Lancashire Federation of Young Farmers

Management Meeting

Thursday 24 September 2026, 19:30 for 19:45 Start

County Office, Clitheroe

Present:

Chair – Anna Robinson

Bilsborrow	
Bolton-by-Bowland	Ed Dickinson, Morgan Smith
Bury	
Chipping	Neil Hodkinson, Rachel Hardman
Chorley	Robyn Clayton, Maddie Yates
Clitheroe	
Longridge	George Ireland, Isabelle Wallbank, Beth Rowland
Parbold	Jack Hepplestone, Rachel Webster
Pendle	
Rainford	Hannah Webster, Emma Davenport
Samlesbury	
Slaidburn	Kirsty Robinson, Sadie Wilson
Turton	
Vale O' Lune	Isaac Middleton, Dan Holley
Winmarleigh	Olivia Gorst, Holly Gornall, Mindy Binney

Beth Duerden (Vice County Chair), Hannah Rose (Administration Coordinator), Simon Thompson (County President), Sue Davies (Trustees), Steve Morris (VP), Angela Whitwell (VP/ Trustee)

1. Chairwoman's Opening Remarks and Welcome

Anna welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies for Absence

Jen Briggs, Alison Bradley, Becky Sackfield, Lucy Phillips, Holly Barton, Meg Johnson, Jade Holden, Eleanor Fish, Alice Bradley, William Burnop, Eleanor Chew, Liz Seed, Leila Nicholson, Michael Rimmer, Rachel Webster, Lucy Williams, Ana Haworth, Pete Davies, Gary Davies, Helena Derbyshire, Molly Nicholson, Bert Lancaster, Tom Walker.

3. Minutes of the last Management Meeting as circulated

Minutes were approved.

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

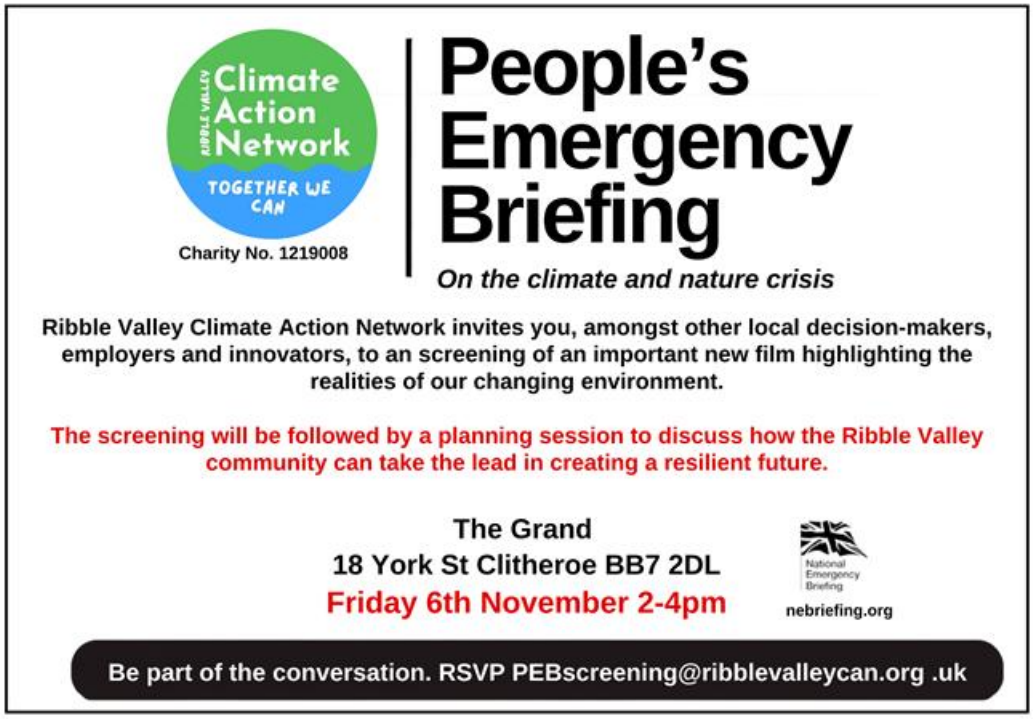
None raised

4. **Correspondence (H Rose)**
   a. NWF Fuels
      NWF Fuels have said, I'd be more than happy to take some further information to see if there are any areas where we could potentially help. It may also be beneficial to arrange a meeting with the relevant people on our side to explore this in a little more detail.
      As a county we cannot take sponsorship from any other fuel company, but clubs can. If you would like to get involved with NWF fuels as a club and look at how you can work together then please contact county office so we can form a little group for exploration of ways in which they can help.

   b. Safeguarding sessions
      If you think that some training in any area of safeguarding might be of benefit to your members (from managing safeguarding at the club to making members aware of things to look out for), please contact Craig (Craig Pollard, East Lancs Learning Craig.Pollard@eastlancslearning.ac.uk). They will be able to work with you to get something bespoke and suitable.

   c. Online courses
      THREE online courses at zero cost!
      But don't wait too long to register your interest, as spots are filling up fast. This is an incredible opportunity that you won't want to miss out on. You can easily sign up on our website at www.wefindanylearner.com/book-online/ or by contacting our team at 01226 958 888.
      All you need to do is meet a few simple criteria, including being at least 19 years old by August 31st, 2026, residing in England, and not currently enrolled in an apprenticeship program.
      Counselling Skills Level 2 - Many people find it helpful to seek counselling at some point in their lives, and a counsellor can provide support for people in all sorts of situations. If you're interested in supporting people to improve their personal well-being, this course will provide you with the correct understanding, knowledge and skills to do that. You'll learn about core counselling skills and how to use them in a counselling relationship. You will also be taught about counselling theory and the ethical framework that informs how counsellors use their skills.
      Mental Health First Aid Level 2 - It's important that employers are transparent and open about mental health issues, and this qualification builds an understanding of mental health problems and the support available to colleagues. Increasing the understanding of the mental health of staff at all levels builds a culture of care and support.
      Understanding Autism Level 2 - This course will give you an understanding of autism and the principles of supporting individuals with autism. You will look at the person-centred approach and the influence that positive communication methods can have and will gain an understanding of how individuals with autism can be supported to live healthy and fulfilled lives.
   d. Local Young Farmers and/ or their families are invited to join a selected local audience for a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing on Friday 6th November 2-4pm at The Grand, 18 York St, Clitheroe, BB7 2DL. The film features footage from last November's National Emergency Briefing (NEB) which brought together leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, national security and nature. Following the screening there will be an opportunity for you to discuss ways in which we can work together to avert and minimise the risks that climate

change is bringing to people and property, nature and livelihoods in Ribble Valley. If you think it appropriate to bring a colleague, then please add their name when replying to the invitation. (There is a limit on numbers, but we will do all we can to accommodate everyone wishing to attend.) We've all experienced the heatwaves this summer, watched as wildfires have devastated parts of the landscape and many of us dread potential flash floods as heavy rain hits hard-baked ground. Farmers and food producers in Ribble Valley have been at the sharp edge of the climate crisis this year - reduced yields from drought and threats to animal welfare from very high temperatures have hit hard. The knock-on effects on food supply and prices will likely hit local consumers and retailers later this year. Scarcity-driven rising costs for our restaurateurs and hospitality sector will exacerbate the difficulties already facing local businesses.



e. County Minds – mental health event

COUNTRY MINDS | FREE EVENT

An evening of awareness, conversation and connection.

Wednesday 14th October at 7pm at the beautiful Haigh Barn Wedding Venue for a special Country Minds event bringing people together to learn more about mental health and suicide awareness, open up conversations and help reduce the stigma around asking for help.

Whether you work in agriculture, are part of the rural community, or simply want to better understand how we can support ourselves and those around us — everyone is welcome.

Learn more about mental health

Increase awareness around suicide prevention

Meet others and connect with your community

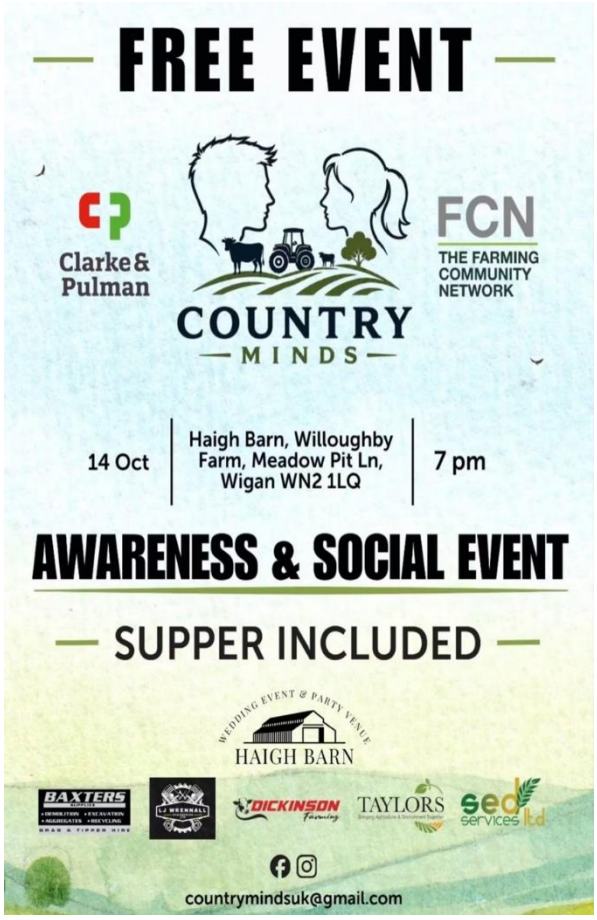
Encourage open and honest conversations

Supper included

Haigh Barn, Willoughby Farm, Meadow Pit Lane,
Wigan, WN2 1LQ
Wednesday 14th October 2026
7pm
FREE EVENT

A huge thank you to the sponsors and supporters for helping make this evening possible: And thank you to Haigh Barn Haigh Barn for providing the beautiful venue for the evening.

Let's start the conversation. You never know who might need it.



5. Finance

Liz has sent her apologies and submitted the following:
Apologies I can't make tonight's meeting.

I hope you can all see the figures for the LFYC financial year which ended on 31st August 2026. The accounts are now with the accountants, and draft accounts should be ready before the next management meeting which can then be accepted prior to the AGM in November.
When I first became involved at the start of the year, my financial forecasts didn't look that great but you've proved me wrong and the final figure at the end of the year is a net income over expenditure of £121, this may change slightly when the accountants complete the audited accounts. £121 may not seem a lot but as a non profit making charity, LFYFC's aim is not to make huge profits. Well done to everyone involved.
The accounts have improved by

- Having 675 fully paid up members – hopefully this number will continue or increase
- Anna R and Beth D have done a great job obtaining sponsorship for events and clothing
- A grant of £3000 and legacy of £1000 from Mary Bailey
- Hannah R has done a great job promoting the office room hire – nearly £2000
- Investment income totals £5283.42

There are some one-off expenses in this year– trophy repairs, accounts training for Hannah R, 2 years Chairmans honorarium – approx £3,000
At the last meeting I said that membership fees would possibly have to increase to cover costs, but I was perhaps being a bit pessimistic and as National are increasing their levy going forward it would seem unfair to hit members twice with an increase.
Please, please support the 00's night at Clitheroe Auction in November and new Moohundred as the success of these 2 will support the future cashflow of LFYFC. However, if these events or future county events aren't supported then county membership fees may have to be reviewed.
We have just paid the National affiliation fees and insurance to NFYFC, which totalled £29,000 leaving the current account balance of approx. £30,000 so LFYFC are in a stable financial position moving forward. A big thankyou to all club officers who continue to promptly pay invoices, the only invoices outstanding at present are those from August for the second membership fees and competition fines.

Any questions please contact me via the office
Thanks
Liz Seed

Please see Appendix 1 for the figures.

6. Moohundred

Got licence and able to start rolling out, will try and get sorted over next few weeks. Hoping to start December and prize draw each month add in prize money. Please support and keep eyes out for this. Simon added that with the financial report in mind, if each club could get 15 members signed up, we could get a good solid income in. Do not have to be a member to take part.

7. Competitions Committee Report (Ed Dickinson / J Miller)

Not too much has changed.
Live & Carcass (part 1) was well attended and went very well.
Entries are low in total and it would be good to get people signed up.
Please push entry at clubs.



EVENT		Entries Open	Entries Close
15 Sept	Live (Live & Carcass)	Yes	Closed
27 Sept	Sheep Dog Trial	Yes	Closed
29 Sept	Carcass (Live & Carcass)	NA	Closed
06 Oct	Debate (Heat 1)	Yes	Closed
13 Oct	Swimming	Yes	08/10/26
20 Oct	Debate (Heat 2)	NA	NA
03 Nov	Debate (Heat 3)	NA	NA
17 Nov	Debate (Quarter Final)	NA	NA
19 Nov	Bowling	Yes	15/11/26

8. Social, Fundraising and Training Committee (R Hardman/E Mason)

No meeting since last management,
FA training out and ask that all support the event in November, looking for any input – ideas and offers of support.

9. Regional Reports

<u>Bowland</u>

- Regional stockman has been held.
- Held a quiz and car treasure hunt which have both gone well.
- Bowland ball is being planned for 31st October, tickets are available

North Lancs

- Not met recently
- Vale dinner dance is sold out
- May need a prompt for regional AGM (Anna will assist)

Pennine

- Not too much post summer
- Regional AGM is in the next few weeks

South-West

- AGM date set.
- Just starting to organise dinner dances – Chorley and Parbold
- Tractor run is in December

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

None

11. Reports from County Committees

a. Safeguarding (E Fish)

No issues

b. Management Trustees (S Davies)

Last meeting in July, not since last management meeting. Still making focus is finances and will be glad to have audited accounts to look at sooner this year.

c. Staff Management (J Briggs)

Over the last few weeks, I have touched base with Hannah and we have reviewed the office opening hours and the requirements of the office at weekend being handed to Beth/Anna in regard to the alarm.

We have discussed the requirement of contracts for the office tenants and Hannah is actioning this.

Hannah and I are still going to review the Staff Handbook from National, and we are happy to circulate if necessary to others. There has been a delay on this as they needed some additional information.

Hannah has been attending some club AGMs/meetings, and this will continue over the coming weeks.

And finally…. Do we have any electricians out there who could look at the lighting in the office?

Many thanks enjoy the evening Jen

12. Health and Safety

No updates

13. County Office Report (H Rose)

a. Membership & Silo App presentations

b. Support resources

There are session support resources available through curve modules on the National website. Some are downloadable and others ask you to request someone for delivery. We currently have no one trained to deliver any curve modules in Lancashire. National are hoping to run some train the trainer events over the winter. If you know anyone who might be interested in this training, please let Hannah know. Might also be worth having a chat with parents and advisory at your club too.

c. Club AGM's and club forms

All club secretaries have been sent their club info forms that need to be completed and returned post club AGM so details can be updated. This will also include ensuring that all required enrolment to training and invitation to DBS checks are completed.

Please remember that all Officers have until 31st December 2026 to complete all required actions, or they will be required to step down, and an interim AGM will need to be held to replace them.

The sooner the club info forms are returned, the sooner this process can be started.

After updates and registrations, Hannah will send each officer appointed/ reappointed for this member year information on what is required. The secretary (previous and new) will be sent a summary of what everyone needs to do.

If there are any issues or questions about this, please flag them as soon as possible so action can be taken in time of the deadline. Please return the info forms as soon as you can after the AGM to give your officers the maximum amount of time to action what is required.

d. Updates from recent staff meetings

Calendar – NA calendar is currently being compiled, and this will be shared when completed.

Chaperones – The legislation around BOPA and chaperones is now much more involved.

If any club is planning on entering a team for the following competitions in Feb, please contact Hannah now so the application process and chaperone allocation and training can start as soon as possible so we have some chance of getting everything required in place.

Relevant competitions:

- Live tribute act
- Street dance
- Drama

e. Drop-in sessions

Timetable of drop-in session has been circulated. Please feel free to drop in at anytime over the hour session with any questions you may have. A link to join will be shared on the WhatsApp general chat on the day of the session.

Switched to using teams and not zoom, so are not limited to 45 minutes.



14. Reports from outside organisations

a. **NFU**

Not too much to report, busy collating NFI response.
Ball is Saturday 3rd October with an auction if anyone wants to go

b. **RABI**

FarmersAid

The FarmersAid app now has more than 6,000 downloads and continues to grow its reach across the farming community. We're working with our training provider to develop the training offer further and exploring new opportunities. We know of 3 active uses of the app in Farming environments.

10,000 Cows Challenge

Marie Stephenson recently completed the incredible challenge of milking 10,000 cows in 10 days to raise funds for RABI. She has currently raised an amazing £6,925 and the challenge generated some fantastic awareness of RABI and the support we provide to farming people.

Emergency Drought Grant

We have launched a £2m Emergency Drought Support Grant to support farming households facing severe financial pressures as a result of the drought and prolonged dry weather. Eligible farm owners and tenant farmers in officially designated drought areas across England and Wales can apply for up to £2,000 towards personal and household living expenses.

The grant was rolled out in five phases, with the first phase opening on 7th September.

The campaign has already reached more than 195,000 views across our social media channels, with 260 shares and 462 interactions, and has been supported by 10 farming influencers with a potential combined Instagram audience of almost 500,000.

If anyone in the clubs is struggling or needs support, please encourage them to contact our 24/7 helpline on 0800 188 4444.

15. Northern Area Report (A Haworth)

No meeting since our last management meeting, Next meet next month. Sports and speaking is March and East Riding is hosting.

Council – nothing to report at the moment and weekly news from national is shared in the LFYFC weekly update.

16. Any other management business

Simon

Simon mentioned that it is nice to see new members, he encouraged them to come and share and make themselves at home.
He stated that he doesn't do much social media but, nice to see so much going on.
He encouraged clubs to consider going out and door knocking and seeing if people are interested in joining, the strength of our organisation is in our members.
Crack on and enjoy young farmers!

John

John requested a full list of proposals for AGM at next meeting. It was confirmed this would be available.

He also highlighted Pendle speed sheer and the Valley show; he offered congratulations to both clubs for great events.

Dobsons Skipton – A tractor run will be taking place for Will suffered a serious injury abroad to cover bringing him home and medical costs.
This Saturday at 12:30. He had accident and is paralysed from neck down, need to pay for the hospital care and journey home. Great to see lots to support. The poster will be shared in the weekly update tomorrow.

17. Date of next meeting - Thursday 13 November 2026, at County Office.
AGM - 26th November 2026 at Newton Village Hall

18. Close Meeting at 20:24

Appendix A – Finance report

BUDGET 1st September 2025 to 30th August 2026
Lancashire Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs
For the year ended 31 August 2026

Account	Budget 2026	Actual 2026	Notes
Turnover		As at 31.08.26	
County Fees	26920	27000	675 members
NFYFC Fees per member	23555	23625	
National Insurance per member	2880	2889	
County Fees Insurance per club	2457	2457	
Clothing Sales		865	
Competitions Sponsorship	1500	550	£250 for Rural Skills Day £300 County Rally
County Competitions	840	1535	Competition entry fees and competition fines
NA sponsorship		1350	NA Stockman sponsorship
County Level Sponsorship	3700	4715	£1000 clothing sponsorship
County Ball Fundraiser	9740	9379	
Fundraiser	1000	12	Race Night cancelled due to lack of ticket sales 1 more ticket to refund
Chairman's Challenge - Promise Auction	2000		
Event Sponsorship		-24	Error from previous year
Mics Revenue	-302	-302	Error from previous year
Room Hire		775	
Room Hire - long term	1200	1200	£150 per month plus ad hoc rental
Sales	365	377	
Grants	10000	3000	£3000 grant received
Donations		1324	£1000 from Mary Bailey legacy
Total Turnover	**85856**	**80727**	
Cost of Sales			
Chairman's Honorarium	2600	2600	2 years Chairman's Honorarium in this year
DBS Checks	864	404	DBS checks
Stationery	133	173	
Clothing Sales		739	
Total Cost of Sales	**3597**	**3916**	
Gross Profit	**82258**	**76811**	
Administrative Costs			
Attendance Assistance	150	150	
Audit & Accountancy fees	1396	2290	One off Xero training £585
Building Safety	436	436	Fire and Pat testing
Building Security	514	534	ADT
Building utilities	2900	1895	E'ON and Water £100 per month Kerosene 500 annually
Cleaning	870	657	£150 cost of deep clean prior to King's visit
Club Supplies	281		
Communications - Phone & Internet	876	921	Mobile 13 BT 60
Competition equipment hire		150	
Competition Judges Costs	142	45	
Competition Resources	2653	1175	£300 County Rally sponsorship thrd to SW County Rally costs covered by SW region
County Ball Costs	5838	5838	
Employees National Insurance	5450	5357	
Equipment & Machinery Hire	830	776	Gremlin £180 per qtr £110 Annual fee equipment protection
Event costs	800	686	£686.40 room hire 2025 AGM
Fines	320	520	£320 fines for Field Day 2025 and £200 2026 competitions
Gift	200	201	
Grounds Maintenance	38	38	No cost in 2025
Insurance for Office	1648	1597	
IT and copier charges	1118	1225	Printing costs approx £50/mth Domain and Email £252 Wix £232.60 Lawdepot £33.00
Member Training	185	335	
Moohundred club expense		40	Lottery fee for 2026 Moohundred club
NFYFC National Levy	21430	21430	Paid in Sept on previous years membership
NFYFC National Insurance	5072	5072	Paid in Sept on previous years membership
Northern Area Costs	150	778	NA stockman
Pensions Costs	1663	1525	
Postage, Freight & Courier	40	56	
Rates	830	1133	
Repairs & Maintenance	505	579	
Sanitary	218	218	
Salaries	23600	23716	
Staff Training	50	164	
Staff Travel	125	227	
Trophies	1000	2132	Trophy repairs, engraving and cleaning
Tug of War Licence	20	20	
Uniform for staff		59	
Total Administrative Costs	**81347**	**81974**	
Operating Profit	**912**	**-5163**	
Investment Income		5283.42	
Net Income over expenditure for the year		**121**	