

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

CHEADLE HULME MEETING

Sunday 6 March 2016

Friends present – 11

1. **Readings.** Paragraph 18 of *Advices and Queries* has been read in Meeting for Worship. Paragraph 3.02 of *Quaker Faith and Practice* has been read in our opening worship today.
2. **Intervisitation.** We ask Alan Ingram to visit Marple Meeting during March and Christine Wilson to visit Disley Meeting during May.
3. **East Cheshire Meeting, February Business Meeting.** The Friends appointed attended this meeting and a report was given after Meeting for Worship. The relevant minutes have been noted.
 - (a) **Contribution to Area Meeting funds.** Further to Minute 16.02.10, Area Meeting has asked us to contribute £1,352 to Area Meeting funds this year. We agree to this.
 - (b) **Support for refugees.** Further to Minute 16.02.15, we have discussed what we might do as a Meeting to support refugees. We have agreed to write, as a Meeting, to our local MP to express our concern, not only for incoming refugees but also for those people whose have been here for some time whose legal rights remain in limbo. Peter Eccles has agreed to do this on behalf of the Meeting. We also encourage individual Friends to write to their MPs. We have also agreed that we would like to reach out in support of Stockport Meeting, because they have already successfully established a dialogue with refugees in the area. Rachel Mulliner has agreed to reach out on our behalf.
4. **East Cheshire Meeting, March Business Meeting.** We appoint Peter Eccles and Rachel Mulliner to attend East Cheshire Meeting at Crewe & Nantwich on Saturday 13 March at 10 a.m.
5. **Meeting 2015 accounts and 2016 budget.** Rachel Mulliner has presented 2015 accounts which have been examined by Geoffrey Clifton. We approve these accounts. We note that all interest has been included as income in the General Purposes Fund. We agree to contribute £1000 to Britain Yearly Meeting. We considered whether or not we should move funds from our capital reserve funds to other funds, and have decided not to do so at this time. We agree on the figure of £90 as a suggested donation from individual Friends. We have also discussed the way in which Friends handle incidental expenditures and would encourage Friends to seek reimbursement for these, particularly the larger expenditures. We thank Rachel Mulliner and Geoffrey Clifton for their work on the accounts.
6. **Annual report.** We ask the co-clerks to write the annual report for presentation at the May Business Meeting. We agree that this should be a responsibility of the clerk(s) in future.

- 7. Fellowship outside Meeting.** Further to Minute 16 of our last meeting, Elders and Overseers have reported and recommended that given the interest by members of the meeting community the small group meetings should be given a try. About ten Friends have expressed interest in participating, some with enthusiasm, and it seems important to respond to this.
There are still hesitations about this proposal and some concern that we are trying to do too much. However, we agree to the groups being held and ask Elders and Overseers to monitor them and to report back at the end of the year on how they are going.
- 8. Transport to and from Meeting for worship.** Elders and Overseers feel it would be helpful to have a point of contact for Friends who need help in getting to and from meeting to make it easier for people to ask. Geoffrey Clifton has agreed to do this. Friends are asked to telephone Geoffrey no later than the day before Meeting on 0161 491 6826.
- 9. Midweek Meeting for Worship.** Further to Minute 15(b) of our last meeting, Liz Perry, with the support of Elders and Overseers, has arranged the first meeting for Thursday 17 March at a time to be determined with a view to holding future midweek meetings on the third Thursday of each month.
- 10. Posters on public notice boards.** Further to Minute 15(c) of our last meeting, we agree to leave this matter for the time being.
- 11. Bring and share lunch.** Further to Minute 12 of our last meeting, the Bring and Share Lunch took place on Sunday 14 February and was enjoyed by all. It is hoped to do this again soon.
- 12. War and Conscience, Choices Then and Now.** Peter Eccles and Taylor Giacoma, on behalf of the meeting, attended the opening of this exhibition arranged by Area Meeting at Macclesfield Library.
Seven Friends attended the performance of *Out of the Silence* at Macclesfield which was presented in conjunction with the exhibition.
- 13. Lenten Lunch.** Further to Minute 11 of our last meeting, the lunch was held yesterday which raised £207 less expenses for Christian Aid. This is a significant increase from last year. We thank all Friends who helped on the day.
- 14. Friends World Committee for Consultation World Plenary Meeting in Peru.** Further to Minute 13 of our last meeting, Michael Eccles is available to report on Sunday 3 April. We agree to this date. Peter Eccles will provide a soup, bread and cheese lunch in aid of FWCC. We agree to hold the April Business Meeting on Sunday 10 April.

Peter J Eccles and Taylor Giacoma, co-clerks.