



**NFYFC Youth Forum**  
**18<sup>th</sup> October 2014, NFYFC, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire**

**Present:**

Sioned Davies (Chairwoman) (Radnor – Wales Area rep), Ben Cavill (Cornwall – SW Area rep), Freddie Wotton (Bedfordshire - JMOTY), Amy Swinbank (Cumbria - JMOTY), Georgina Morris (Shropshire – WM Area Rep), Danielle McNulty (Vice Chairwoman) (Gloucestershire - JMOTY)

**Apologies:**

Helen Brown (Vice Chairwoman)(Cumbria - JMOTY), Helen Bellow (Devon - JMOTY), Matthew Ranson (Surrey- JMOTY), Joanne Gregory (Derbyshire - JMOTY), Sophie Winzer (Somerset - JMOTY), Toby Hall (Staffordshire - JMOTY), Kate Leeming (Yorkshire - JMOTY)

**1 Welcome, Introductions and local area feedback**

- 1.1 Members introduced themselves and updated one another on their current status (School, College, University or working). Freddie and Georgie gave positive feedback on the Tall Ships YFC Travel trip.
- 1.2 Members highlighted the YFC areas on the map and identified where forum members live and where the area representatives are missing from.
- 1.3 Area Feedback
  - 1.3.1 Northern – Amy and Helen did the youth forum report at the Northern area meeting and this was very well received. Amy is working with Cumbria to begin a youth forum in the county, Jodie and Sioned have sent Amy some ideas for the new forum.  
Eastern - No youth forum at present in Bedfordshire but lots of younger members attend the county meetings and input.  
West Mids – Georgie informed the group that younger members have a meeting at the same time as the county meeting and then this is fed into the main meeting.  
South West – Ben gave a successful report to SW area about the youth forum. Cornwall felt that they had barriers to starting a county forum including safeguarding, costs and time. The forum were concerned about this and wanted to support counties where they could. They decided that they would like to provide some information for counties to help them with starting youth forums. The group would like to review the 'have your say' document and write a cover letter to counties to support them with starting and maintaining forums. Devon Federation also coordinate a successful area residential weekend to allow U18 members in counties to form new relationships, the forum felt this was a great idea and would like to promote this model to other areas.  
Wales – The Royal Welsh was a huge success and fundraising efforts (selling milkshakes) raised money successfully. Links are being made between Wales YFC members and the Junior Agri Academy (age 16-19). There was also mention of the formation of a Agri kids group.

- Send Minutes to members that could not attend
- Forum members and Jodie to review the 'Have your say' document to support county youth forums
- Jodie to draft information for areas on a model for a junior area weekend

## 2 Area Representatives

2.1 The area representatives were invited onto the forum following the members suggestion that they didn't want the forum to be a JMOTY finalists club. Area reps began sitting on the forum in 2012 and the number taking up the area rep place has increased year on year. Jodie shared information on past and current area representatives so the group was aware which areas sent reps to the forum. The group felt that it would be beneficial for the area reps to serve two years (7 meetings), the same amount as the JMOTY finalists, current area reps agreed that they would like to have a longer term on the forum.

## 3 Review of last meeting action points

### Action

- Forum to present a motion to council that Area Forum Reps should serve two years on the forum

## 4 Forum Finances

4.1 Jodie presented the forum budget report to the group for their approval. The group decided that the remaining monies should be used to cover meeting travel costs and flights to the IOM in February.

4.2 Easy fundraising cheque has been received and the forum total raised has increased but we are still short of the target of £80 set at the last meeting.

### Action

- Jodie to set a deadline for deposits to be received in order to book flights to the IOM
- Forum members to continue online shopping and searching through the Easy Fundraising website

## 5 CLA Game Fair – July 2014

5.1 Forum members attended the CLA game fair in July to pilot the 'Watch that Cowpat' game. Members spoke to lots of people about YFC and the game and also had chance to circulate the showground handing out Ten26 copies and promoting YFC. The group did identify that the position of the stand could have been more successful if it was more central (Gunners row) but they understand that the costs of these stands is high and the Game Fair would not offer these for free.

5.2 NFYFC have been offered the chance to have stand at the 2015 Game Fair in Yorkshire, this has been discussed by the NFYFC marketing team. Due to costs and the resulting benefits to the organisation in terms of value for money (and the summer being a difficult time for recruitment due to office shut downs) this offer has been refused. They have instead requested that NFYFC have a stand when the event is more local to the

Midlands as costs would be lower.

#### **Action**

- Forum members will be invited to be involved in future events between NFYFC and the Game Fair

## **6 British Youth Council (BYC)**

- 6.1 The Forum was represented by Georgie (accompanied by Claire Worden) at the Annual Council meeting (ACM) in Sheffield in September. She presented the forum motion on rural+ raising awareness of mental health issues in rural areas and this was accepted into the manifesto for 2014-16. The second forum motion, to increase the awareness of field to fork education by ensuring every primary school child visits a farm with supporting educational resources, will be referred to the BYC board to decide if this motion will be included into the manifesto. Georgie enjoyed the event and thanked Claire for accompanying her to the meeting, she felt that speaking in such a large forum developed her public speaking skills and confidence. Although the F2F motion was not taken through into the manifesto at the meeting Georgie and Claire had the chance to show the 'watch that cowpat' game to some BYC members.
- 6.2 Following the ACM, BYC invited YFC to a west midlands showcase event to pilot the game with BYC members from all over the midlands. Georgie and Claire attended the showcase, they ran a YFC awareness session which culminated in the members playing the game and giving feedback.
- 6.3 Thank you Georgie and Claire for attending the meeting representing the forum.

#### **Action**

- Jodie to inform forum members when the next BYC member's events are being held.

## **7 Time Capsule**

- 7.1 The forum worked on the letter to the 2056/57 officer team, inviting them to discover the time capsule and re-bury it on the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NFYFC. Brian Clist (Devon Federation) who attended the time capsule burial and gave a speech about early YFC and what it has meant to him is going to draft a message to be inserted into the time capsule information pack. Also included in the information pack will be the 'wishes for the future', the map of the burial spot and the names of the forum members involved in the project in order for them to be contacted in the future.

#### **Action**

- Jodie to amend the officers letter for the time capsule
- Jodie to collate the time capsule information pack contents and put in NFYFC safe

## **8 Watch That Cowpat**

- 8.1 The group looked at the evaluations of the game from the pilots held between July and October. The group would like to send thank you letters to those people that piloted the game and helped to collect feedback.
- 8.2 The group decided that they would like to make the game board bigger, to have the instructions printed on the reverse of the spinner board and for the inclusion on fact and forfeit cards with the game.
- 8.3 The group developed the fact and forfeit cards and made a video to demonstrate the forfeits.
- 8.4 The next stage of the game development will be to have a meeting with the intellectual properties lawyer and to

work up a pitch for sponsors to support the changes to the game and what they would like the future of the game to be.

8.5 The forum also wanted raise the issue of equality of the game in terms of cultural foods and for those with disabilities, a discussion was held and it was thought that the game can't be all things to all people but a role could be found that was not physical to be inclusive to those with physical disabilities.

#### **Action**

- The group would like to send thank you letters to those people that piloted the game and helped to collect feedback.
- Jodie to work with Cristina and the forum to cost the changes to the game
- Jodie to organise meeting with the intellectual properties lawyer

## **9 Revisit the forum manifesto and future work**

9.1 The group felt that due the fact that none of the new cohort of forum members was able to attend the meeting that this item should be deferred to February.

#### **Action**

- Forum manifesto and future work – deferred to February 2015 meeting

## **10. Steering Group Agenda's**

11. Members of the group will be attending steering groups in order to input their views and ensure the work of the steering groups considers younger members. Forum members will sit on the following steering groups – Sioned – AGRI, Georgie – Competitions and Ben – CEM. Danielle will attend council on the Sunday.

12. Members looked through the steering group agendas and it was also agreed that these should be posted on the forum Facebook account for any feedback.

13. The group spoke about the Scotland Farm trip and Freddie mentioned that he would have considered going but didn't receive any information from his county. The group discussed that the trip had been shared on many communications from NFYFC including emails, the buzz, Ten26, once weekly to county offices and on all social media platforms. The group thought that it might be due to the fact that county offices have a shut down over the summer and this information may have got lost in other communications that arrive at the start of the new YFC year.

#### **Action**

- Jodie to coordinate forum members attendance at council
- Sioned to post steering group agenda on Facebook for the forum to have chance to input
- Jodie to feedback to Jo (Agriculture) that some counties may not have passed on Scotland information to members

## **11 Youth Forum Residential – 30<sup>th</sup> January – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2015**

Jodie is working with Angela (IOM county organiser) to make arrangements for the forum residential including accommodation and activities.

The group agreed that flights should be booked as soon as possible to keep costs down and that a deposit should be paid before flights are booked to avoid the forum budget being wasted. Jodie to set a deadline and circulate information on the trip. The residential trip will now be called #ontour IOM 2015

## Action

- Jodie to circulate IOM information to forum members

## 12 AOB

12.1 Future meeting dates - The group decided that they will be having the next meeting as part of the residential in February, the second will take place at June council and the third will be a forum only meeting in October. The meeting dates will be as follows – February 1<sup>st</sup> (Isle of Man), June 27<sup>th</sup> (Council weekend – Warwickshire) and 17<sup>th</sup> October (NFYFC, Warwickshire) – please put these dates in your diary!

12.2 NFU Funding - Cristina (fundraising) passed an email to the group regarding the forum becoming involved in the NFU charitable trust farm safety project in 2015. By being the sounding board for the NFU project the group will receive sponsorship to support the forums activities in 2015. The group were asked to participate in working with the charitable trust in order to discover effective ways of communicating farm safety to young people. The forum would be happy to proceed with this project.

12.3 Jodie updated the forum on the progress of the U18 Ski trip for February 2016, suggested costs and activities – a response had been received from PGL who could coordinate the trip for NFYFC detailing what they are able to provide. The group felt that they would like to promote the trip following the January 21015 over 18 trip, they are happy for the trip to start small and build up over time if it is successful. The forum would like to have a small working party to focus on the trip. Jodie to meet with YFC travel about planning the trip and feedback to the working party.

12.4 Members were given the Youth Social Action fund evaluations from Cath Sykes and took them away to complete and return to Cath/Jodie

12.5 Jodie handed out Annual Convention steward forms and asked if any over 18 forum members attending the convention would like to steward – please complete and return to Jodie

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- The forum would like to work with the NFU charitable trust on their farm safety project in return for potential sponsorship
- Jodie to work with PGL and YFC Travel to coordinate the U18 Ski Trip for February 2016 – members to let Jodie know if they would like to be on the Ski sub group
- Forum members involved in the youth social action project (designing the game) to return evaluations to Cath and to contact Cath or Jodie with any questions
- Jodie handed out Annual Convention steward forms and asked if any over 18 forum members attending the convention would like to steward – please complete and return to Jodie

## Action Points from October 2014 meeting

### Action

- Send Minutes to members that could not attend
- Forum members and Jodie to review the 'Have your say' document to support county youth forums

- Jodie to draft information for areas on a model for a junior area weekend
- Forum to present a motion to council that Area Forum Reps should serve two years on the forum
- Jodie to set a deadline for deposits to be received in order to book flights to the IOM
- Forum members to continue online shopping and searching through the Easy Fundraising website
- Forum members will be invited to be involved in future events between NFYFC and the Game Fair
- Jodie to inform forum members when the next BYC member's events are being held.
- Jodie to amend the officers letter for the time capsule
- Jodie to collate the time capsule information pack contents and put in NFYFC safe
- The group would like to send thank you letters to those people that piloted the game and helped to collect feedback.
- Jodie to work with Cristina and the forum to cost the changes to the game
- Jodie to organise meeting with the intellectual properties lawyer
- Forum manifesto and future work – deferred to February 2015 meeting
- Jodie to coordinate forum members attendance at council
- Sioned to post steering group agenda on Facebook for the forum to have chance to input
- Jodie to feedback to Jo (Agriculture) that some counties may not have passed on Scotland information to members
- Jodie to circulate IOM information to forum members
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