



**Fun, Learning and
Achievement**

Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 21 & 22 October 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 21 OCTOBER 2017

C/202/17 1. Chair's Opening Remarks

EF welcomed members to the October council weekend and was pleased to see a lot of new faces. EF introduced Josie Murray (NFYFC Youthwork Development Officer) and welcomed back Jodie Green from maternity leave. EF noted that Agenda items 7 & 8 would be swapped around.

EF noted it was the start of the new YFC year and highlighted the huge impact of the National Young Farmers week and congratulated the members on getting behind the campaign. How much coverage was received would be discussed during the weekend.

EF congratulated Laura Elliott on being elected Wales YFC Chair and also Dafydd Jones in the role of Vice Chair. EF noted that the YFC Areas are electing new chairs in the next few weeks. EF noted that Northern Area already has a new Chair and congratulations go to Cameron Snell elected on 8 October. EF thanked all the outgoing YFC Area and Wales Officers.

EF called upon council for a moment of remembrance in memory of YFC members who have sadly died recently:

The Hon Mrs Elizabeth Frazer (Life Vice President of the NFYFC – JCE represented the NFYFC Council at Elizabeth's funeral.

James Corfield - who tragically died following an accident in Builth Wells, during the Royal Welsh Show. Todd Riggs, Devon FYFC – A Farm accident in the summer.

Josh Gilbert, Chairman of Bury St Edmunds YFC, who died suddenly whilst playing rugby, EF attended his funeral with 600 people at the service.

C/203/17 2. Apologies for absence - as recorded.

C/204/17 3. Diary Update – Chair & Vice Chairs & Chief Officer – diaries were tabled at the meeting.

EF had enjoyed NFYFC competitions day at Stafford, and noted that the Royal Welsh YPV was a huge success. He had attended the Devon Harvest Festival and has been working with Nick Creasy on Farm Safety, and noted that Council will receive a presentation on Sunday. EF was pleased to be invited to the Farmers Weekly Awards ceremony, and has also attended the FCN day at The House of Lords.

LM noted that NFYFC have had some great competition finals and she enjoyed the NFYFC cookery and floral competitions at Malvern. LM has attended the Train The Trainer course in the new Devon YFC hub. LM enjoyed being invited to Gelligaer YFC dinner dance.

KH represented NFYFC at the Shropshire FYFC and Staffordshire FYFC Queens Award ceremonies and

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk



Registry of Friendly Societies No. 52SA Patron: HM The Queen



noted it was great to see all the good work which has been done in both counties. KH has enjoyed her summer and is always blown away by the standard of entries in NFYFC floral competitions they get better every year.

C/205/17 **4. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting** – paper no 165-17-A refers. The minutes were proposed by Natalie Moore and seconded by Dewi Parry and duly signed as a true and correct record by Ed Ford.

C/206/17 **5. Any matters arising from those minutes**

5.1 Rural Youth European Rally 2019 - LM noted to council that she had attended the RYE Conference in Estonia with JCE. NFYFC was unopposed in its bid to host the rally which has previously been agreed by council. LM asked council to approve the following;

- That the 2019 European Rally Committee be extended and will hold the responsibility of planning/organising, securing grants/sponsorship and hosting the RYE European Rally.
- The paper tabled (paper ref 049-17-A) at the June meeting of the Board and at the Council meeting will form the basis of the terms of reference for the committee.
- The committee will report to each meeting of NFYFC Council via the Personal Development Steering Group. The committee will also provide financial updates to the Board of Management.

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

EF asked council to vote on the above and the vote was approved by council.

C/207/17 **6. To receive any relevant correspondence**- None received.

C/208/17 **7. To receive and adopt the report from the Board of Management** – Heather Black (HB) HB noted that the Board is pleased that Matt Caldicott has been appointed as Deputy Chief Officer and commenced the role on 1 August 2017. Josie Murray has been appointed as Youthwork Development Officer and commenced on 4 September 2017. This post is full-time. Jodie Green has returned from maternity leave working 3 days per week. Gill Harrison has now left the Federation and Lauren Hancox has been appointed to the full-time post of Competitions & Events Administrator and will join the NFYFC on 13 November 2017.

HB invited Chris Lloyd to present the finances for NFYFC. Budgets for 2017 & 2018 were tabled. CL noted the budget sheets were self explanatory but he was happy to take any questions during the weekend. CL wished to highlight to council the importance of the trends of the accounts going forward.

CL noted that the budgets going forward show a deficit, this is due the 2017 annual convention not being as good as budgeted. NFYFC now has a full staff team which council approved and going forward there is currently no provision in the budget for a donation from HOPS being a cautionary measure when feeling the full force of BREXIT and the difficult time ahead for the business.

CL noted that 2017 budget will be looking at a deficit budget of (£134,000) and for 2018 (£164,000).

CL flagged to council the need to start looking at Levy. CL does not want to ring any alarm bells but wants the board and council to merely look at the trend and come up with some recommendations going forward. CL expected to be able to report in more detail at the February council meeting. HB thanked CL for his summary.

HB noted that at the January 2018 meeting, the Board will examine the financial modeling for the NFYFC over a 5-year period together with a review of the Federation's Reserves Policy

HB noted that the board are disappointed to note the fall in registered YFC members (10 to 26 yrs) a fall of 563. Hopefully the recent Young Farmers week will help to improve the membership numbers. HB noted

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk





that statistics show that approximately:-30% are first time members,30% renewed and,30% not renewed. Therefore, the board noted that the organisation is good at recruiting and retention remains a topic to be worked on.

HB noted that the board wish to be in a position to formalise the incorporation of the NFYFC to a Charitable Company in 2018. To start this process a Motion to the 2018 Annual General Meeting will be required in May of next year, so long as the timetable of actions required can be met.

HB confirmed that the board are working with the staff team to update the NFYFC Development Plan.

HB confirmed that members of the Board have completed a Skills Audit which highlights areas of expertise and skills shortages. The results indicate that the Federation should recruit an independent member of the Board with specialism in Charity Governance/Charity Legals. HB asked council if they know of anyone who may have these skills to let her know. HB highlighted the current make up of the board;
Male members 7 and female members 5 and the age profile of the board is;

Age profile of the Board (with one vacancy)

16 - 26 yrs	27 - 36 yrs	37 - 46 yrs	47 - 56 yrs
1	7	2	2

HB noted that the Board has approved the draft budget for the refurbishment of the YFC Centre and for a temporary office move on Stoneleigh Park, whilst the works are carried out. It is anticipated that this will take place in June 2018, and the Federation has designated funds in its reserves for the refurbishment project. A fundraising campaign will also be run to support the costs with a target of £80,000 to be raised. The total project costs of the refurbishment and the temporary office move are just under £470,000.

EF thanked HB for her report.

EF adjourned council for a consultation on the Rules and Bye Laws of NFYFC. EF handed over to David Clark, Chris Lloyd, Claire Worden and the Bye Laws working party.

12.40 Council meeting reconvened.

C/209/17 8. Steering Group feedback from latest Council Update

Agriculture & Rural Issues (AGRI) – Harriet Wilson noted items for discussion

- Forthcoming regional discussion groups 'YFCs talk to Defra'
- Future Wildlife, Future Farming, 4 November, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Loddington, Leicestershire
- Training opportunities – 'Meat for the Market' training with AHDB
- What's my role as AGRI or County Link Rep?
- Brexit and AGRI topics
- HW noted that the Smart Farming Guide online tool 'Start up Business' is now on the website.

ED thanked Harriet for her update and encouraged council to inform their members of the regional groups 'YFC 's talk to Defra' as this was a chance for us to have our say.

Competitions – Rachel Parker asked council for any feedback on the following topics;

- Comments from the National Final Competitions held 2016/17 - no feedback received

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk





- Sheep Shearing Competition – Harriet Wilson noted that at the West Midlands Area they would like some advice on, Classification of members concerning open shearing and professional shearing.
- Venue to host the Stockman and Young Stockman of the Year National Finals – no feedback received.
- Tug of War National Final venue – A suggestion of Moreton Show was given.

Events & Marketing (E&M) - Katie Hall

- Comments on National Young Farmers Week. 2018 date will be set in the meeting – there were no comments received.
- YFC Ski Trip ideas for 2019 resort
- Annual Convention 2018 – KH confirmed that they have a full list of bands and DJ's to go through at the meeting.
- Ten26 - no feedback received.

KH stressed to council her disappointment that members are not coming to the meetings with feedback, it was important when staff are asking for feedback on steering group facebook sites that members response even if you have no comment.

Personal Development (PD) - Laura Sumner

- Call to action – Positive Behaviour – LS noted that the group will be looking at how we can reach members, and it will be compulsory for groups to have a Pre-AGM get together to go through the positive behaviour campaign. Ben Robinson Hampshire noted it is good to use this evening to hand out tops and to make it a fun evening for members going.
- County Chairman's Weekend 'Equipped' – Matt Caldicott will cover this at the Sunday meeting.
- LS confirmed that the group will be looking at feedback from the YFC 2018 travel trips and also looking at host feedback.
- LS noted that the group will be looking at the Top Trainers Award with a view to making some changes.
- LS noted that the group will also be looking at the recent Countryside Challenge.

Youth Forum – Thomas Oatey – TO noted that the Youth Forum has already held their meeting and members of the forum would be going round the steering group meetings during the afternoon and he would give his report to council on Sunday.

EF encouraged council to get the views of their members so that feedback can be given in steering group meetings.

C/210/17 9. Any Other Business

James Hutchinson asked if council could be told what the HOPS business will be doing going forward in order to make a donation to NFYFC. David Hamer responded to confirm that it is going to be difficult to predict the outcome of the finances depending on what schemes go forward after Brexit. John Hardman is working very hard to try and attend all negotiations going forward. DH noted that the next 12 months are crucial. DH is available to attend Area meetings and discuss the HOPS business in detail to the membership. EF will be attending the HOPS Conference on behalf of NFYFC on the 1 November 2017.

C/211/17 10. Council meeting adjourned at 13.00 hrs & Steering Groups of Council met at 13.30 hrs.



Sunday 22 October 10.30 hrs – Council resumes

C/211/17 10. NFYFC Rules & Byelaws Consultation – Dewi Parry & Luke Crossman gave a summary of the discussions held from the previous day. DP noted that nothing has been decided and all views will be taken back to the Governance Working Party meeting to be held on the 25 November and there will be an open meeting planned for January 2018.

- Levy – The majority of members want no more than inflation +2%. Everyone agreed that a limit has to be agreed.
- Areas – Lots of work to be done and the role of the area chair working within council needs to be looked at.
- School Clubs – More feedback is needed on this one – there need to be justification to treating them differently.
- Steering Groups – Some felt they were too convoluted. It was felt that members should be chosen for their expertise and not just allocated a group. Members should be allowed to give their preference for which group they wish to join.
- Board of Management – Members thought that the skill set of the board members is very important. Area reps are not so crucial. A BoM member should attend an area meeting once a year. There needs to be more interaction.
- Council Voting – There appears to be a lot of confusion. The group will look at all the suggestions and bring them back to the next draft document.
- Age – Council had a lot of strong views and the rules were not favorable. DP urged members to send in any more feedback by the 25 November.

Jon Sarsfield addressed council and thanked council for the briefing document. JS noted that he was happy with the suggestion that Life Vice Presidents should all be converted into 'Honorary Member' and was not precious about the change, but he would still like to be able to attend council meeting in the future.

EF thanked DP & LC for their summary, and encouraged council members to discuss the Rules & Byelaws booklet with their counties and feedback to the group before the 25 November.

EF thanked the Governance Working Party for all their efforts in producing this document.

EF appointed Jon & Anne Sarsfield as Tellers for the Sunday meeting.

C/212/17 11. Steering Group Reports – points to note and points requiring consultation

11.1 Agriculture & Rural Issues (AGRI) Steering Group – Harriet Wilson (HW)

HW asked council for their approval to allow the NFYFC's AGRI steering group to host a CEJA seminar in March 2018, subject to securing the required sponsorship. Council voted and approved this request.

HW noted that AGRI discussed Brexit and the YFC representation at Defra Roundtable Farming and Productivity meetings and NFU Farming Roundtable meetings.

HW noted that AGRI are finalising its position paper on a future agricultural policy.

HW noted that AGRI have planned the final details for the 'YFC talks to Defra' regional discussion events, full details are available on the NFYFC Website.

HW noted that AGRI discussed the progress of events in the current Defra grant and considerations for the 2108-19 grant.

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk





HW noted that AGRI are holding an event for YFC members - Future Wildlife, Future Farming - on 4 November at the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Loddington, Leicestershire to book your place see the NFYFC Website.

HW noted that AGRI received reports from industry representatives and would like to highlight the forthcoming Fresh Start Land Enterprise Centre's event on 8 November at Chatsworth – Land Matching: 'The Big Conversation' details are on the NFYFC website.

HW noted that AGRI is planning its 'AGRI Brunch' - formerly AGRI Forum - 'Maximising Your Opportunities' on Saturday morning at NFYFC's Annual Convention.

HW noted AGRI's industry training includes Meat for the Market training - applications are available on the website.

HW noted that the web-based Smart Farming Guide is also available on the website.

HW noted that AGRI discussed a future study tour for 2018 to KUHN's factories in Saverne in France. More information will be published when the event is planned.

EF thanked HW for her report.

11.2 Competitions Steering Group – Rachel Parker (RP)

RP noted that the competitions web page has been re-designed, please encourage everyone to have a look at the information available.

RP noted that the steering group have reviewed the Competition Finals held since the June meeting and the following comments have been made; The steering group is working with the Chelsea Bun Club to include a ladies clay pigeon shooting competition on competitions day 2018 and other steering groups have been asked to feedback their suggestions for Competitions Day 2018.

RP noted that there have been several incidents with parents; please remind them and supporters about their behaviour at competitions which forms part of the rules. Parents are not to lead the members in anyway.

RP noted that members will be asked for an additional form of photo ID (driving licence/passport etc) in addition to membership cards for the NFYFC Tug of War Competitions.

RP noted that in respect of Tug of War training course for judges and recorders - please encourage past members to apply to ensure the future of our competitions.

RP thanked Pembrokeshire FYFC for their cookery demonstration in the Cookery Theatre at the Malvern Autumn Festival.

RP noted that in respect of County Monitoring – County federations are reminded to submit their participation figures for 2017/2018. For 2016/2017 review data used is based on the NFYFC Finals only.

RP noted that the 2017-2018 Competitions' programme has now started. The first competition of the new year will be held at the English Winter Fair on the 18 & 19 November 2017 in Stafford.



RP noted that there will be an admission charge for supporters attending the Disco Dancing and Cheerleading £5 for adults and under 16's free in respect of performances on Sunday afternoon at Annual Convention 2018 in Blackpool, subject to Child Licensing arrangements which are currently being looked at.

RP asked council to remind all competition organisers at County and Area levels as well as the NFYFC finals that the well-being and safety of all competing members must be considered (drinking water availability, food on-site and shade in hot weather etc).

RP asked council to note that the draft rules for the 2018/2019 Competitions will be circulated to County Federations for discussion and feedback prior to the February meeting.

RP reminded council that sheep shearing competitors **at all levels** must have the British Wool Board 'Blue Seal' certificate before being able to compete in this competition and asked that they take this back to their counties and areas.

RP noted that the National Junior Pig Club will be supporting YFC members to develop their pig stockjudging skills.

RP asked council for any Judges and stewards' suggestions are required for Public Speaking and Stockjudging Competitions please let her or Margaret at the office know of anyone.

RP confirmed that the 2019 - 2023 the National Final of the Tug of War – Men's, Ladies' and GENSB will be held at Tenbury Show.

RP asked Council members to feedback the following at the next meeting:

- County Federations and Area committees to discuss removing the Northern and Southern Regional Semi Finals for the Public Speaking and that one team only per Area only to go forward to the NFYFC Final - this affects the Northern and South West Areas.
- County Federations and Area committees to discuss the weight limit for the Ladies' Tug of War - consider a weight of 560kg being included in NFYFC's rules to match the Tug of War Association rules and competitions. Many YFC teams now compete in ToWA competitions and find it difficult to manage the separate weight classes.
- Holstein UK has recently updated their Judging Card/Criteria the information was circulated to the meeting and it was agreed to follow their procedure. Amendments will be made and circulated to County Offices and cards would be available to purchase from the Club Shop.

EF thanked RP for her report.

11.3 Events & Marketing (E&M) Steering Group – Katie Hall

KH asked council to approve that the 2018 National Young Farmers' Week will be held for 5 days commencing Monday 8 October. Council voted and approved this item.

KH noted that the Saturday night Annual Convention fancy dress theme - the three themes chosen for a social media poll are: Four seasons, Glow in the dark and Cartoons.

KH noted that the YFC Club Shop will purchase 100 no. YFC branded power banks for £10 each.

KH gave some feedback from National Young Farmers' Week (NYFW)

KN noted that NYFW was very successful on social media and in print. NFYFC's industry partners took an active part and we have some new leads to contact

Print media – the value of the print media was £46,627 and this reached 1.2m people.

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk





Social media reach -1.2m County Federations and YFC participated using the banners and graphics provided and many posted stories and images to help promote members' nights.
54 YFCs entered the YFC Selfie competition. Whitchurch YFC was the winner.

KH gave an update on the current YFC Ski Trip - 150 bookings have been made (as of 16 October)
Close of bookings: 23 November 2017, full information is available on the NFYFC website.
Ski fancy dress will be: Cows. The group are looking at resort options for 2019 and these will be discussed at the next meeting in February 2018.

KH noted that in respect of Annual Convention 2018 entertainments a shortlist of stage acts (bands & DJs) has been created and will be used to build the programme of entertainment. The confirmed programme and stage line up will be published early in 2018. There will be a Fun Quiz added to the programme for 2018. KH asked all council to send names for registration stewarding and volunteering during convention to Erica Attwood at Erica.Attwood@nfyfc.org.uk

EF thanked KH for her report.

11.4 Personal Development (PD) Steering Group – Laura Sumner

LS asked council to approve the cost of the NFYFC's Train the Trainer are increased from £80 to £95 per person from 1st January 2018. Council voted and approved this increase.

LS noted that the youth work, travel and training finances had been examined by the steering group.

LS noted that the 2017 travel feedback was reviewed. The group will respond to correspondence that was received in relation to Africa's Gift. LS noted that each group trip has a nominated group leader (to be selected by the group)

LS reminded council that the closing date for the NFYFC travel applications is Friday, 3 November 2017 and that selection day is being held on Saturday, 2 December at the YFC Centre, Stoneleigh. Full details are on the NFYFC Website.

LS confirmed that the Young Farmers Ambassadors (YFA) reunion is taking place in Somerset 28-29 October 2017.

LS noted that following the Council meeting, Lynsey Martin updated the group on the European Rally 2019 plans.

LS was pleased to note that 1905 Curve certificates were issued in 2016-2017 and 19 counties are delivering the Curve.

LS informed council that for the 2017-2018 YFC year the target for delivery of The Curve is 2,500 in 25 County Federations. The group encourages County Federations to offer Farm Safety, Rural+ and Fundamental modules in the coming months. Further information is available on the NFYFC Website.

LS noted that the Fundamental (YFC back to basics) Curve module has been piloted twice and is ready for clubs to book.

LS noted that an Anti-Bullying Curve module and Agricultural Curve module are currently being developed. A productive meeting was held recently with FACE to discuss development of work that could be delivered to Year 9 in secondary schools by YFC Clubs and County Federations.



Also the 'Trainers' Award' entry form was agreed, the new criteria for the Bronze, Silver and Gold County training awards have been prepared in draft.

LS noted that 'Equipped' (County Chairman's training weekend) will take place on 10-12 November (Condoval Hall, Shropshire). EF confirmed that Matt Caldicott will speak on this event later in the meeting.

LS confirmed that the steering group reviewed the new safeguarding leaflets and the behaviour flowchart.

LS noted that the Staff Conference is taking place on 24-25 January at Dunchurch Park Hotel, Rugby, Warwickshire. LS asked council to encourage their County staff to be allowed to attend this Conference as it is important for the county staff to meet and share best practise.

LS noted that the group is requiring feedback at the next meeting:

- That the Equality and Diversity Policy, Volunteer Policy and Drugs and Alcohol Policy will be circulated to County Federations for consultation before February's Council meeting.

EF thanked LS for her report.

11.5 Youth Forum Steering Group – Thomas Oatey

TO noted that the new YFC members were welcomed to the Forum meeting – these were finalists of the Member of the Year (18 years and under) competition in July.

TO noted that the forum is designing a graphic to explain the different ways in which YFC members become members of the NFYFC Youth Forum.

TO confirmed that the forum have completed their Countryside Challenge award – by promoting the Open Farm Sunday event, and further development of the Watch that Cowpat game into an educational resource, and the forum will continue to promote YFC involvement participation in Open Farm Sunday.

TO noted that the forum members will be supporting the PD steering group to encourage the delivery of the Farm Safety Curve module as part of winter YFC programmes.

TO noted that the forum has developed a set of educational fact cards (available as a download) to support and enhance the use of the Watch that Cowpat game, and they will be exploring ways of working with NatWest to produce future resources.

TO noted that the forum has produced a video which is now online to support members entering NFYFC competitions. Examples are available at : <http://www.nfyfc.org.uk/beef-live-and-carcase>

The forum proposed two motions to the British Youth Council (BYC) manifesto including:-

- The importance of buying British Food (in light of Brexit)
- Promoting rural career options

The group identified challenges that younger YFC members experience within YFC and discussed possible solutions.

The group reviewed the first draft of the NFYFC byelaws and TO has fed into the discussion groups.

TO confirmed that the forum has applied for funding for the February meeting to be held in Edinburgh. This will include teambuilding and meeting with the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Clubs (SAYFC).

EF thanked TO for his report.



C/213/17 12. Growing Safer Farmers – Devon FYFC

EF confirmed to council that during his year as Chair of Council he wanted to highlight Farm Safety. He had become one of the Yellow Wellies Safety Ambassadors and noted that Stephanie Berkeley of the Farm Safety Foundation had trained him to be able to deliver the NFYFC Farm Safety curve module; although this has been successful it does not appear to be moving fast enough.

EF stressed that as a Chair and Farm Safety Ambassador he was not prepared for such a high number of farm related fatalities this year. Four members of NFYFC have lost their lives; two of these members were from Devon FYFC. The Devon YFC staff along with Claire Bellew have been working tirelessly to come up with a solution, and they are now working with agricultural dealers in the county to try and improve the safety record and Claire Bellew will give more details on this.

Claire Bellew (Devon County Chair) addressed council and delivered a presentation of the Farm Safety campaign with particular reference to the 'Making of PTO shafts safer'. CB noted that they have approached main dealerships across Devon to encourage them to make regular checks and a branded form has been designed to be signed in the dealership. CB noted that the safety aspects have also been highlighted recently to HRH Prince Charles and the Countess of Wessex on their visit to the opening of the new Devon Hub.

EF thanked CB for her presentation and noted that he is going to call a meeting of Essex dealerships in the hope of doing a similar campaign and hoped that other counties may follow.

C/214/17 13. Date of Future Meetings

EF confirmed the following dates:

Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 February 2018

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 June 2018

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 October 2018

Natalie Moore queried the start time of the Saturday morning meetings and could see no benefit from the earlier start. EF noted that this was for a trial period and this would be put on the February 2018 agenda for discussion by council.

Luke Crossman noted that round table discussions held on Saturday morning had proved very popular with the members and he suggested that it would be more beneficial to pick a topic for debating and have this format in future meetings.

C/214/17 14. Any Other Relevant Business

14.1 NFYFC Annual General Meeting - EF noted the key dates for the 86th Annual General Meeting – programme tabled, and noted that an official announcement will be issued shortly.

14.2 Motions for NFYFC Live Vice Presidents

14.2.1 Harriet Wilson (Staffordshire) proposed David Heminsley current President of Staffordshire FYFC and supported his nomination for LVP at the AGM in Blackpool.

14.2.2. Kate Wainwright (Derbyshire) proposed Ben & Caroline Westwood.

14.2.3 Lynsey Martin (Vice Chair of Council) proposed Poul & Margaret Christensen.

EF was pleased to see all 5 names going forward as Motions at the next AGM in Blackpool.



14.3 NFYFC Chair & Vice Chair Weekend – ‘Equipped’ – Matt Caldicott

MC addressed council and noted that these events have grown in popularity year on year. This year there has been a change in venue to Condover Hall in Shropshire to accommodate the larger numbers and this centre also provides excellent outdoor activities which will be used during the weekend. The event runs from the 10 – 12 November and this year members can arrive on Friday evening which is optional, ready to start on Saturday morning. Application and payment for the weekend is through the eventbrite link and leaflets have been distributed.

The weekend is a chance for chairs and vice chairs to get to know each other as well as the officers and staff team, there will be team challenges and a focus on equipping members with some leadership tools to enable them carry out their roles.

MC encouraged council members to make sure that their county chairs and vice chairs are aware of the weekend. JCE noted that the county chair can be a lone person and it will link you up with the County nearest to you.

EF thanked MC for promoting the event.

14.4 – Youth Forum at Council weekends – Tom Oatey addressed council and enquired if it would be possible to have youth forum members attend the steering group meetings and be able to split up into the different groups and it can be difficult for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Youth Forum to get to every group. It was decided that this is an option up for discussion.

14.5 - Staff Conference – Jodie Green noted to council that the staff conference to be held on the 24 & 25 January in Rugby also highlights staff working alone and it is important that counties allow their staff to attend the conference in order to meet and speak with staff in neighboring counties.

14.6 Jodie also highlighted to council that if the age of attendance at council is under 21 years of age, they could get members attending under 16 years of age and the older members would need to bring a younger member and they would need to be supervised for the weekend. This is just something for council to consider.

14.7 Katie Hall again asked council to make sure that when steering group chairs and offices ask for feedback on Facebook groups and twitter that members do respond and reply to it, please do not ignore it and please get involved.

14.8 David Clarke noted to council that the Rules & Byelaws working party are receiving mixed messages concerning the age proposals for council, and stressed that the group do need to hear the member's views by the 24 November. DC was available to answer any questions after the council meeting.

EF thanked council members for their attendance and with no further business closed the meeting at 12.20 hrs.

Signed:..... Dated:.....
Ed Ford NFYFC Chair of Council



**Fun, Learning and
Achievement**

National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs (England and Wales)

YFC Centre, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

tel 024 7685 7200 fax 024 7685 7229 email post@nfyfc.org.uk web www.nfyfc.org.uk



Registry of Friendly Societies No. 52SA Patron: HM The Queen