

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**  
**CHEADLE HULME MEETING**  
**Sunday 04 November 2018**

Friends present: 9

**18.11.01 Assistant Clerk Today**

We agree to appoint Peter Eccles as Assistant Clerk for today's Business Meeting.

**18.11.02 Intervisitation**

Wendy Robinson visited Stockport in October. Peter Eccles was prevented from visiting Crewe and Nantwich in October but will do so as soon as he can. Christine Wilson will visit Macclesfield, but rather than visit in November, she will visit in the new year.

**18.11.03 Alan Ingram**

We record with sadness the death of John Alan Ingram on Friday 2 November 2018 at the age of 87. We will record a fuller minute about Alan in December. This minute to be forwarded to Area Meeting.

**18.11.04 Nominations**

Further to minute 18.10.05, Nominations has brought forward the name of Christine Wilson to serve as an Overseer until the end of 2019. This name has gone to the Area Meeting Nominations Committee.

Nominations brings forward the name of John Stallard to be convenor of the Catering Committee. We agree to appoint John.

Susan Clark has agreed to serve in the role of representative to Churches Together. Alan Ingram had volunteered for the role of deputy representative to Churches Together. Susan has agreed to be appointed in any case, and we agree to appoint her, but she asks Nominations to find a deputy as they can.

**18.11.05 AM Nominations: Children and Young Peoples Committee**

Further to minute 18.09.05, we've received a correction that our bringing forward of the name of a Friend for AM to appoint to the Children and Young Peoples Committee (an Area Meeting Committee) is not procedurally correct, as it is a Local Meeting appointment to represent the Local Meeting on the Area Meeting committee. We therefore appoint Jackie Barker to represent Cheadle Hulme Meeting on the Children and Young Peoples Committee for the term 2019-2021.

**18.11.06 Sanctuary Meeting**

We have reflected, having been prompted by Area Meeting to do so, on the possibility of being a Sanctuary Meeting. We have previously reflected on this topic, both in our business meetings and in a Meeting for Learning. Our minute 18.06.04 sums up our thoughts at the time, which amount to the fact that though many in Meeting feel led to support the idea of giving sanctuary in various ways to refugees, as a Meeting we are not sure whether or not we are equipped to do so. Individuals in Meeting have varying levels of time and resources, and some might feel able to help, and some indeed who may not have been part of our Business Meeting reflections but who are part of our Meeting. We feel perhaps least sure of a way forward, and perhaps need some direction. We heard accounts of a previous Meeting project which really galvanized the community of the Meeting, and we think it's possible that giving

sanctuary to refugees might well be something that would be similarly energizing. We are very glad and very grateful that this has become a concern of Area Meeting, and we are hoping that Area Meeting can give us some direction for further consideration.

#### **18.11.07 November Area Business Meeting**

We appoint Christine Wilson and Taylor Giacoma to the November Area Business Meeting at Cheadle Hulme. We ask Peter Eccles to be doorkeeper.

#### **18.11.08 DBS Checks for Childcare**

At this time, only three Friends have DBS checks for meeting: Jackie Barker, Taylor Giacoma, and Peter Eccles. It would be helpful if more Friends who had these credentials, as it is an Area Meeting policy that a minimum of two adults with DBS checks are required in order to hold a childrens' meeting. Susan Clark has agreed to pursue a DBS check. We ask other Friends to consider this as well.

#### **18.11.09 Quaker Stories**

Evelyn Ingram has suggested that we might hold a series of evening meetings at which Friends could share the stories of Quakers past, and she would like to coordinate this. This would be an opportunity for outreach and fellowship. The suggestion is to have a fixed series, say six weeks, perhaps sometime between Christmas and Easter. Friends are concerned that evening meetings in the darkest of winter might be difficult, and we might consider holding them either in lighter evenings or perhaps at another time. We will return to these and other details next month. We agree in principle that this is a good idea, but as Evelyn is not present at our Business Meeting today we agree to wait until next month to discuss the details of how to implement this idea.

#### **18.11.10 Core Quaker Principles and Discipline**

Out of our reflection on the importance of Quaker stories and traditions has come a concern from Friends about the importance of maintaining core Quaker principles and discipline. Quakerism has evolved and is evolving, and what it means to be a Quaker is too, but there are certain responsibilities one accepts in being a member of the Society, and we must keep this in mind. We ask Elders and Overseers to consider this, and perhaps to focus our thoughts at future Meetings for Learning on this topic.

#### **18.11.11 Singing after Meeting**

We agree to hold a small celebration after Meeting for Worship on 23 December, arrangements TBD. Taylor Giacoma has agreed to lead Christmas carol singing. We agree not to have a Meeting for Learning on 16 December in light of the many other things happening that month.

#### **18.11.12 Churches Together In Cheadle Hulme Prayer Diary**

Churches Together In Cheadle Hulme used to have a tradition of asking churches to provide quarterly focuses for prayer, which might be included in the prayers offered during church services, and we appointed someone to be the person to provide this information. This practice stopped at some point. We have not had someone appointed since 2015. This practice has now resumed, and we ask Nominations to find a Friend to do this.

Signed,

Taylor Giacoma, Clerk