



Suffolk Farming and the Environment Post Brexit

The Suffolk Agricultural Association (SAA) and the Suffolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) have joined forces to examine how future farm policy can deliver for consumers, farmers and the environment

**Wednesday 15 November 2017
at
Trinity Park**

Time: 1.15pm Registration

5.00pm Supper

Generously supported by



Chadacre Agricultural Trust

Programme

1.15pm - Registration

Chairman - Glenn Buckingham, Farm Manager at Helmingham Estate Farms and ex chair of Suffolk FWAG

Speakers

Baroness Hazel Byford

Setting the Scene, Reflecting on Past Policies and Thoughts for the Future

Baroness Byford DBE DL is a Conservative member of the House of Lords. She served as Opposition Parliamentary Spokesman for Food, Farming and Rural Affairs from 1997 to 2007. She currently serves on a Select Committee reviewing the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act.

Lady Byford is President of Young Leicestershire (formerly Leicestershire Clubs for Young People), an Honorary Patron of the Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade, a former President of the Women Food and Farming Union, National Farm Attractions Network and the Institute of the Agricultural Secretaries and Administrators. She is a past President of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers. She is a fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and currently its President.

Lady Byford also serves as a Deputy Lieutenant for Leicestershire, was Master of the Worshipful Company of Farmers 2013-14, holds four honorary doctorates and is Honorary Canon of Leicester Cathedral.

Minette Batters - Deputy President NFU

The Future of the Countryside in the Context of Brexit

Minette grew up living and working on a farm, with no succession tenancy available. It wasn't until 1998 that she was able to secure a long-term Farm Business Tenancy. She built the business from nothing to over 300 head of stock; with a herd of pedigree Hereford cattle running alongside a herd of 100 Simmental cross suckler cows, she specialises in selling premium store cattle.

She runs a diversified, mixed farming business that includes horse livery, a wedding and corporate events venue, and a catering business specialising in home grown produce, and now employs two full time and up to 20 part time staff. Minette co-founded the campaigning initiatives 'Ladies in Beef' and the 'Great British Beef Week'.

She has been an NFU member from grassroots through to County Chairman; she served as Wiltshire's Council delegate and also as Regional Board Chairman for the South West. Minette has also been a member of NFU Governance Board and the agricultural representative on the SW Environment Agency Flood and Coastal Committee. She is also a focus writer and is regularly interviewed for local and national media.

Peter Thompson – Game Wildlife Conservancy Trust
The Impact of Brexit on the Environment and Farming

Peter is the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust's (GWCT) Biodiversity adviser, giving advice to farmers and land managers across England on practical methods of implementing conservation programmes developed by the Trust's Farmland Ecology Unit. He is a BASIS qualified Agronomist and spent ten years advising farmers on agronomy before joining the GWCT in 1988. He studied countryside management at London University and recently has been involved with setting up "Farmer Clusters" across the country to encourage land managers to work together on a landscape scale, rather than as individuals on separate holdings.

Tea & Coffee Break - 25 minutes

Farmer Speaker Case Studies - Views from the Perspective of Farming on Light Coastal Land and Heavy Clay Based Land

AJ Paul, Broxtead Estate, Sutton

AJ manages a 2600 acre mixed estate on the Sandlands of East Suffolk, growing potatoes, onions, pigs, cereals, sugar beet, AD maize and much more. Less than 50% of the farm is cultivated; the remaining Lowland heath, wet meadows, scrub and woodland are managed for conservation, through ELS/HLS. The farm works closely with Suffolk FWAG and The Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

AJ's primary passion for trees, has led to a thirst for knowledge for all things wildlife. Hearing Chris Musgrave speak at the 2013 GWCT conference led him to apply for the first NE facilitation group in 2015. Along with Diane Ling from FWAG, AJ is now the facilitator for three groups covering 60 holdings [circa 54,000 acres].

Patrick Barker, Lodge Farm, Westhorpe

Patrick Barker, along with his cousin Brian, run E J Barker & Sons at Westhorpe, farming 513 ha plus additional contracting. The farm's ethos is to be a modern, productive, intensive arable farm but also benefitting farmland wildlife at the same time. The farm has just completed a successful 10 year HLS scheme and in January starts a higher tier Countryside Stewardship scheme. Patrick is a conservationist and farmer and his passion is farmland birds. He is also a licensed bird ringer and an area co-ordinator for the Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project.

Q&A Session

The key points will be recorded and produced in a document format for circulation for attendees and to inform sector leaders through the Brexit policy making process.

Summing Up & Next Steps

Glenn Buckingham, Chairman, and Jeanette Dennis from Ashtons Legal

5.00pm – Supper (bar open)

Opportunity for networking and further conversations/discussion.

**Booking Form – SAA/Brexit Conference
Wednesday 15 November 2017**

Name:.....

Address:

.....

E-mail:

Daytime Telephone No:

Signature:.....

Name(s) of Delegate(s):.....

.....

Conference Fee:

SAA Members - £20.00 inc VAT

Non-Members - £25.00 inc VAT

I enclose a cheque to the value of £
(made payable to 'Suffolk Agricultural Association' or 'SAA').

BACS Payment to the value of £.....
Sort Code: 20-44-51; Account No: 10865311; Account Name: SAA
Please reference the payment 'Brexit'.

Please return to:

Suffolk Agricultural Association, Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich,
Suffolk IP3 8UH or email to margie.morris@suffolkshow.co.uk **by**

8 November 2017

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VAT Registered No 964 4541 10

Telephone: 01473 707110