

# West Somerset Quaker Area Meeting

## Business Team Meeting

February 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Taunton

### Minutes

#### **17/01 Faith and Practice**

Section 23/19 in our Faith and Practice was read in our Meeting for Worship today.

#### **17/02 Business Team Members Present**

Sue Brownlie; Brian Collingridge; Chris Lawson; Huw Morgan; Anna Mullet; Phil Parrat; Martin Wall.

#### **17/03 Membership Matters**

- (a) Death: Hugh Bazley, a member of Taunton Local Meeting, died on 03/12/2016. He was buried at Spiceland on 21/12/2016, and a Memorial Meeting held at Taunton Meeting House on 21/01/2017.
- (b) Death: Caroline Janet Baker, an attender at Spiceland Local Meeting, died on 03/11/2016 and was buried at Spiceland on 26/11/2016.
- (c) We have received a Certificate of Transfer from Worcestershire and Shropshire AQM for Diana Fox, who has moved to Wellington. We accept this transfer and will add her to our list for Wellington Local Meeting. We ask Wellington Friends to ensure she is welcomed on behalf of our Area Meeting.
- (d) Application for Membership: Jenny Gateau, who attends Minehead Local Meeting has written applying for membership. We agree that the normal procedure of asking two Friends to visit her is right for her application. We ask Minehead Elders and Overseers to name one person and thank Sue Brownlie for her willingness to be the second person. We hope that a report can come to Area Meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

- (e) Death: John Hudson, a member of Bridgwater Local Meeting, died on 27/01/2017.
- (f) We record the Marriage of Anne Morris Jackson of Taunton Local Meeting and Kevin George Wild, not in membership, at a Meeting for Worship for the Solemnization of Marriage on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2017. The Certificate of Accomplishment was signed.

#### **17/04 Nominations**

- (a) (i) We appoint Matt Wall as our Area Meeting Representative to attend QPSW Conference at Hayes, Swanwick, Derbys, in March 2017. Martin Wall (no relation!) has agreed to contact Matt Wall to confirm his appointment.
- (ii) Matt Wall has been asked to be co-opted on to the “Children and Families Committee” to which we agree.
- (iii) Margaret Stenhouse is happy to continue as AM representative to Quaker Life.
- (iv) Graham West will attend “Spirituality and End of Life” day conference at York in March as our representative.
- (b) The separate list of Members, as directed, is available through Chris Lawson.
- (c) Further to Minute 15/16 of Elders and Overseers Meeting of October 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, re. “Mental Health in our Meetings”, the Steering Group is asked to inform Martin Wall when sufficient material has been assembled for its presentation at a Special Topic Area Meeting.

#### **17/05 Taunton LM Concern re, “Homelessness”**

(Ref. Taunton MH Management Committee Minute 16/65)

The question was asked, “Is our Meeting House part of the solution to Taunton’s Homelessness?”

Sue Brownlie will discuss with Margaret Stocks the wording of a question to be put to Area Meeting Clerks for further information on this topic,

after which Anna Mullet will publicise to our Local Meetings a date and time for a 'Meeting for Clearness'.

### **17/06 "All age Worship Programme"**

(ref. Taunton Meeting House Management Committee Minute 15/25)

Chris Lawson will discuss the present state of play regarding this subject with Adrian Polglaze.

### **17/07 Ilminster Concern**

We ask Anna Mullet to discuss the matter of a Quaker contact in the BT Phone Book further with John Gray (especially to ascertain the number of telephone calls made to John Gray when his was the number in the directory).

### **17/08 Militarization in Schools**

This subject was discussed in conjunction with 17/18 and we ask that that minute be consulted.

### **17/09 National Committees**

(ref. AM Minute 15/28)

Further to the AM Minute 15/28, Chris Lawson will endeavour to assess how many people are presently serving, or have served, on National Committees, with a view to the possibility of their speaking at an ordinary Area Meeting.

### **17/10 Purple Fields Productions**

We consider that Area Meeting should continue funding PFP to the amount and for the period specified i.e. £2,000 p.a. up to and including 2018.

### **17/11 Annual Meeting for Worship at Milverton**

The date and time for the annual meeting at Milverton was set as Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of July at 15.00 hrs (3.00 p.m.). In the event of inclement weather, Brian Collingridge invites worshippers to shelter in his bungalow in Wiveliscombe.

### **17/12 Visit of the Quaker Tapestry**

(19<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June)

Anna Mullet will contact Local Meeting Clerks to inform them of the need for volunteers as stewards when the Quaker Tapestry is exhibited at the Temple Methodists in Taunton.

### **17/13 AM Website**

- (a) There is not a website "Buddy" for Gary Auger
- (b) A website Area Meeting calendar, where Local Meetings can edit their own section, is a real possibility. To this end, Phil Parrat will discuss setting this up with Gary Auger and will contact Local Meeting Clerks for a list of editors in due course.

### **17/14 Sidcot School General Meeting**

We hope that Kate Warren, our Area Meeting appointed representative, is able to attend this meeting. Local meetings should also be informed that **all** Friends are welcome at this General Meeting which will take place on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March in the Old Library at Sidcot School. The morning session commences at 10.30 a.m. and the afternoon session is scheduled to end at 4.00 p.m.

### **17/15 Monthly Mailing for December 2016**

- (a) QPSW Spring Conference: 24-26 March 2017 – Journeys of Witness
- (b) Governance – Reserves Policy
- (c) QCCIR – Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relation

No action was required in respect of the three above items.

### **17/17 Agenda for Taunton Area Meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> 2017**

It was suggested that the agenda for March 2016 should be consulted and the topics circulated to members of the Business Team. We should use the topics on this agenda as a check list.

However, they are likely to include:

- (a) Membership
- (b) Treasurer's Report and budget for 2017
- (c) "Life of Meeting" Reports
- (d) Various AM committee reports e.g. 'GAG'; 'Trustees'; 'Sufferings'. A suggested minute should accompany each full report to save time and effort on the part of the Clerk of the next Area Meeting.

Martin Wall kindly offered to clerk the March 18<sup>th</sup> Area Meeting while Huw Morgan would co-clerk. Both will finalise the Agenda in early March.

### **17/18 Special Topic Area Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May – re. Militarisation in Schools:**

Martin Wall agreed to contact Izzy Cartwright regarding her availability to present this particular Special Topic Area Meeting on the afternoon of the 13<sup>th</sup> May.

### **17/19 Accounts/Budget**

As present these have yet to be finalised.

## **17/20 Any Other Business**

The booking procedure needed clarifying and the Convener of the Business Team Meetings, (presently Huw Morgan) should be responsible for all bookings made on behalf of the Business Team. At the time, these included booking Taunton Meeting House for one Ordinary and two Special Topic Area Meetings on the relevant Saturday as well as the relevant Monday evenings for the Business Team Meetings.