



- Chairman's Opening Remarks and Welcome – 7:36pm
 - HS - Good evening, honoured guests, fellow young farmers. Please put your phones on silent. Fire exits pointed out. Welcome to, Pam Fawcett previous president, Stuart Robson NA Pres. Adrain Willis. Rodger Dugdale, supporting mental health campaign. Thank you for making the journey here, my local village is Pendleton, however Pendleton was booked up.
 - Tonight's best speaker award will be judged by Paul Morris, please state your name and club before speaking.
 - Apologies for Absence
 - Ed Dugate, Drew Bailey, Rosie Bennett. Katie Sanderson NA chair, Robert Webster. Alice & Bill Bradley. Adam Briggs, Marion Ashton, David Lynch.
 - Minutes of the 81st AGM as circulated
 - Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda
 - All happy
 - Correspondence – None received.
 - County Chairman's Report, to include Audited Balance Sheet for 2021/22 (Laura Rimmer will give balance sheet report)
- Good evening ladies and gentlemen, honoured guests, fellow young farmers and the one from Yorkshire. It doesn't seem like two minutes ago since myself, Neil and my nine week old baby, Poppy, we're driving home from Slaidburn Village Hall wondering what on earth I've got myself into becoming County Chairman whilst living in Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria. A lot of people thought I was absolutely bonkers, and still think I am.

Since that drive home, a lot has happened in the last year whilst I've been County Chairman. There quite literally has been blood sweat and tears within the last year, I've lost count of the amount of times I've been up and down the M6 but almost 15,000 miles later it has been the most rewarding role that I have ever done within young farmers and I am so grateful that I have done it.

The year started in December as we were straight into work after the AGM, as we held the club training for the new role holders, it was great to see club officials sharing ideas with one another. It was also nice to see clubs busy as well, from Christmas Bingo's, Meals out and Christmas games nights it was lovely to be welcomed into the role by getting invited to club meetings. We also took over from Yorkshire at holding office at Northern Area, a special thank you must go to Pamela Fawcett, Mick Handley, Claire Rowlandson and Nicola Winterbottom as they all did a tremendous job of representing the federation whilst holding office.

February was a special month, a month of love as we had Samlesbury's re branded Rodoe Romance, unfortunately the evening wasn't a lucky night for David Hartley as he finished the night on his own. Nevertheless members enjoyed his 21st ice skating party which was organised by vale and opened up for other clubs round the county to attend. It was fantastic to see Vale bring members across the county together.

As we hit Spring, we had new beginnings as a county, the annual dinner dance was re born to become County Ball and was a sell out event raising over £3000! We also saw Wyre Lune and Fylde regions forming to create the New North Lancs Region.

County Rally was hosted by South West Region. Members from across the federation enjoyed a day of stockjudging, tug of war and flower arranging to name a few. I was delighted to see Pennine winning top overall region, a fantastic achievement for the smallest region within the county, a massive well done. A mention must also go to Slaidburn YFC who managed to hold the title of top club for yet another year.

Summer month's saw clubs have a range of social events, there was a fantastic selection from across the county for members to attend including Vales's Welly Ball, Parbold's Foam Party, Chorley's Pre harvest hoedown just to name a few. My Chairmans Challenge was also held over the summer which was a family fun, tug of war day raising money for Burnley Placenta Clinic & NICU which falls under ELHT & ME, a charity which is close to my heart after having my daughter Poppy. I was overwhelmed by raising over £1000 and the amount of people who turned out for the day, it meant the world.

We had a first for not just Lancashire Federation but a first for Young Farmers across the country as we held the first ever social event for juniors. It was fantastic to see the Younger members letting their hair down! Not only that Ellie Fish from Bury made her debut DJing at a county event and I hope this is the first of many for her. Saturday night brought the alcoholic version of Shindig. With approximately over 200 members in attendance those who were there had an enjoyable evening. I, among the rest of the social committee, are saddened by the fact it made a loss. It has highlighted the importance of clubs making the effort to attend county social events where possible. However it is not to be forgotten about the positives that the weekend brought.

September management with the added on EAGM was the meeting where the constitution got approved and passed by members. I would like to thank the trustees in particular Sue Davies and Moria Roberts who have all worked none stop on the document.

The back end of the year came the launch of our partnership with Child Action North West, working together to gain a grant, we are working to provide a course for club and county officials for mental health awareness, learning life skills on what to look out for and how we can help and support members. Thank you to Roger Dugdale who has financially supported this.

We also started the role out of the First Aid training. This is entirely free for members to attend thanks to the kind donation from Michael Gornalls family. So far we have had 12 members attending the course and hopefully we will see the next few courses fully booked as members learn life saving skills whilst remembering one of our fellow members, Michael who we all miss dearly.

I would also like to take the opportunity to highlight a couple of members, Jack Pickup who was nominated for New Auctioneer of the Year, Daniel Duerden for his efforts raising awareness for Lymes Disease, and is a finalist in one of the NFYFC achiever awards. And lastly Freddie Hewitt for his amazing efforts running the London Marathon. All fantastic achievements within their own rights which we have enjoyed showcasing on county socials and we were proud to support you as a federation.

The year brought great success at Northern Area and National levels. I would like to personally congratulate all those members who, throughout the year, went to go on and represent the county, we have had some fantastic results and you all should be extremely proud of yourself.

As I come to end my speech I can't do it without saying a few Thank yous, firstly to you the members. Without all of you sat here there would be no Lancashire Federation. We are what makes the federation. I would like to thank everyone who has stewarded and judged a competition throughout this membership year. Sticking with comps I'd like to thank all the committee and Rachel Gardner & Ed Clarke for doing a great job as Chair & Secretary. Well done to Abigail Stansfield as social secretary, Rebecca Dale as training secretary and David Hartley the chairman of both committees.

Paul Morris & Katheryn Write as staff management Chair and Secretary, you've both done a sterling job of running the staff management committee. The trustees, in particular Jess Whitwell & Greg Fitton. As we wave goodbye to Jess as Trustees Secretary we wish her the best of luck with her pregnancy as she continues to breed the next generation of Lancashire members.

Mick, as ex officio I can't thank you enough for always being there for me and offering support and advice. It's no easy job being county chairman however you certainly helped me a lot as I took on the role.

Caisha, the commitment and passion you have put into the role over the last year has been brilliant, you've helped moved the federation forward into a digital age and have never said no to any of my crazy ideas. Thank you for supporting me as County Chair, I've made a great friend in you. Johnny, otherwise known as Mr Tug of War or the bold headed man who likes nail bashing, I don't think I could of asked for a better County President to work with, you've always been at the end of the phone if needed you and been a pleasure to work with. Im looking forward to having a pint in Tillys together and no talking yfc however I think we both know we won't be able to resist the yfc chat. As a county we have been lucky to call you our county President.

Lastly Ed, If it wasn't for Ed I would have never been county chairman, I struggle to put into words how grateful I am that you stepped aside so I could do the role of county chairman. I will miss the car rides and catching up with the best looking Clarke of the family, Richard. I could go on forever with how great you've been but I don't want your head getting any bigger. I wish you the best of luck in your year as county chairman, I'm sure you will be amazing.

There are lots of other people who make the federation run like clockwork but I'd be here all night if I went through them all, you know who you are so Thank you.

The last of my thank yous goes to my friends and family because without them I honestly wouldn't of been able to do the role. In particular my mum, dad, Abigail and Roger. For all the babysitting, allowing me to be a lodger up until July when I had meetings three to four nights in a row, the support you have given me is second to none and I'll forever be grateful.

Last but by no means least Neil. There's not many good things that come from Cumbria other than the M6 out of there but I guess you're one of the them. Thanks for allowing me to do the role and staying at home with Poppy whilst I've been at meetings. Thanks for always being by my side and supporting me, I know I promised when I took on county chairman it would be my last YFC role, I promise no more after field day chairman.

So what have we actually achieved as a federation this year?

- Well we launched the LFYFC app,
- We re designed a new website which is simple and easy to use.
- We re designed the Lancashire Clothing and launched an online shop.
- Moohundered club numbers have doubled.
- Membership numbers are back up to what they were pre NFYFC convention being cancelled.
- We've helped Saddleworth YFC, (a club that has been closed for over 20 years) open and continue to work with them to help them get going.
- Ee brought back the yearbook, a chance to showcase how great a county federation we are.
- We held office at Northern area and once again thank Pamela, Claire, Mick & Nicola
- We've put on mental health training for county officers and working on perfecting it for club officers.
- We've held first aid course
- We held the first ever YFC juniors social
- We re branded County Dinner dance to county ball which was a sell out event.

And all that is on top of standard things that happen in a YFC year like running competitions, shindig in the showfield, club officer training and well general YFC. If that's not something to be proud of as a county chairman, I don't know what is.

I know I've not been everyone's cup of tea, There has been times where I have been criticised over how I've ran the county and how Ive handled the role, but as it comes to a end tonight I've come to realise being county chairman is completely different to how the role was done 30 years ago, Theres no guidebook on how to be a County Chairman because everyone in this room will have their own ideas of what a county chairman should be and do. As I look back on the year for me being the perfect county Chairman is so much more than meets the eye.

Its about being 5 stone overweight and jumping on a tug of war rope because Bilsborrow are short of a member, It's staying up till one 1am on the phone helping a member write a application to go on a travel trip because they are struggling with what to put. It's the phone call to a struggling club chairman to reassure them they are doing a cracking job. It's about being there for your members when they need it the most. Ive not been the perfect county chairman but I've given it my all.

To anyone sat in this room who is considering the role, one thing I will say is go for it. It will be the best thing you ever do.

Short video presentation of photographs from the last 12 months played, followed by a round of applause

5. Review of County Fees for 1st September 2023

- Proposed by Sally Burton – Good evening everyone, I would like to propose £45 per member plus national levy.
- Seconded by Abigail Stansfield - Good evening ladies, gentlemen and fellow young farmers. I would like to second the proposal that the forthcoming year the county fees remain at £45 plus national levy. However, I would like to highlight the importance, to the members, that through supporting county events it will ensure we won't see a large increase of county fees in the upcoming years.

6. County Presidents Report

Honorary members, Life Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents, Honoured Guest's, Young Farmers, Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome to Arkholme village hall in the heartland of our most northern club, Vale of Lune in the beautiful Lune valley home of Ed Clarke and lots of other wildlife.

Over the past twelve months membership has increased with 877 members signed up last year and when you think membership was at its lowest during covid and in the 600's before covid hit. We must be doing something right. The membership increase is partially due to the wide variety of competitions, events, meetings, and social events which members can attend and enjoy. It is also due to the hard work of clubs encouraging new members.

I have in recent weeks spent my time visiting clubs, some of which had a new members night, and it was a delight to be in a room full of young people enjoying themselves, smiling and having fun.

So, tonight is Lancashire Young Farmers new members night where later we will elect new members to their new roles and like club new members nights, I would like to see some smiling faces... All meetings should be constructive and enjoyable at all levels, and we must remember this.

When I was at Slaidburn yfc they had a new members night and played a game were a member was blind folded and a set of keys were placed under their chair and they had to point if they heard anyone stealing the keys and this new member about twelve years old took his shoes off and walked up as calm as you like and took the keys without making a sound and sat down to great applause. This will be a night he will never forget, his first night I hope of many.

Not everybody agrees with change, just as not everybody agreed with the YFC building, which is one of our finest assets and we are grateful to those who's time and effort helped plan and complete the YFC building in their time of office. So, the changes the current County officers have made in their time in office may not please everyone but if you don't change you will get left behind.

The changes we have put in place are changes I promised to help with when I took on the Presidents role some three years ago. To bring Lancashire YFC into the 21st century.

After listening to members concerns our first change was staff after we had to make staff redundant due to covid closing down YFC. When YFC got going again, it was an opportunity to review staffing policy and go paperless and tech savvy with the appointment of Caisha who has gone far and beyond our expectations and has even been recognized at National, who are still trying to keep up. So, thank you Caisha for all your hard work.

Another big change was the appointment of a finance officer, online banking and new financial systems run from the county office and not forgetting David Lynch who guided us for forty years is still here to advise us.

But now at the touch of a button you can get a ticket for a doo, access resources or get a copy of the new constitution for a bit of bedtime reading.

The constitution has taken four years to review and finalize from when I deemed it not fit for purpose when I was chair of trustees to the adoption by members at the extraordinary general meeting held in September and just before I step down as President. I would like to thank trustees for completing this task especially Sue Davies and Moria Roberts. Also, thanks to SMC particularly Paul Morris who steps down as SMC chair in January.

I do like to work close with members, and I remember telling a farmer when I was shearing that I feel young when I work with Young Farmers. He said you've not looked in the mirror recently have you... Working close to Young Farmers I get to know who's who and who's doing what for who.

I have worked closely with county officers over the last three years, Amy, Mick, Hazel and Ed. The reason we have lasted more than 44 days is because we have a good team none of us are perfect but with our combined strengths, we help each other to succeed in our roles. I would just like to say that any member in this room can be a county officer with the support of everyone else in this room.

Hazel has been a great county chair balancing both motherhood and Young Farmers has been a challenge in itself, although Ed Clarke's mothering skills have not gone unnoticed at a subcommittee meeting when Ed was left holding the baby.

Hazel has worked hard in her time in office bringing innovation to Young Farmers. She helped create the YFC app, reintroduce the year book , organise the junior shin dig, first of its kind in the country meeting the needs of junior members, first aid training, mental health awareness training and a great day out with members from all over the county tug of warring at the chairman's challenge. These are just a few of the highlights of Hazels time in office but she does a lot lot more behind the scenes that nobody ever sees to ensure you enjoy Young Farmers. So will you join with me and give Hazel a round of applause for the hard work she does on your behalf.

Ed Clarke's 18 months the bridesmaid soon to be the bride. Ed did an extra 12 months as vice to let Hazel step up, also he put his name forward for vice when nobody else did, so it is good to see two names put forward for a vote later. Ed's 18 months as vice will have primed him up for chair. So cometh the hour cometh the man.

The highlight for me was the county rally to see the county up and running again, the only rally in my three years as President. Well done to SW for organising and Pennine for picking up most of the silverware.

Other highlights include the 2021 debate final with Slaidburn the winners. The quiz with Vale of Lune winning senior and Chipping winning junior. Rural skills day was a great day out for everyone especially the bald headed President who likes nail bashing. Live and carcass had a brilliant turnout of members with an excellent venue at Bowland meats. And coaching Chipping TOW team in the national finals who came them 5th

Young Farmers, the skills that you pick up if you get involved can help shape your future career whether through competitions or taking on a role of responsibility it will leave you in good stead.

Has safeguarding officer I have had several reports of bullying in YFC whether it be face to face or online. We have encouraged members to report their concerns so this may be the reason for the increase but nevertheless this cowardly act has no place in YFC.

One task I had to undertake with some repidation was to go to Turton and tell them off for using bad language and drinking at the county rally but when I got there, there was 20 Young Farmers making scarecrows none of whom had been using bad language or drinking. So, I said that their behaviour should be at the highest level when attending YFC events and they said to me "could we have a go at tug of war" after seeing the rope in the back of the Landy. I must have spent an hour or more with them on the rope. It was a great night I went to tell them off and came home with 20 new friends.

And now Young Farmers, as I come to the end of my time as President and reflect on the roller coaster ride and all covid had to offer, I would like to think I will be leaving Young Farmers in a better place and I wish Michael all the best as President and I cannot wait for my phone to stop pinging, dinging, beeping and vibrating and yours start.

7. Vote of Thanks to President, Honorary Life Vice Presidents, Vice Presidents, Honorary Life Members, Officers, Trustees of the Federation and retiring officers

- Proposed by Josh Wilson – On behalf of all Lancashire Young Farmers thank you to John Neary, our president. I would like to also thank to the Honorary Life Vice Presidents, Vice President, Honorary Life Members, Officers, Trustees and all retiring officers.
- Seconded by James Davis – Good evening, Ladies, Gentlemen and fellow young farmers. It gives me great pleasure to second the motion proposed by Josh thanking the President, Honorary life Vice President, honorary life members and officers. You have shown outstanding commitment and as members, we are extremely grateful.

8. Presentation of Awards

- Member of the Year sponsored by Dugdale Nutrition (Presented by Roger Dugdale)
 - Junior
 - 1st - Erin Wright (Samlesbury) | 2nd - Rachel Hardman (Chipping) | 3rd - Katie Aiken (Vale)
 - Senior
 - 1st Peter Davies (Bury) | 2nd Victoria Bracken (Bilsborrow) | 3rd Kathryn Ryding (Parbold)
- Club of the Year - Slaidburn
- Best Chairman of the Year
 - 1st - Becky Sackfield (Croft) | 2nd - Anna Robinson (Slaidburn) | 3rd Jack Pickup (Pendle)
- Best Secretary of the Year
 - 1st Ella Mason (Slaidburn) | 2nd Beth Duerden (Pendle) | 3rd Sally Burton (Chorley)
- Best Treasurer of the Year
 - 1st - Tom Oston (Vale) | 2nd - Bertie Spencer (Slaidburn) | 3rd - Fred Wrathall (Clitheroe)
- Top Junior Involvement Award - Chipping YFC & Bilsborrow YFC
- Top Club Involvement Award - Chipping YFC
- Top Regional Involvement Award - Bowland Rgion
- Club Membership Increase - Bolton by Bowland
- Member Promoting LFYFC the most - Claire Rowlandson, Samlesbury YFC
- LFYFC Club Charity Award for the most money raised in 2021/22 - Pendle YFC
- Presidents Award - The recipient of this award have shown collective responsibility and when they needed help they were not too embarrassed to ask for it. The county chair, county office manager and myself all heeded their call for help and they responded positively. We helped them with meetings, supported their fund raising events and I was asked to give a talk on the live and times of a sheep farming President. This award goes to Longridge YFC. Like most clubs they are the foundation of our organisation. So when they started to crumble I did not want them to go the same way as Kirkham. With the support of parents they got me to coach them at tug of war creating a team culture. They got kitted out with sponsored shirts and boots and reached NA in their first year. They went on to organise a dance even when there were concerns that it would not be well supported but insisted they wanted to go ahead and put their name on the map. It turned out to be a success and the chairman decided to stand for another year. The last two years I have given this award to the top of county and I could of quite easily have done that again but their actions speak for themselves. If this small act helps save a club we should all walk away pleased.

- Chairmans Awards - Laura Rimmer. My chairmans award is going to somebody that before my year as chair, I had only spoken to a handful of times but since being in office, they have become a constant on my speed dial. They are someone who has gone above and beyond, taken minutes, processed memberships and much more. The Human encyclopaedia of YF. Amazing work, thank you Laura.

9. Election of Officers

- Patron Lord Derby – Gives apologies as unable to attend but delighted to continue to stand as Patron.
 - Proposed by Anna Robinson – It gives me great pleasure to propose Lord Derby, he is always there to help us out and gives great advice. Lord Derby is a fantastic asset to our team
 - Seconded by Lucy Nelson – I would like to second Anna’s proposal, Lord Derby has been an absolute credit and we would be honoured to have him.
- President Michael Rimmer
 - Proposed by Oliver Collins – It is a great honour and privilege to propose Michael Rimmer as our President. Young MR joined at 13. MR was quiet and shy at school, but not scared to say what he thinks for the benefit of others. He has been in roles at club and regional level and been county chair, and represented at NA & NFYFC. He has been an active and valuable member, a VP & Trustee at Parbold and went on to be a County VP. MR is only ever a phone call away for anyone. Most days, he is still wearing club clothing, even mentioned it in his 50th birthday speech, still wears it and most importantly still fits. Been a member for over 40 years and made numerous friends. Happy to judge at short notice. He has put a lot into YFC and got a lot out of it. You only get out what you put in and Michael is proof of that.
 - Seconded by Peter Davies – Good evening, it’s a great pleasure to second the proposal for MR as president. Michael has dedicated his life to LFYFC, NA, NFYFC, Club & Regional. He voices the opinions and views of members. I have always looked at Michael as a voice of reason. Not to hinder opinions but to explore other options.
 - HS - Michael Rimmer, are you happy to stand as President?
 - MR - Yes, it would be my honour.
 - Michael Rimmer takes the president seat at the top table.
 - MR - Thanks young farmers. I think Parbold YFC dinner dance was the last time I spoke for a good while. Club loyalties have been out to one side for a spell. There are 16 clubs in the county and they need to take president. I can honestly say, I was shocked when I turned up at AGM to find out that I was nominated. I’m still coming to terms with it, slowly. I’m not someone to seek the limelight, but my YF experience taught me to speak my mind and have principles. I was quite apprehensive, as it’s quite a job. Going forward, I want to re-focus and nurture the virtues of respect, harmony, and unity of purpose. Refocus on the ethos of young farmers. In the last year, there has been lots of change but there are some things that don’t need changing. We are a democratic organisation, each one of you has a right to say how we run things. Members shouldn’t be treated as mushrooms, we need to be more transparent. You can make an informed choice and informed decision. Secondly, look after freedom of speech. Lot of varied opinions, everyone has the right to voice those opinions in a respective manner and they should be allowed to speak. All your views are equally valued. There seems to only ever be focus on principles and not personalities. Our judgement is skewed. Nobody is no one better to run things, then you the members. To do that, you need to have all the correct information. I have no intention of making any decisions. I will be asking plenty of questions, as all VPs will ask. We have to accept that it is just for the better running of the federation and to enhance your decision-making process. Role of trustees and county officer is to ‘mark your homework’ not micromanage the federation. They are just there to make sure everything is running legally and as it should be. I am not going to be an active president, attending all clubs and comps etc. But I will be there when you need me. I just wanted to say that the first Wednesday of the month, I am unavailable for club meetings. I will also struggle in the summer, potatoes are very demanding.
- Vice Presidents
 - Proposed by Ed Clarke - The VPs are seen by some as an argumentative bunch with nothing valuable to add, but to others including myself, they are the providers of support, livestock and equipment. It is my great honour to stand here and proposed the list of VPs for the forthcoming year. Complacency is the death of progression. I am guilty of this, I stood up and proposed a list of VPs that I don’t know and still don’t. Progression is the route of everything, but something is going right with how the federation is growing. It was great to be able to have a discussion at the Nov MM about the VPs. This list is shorter than last year, but it was a democratic vote by members. Based on current VP involvement and to bring some fresh blood in. The list is as follows: Greg Fitton, Julie Bennett, Heather Harrison, Anthony Ollerton, Clare Platt, Robert Webster, George Hodge, Graham Young, Sue Davies, Moria Roberts, Michael Rimmer. A huge thanks to all VPs
 - Seconded by Tom Oston – Good evening and welcome. I would like to second Ed in his proposal for VPs. I look forward to seeing what they bring. Thank you to VPs for your support over previous years.
 - MR – We are a county of 4 regions but not all are represented. Not fair. Fred Mason – few gaping holes to this list, you are going down dangerous route. Some will say that they don’t know who they are but you need to think further than that. Richard Eccles, has share in Brock auction, when asking for a venue, the answer will be no. Steve Morris , lots of debate motions provided over the years, he has done lots. You need to be very careful and really think about this. Harry Salisbury – I agree with what Fred has said, these people have done lots for young farmers. Fred Mason – Angela Whitwell, did a fab job as secretary of trustees. HS – Speaking as a member and as a past county chairman, by no means has this vote been brought to victimise anyone. It was brought to discuss and review. No one is being kicked off. A letter of thanks and gratitude will be sent. There are a lot of people that support this federation, Roger Dugdale for example, you don’t need a title to support. The VPs aren’t getting kicked off, just trying to keep things fresh and we will constantly be reviewing. Steve Morris – I am grateful to Harry & Fred for their kind words. I will be stepping down anyway. But think about people like Angela Whitwell. Lots of people do a lot that isn’t seen. There has been difficult situations that cropped up in their time. Issues with past members accessing building, trustees has to deal with that. Trustees found that the allegations for the Bilborrow ban was untrue. Angela was secretary for many years, has a wealth of knowledge, and is a huge benefit to the federation without members being aware. Totally agree that federation is amazing because of them. Angela skills shouldn’t be lost. MR – drifting off point. If anyone has a proposal and wants to address the fact that not all regions are represented, please come forward. Mick Handley – I agree that Angela has done a lot for the federation, I propose the list that Ed read out but with the addition of Richard Eccles and Angela Whitwell. Jack Pickup seconded. Show of hands. No against.
- Honorary Life Vice Presidents
 - Proposed by Bethany Duerden – Good evening, I would like to thank the honorary VPs, Pamela Fawcett, Fred Mason, Graham Hayhurst, Alice Bradley, Gary Davies, David Kay, Mary Bailey, John Sowerby, Marion Ashton, Audrey Townson and John Towers, for all your hard work and support. I would like to propose the addition of John Neary. I sure all members would stand with me and agree that Johnny’s dedication has been nothing but invaluable.
 - Seconded by Levi Nicholson – It’s a great honour to second Beth’s proposal. I feel we are fortunate to have these people with their support and knowledge that benefit all parties of this fantastic federation. I am sure you will agree with the addition of Johnny. He has always shown 100% commitment. Has a big smile and always willing to help others. Please join Beth & myself with the decision to add JN.
 - John Sowerby – I am a life member.
 - Vote held to add John Neary - All in favour.
- Honorary Life Members
 - Proposed by Will Clarke - Good evening, I would like to propose David Lynch, John Sowerby & Audrey Townson.
 - Seconded by Becky Sackfield - Good evening, I would like to second Will with proposal of that list. All in favour.
- Chairman
 - Proposed by David Hartley - Good evening, I would like to propose Ed Clarke for County Chairman. Ed has held roles in YFC, including Club Sec, Club Chair, regional Sec, regional Chair, and County Vice Chair. Alongside this, he sits on NA committees and National Council. This shows Eds true commitment and passion for YFC at all levels. He has led Vale through Covid, as Chairman, whilst arguably having the most active Club on zoom through lockdown. Coming out of the pandemic, he has helped run several charity events for the club, including the biggest much haul in Vales history, raising more than £3500. During the last 4 months, he has stood in as County Vice Chairman due to unforeseen circumstances, providing him with valuable experience ready for the Chairman role. Outside of YFC, Ed works as a Project Lead, and Foreman for a civil engineering firm. Here he leads a team of men as they develop quarries. This shows he had the leadership qualities required for this role.
 - Seconded by Chris Leadbetter - I would like to seconded David Hartley’s proposal for Ed as County Chairman. I have every confidence he will do an amazing job. All in favour.
- Ed Clarke replaces Hazel at the top table.

EC - As a fourth generation Lancashire young farmer, It is a great honour to stand here with my ever-changing hairstyle for cablerife swear words and thoroughly beaten liver. I would like to say some thanks, firstly to Mick for the knowledge and wisdom passed down over the last 18 months, that I’ve been your vice, the success of LFYFC is in no small part down to you.

Next Caisha, for her hand at the tiller, slowly dragging YFC into the 21st century. We are the talk of the country with our app and are leading the way we are online presence.

The next 2 are the big ones, ladies first. Hazel, I'm sorry. Sorry for never correcting your spelling. Sorry for not reminding you which side of the road to drive on. Sorry Neil's hair is falling out. Sorry to see your year finished. I would have never thought we'd be friends 3 years ago, now we sit here as close friends and great confidants. Cumbria doesn't know how lucky they are to be getting you.

Finally, Mr LFYFC, Johnny's heart is split between TOW, Sheep, Tillys all overridden by YFC. As I've travelled the county and met members, Johnny is known by many different ways. The man who always rocks up late in a landy, Nail Bashing man, bald tug of war bloke, or the reason we never leave the pub before 1am. Your drive and dedication visiting clubs is admirable, you willingness to talk and kindness towards members is unrivalled. The void you leave behind is massive.

- Vice Chairman
 - Peter Davies
 - Proposed by Eleanor Fish - Pete Davies has been a strong part of Bury YFC since the day we both started in 2010. He's since been heavily involved in everything from competitions to going out of his way for anyone in the club, young or old! After showing up consistently to county meetings as well as supporting all county events I believe Pete is worthy of a role within LFYFC. Thanks
 - Seconded by Victoria Bracken - I would like to second the proposal, as Eleanor said, Pete has a wealth of experience across club & region. Natural prog would be vice. Although I am from a different region, I have witnessed his drive & determination. He lead Pennine to regional champions at county rally. Pete is organised, already started organising County Rally. Makes things happen. Bring enthusiasm, will make all feel welcome.
 - Neil Hodkinson
 - Proposed by Robert Spencer - I would like to nominate Neil Hodkinson of Chipping Young Farmers to stand as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year. Neil has been a member of Chipping Young Farmers since being old enough to join Young Farmers and has held a range of roles within the club since joining. Most recently he has served as their Chairman for two years, during this time he has successfully grown the club to the strong club we see today through constant encouragement and support of all club members both junior and senior. Over the last twelve months I have had the privilege of working with Neil as secretary of Bowland Region during his time as Bowland Region Chairman and can personally say that he is a very capable Chairman who has successfully led Bowland Region through its first post-Covid year. Neil has actively encouraged participation from all members within Bowland Region and has been an excellent promoter of not only Bowland Young Farmers but of the organisation as a whole through his unwavering dedication to competitions, meetings and committees alike. Neil is very approachable and has a thorough understanding of Young Farmers as an organisation, I believe this, coupled with his previous experience of being club and regional chairman, would make him an excellent nomination for County Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.
 - Seconded by Rachel Garner - Good evening, this evening it gives me great pleasure to second Robert's proposal. Neil is approachable and a well known face across the County. Neil's time in regional and club roles has taught him how to articulate his opinion and take into account the opinions of others. How to work as part of a team and lead and motivate. It's clear to see how much Lancashire means to Neil. He is a true member and gets stuck in were needed.
 - As we have had two nominations, there will now be a blind vote. You should have all been given a voting slip on your way in, please use this slip to write the name of your chosen Vice Chairman. They will then be collected and counted.
 - Voting cards collected and counted.
 - EC - The votes have been counted and am I pleased to announce that Neil Hodkinson is your new County Vice Chairman. Neil, please join us on the top table.

- Finance Officer
 - Proposed by Tom Gorst - I would propose Tom Oston as FO. Tom has been active member of Vale for many years. Treasurer for Wyre Lune & North Lancs.
 - Seconded by Claire Rowlandson, I would like to second Tom's proposal. As you have already heard and seen, Toms skills are something to be desired. He has been a huge credit to his club over the last few years. Recently taken on role of treasurer for NA. All in favour. MR – A huge thank you to Laura Rimmer for your contribution for last few years. You have done an amazing job helping to keep the federation going financially.
- Auditors
 - Proposed by Ella Mason - I would like to propose we continue with Voisey, they have done an excellent job with the accounts this year, they are clear and easy to understand.
 - Seconded by Amelia Hull - I would like to second Ella's proposal. All in favour.
 - Safeguarding Officer
 - Proposed by Chris Leadbetter - I would like to propose that John Neary & Laura Rimmer stay on. They have both done a wonderful job and always on hand to help.
 - Seconded by Katie Eastham - I would like to second Chris's proposal. All in favour.

10. Election of Committees

- Staff Management Committee
 - Proposed by David Hartley - I would like to propose Paul Morris, Kathryn Wright, Hazel Stansfield, Ed Clarke, Neil Hodkinson and Michael Rimmer. Thank you to Mick Handley as John Neary as you step down.
 - Seconded by James Nairey - I would like to second David's proposal.
- Trustees
 - Proposed by Ana Haworth - I would like to propose, Greg Fitton, Andrew Holden, Sue Davies, Moira Roberts, Hazel Stansfield, Ed Clarke, Neil Hodkinson and Michael Rimmer. Thank you to Adam Briggs, John Neary and Mick Handley as they step down. Thank you for your contribution. I would like to propose the addition of Mark Pearson, he will be a great asset.
 - Seconded by Rachel Garner - I would like to second Ana's proposal, Mark Pearson will bring a wide range of skills and knowledge. All in favour.
- Holding Trustees
 - Proposed by Mick Handley - I would like to propose that Stephen Morris, Paul McWhirter and Clare Platt remain as holding trustees. They are all very trustworthy and great for the role.
 - Seconded by Robert Spencer - I would like to second Mick's proposal, as our new president said, it is key for young farmers to move forward but to stay true to our principles. One of those is dependency. We can rely on them as a county. All in favour.
- Staff Appeals Committee
 - Proposed by Rebecca Dale - I would like to propose Anthony Cowell, Angela Whitwell, and Matt Dugdale. They have done a fantastic job over the last year.
 - Seconded by Robert Redmayne - I would like to second this proposal. All in favour.
- Training Fund Committee
 - Proposed by Neil Hodkinson - I would like to propose the committee as last year, Jess Dodd, Laura Webster, and Amy Dickinson.
 - Seconded by Helena Derbyshire - I would like to second Neil's proposal. All in favour.

11. Date of 83rd Annual General Meeting

- 23rd November 2023, no venue as yet but will be somewhere in Lune Valley

12. Any other AGM business and Notices

- Message received from Simon Knagg from Disco Jakkers. 'It has been an amazing year, I wish you the very best for the year ahead'
- Best Speaker Award - Judged by Paul Morris. Good evening young farmers, some of you may know but I will be stepping down as staff management chair in January. 3 years ago, after a little late night or maybe early morning persuasion by Mr Neary, I took on the role. We didn't see covid coming and didn't see staff changes coming but it's important to take on change whilst still remembering the roots. I am deeply grateful for the staff management committee. The role has gotten a lot easier. Caisha has been here for 16 months now. Digital presence is off the scale, the online membership is a great success. NFYFC make it more difficult. Caisha managed to gain sponsorship of £4,238 in last year and has already secured £1,700 this year. Pre covid, office expenses ran at £1630 for stationary and postage. Despite current rising costs, office expenses are down to £460. £1,200 saving whilst serving a bigger membership. Caisha has introduced the App and many other things. Staff management are doing to job we need to do. Change in accounts has been a difficult period, but getting better now. As I step down, James Oddie will take over. I will always support Lancashire Young Farmers and will not seek a title. It is important that it lead by members for the members. Should always be proud. Thank you for those 3 years. Now on to the award, I have listened to a lot of good speakers, some averaging 100 words in 30 seconds. All have spoken as members. I wasn't looking for longest speech or anything in particular really. I was looking for clarity, impact, humour, calm and genuine. Mr Hartley could of won it but blew it in the end. I have gone through every person, and this persons speech wasn't the longest but was one said with clarity. This years 'Best Speaker Award' goes to Pete Davies.
- Harry Salisbury, week on Monday, Winmarleigh Christmas bingo all welcome.
- Chairmans award
- MR – thank you for your attendance. Lots of different faces. Binds us together because we care deeply and only want the best for the members and for you to make to most of every opportunity.

13. Close Meeting

- Michael Rimmer - Thank you for your attendance. Nice to see lots of new and different faces. Binds us together because we care deeply and only want the best for the members and for you to make to most of every opportunity. Have a safe journey home
- Meeting close at 9:40pm