

**Minutes of West Somerset Area Meeting at Taunton Meeting House,**  
**26<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

**19/01 Reading**

The reading during our worship today was from 'This We Can Say' 1.2 by Jenny Spinks.

**19/02 Local Meeting Representatives.**

Spiceland: Ali Dominy, Pat Ebdon, Sheila Whitlock

Taunton: Sheila Harvey, Pat Bazley

Ilminster: Huw Morgan, John Gray

Bridgwater: Gilly Lee

Wellington: Marian Dawson

Burnham: Unable to appoint

**20/02 Membership Matters**

(i) The annual Tabular Statement has been circulated to Local Meetings. Our Membership Clerk reports that there has been a small drop in the numbers of members and attenders in our Area Meeting over the last year. Three deaths have been recorded and one person received into membership. We now have two more children under the age of 16 in the AM.

(ii) Christine and Christopher Lawson's membership has been transferred to Sussex East Area Meeting by certificate at their Area Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Certificates of Acceptance have been received from Sussex East, dated 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

(iii) We have heard from Zoe Ainsworth-Grigg that she wishes to resign from the Society of Friends. The Area Meeting accepts her resignation with regret but wishes her happiness in her chosen path. It was agreed that the clerks would write to Zoe to thank her for all she has brought to the Area Meeting during her membership.

## **19/04 Nominations**

The following nominations were accepted by Friends at the Area Meeting:

(i) Carinne Allinson of Burnham Meeting has asked to lay down her role as Quaker Life alternate representative. Ali Dominey's name has been put forward to replace her.

(ii) The name of Vicki Ross has been put forward to serve on the Taunton Meeting House Management Committee.

(iii) Sue Brownlie of Bridgwater Meeting has asked to lay down membership of the AM Business Team. Meg Winfield's name has been put forward to replace her.

(iv) Alyson Allen has asked to lay down her role as elder of Ilminster Meeting. The names of Eve Northey, Margaret Stenhouse and Anna Mullett have been put forward to serve as elders at Ilminster. The names of Huw Morgan and Elspeth Waldie have been put forward to serve as convenors of shared oversight.

(v) The name of Sue Brownlie has been put forward to serve as an AM Trustee.

(vi) Rosemary Dagley and Anna Mullett have laid down their roles on the AM Nominations committee. The names of Gilly Lee and Margaret Stenhouse have been brought forward to replace them.

## **19/05 Reports**

### Meeting for Sufferings.

The report by Fran Hicks has been circulated. Fran spoke to AM about three of the main concerns which were addressed at the December meeting. Firstly the boycotting of goods from the Occupied Israeli/Palestinian Settlements and the request to Trustees to ensure that no investments are made in these Settlements. Also the amount of work involved in bringing such a concern to public notice.

Secondly, addressing the issue of sustainability BYM wants to enable Friends to take their part to ensure that the Society is

working towards sustainability in Local Meetings and in all parts of our lives.

Thirdly, how Trustees are supporting BYM's overall work within the vision 'Our Faith in the Future'. 'A simple charity supporting a simple church'.

The full report will be published in the Newsletter.

### LM Responsibilities

We thank Minehead, Spiceland and Taunton meetings for their responses regarding the fulfilment of their LM responsibilities as given in Quaker Faith and Practice 4.33.

### **19/06 Citizens UK.**

We have received the following minute dated 04/12/2018 from Trustees regarding financial support for Citizens UK:

*18/52 ..As requested by the Area Meeting, consideration was given to subscribing to Citizens UK. It was agreed to recommend to the next Area Meeting on 26 January 2019 that the Area Meeting subscribes to the proposed Somerset Chapter of Citizens UK and pay a subscription of £500 for 2019 to match that of Taunton LM, such payment to be reviewed annually.*

We were given examples of how Citizens UK is working and could work to support our communities. Finances are needed to enable the work of Citizens UK to be carried out. In spite of some reservations it was decided that the Area Meeting would agree to the donation recommended by Trustees.

### **19/07 Notices**

Worshipping Together at Burnham on Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Launch Assembly of Citizens UK on 26<sup>th</sup> March 6-8pm at Richard Huish College, Taunton.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 10am. Silent meeting at Taunton Meeting House to support the Stanstead 15.

Sunday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2.30pm at Dillington House, Ilminster. 'The Remarkable Life and Times of William Penn' with James Evans.

March 23<sup>rd</sup>. As part of their preparations for Yearly Meeting Spiceland Friends invite us to join them at a screening of 'Pride'

at the Tivoli cinema in Tiverton at 3.30pm.

**19/08 Closing Minute**

We thank Taunton Friends for their hospitality today and hope to meet again on Monday March 4<sup>th</sup> for the next Business Team Meeting. The next Area Meeting will be on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> at Wellington Meeting House.