



National Association of
NFU Group Secretaries

**AGM
2020**



Conference Working Party Report

from Rhys Davies



Conference Working Party Chairman's Report

It's difficult to think of an opening remark for my report. I joined the CWP in September 2019 and within 6 months had been elevated to the position of Chairman. In that time the CWP, and the way future conferences will look has changed significantly.

I am grateful for the guidance that I have had from Alison Atkins, our secretary and the CWP committee members: Adam Lovelock, Dana Hamlin, David Oliver, Jack Ballard and Kim Brake, our newest member who brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the committee.

Thank you to Amy Walker for your contribution to the CWP over the last few years and I look forward to welcoming you to the next conference. Finally, a big thank you to two members of the committee who have left the business, Robert Thomas and particularly Izy Shaw, who put an enormous amount of effort into the organisation of the cancelled 2020 Conference in Torquay.

Our committee is now at full strength and looking ahead to our next conference.

Apart from the obvious Covid challenge which resulted in the cancellation of the 2020 conference, there have been several other challenges which we have had to work through.

Although the change to June had already been made, it became apparent during the year that the traditional Wednesday to Saturday format clashed with a number of Agricultural Shows, particularly those in the South of England which in turn affected the ability of some colleagues to attend. This resulted in the decision being taken to move Conference to the other end of the week, Sunday to Wednesday.

Not long after this had been agreed came the news that we will no longer be able to ask NFU Mutual suppliers to sponsor Conference as our principal feels such activities potentially violate the company Anti-Bribery & Corruption policy. By extension we will not be asking NFU affinities to sponsor either.

Don't fear though, there will be a Conference! After meeting with NAGS Officeholders, we have agreed to slim down the conference to a two nighter.

Conference will still retain the characteristics of old; achieving our constitutional objectives and giving colleagues a chance to network with each other, share ideas, learn new things and also have FUN!

I look forward to giving you all a big 'CROESO' to the Vale Resort near Cardiff on the 7th and 8th of June, 2021 and do hope that we can fill the Hotel in what will be our first 'members only' conference.