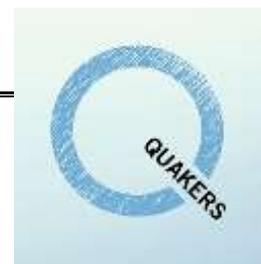


West Somerset Area Quaker Meeting Trustees



Draft Minutes of the meeting held at Wellington
Meeting House

Wednesday 17 October 2018 at 2:00-4:30

Present: Kathy Gollin, Margaret Stocks, Phil Parratt, Margaret Stenhouse, Brian Collingridge, Charles Henderson
Prevented: Shirley Anthony

18/30. Welcome and Meeting for Worship

Part of 15:02 of Quaker Faith and Practice was read at Meeting for Worship today.

18/31. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted

18/32. Declaration of interest

No interests were declared

18/33. Matters arising from the last scheduled full meeting (4 July 2018)

(MS)

There were no matters to be taken that are not considered elsewhere.

18/34. Treasurer's report

(PP)

The Trustees Annual Report and Accounts for 2017 have been examined and filed with Friends House and the Charities Commission. It will be presented to Area Meeting in November.

Jane Ruell has been asked to take on more hours of bookkeeping time with an increase in her charges. We await her reply.

Phil presented an analysis of our financial position over the years 2014-2017 which is attached to these Minutes. We will consider how to share this with Area Meeting at the next meeting of the Finance and Property Group in December.

18/35. Trustees' current composition and recruitment

(MS)

Brian Collingridge has written an article for the newsletter on the necessity and value of having Trustees, outlining the responsibilities. In addition Kathy and Fran Hicks are visiting each Local Meeting this winter to raise awareness of the structures of the Religious Society of Friends. It is hoped that these measures will encourage Friends to offer service as Trustees.

18/36. Trustees training

(BC)

Brian Collingridge reported that he was unable to attend the course for Trustees at Woodbrooke in September due to an accident. He hopes to be able to go in April next year. Charles also hopes to attend in September next year.

18/37. Receipt of Minutes from sub groups and matters arising with updates

(MS and PP)

There were no substantial matters arising from the meeting of the Property and Finance sub-group held on 18 September.

Matters arising from the meeting of the Policy and Communications sub-group held on 3 September. The clerks of Taunton Local Meeting have pointed out one or two updates necessary in the folder of Policies sent in draft to all LMs in July.

Faith queried how we air concerns about sub-group Minutes in between full Trustee meetings. We agree to share sub-group agendas and use group e-mail for minor clarifications.

18/38. Parking at Taunton Meeting House

(MS)

Margaret outlined the history of the dispute with the owners of Crescent Funeral Services over parking of vehicles outside the wall of Taunton Quaker Meeting House garden by Friends and visitors on business at the Meeting House. We have been advised again by our solicitor, Martin Pratley, acting for us pro bono, that the owners of Crescent Funeral Services have no right to disallow such parking. We agree to ignore the latest e-mail from them and continue with the present arrangements but will set up another meeting if they pursue the matter.

18/39. Iminster LM's search for premises for a new Meeting House

(MSte)

Margaret Stenhouse reported that Iminster Friends have not been able to find other premises as the local library building will not now be sold. They have yet to decide whether to continue the search.

18/40. Future pattern for full and sub-group meetings

(MS)

We agree to stay with the present arrangement of three meetings a year for all Trustees, with four meetings a year for each of the sub-groups. Other meetings will be arranged as necessary.

18/41. Sustainability

(KG)

Britain Yearly Meeting minuted this year (BYM 18/14 refers) that Quaker Stewardship Committee should ask Area Meetings to include in their Trustees Annual Report and Accounts what they are doing to witness to the Canterbury Commitment of YMG in 2011 that BYM should become a sustainable community throughout its organisation. We need to discern the way forward for our AM and LMs in the Light of this discernment. This year our LMs have been asked to produce a report on what they are doing at the moment.

18/42. Response to Charity Commission – eligibility and data holding (MS)

The Policy and Communications sub-group will take this forward at its next meeting.

18/43. Response to Area Meeting Minute 18/48 - Citizens UK (KG)

At its last meeting (18 September) Finance and &Property sub-group minuted that it would consider a response after the accounts for 2017 were returned by the examiner. It will now be considered at the next meeting of this group in December.

8/44 Confidential**18/45. Clerking arrangements in 2019 (MS)**

If Taunton LM asks her to continue as a Trustee, Margaret Stocks has agreed to remain as co-clerk for another year, but because of her altered circumstances, has asked that others can deputise for her when necessary. We agree to this arrangement.

18/46. Date time and place of next full Trustees meeting

Sunday 24 March 2019 at Taunton QMH after Meeting for Worship and lunch, 2:00 for 2:15

Property and Finance Group will meet on 4 December at Taunton QMH, 10:00

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