

**Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 24 & 25 June 2017
at The Quality Hotel, Allesley Coventry CV5 9BA**

Present: Mr Edward Ford (EF) (Chair of Council), Miss Lynsey Martin (LM) (Vice Chair of Council) Miss Katie Hall (KH)(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**

SATURDAY 24 JUNE 2017

C/17/220 **1. Welcome** – EF welcomed members to the meeting, and in view of the recent hot weather conditions noted that it would be acceptable to relax the dress code to suit the conditions. EF hoped that despite the drop in numbers for the weekend, there would be a lot of interesting debate in both the steering groups meetings and also council on Sunday.

EF noted "That in view of the recent events in London, Manchester and the Grenfell Tower Fire in London, EF asked members to particularly think of Nell Jones – an YFC member in Cheshire who lost her life in the Manchester attack. Our thoughts are also with the members of Knutsford YFC and Cheshire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs who have been affected by this tragedy."

EF noted "That while these atrocities are devastating and shocking – especially when it affects our own communities – we must all stand united against the hatred. It is at times like these that we can take comfort and strength from our nationwide community of Young Farmers' Clubs. The work we all do to support our local communities will continue, the friendship we share with each other will continue and our commitment to developing rural young people who make a positive difference in the world will continue."

EF also noted; "The sad loss of Professor John Alliston who was tragically killed in an accident at home. John was emeritus professor of agriculture at the Royal Agricultural University (RAU) and is known to many YFC members who have been taught by him over the years. John was also the first Chairman of the Henry Plumb Foundation, and only last year was awarded a Farmers' Weekly Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the 50 years that he had devoted to British agriculture, research and education. "

EF confirmed that there will be a memorial Service for John to take place on Friday 21 July 2017 at Royal Agricultural from 12pm see RAU website

EF also asked members to think of Cath Sykes as Cath's Dad died earlier this week. Council held a minutes silence to think of those no longer with us.

EF welcomed Alice Singleton the current NFYFC 'Senior Member of the Year' to her first council meeting and wished her a good weekend.

EF welcomed the NFYFC's International Visitors Exchangees who have arrived from overseas this weekend. Corina Lattwesen – Germany, Tamara Luers – Germany, Chris Coulter – Northern Ireland, Veronica Dandrea – Switzerland and Mia Wishlow – Canada.

EF noted that they were visiting Warwick Castle on Saturday but there would be a chance for members to meet them on Saturday evening and asked that everyone makes them welcome. EF noted that the exchangees would be holding an induction meeting with members of the YFA on Sunday morning. Following this they would be going out into the counties with their respective council hosts.

EF appointed David Clark & Chris Lloyd as tellers for the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence were recorded in the attendance book. EF noted that there were also apologies from Charlotte Smith (President) & Heather Black (Chair of the Board of Management).

3. Diary Update: Chair & Vice Chairs & Chief Officer (a copy of the Officers diaries was tabled) – EF noted that it has been a hectic few months he highlighted his visit to Lancashire where he had a great day out at the Rural Skills Day, his visit to Downham Market in Norfolk , Pembrokeshire Rally, and visiting the Cereals 2017. EF has also visited several counties to deliver the Farm Safety Curve Module to members.

LM apologised that she had been to more events than those listed on her calendar but noted that most of February through to April had been taken up with lambing. LM asked members to continue to invite her to events in the future.

KH managed three rallies in one day, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Essex. She has been to London twice and especially enjoyed the ice cream in Selfridges a real treat. KH has attended meetings with JCE in Torquay to meet with the Mayor and Hotelliers. She enjoyed her visit to Somerset and had also met Michael Gove MP Secretary for State at the Three Counties Showground in Malvern. KH hopes to get out to more events during the year.

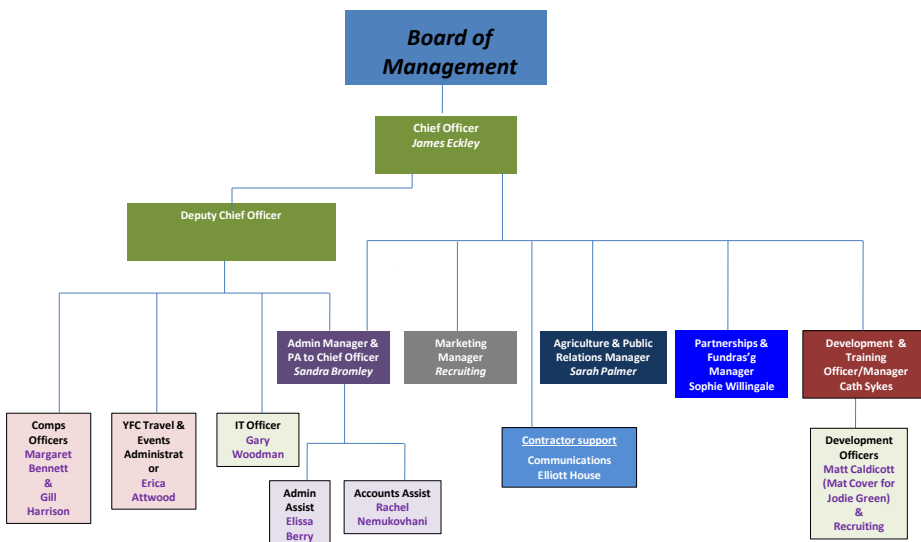
4. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Sunday 17 & 18 February 2017 (paper no 153-17-A refers) Council confirmed that the minutes were a true and correct record Proposed by: Ben Cavill and Seconded by: Ben Robinson duly signed by Ed Ford (Chair of Council).

C/17/221 **6. Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting** - none raised.

C/17/222 **Correspondence** – none received.

C/17/223 **7. To receive and adopt the report from the Board of Management** – EF asked **council to note** the following on behalf of Heather Black;

EF tabled the new NFYFC Staff structure.



NFYFC Staff Structure (April 2017)

Paper no 010-17- April 2017

7.1 – NFYFC Staffing Update

C/17/224 EF introduced Sophie Willingale (Fundraising Officer) who joined NFYFC in early April and had made a great start managing and supporting our commercial sponsors at the convention in Torquay.

C/17/225 EF noted that a Youth worker had been offered the Youth work Development post but unfortunately they had declined and took another post instead. This position will be re-advertised shortly.

C/17/226 EF confirmed that regrettably David Green (Communications Officer) had not passed his probation period. Therefore, a 12 month Contract has been put in place with Elliott House (Cheryl Liddle) to manage and deliver the NFYFC communication needs.

C/17/227 EF confirmed that NFYFC are in the process of recruiting a Marketing Manager to assist with the marketing functions of the organisation and assist delivering the contractual requirements of our commercial sponsors.

C/17/228 EF was pleased to announce that following an interview process Mr Matt Caldicott who has been covering Mat Leave for Jodie Green would be taking up the role of Deputy Chief Officer from the 1 August 2017. Council congratulated Matt and noted that he is delighted to be taking up the position and assist in driving forward the Federation.

C/17/229 **Governance** – EF noted that the motion to amend the current Constitution of the NFYFC (as a Friendly Society) was passed at the AGM meeting in Torquay. Therefore, the safe transition to a corporate charitable status as and when an AGM meeting agrees can move into the next phase. EF noted that the board review group have prepared a paper tabled at this meeting. EF noted that extensive legal advice has been taken to each this stage and the next step is for the YFC membership to be represented on a work group to write the Bye Laws (rules) of the organisation.

C/17/230 **YFC Centre** - EF noted that the board have instructed the Chief Officer to proceed to work with a Building Contractor for the refurbishment of the YFC Centre and to bring together the costs of a temporary office move whilst the building work is being carried out.

C/17/231 **Budgets** – EF confirmed that the board have reviewed the 2017 budget vs actual to date for the 2017 year together with the financial outcome of the annual convention held in April. EF noted that the 2018 budget is in first draft and will be developed further at the next meeting.

C/17/232 **Costs – Emergency rest centre**

EF noted that the board is seeking to recover the costs incurred in setting up an emergency rest centre and for providing hotel accommodation for YFC members of Brecknock and Radnorshire Federations of YFC's following the fire at Bancourt Hotel, Torquay and the Board especially wishes to thank and pay tribute to the Group Leaders from Brecknock and Radnor Federations of YFC's for their actions and support on the night of Saturday 22 April 2017. Harriet Wilson asked if there was any news on the outcome of the fire. JCE/EF confirmed that the investigation is still ongoing.

EF noted that JCE/staff and police especially pay tribute to the Group Leaders David and Gemma first and most importantly they both had very accurate rooming lists and names of members staying in the hotel, these were fresh lists prepared on the Thursday afternoon – it would be interested to see how many Group Leaders would have had these? Mindful of the incident, EF noted that there are going to be some minor changes to the paperwork required by NFYFC next year. In 2018 every group leader will be required to provide a hard copy of the accommodation lists to NFYFC when they arrive in Blackpool. EF asked council to take this back to their members.

C/17/233 EF noted that the board wish to thank Victoria Hicks for her time and contributions to NFYFC's board as Member Representative for the West Midlands & South West Areas. EF noted that council will be asked to elect a new representative during the meeting on Sunday.

Council to approve

C/17/235 **YFC Centre Ground Lease** - EF requested that That NFYFC Council instructs the NFYFC Holding Trustees to sign renew the ground lease for the YFC Centre, Stoneleigh Park for a period of a further 25 Years. EF emphasised that NFYFC owns the building itself and leases the ground on which it sits. Council voted and approved this item.

C/17/236 **European Rally 2019**. EF asked council to approve that the European Rally work group should prepare a bid that the NFYFC officers can present to the Rural Youth Europe General Assembly in September. EF noted that this means the NFYFC 2019 budget can accommodate £3,500 in costs – and no more.

All other funds are to be raised by the working party with support from the Rural Youth Europe Office. Council received an explanation paper with a draft budget for consideration. EF noted that the working party consists of Lynsey Martin, Katie Hall, Claire Warden, Hannah Talbot, and Chris Lloyd.

Council voted and approved this item. A formal bid will now be submitted in October. Claire Worden noted that if any council members had any questions about the Rally the team would be available over the weekend.

C/17/237 EF asked council to approve that the Officers of Council select seven YFC representatives to join the NFYFC Governance Review Group for the next phase of work - to prepare the Rules and Bye Laws for the NFYFC as an organisation with corporate charitable status. Suggest, one member each from the following Areas/Wales, Eastern Area, Eastern, Midlands, Northern, South East and West Midlands Areas. EF invited Chris Lloyd & David Clark to address council with a more detailed explanation. CL referred council to the Governance paper in their packs which gives the highlights. CL noted that the Articles of Association cover all the legal aspects of the new company.

All other bits will be written in the new NFYFC Rule Book. CL noted that the members need to have input into the rule book, there will be time for debate and consultation, it needs to be what you want it to do, and know how it all works. DC noted that most clubs, counties and areas already work as registered charities and we are just trying to bring NFYFC in line with them. CL stressed the important timescale in order for the new charitable company to be passed as a motion at the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

CL stressed that the names which come in for the suggestion review group need to be members who have experience of YFC and how it runs. They need not be members of council. They need to be available to attend at least 2 or 3 meetings and possibly a couple of Skype sessions. They also need to be good communicators in order to take the documents back to their members for feedback. The group needs to be formed and suggested names need to be by the end of July so that the officer team can select their group.

EF agreed that as time was short this item would be taken over to the Sunday council meeting for further discussion. CL agreed to publish a person spec for the area representative and would table a copy on Sunday.

CW noted that if members feel they are not ready by February then they must say so. The group think that it is an achievable date and that they can be ready to move forward at the 2018 AGM. The item was held over to Sunday.

C/17/238 **8. Steering Group feedback requested by Steering Groups at the February meeting**

C/17/239 **AGRI STEERING GROUP** – Harriet Wilson noted there was no feedback from the previous meeting and today's meeting would cover the following;

- Preparing for a future Domestic Agricultural Policy position paper (workshop incorporating last 12 months' work)
- Relevant feedback from industry AGRI reps
- Discussing James Evans' (Wales YFC) request for hosting a future CEJA seminar
- Analysing this year's AGRI Forum and making initial plans for 2018
- Discussing input for 2018/19 Defra grant (training/events)
- Delivering 2017/18 Defra grant events (if bid is successful).

C/17/240 **COMPETITIONS STEERING GROUP** – Rachel Parker asked for any feedback on the following;

- Consider a price increase for the tickets for the Performing Arts Regional and National Final in 2018 (from £5.00 and £10.00). – No feedback.
 - Performing Arts rota for 2019 - consider changing the rota - 2019 Entertainments and 2020 Drama. – No feedback.
 - Sports - proposal to raise the age group for participants in NFYFC sports teams 2018/2019 to 14 years - 26 years of age. Membership statistics since 2013 have indicated members aged 10 - 14 years have had very little participation if any.
 - i) Ben Robinson (South East Area) noted that his area were against the change as they wanted to have mixed ages in their rounders teams and it should be available to everyone.
 - ii) George Goodwin (Staffordshire) noted that if this was enforced it would affect so many younger members in the teams around 40/50 people.
 - iii) Faye Thomas (West Midlands Area) noted that her area felt that the change would be excluding members and not fair.
- JCE noted the current evidence is showing the low drop out figures, it is important that members go back and look at the evidence in their counties.
- iv) Harriet Wilson (Staffordshire) asked if there was any relevance to the 10-14 membership figures and was the drop-out rate disproportionate. JCE noted that there is some evidence to this.
 - v) Luke Crossman (West Midlands Area) not that in his county there is a higher turnout of younger members when sports are played in teams such as football, netball and rounders etc.
 - vi) Claire Worden noted that Insurance gets tricky when you are looking at 10-14 year old competitions.
- Suggestions for competitions for 2018/2019. –
 - i) Tom Oatey (Chair of Youth Forum) noted that his members would like to see an 'Auctioneering' competition be added to the programme.

Rachel Parker highlighted the topics to be discussed at the Steering Group Meeting that afternoon.

- Competitions since the last meeting, Regional Finals and Annual Convention.
- Upcoming Competitions for 2016-17 includes competitions day, sports day, Great Yorkshire Show, Tenbury, Stockjudging weekend & Malvern Autumn Show.
- Competition Rules 2017-18.
- Competition Rules & Programme 2018-2019.

C/17/241 **EVENTS & MARKETING STEERING GROUP**- Katie Hall as for feedback on the following items from the February meeting;

- Name of bands and DJs for Annual Convention 2018, appropriate for the target audience (18-26) – KH noted that quite a few suggestions have already come in.
- County Feedback on the use of SnapChat and managing the risks – KH noted that Shropshire FYFC have sent in comments.
- Feedback on the new look ten26 and YFC Buzz – Tom Oatey's mum likes it!

KH noted that the following topics would be discussed in the afternoon's meeting:

- Communications & Marketing updates
 - National Young Farmers Week 2017
 - focusing on retaining members in 2017
 - discussing the campaign ideas for 2018
 - YFC Ski trip to Val D'Isere (6th – 13th January 2018)
 - Annual Convention 2017 feedback
 - Annual Convention 2018 event planning
- To include:
- Stage entertainments & live bands
 - House DJ'S – short list to discuss
 - Current format of Radio 1 DJs
- Future Conventions

C/17/242 **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP** – Laura Sumner noted that the following topics required consultation feedback;

- The PD steering group members will begin to look for ideas for under-18 travel opportunities
- Questions: Is there a need for NFYFC to provide a trip for under-18s? If yes, what sort of trip would under-18 year olds like to go on? Or, should the NFYFC support County/Areas deliver this type of activity?
- PD members are reviewing the Top Trainers Award.
- As more Counties start to deliver training, is it time to re-visit the criteria for this award? We would like to hear your views on what should be included - for example the number of modules delivered evaluation and feedback.

Laura Sumner noted that the following topics would be discussed at the afternoon steering group meeting;

PD items;

- Areas for discussion:
- The Curve – targets and support for trainers
- Top Trainers Award setting the criteria
- Youth Social Action final evaluation and potential new funding streams
- Club Efficiency Award
- Safeguarding resources

YFC Travel items;

- Updates on the outgoing 2017 trips
- Update on the 2017 incoming exchangees
- Discussing 2018 trips - Tom Oatey noted that the youth forum would like consideration to be given to a possible Paris trip to include the Agritech Show.
- 2017 Selection day format

C/17/243 **YOUTH FORUM STEERING GROUP** – Tom Oatey tabled the items which had been discussed at their meeting earlier in the morning;

- What areas are doing for Youth already? Any Youth Forums? The forum are gauging what other counties do and which events the youth forum members are involved with.
- What are clubs/ members already doing to get involved with Open Farm Sunday – It is hoped to raise the awareness of Open Farm Sundays and to encourage members to get involved even if they are not connected to a farm themselves.
- Yellow Wellies Farm Safety, Curve module – Tom stressed the need to get involved with this initiative and to encourage members to get involved with Farm Safety as part of their winter programme.
- Watch That CowPat fact cards – Tom noted that these are being produced and will be available on the website shortly.
- ACM- Forum motions – The forum are looking for ideas for motions to take to the British Youth Council in September.

EF thanked members for their input during the morning and adjourned the meeting at 13.10 and noted that council would reconvene on Sunday morning 25 June at 10.30am.

SUNDAY 25 JUNE 2017

[10.30hrs Council Reconvenes]

C/17/244 **1. Chairs Welcome** – EF welcomed members to the meeting and appointed Jon & Anne Sarsfield as tellers. EF noted that the YFC Exchangees were having an induction meeting with the YFA members and would then be going with their respective council member hosts as follows;

Corina Lattwesen – Germany leaving with Laura Elliott, Tamara Luers – Germany leaving with Katie Davies
Chris Coulter – Northern Ireland leaving with Jake Henson, Veronica Dandrea – Switzerland leaving with Christina Coulthard, and Mia Wishlow – Canada leaving with Huw Goldsworthy.

C/17/245 **2. Governance re-visited.** EF noted that the board governance item would now be discussed which was deferred from Saturday. EF noted that CL was tabling the Job Spec for the area representative and noted the key dates for meetings and asked for suggested names to be put forward.

Specification for the 7 Area Representatives

The Rules Working Party

What we are looking for

- Good level of YFC experience
- Understanding of the relationships between clubs, counties, areas and NFYFC
- Good communicator – someone who expresses their opinion, argues their point and listens to and compromises with other opinions
- Prepared to commit to two or three full day meetings and some Skype/phone meetings
- Ideally in membership age

What we do not need

- No need to be a member of Council or an area committee
- No need to have read or have any knowledge of the constitution and standing orders

Meeting Dates would be; Friday 18th August 2017, Saturday 25th November 2017 & Saturday 20th January 2018.

Names put forward for consideration were; Dewi Parry – Wales, Kate Edginton – South West Area, Lucy Stowell – Eastern Area, Freddie Wootton – Eastern Area, Michael Wood – Northern Area, and Laura Sumner – Northern Area.

James Hutchinson noted to council that he appreciated that we need to get on with the job but consideration must be given to the fact that the February council is normally the longest meeting when it is the first council of the year and officers are retiring and new ones being appointed. EF noted the comment and said that the timing of the Saturday morning meeting may need to be looked at. David Clark noted that he hoped by the February council meeting that everything would be in place and the meeting would only need to vote on the final rule book. EF noted that there would be a need to publish documents well in advance of the area meetings in order to get feedback before the meeting and for council to look at a published draft document by September.

C/17/245 **3. Report to Council from the AGRI Steering Group** – Harriet Wilson addressed council and asked them to note the following there were no items for approval;

1. That AGRI has held a Domestic Agricultural Policy (DAP) workshop to further its position paper. This will be widely circulated with YFC for consultation.
2. That AGRI is waiting to hear the delayed response from Defra regarding the 2017/18 NFYFC grant and if successful, future planned work will comprise:
 - Defra/YFC regional discussion groups, facilitated by Defra and chaired by NFYFC for input to a future Domestic Agricultural Policy.
 - A joint event with A Focus on Nature on 4 November to debate conservation and farming, listen to key note speakers and take part in a farm walk at the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust's Allerton Project, Loddington, Leicestershire.
 - Webinar on succession planning.
 - Meat for the Market training: training to enhance knowledge of market demands and improve business skills in the livestock sector in association with AHDB.
 - Future training incorporating the Smart Farming Guide.
 - A project with the Rare Breeds Survival Trust to provide a 'how to start showing' guide and 'how to add value' guide.
 - Support for the 2018 AGRI Forum.

3. That the Smart Farming Guide is now complete and a launch is being planned. The guide gives advice for YFC members of all ages. Topics range from planning a business development competition to starting, developing and growing a business. Other AGRI projects have been linked to this new website.
4. That Becky Heal will attend the next Tenancy Reform Industry Group meeting on behalf of YFC members.
5. That NFU representative James Hutchinson and LEAF representative David Goodwin reported back on their respective industry meetings.
6. That the National Land Based College was highlighted and a recommendation for all YFC members to view the on-line service that champions training and skills.
7. That Katie Wade – Farms for City Children - attended the AGRI meeting and gave an overview of the charity.
8. That AGRI is now planning next year's AGRI Forum.
9. That AGRI representatives continue to attend government and industry roundtable Brexit meetings.
10. That NFU office holders are happy to take requests from YFCs for NFU presentations.
11. A proposal for hosting a future CEJA seminar has been discussed. The group agreed that the proposers and other interested members should prepare a feasibility study for consideration.
12. That AGRI continues to promote the Land Partnership Service. HW introduced Russell Carrington to explain the LPS in more detail: RC thanked council for the opportunity to explain the matching service, Alison Rickett was due to attend today but he was happy to give the history of the scheme. RC noted that the original feasibility study for the matching service was carried out some years ago by NFYFC and now there is a pilot scheme in operation bringing together landowners and farmers with young people who are interested in taking on farms. The registration form is easy to complete and once registered the system tries to match the skills and knowledge of that person and puts them in touch with the landowners and farmers. A farmer may get several interested contacts and can choose the right person for the job. There are currently 40 people registered on the scheme and we need to increase the entries on both sides.

HW thanked RC for his input and encouraged council members to go out and push the scheme to their members.

c/17/246 **4. Report to Council from the Competitions Steering Group** - Rachel Parker addressed council and noted that the meeting had been very productive. RP noted that there has been a request for judging at national finals to be increased from 2 to 3 judges. RC noted that at this level it can be very difficult trying to get 2 judges and to then try and get a third may prove near impossible.

c/17/247 RP asked council member to note the following;

13. Correspondence was received regarding the southern region public speaking competition semi final and the entertainments competition final and responses will be prepared.
14. County Federations are asked to ensure members' details on the Silo database are up to date and correct - information for competitions finals can then be sent direct to competitors via email.
15. The group asks NFYFC Council to support vigilance in YFC areas when checking membership cards of competitors and to be aware of YFC members holding membership in more than one Club/County Federation.

16. Clay shooting competition will incorporate an open competition for any YFC members who would like to have a go at Oakedge Shooting Ground next Saturday – please share with your members.
17. Competitions Day - added value this year – additional attractions at the event next Saturday.
18. Approved the 2017-18 competitions rules:
 - Note, the group is working with the Dyslexia Society and will be added detail to the general rules to help those with learning difficulties.
19. YFC GENSB Tug of War teams are encouraged to take part in the GENSB championships to be held on 25th to 27th September in Belgium. Contact Alec Masson 07768 208676
20. **Annual Convention:**
 - Performing Arts: Ticket price for the audience will be £12 for adults £6 for concessions (under 16s and over 65s), under 5s free of charge.
 - Programme to be sold at £3 each.
 - Convention package (wristband) holders will continue to enjoy access to the theatre as part of the wristband price.
 - There will be an entrance fee of £5 for the Sunday afternoon competitions (disco dancing and jump rope) for supporters and guests. Under 16s free of charge. Convention package (wristband) holders will continue to enjoy access to the completion finals.
21. **2018-19 Competitions Programme:**
 - No overall theme
 - Performing arts rota will be the following:
 - 2018 Pantomime
 - 2019 Entertainments
 - 2020 Drama
 - Ballroom Dancing
 - Choir
 - Clay shooting at 26 & under only
 - Cube exhibit
 - Auctioneering
 - Fence Erecting with the fence style to include a corner
 - Efficiency with Safety and Workshop Skills to be merged to include; machinery, first aid and ATV tasks
 - Sports: There will be no change to the age categories, which will be as follows:
 - 10-16 years Mixed Rounders
 - 14 – 17 years Mixed Touch Rugby
 - 16 – 26 years Mixed Netball
 - Cookery to include meat from breeds as listed on the Rare Breeds Survival Trust Watch List
 - Floral Art suggested themes:
 - Colours of the Rainbow
 - Europe
 - The Great Outdoors

RP asked council for feedback for the October meeting of Council;

22. The Tug of War competition sponsorship and venue agreement with Tenbury Show comes to end in 2018 – members of Council are requested to bring ideas for potential venues for the 2019 ToW competition final.
 - Note: The ToW finals MUST be HELD between the Royal Welsh Show and first week in August and be available for sponsorship.

Harriet Wilson noted that in respect of a new auctioneering competition she suggested that the comps team have a look at the competition 'Young Show Stars' which takes place at the Three Counties Show at Malvern.

EF thanked RP for her report and noted that then big day is the NFYFC Competition Day on the 1 July and asked members to turn up and make it a day of celebrations and to showcase what YFC do best.

C/17/248 **5. Report to Council from the Events & Marketing Steering Group** – Katie Hall – KH asked council to approve the following items;

23. The Positive Behaviour campaign will be updated following the 2017 pilot. The campaign will be run again for the 2018 Annual Convention and all materials will be available from October of this year. – Council voted and approved this Item.

24. The steering group recommends that the Annual Convention ticket prices for 2018 should be:-

- *Note: this includes £0.83 surcharge to be donated to Street Pastors/Street Angels that provide the pastoral care in the town centres*

	Members 18 to 26 yrs	Associate Members
Advanced, discounted sales	£80.00	£85.00
	£70.50	£75.50
	£44.50	£49.50
On the day sales	£95.00	£100.00
	£82.50	£87.50
	£47.00	£52.00

Council voted and approved the increase.

KH noted to council the following items;

25. Communications update for 2017 Annual Convention

For period 21-23 April 2017 Twitter reach was 2.64m, average of 491 likes per day, 413k impressions, 297 link clicks per day and the top hashtag was #yfcagm17.

26. Feedback from 2017 Annual Convention about the stage entertainment (Guest DJs and bands) has been very positive.

27. The Positive Behaviour campaign has made a difference, and there is more work to do. A particular area of concern is YFC members travelling to the Convention by rail and the YFC members who travel to the town, but do not purchase wristbands, yet still wear YFC shirts/tops.

28. Annual Convention 2018 Budget is in draft, using the ticket prices above.

29. The steering group reviewed the applications/nominations and the references for the position of House DJ at the 2018 Convention, Blackpool. The group adopted a score system to measure how each DJ does or does not meet the required criteria to take on the role and the steering group has selected a preferred DJ and a reserve. Names will be published when fees are agreed and contracts in place.

30. National Young Farmers Week– the 2017 campaign will focus on YFC member retention and membership renewals. The steering group also started planning the 2018 campaign with a focus on recruitment.

- Note, YFC clubs will have to prepare for a recruitment drive and ensure that the 'house is in order' to attract and retain new members. The steering group will work with other steering groups and county chairs to progress this.

31. YFC Ski 2018 will take place 6th – 13th January 2018. Destination: Val D’Isere. Base price will be 429 as base price (inclusive of an YFC pool party) and upgrades, including accommodation upgrades will be available. The 2018 Ski holiday will be launched on 1st July at Competitions Day, Stafford.
32. The group is working on Brand Guidelines for NFYFC which will include how the official NFYFC logo/branding should be used.

Feedback required for the next meeting of Council

33. Names of potential guest DJs and band/stage acts for the 2018 Annual Convention –to Erica Attwood by 11th September 2017. KH stressed that she feels that we need some form of change so that the programme does not become stale.
34. Fancy Dress theme for the Saturday night of the convention 2018 – ideas to Erica Attwood by 11th September 2017.

Harriet Wilson asked KH to let the steering group chairs know what help is needed with the National Young Farmers Week. She asked if each steering group would have a day on facebook. KH noted that this year the focus of the week is on retention and in 2018 the focus will be recruiting more members.

C/17/249 **6. Report to Council from the Personal Development Steering Group** – Laura Sumner asked council to approve the following items;

35. That the PD steering group recommend that South Africa and Nepal will be YFC Travel destinations in 2018. Council voted and approved this item.
36. That from September 2017 the PD steering group recommends that YFC members can **apply to** travel on a maximum of 3 home-stay trips. (This does not include C Alma Baker, RYE or team travel).

After discussions it was noted that item no 36. would be amended as follows and it was then approved.

That from September 2017 the PD steering group recommends that YFC member can travel on a maximum of 3 home-stay trips. (This does not include C Alma Baker, RYE or team travel).

37. That the PD steering group recommends amending the multimedia rules so that the YFC Travel presentations must be created in one of the following formats:
 - Powerpoint (.ppt, .pptx, .odp)
 - keynote for Apple (.ppt, .pptx or .key)
 - Windows Movie-Maker (.wmv).

Council voted and approved this item.

LS asked council to note the following items:

38. That the NFYFC is hosting 8 incoming international exchangees during June and July.
39. That the 2018 trips will be launched this September.
40. That the travel trips to the USA will be split into 2 trips:
 - one 6 week trip to Montana
 - one 6-week trips to Colorado.
41. That Selection Day 2017 will take place 2nd December and will be face-to-face interviews with the option of interview via Skype. The exact format of the day will be confirmed when the venue is confirmed.
42. That the C Alma Baker Trust is considering changing the minimum age for applicants (the Trust is considering a minimum age of 20 years of age).

43. That the PD steering group with the Youth Forum will support the area committees to run area residentials for under 18 year old YFC members.
44. YFA reunion 2017 takes place in Taunton, Somerset on 27th – 30th October
45. That 1573 Curve certificates have been awarded which exceeds the 2016 total.
46. That the PD steering group has suggestions to amend the proposed Nat West training document. This includes adding agricultural and YFC competitions training to the document.
47. That the new Curve modules: *Back to Basics* and *Behaviour* will be ready for September.
48. There will be a Top Trainers Award for the most outstanding volunteer trainer and a new County Training Award to recognise gold, silver or bronze standard training. All trainers will receive recognition awards. The criteria will be developed over the summer months.
49. That Train the Trainer is taking place on 28-29th October at Grinton Hall, Yorkshire (Northern Area) and on 30th Sept – 1st October in Devon (South West Area).
50. That Youth Social Action project Countryside Challenge is nearing completion. 38 YFC projects have been funded through the scheme and we are now in the process of evaluation.
51. That a new Safeguarding in YFC leaflet has been developed for Clubs and Counties that will replace the Who Cares leaflet. This is now in the design stage.

LS asked council for feedback required for the next meeting of Council in October.

52. How can we reach those people who were unable to access the Positive Behaviour campaign training?
53. How can we encourage those counties that didn't deliver the training to do so?
54. What training/discussions topics will your County Chairman need at the County Chair's weekend?
 - The 2017 County Chairman's weekend will take place on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th November in Shropshire.

C/17/250 **7. Report to Council from the Youth Forum Steering Group** – Report given by Lynsey Martin on behalf of Tom Oatey.

LM asked council to note;

55. The forum will continue to work in partnership with the Open Farm Sunday team in order to promote the event and the many ways members can get involved. Please ask your counties to feedback local area activities so these can be shared.
56. The forum will continue to promote and support early intervention Farm Safety and will be asking clubs to use the Farm Safety Curve module in their winter programmes
57. The forum has developed a set of fun and educational facts to support the Watch the Cowpat game, these will be available to download from the NFYFC website. The Youth Forum is exploring the development of more resources to support farming and countryside education.
58. The forum will be putting motions to the BYC annual council meeting for consideration. These will include:
 - a renewed importance on buying British food
 - more substantial agricultural careers information in schools, with a focus on STEM subjects.

59. The forum has produced a video to support younger members entering NFYFC competitions offering key hints and tips on how to prepare and be successful.
60. The Youth Forum will be supporting YFC area committees to run or establish residential weekends and bring younger YFC members together.
61. The youth forum will be exploring a location for its February 2018 meeting

C/17/251 8. Election of Member Representative to Board of Management – representing the West Midlands & South West YFC Areas

EF noted that council has received one nomination from Tom Sellers (Shropshire FYFC – West Midlands Area) and called upon Luke Crossman (Warwickshire & Chair West Midlands Areas) to propose the nomination and Harriet Wilson – Staffordshire to second Tom’s nomination.

Luke Crossman addressed council and noted that Tom Sellars is a member of Rea Valley YFC in Shropshire County. Tom has held various roles as Club Chairman, County Social Chairman and County HS Officer; he has also run for County Vice Chair. Tom was selected for an YFC trip to Jamaica in 2006. Tom can bring to the board his skills as a Farm Manager and has a passion for YFC.

Harriet Wilson addressed council and noted that she has known Tom now for a few months and got to know him well on the YFC trip to Jamaica. Tom is a motivator with good people skills and enjoys socialising with the members. Harriet assured council that the position will be in good hands with Tom.

Katie Hall reiterated to council that Tom is a really nice guy. Council voted and approved the nomination. EF would send congratulations to Tom Sellers his first board meetings would be in September.

C/17/252 9. Date of the Next Meeting – EF confirmed that the next council meetings will be on Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 October 2017.

C/17/253 10. Any Other Relevant Business

C/17/254 10.1 RYE Russell Carrington thanked council for allowing the Rural Youth Europe team to proceed now with the bid for the RYE conference in 2019. RC noted that he was looking forward to working with the team and noted that the General Assembly will be in Estonia in September.

C/17/255 10.2 Warwickshire 80th Anniversary Ball - Luke Crossman (Warwickshire FYFC) noted that the Warwickshire FYFC have an 80th Anniversary Ball at The Ricoh in Coventry on the Saturday evening of the next council in October. LC noted that Warwickshire members are looking at the possibility of a discounted ticket for council members to be able to attend later on the Saturday evening. EF thanked LC for the invitation and noted that he will liaise with him regarding the final arrangements.

C/17/256 10.3 AGM format - Rachel Parker addressed council and referred to the allocated timings for the steering group chairman who delivered their reports at the AGM in Torquay. Rachel noted her disappointment at the inconsistent timings and that one steering group chair was allowed to go over time with their report and there was no attempt made to cut this short. Natalie Moore noted that she thought in previous years there had been a traffic light system used.

Rachel Parker stressed that the steering group reports are a chance for chairman to demonstrate the excellent things the members have been doing throughout the year, and her steering group feel very strongly that none of the trophy presentations should be cut from the AGM meeting.

EF noted that there will be a meeting with Charlotte Smith in October to discuss the format for the AGM. EF feels that Charlotte wishes to shorten the current 3 hours, and there may be a new shape to this meeting in the

future.

Chris Lloyd noted that as Chief Steward to the meeting it is very difficult to fit everything into less than 3 hours. This year he had to speak to Poul Christensen and ask him to cut short his closing remarks to get control of the meeting.

Claire Worden noted that the national competitions finals are prestige events and trophies have always been presented at the AGM. Timings are not being adhered to. When she was national chairman she was allocated 6 mins and adhered to this. The reports have been condensed with the showing of the videos. CW queried whether any members are actually complaining about the length of the meeting.

David Hamer suggested that a motion be put to council.

Rachel Parker proposed the motion to council and this was seconded by Natalie Moore “ That the timings of all reports at the NFYFC Annual Convention must be strictly adhered to (speakers must keep to the time allocated and if over time the microphone will be cut off).The meeting should continue in its current format – with three key elements:-

- Presentation of the Annual report and accounts (presented by Chair of Council and BoM/Steering Group Chairs).
- Governance motions and election of President and other honorary positions.
- Presentation of awards and trophies.

Council voted and approved the motion.

C/17/257 10.4 EF gave council the following notices;

10.4.1 Farmers Guardian 24 Hours in Farming campaign that will take place for a third year from 5am 10 August to 5am 11 August. Further information will be available via www.24hoursinfarming.com or plans can be emailed to 24hours@fginsight.com.

10.4.2 Farm Safety Foundation (<http://www.yellowwellies.org/>) - Farm Safety Week 2017 takes place for five days commencing Monday 24th July 2017.

10.4.3 NFYFC National Young Farmers Week will be taking place for seven days commencing Monday 18th September 2017.

10.4.3 EF confirmed that the following members had successfully completed the NSPCC Introduction to Child Protection.

Ben Cavill
Thomas Oatey
Rachel Parker
Laura Sumner
Rachel Black

C/17/258 **11. Closing Remarks** – EF thanked members for their input and noted that despite the numbers being low there has been a lot of work done over the weekend. With no further business EF closed the meeting at: 11.50 am.

Signed
Ed Ford (Chair of Council)

Dated:.....
October 2017