

WALES FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS



COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 8TH JULY, 2021
'ZOOM'
7.00PM

MINUTES

CHAIRMAN: Miss Katie Davies

VICE CHAIRMAN: Miss Caryl Haf

PRESENT: Katie Davies, (Council chairman); Caryl Haf, (Council vice chairman); Katie Court, (Competitions chairman); Kathryn Jones, (Finance and Management chairman); Niall Evans, (International chairman); Aled Thomas, (Events and Marketing chairman); Clare James, (Rural Affairs chairman); Elin Rattray, (Youth Forum chairman); Carwyn Pugh, (Brecknock); Iestyn Owen, Carys Thomas and Hefin Evans, (Carmarthenshire); Esyllt Ellis Jones, Eiliw Dafydd, Mared Lloyd Jones (Ceredigion); Elain Jones and Gwenno Davies (Clwyd); Meinir Owen (Eryri); Kate Thomas, (Glamorgan); Abbie Williams, (Gwent); Anna Prysor Jones (Meirionnydd); Bryony Wilson and Aled Rees (Montgomery); Tania Hancock and Samuel Kurtz (Pembrokeshire); Rhys Richards (Ynys Môn); Iwan Meirion, Dafydd Jones, Kate Miles, Mared Jones, Rhodri Evans and Jayne Jones (Co-opted); Ed Dungait (NFYFC).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mared Jones (Wales YFC director); Angharad Thomas (Marketing and communications officer); Rhodri Lewis, (Competitions and finance officer) Edna Jones (Staff association chairman) and Hefin Jones (Translator).

C/72/2021

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman welcomed everyone to the July meeting of Council and last one ahead of AGM in September

Welcome all representatives and co-opted members in attendance.

Chairman noted that the meeting will be recorded for minute taking purposes. Translation available – test.

Welcome Megan Rhys Williams (Youth Engagement Manager, Welsh Parliament) who will be addressing Council.

Those wishing to ask questions, please note them in the chat function or feel free to come off mute and put your views forward, noting your name and role.

For voting purposes, Vevox will once again be utilised. The link is in the chat.

The calendar for the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director activities since May 2021 was shared on the screen.

Chairman informed the members that virtual activities and meetings have taken place including the RWAS Stock judging, S4C, Welsh Government meetings, along with general YFC meetings. Chairman was delighted to see clubs and counties undertaking competitions face to face where possible within new guidelines – congratulations to you all.

Congratulations was extended to Sian Healey and Elin Orrells for coming 2nd in the NFYFC Senior and Junior Member of the Year Competition respectively.

Chairman noted that Tomos Rees has finished his secondment with the organisation, can I thank him for his work with Wales YFC and wish him luck for the future. I would like to welcome to the Wales YFC team, Angharad Thomas who has taken over Tomos' role and Huw Jones who will be working with Rhodri up to the Royal Welsh Show. More information will be noted in the P&R report.

C/73/2021

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ffion Wright Evans, (Montgomery County Organiser); Bleddyn Davies (Ceredigion), Delun Evans (Pembrokeshire).

C/74/2021

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members of the committee were reminded of the need to declare any interests they may have in any of business being discussed.

Mared Jones declared an interest as she's a co-opted member and the temporary Wales YFC Director.

C/75/2021

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on the 13th of May, 2021 having been circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record.

Proposer: Esyllt Ellis Jones

Seconder: Katie Court

C/76/2021

ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

C/77/2021

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence received.

C/78/2021

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM SUB COMMITTEES:

a) Competitions – Miss Katie Court

Council to note:

1. The committee met on Tuesday 25th May and 22nd June.
2. The committee discussed feedback for the Virtual Eisteddfod and Virtual Public Speaking. All committee members were happy how both competitions had run.
3. The committee discussed the Virtual Royal Welsh Competitions – discussing the Stock judging day, Generation Game for County

- Chairmen and the RWAS week on 19th July where all results will be going out.
4. The committee discussed the Cywain Competition and noted there was a very generous prize for the top 3, with the 1st prize winning £600, £250 for 2nd and £150 for 3rd.
 5. The committee discussed the Weekend Festival and agreed to hold an Agri Day Competition for the 14th or 15th August and a Sports Day for the 11th or 12th September.
 6. Committee members agreed that Wales YFC should look to organise a normal calendar for the 21-22 year. Dates and Locations were discussed, and further discussion would be had during the next Competitions meeting alongside rules for all competitions.
 7. The next Competitions meeting was noted as the 27 July 2021.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

b) Finance & Management – Kathryn Jones

Council to note:

1. The committee were brought up to date on what grants had been applied for. Phase 2 of the Culture Recovery 2 grant of over £80k has been awarded. As previously informed the criteria for this grant was for money for 're opening purposes' and running costs between April & September. This includes salaries, rent, accountancy fees, covid kits for HQ and all counties and IT equipment for HQ. It also includes a sum of money for the development of the track & trace system for Wales YFC and the Clubs.
2. Wales YFC has been awarded a grant of £7000 from the NFU which will be used for 2 specific events which are to be held in the summer and to cover the costs of the advertising of the recent posts. NFU normally award Wales YFC with a grant for a development programme however as Covid has not enabled the programme to be carried out, they were willing to authorise the £7k sum for these other 3 projects.
3. I have received a rough draft of the 20/21 accounts and have a meeting with the accountants tomorrow to discuss the usual questions. This financial year is more complicated due to some wages being claimed via grant money and some being claimed via furlough so that all needs to be clarified before the accountants are happy to send any further copies out. As soon as this is completed, the accounts will be discussed in F&M and then sent out to council members in plenty of time before the AGM.
4. Finally, all signatures and bank access issues have been resolved and Rhodri now has full authorisation to all accounts in order to make payments and monitor the balances.
5. An extra meeting was held by F&M to discuss the new roles & proposed salaries. All was agreed and have been since advertised.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

c) Events and Marketing – Aled Thomas**Council to note:**

1. Aled noted that they had not met since the last council in May.
2. Aled noted that he's looking forward to the AGM on the 18th of September at the Showground and to working with the new officers.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

d) International – Niall Evans**Council to note:**

1. Interviews were held for the New Zealand dairy scholarship on Monday 28th June. Applications were all of a very high standard and three members have been successful in gaining a scholarship. The winners will be announced on Monday of the Royal Welsh via the RWAS Virtual Show
2. Rural Youth Europe will shortly be sending out the call for participants for the European Rally, this year as the rally is being held virtually any number of members can attend. This will be a great taster session for those thinking about applying for a place in the Rally team in the future.
3. The International Committee would like to remind all members who intend to apply for travel opportunities how important it is to attend their interview or at least pass on apologies so that panel members are not left waiting for individuals. By not letting anyone know that they do not intend to sit the interview creates a very poor impression of the organisation and the calibre of its members especially when partner countries are involved in the interview process.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

e) Rural Affairs – Clare James**Council to note:**

1. A meeting was held on the 29th June with the DPJ Foundation. Thank you to all who attended this evening, it was without a doubt time well spent. The Rural

Affairs committee would urge you to hold an evening with the DPJ Foundation in county or even club. Thank you to Kate Miles who delivered the evenings session and all at the DPJ foundation for the amazing work that they are doing.

2. For our next meeting we hope to speak with the new Chairman of Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

f) Youth Forum – Elin Rattray

Council to note:

1. An application has been sent to apply for two seats on the Welsh Youth Parliament this will be for two Wales YFC members under the age of 18. We hope to hear if the application is successful by the end of July
2. Youth Forum members have been offered the opportunity to join a webinar during the week of the Royal Welsh Show where we can discuss different issues effecting rural young people with members of the Senedd
3. Aberystwyth University have been in touch hoping to meet virtually with the Youth Forum to share a behind the scenes look at the University and the courses it offers.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward to approve.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

g) Building Group – Dafydd Jones

Council to note:

1. Dafydd noted that Aled Jones, Agrisgôp had facilitated his last Building Group on the 23rd of June. Dafydd thanked Aled for his excellent leadership, support, and guidance.
2. A letter will be sent to everyone who contributed to the building campaign to purchase the centre, providing them with an update on the position.
3. Approach the Architects that previously tendered.

Council to approve:

1. Council approved for the group to approach previous tenders for architect plans.

Council discussions and agreement:

There were no further discussions.

h) Personnel and Remuneration – Caryl Haf

Council to note:

Caryl Haf thanked Tomos Rees for his work as Marketing and

Communications Officer and welcomed Angharad Thomas to the role (temporary cover).

Present situation.

Mared Jones, Director (2 days)

Helen Evans, Operations Officer – Rural Affairs – (3 days)

Rhodri Lewis, Competitions and Finance Officer – (2 days)

Angharad Thomas, Marketing and Communication Officer – (3 days)

Megan Jones – Admin Officer (2 days).

Caryl Haf thanked Carmarthenshire YFC and RWAS for the support of sharing staff resources.

It was noted that posts for the following roles are being advertised and the closing date is the 14th of July;

Chief Executive

Welsh Development Officer

Operations Officer – Competitions and International

Operations Officer – Rural Affairs and Youth Work

Marketing and Communications Officer

Caryl Haf noted that NFU Trust Fund grant has supported the financial costs of advertising.

Council to approve:

There were no points put forward for approval.

i) Policy Sub Group – Miss Katie Davies

Council to note:

Chairman noted that no feed back had been received from counties regarding review of the E-Safety Policy. Chairman encouraged all to look at the policy.

In conclusion the Council reports were approved by members present.

Proposer: Aled Thomas

Seconder: Hefin Evans

C/79/2021

NFYFC

Ed Dungait reported on the work of NFYFC;

Joint Officer meeting was held with Wales YFC.

Council proposed to change the breakdown of how insurance will be paid £180 per county, £150 per club and the remainder to be paid per member. Invoices will still be sent to the counties, so the decision is up to the counties.

5-year budget does not look good but after should improve.

County Chairman training will be held in October – date to be confirmed.

NFYFC 90TH Anniversary Summer Ball will be held on the 11th of June, 2022 in Northumberland, warm welcome to all.

C/80/2021

APPOINT PRESIDENT

Chairman announced that Mr Chris Lewis of Gwent Federation has been elected as the new President of Wales YFC. Chairman congratulated Mr Chris Lewis and also thanked Mr Geraint Lloyd for all his work, support and dedication as President to Wales YFC.

APPOINT FINANCE & MANAGEMENT CHAIRMAN

Chairman thanked all counties for their nominations.

Wales YFC had received 2 nominations;

Mrs Kathryn Jones and Mr Iwan Meirion.

Kathryn Jones was proposed by Iestyn Owen, Carmarthenshire and seconded by Bryony Wilson, Montgomery.

Iwan Meirion was proposed by Rhys Richards Ynys Môn and seconded by Meinir Owen, Eryri.

The Council voted and Iwan Meirion was elected as the new Chairman of Finance & Management. Iwan thanked everyone.

C/81/2021

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Figures

Membership figures to date were shared on the screen for all members to consider.

C/82/2021

AGENDA ITEMS & DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of Council was noted as being Tuesday, 5th October, 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

C/83/2021

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Iestyn Owen noted that he did not think the format for the appointment of Finance & Management Chairman was done correctly. Chairman disagreed with the statement and noted that it was done democratically correct.

Aled Thomas stated his concerns of statements that the YPV Village makes a loss.

Chairman noted that this was her last Council meeting as Wales YFC Chairman and thanked all for their support.

Chairman informed the members that she intends to do a Coastal Path Challenge, walking Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire Path in the next coming months.

As there was no further business, members were thanked for their input and the meeting was declared closed. 8.12pm.

Signed:

Dated:
