

# WALES FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS



**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**  
**MONDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021**  
**ZOOM 8.00PM**

## MINUTES

**CHAIRMAN:** Mr Niall Evans

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Miss Nerys Lewis

**PRESENT:** Niall Evans (Chairman); Nerys Lewis (Vice Chairman); Caitlin Harley (Brecknock); Sian Emberton (Montgomery); Cathrin Jones (Carmarthenshire); Cerys Baker (Gwent); Lwsi Morgan (Montgomery).

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Caryl Haf (Wales YFC Chairman); Rhianwen Jones (Competitions and International Officer)

**1/01/2022 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

In opening the meeting, chairman Niall Evans welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Niall encouraged members to take an active part in discussions.

**1/02/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were received from members of Glamorgan, Andrew Spencer (Co-opted Member); Lowri Jones (Ceredigion); Elin Lewis (Montgomery); Rhiannon Davies (Past Chairman); Tomos Lewis (Pembrokeshire); Iestyn Owen (Carmarthenshire)

**1/03/2022 COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The committee Terms of Reference were shown on screen. Two amendments were proposed and the Terms of Reference will now include "1 x Voting Representative" elected from each county and "A minimum of 3 meetings" to be held each year.

The amended terms were approved by the committee.

Proposer: Cathrin Jones

Secunder: Nerys Lewis

**1/04/2022 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting, held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 were shown on screen. The minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Proposer: Nerys Lewis

Secunder: Cathrin Jones

**1/05/2022 ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

ACTION	COMMENT
<b>Action Point 1:</b> A workshop to be arranged with Trina Moore from New Zealand Dairy Careers to	A workshop was held and was noted as being very informative. As a result there were 8 applications for the

highlight the dairy scholarship opportunities to members of Wales YFC.	programme. Unfortunately there were some members who did not attend their interviews. Members should be aware that they need to inform Wales YFC if they do not intend to attend the interviews as soon as possible.
<b>Action point 2:</b> It was agreed to continue to liaise with the German Young Farmers organisation in arranging an exchange for 2022.	An exchange is available to go out in this year's programme, although some details need to be ironed out. It's an opportunity for 2 members, with 2 members returning to Wales.
<b>Action point 3:</b> Rural Youth Europe to be made aware that Wales YFC would not be able to host the 2022 Autumn seminar due to funding concerns. Wales YFC will continue to monitor the situation and look to put forward an expression of interest to host once the situation is clearer.	A letter was sent and has been accepted by Rural Youth Europe.

## 1/06/2022 CORRESPONDENCE

**Cocoreado Project** - An opportunity has arisen with Rural Youth Europe. As part of the new Cocoreado project, members will become ambassadors and will be involved in the development of new fair food systems, fairer pay for farmers and more sustainable produce for consumers. The deadline for applications is 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

The committee agreed to pass the information on to the Rural Affairs Committee, as members felt it was more suited as an agricultural opportunity rather than a travel opportunity.

### **Action point 1:**

To make the Rural Affairs committee aware of the Cocoreado Project and forward any details we have received.

**Rural Youth Europe Sub-Committee** – A new Rural Youth Europe sub committee has been established; a Policy Work Subcommittee. Each member organisation has a seat on the committee, and is an opportunity to shape the direction of future policy papers at a European Level and will also give an insight to the work done at Rural Youth Europe.

It was agreed for the details to be sent to county offices to promote the opportunity and nominations to be sent to Wales YFC by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Action point 2:**

Email to be sent to all county organisers with the details of the new sub-committee. Nominations should be sent to Wales YFC by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

## 1/07/2022 TO CONFIRM THE 2022 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

Wales YFC have been in touch with all travellers from 2019 and 2020 to ask if they still intend to travel in 2022 as part of the rollover agreement. The details were shown on screen and an update was given on each trip and arrangements were agreed as follows;

Agri Eye	The Rural Affairs committee have agreed an itinerary, consisting of 3 weekends throughout 2022.
----------	---

	Two spaces have become available and will be opened out to members
Interrailing	Can go ahead as planned.  Two spaces have become available and will be opened out to members
Isle of Man	Proposal has been sent by the Isle of Man for members to arrive on 26th November 2021 so they could attend the Welly Winterland event as part of their visit and stay until Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> November.  Committee agreed for Wales YFC to speak to the members already on the trip to see if they are happy with this new date, or if they would prefer to go in the summer.  We could potentially open up the winter trip and the summer trip based on numbers and response from Isle of Man.
Safari	Contiki have come back with two potential dates for the Safari trip in 2022; August 7 <sup>th</sup> or August 21 <sup>st</sup> . The committee agreed to book the 21 <sup>st</sup> August date and Wales YFC to update the Safari group on the cost and new date.  Three spaces currently available, any other spaces that become available will be opened out to members
Sailing	The decision was made to keep the date as similar as possible to the proposed date in 2020. We will need to check with the company to see if they will allow members who are now over 18 to travel as this was previously an under 18 trip.  There was an option to use a 10 man boat or an 8 man boat, agreed to use a ten man boat and to open up the three remaining spaces
Scotland	They are yet to make a decision in terms of hosting members. Update will be brought to the next meeting.
Scholarship	To be readvertised and opened up to members
Study	One member would like to travel in 2022. Committee agreed not to open up the second space as Rural Youth Europe spaces are limited. If RYE position changes, committee will reconsider opening up the space.
Ulster	Yet to hear back from Ulster with their decision regarding Homestays
Finland	They are yet to make a decision on Homestays however there are no spaces to readvertise.

Rally	The Rally has now changed to Germany. One position available which will be opened up to members.
Autumn Seminar	Physical event has been cancelled, possibility it could be held virtually otherwise will be held Ireland 2022.  One position available and will be opened out to members.
Canada	Yet to hear back however no positions available to open up to members.
Colorado / Montana / USA	USA happy to host 5 exchangees however would want Wales to host 4 in return and one family would not be allowed to host for less than two weeks as stated by the IFYE Co-ordinator, Alan Lambert.  After discussions it was agreed for members to take this back and see if counties would be willing to host exchangee's for 2 weeks at a time. Deadline of 22 <sup>nd</sup> October to come back with any thoughts or proposals.  No positions available to open up to members.

#### **Action Point 3:**

Email to be sent to counties regarding USA Homestays

#### **Action Point 4:**

Wales YFC to finalise agreements with host countries and try to contact those who have not yet responded.

### **1/08/2022 TO CONFIRM THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME**

Chairman Niall Evans asked the committee for suggestions for 2023 travel opportunities. Wales YFC have already looked at an American group trip which is a possibility for 2023. A Ski Trip was initially planned for 2022, however the committee agreed to move this to 2023 which will be advertised in the spring.

Niall asked that if anyone does have any new ideas for trips, to send them to Wales YFC before the next meeting.

### **1/09/2022 INTERNATIONAL SUB COMMITTEE PRIORITIES**

Chairman Niall Evans stated the main priority for the committee would be the wellbeing of all individuals, both those who are travelling and those who are coming to Wales on exchanges.

Club exchanges should also be promoted as a way of getting members to meet each other outside of competitions. Wales YFC Chairman Caryl Haf stated that our new Marketing and Communications officer, Anna is starting tomorrow and the committee could work with her to promote club exchanges. Committee agreed.

#### **Action Point 5:**

Set up a meeting with Committee chairman, Rhianwen Jones and Anna Jones to look at promotion of club exchanges.

### **1/10/2022 MEMBERS WELLBEING**

Niall asked for proposals to improve members wellbeing, especially when hosting exchangee's and asked for suggestions in how to do this. If anyone has any ideas then please send them to Wales YFC.

#### **I/11/2022 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE EXPERTS**

Members considered the election of committee experts and it was agreed that a member of the YFA should be elected on to the committee. It was also proposed that Elen Williams, Group 1 representative for Rural Youth Europe should also be elected, which was agreed by the committee.

It was agreed that the four remaining places would not be elected at this meeting, however they could be used throughout the year at the committee's discretion.

#### **I/12/2022 AGENDA ITEMS & DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

A discussion was held with regards to meetings going forward. It was agreed that the International Committee will hold 3 in-person meetings a year, running alongside Council meetings, and any other meetings would be held via Zoom.

The date for the next meeting will be opened out to representatives via the Whatsapp Group to see what date works best within the week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

#### **I/13/2022 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICIALS**

##### **Chairman**

Nominations for the post of chairman were requested, with the following put forward;

Nerys Lewis – Gwent

Proposer: Niall Evans

Seconder: Cathrin Jones

##### **Vice Chairman**

Nominations for the post of vice chairman were requested, with the following put forward;

Caitlin Harley - Brecknock

Proposer:

Seconder:

##### **Minute Secretary**

Nominations for the post of minute secretary were requested, with the following put forward;

Niall Evans - Brecknock

Proposer: Nerys Lewis

Seconder: Caitlin Harley

#### **I/14/2022 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

On behalf of the committee, Wales YFC Chairman Caryl Haf thanked Niall for all his hard work as Chairman, especially in what has been a very difficult year. Caryl also wished Niall good luck with his position in Rural Youth Europe and wished the best of luck to Nerys, Caitlin and the team for the forthcoming year.

Nerys Lewis seconded Caryl's thanks to Niall and wished him luck with Rural Youth Europe.

In closing the meeting, Niall thanked everyone for their hard work and support over the past year, in particular with the hard decision to cancel the trips in 2021 and Niall is looking forward to YFC travel getting back to normal this year.

As there was no other business the meeting was declared closed at 9.35pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
Action point 1: To make the Rural Affairs committee aware of the Cocoreado Project and forward any details we have received.	
Action point 2: Email to be sent to all county organisers with the details of the new sub-committee. Nominations should be sent to Wales YFC by Tuesday 5th October.	
Action Point 3: Email to be sent to counties regarding USA Homestays	
Action Point 4: Wales YFC to finalise agreements with host countries and try to contact those who have not yet responded.	
Action Point 5: Set up a meeting with Committee chairman, Rhianwen Jones and Anna Jones to look at promotion of club exchanges.	