

Leighton Buzzard & District Young Farmer's Club

Report and Financial Statements

2024/2025

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Number 292477

### **Management Committee**

Dave White  
Alena Murrell  
David Woods  
Maddie Knightley

### **Committee**

Alena Murrell (Chairman)  
Oliver Pearse (Vice – Chair)  
David Woods (Secretary)  
Maddie Knightley (Treasurer)  
Christina Rawding (Livestock Officer)  
Maggie Long & Katie Pratt (Programme Secretary)  
Beth Mead (Social Media)  
Jess Faulkner (Social Secretary)  
Meg Connolly (Safeguarding Officer)  
Maddie Knightley (Membership Officer)  
Esme Sharp & Kirsty Roadnight (Junior General Committee Member)  
Ant Berry, Bethany Thorne, Harriet Beeby-Wynn (General Committee Members)

### **Advisory Committee**

Dave White, Henry Hunt, Abi Chappell, Will Roff, Emma Stone, Amy John, Sally Thorne, Chris Mead, Matthew Alexander

### **Address for Correspondence**

Mead Open Farm, Stanbridge Road, Billington, Beds, LU7 9JH

### **Independent Examiner**

Alexander Way, 1 St Mary's Close, Marston Mortaine, Bedford, MK43 0QY

### **Bankers**

Barclays 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Management Committee, who are the Trustees, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st August 2025.

### **History, Objectives and Activities of the Charity**

Leighton Buzzard and District Young Farmer's Club is a registered charity (number 292477) and is constituted under a scheme of charity commissioners dated 4th October 1984, a document updated in September 2016. The club was founded in March 1934 for children of local farmers to demonstrate their calve rearing ability to friends, family and other farmers. After a closure of several years during WW2 the club was adopted by the National Federation of Young Farmers which had since come into existence, and has successfully supported young people in the area to this day.

LBYFC objectives are: (A) advance the education of young members of the public at large in agriculture, home crafts, country life and related subjects and (B) in the interests of the social welfare of such members to provide, and promote the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupations, being facilities which will improve their conditions of life and will assist in the development of their spiritual and mental capacities, self-reliance and individual responsibility so that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of the community.

The club's activities are structure so that members may receive training, entertainment, personal & professional growth and have the ability to assist in fundraising for our own charity as well as others, this forms part of our annual giving and community involvement programme. These activities take place in Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding counties of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

### **Management and Governance Arrangements**

The club committee is appointed from primarily members who fall between the ages of 10 and 28 but can and does include persons outside of this age.

The members of the management committee are de facto the trustees as outlined in our constitution and required by the National Federation of Young Farmers. Their responsibilities are to keep the group on track, overview the finances and make sure the money is spent wisely. They will also advise the club on matters of insurance, member exclusion and Health & Safety.

The advisory committee is made from ex members and associated persons who have an understanding of how the club is run and have skills that can aid the club in its growth and day to day activities.

## **Assessment of Major Risks to the Charity**

The management committee has concluded its own review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and maintains a risk register which is regularly reviewed and updated. The majority of these risks relate to member services and the running of fund raising activities.

Risks are minimised by ensuring that proper procedures are in place for authorising payments, the control of money and the creation of risk assessments for each event.

## **Achievement and Performance of the Charity**

### **Fundraising activities**

The club held a series of fundraising events this year for their own benefit and on behalf of other charities, these contributed to the results of the club as follows:

- For LBYFC – Pie and Pint Night £1090.93, Christmas Dinner Dance £254.07, Breakfast Morning Fundraiser £655.07, Neon Party £911.70
- For our chosen charity The Epilepsy Society – Pie and Pint Night raffle £501.50, Christmas Dinner Dance Raffle & Auction £5386.72, Christmas Tree Collection £492.50, Neon Party £955.20, Stock Judging Meeting bake sale £102.10, cricket match BBQ £254.60, Club vs Advisory Quiz Raffle £106.01, other donations £0.10. Total raised £7798.73.

## **Financial Review and Reserves**

The committees of Leighton Buzzard and District Young Farmer's Club wish to express their gratitude to our supporters for providing subscriptions, donations and sponsorship.

In the year 2024/25, 74 people became or continued as members of the club, a slight increase from the previous year. Since the COVID 19 pandemic we have operated with fewer members (previous to this we were at more than 100) so we have tried to keep membership fees frozen as much as possible to encourage sign ups while also covering the cost of our levies to the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs. We made the decision to maintain membership fees again at the 2025 AGM.

## **Net Change in Resources**

We ended the year with a total loss across our accounts of £2,587.03. Included in this calculation was £312.23 of interest gained from our 2 savings accounts. Both the 23/24 and 24/25 charity donations went out of the account in our 24/25 financial year. The total loss above is corrected to

take this into account and provides a true reflection of our financial progress this year. After a very good financial year in 2023-24, we decided to make an effort to pay back some of this money to the members by covering more meetings and competitions expenses, so an overall loss was expected.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Management Committee has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in fixed assets held by the charity should be 6 months of the resources required to carry out the activities of the club.

This policy is not necessarily required as the club has no running costs relating to buildings or vehicles, if we needed to halt fundraising activities there would be no requirement to spend a large proportion of accumulated funds.

### **Restricted Funds**

The club has worked hard on fundraising this year on behalf of The Epilepsy Society. The monies raised are designated restricted funds and have been donated to the charity in August 2025. Other restricted funds included payments for events for which the club would then pay for all of the members involved directly to the supplier, e.g. rally dance tickets, rally yearbooks, etc.

### **TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees (who are the Management Committee) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the management committee is required to:

- A. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- B. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- C. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- D. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Management Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF LEIGHTON BUZZARD  
AND DISTRICT YOUNG FARMERS



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Independent examiner's report on the  
accounts**

**Section A Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees**

Leighton Buzzard & District Young Farmers Club

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31/08/2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

292477

**Set out on pages**

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

[The charity's gross income ~~exceeded~~ £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. ~~Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

**Signed:**

*Alexander Way*

**Date:**

27/09/2025

**Name:**

ALEXANDER WAY

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body**

(if any):

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Address:

1 St Marys Close
Marston Monastery, Bedford
MK43 0AY

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Please See attached Report

**Leighton Buzzard & District Young Farmers Club Independent Review/Audit Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025.**

27/09/2025

To whom it may concern,

I have reviewed the financial statements of Leighton Buzzard & District Young Farmers Club for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025. These statements are the responsibility of the club's committee. My responsibility is to express a conclusion based on my review.

I have carried out a review of the club's books, including examination of bank statements, receipts, invoices, and other supporting documentation.


Based on my review, the financial records appear to be consistent with the information and explanations provided.

In my opinion, the accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the club throughout the year, and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

A forecasting for events would be beneficial to ensure they are financially justifiable. Ensuring judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent by the committee and trustees for future custodians. Cost analysis of events would be useful.

Yours Faithfully,

Alexander Way

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_



## 2023-24 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

<b>Balance Sheet 2024-25</b>		
<b>Account</b>	<b>Opening</b>	<b>Closing</b>
Community	£5,919.52	£2,965.26
Martin Senior	£2,532.08	£2,619.11
Business Reserve	£10,843.98	£11,069.18
Cash	£320.00	£375.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£19,615.58</b>	<b>£17,028.55</b>
	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>-£2,587.03</b>

<b>Income/Expenditure Summary</b>						
<b>Income</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
Membership	£3,695.00	£3,880.00		Competitions	£2,011.41	£1,886.43
Events	£31,128.19	£29,701.35		Events	£23,392.88	£26,837.21
Meetings	£920.45	£2,365.60		Meetings	£2,860.75	£5,809.18
Club clothing	£1,750.00	£2,835.00		Club clothing	£1,827.54	£3,741.42
Miscellaneous	£1,952.00	£0.00		Miscellaneous	£8,214.50	£3,356.97
		<b>Net Income</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>		
		Events	£7,735.31	£2,864.14		
		Meetings	-£1,940.30	-£3,443.58		
		Club clothing	-£77.54	-£906.42		
		Miscellaneous	-£6,262.50	-£3,356.97		

## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### **Income**

Income represents amounts received and receivable by the charity during the period. Gifts in kind such as borrowed land, free services and professional help have not been assigned a value so are not included.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure relates to monies spent by the charity in the period 1/9/2024 to 31/8/2025 and not to payments made outside of these dates even if relating to this time.

### **Taxation**

The club is a charitable institution with exemption from UK taxation under section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

### **Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted funds are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Club Committee.

### **Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds are funds that can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular purposes.