

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

CHEADLE HULME MEETING

Sunday 5 March 2017

Friends present: 11

1. **Readings.** Paragraph 37 of *Advices and Queries* has been read in the mid-week Meeting for Worship.
2. **East Cheshire Meeting, February Business Meeting.** The Friends appointed, apart from Taylor Giacom, who was prevented due to illness, attended this meeting and a report was given after meeting for worship. The relevant minutes have been noted.
 - **Minute 17.02.14. Northern Friends Peace Board.** Area Meeting has encouraged local meetings to send at least £4.25 per member to the Northern Friends Peace Board this year.

We thank all the Friends who helped on the day.

We reflected on the logistics of the lunch and how we might do it more effectively in the future. We feel that in future, if asked, we would prefer to offer Area Meeting finger food.

3. **East Cheshire Meeting, March Business Meeting.** We appoint Alan Ingram and Evelyn Ingram to attend this meeting hosted by Crewe and Nantwich Friends on Saturday 11 March.
4. **Appeal from Cork Meeting.** We agree to contribute £60 to this appeal.
5. **Taxes for Peace not War.** We have received a letter from *Conscience: Taxes for Peace not War* about the Taxes for Peace Bill currently before Parliament. We encourage Friends to consider writing to their MPs urgent them to support the Bill.

[More information and the text of a draft letter is available at the website <http://www.conscienceonline.org.uk>.]

6. **Lenten Lunch.** Further to Minute 10 of our December meeting we have considered the arrangements for hosting the lunch on Saturday 1 April. As we reflected on this and other events, we have a sense that we would like the Nominations Committee to revisit the possibility of having a Catering Committee to coordinate these events.
7. **Christian Aid.** We heard from Evelyn Ingram about Cheadle Hulme's part in the Cheshire Christian Aid initiative to raise money for a project in the Democratic Republic of Congo which aims to support those wishing to more effectively engage the government. At our upcoming Lenten lunch, we will provide those who attend with more information on the project in the form of leaflets.

- 8. Tea, coffee and biscuits.** Further to Minute 8 of our last meeting, we heard a report from Christine Wilson about obtaining supplies from Trade Craft via the Methodist Church in Bramhall. Biscuits are not obtainable by these means, save for luxury biscuits, so for the time being we agree to carry on buying non fair trade biscuits. Christine will begin buying other supplies, such as tea and coffee, by these means. We thank her for her efforts in achieving clarity on this.
- 9. Fellowship outside Meeting.** Further to Minute 7 of our March 2016 business meeting, Elders and Overseers have reported that thirteen Friends expressed interest last year in participating in the groups. Peter Eccles and Taylor Giacoma formed three groups from these Friends one to meet in the evening and two to meet during the day. The evening group has met three times and seems to have gone really well. One of the daytime groups has met twice and has gone well. The other daytime group has not yet met but it hoped to convene a meeting soon. The basic pattern of the meetings is a shared meal followed by a worship sharing session on something shared by the host although this has varied a little. Friends in the group take it turn to host the group.

We hope that in future the Meeting will be kept informed when the groups meet.

- 10. Bring and share celebration lunch.** Elders and Overseers have suggested that we have a bring and share lunch on Sunday on Sunday 26 March and use the occasion to celebrate Wendy and Geoff Robinson's Golden Wedding the following Saturday. We agree to this. Peter Eccles will coordinate the arrangements.
- 11. Howard League for Penal Reform.** We have received a letter from the Howard League asking whether we might become a local group member. This is a worthwhile organization but we do not normally support non-Quaker national organizations. Quakers nationally are involved in this work and this work by Quaker Peace and Social Witness needs our support.

(signed) Peter J Eccles and Taylor Giacoma, co-clerks.