

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
CHEADLE HULME MEETING**

Sunday 10 January 2016

8 Friends present.

1. Readings. Paragraph 21 of *Advices and Queries* has been read in Meeting for Worship.

2. Intervisitation. We were unable to visit Crewe and Nantwich in October, as no Friends were able to do so. Christine Wilson visited Macclesfield in December. We appoint Christine Wilson to visit Wilmslow in January or February.

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

(a) ECAM Peace Strategy Group event 'War and conscience: choices then and now' 1 to 27 February 2016. Further to Minute 15.11.08, we agree to donate £200 to this project from the Quaker Projects Fund.

(b) Outward affairs. Further to Minute 15.11.20, this minute has been read after meeting for worship. We ask the clerks to circulate this minute.

(c) Annual duties. Further to Minute 15.11.21, we ask the clerks to report to Area Meeting that we have held weekly meetings for worship, meetings for church affairs in most months, the advices and queries are read regularly in meeting for worship, the Yearly Meeting epistle was read in meeting for worship, and we are compliant with the Data Protection Act.

4. East Cheshire Area Meeting, December Business Meeting. Susan Clark and Evelyn Ingram were appointed to attend December Area Meeting. They attended and a report was given after meeting for worship. The relevant minutes have been noted.

(a) Woodbrooke 2016 Swarthmore Lecture appeal. Further to Minute 15.12.16, we agree to donate £100 to this appeal from the Quaker Projects Fund.

5. Quaker and Local Projects Fund. Further to Minute 5 of our last meeting, though we agreed to meet to discuss how to use this fund to support appeals received throughout the year on 29 November, this did not take place. We ask the clerks and the Treasurer to circulate information pertaining to this discussion in the coming week, and we agree to meet as a Meeting next Sunday 17 January after meeting for worship to discuss how to address these appeals.

6. Woodbrooke course 'Listening as Ministry'. Since the last meeting we have agreed to support Liz Perry's attendance at this course in January.

7. Meetings for learning. Further to Minute 6 of our last meeting, we have now had three sharing sessions on *Quaker Faith and Practice* before meeting for worship, and a fourth has been arranged for before meeting for worship on Sunday 17 January. We agree to meet for a fifth session on Sunday 21 February after meeting for worship, a sixth session on Sunday 20 March before meeting for worship, and a seventh session on Sunday 17 April after meeting for worship.

8. Reflections after meeting for worship. Further to Minute 7 of our last meeting, we have considered how we feel about this. As a Meeting we have agreed that this time immediately following meeting for worship is a precious space that should be held in the same quiet, centred nature as meeting for worship. We are concerned that, with the best intentions, this time sometimes becomes more of a conversation and less of a worship-sharing session. We agree that in this space we would like to continue to invite Friends to share, but that we need to renew our commitment for contributions to be shared in a worship-sharing manner; that is, not speaking directly to and from one another, but directly from our hearts. Though such a contribution might be a reflection directly on ministry already offered, we must take care that our own afterwards ministries are spirit-led and not just responsive reflection.

9. Recollections of the Meeting. Further to minute 12 of our October Business Meeting, we had an enjoyable evening together sharing memories. The album is being kept with the clerk's papers for the time being, along with a scrapbook made by children in Meeting many years ago.

10. Churches Together Lenten Lunch. We have agreed to host a lunch on Saturday 5 March at 12:00, pending that this fits with other churches' schedules.

Signed, Taylor Giacoma and Peter Eccles, co-clerks