



**Minutes of the AGRI meeting held on 23 June 2018  
at the Quality Hotel, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9BA**

**Present:** James Hutchinson (Chair, NFU representative [SW]); Kate Wainwright (EM); Simon Gadd (NFU Next Generation Forum); Amy Panton (co-option, Cumbria) Russell Carrington (Herefordshire, RYE); Sian Pritchard (KUHN) Jake Sayer (SW); George Baxter (observer, Cambs);

**Part-meeting:** David Fellows (WM Deputy President); Chris Lloyd, NFYFC Treasurer

**In attendance:** Sarah Palmer (Agricultural and Rural Issues Officer)

**Saturday, 23 June 2018**

- 1. Welcome and introductions** - JH welcomed all present and noted there were no additions for the agenda.
- 2. Apologies for absence** - Kate Bennett (KUHN); David Goodwin (WM); Rebecca Heal (TRIG); Dafydd Jones (Wales YFC); Harriet Wilson (ex-officio [WM]); Greg Colebrook (E); Scott Rix (E)
- 3. To confirm minutes of the previous meeting** - JH signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record.

**4. Correspondence** - Correspondence received included:

AgriSkills Strategy meeting 25 June (SP, LM, DG and JH invited to attend); AGRI invited to exhibit (free of charge) at the NSA's Sheep Event on 18 July; note from Matthew Naylor regarding LGBTQ+farmers and Agrespect website- feedback from all steering groups required; an invitation from A Focus On Nature had been circulated regarding a request for a speaker at a youth panel for the Birdfair, 17-19 August; a speaking offer had been received from Luke Wing; a note from AHDB querying a foot trimming competition at Warwickshire rally; feedback from Dr Emma Monaghan, School of Life Sciences, University of Warwick, regarding exhibiting at the AGRIBrunch, submitting a future article on research and exhibiting at Competitions Day; an update from the Rural Youth Project and offer for 5 places at the Rural Youth Ideas Festival (1-3 August), Kinross - the results of the project's survey will be published in July and shared with Rural England; AGRI Brunch guest speakers Chris Cardell and Lord Campbell gave very positive feedback and thanked the group; Sian Pritchard also provided positive feedback from a sponsorship perspective; NFU North West regional director enjoyed attending the AGRI Brunch and would like to discuss future involvement with NFYFC; Rebecca Vallis (NADIS) is liaising with SP regarding future training ideas.

**5. AGRI Brunch**

Positive feedback and evaluation from YFC members, sponsor and guest speakers. RC commented on the good interaction between all and the new format was considered a success. Charlotte Smith's contribution was noted and she had been thanked accordingly. Due to uncertainty regarding future Annual Conventions, alternative events and venues were discussed which included: LAMMA and Bakewell Agricultural Centre. Suggestions for future speakers and themes included: Tony Evans, Andersons (dairy); Will Evans and digitilisation. If additional sponsorship was a consideration, AP suggested Dunbia.

Actions

ALL to note

ACTION  
ALL

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

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

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## 6. NFYFC Defra Grant and Brexit

The final component for the 2017-18 NFYFC Defra grant is a succession video due to be launched for the new YFC year in September. The Guide to Showing (direct request from a YFC member) was launched at the Royal Three Counties Show on 16 June with JH, Rare Breeds Survival Trust and Adam Henson. The online resource is now available for YFC members.

The 2018-19 application for an NFYFC Defra grant was successful and projects include: AGRI Brunch 2018; Food, Farming and Careers Curve module and resource for Countryside Classroom (in association with LEAFed) and a succession training module in association with Savills and Sian Bushell.

NFYFC continues to hold a place at industry and Defra Brexit roundtable events which should resume following the announcement of the new agricultural policy. Both the NFYFC Considerations for a future British agricultural policy position paper and the Defra command paper response are available online (response submitted 2 May).

NADIS and NFYFC are investigating working with respective veterinary networks and county federations to offer future YFC training.

Initial ideas for the Crop Protection Association (CPA) video (final component of the CPA sponsorship) was discussed for further input and to include: all crops; environmental messages; a useful toolbox; highlighting sensible use of chemicals and the role of the agronomist. Sean Sparling was suggested as a case study. SP will continue to develop the video with CPA.

## 7. Feedback from industry representatives

LEAF - GB attended an Open Farm Sunday (OFS) event at Thorney and shared the OFS recorded attendance of 270,000 visitors. It was suggested that career advice should be made available to visitors for next year's event and this could involve highlighting the new YFC food, farming and careers resource. For further discussion with the Youth Forum.

NFU-positive report regarding OFS and work on mental health, rural crime event scheduled for 10 July, Back British Farming Day campaign, launch of NFU education campaigns and resources, a new #YourHarvest campaign launched at Cereals, sugar levy and skills, training and CPD (AgriSkills strategy meeting 25 June).

NFU Next Generation Forum-KW highlighted policy topics including: CPD – post 18, generational renewal (alternatives to Young Farmer Top-Up), grants, loans and future productivity. JH congratulated SG on his chairmanship and KW thanked him for making NFYFC representatives welcome to the group. The next meeting takes place in October.

CEJA-NFYFC representative KW and NFU Next Generation representative Olivia Richardson will travel to the CEJA General Assembly meeting in Slovenia. SP will receive CEJA's proposal of future membership in July for further discussion with NFYFC COO and NFU Head of Policy. The March CEJA UK Seminar was a successful event but incurred a slight deficit (less than projected) due to short timescale for preparation. All three sponsors (MF, Defra, CPA) CEJA, organisers and attendees gave positive feedback and evaluation for the event.

Fresh Start-BR and SP attended a Fresh Start Land Enterprise meeting in March. SP submitted a letter of support for the matching service scheme outlining take-up from the Land Mobility Scheme. SP has also

**ACTION SP  
and ALL**

**ACTION  
Industry reps and  
Youth Forum**

**ACTION SP**

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liaised with Defra re information required re previous support for the matching service.

**8. Study Tour to Saverne**

SP (Kuhn) showed the group some revised options to help reduce costs for the proposed trip to Saverne/Strasbourg which could comprise: Kuhn factory tour, farm or vineyard visits, city visit. JH to re-submit proposal for consideration by JCE.

**ACTION JH**

**9. Public Procurement**

JH explained his aim to support work regarding public procurement and promoting British food. AGRI would suggest ways for the YFC membership to take part. Supporting #BritishFoodisGreat , @Love British Food and #TrueYFC are all feasible components and more discussions to take place with Alexia Robinson.

**ACTION JH/SP**

**10. AOB Request for Matthew Naylor's note to be circulated more widely.**

A poll to be designed for AGRI Link representatives and the group will consider ways of interacting further with the county AGRI link representatives. SP to highlight a prepared promotional video and job description before counties are asked to submit names for agri link representatives.

**ACTION SP**

CL gave an overview of finances and highlighted that the NFYFC BoM would try to enable work suggested.

**11. Date of next meeting and close**

JH closed the meeting at 6.17 pm and the date of the next meeting is Saturday, 20 October 2018.

Signed .....  
James Hutchinson (Chair of AGRI)

Dated:.....  
20 October 2018