

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

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2011  
at Plas Dolerw, Newtown at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:** Mr Roland Davies with 30 members.

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

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the first Executive of 2011. He congratulated Trefeglwys YFC in winning the English Public Speaking and Dyffryn Tanat YFC on winning the Welsh Language Public Speaking, wishing everyone well at the All Wales finals.

Roland also congratulated the two new members of the year, namely Annie Baker, Llidiartywaen - Junior and Nerys Fychan, Bro Ddyfi - Senior.

Roland praised all involved in the hosting of the All Wales Eisteddfod which was very successful. Congratulations were offered to all of the following in winning their respective competitions:

Musical or Film Solo	Meilir Wyn Jones, (Bro Ddyfi)
Recitation 16 & Under	Angharad Mai Lewis, (Llanfair Caereinion)
Mime to Music	Trefeglwys YFC
Song Lyrics Composition	Aled Hughes, (Dyffryn Banw)
Diary of an animal	Henrietta Alexander, (Llanfair Caereinion)

The Chairman congratulated the Stockjudging members who won competitions at the Wales Winter Fair, Staffordshire Show and English Winter Fair.

He thanked those who supported the County Dance on 27<sup>th</sup> December and wished luck to all Clubs competing in the forthcoming Entertainments Festival.

Roland expressed his best wishes to all clubs for the coming year.

**E22/10/11 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Helen Roberts, Helen Owen, Danielle Evans, Nerys Fychan, Ivor Jones, Claire Lloyd. Further apologies were added to the attendance register.

**E23/10/11 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 were reviewed. They were proposed as a true record by Andrew Davies, seconded by Nicola Walker.

**E24/10/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**E25/10/11 CORRESPONDENCE**

NFYFC Discovery

Lorraine informed the committee of the opportunities available from NFYFC Discovery and explained that details could be found on the NFYFC website.

### Wales YFC - 75<sup>TH</sup> Ball & Shirt

Nicola Walker explained to the committee that a rugby ball and shirt (donated by Nigel Owens) is on it's way around the counties, collecting photographs and autographs of famous people with a connection to each county. Montgomery will have the ball and shirt from 29/04/2011 until 23/05/2011. Nicola asked the committee to put forward ideas of 12x famous people and landmarks in preparation:

**People:** Deihiol Jones (suggested by Lynne Pritchard), Lembit Opic, Phil Mills (Rally Co-driver), Gareth Daniels, Sian James, Iolo Williams, Carl Edwards, Charlie Brooks (aka Janine Butcher), A lady from Berriew who was in 'Casualty', Elen Rees, Laura Ashley Family.

**Landmarks:** Trewythen Arms, Rhodney's Pillar, Welshpool Market, Montgomery Castle, Offa's Dyke, Pryce Jones's, Llywedog Dam, Lake Vyrnwy, Llanrhaeder Falls, Machynllyth Parliament, Powys Castle.

The chairman requested nominations for co-ordinating the project. Wil Gethin nominated Nicola Walker, this was seconded by Emyr Jones to which Nicola agreed.

### Wales YFC - TP representative

As Nicola Walker has been elected as the Chairman of the TP committee, the County is able to send along another representative to these meetings. Nicola Walker proposed Roland Davies, this was seconded by Andrew Davies and Roland agreed to stand.

### Wales YFC - Logo

Wales YFC had released 4 logo proposals to all counties to discuss and feedback opinions: The Committee viewed the options and Nicola Walker reminded them that colours/font could be changed.

#### OPTION 1



The committee commented that they did not like the birds. (Ranked as 3<sup>rd</sup>/4)

#### OPTION 2



The committee raised concerns as there was too much detail. It was explained that set block colours would be agreed upon to follow when printing onto clothing etc. (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>/4)

### OPTION 3



The committee commented that this was clever, young, fun and distinguishable.  
(Ranked 1<sup>st</sup>/4)

### OPTION 4



A comment received from the committee stated that it looked a bit too much like an NFU symbol.  
(Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>/4)

## E26/10/11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

### A) Activities Committee - Gareth Williams

During the last meeting of the Activities Committee, held on the 6<sup>th</sup> January, Gareth reported that the Senior members trip had been reviewed and it was agreed to continue to hold it next year despite low numbers of attendance in November. The Public Speaking competitions were discussed and the committee felt that a change in the scoring system should be revised and for food to be made available at the event in future for competitors and spectators. The County Dinner had been a success with a good turn out as was the Christmas Dance which made a healthy profit of £955.50. The public Speaking trainers were nominated for the Wales YFC competitions and plans for the 2012 Field Day began as the Committee proposed Welshpool Livestock Market as a suitable venue after a successful event last year. Arrangements for the Eater Dance were also discussed which is to be held in Molto's Welshpool on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Event trophies were discussed and Ifan Bebb offered to help the office in recycling old trophies for new competitions and tracking down others that have gone astray. Clare Jerman's name was also nominated to help with this project.

In relation to the Entertainments Festival, some additional areas of discussion were put forward to the Executive committee. A quote from Alun Lewis had been received for providing a monitor screen and sound in the foyer of the Theatre, charging £200 for one night and £350 for the whole week. The committee agreed with Richard Evans' suggestion of seeing how well the tickets sell and base the decision on that. Derwena Davies suggested to obtain a written quote that clarifies if he will charge if a set quota of DVD's are not sold.

Nicola Walker had been speaking with Theatre staff who wanted clarification on a couple of matters: Firstly they wondered when the Federation would like online tickets to be made available for public sale. The committee agreed on 1pm on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January. The second issue was ticket prices that were originally set at £8pp. Since this decision the Activities Committee had debated whether or not this higher price may put people off and came up with a notion of selling the tickets at £8 per night, but if somebody bought tickets for 3 nights or more they would only be charged £6pp. The Executive Committee voted on the 3 notions presented:

- Sell tickets at £8 each (Proposed by Gareth Williams, Seconded by Rhodri Evans)
- Sell tickets at £8 each, £6 for three or more nights (Proposed by Nicola Waler, Seconded by Andrew Davies)

- Sell tickets at £7 each (Proposed by Emyr Jones, Seconded by Rhiannon Rees)  
The result of the vote showed the Committee in favour of charging £7 each.

The question was put to the Committee of; how did they suggest the Nansi Dowle Rose Bowl award is given in the Entertainments Festival as there was no clear pattern from the previous 5 years. After much discussion, Gwynfor Thomas suggested that as there was no current award for the winners of the Pantomime competition that it could be used for that. The committee had no objections to this proposal.

The ticket allocations for guests at the February Festival was discussed as this year, guests had been offered 2 complimentary tickets for the night of their choice, but not given the option to order any extra tickets for other nights. This notion had been passed in the September Activities meeting, but had not been put through the Executive Committee. The subject brought about much debate. Sonya Wedge commented that the new system had taken pressure off the County Office and letters had already been sent out to guests. Emyr Jones stressed that as valued supporters of the movement the guests should be looked after otherwise support could be lost. He continued to say that by offering guests the opportunity to pre-book, this ensured guaranteed income and ticket sales. Janet Rowlands commented that she had received some complaints about the situation. Subsequently the Committee agreed that all supporters such as County Officials, Life Members and event hosts should be given the opportunity to pre book tickets for any night.

#### **B) Finance & Development Committee - Gerallt Evans**

The treasurers report had been received in the meeting that had informed the committee that a grant had been secured for the County Camera. Sponsorship had been secured from Coed y Dinas to fund half a page in the County Times once a month to publicise the County/Club/Members achievements. Helen Morgan requested for information from clubs to be submitted before the end of each month.

Details of the NFYFC AGM were discussed such as transport and T-shirt designs. The committee decided to entice t-shirt slogan ideas through a competition that will be launched at the Entertainments competition. As instructed by the Board of Management, the issue of budgeting for county events was discussed. The committee had set a target for the Rally committee to make a profit of £10,000.

#### **C) Youth Forum**

The Executive Committee were informed that representatives from MIND Cymru had attended the previous meeting to raise awareness of the charity and do activities with the members. The committee began arrangements for fundraising at the Rally and have approached Roland Davies to wax his legs. They are also looking into organising a residential trip during the summer, possibly to Staylittle.

#### **D) Discovery Committee - Danielle Evans**

The last meeting of the discovery committee was held in the exchange on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2010. The members gave their feedback from the Kenya trip and it appeared that everyone present had thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Nicola Walker presented the club with a financial report following the trip to Kenya and we discovered that we had all overpaid for the trip by £90 each. It was decided that this money would be re-paid to each member at the next meeting.

The destination for this year's trip was discussed and the idea of organising an exchange with a European club/region was suggested as it was thought that this would be a good way of offering a lower cost trip than the previous two years.

Contact has been made with some clubs in Finland and Norway but at present it is proving a bit difficult to find a club willing to partake in an exchange which is also suitable for the type of exchange we are looking for. However we are still working on this and should have some more definite arrangements made in time to promote the trip at the entertainments festival and then to start taking names at the next meeting.

Roland added his congratulations for the good publicity in the County Times last week.

#### **E) Rally Committee - Bethan Watkins**

The Committee have met twice since the last Executive meeting. The rally is due to be held at Bronymaen on a revised date of 21<sup>st</sup> May. A list of competitions has been drawn up and Stockjudging venues have been nominated. Tenders have been sent out for the event requesting responses by 4<sup>th</sup> February. Names of Judges have been put forward. The committee are looking into UV lighting and a famous DJ for the Dance Entertainment. Andrew Davies added to the report that he has been looking into grants for generic event signs for the County through Tesco (up to £4000), The Big Lottery Fund (up to £4000) and Powys County Council Tourism Grant. He asked the committee if there were any objections to him following up these opportunities - there were no objections given.

Derwena Davies was also looking into possible funding for these signs from the Environment Agency.

Beth Watkins concluded her report by asking the committee for clarification of whether the profit objective of £10,000 for the Rally was an expectation or a target. The committee confirmed that this was a target that the Rally committee should work hard at achieving although there would be no consequences to the Rally committee if this was not achieved. It was stressed that this was the biggest money making event of the year and the Federation would benefit from a healthy profit.

#### **F) Year Book - Helen Morgan**

The Committee had met and listed the reports required for the 2010/2011 Year Book. All Club secretaries had been written to requesting club reports by 28<sup>th</sup> January. The Committee will meet again on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Imprint have written to say they will beat any written quote by 10%.

#### **G) Trust Fund - Nicola Walker**

The trustees met in November where 3 applications were reviewed. The first one was from the Discovery Committee for shirts. Due to high involvement, Nicola stepped out of this decision. The committee were awarded £500. The second application was from a club that were putting together an anniversary book. This application was successful. The third application was rejected as an individual was raising money for a charity and due to legal reasons with Montgomery YFC being a charity the application could not be supported.

#### **H) Rural Affairs - Tomos Harrison**

Members attended a trip to a County show in Newark last week. After April a visit will be arranged to the Ifor Williams plant and a farm walk will be organised. If there is enough interest, the committee would like to arrange some Welding and First Aid training.

#### **I) Board of Management - Emyr Jones**

Funding had been secured from the Welsh Language Board to fund wages for a Welsh Language Officer. The possibility of investing some of this money into a project is currently being looked into. Emyr reported that he is investigating whether or not the Federation is entitled to a rebate from Powys County Council due to not having an Organiser in place for 9 months.

#### **J) 3 Federations - Roland Davies**

Wales YFC had investigated the financial input into the YFC clubs in Powys from the County Council and the number of 'contacts' produced by the 3 federations in comparison with other areas of the Youth Service, through the Freedom of Information Act. The figures showed the high output from the 3 Federations compared to the other areas of the Youth Service. The lower financial input from the Council was also highlighted.

The County Chairman of Radnor YFC had proposed a joint fundraising concept of holding a 3 Federations Summer Ball on the Royal Welsh Showground which is to be discussed further.

#### **K) Wales YFC Eisteddfod - Angharad Richards**

The main issue discussed was the problems that many Counties face when trying to find a suitable venue to host the Wales YFC Eisteddfod. It was agreed that from 2012, the Wales YFC Eisteddfod will be organised on a regional basis.

#### **L) County Eisteddfod - Nerys Fychan**

In Nerys' absence, the following report was read to the Committee:

The final meeting was held and over all everybody thought it was a successful Eisteddfod, we are expecting the Eisteddfod to make around - 1,400 profit.

Some damage was done to some heaters in the changing room huts at the back of the school. The school have charged us £404.88, of which Montgomery YFC shall have to pay £150, the rest will be paid by the insurance.

We are hoping to get trophies done by the entertainment festival so that we can present them to the winners from the Eisteddfod.

Meeting of next organising group will be held next week.

Sonya Wedge added that the profit was now looking to be more towards £1700.

#### **M) Corporate Sponsorship Committee - Roland Davies**

Roland reported that the Corporate Sponsorship Committee are still in pursuit of a major sponsor, N-Power have been contacted. Steps have been taken to set up an Agriscope group in order to develop the committee over the next 12 months. Sonya Wedge added to this report by informing the Executive Committee that she has opened an instant savings account for the funds raised by the Corporate Sponsorship Committee.

#### **N) Stock Judging - Gron Bumford**

Gron reviewed the achievements made by the Stockjudging competitors since September, which included:

- Naomi George & Gail Lewis had represented the County in the National Dairy Event in Birmingham in October. Naomi was positioned 12<sup>th</sup> out of 24 in the Junior Stockjudge of the Year and Gail came 6<sup>th</sup> in the Senior Stockman competition and was top placed Welsh competitor.
- Staffordshire Show: 1<sup>st</sup> Intermediate Beef & Pig judging  
=2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Beef & Pig judging  
Overall winners
- NFYFC - English Winter Fair: 3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Beef Carcass  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Intermediate Pork & Live Carcass  
3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Pig Live & Carcass  
1<sup>st</sup> Intermediate team with highest scores  
=2<sup>nd</sup> Senior team with highest scores

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall team Pork (Live & Carcass)  
Overall winners for the highest marks throughout the competition.

- Welsh Winter Fair - all competitors were commended on their efforts in attending the events despite bad weather conditions.

CALF REARING: Bryn Jones (Llidiartywaen) won Champion Steer

STOCKJUDGING: 1<sup>st</sup> Beef, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lamb and 1<sup>st</sup> Overall

The Stockjudging dinner had been arranged for 11<sup>th</sup> February at Cefyn Coch.

**O) Wales Board of Management - Gerallt Evans**

Topics of discussion included the new Safeguarding Policy, the membership age for YFC, the advantages and disadvantages of being part of NFYFC and the new Wales YFC logo. The Wales YFC website is to be redeveloped with funding from the NFU and Powys County Council. Through the NFU, NFYFC are arranging HR advice for Counties that manage staff with no current professional HR facilities. The new road development in Builth will not be finished before the Royal Welsh Show, which will present the need for the reorganisation of the YPV in terms of access. The Bar tenders for the YPV have been sent out for a 3 year contract. An Agriscope group has been established to work on a 5 year business plan for the Young People's Village (YPV). The membership fee charge of various counties was also discussed. Concerns were raised regarding the agenda of the next NFYFC Council as it includes the issue of whether Wales YFC should receive 50% of levies from the Counties of Wales. Wales YFC are having a Health & Safety audit of all YFC events, that is being conducted by the NFU at a charge of £450.

**P) Wales YFC - Your YFC, Your Say! - Nicola Walker**

Nicola Walker reported that the age of the people in attendance of the meeting were not equally representative of the membership which may have influenced the angle of discussion. The general feeling was that the age of YFC membership should be higher. This debate will continue.

**Q) Powys County Council, Sports Development - Andrew Davies**

Andrew reported that he had met with Gareth Oldham from the Sports Development sector of Powys County Council to arrange funding for members or associates of Montgomery YFC for coaching qualifications. The course would take approximately two days to complete. The committee agreed to pursue this offer.

**E27/10/11 TO DISCUSS THE WALES COUNCIL AND NFYFC AGENDA'S**

The committee viewed both agenda's, but no comments were put forward to take to these meetings. Rhiannon Rees expressed concern over a previous lack of Montgomery YFC representation. Emyr Jones stressed that as the subject of funding for Wales YFC was to be discussed at the NFYFC council, it was important that council members attend in order to vote in favour of future funding. Roland agreed to attend, Andrew Davies and Gerallt Evans apologised as they were unable to go.

**E28/10/11 CCB Y SIR / COUNTY AGM**

The County AGM will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011. This year is the turn of the Bro Ddyfi, Llanbrynmair & Carno, Trefeglwys and Llangurig organising groups to host. The committee suggested holding the meeting at Glantwymyn or The Plas in Machynlleth. It was agreed to invite Helen Roberts to be a guest speaker.

## E21/10/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Sonya Wedge informed the Committee that the 14 day Money Market account currently earns 0.27% interest. There is an option to invest this money in a Business High Interest Bond, where a 3 month return would gain 0.4% interest or 6 month return would gain 4.5% interest. (It was recommended that a short term return option such as these would be more beneficial as longer returns can not benefit from increasing interest rates). Sonya asked the Committee if they agreed for these funds (in the Money Market account) to be transferred to a higher interest bond. Gwynfor Thomas suggested that further options should be looked into in case an alternative higher interest option would be more profitable. The committee agreed that this should be done.
- Gwynfor Thomas brought to the attention of the Committee that the treasurer of Llansanfraed YFC still has the old club funds and for action to be taken to official transfer these over to the County. He added that Church Stoke & Montgomery YFC were in the same position.
- Andrew Davies updated the committee that Penstrowed YFC was up and running with 7 keen members and an active programme.
- Rhondri Evans (Dyffryn Banw YFC), asked the committee if it would be possible to change the date of the Welsh Night in the Entertainments Festival as their accompanist was unable to attend the Friday evening. The committee agreed that requests such as this should only be accepted before the draw. Suggestions of alternative accompanists were made.
- Gwynfor Thomas commented that it was a shame that there were not many Welsh Entertainments entries. He stated that more bilingual clubs would take part in the event if the competition was held at a different time of year to the English performances. It was suggested that the Activities Committee could look into this further.
- As the 200 Club Draw had not been done at the Public Speaking competitions, the numbers were drawn as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> - 96 Bro Ddyfi YFC
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> - 31 Gron Bumford
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 32 Berriew YFC
  - 4<sup>th</sup> - 64 Richard Jones
- It was questioned why there was a lack of photos from County events on the County website. Helen Morgan explained the complexity in uploading photos and how it takes a very long time. Discussions with Richard Glover-Davies had taken place into updating the system but this would cost further investment that the County can not currently afford.
- Wales Field Day Catering. The feasibility of supplying food for the event was discussed. It was agreed that the Federation could offer event officials the same menu as was provided for the County Field Day officials and guests (Burger, salads and a pudding). Roland Davies offered to speak to the market to get their views on the matter. It was decided that if they were not happy for us to go ahead then Wales YFC would have to use the market caterers. It was noted that the Montgomery YFC catering could not be associated with the County Office due to the Youth Service regulations regarding The Pennington Report.
- The 'Just a Minute' competitions at Wales YFC will no longer be taking place, but a quiz will be held in its place. The committee agreed to offer the winners of the County rounds of 'Just a Minute' to enter the quiz instead.
- The committee had no objections in not entering a team in the Welsh debating competition at the Wales YFC level. This was because it has been very difficult to get a full team to attend and on past experience, other counties are let down from a lack of representation on Montgomery's part.

- The committee was asked to see Lorraine after the meeting if there were any volunteers to help upload the membership database in the office over the next couple of weeks.
- Due to Plas Dolerw not being available for the 24<sup>th</sup> March, the committee agreed for the Executive meeting to be brought forward by one week to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

As there was no other business the meeting was declared closed at 10.10pm.

Signed: ..... Dated: .....