

WALES FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS



RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE THURSDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER 2021 'HYBRID MEETING' 7.30PM

MINUTES

CHAIRMAN: Miss Clare James

VICE CHAIRMAN: Mr William Jones

RA/01/2022

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the hybrid meeting of Rural Affairs Sub-Committee.

RA/02/2022

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Elin Haf Williams (Maldwyn), Sioned Davies (Brecknock), Non Williams (Sir Fon),
Katie
Ifan Davies (Clwyd), Iolo Evans (Meirionydd), Rhodri Griffiths (Ceredigion),
Davies (Past Wales YFC Chairman), Meinir Tomos

RA/03/2022

COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference were updated at the 2020 AGM to include that the committee would work with farming unions, stating :

"The committee is encouraged to work with various lobbying groups however should not directly promote or deem to favour."

RA/04/2022

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were circulated and agreed proposed as a true and accurate record.

Proposer : Angharad Thomas

Seconder : Gemma Price

RA/05/2022

TO ADDRESS COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR YEAR AHEAD

The suggestion from council is that the committee will have 3 'in-person' meetings (as done in the past). With any infill meetings (if needed) to be conducted on zoom. The Committee agreed to this suggestion

RA/06/2022

ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters arising from the minutes.

RA/07/2022

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no correspondence.

RA/08/2022

UPDATE ON CURRENT RURAL AFFAIRS PROJECTS

Industry update

The Chairman gave a brief update to industry updated. There had been an announcement to the BPS scheme for 2022/23 scheme with reference to the Glastir scheme being extended. The Farm Business Grand window had opened. It was discussed the issue of CO₂ shortage and the impact to the pigs and poultry industries. Right tree, right place strategy had been launched. It was also noted that UK lamb was back available in the USA.

1. Lamb Initiative

The Chairman noted that there has been a number of meetings across the year with Dunbia with Helen Evans (interim Rural Affairs Officer) working with Dunbia to update promotion. A survey had been designed between Wales YFC and Dunbia and it was asked for counties to help distribute the survey.

During 2020-21, 12,393 lambs had been slaughtered as part of the scheme.

2. Agricultural Bursary

It was noted that the office are still awaiting updates for the future of the Bursary.

3. Menter Moch Cymru

It was announced that 6 members have been selected as part of the 2021 Wales YFC & Menter Moch Cymru pig finishing initiative :

Dylan Phillips - Ceredigion
Eiry Williams - Ceredigion
Laura Evans - Ceredigion
Luned Jones - Sir Gar
Sally Griffiths - Radnor
Eliw Roberts - Ynys Mon

It was noted that this year the finalists would have two classes at the Royal Welsh Winter Fair; singles and pair classes.

RA/09/2022

TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1. Meeting with Hybu Cig Cymru Chair, Catherine Hughes

It was agreed that this meeting should be virtual.

2. Rural Affairs Conference 2022

The committee agreed that the conference, if possible, should be held '*in-person*', and should return back to the 2nd Saturday in January. It was noted that the conference will take place in the North. Location will be confirmed following discussion with event sponsors CCF. The suggestions were Llysfas, Glynllifon or with a business. John Scott, Scottish sheep farmer and Ed Towers, Lancashire dairy farmer were suggested as speakers. However, it was agreed that further discussions will be had following conformation from CCF.

3. Royal Welsh Winter Fair 2021

It was outlined that the following competitions would be held during the Winter Fair :

Menter Moch (singles and pairs class)
Lamb Initiative classes (live and carcass)

Baby beef
Quad bike competition was questioned.

It was noted that further advertisement earlier in the year would be required in future for the livestock competitions.

The possibility of a speaker/meeting with a Welsh Government representative was also quired.

4. Rural Affairs Study Tour

FUW have offered to help arrange the trip. It was agreed by committee that the tour would only be a day visit this year, due to covid, in Aberystwyth on the 9th of October.

5. Agri i

It was decided to a pursue as arranged with the Agri i program, and it was to commence a year later than planned.

6. Dŵr Cymru

Dwr Cymru had been in contact with the Office noting that they wish to work with the committee. They wish to sponsor a bursary or project to improve water quality on farm. It was agreed by committee to welcome a speaker to the next meeting to give a short presentation on what they're ideas are for the project.

7. Wales YFC Field Day 2022

Will be discussed at the next meeting.

RA/10/2022

WELSH GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURE CONSULTATION

4 had been completed in the last year. It was highlighted that there would be Another consultation in 2023 ahead of 'Our land' launching in 2025.

RA/11/2022

MEMBERS WELL BEING

No issues.

RA/12/2022

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE EXPERTS

(Maximum of six people to advise the Committee as and when necessary)
Hedd Pugh (NFU) and Anwen Hughes (FUW) are to be re-elected to the committee.

RA/13/2022

AGENDA ITEMS & DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the visit on Saturday, 9 October in Aberystwyth. Locations to be confirmed.

RA/14/2022

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICIALS

Before the election of new committee officials, Clare James thanked the committee for all the support and outlined the main outcomes and successes of the year.

1. Chairman – William Jones, Meirionydd
2. Vice-Chairman – Dewi Jones, Ceredigion
3. Minute Secretary – Angharad Thomas, Sir Gâr

RA/15/2022

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

William Jones thanked everyone and declared the meeting closed.