



Lancashire Federation of Young Farmers

Management Meeting

Thursday 22 January 2026, 19:30 for 19:45 Start

County Office, Clitheroe

Present:

Chair – Anna Robinson

<u>Bury</u>	Ana Haworth, Eleanor Fish (SG Officer)
<u>Bilsborrow</u>	
<u>Bolton-by-Bowland</u>	Annabelle Robinson, Ruby Winthrop, Morgan Smith
<u>Chipping</u>	Neil Hodkinson, Rachel Hardman,
<u>Chorley</u>	Becky Sackfield (South-West Chair), Helena Derbyshire, Robyn Clayton, Sophia Brodrick
<u>Clitheroe</u>	Eleanor Chew,
<u>Longridge</u>	George Ireland, Will Harrison,
<u>Parbold</u>	Rachel Webster, Jack Hepplestone, Robert Webster
<u>Pendle</u>	Freddie Shorrock, James Mcgregar, Katy Hargreaves
<u>Rainford</u>	Megan Whittle, Jake Wilson
<u>Samlesbury</u>	James Nairey, Lucy Bargh,
<u>Slaidburn</u>	Ella Mason (County Social Secretary), Millie Thornber
<u>Turton</u>	Oscar Beard, Isabelle Holden,
<u>Vale O' Lune</u>	Daniel Holley, Isaac Middleton, Tom Walker
<u>Winmarleigh</u>	Olivia Gorst, Tom Boardman

Beth Duerden (Vice County Chair), Hannah Rose (Administration Coordinator), Simon Thompson (County President), Jen Briggs (Staff management Chair), Liz Seed (Finance Officer), Michael Rimmer (Life VP), Steve Morris (Life VP), Sue Davies (Trustees), Angela Whitewell (Trustees).

1. Chairwoman's Opening Remarks and Welcome

Anna welcomed all to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. Gave thanks to Ana for her year as Chair. Simon Thompson presented her with her award.

2. Apologies for Absence

Pete Davies, Lucy Williams, Scott Bennett, Ed Dickinson, John Neary, Meg Goring, Dan Rowland, Bert Lancaster, James Oddie.

3. Minutes of the last Management Meeting as circulated

Minutes were approved.

a. Matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda

None raised



4. Correspondence (H Rose)

Form for raising motions at National AGM in April. If anyone wishes to raise anything, please email County.office@lfyfc.org.uk.

NA staff meeting took place just before Christmas, not much to feedback now, but there will be things moving forward as a result of things discussed. These will be circulated as they come through. The main thing is that Flossie, our Northern Region contact, has left, and she has not yet been replaced. Will have to see what happens with her role. Ellie, staff member at East Riding will also be leaving in the new year and Clare from Cumbria left her post just before Christmas. Hopefully all of this will have minimal impact on members of Lancashire.

Session proposal – Nik Lysiuk – Money, business and resilience

Nick grew up in Lancashire and fell in love with the countryside from a young age. After a 17-year career in financial markets London, he now runs a business educating people on how to make sense of investing and specifically how Bitcoin can fit into long-term financial planning. His love of the countryside means he's increasingly looking for ways to support rural and agricultural communities specifically.

The session would be a practical, plain-English talk on money, business resilience and long-term financial security, aimed specifically at people living and working in rural communities.

Having grown up in Lancashire and spent his career in financial services, he's seen first-hand how uncertainty, irregular income, rising costs and complex decisions can make it hard to plan confidently for the future.

Broadly, the session could cover things like:

- How to think about money and investing when income isn't predictable
- Common financial mistakes I see people make (and how to avoid them)
- The trade-offs between land, property, pensions and newer asset classes
- Building long-term confidence and resilience rather than short-term wins

It would be informal, discussion-led, and focused on skills and understanding. He's also very happy to tailor it around what your members would find most useful — whether that's business planning, succession thinking, or simply making better financial decisions in uncertain times.

If helpful, he can also suggest a couple of possible session titles for you to test interest, or have a chat to discuss further.

Nik Lysiuk

Founder, Double Penny Ltd

Bitcoin & Crypto Education for Individuals and Businesses

Security | Ownership | Long-Term Thinking

<https://www.niklysiuk.com>

Play at the Dukes Lancaster

'And Then Come The Nightjars' that takes place during the Foot & Mouth pandemic, more information here: <https://dukeslancaster.org/whats-on/theatre/and-then-come-the-night-jars>.

'A tender, frank and funny play about a West Country farm struggling to survive the Foot and Mouth pandemic.

South Devon, 2001. Disease ravages the countryside, pyres are lit on the horizon, and dairy herdsman Michael is trapped as his farm becomes a battleground for his business, his heritage, and his friendship with local vet Jeff. Ten years on and the battle scars are as evident on their relationship as they are on the landscape.'



It is showing from the 24-28th April and full price tickets would be £25 each, however if a group of 10+ is gathered they would be able to offer a group booking discount and are really keen to get this organised for young farmers.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Erin Evans

Marketing & Communications Officer

Email: erin@dukeslancaster.org - Box Office: 01524 598500

5. MooHundred Club (H Rose)

Haven't been able to access the account yet, so unfortunately Hannah has been unable to progress the agreed plan. Liz is progressing brilliantly with access to the accounts, so hopefully it will not be long before the plan can be actioned.

6. Finance

Liz introduced herself as newly appointed finance officer and gave a background on her history with Lancashire YFC. Liz noted the difficult period and said she hopes we can now move forward. She is building a budget with Hannah, Simon, Anna and Beth, to take us forward. Will involve all club's involvement as the membership is what keeps the base finances healthy. Clubs will be invoiced for Membership in February. Liz is looking at fundraising and some possible options.

She went through the current debtors and stated she would like to speak to those on the list.

She said that if anyone has any queries. Please give her a shout.

She has set up a new email address – finance.lfyfc@gmail.com.

Anna added that membership is essential and noted that some planned attendees to the upcoming speaking and sports competitions are not members. If they are not member they should not be competing as they are not insured and it is not fair on those that have paid and completed their membership. They need to be members at club level as well, as not covered by insurance at club meeting either. Please ensure all those attending meetings are signed up as members.

7. Competitions Committee Report (B Duerden / J Miller)

Had a meeting last night at county office, poor attendance with only 11 members present. Please send 2 people from each club. It would be good to have people there to discuss how to raise money and for all clubs to input and help with competitions and fundraising.

The meeting covered:

- Reports from live and carcass, swimming, bowling, speaking, debate and the quiz so far. - On the whole positive feedback and a few points that were noted and have been taken on board.

Upcoming:

- Sports this Sunday at Bowland High, only dodgeball. Understand that competitions had quite a slim age bracket, which is possibly why there have been few entries.
- Entry form for clay pigeon shooting will be out soon, will be Sunday 1st March at Blackpool Sporting Clays.
- Rural skills will hopefully be at Gisburn Auction (waiting for them to confirm).
- Proposed 2 dates for Rural Skills and a vote was held to choose between 29th March (12 votes) and 26th April (14 votes), the competition will be held on 26th April.
- It was confirmed that the deadline for National (for the National level competitions) won't be until after County Rally as all the competitors will go through the NA Field Day to qualify regionally.



Held the AGM after the meeting - Jen Miller was appointed secretary and Ed Dickinson replaced Beth as chair.

For future meetings, it was mentioned that the committee need to know where to hold meetings so that people will come. Will be one meeting every other month and it will be joint with the social committee meeting. Have tried pubs and worked well with central location but struggled with the background noise. A vote was held to choose between using County Office (12 votes) and a central pub (8 votes). The next meeting will be at County Office.

It was mentioned that the previous pub location was good but it was hard to hear each other. Reiterated that it would be really good for all clubs to send 2 people.

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

Also had issues with turn out.

Training - New officer training date could be the 19th or 26th February at County Office and will cover the roles of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and using Silo.

26th February was confirmed.

At previous meeting they discussed fundraising, and rather than do a big event they will plan to do more frequent smaller events such as quiz, race and bingo nights.

Fundraising around Lancashire hosting Stockman was discussed.

Hosting soap box races to get more outside people involved was suggested, any ideas were encouraged.

Please contact Rachel Hardman with all suggestions.

Held the AGM after the meeting – Ella Mason was appointed secretary and Rachel Hardman is chair.

9. Regional Reports

Bowland

- Bolton by Bowland have held their duck race.
- Chipping have completed their Christmas tree collection.
- Clitheroe tractor run, raised £13,000
- Organising indoor games night and regional rally.
- Samlesbury's rodeo romance is on 14th February.

North Lincs

- Winmarleigh hosted Christmas Bingo.
- Bilsborrow have just hosted a quiz night.
- Regional quiz night is 9th February.

Pennine

- Turton hosted a tractor run just before Christmas.
- AGM coming up next week.
- Bury tree collection was at the beginning of the month.

South-West

- Rainford have an upcoming Past and Present do 7th March – see Meg Whittle for tickets.
- Already busy planning County Rally 17th May at Taylors Farm Shop. Any recommendations for judges (livestock in particular) please put on sheet at back of room or let Meg know.



Proposal for new club was discussed. Meg expressed her worry for Rainford, as she thinks it will result in Rainford losing all but 9 members (she did a quick poll). She hopes the proposal will be brought to next meeting, but she thinks it would be best to move where Rainford meet closer to other area. Anna agreed no point opening a second club at Halsall for Rainford to then close. Meg provided some background on the old club and potential repercussions for Rainford. It was mentioned that Halsall took over from Ormskirk when it failed. When Halsall failed most members then went to Rainford. Historically, it is unlikely will get two thriving clubs in this area. Will not be able to discuss more until it is brought formally to a management meeting.

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

None

11. Reports from County Committees

a. Safeguarding (J Neary / E Fish)

Johnny Neary has decided to step down, and Ellie wanted to express her thanks for his commitment and time and for help personally in her first year, we will organise gift as 17 years is fair commitment.

b. Management Trustees (S Davies)

Johnny did come to the last trustees meeting, and they discussed requirements around Safeguarding Officer role. If there are any male persons who might be willing to join Ellie and Hannah, please make this known This person can be a member or out of age.

Liz introduced herself and trustees are pleased she agreed to take on role. Trustees will be looking at job description and will circulate and review with Liz, Hannah and Officer in the Federation, to look at the split between roles and how the roles can be developed together. Now Hannah has been in role for a year in a better position to look at this. Accounts were looked at and these will be submitted once the final 5 points are addressed.

Trustees are still looking for secretary and hope to have this sorted soon.

The AGM took place after the meeting. Andrew Holden has stepped down after completing his 5-year term, the committee thanked him. Appointments were made to roles and Sue is now Chair, Andrea Garner is Vice Chair and Rachel was welcomed as a new trustee.

c. Staff Management (J Oddie)

James Oddie stepped down and Jen has agreed to be Staff Management Chair moving forward.

Jen gave a summary of her background and discussed that she and James are handing over and will have done so by the next management meeting.

12. Health and Safety

Safeguarding – there is a list at the back of those who are yet to do their safeguarding training on Moodle. Please check this and chase your club members. It is a condition of their position.

DBS – All officers should have received their U check email (and probably several reminders). Please check junk mail for this. This is also imperative.

Need to provide documentation and ID, this is typically 2 forms of photo ID and a bill within last 3 months. There has been a link circulated to what documentation is suitable and will be included in the minutes. A list of those who need to respond will be circulated over the next week, including who needs to provide what. Hannah needs to see at least one piece of photo ID in real life (or over video call).



13. County Office Report (H Rose)

Room Hire – Having signed the contract, Tom dropped out due to health reasons, again. Following an advert on social media, we were approached by HRV- CVS (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Community Voluntary Support). They operate for the community by strengthening the governance of groups and organisations, through advice and support with constitutions, governance, policies and procedures and by offering support on volunteering and funding. We aim to ensure the voices of our organisations are being heard at the right strategic meetings so that we can be proud of our strong communities and happy residents.

Trophies – bar those needed for the AGM, the rest are still with jewellers for fixing, valuating and engraving where needed. Please continue to ask at clubs for any trophies, the ones still awol are listed on the agenda.

We have had some we need to make decisions about:

04 Martland trophy – Senior live and carcass.

This is broken beyond repair/ would cost more than trophy is worth to repair.

Propose replace with a spare trophy, agreed.

10 Bibby trophy - Club of the year.

Propose concede lost, agreed.

Propose replace with a spare trophy.

18 Ruth Lambert - Member promoting YFC the most.

Broken beyond repair.

Propose replace, agreed.

May have to purchase some. Can members consider if they know anyone who might be interesting in donating/ sponsoring a trophy.

It was questioned about insurance, but confirmed that currently only a select few trophies are detailed on the policy.

Martyn's Law – this law is coming into effect April 2027, but it will affect big events. Ticketed events; Standard tier for 100 – 799 attendees and Enhanced tier for 800+ attendees. There will be extra stipulations about venue safety, this will include insurance and risk assessment implications. There will continue to be more info coming through National, including training. Please start to think about what club level events may be affected. There will be guidance coming from County on the County level events for those tasked with organising them. Any concerns, ask Hannah.

Memberships – processing, invoicing and fines.

Membership – do it (please).

Please remember that if they are not a member on Silo they are not covered under insurance and cannot compete. Fines will be issued for Quiz and Speaking and Sports, along with levy invoices.

If you are having issues with access to Silo, please complete the Moodle training module in full and you will then be auto enrolled. Contact Hannah if needed.

There are reports for each club at the back of the room, a list of current members and a list of pending members.

There are also certificates at the back for people to pick up.

Meeting attendance – slightly concerned about some lack of representation from some clubs at the management meetings. Pleased to see so many people here this evening. Please ensure you have



signed the register. Have suspicions that quite a few who attended the AGM are not on the list, so if you note someone missing on the draft minutes, please let Hannah know. A few errors on the AGM mins were noted and will be changed.

Building update – New water meter, as the old one broke. There was no charge for this.

Recycling – Proposed we stop getting the recycling collection over the next council bin rota (April 26 – March 27) as it has taken a year to fill it. This was agreed. Hannah will take the recycling home.

14. Reports from outside organisations

a. NFU

Inheritance tax – Success through relentless lobbying of Labour MP's and opposition MP's for almost 12 months. A partial U-turn which will save a vast number of farmers from paying IHT, however the fight is not over and NFU continue to lobby government and opposition parties to make sure this is a full U-turn for agriculture.

Animal welfare review 2026 – The government have recently released the animal welfare review for which they hope to release the results of later this year. and results later 2026. Currently there is a consultation underway with regards to key changes, particularly with regards to tail docking and concentration in lambs, firing crates and chicken spacing within broiler pens. If anyone wishes to make their opinions known, there is a QR code on the NFU Skipton and Clitheroe Facebook page, which will direct you to the consultation page.

Water Reform -The next policy on the horizon for the farming community. This will set out the government strategy with regard the water system, and in particular how farming interacts with water courses and also the application of slurry and farmyard manure. It is vital that NFU is at the table to make sure decisions do not affect farming any further.

Pressure from the interview of the Defra secretary, Emma Reynolds – the updated sustainable farming incentive offer will be released for small farms in June. It will be directed at farms under 50 hectares initially, with the further access from larger farms being in early autumn.

Key events – Farm safety event is being held on the 19th February at Skipton Auction Mart. Arrival from 6pm for a 6:30 start. This will be shared on social and is in the weekly update. Will specifically target farm safety issues with keynote speakers from Cars Billington, NFU risk management services, the Police, and Craven Fram Vets. Will address health and safety trends, farm machinery safety and livestock safety. It will also address regulations surrounding vehicle passengers and other transport regulations. Registration is through the Skipton office or find the Eventbrite link on the Facebook page.

b. RABI

Possibly making some head way. They have responded to a club enquiry for help but have not responded to County Office. Shall keep trying.

15. Northern Area Report (A Haworth)

Next meeting is at the beginning of February, and 6th and 7th March is the NA weekend. Hannah will be in touch over the next few weeks to check attendance and who will be available to be entered.

Field day will be 13th June at Middle Ord Farm.



Stockman will be held 27th June at Clitheroe Auction, Lancashire are hosting and it is hoped we will get a full team representing.

16. NFYFC

a. News from NFYFC Council

National suggested having event for juniors and for seniors. Larger clubs could have different meetings for juniors and seniors. Members could pay associate fee when leave and then get benefits for doing this (fere access to local show. Suggest look into this and might help.

Need council reps to attend 2 meetings a year at Lemington Spar.

1. Ana Haworth, Katy Hargreaves as reserve
 2. Neil Hodgkinson with Beth Duerden and Anna Robinson as backup
- Can have as many as we like there, but only 2 will have voting rights.

b. Agri link representative update

None

17. Any other management business

County ball tickets out, sold $\frac{3}{4}$ so please purchase if want to go. 16 an over

27th June stockman and will need to sort a committee of people to help organise this will be at next comps meeting.

Anna gave out place cards for speaking comp winners.

AGM min issued raised - Whitechapel Village Hall stated as venue and some name spellings need looking at.

- Honorarium for Ana was discussed.
- Anna explained the purpose; Neil was awarded £1,300 and now need to decide what it will be for Ana's.
- A lengthy discussion was had about the honorarium moving forward, if it should continue, if it should be a set amount each year and what it was really for.
- The discussion was held about the contribution and relevant amount for Ana. The amount of £1300 was proposed by Katie Hargreaves and seconded by Ella Mason. Accepted by majority vote.

It was discussed that it might be worth considering what this will be and how it will be managed in the future and perhaps consider having a set amount moving forward. It was mentioned that individuals should not be acting as Chair for the payment, and it can get emotional when judging what a person gets. It was also suggested that it should be scrapped completely, because it should not be about money. It was proposed that we could look at inflation each year and increase a set payment by this amount. It was proposed that it becomes a set amount each year and that this is taken out of chairman's challenge fundraised each year to get the agreed honorarium and then rest goes to chosen charity. It was countered that if we want County to thrive, then the Chair needs to go to things, and some good Chairs could be put off from doing based on not being able to afford the travel. It was suggested that there was value to setting the amount but need to consider the inflation and increase by this. That this is something that should be considered and be implemented after the decision over the current honorarium is made. We will need to consider that the chairman's challenge element and how this might play into helping fund the honorarium and make sure we don't agree to do something that isn't kosher or above board or misleading.



Heather is here to give us a brief talk about Kooth.

Engagement lead for Kooth mental health services.

Heather introduced the largest online mental service in UK. Funded by NHS Heather covers Lancashire and Cumbria.

Want young people to know about the service.

The NHS wants the service to be used. Commissioned to work with 10 to 18 in Lancashire. Available online and will get same day access to a councillor through this service. Available until 10pm every day. Easily accessible, anonymous. Also offer self-help tools and a peer network. Allows them to join groups to talk about things that are important to them and goes through moderation so cannot be bullied or have discussion get inappropriate. Rather than being referred the service is available outside of this and is accessed voluntarily and are more likely to engage with the service and the anonymity helps with this side if things and helps them feel safe to open up.

In UK have hundreds of counsellors ready to help.

Please take contact details and come speak at club to the young people and get them introduced to the service and signed up. She can also provide more info for members that they can take away with them.

Heather Hook - hhook@kooth.com

She has provided some resources – [Kooth. Local Orgs Resources - Signposting videos, case studies & guides](#)

You can find more information on their [Connect Kooth](#) page.

Simon – County President

Expressed he is still concerned that members are still separating County from themselves.

He reiterated importance of membership and would like to see fines scrapped.

He thanked and welcomed Liz and Jen.

18. Date of next meeting - Thursday 26 March 2026, at County Office.

19. Close Meeting at 21:12