



## NFYFC Youth Forum 1st February 2015, Venture Centre, Ramsey, IOM

### Present:

Sioned Davies (Chairwoman) (Radnor – Wales Area rep), Danielle Daisy McNulty (Gloucestershire – JMOTY), Freddie Wotton (Bedfordshire - JMOTY), Amy Swinbank (Cumbria - JMOTY), Georgina Morris (Shropshire – WM Area Rep - Retiring), Danielle McNulty (Vice Chairwoman) (Gloucestershire - JMOTY), Helen Brown (Cumbria – JMOTY), Gwawr Hatcher (Ceredigion - JMOTY), Chloe Harris (Herefordshire – WM Area Rep), Kate Leeming (Yorkshire – JMOTY), Nicholas Bundy (Suffolk – JMOTY).

Hannah Talbot (NFYFC Vice Chair), Jess Townson (Northern area chair), James Eckley (NFYFC Chief Officer)

### Apologies:

Helen Bellow (Devon - JMOTY), Sophie Winzer (Somerset - JMOTY), Toby Hall (Staffordshire - JMOTY), Holly Findley (Berkshire – JMOTY), Evie Hoggard (Notts – 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).

1.2 Area Feedback

Northern – Amy and Helen did the youth forum report at the Northern area meeting and this was very well received. Amy became the chair of the newly formed Cumbria FYFC youth forum, the members are very keen to be involved and have already started making changes in the county. The Northern area coordinates competitions practices and demonstrations in order to support and encourage younger members to compete – this is run with the support of associate members.

Kate spoke about the potential for establishing a youth forum in Yorkshire and the group were happy to support her to put this forward, the issues of logistics was discussed but it was felt that the forum could meet occasionally and combine with other events.

Eastern - No youth forum at present in Bedfordshire but lots of younger members attend the county meetings and input successfully. The junior members are happy with current competitions programme and activities provided. FW felt it was important to support but not push members to compete and he felt that the use of slides to support public speaking was a good idea.

Nick added that Suffolk has a small forum that feeds into county meetings about competitions or events they would like to do. He also shared an interesting idea about members raising Turkeys that the group felt was a great activity. AS, GH and HB mentioned that they also do lamb and calf rearing competitions in Cumbria and Wales.

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. This takes place every three months and the same people tend to attend. She also shared that the WM area holds an evening of competitions training to

support members in competitions. Shropshire forum has been revamped and new officers elected, new members are being encouraged to attend and put forward their views.

South West – The county would like to form a junior speaking training session to support younger members to access the competition. They would like to visit an area final to see how the competition runs in real life, DDM was happy to hear that videos of the competition may soon be uploaded onto Utube.

Wales – Ceredigion youth forum not currently very well attended and they tend to do activities rather than work on issues affecting the younger members. The National youth forum in Wales are inputting into a document 'the Wales we want' to ensure the needs of young people are acknowledged. Gwawr would like stock judging to be filmed in order to promote the competition to younger members that may have little or no experience. Sioned added that the Agri Academy in Wales YFC/Farming Connect are working with motivational/inspirational speakers around farming diversification and sustainability and also that Wales are hosting the 5 nations youth rally in August 2015

South East - No member in attendance

East Mids – No member in attendance

- Send Minutes to members that could not attend
- Jodie to feedback competitions being filmed for Utube to use as a training aid for younger members

## 2 Election of Steering group officers

2.1 Following a vote Danielle Daisy McNulty (DDM) was elected as Chair and Amy Swinbank (AS) as her vice chair.

2.2 Georgina Morris (GM) and Danielle Daisy McNulty where elected as Co-options to the group

## 3 Review of last meeting action points

### Action

3.1 SD went through the action points from the last meeting and classified as complete or to be discussed further in the agenda.

## 4 Forum Finances

4.1 JG explained that the 2015 budgets were still being finalised by NFYFC and would be shared when available. JG shared the costs of the IOM residential meeting and highlighted that it had proved to be less expensive than previous youth forum residential trips in England and Wales.

4.2 SD explained the easy fundraising scheme to the members in order for them to raise money for the forum.

4.3 JG informed the forum that the NFU Mutual had unfortunately withdrawn the funding they had previously offered the group. Christine will continue to search for a sponsor for the forum.

4.4 JG presented an invitation to the forum from Christina to attend the Livestock event at the NEC to promote NFYFC

4.5 The Youth Social Action funding is coming to an end and evaluation forms will be emailed to forum members to complete and return.

### Action

- Forum members to continue online shopping and searching through the Easy Fundraising website
- The group asked for a copy of our current sponsors from Christina (Fundraising) and they will feedback any sponsorship ideas back to Jodie to give to Christina.
- The group agreed to an invitation to the Livestock event from Christina representing NFYFC
- The group have been asked to complete the YSA forms for the 'watch that cowpat' design stage and return to Cath by email

## 5 Time Capsule

5.1 SD explained that we are still awaiting one final piece of information from Brian Clist for the capsule envelope and then this can go in the safe.

### Action

## 6 Watch that Cowpat

6.1 JG informed the group that Christina will be making dates with sponsors following the evaluation of game pilot. Jodie to circulate dates and information when this is available. Forum members are happy to pitch.

### Action

- Forum members to begin considering what they would like to include in the Watch that Cowpat pitch to sponsors

## 7 Forum future plans

7.1 Next projects to be looked at once watch that cowpat educational resource is complete.

### Action

Forum will focus on building links and relationships with steering groups in order to ensure they are considering younger members in all activities.

## 8 British Youth Council

8.1 SD, GM and JG explained the function and process of the British Youth Council (BYC). The group were pleased that both motions put forward by the group had been accepted into the national manifesto.

8.2 The next members meeting of the BYC will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, members of the forum are welcome to attend and travel is covered by the BYC.

### Action

- Jodie to circulate meeting details for members that would like to attend the BYC members meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March

## 9 County Youth Forums

9.1 The group had chance to look over the current version of 'Have you say' and the group would like to do a complete overhaul of the support document. This will include –

Taking the relevant info from the current document and condensing into pages for the Source to include -

- A forum timeline for the Source about how to set up a forum in a county
- Top ten tips for setting up a forum
- Icebreaker ideas
- Expectations vs reality of a forum
- Pairing forums with other events
- How many people should be on a forum
- Different formats for forum meetings – monthly or yearly
- What are the aims of the meeting
- Training plan for a forum meeting
- Top reasons why forums fail and how to combat it
- How to make it fun

The group would also like to make a short video about setting up a forum to be available on Utube for counties with a potential prize for sharing the video, potentially a place on the ski trip? JCE to explore possibilities

When the Source becomes an electronic resource the forum section can include twitter handles to allow members to seek support and ask questions about forming county forums.

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### Action

- Jodie to draft content for have your say Source pages and send to forum members
- Forum members to begin work on a script for the video to be filmed at June council on starting a forum.
- James E to look at potential prize of a ski trip place for most video shares

## 10. Junior Area Weekend

10.1 JG gave information on how the SW junior area weekend is coordinated. The forum would like to replicate this in other areas. The group would like to put together a letter to area committees including the SW area model to encourage them to run an area weekend for the junior members with support from NFYFC and the forum members.

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### Action

- Jodie to receive information from SW area and share with the forum
- Forum to write a letter to area chairmen/committees encouraging them to hold junior area weekends.

## 11 Term of Reference

11.1 The group have been asked to review their current terms of reference 'what the group does/why it exists' along with the other four NFYFC steering groups.

11.2 The group also discussed the current age of NFYFC officers and steering groups chairs and decided to put a motion forward to council/the AGM to suggest that those taking office should be no older than 26 when elected into post. JCE to finalise the wording of the motion.

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### Action

- The group will be sent the terms of reference to consider and suggest any amendments. The previous request for area reps to serve a two year term will be included in this document that will be presented to council in

June.

- James to finalise wording of forum motion to council/AGM

## 12 Ski Trip

12.1 Based on the quotes received the group would like to book the 2016 under 18 ski trip with outgoing. Jodie to work with James and YFC travel on finalising this booking and promoting the trip to the membership.

### Action

- JG,JCE and YFC Travel to finalise Ski trip booking
- Forum members to promote the Ski trip across the membership

## 13 Show stars event – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015 and BIG Bang Careers fair – NEC 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March 2015

10.1 JG gave information on a new stock judging event being coordinated by a previous forum member from Staffordshire that aims to increase young people participation in stock judging. The group would like to support the event.

10.2 JG gave information on the Big Bang Careers fair and asked if any members of the forum would like to attend to represent NFYFC and to inform and encourage young people with a science background to consider careers in agriculture.

### Action

- Jodie to circulate more information about the Show stars event in April
- Jodie to circulate more information about the Big Bang to forum members in March

## 14 Steering groups and Council Meeting

### Action

- Jodie to circulate steering group agenda on the youth forum Facebook page for comment
- Members to inform Jodie if you would like to attend steering groups or the council meeting

## 15 Youth Forum Residential 2016

15.1 Jodie informed the group that the February forum residential is a trip based on funding being received through grants or sponsors. The group discussed possible options for the 2016 trip including – Lake District, Snowdonia, Devon, IOM, Isle of Wight, Guernsey, Jersey and Norfolk.

### Action

- Jodie to examine residential suggestions given by the forum for June meeting

## Action Points from February 2015 meeting

### Action

- Send Minutes to members that could not attend
- Jodie to feedback competitions being filmed for Utube to use as a training aid for younger members
- Forum members to continue online shopping and searching through the Easy Fundraising website
- The group asked for a copy of our current sponsors from Christina (Fundraising) and they will feedback any new sponsorship ideas to Jodie
- The group agreed to an invitation to the Livestock event from Christina representing NFYFC – Jodie to circulate details
- The group have been asked to complete the Youth Social Action forms for the 'watch that cowpat' design stage and return to Cath by email
- Forum members to begin considering what they would like to include in the Watch that Cowpat pitch to sponsors
- Forum will focus on building links and relationships with steering groups in order to ensure they are considering younger members in all activities.
- Jodie to circulate meeting details for members that would like to attend the BYC members meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March
- Jodie to draft content for 'have your say' Source pages and send to forum members
- Forum members to begin work on a script for the video to be filmed at June council on starting a forum.
- James E to look at potential prize of a ski trip place for most video shares
- Jodie to receive junior area weekend information from SW area and share with the forum
- Forum to write a letter to area chairmen/committees encouraging them to hold junior area weekends.
- The group will be sent the terms of reference to consider and suggest any amendments. *The previous request for area reps to serve a two year term will be included in this document that will be presented to council in June.*
- James to finalise wording of forum motion to council/AGM regarding officers being 'in age' members
- JG,JCE and YFC Travel to finalise Ski trip booking and promotional material
- Forum members to promote the Ski trip across the membership
- Jodie to circulate more information about the Show stars event in April
- Jodie to circulate more information about the Big Bang to forum members in March
- Jodie to circulate steering group agendas on the youth forum Facebook page for comment
- Members to inform Jodie if they would like to attend steering groups or the council meeting
- Jodie to examine residential suggestions given by the forum