

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

CHEADLE HULME MEETING

Sunday 5 July 2015

11 Friends present

1. Readings. The appendix by George Fox in *Advices and Queries* has been read in Meeting for Worship.

2. Intervisitation. Rachel Mulliner has visited Marple Meeting and Susan Clark has visited Disley Meeting.

3. East Cheshire Meeting, June Business Meeting. The Friends appointed attended this meeting, and a report was given after Meeting for Worship. The relevant minutes have been noted.

(a) Minute 15.06.06 asks us to consider making a donation to European and Middle Eastern Young Friends. We will consider this later in the year.

(b) Minute 15.06.13 asks Local Meeting Nominations Committees to provide names of Friends who might serve as elders and overseers to Area Meeting Nominations Committee by 1 September. In our case, Susan Clark is due to complete her current period of service as an elder this year and Liz Perry is due to complete her current period of service as an overseer.

4. East Cheshire Meeting, July Business Meeting. We appoint Liz Perry and Rachel Mulliner to attend the East Cheshire Meeting Business Meeting on Sunday 12 July at Stockport.

5. Hildegard Brooker. Further to minute 1 of our last business meeting, the date of birth of Hildegard Brooker was corrected after our meeting to 19 June 1922, prior to submitting the minute to Area Meeting.

6. Nominations committee. Last June we appointed the following Friends to serve on the Nominations Committee: Susan Clark (convenor) for one year, Marion Thompson for two years, Geoffrey Clifton for three years and Mike Nash for three years. We thank Susan Clark who has now completed this period of service on the Committee. We ask Marion Thompson to act as convener this year.

We ask the Nominations Committee to bring forth nominations to our September business meeting. We acknowledge that finding Friends to fill all of the roles necessary may not be possible. We ask Nominations to do as best they can with the Friends who are willing, prioritising the most essential roles, even if that means that we have fewer people doing fewer jobs.

Sustaining the life of the Meeting at a time when many Friends in the Meeting are already doing all that they can for Meeting, and still there are not enough Friends to go round, means that we need to be creative, realistic and open-minded in maintaining regular operations, and in accepting what is feasible for the Meeting to do.

7. Membership. Friends have a concern as to whether or not all members of Meeting fully understand and accept the responsibility of being a member, and how that might shape participation in the Meeting. It may be appropriate, later in the year, for the clerks to convene a meeting specifically to consider this concern.

8. Ifield Quaker Meeting House. We agree to donate £60 to the Ifield Quaker Meeting to help toward to their renovation appeal.

9. Gas and electricity contracts. The Treasurer has made Friends aware that the gas contract is soon up for renewal, and has asked Friends if we might consider negotiating a contract with a `green` supplier for gas and electricity. We encourage her to go ahead with this.

10. A piano in the meeting house? Peter Eccles has offered the Meeting an upright piano to be kept at the meeting house. We recognize that having a piano here could benefit the life of the meeting, but it seems that having more furniture in the meeting room would be difficult for some users of the meeting house and possibly for us. So sadly we decide not to accept this offer. We thank Peter.

11. Quaker Songs. Further to Minute 14 of our last meeting, Mike Nash suggests that this performance take place on Saturday 3 October. We agree to this. We ask Evelyn Ingram to organise tea and coffee on the night. We also ask Evelyn Ingram to enquire at the Methodist Church as to whether or not those attending the concert might use their car park.

12. World Quaker Day. 4 October is World Quaker Day, and we hope we might do something as a Meeting to mark the day and/or to mark Quaker Week. We hope to discuss this a bit nearer the time.

Signed, Taylor Giacoma and Peter J. Eccles, Co-Clerks