

YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING (YFGM)

Nottingham Friends Meeting House, 15th – 17th February 2008

Minutes

Present:

Co-Clerks:	Cáit Gould & Hannah Spiers
YFGM Treasurer:	Eleanor Coss
Co-Convenors of Overseers:	Ellen Marshall & Mary Estall
Management Officer:	Tom Rowlands
Co-ordinator:	Hugo Finley

Those Present:

Sam Barnett-Cormack, Ed Blann, Adam Boardman, Jennifer Brett, Nesha Dervishevitch, Paul Dodwell, Helen Dring, Marie Drouin, Ellen Elliott, Lucy Entwistle, Toby Freeman, Cáit Gould, Maud Grainger, Roxanne Green, Nessa Grimes, Chris Hanning, Harriet Hart, Harriet Jackson, Ben Jarman, Annabella Krol, Hannah Leavett, Esther Leighton, Amy Macpherson, Emily Maddison, Jessica Metheringham, Plog Morris, Sally Nicholls, John Nicholls, Peter Parr, Lailah Peel, Helen Percy, Andrew Rendle, Nick Rendle, Abigail Robertson, Oliver Robertson, Mark Russ, Niel Ryan, Rachel Sewell, Alex Simpson, Ericka Smith, Alyn Still, Huw Still, Majk Stokes, Joe Thwaites, Hilary Topp, Kris Turner, Edward Ullathorne, Luke Waterfield, Andrew Williams, Hugh Williams, Ruth Wood, Rachel Xerri

Total: 58

08/01 Opening Minute

We welcome one another to YFGM in Nottingham and look forward to sharing this weekend together. We have an enquirers' gathering running this weekend and warmly welcome all newcomers to our community.

08/02 Planning Weekend Report

Abigail Robertson and Hilary Topp have reported on some of the issues threshed during planning weekend in January at Colchester Meeting House. We thank Abigail and Hilary for their report, and Helen Close for her contribution to the report.

08/03 2008 Budget

Ellie Coss and Ben Jarman, our treasurers, have presented a budget for 2008, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. We approve this budget accepting it as the right budget for our current situation and we thank Finance Committee and financial oversight from other committees for their work in preparing this on our behalf.

08/04 Where do you Find Truth?

We have heard from 3 Friends of their experiences of truth. Rachel Sewell spoke of her activism and decision to become a nurse. Mary Estall shared her experience of truth both in and out of her working life. Ellie Coss told us of how she found truth to show darkness and bring us to new life and her experience of this in Kenya. We all have our own personal experiences of Truth and we have had the opportunity to share some of these in smaller groups. We thank everyone who has shared in this session, especially Rachel, Mary and Ellie.

08/05 Elizabeth Baxter

We were joined this afternoon by Elizabeth Baxter from Holyrood House in Thirsk. Together we looked at what it was to be individuals, singularly as well as within a community. We thought about our identity and had the opportunity to choose images that presented our personal journeys and discussed these in small groups. We warmly thank Elizabeth for leading this interactive session.

08/06 Appeal

We have heard from Peter Parr about the current YFGM appeal, Rewrite and from Edd Ullathorne about the process of

taking up a new YFGM appeal. We agree to extend this appeal until YFGM in May 2008 and look forward to our continued involvement with Rewrite over the coming months. In May we might adopt a new appeal and ask anyone with suitable concerns to speak to Quintessential and bring them to our March Planning Weekend.

08/07 Fairtrade ‘Church’

Further to minute 06/04 YFGM has officially become a Fairtrade Church. We have heard from John Nicholls and Huw Still regarding this. We reaffirm our commitment to Fairtrade. We ask that all committees in YFGM consider how they can fulfill our status as a Fairtrade Church, including promotion of Fairtrade on our website. We will review what activities and promotion have taken place at YFGM in February 2009 and at this point we may decide to review this on an annual basis.

08/08 Crèche Facilities

We have heard from Mary Estall regarding our current position on provision of crèche facilities. We feel that YFGM should be as inclusive as possible and continue to offer a crèche facility. We ask Mary Estall, Helen Percy and Rachel Xerri to put together a proposed way forward and return to us with their recommendations later this year. We thank Mary for her very clear report on this.

08/09 Nominations

We appoint the following people to serve in the following posts for the periods mentioned. We release from service those mentioned and warmly thank them for all their work on our behalf.

Position	Released from service	Person appointed Until	
Overseer	Siobhan Haire	Carried Over	~
Line Manager	Hand over period	Helen Percy	February 2011
Quintessential	James Barnard	Anne Norton	February 2011
Coordinators support group	Kris Turner	Liz Roe	October 2008
Newcomer to Planning Weekend	Kate Entwistle	Helen Dring	May 2008
	Abigail Robertson	Roxanne Green	May 2008
	Helen Close		
Employment Fund Treasurer	Hand-over period	Andrew Williams	February 2011
Pardshaw	carried over	carried over	
	Sam Barnett-Cormack	Reappointed	February 2011
YQ Editor	Annabelle Krol	Alex Simpson	February 2011
Management Officer	Ruth Wood	Already appointed	
Quaker Peace and Social Witness Rep	Johnathan Doering	Hugh Williams	February 2011
Nominations Committee	Dawn Filtness	Marie Drouin	February 2011
	Hannah Leavett	Carried over	
Convenor of Nominations Committee	Hannah Leavett	OliverRobertson	February 2011

08/10 Volunteers

We thank the following people for volunteering to help in the following ways at YFGM in May in Liverpool.

Caterers: Andrew Rendle,
Ericka Smith
Pan Transport: Helen Percy (to Woodbrooke)

We hope to find a recycling / composting volunteer, a third caterer and another pan transporter before May.

08/11 Special Interest Groups

This weekend we have enjoyed the following special interest groups:

Walk in Nottingham
Knitting for Peace
Silly Games

Feedback from trip to North West Yearly Meeting
Follow up with Elizabeth Baxter our speaker.

We thank those who ran these groups for their work, especially Elizabeth who came from outside YFGM.

08/12 Management Group

Tom Rowlands spoke to us about the role of our YFGM coordinator and has reminded us of his role. We have been reminded of how to communicate with our coordinator, to use alternatives such as the website and database when possible and to feed tasks through Management Group. We have also been told his new office hours which are **12-7:30 Tuesday, 9-6 Wednesday and 9-4 Thursday**. We have been informed of how easy it is to register for YFGM online.

08/13 Signatories

We authorise the following people to act as signatories for the following accounts.

Employment Fund Current Account:

Andrew Williams

Cáit Gould

Hannah Spiers

Employment Fund Petty Cash Account:

Andrew Williams

Cáit Gould

Hannah Spiers

Hugo Finley

Employment Fund Deposit Account:

Andrew Williams

Cáit Gould

Hannah Spiers

08/14 SIG co-ordinator length of service

We have heard from Sally Nicholls about her experience as SIG coordinator. It is the feeling of YFGM that our SIG coordinator would be able to serve more effectively with a shorter length of service and arrange a wider range of speakers. We agree to reduce the term of service from 3 years to 2 years.

08/15 Closing Minute

This weekend has given us the opportunity to explore new friendships and develop our individual identities. We have valued having an enquirers gathering alongside our main programme. Our Spirituality Session on where we find Truth gave us the chance to share our personal journeys and get to know each other in a deeper sense. We were grateful for this space.

Ruth Wood is a long-standing member of YFGM and has served as an officer for the last 3 years. Her input has been invaluable to the smooth running of YFGM. Her organisation and passion has been a strength to us all.

We look forward to meeting for a longer weekend at May YFGM.

Signed in and on behalf of YFGM,

Cáit Gould

Co Clerks

Hannah Spiers

The YFGM 2008 budget

What are your priorities for YFGM in 2008? What would you love to see us doing? What areas should we be focussing on, or holding back for a while?

Any project we do needs funding. The budget for 2008 says where we are putting our energy and attention, and hence our money. Is it right? Is it fair? Does it reflect the areas we as a community want to pursue? In the session at YFGM we will be talking through this budget and asking if this is a genuine reflection of our priorities. Come and contribute!

	2008 Draft budget	2007 Actual figures	2007 Budget (for comparison)
Income			
BYM grant	6600	6569	6370
JRCT grant	7000	7000	7000
Other grants	2500	2436	2500
Legacies	0	0	0
YFGM contributions	3500	3076	4500
Meetings & Friends	8250	9686	7000
Young Quaker	3000	2558	3285
Pardshaw	1300	1127	1190
Interest	150	172	100
Outreach	50	335	400
Total	32350	32959	32345
Expenditure			
YFGMs	4875	4631	4500
Planning Weekends	2100	2077	2000
Other core costs	600	531	900
Training	500	0	500
Outreach	700	562	1200
International	250	0	500
Interchurch/faith	250	0	500
Reps & Subs ¹	300	157	300
Bursaries	1000	500	1500
EMEYF grant	1600	0	800
Contingency	1000	1293	1000
Employment	18725	13618 (to November)	16700
Young Quaker	4000	4737	3550
Pardshaw	1300	1075	1380
Quintessential	125	230	400
Total	37325	29411	35730
Net spending	-4975	+3548	-3385

¹ This includes sending representatives to BYM meetings such as the Living Witness Project or Quaker Life Representative Council.