



**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Sunday 25th October 2015,
at The Quality Hotel, Allesley Coventry CV5 9BA**

Present: Miss Hannah Talbot (Chair of Council), Mr Chris Manley (Vice Chair of Council) Miss Jessica Townson (Vice Chair of Council) members & Guests as recorded in the Attendance Book.

In Attendance: Mr James Eckley NFYFC Chief Officer & NFYFC Staff Team, as recorded in the Attendance Book.

**Actioned
By**

c-15-217. **Chair's welcome** – HT welcomed members to the council meeting and appointed Jon & Anne Sarsfield as Tellers for the meeting.

c-15-218. HT on behalf of council wished to send condolences to the family and friends of Mrs Valerie Baker-Gilham who recently passed away, having been associated with Wiltshire FYFC and NFYFC for over 30 years.

c-15-219. HT thanked the 35 members and supporters who joined her in running the Birmingham Half Marathon. Members have raised several thousands of pounds towards their own chosen charities. HT would like to keep a total of the funds raised, and details of the impact this has had on the communities. HT showed council the #Hannah's Dashers t-shirt which was worn by those members that ran the Half Marathon.

c-15-220. HT presented Russell Carrington with a Certificate commemorating the time Russell has been a member of the Rural Youth Europe Board. HT noted that Russell had done a fantastic job representing NFYFC and the 5 Nations on the Board.

c-15-221. **2. Apologies for absence** were recorded in the attendance book.

c-15-222. **3. Diary Update: Chair & Vice Chairs & Chief Officer** – The Officers calendar over the last 3 months was circulated to council. HT highlighted her trip to Panama where she attended the Panamanian Future Farmers of America Conference, and then went on to the Sturigis Future Farmers of America Officers' Conference in South Dakota. HT noted that the Future Farmers of America are interested in developing further links and sharing knowledge with YFC. CM noted he four additional items to add to his calendar; 9th Sept NFU Next Generation Meeting, 24th Sept Devon YFC County meeting, 27th Floral Art Final Malvern and 17th Oct Youth Forum meeting.

c-15-223. **4. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting (Sunday 28th June 2015 – paper no 095-15-A refers)** The minutes were then signed by HT as a true and correct record.

c-15-224. **5. Any Matters arising from those Minutes**

c-15-225. **5.1 Election of Co-options**

225.1. HT noted that following the last council meeting Laura Elliott, Wales Representative on the Board of Management is a confirmed Co-option to Council, leaving two vacant places.

225.2. Katie Davies proposed Joy Davenport (Somerset FYFC), seconded by Sam Dilcock, council voted and approved Joy Davenport, leaving one vacant co-option. HT noted that as this was the last council of the year there would be no further opportunity to fill this space. HT confirmed that Co-options would start again at the Council meeting in February 2016.

| <i>Individual Co-options approved at February 2015 meeting of NFYFC Council</i> | <i>Organisation Co-options approved at February 2015 meeting of NFYFC Council</i> | <i>Co-options – vacancies</i> |
|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Caroline Baker 2. David Maidment 3. Faith Cosgrove 4. Helen Pearse 5. Sioned Davies 6. Emma Kelcher 7. Laura Elliott | 8. Joy Davenport 9. The Worshipful Company of Farmers 10. National Farmers Union (NFU) 11. Young Farmers Ambassadors (YFA) 12. Farm Community Network (FCN) 13. NFU Mutual 14. British Youth Council (BYC) | 15. Vacant |

c-15-226. **6. To receive any relevant correspondence-** None received.

c-15-227. **7. To receive and adopt the reports from the Steering Groups of NFYFC Council**

c-15-228. **7.1 Competitions Steering Group – (Mark Curr Reporting)**

c-15-229. MC noted that a working party has amended the general rules for the 2015/16 from the comments received. MC noted that the steering group would like counties to put more value on the membership cards, ensuring that they are checked at County rounds of the competitions and are current - a current card must have an up to date photograph, be signed and the members details recorded on the SILO database system. MC noted that the competitions committee does not wish to disqualify any team members, but there is a need to make sure that District and County rounds are in the fair spirit of YFC competition. MC thanked Claire Worden for her work with the working party.

c-15-230. Heidi Baker (Buckinghamshire) queried whether it would be possible for composite Area teams to enter NFYFC competition finals if counties are struggling to enter teams. MC /DH confirmed that if this was the case it a request must be made Chair of Competitions for consideration as a 'Special Dispensation'. NFYFC do not wish to leave any members out who wish to compete. In respect of the NFU Trophy, points could not be awarded to all county federations with members in the composite team.

c-15-230. MC noted that the committee continues to monitor budgets and has made significant gains on the budgeted deficit.

c-15-231. MC reminded council that the administration charge for withdrawal from competitions will be enforced for the 2015/16 competitions year from English Winter Fair onwards; £25 within 2 weeks and £40 within 48 hrs of the Final taking place.

c-15-232. MC reminded council that it is important to submit your county monitoring forms so the information captured can be used in further years. It was noted that 12 counties have not submitted their forms for this year.

c-15-233. MC noted that Trecastle YFC and Grayrigg YFC have competed in European Tug of War Championships in Holland following the NFYFC final and we send them our congratulations.

c-15-234. MC noted that following correspondence, the age limit for the junior tug of war is to remain the same.

c-15-235. The committee wants to remind members of their behaviour at NFYFC finals and remember that the judge's decision is final.

c-15-236. MC noted that the English Winter Fair will support the YFC Supper. Tickets cost £10 and are available from NFYFC.

c-15-237. MC noted that GODA judges will be used for the performing arts Northern, Southern and National finals.

c-15-238. HT asked council to take this back to their counties and to note that NFYFC will be using GODA judges for the performing arts semi final and final 2016.

c-15-239. HT also asked council to make sure our members take care when speaking to the Judges and to note that the judge's decision is final. There have been several incidences when Judges have said that they do not wish to continue judging for YFC because of the rude way they have been spoken to by the members and this is not acceptable. Sam Dilcock noted that when playing Rugby the Referee is always addressed as 'Sir'. HT noted that the competitions chair should be within their rights to disqualify a team when a member's behaviour has been inappropriate.

c-15-240. MC noted that Child Licences: A booklet will be produced and will be circulated to county federations regarding the rules for under 16's taking part in performing arts (Drama)

c-15-239. MC noted that The 2016/17 overall theme and the draft rules will be circulated shortly for consultation and asked members to please return comments to NFYFC as soon as possible.

c-15-240. MC noted that a working party has been set up to create "How To" guides for speaking competitions and develop the videos filmed at Competitions day.

c-15-241. **7.2 Events & Marketing (E&M) Steering Group – (Katie Davies Reporting)**

c-15-242. KD noted that the fancy dress theme for the closing party at the NFYFC Ski Trip 2016 is "Christmas Jumpers".

All

- c-15-243. KD noted that the NFYFC ski trip 2016 : That there are still two ski rep positions available for Wales
- c-15-244. KD noted that 128 members have so far booked onto the NFYFC Ski trip 2016.
- c-15-245. KD noted that the SG is looking into Val Thorens, Val D Isere & Pas de La Casa to use as future resorts on a three year rotation.
- c-15-246. KD noted that Scott Mills & Chris Stark are official ambassadors of NFYFC and have set up a YOFO (You Only Farm Once) Facebook page to promote the organisation.
- c-15-247. KD noted that the SG is working on the entertainment programme for the Annual Convention 2016 and that Scott Mills & Chris Stark are booked to perform on the Saturday evening.
- c-15-248. KD confirmed that the fancy dress theme for Saturday night at the Annual Convention 2016 is 'Sports Day', as announced by Scott Mills & Chris Stark via social media.
- c-15-249. KD noted that the SG is looking for volunteers to work with the Event Management Team at the Annual Convention 2016. Interested members to contact NFYFC.
- c-15-250. KD confirmed that Massey Ferguson has agreed to be the main sponsor for the Annual Convention 2016 and the SG are working with their design team on promotional material.
- c-15-251. KD reminded council that the behaviour of YFC Members at the Convention will, as always, be closely monitoring behaviour and relevant actions will be taken by the Event Management Team if required.
- c-15-252. KD noted that several sponsors from the Annual Convention 2015 have agreed to return for the event in 2016.
- c-15-253. KD noted that the NFYFC Twitter page now has over 9'000 followers and we are aiming to hit 30,000 likes on Facebook by the end of the calendar year. KD asked council to promote this within the counties.
- c-15-254. **7.2.1 National Young Farmers' Week (2nd to 8th November 2015) – (Katie Davies presenting) –** KD highlighted the National Young Farmers' Week. All YFC Clubs are challenged to increase membership by 10%, by 31st August 2016. This equates to 4 extra members per YFC Club. KD noted that each day of the Farmer's Week will be dedicated to a daily Theme: Monday – AGRI, Tuesday –Travel, Wednesday Competitions, Thursday Training & Development, Friday Social & Leisure. This will be presented using Facebook & Twitter and the Website.

Members are encouraged to hold 'New Members Evenings' and to let NFYFC know the details. These events could be centred on hosting a Bonfire Event at the end of the week to encourage everyone to get involved.

All

NFYFC have produced some bespoke posters available on the website which can be edited for all clubs and counties to use. Also 'The Source' document will give ideas for press releases, social media and a club programming guide.

KD noted that the following hashtags will be used: *#NationalYoungFarmersWeek* , *#morethantractors*, *#YFCdoitbest*.

HT hoped that this Campaign will build throughout the year, and thanks should go to the Rural Youth Trust for their financial support and to the Staff Team at 'YFC Towers'. HT asked for as many people as possible to get involved and to call NFYFC with any questions and support for the campaign. HT thanked KD for her presentation.

- c-15-255. **7.3 Personal Development Steering Group – (Toby France reporting)**
- c-15-256. TF noted that the 2014-2015 YFC Travel exchange programme trips are nearly complete with just the RYE Autumn Seminar to go.
- c-15-257. TF noted that the PD steering group are looking at ways to encourage clubs and counties to host incoming exchangees.
- c-15-258. TF confirmed that an YFC Travel booklet is being created and will be published shortly.
- c-15-259. TF noted that the PD staff are working with the marketing team to develop blogs and videos during YFC Travel trips.
- c-15-260. TF noted that the YFC Travel Selection Day is taking place on the 5th December this year using SKYPE interviews (except for the C Alma Baker trip).

- c-15-261. TF noted that Andy Naylor gave an informative presentation about the John Muir Award and how this could benefit YFC.
- c-15-262. TF confirmed that the Curve 'Know Your Limits' training and short Trainers Forum meeting is taking place on Tuesday 27th October at Staffordshire FYFC office. If you wish to attend please contact Cath Sykes
- c-15-263. TF noted that the PD steering group fully support the Youth Social Action Fund Bid.
- c-15-264. TF noted that the PD steering group have reviewed the budget.
- c-15-265. TF noted that the South East Trainer the Trainer course was very successful and the East Midlands Training course is due to take place next weekend.
- c-15-266. TF noted that the Curve modules have been updated and new modules written. TF asked members to encourage all YFC clubs to use The Curve as part of their club programmes and National Young Farmers' week. All
- c-15-267. TF noted that the Source has been updated with new pages added e.g Planning a club exchange, and a new section written 'The Bigger Picture'.
- c-15-268. TF confirmed that the County Chair's weekend is taking place on the 28th – 29th November 2015 at Ilam Hall in Derbyshire. Please encourage your county chair and vice chair to attend. All
- c-15-269. TF confirmed that that Staff conference is taking place on the 27th - 28th January, Wroxall Abbey, Warwickshire. TF asked all counties to please encourage and allow county staff time to attend this conference as it so valuable to them. All
- c-15-270. TF noted that the PD steering group are looking at ways to encourage E-safety via social media.
- c-15-271. TF noted that the PD steering group took part in an activity based on identifying the severity of anti-social behaviours which will feed into the behaviour guidelines.
- c-15-272. TF informed council that earlier in the week he had attending a meeting of Senior Academic visitors from China who had shown an interest in YFC. They are interested to engage with NFYFC. TF presented to HT a gift of a plaque from the Chinese delegation showing a photograph of the University of Beijing. This will be kept at NFYFC YFC Centre for safekeeping.
- c-15-273. 7.4 Youth Forum Steering Group – (Danielle McNaulty Reporting)**
- c-15-273. DMcN noted that Forum members have spent the show season volunteering as farm safety ambassadors supporting and promoting the Yellow Wellies farm safety campaign over the summer show season and will be attending farm safety days throughout the winter.
- c-15-274. DMcN noted that the forum were successful in their pitch to NatWest in securing funding to make improvements and produce 10 Watch That Cowpat games for use across YFC's. A game will be given to each area and three will remain at NFYFC for hire.
- c-15-275. DMcN noted that the forum attended the BYC ACM and put forward motions on improving knowledge of careers in agriculture and the countryside within schools and the importance of workplace safety, with agriculture as an example of this.
- c-15-276. DMcN noted that the forum have been promoting the pilot U18 Ski trip to Austria, taking place in February half term (13th-20th) – please continue to promote this trip locally to members age 14-17! End of October deadline! All
- c-15-277. DMcN noted that the forum will be contacting area committees to introduce the idea of an U18 area weekend (based on the SW area model) to encourage interaction between counties and to add value to the membership card for our younger members.
- c-15-278. DMcN noted that the Forum will be producing resources for counties to support the formation and continuation of county youth forums to ensure that younger members have a voice.
- c-15-279. DMcN noted that the forum will be working with the 'Open Farm Sunday' team to encourage members to get involved with the day. This is to help to improve field to fork education work and also to support YFC's working within their local communities.
- c-15-280. DMcN noted that the forum will be travelling to the Isle of Wight for their February meeting (thanks to the kind sponsorship of the Farm Safety Foundation). Along with holding their meeting the group will be meeting members of the IOW YFC to share ideas.
- c-15-281. HT encouraged council to take back the details of the Under18's Ski Trip as this had been asked for, and if we don't get a good response ie at least 20 members to go the trip will be pulled and we won't see it in the programme again next year as we cannot keep putting staff resource into trying to promote this trip if members really cannot take up the opportunity. HT is sure that if we can get the 20 members to go, it will All

grow and build year on year.

c-15-282. 7.5 Agriculture & Rural Issues (AGRI) Steering Group - (Lynsey Martin Reporting)

c-15-283. LM noted that Jo Wyles had left since the last council meeting and she was pleased to welcome back Sarah Palmer to the role of Agricultural & Rural Issues Officer at NFYFC.

c-15-284. LM noted that the steering group has agreed on the following themes as priority areas of work:

- Giving YFC members a national voice in industry-related matters
- Collaboration with industry organisations including AgriSkills, AHDB and NFU Next Gen Group
- Promoting education and career opportunities
- Training
- Defra 25 Year Plan
- Farm safety.

c-15-285. LM confirmed that she had attended a succession of industry dairy meetings with retailers arranged by NFU and appeared on BBC news.

c-15-286. LM asked all council members to consult with AGRI Chair and Officer before statements are issued re industry matters.

c-15-287. LM noted that the NFU have requested more YFC sector reps for media interviews; media training will be provided by the NFU.

c-15-288. LM confirmed that she will be taking part in an EU Brexit debate on 5 November.

c-15-289. LM noted that the NFU Next Generation Forum reps have been invited to attend future AGRI steering groups.

c-15-290. LM noted that the AGRI reps will attend a NFU Next Generation Forum farm visit and meeting 4 & 5 November.

c-15-291. LM noted that the AGRI NFU rep James Hutchinson will attend the NFU National Tenant Farmers' Conference.

c-15-292. LM confirmed that AGRI will work with sponsors KUHN to develop and launch the Dream Machine Competition – design a machine concept and help promote careers in agriculture.

c-15-293. LM confirmed that Sam Dilcock and Maria Burke will speak at CropTec regarding career promotion – (sprayer operator, skills & CPD and career paths).

c-15-294. LM noted that AGRI have discussed points for feedback for Defra's 25 year plan.

c-15-295. LM noted that AGRI have heard plans regarding the Jonathan Billing Trust (with project manager) training scheme.

c-15-296. LM confirmed that the AGRI Forum 2016 – Theme will be: "Living for today – striving for tomorrow!" Chaired by Sam Dilcock.

c-15-297. LM noted that the possible speakers could be: Matt Naylor; Alan Jagoe; Emma Gray; Jane King; and Prof Jan Godsell with Introductions from James Chapman and James Price.

c-15-298. LM noted that an YFC representative (Russell Carrington or Caroline Trude) will attend the new Fresh Start advisory steering group meeting in November.

c-15-299. LM noted that Innovative Farmers are offering a YFC rate of membership and after one year, any profit will be given to NFYFC: www.innovativefarmers.org

c-15-300. LM noted that AGRI steering group is promoting Prof Jan Godsell's research project on supply chains, 'MyChainReaction' as this links with the recent AGRI dairy work and she will give a short presentation to encourage uptake.

c-15-301. LM confirmed the following Sector Representatives are now in place and encouraged members to get in touch with these members for more information and advice: Cereals/Combinable Crops – Ed Ford; Sheep – Charlotte Johnston, Jock Muirhead, Kate Wainwright; Beef – Russell Carrington, Charlotte Johnson, Kate Wainwright and Claire Bellow; Dairy – Lynsey Martin, Caroline Trude, Charlotte Johnston, Harriet Wilson; Pigs – Charlotte Johnston, Harriet Wilson; Horticulture – Tom Wright. LM would like to see more members on the list and encouraged council to take this back to their counties.

c-15-302. HT thanked LM for her report and invited Professor Jan Godsell to give council her presentation.

c-15-217. 7.5.1 "My Chain Reaction" research project - Prof Jan Godsell, University of Warwick

c-15-303. JG outlined her background and connections to dairy farming in Stroud, Gloucestershire. JG outlined

All

the current supply chain and gave examples of products within farm shops and farmers markets and agricultural business and mechanical sides, and the need to sell the products and to make money. She emphasised the need to plan the purchasing, manufacturing, sales in a coherent way, and the concept needed to link all these together for the end user.

c-15-304. JG noted that there are supply chains everywhere and we need them to be safe. It is not until there is a problem that they are brought to our minds such as the Horse Meat Scandal, Dairy Crisis and more recently food waste.

c-15-305. JG highlighted to council her new Website 'MyChainReaction' and encouraged the members to access the site and to help supply stories which can may visible to most consumers and supermarkets. JG believes that real life stories have more influence on the Government and Defra and can help political persuasion.

c-15-306. JG highlighted the Global Supply Chain Debate being held on the 10th & 11th November organised by Pangaea and encouraged members to read up on this debate and JG would like to present the results of this debate at the NFYFC Annual Convention.

c-15-307. HT/LM thanked JG for her presentation and they could see that there is scope for YFC to get involved.

c-15-308. 8. To receive and adopt the report of the Board of Management (BoM) – (Frank Chester Reporting)

c-15-309. FC thanked Alison Provis for her time on the board and continuing to attend until a new Representative is elected.

c-15-310. FC also welcomed Sarah Palmer back to the NFYFC Staff Team and noted that she is doing a fantastic job.

c-15-310. FC noted that the board recommends to council that the Investment Policy for the National Federation of Young Farmers' be approved. Copies were circulated. Council voted and approved this Policy.

c-15-311. FC recommended to council that NFYFC should work in partnership with the NFU Next Generation committee under a MoU as members of CEJA, and that NFYFC will continue to look at getting sponsorships to cover the travel costs for our members. Council voted and approved this project. LM thanked the board for their support of CEJA and emphasised the need for YFC to have a presence in Europe.

c-15-312. FC noted that the board have now welcomed Mr Chris Lloyd, as Honorary Treasurer on the Board of Management, and the NFYFC bank mandate will be amended and submitted to HSBC to note the change of Treasurer.

c-15-313. FC noted that the board have approved a NFYFC Reserves Policy.

c-15-314. FC noted that the board have noted the updated budget for 2015 and have approved the draft budget for 2016. Copies were made available for council members, and were circulated in the Steering Group meetings. The board continue to monitor the financial performance of the federation in accordance with the proposed Draft Development Plan which will be delivered to council at this meeting.

c-15-315. FC noted that going forward we are looking at a potential deficit for 2016 of (£34,000) with no donation coming over from HOPS.

c-15-315. FC noted that the board have approved the NFYFC Development Plan and council will receive a presentation of the plan at this meeting from the Officer team, the plan will then go out for a consultation period.

c-15-316. FC noted that the Board Governance Review group will be looking at the Club Constitutions in respect of the closure of clubs, and procedures to help counties deal with members behavioural issues.

c-15-317. Wales FYFC Levy Retention – Discussion & Agreement

FC discussed with council the Wales FYFC Levy Retention and asked them to consider the following course of action: That the Chair of Councils/Chair of Boards and Chief Officers of NFYFC & Wales FYFC should meet to discuss the future of NFYFC and Wales YFC in respect of any devolved administration. In the meantime the 50% levy returned to Wales YFC should stand during 2016.

HT noted that we are all aware of the political situation and different policies being made by Government and the Welsh Assembly. We have a complex constitution and there is a need to find a way forward so that we can both enjoy our programmes of work, so it makes sense to continue as we are at present to allow for some proper discussion time.

- c-15-318. Laura Elliott addressed council and highlighted that she has tried to look back and see the history of the Wales levy and it is a little sketchy. She feels that it is important to keep the status quo for the next 12 months and for both sides to have a blank piece of paper to find a resolution which suits both sides.
- c-15-319. Sam Dilcock noted that we all appreciate that Wales YFC have taken quite a hard hit in their funding and all the members are behind Wales during the time of this review.
- c-15-320. Jon Sarsfield (Life Vice President) addressed council and applauded The BoMs recommendation and comments from Laura Elliott and encourages council to make this a positive and constructive debate.
- c-15-321. HT tabled the proposal: ***That the 50% wales levy retention should stand and be returned to Wales YFC for 2015/16 year only, subject to discussions and approval of item C-15-323 below.*** This was proposed by: David Hamer, and seconded by : Sam Dilcock. Council voted and approved this proposal.
- c-15-322. Council then voted on the following proposal: ***That the Chair of Councils/Chair of Boards and Chief Officers of NFYFC & Wales FYFC will meet to discuss the future of NFYFC and Wales YFC in respect of any devolved administration.*** Proposed by: Lynsey Martin and Seconded by: Ed Ford. Council voted and approved this action.
- c-15-323. Laura Elliot thanked Council for their considerations and for the support of the 50% levy over the next 12 month period.
- c-15-324. **8. Board Treasurer**
Chris Lloyd (Board Treasurer) addressed council, 'having been round the block a few times'. He noted that he has looked at what the role was, and he can see that the current Board, Council and NFYFC Staff Team including James Eckley, Jim Minshaw and the finance department are now doing a fantastic job. CL noted that he is available to help Board and Council with any queries and any future information.
- CL had become aware over the last 4/5 meetings that council have become disconnected with the role of Treasurer, and there has been a degree of mistrust. CL intends to rebuild the trust with council, and he wants them to trust the figures he is presenting, and to be able to ask questions and understand that the board and council are there to represent the members of YFC, and if council thinks there are issues CL needs to know.
- c-15-325. Council took a 5 minutes recess and also wished Claire Worden a Happy Birthday.
- c-15-326. The meeting resumed and HT asked council if they had any questions for the board.
- c-15-327. Diane Cole raised a question on the board's thoughts on the 2016 levy. HT opened the discussion to the floor; Caroline Baker noted that members of Co Durham have already discussed this support an inflationary increase so that there is not a big increase again in the future. Sam Dilcock noted that it would be good to see a positive increase in line with inflation. Mark Curr noted that a gentle inflationary increase is far better than a larger increase year on year.
- c-15-328. FC concluded that an increase of approx 3% increase appears to be the wishes to meet the approval of this council meeting and an increase to the membership number would keep the cost per member as low as possible.
- c-15-329. HT thanked members for their contribution and will take it back to the board at their February meeting to recommend an inflationary increase in the levy.
- c-15-330. **9. Development Plan – Survey of NFYFC Council**
- c-15-331. CW/HT presented council with the results of the survey conducted with the board/council and staff team, and thanked the 31 council members for completed the survey. Results of the survey are available from CW. In summary HT noted that Counties/Areas/Council and Board all appear to be working well, although there was some work needed in the Areas to make them more effective. There is also some work to do on Governance and Constitutions. Some members were unclear of the make-up of the board of management to this is being addressed by each board member doing a Biography and this will appear on the NFYFC Website.
- c-15-332. HT noted that the survey results and feedback have been fed into the new draft development plan and invited Chris Manley and Jess Townson to present the plan to council ;
- c-15-333. **10 Draft Development Plan.**
- c-15-334. CM/JT Highlighted the changing landscape of YFC over the last 30 years. They emphasised the need to stay ahead of the game and for the Federation to have some clear goals for the next 3 years. In order to

take this plan forward we need the views of the membership and staff and therefore the plan is now in a consultation period and the plan will be presented at future events to open the consultation period ie: Chairs Day, Staff Conference, Area Meetings prior to the next meeting of council etc.

c-15-335. CM/JT noted the proposed Mission, Vision and 5 Values of the Federation: Citizenship, Enjoyment, Personal Development, Respect and Responsibility. The plan will then look at the following Themes for Development: Membership, Voice of the Young People, Digitalisation, Financial Stability, Governance and Learning & Development. HT thanked CM/JT for their presentation and encouraged council to give feedback.

All

c-15-336. **11. Election of Member Representatives to the Board of Management – Eastern & South East Areas**

c-15-337. HT noted that no nominations had been received before the meeting and opened this to the floor. Jonathan Eayrs (Cambridgeshire) proposed and Ben Robinson (Hampshire) seconded the nomination for Edward Ford (Essex FYFC) to be their Representative on the board for Eastern & South East Areas. Council voted and accepted this nomination and Ed Ford agreed to take on the role. HT congratulated Ed.

c-15-338. **12.** HT confirmed the date of the next meeting - Sunday 21st February 2016, at The Quality Hotel, Allesley, Coventry.

c-15-339. **12 Any Other Business**

c-15-340. Mark Curr congratulated Hannah Talbot on here recent engagement.

c-15-341. HT congratulated Mark Curr and his wife on the birth of their son, David.

c-15-342. HT noted that this was the last council of the year and thanked all the members for their contribution and support to her over the last three years.

c-15-343. CM addressed council and asked for their support to Devon FYFC who is seeking a grant towards their building project <https://foundation.onefamily.com/> .

c-15-344. HT encouraged members to purchase the NFYFC Christmas card packs of 12 cards. £1 of each pack goes towards YoungMinds and FCN.

c-15-345. HT wished to register her thanks to Katie Hall and Jess Basson who were representing NFYFC and the officer team at the Macra Na Feirme Conference in Ireland which had fell on the same weekend as council.

c-15-346. James Hutchinson wished to congratulate Claire Worden and her team for the excellent coverage of the Rural+ Campaign on the recent BBC Countryfile programme. CW also wanted to thank everyone who supported her on that day, it was well worthwhile and she was very proud of our members.

c-15-347. **13. Closing Remarks**

c-15-348. HT encouraged members to put nominations forward for Council Chair & Vice Chairs, forms would be coming out in the New Year.

c-15-349. With no further business HT thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 13.05 hrs.

Signed

Dated:.....

Hannah Talbot – Chair of Council

