

Date of meeting : 18 January 2019  
Time : 10.30am  
Venue : RHASS Boardroom, Ingliston House  
Committee : Next Generation  
Present : Sarah Allison, Gary Mitchell, David Cooper, Adam Wright, Bruce McConachie, Colin Ferguson, Zander Hughes, Peter Moss, Jenny Baillie, Penny Montgomerie (SAYFC), Jenny Brunton (NFUS Policy Manager), Emma Bradbury (NFUS).  
Apologies : John Manson, Iain Livesey, Iain Wilson, Matthew Steel, Catherine Sloan

## **1. Chairman's Report**

In the absence of the Chair Mark Donald, Sarah Allison, Vice Chair, welcomed the group and read a statement from Mark who is recovering from a head injury. Mark had extended his thanks to the whole group, especially Jenny and Sarah. He wished the incoming group his best wishes and continued support.

Sarah outlined the work of the group over 2018 which included 3 regional events and 8 events with FAS and SLC. An overview was provided of the work done with regards to the closure of the New Entrant Capital Grant Scheme (NECGS) and correspondence with the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, Fergus Ewing.

## **2. Co-Options and Invitees**

- The three co-options agreed by the group were Ian Dickson, Angus Beck and Chris Scott-Park,
- Two invitee places were extended to SAYFC with Catherine Sloan agreed with one other to be confirmed.

**3. Election of Chairman** – Colin Ferguson was proposed by Sarah Allison and seconded by Bruce McConachie. There were no other candidates and Colin Ferguson was elected Chair.

**4. Election of Vice Chair** – Zander Hughes was proposed by Sarah Allison and seconded by Colin Ferguson. There were no other candidates and Zander Hughes was elected Vice-Chair.

**5. Appointment of Representatives to Commodity Committees for 2019/20**

- Livestock – Iain Livesey
- Less Favoured Areas (LFA) – David Cooper
- Combinable Crops – Zander Hughes
- Legal and Technical – Catherine Sloan
- Milk –
- Environment and Land Use (ELU) – Jenny Baillie
- Tenants Working Group – Zander Hughes
- Pigs –
- Poultry – Matthew Steel
- Horticulture –
- Potatoes – Matthew Steel
- Crofting, Highlands and Islands – John Manson

**Action – Jenny would circulate details to with Next Gen group, Commodity and Working Group Chairmen and Regional Managers.**

**6. Dates for 2019 Meetings** – The committee agreed that the next meetings of the Next Generation Working Group would take place on the following dates:

Friday 22 February – NFUS, Ingliston

Thursday 20 June – Royal Highland Show

Friday 19 July – tbc

Saturday 30 November – tbc

AGM – February 2020

**7. Do's and Don'ts of Social Media**

Communications Manager Ruth McClean gave the group an oversight of the work done by the comms team including her role as Editor of the Scottish Farming Leader and how the group and individuals can feed in content. General tips for social media were discussed and how best to use these platforms.

## **8. Joint Venture Hub Update**

Policy Manager Jenny Brunton provided the group with an overview of the newly launched Joint Venture Hub which has seen 27 individuals register, four of who are offering opportunities. The group discussed how to promote opportunities to those with land with Jenny informing the group she has a stand booked at both NFUS National AGM and the FAS New Entrants to Farming Gathering in February. The group recognised their role in promoting the hub to potentially interested users.

## **9. Next Generation Objectives 2019/2020**

The group agreed to use the agreed upon objectives from the previous meeting as a basis for a new document to publicise the Next Gen ambitions. These objectives include

1. Capital Grant Scheme
2. New Entrant Start Up Scheme
3. Frontloading of Subsidy Payments
4. Tax Incentives on long term let land.

**ACTION – Jenny would draw this document up for publication and revise the Next Gen webpage. Also publish a Next Gen newsletter.**

## **10. Regional Activity 2019**

The Regional Representatives agreed to propose ideas to the Regional Boards for one Next Generation events in every region in 2019.

**ENDS**