



**MINUTES OF TRUSTEES' AWAY DAY using ZOOM
MONDAY 15th MARCH 2021, 1.30-4.30pm**

PRESENT: Sue Brownlie, Faith Cartwright, Charles Henderson, Phil Parratt,
Margaret Stenhouse, Margaret Stocks

PREVENTED: Brian Collingridge

FACILITATOR: Pip Harris (SW Local Development Worker for Quaker Life)

ELDERS: Anna Mullett (co-clerk to WSAQM), John Ainsworth (former
Trustee and elder at Taunton LM)

BY INVITATION: Peter Morris (QSC Link Friend), Chris Lawson (First ever
clerk to Trustees for WSAQM), Kathy Gollin (former co-clerk to WSAQM
Trustees)

OBSERVERS: John Bell, Ali Dominy (Spiceland LM)

WELCOME AND OPENING WORSHIP

21.34 READING

Verses 4 -7 of St. Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 13, in
the New English Bible translation, have been read during our opening
worship.

21.35 MINUTE OF RECORD

During 2020 we had hoped, as a Trustee body, to spend a day
together away from the pressures of decision-making. The Covid-19
viral pandemic intervened. Today, thanks to modern electronic
technology, we have been able to meet for half a day and without
leaving our homes.

Several Friends beyond this Area Meeting have contributed to today's
gathering. Drawing on their input and support we have focussed on the
following:

- The right use of a donation intended to fund the purchase of a
property in Ilminster for the Local Meeting to use as a Meeting
House.

(One way forward may be for Ilminster Friends to discern a possible time limit on their search – noting that Area Meeting reserves should properly be used within 5-10 years – and then bring this to Area Meeting for its discernment.)

- The history of this Trustee body.
- Trustees' relationship with the Charity Commission.

We had also hoped to consider:

- How Trustees uphold the AM in the fulfilment of its decisions.
- How we ensure that, as a group, we can function well together both now and in the future.

Lack of time means that another such afternoon is needed.

We thank Pip Harris (Quaker Life's Local Development Worker for the South-West) for her care and expertise in facilitating the afternoon on our behalf. It has allowed all Trustees to participate fully.

Our guests Peter Morris (our Link Friend from Quaker Stewardship Committee) and Chris Lawson (first ever Clerk to Trustees for this Area Meeting, now of Lewes Meeting) have been valuable guides in the consideration of aspects of our responsibilities as Trustees. We thank them for assisting us so ably today.

We have welcomed Anna Mullett (co-clerk to WSAQM) and John Ainsworth (former Trustee and Elder at Taunton LM). They have been our Elders for the afternoon, for which we thank them.

Kathy Gollin who, until 31st December 2020, was co-clerk to Trustees made all the early contacts and arrangements for this gathering. We are glad she could join us today.

We hope that John Bell and Ali Dominy, who came and upheld us as observers, have gained some understanding of the nature and role of Trustees in a Quaker context. Indeed, we hope that we have all derived benefit from our involvement today.

We separate, hoping to meet again as a Trustee body in April 2021 at a day and time to be arranged.

Margaret A. Stocks, clerk