

## WALES FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS



**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**  
**MONDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2021**  
**ZOOM 7.00PM**

### **MINUTES**

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**CHAIRMAN:** Miss Nerys Lewis

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Miss Caitlin Harley

**PRESENT:** Nerys Lewis (Chairman), Caitlin Harley (Vice chairman), Tomos Lewis (Pembrokeshire), Lowri Jones (Ceredigion), Cathrin Jones (Carmarthen), Iestyn Owen (Carmarthen), Sian Emberton (Montgomery), Lwsi Morgan (Montgomery), Niall Evans (Ex chair), Andy Spencer (YFA) and Elen Williams (Rural Youth Europe).

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**I/15/2022 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

In opening the meeting, Chairman Nerys Lewis reminded the committee that the meeting would be recorded for minute taking purposes. The committee members introduced themselves and outlined the exchanges that they had been on previously as well as the trips that they currently hold a place on.

**I/16/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence were received from Elain Jones (Clwyd); Cerys Baker (Gwent)

**I/17/2022 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting, held on Monday 27th September, 2021 were shown on screen. The minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Proposer: Caitlin Harley

Seconder: Niall Evans

## **I/18/2022 ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

<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.	Completed
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.	Completed
Action Point 3: Email to be sent to counties regarding USA Homestays	Completed
Action Point 4: Wales YFC to finalise agreements with host countries and try to contact those who have not yet responded.	Still ongoing
Action Point 5: Set up a meeting with Committee chairman, Rhianwen Jones and Anna Jones to look at promotion of club exchanges.	Completed

## **I/19/2022 CORRESPONDENCE**

One piece of correspondence was received from Finland. The chairman asked if this could be discussed under point 20, the committee agreed.

## **I/20/2022 Confirm 2022 International Programme**

Rhianwen had been in contact with partner countries and organisations that we are due to travel with. Some of the trips in 2022 still have spaces available that we will look to fill in the coming months.

The current 2022 programme stands as follows:

- Rural affairs agreed itinerary for the AGR II trip in 2022. Two spaces are still open for members to apply for. It was agreed to run over three weekends with locations still to be confirmed.
- Two spaces are still available on the inter-railing trip, and it is currently going ahead as planned.
- An email was sent to all members who had been offered a place on the Isle of Man trip highlighting the option to attend the winter ball rather than travelling in the summer. Two members replied confirming that they

were happy to travel in the winter, four replied showing their wish to travel in the summer. A vote was held, and the majority of committee voted to hold trip next summer rather than the alternative dates of November 2021.

- We received two dates to start the Safari and it was agreed that heading out on the 21<sup>st</sup> august 2022. Rhianwen has been in contact with Contiki, and they have confirmed that the dates and price are to stay the same. Due to changes in circumstance three spaces are now available and will be readvertised. Iestyn mentioned that deposits are needed for spaces to be confirmed.
- It was agreed to keep the sailing trip as an under 18's trip.
- Scotland have confirmed that they will not be making a decision on hosting in 2022 until January
- The Elwyn Jones Scholarship has been readvertised to members.
- Study session – 1 member (waiting further details from Rural Youth Europe)
- Ulster have confirmed that they will be making a decision later in the week on 2022 exchanges.
- We received correspondence from Finland that confirmed that they have postponed the exchange in 2022 but look forward to hosting again in 2023.
- European Rally (Germany 30<sup>th</sup> July – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2022) – 1 position available
- Autumn Seminar (Ireland November 2022) – 1 position available
- We are yet to hear back from Canada on whether or not they are going to be taking part in the exchange in 2022.
- We received feedback from the co-ordinator of the USA (Colorado/Montana) exchange. They have requested that when they send members over on exchange then they would spend a minimum of 2 weeks with each host. They would look to send exchangees for between 3 and 6 months each with a possibility of sending 4 exchangees each year. The committee understood the reasoning behind the requests but it was suggested that we offered to host 1 this year to understand the best way to host for a long time frame with the option to host more in future years when other nations in the UK are back hosting exchangees. It is yet to be confirmed what time of year they will be coming to Wales. It was suggested that we look to bring in a ruling that in order to gain a place on each exchange, the candidate should have hosted previously. It was also suggested that those looking to go on the America trips would host on the return leg. It was felt that further conversations were needed to be had within counties prior to a decision being made

Selection interviews to be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Interviews to be held in person providing restrictions allow, with the option of hybrid interviews should candidates not be able to attend due to illness / Covid.

The Committee was happy for the chair to look over the program prior to going out.

**Action Point 1:** Confirm the Isle of Man trip as a summer trip. Rhianwen to inform Isle of Man and outgoing delegates.

**Action Point 2:** Deposits to be paid for the South Africa Safari trip

**Action Point 3:** Inform Finland delegates their trip will not go ahead in 2022

**Action Point 4:** Speak to USA co-ordinator to agree hosting schedule

**Action Point 5:** Plan and release the International Programme, and organise the interviews to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### **I/21/2022 TO CONFIRM THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME**

The committee discussed the direction the 2023 International programme will go in at length. It was agreed to postpone the ski trip to January 2023 as it was felt to be safer than holding in 2022. With things now being so uncertain it was thought that we would get a better uptake in 2023.

It was suggested to look into weeklong trips as a maximum time frame rather than the long-haul trips previously looked at. It was felt that this length of trip would appeal to the larger grass root membership. The committee also asked to investigate trips with an Agri element.

Other Countries that were suggested to look into were:

- Ireland
- Netherlands
- Estonia
- Switzerland

**Action Point 6:** Wales YFC to look at these countries to see if trips were possible.

### **I/22/2022 AGENDA ITEMS & DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 alongside Council, if it went ahead in person.

### **I/23/2022 Any other business**

As there was no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8:11pm.

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

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
Action Point 1: Confirm the Isle of Man trip as a summer trip. Rhianwen to inform Isle of Man and outgoing delegates.	Completed
Action Point 2: Deposits to be paid for the South Africa Safari trip	Wales YFC felt that with the outbreak of the South African variant of COVID 19, it would not be in our best interests to ask for deposits. To be reviewed in the January meeting.
Action Point 3: Inform Finland delegates their trip will not go ahead in 2022	Completed
Action Point 4: Speak to USA co-ordinator to agree hosting schedule	Ongoing. Suggestion that we work with Northern Ireland or Devon to host 1 or 2 delegates for approx. 3 months.
Action Point 5: Plan and release the International Programme, and organise the interviews to be held on the 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2022.	Completed although only 6 applications, therefore officers agreed to postpone the interviews and review the situation in the next meeting.
Action Point 6: Wales YFC to look at these countries to see if trips were possible.	Ongoing.