



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON ZOOM
WEDNESDAY 5th MAY 2021 AT 2.00pm**

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

PREVENTED: Anna Mullett, Area Meeting co-clerk

WELCOME AND OPENING WORSHIP

21.38 READING

St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, chapter 5 verses 22,23,25 and 26, from the New International Bible, has been read during our opening worship.

21.39 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The Agenda has been accepted.

21.40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

21.41 OUR WAYS OF WORKING

a) Structure

We have considered how we may best operate going forward, recognising that the use of sub-groups is advantageous, while we all need to be aware of, understand and have agreed to any major decisions that may be proposed before they are implemented.

After careful thought, we decide to retain the current sub-groups and continue to use full meetings when discernment is required and to give reports.

For the present we will continue to use zoom as the medium for our meetings.

b) TARA for 2020

In view of the time scale involved, this TARA will be prepared by the clerks in the way that has been customary since Trustees for this Area Meeting (AM) were first appointed.

The clerk is asked to circulate this year's report to all Trustees by 1st July 2021. It will then be sent to AM prior to despatch to the Charity Commission.

Its future preparation will be the subject of further discussion in the coming months.

21.42 SAFEGUARDING

a) Conference of Clerks to Trustees and Safeguarding Officers of 22nd April 2021

Our Area Meeting Safeguarding Officer and Trustee, Margaret Stenhouse, has reported on this conference, held via zoom. We thank her for her report.

b) The current AM Safeguarding policy, agreed by the AM in July 2020, is due for review in 2022. However, draft model policies (recently sent to all AMs and which have already caused considerable concern and dismay in many trustee bodies) need to be given careful thought in order that their implications are fully understood.

Revised draft documents will reach Trustees nationally in the near future. We ask our Policy and Communications sub-group to take on this task. We ask them to study the documents and bring an appraisal to a full Trustees meeting when appropriate.

Our Safeguarding Officer will continue to monitor developments in the meantime.

21.43 POSSIBLE SERIOUS INCIDENT

One trustee has been exercised over the possibility that an incident that occurred in 2018 should have been recorded as serious in the TARA for that year (submitted to the Charity Commission [CC] in 2019).

In consequence, the clerk consulted our Quaker Stewardship Committee Link Friend for advice.

The Link Friend requested answers to specific questions that the CC would expect to pose.

Your clerk and the concerned Trustee answered these questions separately and they were submitted as required.

In response the clerk was informed that it was a matter for this Trustee body to discern:

- a) If any report should have been made
- b) If the matter should be taken further

After careful consideration we find we are not in unity. We may return to a period of quiet discernment in the future.

21.44 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a) Convenors of both sub-groups will arrange meetings to be held as soon as possible.
- b) The next full meeting will be called for a date to be arranged, subject to need, using zoom.

Circulation list for Trustees' Minutes: Trustees, WSAQM Business Team, LM Clerks, TMHMC, AM Website