



AGRI Steering Group – Saturday 27th June at 1.30pm Quality Hotel, Birmingham Road,
Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9BA

Chairman: Lynsey Martin (Kent)

Vice-chairman: Sam Dilcock (Yorkshire)

Present: Lynsey Martin (Chair [SE]); Sam Dilcock (Vice-Chair [N]); Russell Carrington (ex Officio[WM]); James Hutchinson (SW); Caroline Trude (SW); Kate Wainwright (EM); William Wright (EM); Harriet Wilson (WM); Becky Heal (TRIG Rep [SW]);

Part Meeting: James Eckley (NFYFC CO); Hannah Talbot (NFYFC Chair); Chris Manley (NFYFC Vice-Chair); Jess Townson (NFYFC Vice-Chair) Christina Evans (Fundraising Officer); Julia Pointon (NFYFC Vice Chairman BoM); Fay Thomas (WM); Ant Boeson (E); Freddie Wootton (Youth Forum); Chloe Harris (Youth Forum); Danielle McNulty (Youth Forum Chair); Sioned Davies (Youth Forum Chair); Amy McWhirter (Youth Forum)

In attendance: Joanne Wyles (Agricultural and Rural Issues Officer); Sian Pritchard (Kuhn UK)

1. Welcome and introductions

RC welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. RC detailed the achievements of AGRI this year and also congratulated EF on his Farming Hero award.

2. Apologies for absence

Ed Ford, Tom Wells, Carys Vaughan, Charlotte Johnston

3. To confirm Minutes of previous meeting

LM signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record

4. To receive any additional items for the agenda

Additional items for AOB

5. Area reports

- 5.1. SW – CT reported that Devon and Cornwall were both held AGRI Forums at their respective shows. SW Area are considering holding their AGRI Forum as a separate event from their competitions weekend.
- 5.2. WM – HW said she had been using FB to get more contact with AGRI links for each county. Staffordshire are looking to set up their own AGRI Forum. There was good feedback on the AGRI Forum. Staffordshire have held a farm watch meeting and RC reported that Herefordshire have taken part in a rural crime survey with the Rural Hub. HW also reported that lots of members had been involved with Open Farm Sunday and that training opportunities need to be pushed harder at club level.
- 5.3. N – SD reported that feedback on the AGRI Forum was positive, that theft was the main worry on the rural crime front. Other topics were how to tell what a fair wage is for Ag workers now AWB has been abolished and also farm safety.
- 5.4. EM – KW reported that members enjoyed the AGRI Forum and down to earth well known speakers. Crime is not on the agenda too much but many farms are signed up to calls alert for thefts. They are struggling to get people to go to training.
- 5.5. SE – LM reported limited feedback but sheep worrying was a particular problem and had been covered in Farmers Weekly and also travellers and dog theft.

6. Kuhn presentation and Dream Machine Competition

SP provided a short presentation on the preparation that Kuhn had put in to the Dream Machine Competition. They have offered trips for all the winners to Strasbourg to visit the factories. The Farmers Weekly would be invited to be media partner. The Judges would be from Kuhn and the media partner.

It was agreed that the details are to be finalised over the summer and then reported back to October Council for approval with launch in the New Year with the results announced at the next AGRI Forum.

Actions:

AGRI Reps to further work on this over the summer with Sian – SD to take the lead.

7. Industry rep reports

- 7.1. TRIG – BH reported that prior to the election new legislation was passed which NFYFC had fed into. She had also fed back to a discussion that said who should be providing free signposting information on tenancies.
- 7.2. NFU – JH had to miss the last meeting but said that the main topics were RPA, badger cull, First Milk & tractor weights. They were also holding their Tenants Conference on 4th November in Newbury. CM then said he had been speaking to Minette Batters about building closer links with the NFU. NFYFC were invited to attend the next NFU Next Generation Meeting on 9th July and it was agreed SD would attend and the topics he would try to bring up were agreed as – What AGRI Do, Education Project, EU and tractor & trailer weights.

Actions:
CM to arrange for SD to attend the NFU Next Generation meeting.

8. AGRI Forum Review

JW handed out feedback. The group reported the main problem was raising awareness. Suggestions were more posters around the venue on the Friday night. Ideas for speakers – to be high profile/ popular – Matthew Naylor, Kim from NFU Mutual farm safety and training, Jim Chapman. Topics – careers & training, H& S, marketing, more than tractors theme. Keep time the same but if in Blackpool to see if it can be next to the darts again. Serve alcohol at the bars and hold in the ballroom.

9. CEJA

JW reported that Tom Wells had been to the CDG for Sugar and Starch on the 17th June and CT was due to attend the Milk Market Observatory on Tuesday 30th. CT asked for any feedback. SD said BASF had shown interest in sponsoring.

Actions:
SD to pass on contacts for BASF to fundraising.

10. Rural Crime

JW reported that NFYFC had had a meeting with Matthew Howells from Dyfed Powys police and had discussed rural crime issues and promoting working with the police. Also said that Police and Crime Commissioners have a charity fund which local groups can apply to and encouraged young farmers to do so.

11. Training & Events

JW discussed the events that happened since last meeting. JW said that numbers had been a struggle and succession was not popular and one had to be cancelled. JW reported that the Agritechnica study tour was too expensive so it was agreed it would not go ahead and alternatives would be looked into. CE gave details on what had been submitted for the 15-16 Defra bid. The group were asked how to improve delivery, suggested doing more evening meetings and having one rep responsible for each event. To hold ad county offices and also to look into providing webinars.

Actions:
CE to work with new AGRI Officer to assign events to AGRI Reps.

12. Farm Safety

CE explained the background of the farm safety campaign and that the Yellow Welly Campaign was sponsoring the Youth Forum who were going to be their ambassadors. CE also promoted Farm Safety Week.

13. Home Grown Talent & Worshipful Company of Farmers Scholarships

CE explained Home Grown Talent and reported that there were 17 entries. CE also asked all members to encourage entries to WCF scholarship and entries were very low.

Actions:
All AGRI Reps to share info and encourage people to enter.

14. Education Project

LM discussed her plans for the education project. There was a long discussion on working with partners and the content of the booklet. All members were encouraged to make a video. Ideas for the pop up careers stand were discussed and it was decided a “brain storm” idea with agriculture in the middle would be worth looking at.

Actions:
All AGRI Reps to produce a video about their career.

15. NWF Questions

JW asked the group some questions which had been submitted to the by sponsors NWF.

Actions:
JW to send answers to NWF

16. AOB

- 16.1. Videos – The group were asked that they all made a video about their career for next meeting.
- 16.2. UK Dairy Day LM & HW volunteered to help on the stand and CT would see if she could get time off. HW asked JW to check if the surrounding counties were still invited to have a stand.
- 16.3. Trailer weights – SD said he wants to work with the NFU to raise awareness of this and also to lobby the government to increase the weights allowed. Derbyshire have had training on this.
- 16.4. SD reported that he has spoken to a representative from AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds and they had said they would like to link closer to NFYFC and involved NFYFC in

trailblazers apprenticeships consultation.

16.5. JE discussed the recruitment of the new AGRI Officer with the group.

16.6. LM asked if anyone was available to be a ring steward at Livestock Event.

Actions:

All AGRI Reps to make a video.

SD to lead on trailer weights discussions.

JW to check with UK Dairy Day about County stands.

19. Date of next meeting and close

LM thanked everyone for attending and RC was thanked for his work as Chairman. The next meeting is **Saturday 24th October 2015**

SIGNED.....

DATED.....