

**East Cheshire Area Meeting for Worship for Business
Frandle Meeting House,
12th May 2019**

Minute 19.05.01: Friends present

All of our Meetings are represented.
At least 31 Friends are present.
The Trustee present is Hilary Brooks
The Accompanying Elder is Michael Hennessey

Minute 19.05.02: Reading

The JYM Epistle has been read in our opening Worship.

Minute 19.05.03: Caring for Friends

We have heard the names of a number of Friends needing our thoughts and prayers.
Sally Mendham and Liz Morris will send our loving greetings.

Minute 19.05.04: Death – Marjory Rossant

We have received the following Minute from Stockport Meeting.

4. Death of Marjory Rossant

Marjory Rossant, a long-standing member of our meeting, died peacefully on 22 April. She was nearly 95. Marjory had latterly suffered with dementia and had been living in sheltered accommodation for several years. A private cremation took place at Stockport crematorium on 2 May, at which some friends were present. We shall meet at 11.00 on 21 May to remember Marjory and celebrate her life. We ask those attending to bring anything, such as letters or photographs, to remember Marjory by. Friends are asked to bring home-made cakes.

We record with sadness the death of Marjory Rossant of Stockport Meeting on 22nd April. A memorial meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st May at Stockport Meeting House at 11am, followed by tea and cake. Friends attending are asked to bring anything, such as letters or photographs, to remember Marjory by, and home-made cakes.

Minute 19.05.05: Death – Johanna de Haas

We record with sadness the death of Johanna de Haas of Frandle Meeting on 24th April, aged 31. Johanna's ashes have been interred here at Frandle Meeting House this morning. A memorial meeting celebrating Johanna's life will be held in due course. The Clerk has signed the certificate of interment of ashes.

Minute 19.05.06: Membership: David Sumner

Alan Kent and Jane Barratt have reported on their visit with David Sumner of Disley

Meeting. We are pleased to welcome David into membership. We have all welcomed David in person.

Minute 19.05.07: Membership: Dot Ainscough

Sheila Whitehead and Hazel Todhunter. have reported on their visit with Dot Ainscough of Stockport Meeting. We are pleased to welcome Dot into membership, and ask Geoff Thomason to welcome her in person.

Minute 19.05.08: Membership Transfer: Mary Roberts

We record the transfer of membership of Mary Roberts of Marple Meeting, which has been accepted by Gloucester Area Meeting.

Minute 19.05.09: Membership Transfer: Timothy Saunders

We record the transfer of Timothy Saunders (Luckcock) from ECAM to Hardshaw and Mann, Liverpool LM, which was accepted by Hardshaw and Mann in October 2016, minute number 78/16.

Minute 19.05.10: Termination of Membership: Sophia Biggan

Sophia was a member of Low Leighton Meeting, which closed in the 1990s, but living away, and her membership was not reassigned at that time. She was living in Norfolk when last heard of some years ago. We agree to terminate Sophia's membership, recognising that this can be reinstated if she becomes known to us again.

Minute 19.05.11: Termination of Membership: Jan Brown

We have received a letter from Jan Brown, of Disley Meeting, via Ben Evens, asking for her membership to be ended. Disley Elders and Overseers feel that this decision should be respected. With sadness, we accept her request. We wish Jan well, and thank her for the various service she has given the Area Meeting over her years with us. Her membership could of course be reinstated if and when she wished to reapply.

Minute 19.05.12: Marriage of David K and Peter C

We have received the following Minute from Stockport Meeting

5. Wedding of David K and Peter C

Following initial discussion with Elders, David K, an attender, has indicated that he and his partner David C wish to celebrate their wedding after the manner of Friends at the meeting house. As yet we have no further details, but David has contacted Hazel Todhunter to discuss the matter further and has arranged to meet with her and Ann Evens on 9 May. Once we have a firm date for the wedding we can make further arrangements. The Clerk will inform Area Meeting of David's and Peter's decision. We offer David and Peter our congratulations.

Hazel and Ann have told us that their conversation with David and Peter has made them

feel very comfortable with this intention. We are pleased to support them as they take this plan forward.

Minute 19.05.13: “Yealand on Tour” Feedback

We have enjoyed a report from some of the young friends who participated in the Yealand On Tour To Bamford residential event over Easter weekend. They have told us that Activities included

Walks to an ice cream factory and to Stanage Edge, with lunch looking out over the countryside;

- Meeting for Worship out on walks, with sheep joining in;
- Paddling in a river;
- Tree climbing;
- Food;
- A rope swing;
- Planting bean poles;
- A skipping rope competition;
- A bonfire;
- A friendly game of Ninja;
- A guided blindfold walk with sticks;
- Playing guitar and ukulele.

The event was opened up to other young people from Summer School and teenage General Meeting this year. Adult team members have told us they enjoyed the opportunities offered too.

All involved wish to thank the Bamford Community for their hospitality and for the use of their lovely spaces. The young people thank the Area Meeting for making this possible. We, as an Area Meeting, thank all involved.

Minute 19.05.14: Treasurer's Update

There has been some delay in completing the Annual Report and Accounts for recent years but the treasurer has reported on progress.

(a) 2016 Annual Report and Accounts.

A summary of the accounts for 2016 was presented to Area Meeting in March 2018 when the Clerk was authorized to sign the 2016 Annual Report and Accounts once they had been approved by the examiner and by Area Meeting Trustees. This has now been done.. The treasurer apologizes for the delay.

We thank David McHugh of Manchester and Warrington Area Meeting for acting as examiner of the Area Meeting accounts for 2014 to 2016.

(b) 2017 Annual Report and Accounts

These accounts are nearing completion and it is planned to present a summary of the accounts at the next Area Meeting. In the meantime, in the light of the delay in completing these, we authorize the Clerk to sign the 2017 Annual Report and Accounts once they have been approved by the examiner and by Area Meeting Trustees. The treasurer will circulate a draft of the 2017 Annual Report and Accounts for comments and queries before this is done.

(c) 2018 Annual Report and Accounts.

The annual accounts for the Area Meeting central funds are essentially complete but not all local meetings have yet completed their accounts for 2018 and these are needed for incorporation into the Area Meeting accounts. It would be helpful if these could be received before August so that the 2018 Annual Report and Accounts can come to September Area Meeting. The Area Meeting treasurer is happy to assist any local meeting treasurer encountering difficulties.

Minute 19.05.15: Willersley Castle weekend March 22-24th

We thank Hilary, Pam and Jill for organising this opportunity for Friends to gather and share the weekend, and for their report, attached. We thank all three of them for all their hard work. We thank the staff of Willersley Castle for their friendly and efficient hospitality.

We would like to confirm our provisional booking of Willersley Castle for 24-26 September 2021.

We encourage Friends to offer ideas of other places within a reasonable distance, with good accessibility, to this same team, for future planning.

Minute 19.05.16: Meeting for Sufferings, April 6th

We thank Jacqui Moore for her report (attached). She has highlighted consideration of

- What should be recorded in the Book of Sufferings
- Privilege and oppression
- The Trustees report on BYM financial matters
- Vibrancy in Meetings
- The atmosphere and challenges around the Brexit debate
- The NHS

We remind Friends that Trustees matters, including Vibrancy in Meetings, will be part of our afternoon AM session in July.

Minute 19.05.17: Macclesfield Meeting

We have received these two minutes from Macclesfield Meeting:

5th February:

4. Karen Abbott and Jacky Macleod-Bridge finished their roles as Joint Elders and Overseers for our Meeting in December 2018, and we thank them for their service to the Meeting. We now ask Area Meeting Elders and Overseers to help provide this for the future. We would wish to continue attending Elders' and Overseers' Meetings to inform them of our needs and activities, but ill health of many of our members plus a lack of decent public transport are a major barrier for us. We ask Elders and Overseers for a more unified system relating to transport to aid our many members and attenders without cars to attend on occasion other Meetings for Worship and Area Meeting events.

9th April:

- 1. We have been asked by Area Meeting to consider the series of responsibilities laid out in 4.33 of Quaker, Faith and Practice. This we have done, and find the ability to fulfil some, either limited, or impossible within the present framework.*
- 2. With so few Friends at this time, a meaningful organisational structure would be difficult to achieve.*
- 3. Therefore, we ask that Area Meeting lay down Macclesfield Local Meeting.*
- 4. Also, we ask that Area Meeting look into the possibility of continuing with a local worshipping group.*

We are inclined towards supporting Macclesfield Friends in maintaining a local worshipping group. We ask our clerks to explore further with Elders and Overseers and with Macclesfield Friends, how such support may best be given.

Minute 19.05.18: Report – Quaker Life Conference – Diversity and Inclusion in our Meetings

We thank Sarah Worth for her written report on this conference (attached). We encourage Local Meetings to use the narratives included in this report for further exploration and discussion.

Minute 19.05.19: Five Minute Findout – Michael Hennessey

We have enjoyed hearing from Michael of his involvement with the Youth Justice Service.

Minute 19.05.20: Report – QPSW Conference – Journeys of Witness

We thank Liz Fletcher for her report, and some reflections from Ann Whitehead and Keith Braithwaite (attached),

We remind ourselves of the value to less experienced Friends of attending these events.

Minute 19.05.21: Report – QCCIR Conference – Inspiration and Practice: The spiritual grounding of our Ecumenical in Interfaith work

We thank Michael Hennessey and Pat Baker for their reports (attached) and for their summaries today.

Minute 19.05.22: Use of generic email addresses

Local Meeting Clerks are encouraged to use – and check – their newly established generic email addresses (eg wilmslowqm@gmail com), so that Friends (and AM clerks) can get in the pattern of using these.

Minute 19.05.23 Listing of Frandley Meeting House

The Department for Media, Culture and Sport have accepted Historic England's recommendation that Frandley Meeting House should be a Grade 2 Listed Building. The wall surrounding the site has also been listed as Grade 2. The Frandley schoolroom has had a Grade 2 listing for some time, as has the wall surrounding the burial ground in Higher Whitley.

It has been listed because of its architectural and historical interest – given the links of the site with the earliest days of the Quaker movement.

Whilst a lovely acknowledgement of the value of place, this does come with organisational and financial implications.

Minute 19.05.24: Pattern of holding Area Meeting

We encourage Friends to offer their thoughts on the current pattern of holding Area Meeting [including frequency, timing, and venues] to be considered when arranging the 2020 schedule.

Minute 19.05.25: Appeals for Trustees – Bamford, and Green and Slater

Members of the Bamford Quaker Community have invited us to nominate friends who

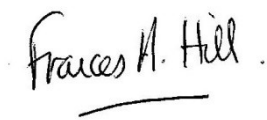
might like to serve as Trustees of the Quaker Community Bamford CIO. Any Friends interested in this should contact the Assistant Clerk by the end of May for further details,

The Doctors Green and Slater Rest Houses is also appealing for new trustees to join their board. Trustees must be Friends. Details have been circulated.

Minute 19.05.26: Hospitality

We thank Frandley Friends for their hospitality.

Signed in and on behalf of East Cheshire Area Meeting

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances A. Hill". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a short horizontal line.

Clerk

LM Clerks please note: Minutes 19.05.15, 19.05.16, 19.05.18, 19.05.22, 19.05.24, 19.05.25

Notices

Each Monday in June, "Some Early Quakers" 7pm for 7.30pm at Cheadle Hulme Meeting House, 91 Station Road, Cheadle Hulme, SK8 7BG

Talks about early Quakers.

Contact for more information: 0161 439 6088

Peace Pathways, Peace Education Training Day, Saturday 8th June 2019, 10-4.30 pm at Wilmslow Quaker Meeting House, 1A, Bourne Street, Wilmslow, SK9 5HD

What is Peace Education? with Izzy Cartwright, Peace Education Programme Manager, Quaker Peace and Social Witness

Carousel of skill share workshops:

Rethinking Security

Conflict Resolution

Olive Trees & Razor Wire

For further details contact: peacepathwaysed@gmail.com

"Quiet Garden Afternoon", Disley Quaker Meeting House, Friday 28th June 1.30 pm - 4.30pm.

Just come and simply be. Enjoy garden. read, sit, sleep, draw, listen, write. Drinks provided.

Contact for more information: Margaret 01298 22147 or Tricia 01663 732927

Inspiring Non-violence. 3 June -14 July 2019, £36

A new online course from Turning the Tide and Woodbrooke.

Information and booking: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/item/non-violence/

Wood brooke Retreat: Our reflections and responses to mortality and grief 28-30 June, Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham

A weekend retreat for Friends wishing to explore their relationship with dying, death and end of life issues.

Contact: www.woodbrooke.org.uk/item/mortality-and-grief

Enquirers' Day, Saturday July 20th , Wilmslow Quaker Meeting House.

Details from Frances Hill of Wilmslow Meeting.

Tuesday 3rd September, Roots of Resistance action, alongside other faith groups, Excel Centre, in London.

There are three key elements to the action: meeting for worship, a collective Quaker "craftivist" tapestry, and protest singing.

Further details:

Website: www.rootsofresistance.org.uk E-mail: hello@rootsofresistance.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/QuakersRoR Twitter: @quaker_ror

**“Take Time” Weekend Retreat for carers of someone with mental health problems.
6-9 September 2019 at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham**

Take Time is a weekend retreat for Friends who care for someone who has problems with their mental health. This weekend offers space and quiet; company and activity. There will be worship, time together, time to share, information and nurturing activities. Reflect on the spiritual journey of your caring; meet other Friends; gain strength to continue your caring.

All activities will be optional – come and find your own path through this weekend.