

**MUDIAD FFERMWYR IEUAINC MALDWYN
MONTGOMERY FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS CLUBS**

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Thursday 17th March, 2011
at Plas Dolerw, Newtown at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Mr Roland Davies with 34 members.

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss Lorraine Stokes, YFC Organiser and Claire Owen, Menter Maldwyn.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everybody and reported that since the last meeting the Federation has held a very successful Entertainments Festival, with a total of 13 entries. He congratulated Berriew YFC on winning the English competition and Bro Ddyfi for winning the Welsh competition.

Both clubs had gone on to represent the County at the Wales finals in Swansea where Berriew YFC had achieved joint 5th place overall in the English and Bro Ddyfi YFC had won the Welsh Entertainments.

Roland congratulated all involved, particularly Glyn Owen for winning the award for Best Actor.

E30/10/11 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Helen Roberts, Tomos Harrison, Helen Morgan. Further apologies were added to the attendance register.

E31/10/11 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 20th January, 2011 were reviewed. They were proposed as a true record by Andrew Davies, seconded by Angharad Richards.

E32/10/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Under E28/10/11

Glantwymyn Community Centre has been booked for the County AGM on Thursday 30th June and a letter has been sent to Helen Roberts, inviting her to be a guest speaker.

There were no further matters arising from the minutes.

E33/10/11 CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Meeting Venue

Plas Dolerw have called the office as they have been approached to hold a Yoga class in the meeting room every Thursday evening. Due to the better financial prospect from this weekly contract they have asked us if we can change the day of the Executive meeting or find an alternative venue.

Suggestions for alternative venues were put forward from the Sub Committee meetings and were ranked by the Executive Committee in the following order:

1st Methodist Church (by Argos - opposite the Car Park)

2nd Newtown Rugby Club

3rd The Elephant & Castle

Other suggestions included: The Chapel (at Plas Dolerw), The Chapel on Crescent Street Bridge, The Newtown Silver Band Room, The Room underneath the Baptist Chapel.

The committee agreed that it would be a nice gesture to send a letter of thanks to Plas Dolerw for their hospitality.

Letter from Wales YFC requesting YPV Stewards

The following people were put forward and agreed to steward:
Lorraine Stokes, Roland Davies, Gerallt Evans, Derwena Davies.

Powys Play Days

The Federation had been invited to provide an activity or help out in some way at one of the Powys Play Day's. The committee agreed that it would be good to express an interest and get the Youth Forum to put some ideas together.

Scottish Power Mid Wales Connections - Pre-application consultation workshop invitation

As this was a subject that would affect many areas of the County for generations to come, it was felt important that as many people were aware of what was happening as possible.

Lisa Jones (Wales YFC) - NFYFC Public Speaking Competitions

Lisa had requested the views from the County on the new date of the NFYFC Public Speaking finals which are now scheduled to be held in June (instead of September). The committee commented that this was closer to the Wales finals and would avoid any complications of members going over-age after the 1st September.

Letter from Royal Bath & West Show: Shearing Competition

The winners of the County Rally are to be offered the opportunity to enter and the opportunity is to be left in their hands to organise.

Wales Field Day 2011 - Nominations Required

Nominations were put forward to supply animals and equipment for the event. Names of Stewards were also suggested.

E34/10/11 TO RECEIVE YEARBOOK REPORT AND ELECT EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

In the absents of Helen Morgan, Roland read out her report:

The Yearbook was produced and launched at the Entertainment Festival in Theatr Hafren. They are priced at £2 each and so far there have been 184 sales generating £368 income.

The current balance of Yearbook account is £2737.45.

The cost of producing this years yearbook was £2100 + VAT. This was for 250 copies of an A5 booklet, 80 pages. 400 copies would have been £2250 + VAT but we opted for the fewer copies as we have had a lot of left overs in previous years.

The book was produced by the same company as last year - Gwer Designs. As a comparison, last years A4 60 page yearbook cost £2818 + VAT for 400 copies.

The exact amount of Sponsorship received this year is still to be confirmed and transferred but will be based on the amount from last year which came to £2570. I would like to ask for the Excec Committee's approval for this amount to be transferred from Corporate Sponsor ship to the Year Book Account.

We have not yet received the invoice for £2100 + VAT from Gwer Designs, therefore this amount is yet to go out of the Yearbook Account.

From sitting on the Yearbook committee for the first time, I feel that there are many improvements that can be made going forward. The biggest hurdle was that most of us had

never been on a Yearbook Committee before therefore I would like to propose that it is necessary that at least two people sit on the committee for 2 years to be able to pass on information and experiences to the next committee. Also that some form of minutes or notes should be documented along with records of quotes and sales etc for comparison year on year. I am happy to continue on the Yearbook Committee for next year if the Exec are happy with this. I also feel that the Yearbook should be published by September - the start of the YFC Year to give more time to sell it, and make obtaining reports off various officials easier. This years Yearbook was again left until last minute which is extremely limiting for obtaining quotes, and reports, and discussing ideas for styles and designs, and for meeting the release deadline. Maybe it would be helpful if some Yearbook meetings are considered in the County Calender before the start of the year to ensure that the Committee meets in plenty of time. I think this is paramount especially as we need to be more aware of our finances in these difficult times and we need to make the Yearbook more successful and work closely with the Corporate Sponsorship Committee to ensure that the Sponsors are receiving what they have paid for out of the Yearbook.

May I finish by saying a big Thank You to Nerys Fychan, Kathryn Savage and Catherine Bennett for all their hard work to get the Yearbook out on time, and to the office for forwarding reports and chasing things up for us.

The committee voiced their concern on how the Year Book sales had diminished over the years and it was proposed to let it run for one more year, to see if the new format ideas make an improvement. Gerallt Evans mentioned that it is a requirement in the Powys Service Level Agreement (SLA) that particular statistics are published. Lorraine agreed to look into this for the next meeting.

Approval was granted to transfer the corporate sponsorship contribution into the Year Book account.

The decision was made to re-elect the 4 current editors if they would be willing to stand (Helen Morgan, Nerys Fychan, Catherine Bennett, Kathryn Savage), and to promote the opportunity to clubs in order to elect an addition 4 representatives.

Rhianon Rees gave a brief presentation on behalf of NFYFC reflecting on the behaviour of members and public perceptions of the Federation.

E35/10/11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

A) National Council - Rhiannon Rees

NFYFC now have an employment service in place which is free of charge for all County Offices. The Board of Management have proposed a 10% increase in levy costs. The 2012 AGM will be held in Torquay as Minehead requested half a million pounds up front which was felt to be too big a risk. Changes have been made to the Stockman of the year competition as there will be 6 animals with reasons requested on them all. Insurance compliances for Men's Hockey and Ladies Football have been lowered to 16 years and over. For the insurance to be valid, members must ensure that they have a valid membership card of the correct year when competing. The Senior Ambassador of the Year has changed back to the old name of YFC Member of the Year. Alton Towers are putting on an exclusive offer for YFC members from the 1st October with entry at £22 which needs to be purchased through NFYFC. On the 18th June, there is an opportunity to go to the Polo at Gloucester Polo Club at £25 per ticket. On 21st March there is a Bar tending course in Brecon that is free to attend. NFYFC have now established a Youth Forum and have had 2 meetings so far.

B) Wales Council - Nicola Walker

The last Council meeting was on the 5th February. The YPV is being rebranded as 'The Village' with a good line-up of entertainment on offer. Despite the road work disruptions, contingency plans have been put in place to overcome these anomalies. The Wales AGM has been arranged for the first weekend in October in Cardiff. The YFC review is ongoing with the membership age range still a hot topic of debate. The charitable status of Wales YFC will be Limited from the 1st April which means that the liability of trustee's is minimal. The new logo was adopted with 11/12 counties in favour of the footprint. Wales YFC will be looking to see whether Counties will be willing to use it along side their own logo's in future. Carmarthen are now the biggest County in Wales in terms of membership, overtaking Montgomery. Montgomery YFC membership has dropped by 13.57% in the last year.

An Extraordinary AGM was held where it was passed that a different accountants could be used.

From this report it was commented that the Wales AGM could clash with the County Field Day and that the F&D committee need to take a closer look at membership figures.

C) Activities Committee - Gareth Williams

The Entertainments Festival had been reviewed and it was suggested to create a database of possible adjudicators so that names can be selected in good time (it was suggested to ask neighbouring Counties and the Urdd). The members had agreed that the Rural Affairs Committee are to select the competitions for the Field Day. They had also decided not to hold a Senior Members Trip this year and instead, to attend the Discovery exchange to Cornwall. The Easter Dance is to be held at Molto's in Welshpool, but cheaper alternatives were being looked into. The County sports were discussed and the competitions were selected.

The committee expressed an interest in the possibility of being involved in a 3 Federations ball/dance this summer with Brecon and Radnor. It was discussed about revamping the Public Speaking and Member of the Year competitions to make them more formal. It was suggested to look into getting sponsorship for the event so that a more formal venue could be hired.

D) Finance & Development Committee - Gerallt Evans

The Members treasurer had reported that the bank account is looking healthy for the time being. Helen Morgan gave her Year Book report. Logistics for the National AGM were discussed. With regards to the County tops, the committee decided to purchase them from Mid Wales Embroidery and they are to be purple with yellow writing. Due to the choice of colour, they are only available in men's sizes. It had been reported that the Lamb Marketing Scheme provides 40p per lamb to Wales YFC and it had now been passed that 10p of this contribution will be distributed to the County that the member is affiliated to. This concept is to be back dated by 3 years which will be a great financial gain to the County.

The choice of logo for the back of the t-shirts had not been decided. Gethin Evans, Trefeglwys YFC had submitted a range of ideas to the office that the Executive Committee reviewed and voted on. The chosen slogan was:

'Mama told me not to come' (Stereophonics)
'But I still haven't found what I'm looking for' (U2)
Which is 'someone like you' (Adele)
But tonight is the night that '2 become 1' (Spice Girls)
Because 'I've got a feeling' (Black eyed Peas)
That 'my sex is on fire' (Kings of Leon)
'So ride with me' (Nelly)
On my 'Threshing machine' (Wurzels)

As the slogan is made up of song title's it was agreed that this did not need to be translated.

E) Youth Forum

Andrew Davies had discussed the new Safeguarding Policy with the members and they developed their fundraising plans for the County Rally where they will be waxing Roland's legs.

F) Discovery Committee - Danielle Evans

The Committee have arranged an exchange with Cornwall YFC. Anyone wishing to attend needs to come along to the next meeting which will take place in The Exchange, Newtown on the 5th May. Posters will be sent out to clubs.

G) Rally Committee - Bethan Watkins

The tenders had been selected and written to and a site meeting had taken place. The licence application will be handed in by the end of the week. A list of judges had been drawn up. Radio 1 DJ; Greg James had been provisionally booked and the Committee were shown the contract confirmation. There were no objections to the terms but it was requested to question about photography restrictions. The Committee approved the booking. The Committee were shown a list of the Rally competitions which were also approved.

H) Eisteddfod Committee - Lorraine Stokes

The committee had met and had nominated Steve Francis as Chairman. He had since agreed but will be elected officially at the next meeting. The committee elected other officials: Vice Chairman: Kathryn Savage, Secretary: Clare Jerman. A date for the event is to be confirmed at the next meeting as further investigations have been made to try and avoid other Eisteddfod's in the area. The venue choices are between Llanidloes High School, Newtown High School and Theatr Hafren, depending on quotes. Some names for adjudicators were put forward, and the members began to select competitions. The next meeting is on Thursday 24th March at Coleg Powys, 7.30pm.

Derwena Davies noted that David Price had been nominated as an adjudicator, but he would be unsuitable as he is not a Welsh Speaker.

I) Rural Affairs - Tomos Harrison

Tomos had sent his apologies. The Committee's next activity will be a Farm Walk around Martin Evans's farm towards the end of April. Further information shall be sent out to club.

J) Board of Management - Emyr Jones

On behalf of the Board of Management Committee, Emyr put forward a recommendation for the Executive Committee to consider with regards to the Rally 2011. The Board had recommended the following prices for the Rally Dance admission, so that advertising could get underway:

During the Day:	Members £10
Evening:	Members £12, Non Members £15

It was mentioned that the Rally Committee should have more involvement in the development of the cost proposals and the decision was put back to them.

The reports were proposed by Andrew Davies, seconded by Nerys Fychan.

E36/10/11 TO APPOINT A COUNTY DELEGATE FOR THE NATIONAL AGM

Roland Davies was appointed and the agenda was reviewed. Under point 6: Presentation of the annual report, the matter was discussed regarding the motion put forward by the NFYFC Council: "That the gross National Subscription (National Levy) for the period 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012 be 10% which equates to approximately £1.04 per member based on this year's membership number."

Radnor YFC will be putting forward a motion to increase the levy by only 5% and the Executive Committee voted strongly in favour of backing this alternative motion.

Members were reminded that each club could send a voting representative. It was requested for the office to publicise this and inform members of how they go about voting.

E37/10/11 YFC ORGANISING GROUPS

The current group stands as:

Grŵp/ Group 1

CFFI Bro Ddyfi YFC
CFFI Llanbrynmair & Carno YFC
CFFI Trefeglwys YFC
CFFI Llangurig YFC

Grŵp/ Group 2

CFFI Dyffryn Tanat YFC
CFFI Vyrnwy Valley YFC
CFFI Dyffryn Banw YFC
CFFI Llanfyllin YFC

Grŵp/ Group 3

CFFI Abermule YFC
CFFI Llidiartywaen YFC
CFFI Dolfor YFC
CFFI Aberhafesp YFC
CFFI Tregynon YFC

Grŵp/ Group 4

CFFI Llanfair Caereinion YFC
CFFI Sam YFC
CFFI Berriew YFC
CFFI Guilsfield YFC
CFFI Four Crosses YFC

A suggestion was put forward to move Llidiartywaen to group 1 and put Penstrowed into group 3. It was agreed to ask for members to take back this suggestion to their Club meetings. Information will also be posted out to clubs.

Any other suggestions, amendments or proposals to be submitted to the office by Thursday 7th April 2011 in readiness for the next Finance and Development Committee (14th April), who will then narrow the selection down to two.

The final two options are to be voted upon at the next Executive Committee meeting. The new arrangement will then be passed at the AGM and the new groups would come into operation on the 1st September 2011.

E/38/10/11 APROVAL & ADOPTION OF THE NEW SAFEGUARDING POLICY

All Executive Committee members had been sent a card copy of the draft policy with their meeting invitation.

The Board of Management had reviewed the policy and with no amendments to add, recommended for the Executive Committee to adopt the policy. With no objections, the policy was signed by Roland Davies and Gerallt Evans. Andrew Davies informed the committee that pages 12/13 will be revamped at Wales level where they are hoping to produce a DVD. He also informed the members that valid CRB certificates from other organisations would be accepted by the County. A translated version will be available once it has been completed by Wales YFC.

E37/10/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Following the joint first place positioning of the Dolfor YFC and Tregynon YFC Jazz Dance entries at the County Field Day, a coin was tossed to determine which team could be put forward to enter the All Wales finals in April. Tregynon YFC won the toss.
- Janet Rowlands expressed concern over the high work load that Helen Morgan now has as publicity officer. Andrew Davies proposed the idea of introducing an assistant role to take photo's at events and update the website. This idea was seconded by Rhiannon Rees. It was agreed for nominations to be requested from clubs and for the nominations to be elected at an Executive meeting before the County AGM.

As there was no other business the meeting was declared closed at 10.15pm.

Signed: Dated: