

Minutes of WSAQM Area Meeting July 18th 2020 by Zoom

Clerks: Anna Mullett Martin Wall

45/20. QF&P 2.11 quoted by Harvey Gillman for his book - Paths of the Spirit, was read in our opening worship today.

46/20 Local Meeting Representatives:

Bridgwater	Philip Parratt
Burnham on Sea	Sue Hammond-Lovatt
Iminster	Huw Morgan
Minehead	Faith Cartwright
Spiceland	Jen Bell
Taunton	Charles Henderson, Fran Hicks
Wellington	Unable to appoint
Elder for the Meeting	Pat Ebdon

47/20 Membership Matters

None

48/20 Nominations

None

49/20 Reports

a) Trustees

We have heard a report from Trustees given by Margaret Stocks. The Trustees have met primarily using telephone conferencing since the beginning of the year. Vicki Ross's contract as Warden for Taunton Meeting House has now been made a permanent appointment. Work to improve the insulation at Wellington Meeting House has been completed. Trustees regret the misunderstanding and hurt caused to Wellington Friends when planning for future renovations of the Meeting House. Currently Trustees are involved in their routine duties that includes reporting to the Charity Commission, and they are pleased that car parking at Taunton Meeting House has been

resolved by Charles Henderson's diligent research and representations. We ask that a full report appears in the Newsletter.

(b) Earth Action Group

We have heard that the Earth Action Group was able to meet on zoom in July. There have been several articles in Quake! and on the BYM website as well as links to zoom meetings relating to sustainability as part to the Build Back Better campaign launched by BYM and others in May. The EAG hopes that Friends will avail themselves of these and future talks and films.

We have heard how in recent years Quakers in our Area Meeting have joined with others to work for social justice in areas such as welcoming refugees and addressing climate change. Through BYM Quakers are now part of the Build Back Better campaign which seeks to build on the widespread desire to work together to right the social injustices highlighted by the pandemic. Faced by the enormity of the problems we need to accept our limitations but also recognise our roles in whatever way we feel is possible.

We are asked to involve the AM in wider discussions relating to the BBB campaign and the EAG group has suggested an AM on-line meeting to discuss these issues and to consider how we can work together to make sure things do not return to 'business as usual' but Build Back Better for a sustainable future for all.

We ask John Ainsworth to send us links to the BBB briefings that are on the BYM website* so that we can read these prior to our meeting. We ask our representatives to circulate in their meetings a request for Friends who might be willing to help facilitate this meeting and to let Fran and John know. We ask that a full report appears in the Newsletter.

* Grace Da Costa , the Public Affairs and Advocacy Manager Friends House
quaker.org.uk/blog/lobbying-for-build-back-better

* Build Back Better Briefing for Quakers. <http://www.quaker.org.uk/blog/lobbying-for-build-back-better>

50/20 Any other business

None

51/20 Notices

None

52/20 Closing Minute

We hope to meet again for our next Area Meeting Saturday November 14th, 2020