

# AgriFood Charities Partnership

*Maximising charitable support for science & education in UK farming and food*



## **Chief Executive's Report**

### **to AGM of AFCP**

**23 November 2016**

**Dr Paul Biscoe**

- A student, researcher or institution seeking funding?
- An education or research charity seeking other charities with which to co-fund projects?
- A food or farming charity interested in best practice and industry networking?

Find out more at:  
[www.afcp.co.uk](http://www.afcp.co.uk)

*AFCP is a partnership of agrifood charities working to maximise support for education and research.*



# The beginning



A Perry Foundation initiative in 2003 under chairmanship of Arnold Hitchcock.

Commissioned Agra CEAS in 2004 to explore the scope for greater co-operation between charities.

Report produced in 2005

“Assessment for the scope for greater co-operation between charitable bodies operating in the agri-food area”.

# The findings



Report concluded that needed to:

- set up a common infrastructure umbrella organisation
- form bilateral/multilateral agreements between selected charities
- set up a forum for charities

Report recognised that concerns would be:

- loss of individual charity's identity
- loss of focus on charity's individual objectives
- fear of being swallowed by "super corporation"

# Next steps



## Steering Committee

- established for Agri-Food Charities Initiative (A-FCI) which met regularly during 2005 and 2006.
- decision to hold a Seminar on 28th February 2007 to progress reports findings

## Seminar

- remit to consider the scope, opportunities and limitations for charity co-operation
- speakers included Sir Don Curry, Arnold Hitchcock, David Shannon, Ian Crute and David Leaver
- seminar agreed to the formal establishment of the then A-FCI
- having given a paper at the seminar I was asked to continue to be involved with the initiative !!!

# **AFCP**

## **Agri-Food Charities Partnership**



Steering Committee changed the name to  
Agri-Food Charities Partnership (AFCP)

### **Objectives set for AFCP**

**Key roles defined as**  
**Information Influence Coordination Outcomes**

AFCP registered as limited company  
on 20 February 2008

Steering Committee became a Board

AFCP became a registered charity  
on 12 June 2015 No: 1162177

# To direct applicants to the most appropriate funding sources



## Website

- [www.afcp.org.uk](http://www.afcp.org.uk) (have been 4 to date)
- designed to allow a simple search to identify potential funders
- provides direct links to charities identified, both administrator and website
- endorsed by delegates at St George's House consultation on "Attracting and supporting new entrants to the industry"



### 4 search areas

Welcome to AFCP- aiming to increase the impact of agri-food charities through collaboration

We're here to help any person or organisation involved in UK farming & food to make best use of available charitable and other funding

If you fall into any of the four categories below then we can put you in touch with organisations which might be able to help - just click the relevant box



ARE YOU AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING CHARITABLE FUNDING?

You're a researcher, a student, maybe planning to do a PhD or CPD to further your career. You have project in mind. It involves...

FIND OUT MORE



ARE YOU A CHARITY SEEKING CHARITY PARTNER??

You're a charity administrator, Trustee or Board Member and keen to make best use of your available research or grant monies, but...

FIND OUT MORE



ARE YOU A CHARITY SEEKING R&D OR EDUCATIONAL PARTNER??

You're a charity administrator, Trustee or Board Member, and keen to make best use of next year's available research or grant...

FIND OUT MORE



ARE YOU AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING CHARITABLE HELP OR SUPPORT?

The UK farming and food community can sometimes face extreme financial hardship. From any of these are charitable institutions...

FIND OUT MORE

Individuals

Charities for partners

Charities for industry partners

Social need

### Latest News & Opportunities

AFCP 2016 Forum 'Upkilling agriculture and food supply- where should charities focus?' will take place on 23 November 2016. Full programme and details available here.

AFCP AGM 2016 will be held following the Forum on 23 November. Please see Agenda and papers. Nominations for Directors from AFCP member organisations are invited by 7 October 2016.

The AFCP Board are very pleased to announce that Debbie Boston will take up the role of AFCP CEO on 1st December 2016, following the retirement of Dr Paul Blasco. Debbie will be attending the AFCP Forum on 23 November and will make a short presentation during the event - further details available shortly.

The National Land Based College website launched.

Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association produces significant report on engaging children with food, farming and the countryside



### You might like to know

AFCP was registered as a company limited by guarantee in February 2008 and became a

# To assist charities to identify partners and collaborators



## **Website**

- redeveloped to include information both about charities and providers of education and research

## **Funding secured from charities for**

- developing training guidelines for the Fire Service on accidents involving animal transportation.
- publishing an RASE Report "Current status of soil & water management in England"

## **Formal receptions**

for two years, Royal Bath & West Show, for charities and funders (incl. BBSRC and AHDB) to meet.

## **Presentations**

to charities on the opportunities offered by the BBSRC Advanced Training Programme

# To facilitate communications between charities to improve procedures



## Groups

- established E. Anglia group of charities meeting annually
- reviewing benefits of a common application form
- contributed to South West group of charities project

## Formal review of procedures conducted

- 17 charities involved
- most had good application processes but fewer had rigorous reporting procedures
- results published and presented to meetings of trustees

## Student Forum

- 2 held for students funded by charities
- trustees & students exchange ideas about processes

# To develop approaches for jointly funded projects



## **East Anglia Group**

- exchange of applications to identify suitable projects for joint funding  
3 currently being funded

## **BBSRC**

- negotiated the opportunity for charities to support studentships in "Crop Improvement Research Club"  
2 supported
- promoted the opportunity for charities to support industrial CASE studentships:  
1 student supported.

## **AHDB**

- established the "AFCP Award" enabling charities to propose research topics that would be jointly funded.
- negotiated an opportunity for charitable support for "Grow your own potatoes" initiative.

# To provide links to industry strategies



## Forums

- delivered nine Annual Forums aimed at informing charity representatives about strategic industry issues covering careers, training, education and research.

## AHDB

- arranged for staff to address charities
- established the "AFCP Award" enabling charities to propose research that would be jointly funded.

## Education

Contributed to report from Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association for a methodology to meet teacher's needs to deliver agri-food into the school curriculum

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**Thank you**

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