

Minutes for the
Farm Woodland Forum Annual General Meeting
Thursday 16th June 2022

Bangor University, 5.30-6.30



Present: Paul Burgess, John Holland, Jim O'Neil, Tim Pagella, David Pilbeam, Ben Raskin, Jo Smith, Clive Thomas, Sally Westaway, Harriet Bell, Jim McAdam, Joey Hughes, Emma, Eberhardt, Christian Gossel, Ulrich Schmutz, Lindsay Whistance, Andrew Ormerod (by zoom)

Apologies: Gerry Lawson, John Tucker, Richard Jackson, Matthew Axe,

1. **Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting** held online (available on the [website](#)). All actions carried over.

Proposed Ben Raskin, Seconded Sally Westaway – approved unanimously

2. **Chairperson's report** (Tim Pagella)

TP – now is the time for agroforestry – so much interest. Struck by IAF and how much they have achieved with relatively small funding. Does FWF want to have similar ambitions? We have done some great evening sessions, one on sycamore and then one discovering the zoo database. Some resource would allow us to do more of that. Status quo is fine potentially as a good group that provides value to members, but what is the future.

3. **Secretary's report** (Sally Westaway)

Agree with Tim on ambition question

JISC mail joined with the IAF, Paul and Sally helped Maureen (Kilgore-Project Officer IAF) and good collaboration now. 280 contacts on the Farm Woodland Forum JISCmail list, up from 222 last year. Use of the JISCmail service (197 postings) was high during the year but down slightly from the previous year (303 postings). Down on posting, perhaps because we didn't have the webinars this year. Trialled weekly digest – wasn't widely taken up. FWF discussion evening on 28th Feb 'Agroforestry in Ireland and the latest policy developments across the UK and Ireland'. This event was very popular with 70 participants registered. The recording has been uploaded to the IAF's YouTube account and has been viewed 50 times.

Had some discussion around the treescapes bid between committee members but in the end this didn't result in any bids.

The 2020-21 Charity Commission Annual Return was submitted on 16 January 2022.

ACTION Jim O'Neill offered to host a zoom meeting during the coming year

4. **Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report** (John Holland)

Question, should we keep zoom going? Agreed that John should cancel the current subscription and we can then renew it if we need it for a meeting or webinar.

Question from Joey, how many of our members are farmers? Struck by how many in IAF are farmers.

John presented the 2021-22 accounts

	Opening Balance (1st April 2021)	£7,479.12
INCOME	FWF membership fees	£742.00
	EURAF membership fees	£350.00
	Non-member conference registration fees	£240.00
TOTAL INCOME		£1,332.00
EXPENDITURE	Transfer of funds to EURAF (membership fees)	£307.56
	Zoom subscription (webinar and meetings)	£161.66
	Eventbrite service fee (conference bookings)	£163.18
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£632.40
	CLOSING BALANCE (31st March 2022)	£8,178.72

Jim McAdam proposed, Jim O'Neill seconded - Accounts approved unanimously

Membership numbers:

- John reported that in 2021-2022 we had 74 ordinary members and 2 student members
- EURAF (29 members in 2021, 12 members in 2022 pre-conference)

ACTION John to cancel zoom account

5. Communication Officer's report (Ben Raskin)

1,148 twitter followers, 1.8K facebook. Activity somewhat limited to promoting events etc, but opportunity to do more to engage with growing numbers of people interested

6. Website report (David Pilbeam)

8498 users this year.

More general enquiries, and managed to get them to join on the back of those Regularly updated events section, much busier this year as more events were being run Updated section on regulations for all 4 UK countries. Very fluid so will need to be done again

Some people did send through reports, online course which were added to the website Updated links to ensure they are all still functional

Took down the Flickr gallery, partly because of a software change resulting in distortion, and partly due to no new photos on there.

Agroforestry near you – David hoping to have that up and running soon, will send through something to the committee to move forward soon on it. Will add Ireland to the map-liaise with Maureen.

Server that we use is hosted by James Hutton, get lots of tech support so propose to keep this arrangement.

'We thank Andrew Thorburn for his help with running the website, and the James Hutton Institute for hosting it.

QUESTION, SW – sign up to mailing list button – has been removed as requested.

ACTION check if there a link to IAF on the website if not already on there

- 7. Election of the Executive Committee and posts** At the 2022 AGM, a number of posts are open on the Executive Committee. The following people must seek re-election if they wish to continue Mike Strachan, Stephen Briggs (co-opted) and Harriet Bell (co-opted).

No word from Mike Strachan and Stephen Briggs so they will no longer be on the exec committee. Gerry sent his desire to step down from the committee

To stand

- Harriet Bell (previously co-opted)
- Clive Thomas
- Andrew Ormerod
- Richard Jackson

Tim Pagella proposed, Sally Westaway seconded - Unanimously elected

Committee positions

Secretary – Andrew Ormerod - ***Tim Pagella proposed, Sally Westaway seconded, unanimously elected***

EURAF delegate (replacing Jerry as alternate delegate alongside Paul) – Tim Pagella - ***Harriet proposed, Paul seconded - Unanimously elected.***

- 8. Future meeting date and venue**

Ireland venue, proposed to do in collaboration with IAF. We hope that Maureen can be persuaded to help co-ordinate.

ACTION - Jim to communicate with Maureen on behalf of the FWF

ACTION for all – ideas / themes suggestions for next year

2024 – potentially Eastbrook for England

- 9. Any other business**

September next committee meeting – maybe first Tuesday of the month – 2 items for discussion,

- strategic discussion,
- the need for regular meeting

BR Updated on the idea for the agroforestry conference / show

HB why don't we pay someone to do some fund raising for us (tied into strategic aim)

ACTION ALL– do some research into fundraisers and get quotes, do via email

The meeting was closed at 18.30

Sally Westaway (outgoing secretary) and Ben Raskin

16 June 2022