** Nicolet Westerof

Motion Carried

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: That the minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the previous meeting.

Moved: Nicolet Westerof, **Seconded:** Tony Biffin

Motion Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (not contained in action log)

- Nil

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Report presented as tabled and attached.

Motion: That the Chairperson's report be accepted.

Moved: Tony Biffin, **Seconded:** Steve Cooper

Motion Carried

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Nil
-

STANDING ITEMS

Councillor Updates

Cr. Peter Mclean

- General introduction.
 - Cr McLean is on a number of Council reference Groups and Advisory Committees
 - Cr. McLean Is also on Councils Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)
 - Looks forward to listening
-

CTF Calendar and Events update – TL Kieran Berryman

- Nil
-

Agricultural Operations Working Group – contained in Chairperson report

- Calving all completed.
- Herd separated with Bul; 5 older or slow breeding cows and their calves away from the main mob
- Look to sell Bull in next month
- Preg-testing booked for week 3 March
- All empty cows to be sold ASAP
- Potentially older cows also to be sold
- Reduce herd to 30-35 for winter
- Seeding and feeding booked for week 1 in Lucerne paddocks.
- Look to plant

Motion: That the CTF Reference Group enter up to 6 calves into the Camden Show Trade Section this year.

Moved: Tony Biffin, **Seconded:** Nicolet Westerof

Motion Carried

New Action : (25-001) : David Buckley & TL Kieran Berryman too coordinate.

Camden Community Gardens update

- 50 – 60 members
 - New garden beds constructed from hardwood sleepers
 - Glyphosate now being used to manage weeds in Gardens pathway
 - Replanting 50% of the Rosemary hedge
 - Working bees monthly and well attended
 - Emerging issue of limited parking on Exeter St due to markets, walkway and aged care facility across the St.
-

ACTION LOG/PROJECTS

19-014 Farm flood evacuation plan : Draft agreement with Sydney Water being reviewed. Will seek prices for ramp and fencing panels once signed.

23-001 Introduce Bull : Bull done. Look to sell in next few weeks.

24-005 2024 Master Plan : Master Plan adopted. TL Kieran Berryman to compile a list of deliverables and list as new action log items.

24-007 Maintenance of Gardens pathways. : Glyphosate now being used. CLOSE

24-008 Small Wheat field : TL Kieran Berryman to source 2-3 bags of wheat seed

24-009 Restore Shoemith Yards : No action. Ref. Grp to develop a plan for yards restoration.

24-010 Onslow Park alligator weed. : Treated. CLOSE

GENERAL BUSINESS

- David Buckley -Bins at Markets. TL Kieran Berryman advises that Market Operators have keys to move bins as required. TL Kieran Berryman has contacted Macarthur Growers and advised to manage waste better.
 - Steve Cooper – Bunya Pines have been planted in some locations of the new walkway which will pose a public safety risk in a few years
 - David Buckley – could a letter of thanks be sent to all outgoing Reference Group members. TL Kieran Berryman advises that Council will send a letter too all once the process is completed.
-

Meeting Closed 9:40 pm



Current Actions

Action # & Start Date	Initiator & Action/Project Description	Who Actioning	Action/Project Log & Status
19-014 2019	CCSO/355 Committee Develop a CTF flood evacuation plan for livestock	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>20/7/22 – Task transferred from 355 Committee</p> <p>17/8/22 – Meeting held with Farms Ops. Volunteers. CCSO team documenting process and flood triggers to implement plan. WIP</p> <p>22/12/22 – 15/3/2023 Flood evac plan developed. CCSO will finalise and circulate.</p> <p>19/4/23 - TL KB including Community Gardens notification in planning.</p> <p>17/5/23 - Final step is to identify suitable/contracted off farm emergency location for herd. EOI will be required. TL to progress.</p> <p>19/7/23 – 20/9/23 No Action. TL KB to progress.</p> <p>14/12/23 – 21/2/24 Draft agistment conditions circulated to Farms Ops sub committee. Draft agreement being developed including an annual retainer.</p> <p>20/3/24 – No action</p> <p>17/4/24 – 15/5/24 Investigating use of Sydney Water land off Ferguson lane which Council leases as evac area. WIP</p> <p>19/6/24 – 20/11/20 Flood agistment terms being revised. Still investigating use of Sydney Water land off Ferguson lane which Council leases as evac area. WIP</p> <p>19/2/25 - Draft agreement with Sydney Water being reviewed. Will seek prices for ramp and fencing panels once signed.</p>



Action # & Start Date	Initiator & Action/Project Description	Who Actioning	Action/Project Log & Status
19-032 2019	CCSO/355 Committee Indigenous Garden project	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>20/7/22 – Task transferred from 355 Committee</p> <p>17/8/22 – Small project to be run to develop scope. CCSO team to coordinate scoping.</p> <p>15/2/23 – 15/3/23 Look to reactivate works. Look into leverage Clontarf programme for indigenous students in schools. Consider including in new masterplan.</p> <p>19/4/23 - TL KB to meet with Allen Powell to discuss his ideas and report back. including in new masterplan.</p> <p>17/5/23 - TL Kieran Berryman met with Allen Powell. Bedding mulch from livestock show to be spread in Indigenous Garden yard. TL Kieran Berryman to coordinate.</p> <p>19/7/23 - No Action. TL KB to progress.</p> <p>23/8/23 - Garden to be included in the new CTF masterplan.</p>
19-045	CCSO/355 Committee COWA flooring treatment	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>20/7/22 – Task transferred from 355 Committee</p> <p>17/8/22 – Included in scope of WestInvest grant application. CCSO to monitor.</p> <p>23/8/23 – To be included in scope of Masterplan</p>
19-073 2019	CCSO/355 Committee Design info signage for CTF public access area on Toilet Block 1.	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>20/7/22 – Task transferred from 355 Committee</p> <p>17/8/22 – Small project to be run to develop and design new signage for TB1. CCSO team to coordinate content and design.</p> <p>23/8/23 – Included in PSLP walkway project public art</p> <p>20/9/23 - Mural to be design as part of walkway project ON HOLD</p>
21-018 2021	CCSO/355 Committee LLS ephemeral wetlands project	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>20/7/22 – Task transferred from 355 Committee</p> <p>17/8/22 – Small project to be run to develop scope. CCSO team to coordinate scoping. ON HOLD</p>



Action # & Start Date	Initiator & Action/Project Description	Who Actioning	Action/Project Log & Status
23-001 15/2/23	David Buckley Procurement of a bull	David Buckley & TL Kieran Berryman	<p>15/2/23 - TL to coordinate procurement of a bull by 31st March.</p> <p>15/3/23 - TL to work with Chairperson to procure a bull by 1st May 2023</p> <p>19/4/23 - TL KB to coordinate procurement of a bull on or around start of December. On Hold</p> <p>20/9/23 - David Buckley & TL KB to coordinate procurement of a bull on or around start of November 2023.</p> <p>14/12/23 - Bull on farm with heifers 12/12/23. 3-4 yr old experienced Limosin. Quiet natured. Doing his thing. All heifers with heat pads applied and most marked already. TL KB to monitor and reapply pads up to 12/3/24.</p> <p>21/2/24 - TL KB to coordinate preg testing of herd in week following Camden Show.</p> <p>20/3/24 - Preg testing completed. 24 of 29 pregnancy.</p> <p>17/4/24 – 21/8/24 Calving due mid Sept – Mid November. TL KB to monitor</p> <p>16/10/24 - Calving underway. Look to reintroduce bull Mid November.</p> <p>19/2/25 - Bull done. Look to sell in next few weeks.</p>
23-009 20/9/23	TL Kieran Berryman Walkway POI Signage content	TL Kieran Berryman & Ref. Grp. members	<p>20/9/23 - TL KB to distribute POI labels and content requirements for Ref Grp members to volunteer to compose.</p> <p>14/12/23 - TL circulated content to Ref. Grp members. Content to be reviewed by End of Jan 2024. TL to speak to John & Julie Wrigley to review interpretive signage content when drafted.</p> <p>21/2/23 - Kieran Berryman spoke with John & Julie Wrigley and incorporated their input.</p> <p>20/3/24 - Final draft of sign images tabled. Wheat to be beardless and smaller Merino preferred.</p> <p>17/4/24 – 15/5/24 Signs finalised and awaiting installation.</p> <p>19/6/24 – 24/7/24 TL Kieran Berryman to commence follow up on more detailed information for website on POI signage.</p> <p>21/8/24 – Holdover to new year with new Reference Group.</p>



Action # & Start Date	Initiator & Action/Project Description	Who Actioning	Action/Project Log & Status
24-005 17/4/24	Tony Biffin CTF Masterplan	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>17/4/24 - TL Kieran Berryman to coordinate presentation of draft masterplan at next meeting.</p> <p>15/5/24 - Presentation undertaken. TL Kieran Berryman to monitor</p> <p>19/6/24 - Plan finalised and going to Council for endorsement and public exhibition in July.</p> <p>24/7/24 - Ref. Grp to discuss MP at Aug. meeting and draft a submission to Council in support and with any corrections</p> <p>21/8/24 - Write submission to Council including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rename "Sheep Yards" to "Sheep Dog Trial Yards" • Remove event area from Sheepdog Paddock as it was an error in the 2016 MP. • Request that the Masterplan that the masterplan includes a commitment from Council to develop a specific "Plan of Management" for Camden Town Farm. <p>16/10/24 - Ref Grp submission completed. Awaiting formal adoption pending other submissions.</p> <p>19/2/25 - Master Plan adopted. TL Kieran Berryman to compile a list of deliverables and list as new action log items.</p>
24-008 19/6/24	Tony Biffin Small wheat field	TL Kieran Berryman	<p>19/6/24 – 24/7/24 TL Kieran Berryman to investigate and report back.</p> <p>21/8/24 - Sow by spreading straw in the identified area in March 2025. TL KB to monitor.</p> <p>16/10/24 - Small field of Oats gone to seed closest to Flood Marker. TL KB to monitor.</p> <p>19/2/25 - 24-008 Small Wheat field : TL Kieran Berryman to source 2-3 bags of wheat seed</p>
24-009 16/10/24	David Buckley Restore Shoemith Yards	Ref Grp & TL Kieran Berryman	16/10/24 – 19/2/26 - Ref. Grp to develop a plan for yards restoration. TL Kieran Berryman to coordinate.
25-001 19/2/25	David Buckley Calves to Camden Show	David Buckley & TL Kieran Berryman	19/2/25 - David Buckley & TL Kieran Berryman too coordinate



Closed Actions : Closed actions will be removed (hidden) from the current log active at the subsequent meeting

Action # & Start Date	Initiator & Action/Project Description	Who Actioning	Action/Project Log & Status
24-007 19/6/24	Col Packer Maintenance of Gardens pathways.	Col Packer	19/6/24 - Col Packer to report back to Ref. Grp. with Gardens plan to manage weed growth on the repaired deco. pathway. 24/7/24 - Garden grade flame thrower being used to manage weeds. Col to provide update. 21/8/24 16/10/24 No update 19/2/25 - Glyphosate now being used. CLOSE
24-010 16/10/24	David Buckley Onslow Park Cattle Shed alligator weed	TL Kieran Berryman	16/10/24 - TL Kieran Berryman to raise weed issue with Council team. 19/2/25 – Treated CLOSED

Camden Town Farm Reference Group Meeting No 24

Camden Macaria building

Chairperson's Report

19th February 2025

Welcome to the first meeting of the Reference Group for 2025

Thank you for your continued interest in the future of the C.T.F. and your attendance.

Well, a new year brings new faces, new ideas, new challenges and new goals. The Town farm is firing on all fours due to some relatively, almost perfectly timed storms, showers and humidity.

The recent tree planted trees are flourishing and there is an abundance of paddock feed. The cattle are in excellent condition and the rotational grazing management is running like clockwork.

As I mentioned in my November report, upon reflection it would seem that the "old" community is disappearing and with the closing of the local saleyards in mid April another nail has been driven into the historical ambiance of a "country" town. However, the Camden Show is still part of the local community as it remoulds itself to all the changing circumstances. Anyway, it is still a unique spot on the edge of periurban (Greater) Sydney basin.

The late early summer rains have been welcomed and with the increase in humidity and the recent storms the kikuyu has taken off and hopefully, with sound pasture management, will give the farm an abundant body of feed till late June or even July.

Calving is complete and with the culling and marketing of the steers, aged cows and surplus heifers, along with continued rotation, mowing and fertiliser application where needed (and weed control) the herd management cycle can complete its first full yearly rotation. It would be fulfilling to see some of the young steers and heifers exhibited in the Trade section of the Camden Show as an indication of the success of the initiation of a beef cattle herd and its management on the CTF.

This year (2025) going forward.

Finished projects from 2024.

- the remaining connections of new water troughs (finished)
- the completion of the walkway and installation of the art projects (finished)
- the repair and replacement of the electricals etc to the irrigation pump (90%)
- securing of cattle yard panels and welding of lugs for pins. (finished)
- repair and reconstruct heritage cattle show sheds on showground [csss] (finished)
- milk can storage room (finished)

Future projects As "we" move forward future projects will include.

- the flooring of the Farm View pavilion
- the revised location and development of the outdoor classroom
- irrigation of the eastern, central, and western lucerne paddocks using irrigation pods.
- **Restoration of the Shoemith yards** The Shoemith yards which were deliberately preserved to demonstrate the use of wire (No 8?) and timber to construct holding yards require attention. They are within sight of the very modern cattle yards and provide a visual contrast of old and new, and the evolution of building materials from timber to steel and associated advantages and disadvantages.
- Fert n seed application n Zero turn mowing of paddocks.

Please be mindful of the need to be courteous and respectful during the meeting and to direct your comments via the chair. Please be aware of commercial in confidence. Thank you.

David Buckley

19 – 02 - 2025

Search



Site



Agro Forestry 0.47 ha

Rosebowl 3.5 ha

Eastern Lucerne 5.2 ha

Central Lucerne - 1.96 ha

Macquarie Grove - 4.2 ha

Western Lucerne - 4.5 ha

Chicory - 2.9 ha

Far Feguson - 1.7 ha

Orchard - 2.2 ha

Lagoon - 1 ha

Brickpit - 2.2 ha

Windmill - 1.6 ha

Bull Lane - 0.18 ha

Willow tree - 0.24 ha

Shoemith - 0.77 ha

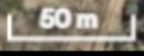
Sheepdog 1.2 ha

Laneway - 0.25 ha

Riparian - 0.72 ha

Nearmap

Imagery © 2025 Nearmap, HERE



Vertical

Thu Jun 15 2023

