

Chairmans Remarks

The County Chairman, Mr Garry Wright opened the meeting with a welcome to Lorraine Stokes the newly appointed County Organiser for Montgomeryshire. He also extended his welcome to Claire Owen from Mentre Maldwyn who attended the meeting in order to translate when required.

E/17/09/10 Apologies

Apologies were received from: Beth Watkins, Gareth Jones, Derwena Davies, Helen Roberts, Nerys Fychan, Gerallt Evans and Nicky Gethin.

E/18/09/10 Confirm the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Garry Wright. With no matters arising, he signed them as being a true and correct record.

E/19/09/10 Announcements

The Chairman congratulated the winning teams of the Welsh and English Drama's. Dyfryn Tanat are to represent Montgomeryshire at the Welsh Drama Finals in Aberdovy on Friday 26th February and Berriew will represent the county at the English Drama Finals in Brecon on Saturday 6th March.

Garry went on to congratulate those who helped to organise and take part in the Carol Concert at the Baptist Chapel in December, which went well.

The senior trip to Western Super Mare was a successful trip that was well attended and a good time was had by all. The Chairman thanked Nicola Walker for her involvement in organising it.

E/20/09/10 Correspondence

- A letter was read out from Nia Lloyd, Wales YFC regarding the Wales Eisteddfod 2010 which will be hosted by Montgomeryshire YFC. Due to limited venue capacities within the county, Wales YFC have decided to hold the Eisteddfod in Aberswyth with Montgomeryshire remaining as the host county.
- A letter from Eleri Roberts, Wales YFC was read by Katie Watkin and translated into English by Claire Owen. The letter explained that Wales YFC will organise the main sponsor for the Eisteddfod 2010 but they would appreciate suggestions of sponsorship from Montgomery as the host county. The only suggestion put forward was Tesco. The letter also requested suggestions for sponsors and producers for the Eisteddfod Chair. Emyr Jones offered to be a sponsor and Welsh Oak Frames were put forward as a possible sponsor. The committee agreed that it would be nice to have the chair made by members/ ex members within the County. Robby Wood, Steve Roberts, and Mick Jones were names put forward to approach about making Chair, possibly as a team effort. Rowland Davies commented about possibly creating a more modern design, away from the traditional Eisteddfod Chair approach.
- Pryderi Gwyn Jones wrote to the committee requesting support to publish a booklet created by Llanfair High School. The committee agreed that it would be best to pass this matter to clubs around Llanfair.

E/21/09/10 To receive reports

a) Year Book Report

County President Gwynfor Thomas read the Year Book report, written by Gerallt Evans. 400 copies had been printed and £2570 had been raised through advertisement. Agreement with Powys County Council is to be reviewed. In Gerallt's experience he suggested that it would be a good idea to reintroduce a competition for reports in order to obtain them more efficiently. This decision would have to be made by the newly elected Editorial Committee. Mr Thomas added to this report his congratulations to Gerallt Evans and the Committee for such an excellent Year Book production.

Election of Editorial Committee

Due to the fact that it would be unlikely for the Editorial Committee to be meeting before December, the Executive committee put forward the notion that the Editorial Committee should be elected in September once club officials have been established. A comment was then added that in order to allow enough time to gain maximum sponsorship, the Editorial Committee should meet before December. It was agreed with everyone that the September Executive Committee meeting would be a suitable time for the Editorial Committee Elections.

b) National Council

Rhiannon Rees informed the Committee of the newly proposed AGM venue: Butlins (Minehead). The Minehead Council are happy with the proposal but further checks with the police and costs are still to be completed, despite resistance from local residence. Some residence have set up forums against the AGM plans on the internet which Rhiannon recommended members not to retaliate to.

One of the bands originally booked for the AGM have cancelled so instead magician Paul de Beck has been booked (Shropshire based). Rhiannon urged for AGM t-shirt designs not to be too offensive and reminded members that if wristbands are lost during the AGM weekend they will be recharged. Wristbands this year should be stronger.

NFYFC have proposed a levy increase of 2.5% (due to inflation) which works out as approximate 25p/member.

On 9th October NFYFC are hosting a dance at the Competitions weekend.

c) Wales Council

The report was given by Rhiannon Rees and Nicola Walker. The theme for the Royal Welsh Show (RWS) this year is "Battling the elements". The Young Peoples Village is said to be bigger and better than before with better facilities too. Next years Wales Field Day venue was proposed to be held at Welshpool Livestock Market. The Wales AGM this year will be held at Wrexham University. Montgomeryshire's membership count at the beginning of September 2009 was 957. The Wales YFC hoodies were launched at the Winter Fair 2009. There are many training courses available for YFC members. The insurance policy is changing so that a board of elected trustees will be responsible for the Counties actions rather than the Executive Committee members as it currently stands.

d) Activities

The county Dinner & Dance was a successful event with a good venue. It had been suggested for next year to invite a guest speaker.

Requests were made not to have a mystery destination for the senior members trip. Members will discuss destination suggestions at the next meeting.

A profit of £1000 was made from the Christmas fancy dress party despite having to change venues last minute due to communication problems with Malto's in Welshpool.

Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire YFC will be joint hosting an Easter Dance at Crystals on April 1st with a "fools" theme.

The Wales A&I Committee reviewed the Federations Display competition because it deemed least popular although alternative ideas were not passed therefore the competition remains as before.

The County Public Speaking competition 2009 brought up many issues with the main problem being clubs withdrawing last minute. This lead to discussions about ho busy the beginning of the year is which may impact on the public speaking. From this a focus group was set up to review the YFC calendar. Steve Francis put forward a proposal to Change the YFC Calendar. The main idea was to move the Field Day. The committee agreed with this idea although conflicted the proposed time of year (first week in April) due to lambing: Venues would be harder to find, so would stewards and competitors. The committee decided it would be a good idea to send the proposed calendar changes out to clubs and obtain feedback to discuss further at the next Activities meeting. The findings from that should then be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting.

e) F&D

Katy Watkin reported on the recent successful events: The Fancy Dress Dance took £1000 which well exceeded expenditure making the event profitable. The Christmas carol concert broke even as did the County Christmas Dinner.

She is still waiting to hear from the lottery funding regarding a grant for a new County Camera. Rowland Davies informed the committee of the ideas received so far for the AGM tops. A discussion about YFC sponsorship was brought up at the last F&D meeting which brought about an idea of asking businesses for larger sums of money, offering them increased advertisement exposure in order to save having to write to people time and again for smaller hand outs. The notion aims to centralise the sponsorship within the county in order to reduce the work load for the sub committees. The Executive Committee decided that more research would have to be done into amount required and how the funds would be distributed amongst committees, events etc.

Gary Wright gave reason as to why 30 accommodation spaces had been given away to Pembrokeshire YFC without being passed through a meeting. In the past Montgomeryshire has never needed more than 100 spaces on a Torquay AGM and if they did go spare, Montgomeryshire would have to incur the cost some how. The committee largely agreed that it was a sensible decision to give the 30 spaces away.

f) Youth Forum - Catherine Bennett

The Youth Forum raffle at the Drama Festival raised £183. The Forum plan to have an exchange with an English club in August this year. They have been put in touch with Devon YFC but Catherine asked the committee to come forward if they have any other leads they could take. In April there are plans to host a Roller Disco a Llanedloes and this is to be publicised through Facebook and posters to clubs. Members of the committee voiced their concern about advertising through facebook as this method has recently caused trouble at a club dinner in the county.

g) Discovery - Catherine Savage

Catherine gave a financial review with the Committees current account holding £11,162.20 and the savings account holding £317.95 as of 04/01/10. £8000 will be transferred from the current to the savings account shortly.

The dates of the Kenya trip were confirmed at the last meeting and the trip costs will be finalised at the next meeting. Catherine encouraged members who would like to go on the Kenya trip to attend the meetings and help with the fundraising events as much as possible. The name the Giraffe competition at the Drama festival raised £145. Future fundraisers include a balloon race at the rally and a promise auction to be held at Welshpool Livestock Market. Executive Committee members stressed that a promise auction alone would not be too successful unless there was something else going on to entice people to attend and bid.

h) Rally - Rob Brymer Griffiths

The 2010 rally will be held at Glanmeihelli, Kerry on Saturday 22nd May by kind permission of the Powell family. The entertainment has been booked; "Blings of Leon". The fire officer is to approve the site for the licensing application to be granted. The sponsors have been written to and the competitions have been decided on.

Review of Rally competition rules

The rally competition rules were read through by the committee and amended if necessary. Where suitable; National competition rules were adopted. The Executive Committee permitted the Rally Committee to confirm the Junior Competition in the Agricultural section (number 8) and to pass the rules in the next Activities meeting.

i) Eistedfodd

Gwynfor Thomas presented the report on behalf of Nerys Fychan (Eisteddfod committee Chairman). The county venue is yet to be confirmed. Bro Dyffi Scool was too small so schools in

Minutes of the Montgomery Federation YFC Executive Meeting, held at the Monty Club on Thursday 25th February 2010, 7.30pm.

and around Newtown are being looked at. A list of Adjudicators have been drawn up. The competitions were chosen carefully with much research going into looking at the list of Wales competitions. The committee were highly conscious about choosing the right competitions to go forward with.

j) Rural Affairs - Richard Mountford

The committee enjoyed a very good trip to Rhys Heath. Jonathan Price has approached the committee with a view to having a day looking at EID equipment.

E/22/09/10 NFU Annual Conference

County Chairman Garry Wright attended the conference where he was made personally welcome. It was a highly interesting and enjoyable couple of days where the YFC movement was predominantly mentioned throughout. The NFU feel strongly about supporting YFC as it holds many of the industries future and current members. Garry was very impressed by the hospitality he received and put forward to the committee that the YFC should invite some of the Montgomeryshire NFU representatives along to the rally as guests in May. This was approved of by the committee as it was said that the YFC should remember the importance of broadening our network of industry comrades in order to maintain and improve interest in the YFC movement.

Richard Mondford proposed to adopt the reports, which Katy Watkins seconded.

E/23/09/10 Appointment of County Delegate for the National AGM

Richard Mountford proposed Garry Wright for this position. Katy Watkins seconded this motion.

E/24/09/10 Stock Judging - Gron Bumford

Gron gave a review of the successes of the County stock judging team over 2009, displaying an array of trophies and awards that were won at the 3 Counties Show, The Royal Welsh Show, The Great Yorkshire Show and the Winter Fair. The committee applauded everyone involved. Gron has a box of very old trophies and shields that are no longer in use. Actions will be discussed at the next Executive meeting regarding what the County should do with them.

E/25/09/10 Any Other Business

a) Welsh Public Speaking

The county has been put in an embarrassing position as Montgomeryshire must enter a team (of 5 people) for the after dinner speaking on Saturday 27th February. Lorraine urged members to volunteer themselves or suggest nominations of people who might be able to help at such short notice.

Catherine Bennett offered to join the team.

Further nominations were given:

Gethin Evans, Gale Lewis, Hedd Evans, David Oliver, Ryan Jones, Sion Moyle, Sara Moyle.

b) HSBC bank accounts

Katy Watkins asked the committee if they would permit the two 60 day notice accounts to be switched to instant access accounts in order to take advantage of better interest rates and avoid possible charged. This notion was passed.

Katy also asked for approval to close the 70th anniversary account which has a nil balance and is not required any more. The committee approved this action.

c) Severn Challenge

Gwynfor Thomas expressed how impress he was of the amount raised by the people involved in the Severn Challenge (over £6000). He stressed that greater publicity should be given for such a great achievement.

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Thursday 25th February 2010, 7.30pm.

d) Executive Committee Meeting Venue

It was expressed by some members of the committee that they felt the Monty Club was not a suitable venue to hold the meetings in future due to poor parking facilities, noise distractions and it being inappropriate for the image of the YFC.

Alternative venue suggestions included:

Newtown Baptist Chapel
The Elephant & Castle Function Room
Newtown Youth Centre
Plastalerio
Gregynog
Newport Methodist Chapel
Newtown Rugby Club

It was decided that the venue would be reviewed for the next meeting and Executive Committee members will be informed of the location in a letter and details will also be displayed on the website.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th March 2010.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:45

Signed:..... Date:.....