



European IFYE Alumni

Minutes

Contact Members Meeting,

Cumbria / England

Sunday 3rd August & Tuesday 5th August 2025

In attendance

President: Andreas Poelzl, Aut	Estonia: Anikka Kallasmaa
1 st Vice President: Sam Hawkes, NI,	Finland: Jenna Järvenpää
2nd Vice President: Christine Cooper (Eng)	Germany: Danielle Sietl
Secretary: Mari Kindsbekken, No;	Northern Ireland: Sam Hawkes
Treasurer: Marc-Andre Zuber, Swz,	Scotland: Neil Brims/Eilen Mowat
Newsletter Editor: Kelly Renals (Eng)	Sweden: Marie Maardh
Austria: Stefan Starlinger	Switzerland: Marc-Andre Zuber
Denmark: Elsebeth Ulnis	Wales: Alison Roberts
England: Alison Roberts	

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The 1st vice President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

No adoptions.

3. Apologies for absence

Andreas Poelzl.

4. Contact Member's Responsibilities

The contact members' responsibilities are published on the website and are noted in the Blue Booklet. The secretary takes a list of current e-mail addresses so the contact members list could be updated.

5. Presentation of the Conference & Program

We will be given a update every morning on the program, information on busses will be on the notice board. Everyone who need transport to the train on Friday morning, need to register for the right bus by Tuesday.

6. Approval of the Minutes from Kloppenburg, Germany.

Contact Members Meeting: Minutes issued in 2024 was agreed.

64th Annual General Meeting: Minutes issued in 2024 will be recommended for approval at the AGM.

7. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 64th Annual General Meeting

Executive Committee Report

The report was circulated to Contact Members by sending out per e-mail in July 2025 via secretary and the contact members were asked to review the report with their national member before the 1st contact member meeting at this year conference starts. The paper for the conference is displayed on the conference noticeboard and is available on www.ifye.eu.

7.1 Matters arising from the Minutes of the 64th AGM in 2022

No matters arising from the AGM,

7.1.2 IFYE Coordinators meeting and Reports

Feedback from coordinators is also welcome during the contact member meeting. All the countries need to learn from each other, there should be one, maybe two meetings during the conference. We need to help each other to do things as easy as possible.

7.1.3 Blue booklet

Update the blue booklet

The Blue booklet is written in a very complicated way, things like membership are written in several places. That makes it difficult to read and to make sure we update correctly and all places when there are changes. We will suggest to the AGM to rewrite the Blue booklet to make it easier to understand.

Swiss society laws are the base of how the Blue booklet is written. To make sure we do it correctly, someone from Switzerland should be part of a group.

Andreas has sent out information with spring newsletter to all IFYE's asking to think about who can and want to do this. We suggest making a group of 3-4, max 5 people, one from each region + one from Switzerland. Marc Andre will try to find someone from Switzerland. The lead should be by 1st Vice President.

Because it's a Swiss organization we have to follow the Swiss law.

There is some money in the budget for making sure the Blue booklet is correct according to the Swiss law. To have an outsider read through is, to make sure it still makes sense.

The following people have said they are interested in helping with the job of updating the Blue Booklet: Linda Steele (NI) Sabine Gallagher-Kobler (Aut), Elaine Meekle (Sco), Vilke Müller (Ger), Birgitte Løes (Nor). Marc-Andre Zuber can help with the financial part of the Blue Booklet.

8. Reports on past IFYE Activities

The conference was perfect according to the German contact member. We will get a short report at the AGM.

9. Financial Matters 2024/25

Marc- Andre is waiting for feedback from the auditors regarding the numbers and will circulate the numbers to the contact members as soon as he has talked to the auditors.

Main Report

We have approximately 900 CHF in our account that we should give to New Zealand when they have

a bank account. EIFYEA received the money after the conference in Austria.

We have a lot of money in our account, could we do something with this money to encourage the younger people to come to join, or help new countries that haven't organize the conference earlier.

It's important that the money received from the conference is specified, what is from the members, and what happened from non-members, to get it into the correct account.

Could we find a solution where the New comber don't have to pay the 160 CHF of the conference fee, instead of the money being paid back from the treasurer while at the conference. It would also be saving the transfer fee.

Lifetime Members Fund

Development Fund

Proposal from England to increase what you get at your first conference from 160 to 200 CHF pr newcomer. Or we give 200 CHF transferred or get the lifetime membership worth 240 CHF. Could we increase it to 7 years from the year of exchange.

Slovenia sent a long e-mail regarding the conference being too expensive, they can apply for money from the development found to help cover the cost of the conference.

Auditor's Report

The auditors have approved of the numbers.

10. Applications to the Development Fund

Application from Northern Ireland.

- Young Farmers' Ambassadors (Ulster) are applying for 1000.- CHF
 - Northern Ireland please present you application.

The application from NI will be introduced at this year's conference to discuss it on this year's conference and to vote at this year's AGM. N-Ireland should come back with a report on how the money was spent and if it was success. It will be taken to AGM.

Application from Switzerland.

- Switzerland applied for support from development found for special projects.
 - Maybe Switzerland could explain in more details.

The deadline to send the application is January 5th, we received the application March 14th. This application can be considered next year. It needs more details in the application. Switzerland should apply again next year, and with a budget and more details.

11. Proposals from the Board

See point 7.1.3, no additional proposal from the board for this year.

12. Budget 2025/2026

Marc-Andre will introduce the budget for the next period.

General expences	Budget 25 - 26
Executive committee	
Hosting Rural Youth Europe	-200,00
Extra conference report	-100,00
Silverpins/Certificates	-900,00
Gifts	-400,00
Newcomer IFYE Support	-160,00
Other Expenses (e.g. Postage, Fees)	-50,00
Travel costs to World conference	0,00
Travel Costs visiting AGM at European Rally	-200,00
Mid term meeting	-3 000,00
Blue booklet rework	-1 000,00
Total	-6 010,00
Newsletter / website	
Website, Webhosting, Layout	-150,00
Anniversary booklet	0,00
Total	-150,00
Memberships	
Annual members	900,00
Lifetime members	480,00
Non-Members for Newcomer Fund	200,00
Total	1 580,00
Tombola	
Income	1 000,00
Expences	0,00
Total	1 000,00
Interests	
Interests	100,00
Bank Charges	-150,00
Changing of LUX Strategy fund	0,00
Total	-50,00
Total	-3 630,00
Lifetime-member fund	
Expenses	-1 500,00
New Lifetime-members	480,00
Total Change of Lifetime-member fund	-1 020,00
Development fund	
Future of IFYE program applications	0,00
others	-1 000,00

Income from Tombola	1 000,00
Total Change of Development fund	0,00
Newcomer fund	
Support for newcomer / predetermined sponsoring	-160,00
Non-Members fees for Newcomer fund	200,00
from Development fund	1 000,00
Total Change of Newcomer fund	1 040,00

Membership/Conference Fees

Proposal from the board discussed at midterm meeting: Leave as it is. No reason to increase.

Development Fund

See point 10. One application from Northern Ireland.

13. Future IFYE Conferences

Estonia 2026 01.08-08

Switzerland 2027 21-28.08 Link, middle of the Alps,

World Conference 2028. Probably mid-March in Christchurch New Zealand.

Sweden, Växjö 2028 29.07-05.08

Scotland Perth 2029 11-18.08

2030 – application welcome, conversation with Slovenia has started in Feb.2025. Do we want to support them with some money to start the organization of a conference.

14. Election of Office Bearers

President: Andreas Poelzl (Aut) Elected in 2023 for a two-year term.
Election required in 2025.

1st Vice-President: Sam Hawkes (NI) Elected in 2024 for a two-year term.

2nd Vice-President: Christine Cooper (Eng) Elected in 2024 for a one-year term.
Nomination from Estonia required.

Secretary: Mari Kindsbekken (Nor) Elected in 2023 for a two-year term.
Election required 2025

Treasurer: Marc Andre Zuber (Swi) Elected in 2024 for a two-year term.

Newsletter Editor: Kelly Renals (Eng): Elected in 2024 for a two-year term.

Auditors: Helen Ramsay (Eng) and Alistar McCormack (Eng) were elected in 2024 for a one-year term.

Nomination of two Auditors from Estonia for next period is required.

15. Any Other Business

a. Tombola

The tombola will be held immediately after the AGM. The 1st Vice President will organize it along with sellers of the raffle tickets.

Prizes are to be placed in a box in reception.

The ticket prices are 1 for £1.-; 6 for £5.-

b. Pins and Certificates

During the registration process for this year's conference, it was checked who has his first exchange 25 or 50 years ago. For 25 years silver Pin, the 1st exchange must be before 2000 and for 50 years – golden certificate the 1st exchange must be before 1975.

Also contact Members are asked to check their lists for those entitled to receive pins or certificates to commemorate more than 25 or 50 years since their exchange so these can be prepared before AGM. This information is appreciated before the conference start.

Remind Members to add apologies to the list on the noticeboard.