**Lancashire Federation of Young Farmers**

**Management Meeting**

Thursday 22 May 2025, 19:30 for 19:45 Start

County Office, Clitheroe

**Present:**

President: Simon Thompson

Chair Ana Haworth

Bury Alfie Naylor, Freddie Sellers, Jessica Holden

Bilsborrow Lucy Phillips, Emily Thompson (North Lancs Sec.), Viki Clarke, Holly Barton

Bolton-by-Bowland Annabelle Robinson, Ed Dickinson

Chipping Sam Gornall

Chorley Becky Sackfield (South West Chair)

Clitheroe Meg Goring, Will Burnop

Longridge

Parbold Meg Johnson, Isabelle Deacon

Pendle Freddie Shorrock

Rainford Tom Webster, Jade Wilson

Samlesbury

Slaidburn Ailsa Bury, Helena Beattie

Turton

Vale O’ Lune Dan Holly,

Winmarleigh Tom Boardman, Olivia Gorst

Sue Davies (Trustee), Steve Morris (Trustee), Moria Roberts (Vice President), John Neary (Safeguarding)

1. **Chairwoman’s Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Welcome to Mays management meeting

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Tom Walker, Millie Thornber, Beth Duerden, Jen Miller, Ella Mason, Megan Whittle, Pete Davies, Gary Davies, Ellie Fish, John Towers.

1. **Minutes of the last Management Meeting as circulated**
   1. **Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda**

None raised

1. **Correspondence (H Rose)**

Had a meeting with Harriet from Farming Stronger for longer.

She would like to offer sessions for clubs to promote the new videos and share exercises with members.

She would also like to bring to young farmers an already successful model of their leadership academy. Members can ‘sign up’ and receive certificated training by completing their programme. This is open to all members; current officers and those who are interested in becoming club officers. Would be a great addition to CV’s and an individual’s skill base, really good opportunity for future leaders in Lancs YFC.

Simon reiterated the value in taking up such opportunities.

Please contact Hannah if you are interested in getting Harriet to come to your club.

Andy from YWT will be coming along later to talk about opportunities to work with him.

The next NFYFC Council Meeting will be 11th June on Zoom, will circulate to those for whom is relevant.

1. **MooHundred Club (H Rose)**

Have done a prize draw.

Now just need to get access to the accounts so we can send people their winnings.

Will be looking at updating the system for sign up and creating a database for entrants. This will hopefully improve data management, entry management and streamline the whole thing.

1. **Finance**
   1. **Outstanding debtors list**

We still cannot access a debtor’s report. All invoices have been sent for club membership. Please make sure you continue to get memberships processed.

* 1. **Financial Report**

Accounts are being audited and will be at AGM. If any queries or need let Ana and Hannah know.

Working with Luara Rimmer and all invoices are up to date. Ana is acting finance officer.

Trustees’ discussion around finance was communicated by Sue, she stated that has been on radar for many months, they know the challengers and have discussed with staff management about the split of what Hannah will do (including required training) and what the finance officer will do when is sorted. View of staff management, endorsed by trustees, is that need to complete a clear roles description and feel would be better to have non YFC affiliated/ paid role so that there is some accountability. Hope this will help get things done. Not going to rush recruitment and get something in place/ a new format agreed at next AGM. Want to have something sorted to hand over. Want to avoid repeated issues that have had over the last few years. John Neary requested budgets to be raised for the AGM so that decisions can be made from facts. Sue mentioned that there was a description of the role previously, which included this. The new role holder would also come to relevant meetings and be able to provide information for members that they could use to make informed decisions as required. It was recognised that this hasn’t happened over the last few years.

Ana would welcome suggestions of people who might be suitable that were out of membership age and qualified/ have accounting background.

1. **Competitions Committee Report (B Duerden / J Miller)**

Rural Skills held 6th April at Gisburn Auction Mart.

Day ran ahead of schedule with judges reporting it all appeared under control. Day was generally ok but let down by a lot of entries not turning up (in some cases over half of those entered by clubs). The main reason appeared to be people not holding certificates needed for competitions, so please read rules before filling out entry form.

Had meeting last Thursday at The Bay Horse and combined this with the Social Committee meeting. The venue was ok, but quite informal and there were a lot of people talking over one another.

The main topic of discussion was the Royal Lancashire Show, as we will have a stand, the stock judging competition and a TOW competition. The upcoming sheepshearing was discussed, please fill out entries.

Dairy elimination will be 10th June, entry form is available on JotForm, please complete for each club as soon as possible so know how many judges are needed. Swimming and bowling comps were discussed. Hannah is looking into booking them at Darwen Leisure and Red Rose Bowl. Horse judging rules were discussed and are being written up to hopefully have a competition date decided at the next meeting.

Dates for live and carcass were discussed, Bowland Foods already been asked about carcass and a venue is in mind for live. Next meeting will be Tuesday 15th July.

It was agreed that the meeting venue was good as was central, but there was music and lots going on, so was difficult to talk clearly. Lots more attended because were able to get there.

1. **Social, Fundraising and Training Committee (M Whittle/E Mason)**

Apologies given and report provided…

Country themed do, pencil in diaries, 20th Sept thinking will be Longridge showground or around Preston area, maybe Samlesbury way. Just trying to get a license.

First aid is being confirmed, will be at county office on a Sunday.

For Lancs show (Sunday), were thinking of 2 reps from each region to show case their region as a representation of Lancashire.

Arranging another Silo Training / Officer night for a night late September early October for new officers.

Silo training will be on the 10 June. Please come and fill in JotForm to book places.

1. **Regional Reports**

Bowland

Had meeting on 13th May. The Regional Rally was hosted by Bolton-by-Bowland, a successful and well attended day. Attended CPR training hosted by Clitheroe and looking at giving providers a donation from the region. Will be moving to bimonthly meeting while quiet, may move back to weekly if it gets busier.

Plans are in place for Bowland Ball, 18 October at the Fence Gate Lodge.

North Lancs

The Bilsborrow Easter Bingo in May went well. Hosted County Rally which was well attended. As were hosting County, did not have a separate Regional Rally, but did have a regional tow and stock judging. Upcoming events include Vale Welly Ball on 4 July, Bilsborrow Dinner Dance on 30 August and Vale Anniversary Dinner Dance on 26 September.

Pennine

This last quarter has been quiet in terms of regional activities, will be trying to do more meeting moving forward. Bury have their dinner dance in September and tickets will be available soon.

South-West

Not had a meeting since last meeting, but had Regional Rally, good turn out and had some really good judges attend. Chorley’s Pre-harvest Hoe Down 4 June, tickets available on Facebook event page. Parbados Foam Party will be on 12 July, tickets coming soon.

1. **Reports on previous events not covered under Comps/Social reports**

None

1. **Reports from County Committees**
   1. **Safeguarding (J Neary / E Fish)**

Please see Hannah with ID if you have brought it with you so that DBS checks can be completed.

* 1. **Management Trustees (A Holden)**

Congratulations to Secretary Jess who has had her 4th baby.

* 1. **Staff Management (J Oddie)**

James sent his apologies as unwell. Had a staff management meeting 3 weeks ago.

Discussed Hannah’s early appraisal which was positive, and discussed Finance Officer role.

1. **County Office Report (H Rose)**

Have applied for a grant from the Billington Foundation for a substantial amount over the next three years. If successful, would cover H&S/ first aid training, some work with Farming stronger for longer and a PGL wellbeing trip for junior members. Haven’t heard anything yet and has been a while so will chase. It was a member’s mum who flagged it, very grateful to her.

Reminder about Silo training an asking for attendance

There is a photo competition for the headers of the weekly update, would be nice if could be shared to all members so we can have relevant photos personal to use as headers rather than AI generated/ free photos from online.

There is now a form to sign up for the weekly update on the contacts page of the website so members can easily sign up. Manged by a mailing platform now, which ensures peoples data is secure and that they can join and unsubscribe easily if they want.

Have met with several alarm companies to get quotes for an upgrade so that the building is more secure and services are contacted in the case the alarm does go off. The upgrades will take place soon.

It is time to renew the photocopier contract. The proposed new contract for agreement is for a machine that does more for less than we were paying previously. The trustees expressed they would be happy to progress to support the provision of competition paperwork. This was agreed.

It was raised that use by clubs is encouraged for flyers, posters or programmes for dinner dances. Files can be sent to Hannah to be printed. The cost per quarter will be £ (inc VAT).

Some difficulties were raised following County Rally regarding the recording of results. Some of the results being submitted have been hard to read, not on the recoding sheets, or just placing to third and no other scores. This is not just in relation to Rally, but experienced at Rural Skills and NA Weekend. It has made it difficult to interpret results and get them correctly recorded with any speed. It is nice to make sure that people know how they have done the same day, but there have been placing mistakes because of this. It was raised that some thought would need to be given to this and how we can support better results recording. Input from all was encouraged, please give Hannah, Ana or Anna any thoughts or suggestions. It was suggested that a briefing for stewards is given to ensure they know the requirements, and to try and make sure that forms are completed properly and information provided in a legible format to give accurate results by the end of each event. It was also raised that some of the events being managed by Stewards, were not actually managed at County Rally. Ensuring people know what is going on would help things run more smoothly and make the competitions more fun.

County merchandise was discussed and if members were interested in County level items. It was decided that club level merchandise was preferred over County. No further items will be ordered.

1. **Reports from outside organisations**
   1. **NFU**

None

* 1. **RABI**

None

1. **Northern Area Report (P Davies)**

No NA meeting since last Management Meeting, there is an in-person meeting next Saturday.

We received a 2-page letter of complaint from Yorkshire regarding NA Weekend.

One item was that venue was being used by other organisations being a Safeguarding issue, but Hannah and Ellie did not agree with this. NFU are dealing with the broken ankle. They claimed the Brainstrust motions were challenging and took issue with the motions posed. A question was raised as to the feelings of others about the motions, no other issues were raised, and it was confirmed that the judges were happy with the topics. It was mentioned that one Yorkshire entrant should have been disqualified as another person was in the room.

It was asked if those who attended felt their memberships were checked correctly? No one raised an issue.

There was a delay in sending out some information, but we waited for all counties to have submitted entries, so no county had an unfair advantage over another, and the book change was due to a death of a club member in another county and was deemed in the best interest for the protection of those attending.

With regards to the shorter match times for netball, attendees were asked for their thoughts. It was mentioned that there were a lot of teams, saw no issue.

The other things raised in the letter were placing card issue (as results were not provided in a suitable format) and some general H&S around cheerleading and panto (in the rules it said there would be mats at national final, but when asked they were told there would be no mats at NA).

Field day is coming up and most have confirmed entries, thank you. Need to do shearing and would like volunteer to do straw throwing.

1. **NFYFC**
   1. **News from NFYFC Council**

Ana attended and they covered the standard stuff. Alex is now National Vice Chair.

A vote was taken and National will be standing against inheritance tax.

National wanted to increase membership costs but voted to keep as it is. County levy will go up and National contribution stays the same.

Public speaking final took place and was lovely to see a younger member win. Northumberland won the Panto final.

* 1. **Agri link representative update**

The road map was discussed and there will be new training (embracing agritech). It will be a 15 min course with support and get qualification at end. If anyone want to do it the link will be in the Facebook chat. Awaiting on other info and some new courses will be coming soon.

1. **Any other management business**
   1. **County Rally Report**

Well attended and good weather. Ran out of food. Thanks to johnny for the obstacle course.

Timetable went a bit skew-wiff and one of the judges was late. The cookery space caused issues as it had to split in terms of when teams were able to go in.

Question about who were going to go through.

Anna stated she though it was a shame that the lion share of organising was on Emily and Tom when it is a big county with lots of members who could have helped more in terms of organising.

Myerscough staff were great and very helpful. It was their H&S that led to the restriction on space for cookery, which caused last minute issues. Good venue.

Ana advised that anyone organising in future needs to be in contact as soon as possible with County Officer so links can be made with venue and risk assessments completed much earlier. This will hopefully avoid issues such as that with the kitchen space or will allow them to be resolved earlier.

We have run out of County placing cards.

One Ash have offered to pay for them all if they are sponsor again. All in attendance were happy with this. Need to get a new design. Invited ideas for design of new cards (let Hannah know). The new Regional Placing Cards were shared; orders will be possible soon.

AOB Clitheroe had a CPR training courses and quite keen to do ‘train the trainer’, so members can be training by Northwest Rescue to deliver CPR training.

Chipping race tickets available for cash prize.

Please fill in register

BB sat 9th Aug get team together.

Ana trying to sort date for Chairman’s challenge and hope to get that circulated soon. Will be an old-style rally.

Guest – Andy Mather of Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Andy discussed the wildlife trust latest project that they have funding for and invited clubs to contact him to arrange somethings.

Simon asked if Andy could include a follow up to include in the weekly update.

Susan thought that there should be more than enough for clubs to contact Andy about.

1. **AOB**

Clitheroe had CPR training courses, and they are keen to offer ‘Train the Trainer’ sessions for club members. This would allow club members to receive training in CPR training delivery from Northwest Rescue and then deliver training at their own clubs.

Chipping Duck Race tickets are still available, there will be cash prize.

Please make sure you have filled in the meeting attendance register.

Bolton by Bowland are having their annual rounders tournament 26 July, please come along and get a team together.

Ana trying to sort a date for her Chairmans’ Challenge and hopes to get that circulated soon. Event will be an old-style rally.

Andy of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust discussed their latest project and invited clubs to contact him to arrange activities and talks.

Simon asked if Andy could send info to be included in the weekly update.

Susan thought that there should be more than enough for clubs to contact Andy about.

1. **Date of next meeting - Thursday 24 July 2025**, at County Office.
2. **Close Meeting at 20:43**