

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
CHEADLE HULME MEETING
Sunday 01 July 2018

Friends present: 7

18.07.01 Readings

Paragraphs 2 and 26 of *Advices and Queries* have been read in Meeting for Worship. Also, though not noted in our June minutes, the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read in Meeting for Worship in May.

18.07.02 Intervisitation

Christine Wilson visited Frandley in June. Peter Eccles will visit Crewe and Nantwich in July.

18.07.03 East Cheshire Area Meeting, July

Peter Eccles and Geoffrey Clifton will attend East Cheshire Area Meeting on Saturday 14 July at Marple.

18.07.04 Area Meeting Dates for 2019

We have considered the Area Meeting dates suggested by the Area Meeting Clerk for 2019 and agree to these. We note that Cheadle Hulme is to host Area Meeting on Sunday 10 November.

18.07.05 Inclusion and Diversity

Further to minute 18.06.03, we have met to reflect on the topics of inclusion and diversity. The three questions we were asked to consider were:

1. In what ways is your Meeting already diverse?
2. In what ways could it be more diverse?
3. What would help it become more diverse? What are the opportunities and barriers?

Although the Yearly Meeting has focused on age and ethnic origin we identified other ways in which a Meeting might be diverse: sex, sexual orientation, wealth (social class), employment, family situation, health, theological position, political orientation. We do have men and women in the Meeting, people of differing sexual orientation, people in employment and retired, Quaker families, single Quakers in families and single people. However, active participants are all over 35 and all but a handful are over 60, and we rarely have children in Meeting.

We were not clear how we might become more diverse given where we are located. It can be difficult for younger members of the meeting to be more involved because of other commitments. Events other than meeting for worship are usually on Sunday afternoons and this excludes some people. Having a few small groups that met outside Meeting is one way we have sought to be more inclusive. As a Meeting we agreed that we might find ways to include particularly the younger participants in Meeting, but were not necessarily agreed on how that was to be done. One topic discussed was the use of social media as a tool for inclusion and outreach, and Friends were found to be of many varying opinions, some very strongly, about this possibility.

18.07.06 Cheadle Hulme Representative to Area Meeting Trustees

The Nomination Committee brings forward for consideration of Local Meeting, the name of Geoffrey Clifton to serve as a Trustee of Area Meeting. We agree to forward this name to Area Meeting.

18.07.07 Cheadle Hulme Representative to Area Meeting Nominations

The local Nominations Committee brings forward for consideration, the name of Peter Eccles to represent Cheadle Hulme Meeting on East Cheshire Area Nominations Committee. We agree to forward this name to Area Meeting.

18.07.08 Nominations Committee

We agree to appoint Peter Eccles to the Nominations Committee for two years, and Jackie Barker for three years. Wendy Robinson will act as convenor for the coming year.

We ask our Nominations Committee to bring nominations for local meeting appointments in 2019 to a future Business Meeting.

We thank Christine Wilson for her service on the Committee for the last two years.

18.07.09 Birthday Celebration for Marion Thompson and Christine Wilson

We agree to hold an 80th birthday celebration for two Friends, Marion Thompson and Christine Wilson, on Sunday 30 September following Meeting for Worship.

18.07.10 Quaker Week

We have considered the possibility of holding an outreach event for Quaker Week, which this year runs from Saturday 29 September to Sunday 7 October. Given that we have already committed to hosting an Area Meeting event on 18 August as well as a birthday celebration on 30 September, we feel that holding another event in such a short period of time may be overwhelming for our Meeting. We hope that the outreach we provide to friends and family and indeed the inreach within our Meeting as we celebrate Friends' birthdays in our Meeting will, in its way, serve as our participation in the spirit of Quaker Week.

18.07.11 Christian Aid Sponsored Swim

The Christian Aid Sponsored Swim is to be held this year on Saturday 10 November.

18.07.12 Date of Next Business Meeting

We will hold our next Business Meeting on Sunday 2 September following Meeting for Worship.

Signed,

Taylor Giacoma, Clerk