

Stockport Local Meeting

Report of Premises Committee April 2016 - April 2017

As in previous years the Premises Committee has been responsible for the physical upkeep of the Meeting House and its grounds. During the year the Meeting has been congratulated on the high standard of both by hirers and visiting Friends.

We were saddened by the death, in January, of our Convenor Ian Hamilton. We miss his quiet, courteous efficiency. The current Committee members are Mary Balman, Tim Carlisle, Phoebe Spence and Joan Armstrong who has been appointed Convenor.

The problems relating to the heating system persisted throughout the year. At the end of the contract with the engineers who installed it a new contract was made with Techniheat Plant Services. It now appears to be fully functioning and will be serviced annually by TPS. All the regular annual maintenance tasks have been carried out by the appropriate individuals and /or companies overseen by Committee members. As ever Dennis Clark has willingly carried out many necessary and miscellaneous tasks e.g. making a third noticeboard, touching up the paint below the hatch area, installing tiles in the toilets etc.

The annual Health and Safety Report has been forwarded to Trustees and the Risk Assessment audit has been completed. Trustees have requested that attention be paid to their First Aid needs by all LMs. To this end a training session will be held in the Meeting House in the summer. On grounds of cost it was decided not to purchase a defibrillator.

As part of monitoring fixtures and fittings it has been noticed that the green chairs regularly require repair. It has been decided to discontinue repairs and replace the chairs with new ones after style and costings have been discussed.

In line with advice from Friends House Good Energy provides the Meeting House with dual fuel. The electricity is 100% renewable and the company is working towards an increasing percentage of the gas also being renewable. Our solar panels provided an income of £1076.65 during the year.

Some Friends have volunteered to give their services to ensure the continuing development of our beautiful front garden while a mass of wild flowers covers every inch of the rear patch.

Two ongoing difficulties will be carried into next year. Firstly the overheating door handles in the foyer. At present they remain covered in grey foam but this is not entirely satisfactory and look unsightly. This issue remains under consideration. Secondly the problems connected with the hearing loop which have been present since we moved into the new building. A recommended sound engineer has recently been requested to investigate and we hope a more satisfactory system will be installed soon.

Joan Armstrong (Convenor)