



THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

Manor Farm
West Haddon
Northamptonshire
NN6 7AQ
tel: 01788 510866
e-mail: mail@fcn.org.uk

Helpline 0845 367 9990

OUR NAME CHANGES TO THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK.

The charity Farm Crisis Network (FCN) is changing its name to The Farming Community Network in order to dispel the belief that its volunteers are able to offer help only at times of crisis.

FCN already reaches out and makes contact in many areas throughout the farming and rural community in order to offer support at a point when problems and difficulties first arise. Making contact at this stage rather than when the situation becomes desperate greatly enhances the opportunity of reaching a satisfactory outcome.

“We hope that by making our presence more evident in the farming community, a greater number of those in need of help will approach us earlier,” explained FCN’s Chief Executive Charles W. Smith.

The new name reflects the breadth of FCN’s support activities and its close relationship with the whole farming community. In addition to the core pastoral and practical support offered at a personal level by FCN, volunteers are proficient in a wide range of specialities including dealing with the complex bureaucracy which surrounds farming and farm management and maintain specialist technical knowledge to allow them to support farmers as they work through business based difficulties.

“You will see an FCN presence at livestock markets and all manner of business and social events,” added Charles, “in the hope that anyone in need will not feel constrained in seeking help whenever it is needed.

Carrs Billington Agriculture (Operations) are keen to support this change of name:

“In these challenging times, it is important to recognise that some members of the farming community may well benefit from help and support to ensure that a ‘crisis’ point is avoided.”

www.fcn.org.uk

“We hope that the newly christened Farming Community Network will be able to extend their work across the whole community thereby benefitting both our customers and all those associated with them.”

The design and production of The Farming Community Network’s new name and logo has been produced by AGCO and Massey Ferguson is generously arranging for press advertisements to support this announcement.

**The Farming Community Network telephone Helpline
is open from 7.00 am until 11.00pm every day of the year**

FCN Helpline 0845 367 9990

Notes for Editors:

The Farming Community Network (FCN) provides practical and pastoral support for farmers and for farming families during times of need, anxiety and distress which stem from the farm business or from within the family.

- FCN has a network of some 300 volunteers throughout much of England and Wales split into 32 local groups each operating under a local co-ordinator. There is also a group of volunteers in Scotland.
- FCN operates a national confidential telephone Helpline which is available from 7.00 am until 11.00 pm every day of the year.
- FCN, originally Farm Crisis Network, was founded in 1995 and is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It is run by a board of Trustees under the chairmanship of George Dunn. FCN is based in Northamptonshire where a small, mostly part time team of employees undertake the administrative functions under the Chief Executive, Charles W. Smith.
- FCN’s Patron is H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and its President is Christopher Jones M.B.E. who is one of the founders of the charity.
- FCN has a clear Christian ethos in all it does. All its services are made available to those in need from all faiths or none in a supportive, non-judgmental, non-proselytising manner.

www.fcn.org.uk

The Farming Community Network,
Manor Farm,
West Haddon,
Northampton NN6 7AQ.

Tel: 01788 510866.

Fax: 01788 511026.

www.fcn.org.uk

mail@fcn.org.uk

Contact: Peter Riley

peter@fcn.org.uk

www.fcn.org.uk

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales
President: Christopher Jones MBE
Chief Executive: Charles W Smith

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Registered Charity No 1095919