

# Young Friends General Meeting Brighton 23rd-25th February 2018 Minutes

## Those Present:

Qasid Ahmad, Matt Alton, Mathilda Austin, Hiran Babakhani, Lucas Bain-Lefevre, Rowena Bashforth, Thomas Bell, Lynda Berry, Faith Biddle, Freya Blyth, Rachael Booth, Rosie Brennan, Liam Brighton, Eleni Burgess, Devi Cardero, Miriam Chapman, Hannah Cook, Tas Cooper, Victoria Cowell, Simon Crane, Billie-Jo Dearden, Teala Dearden, Peter Doubtfire, Michelle Dumont, Tom Eddington, Kim Edwards, Naomi Fairweather, Alex Foxe, Toby Freeman, Claudia Fry, Claire Fuller, Eleanor Fuller, Joseph Fuller, Tatiana Garavito, Becky Garnault, Sam Gledhill, Cáit Gould, Ruth Grahame, Laurence Hall, Miriam Harrold, Jennifer Herbert, Jaz Higgs, Joe Holthaway, Samantha Jeffrey, Hannah Larn, Sasha Lawson-Frost, Johanna Longmore, Gabriel Martel, María Martínez García-Armero, Jenny McCarthy, Laura McQuillan, Jules Octave, Lilly Richards, Grace Roberts, Tim Rouse, Matthew Sandford, Enrique Santos Trillo, Anne Seilly, Elly Setterfield, Keiran Shine, Vicky Daborn Tedder, Kellie Turner, Amanda Veale, Jacob Webb, Zoe Wide, Lindsay Burtonshaw, Tom Meadley, Davy Richardson, Nicholas Watts

**Total: 69**

Co-Clerks	Michelle Dumont & Jenny McCarthy
Trustees	Michelle Dumont, Tom Eddington, Cait Gould, Jenny McCarthy, Tim Rouse, Kellie Turner
Coordinator	Gabriel Martel

## 2018.01 Representative's Reports

We have heard and received the following reports:

Engaging Young Adult Quakers Project	Kellie Turner
Planning Weekend Newcomer	Victoria Cowell
BYM Sustainability Group	Claudia Fry
Pollard & Dickson Trust	A written report received from Elinor Smallman, was read to the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

We thank representatives for their work on behalf of YFGM.

## 2018.02 Yearly Meeting

We have heard a notice from Clerks inviting Friends to attend Britain Yearly Meeting 2018 which will take place from 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> May at Friend's House in London. Friends can register to attend online.

## 2018.03 YFGM Internship – extension to 12 months

The Management Officer has explained to us that a biennial review of the Memorandum of Understanding with Britain Yearly Meeting, which underpins the YFGM Internship scheme, has been undertaken.

The proposal has been brought forward that we should extend the YFGM Internship so that it is a 12-month position rather than a 10-month position. This would reflect feedback from past interns. We hope that this will better serve the Young Adult Friends community and improve the experience of future interns, and note that the proposal has been welcomed by Britain Yearly Meeting. We hope that if the internship is extended this will improve opportunity for outreach and that there will be good communication established between YFGM and the Co-ordinator about what they are doing. These changes will mean an increase in the cost of the internship to YFGM of approximately 20%, which would be an additional cost of £4,386 for the 2018-19 internship. This is a recurring cost and although we can apply to BYM for an increase to our core grant to partly cover this increase, we will also need to raise some of this from within the community. We ask Finance Committee and Trustees to consider how best to support the Fundraiser with this additional responsibility.

We agree to extend the internship so that it is a 12-month position, and ask the YFGM Management Officer to agree a revised version of the Memorandum of Understanding, reflecting this change alongside other minor adjustments, which include the interns training (previously YALP), and increased clarity around the BYM grant.

We thank the Management Trustee for their work on this.

## 2018.04 Provisional safeguarding policy and legal advice

We agree to adopt the draft Safeguarding and Allegations Policy as an interim measure subject to further comments from members of the community to Trustees in person or via email to the Convenor of Trustees ([yfgmconvenoroftrustees@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmconvenoroftrustees@gmail.com)) or Clerks ([yfgmclerk@gmail.com](mailto:yfgmclerk@gmail.com)) email addresses. We also agree to Trustees seeking legal advice at a cost of around £600-2400 to ensure the policy fulfils our obligations.

Further training for key role holders will be sought to support implementation with training proportionate to their responsibilities under this policy.

#### 2018.06 Safeguarding incident

We have heard from the Convenor of Trustees that a safeguarding issue arose in 2017. This was managed by Trustees and has been reported to the Charity Commission.

#### 2018.07 Data Protection Policy

YFGM has approved the new Data Protection Policy brought forward by the Management Trustee. We note that relevant officers and volunteers need to familiarise themselves with the policy and what it means for their roles and that the Management Trustee and Co-ordinator will receive training. A revised version, compliant with the GDPR has been prepared and will come into effect along with the GDPR on 25th May 2018.

We thank the Management Trustee for their work on this policy.

A copy of the policy is attached to the minutes.

#### 2018.08 Restricted Funds

Based on the investigations of our Finance Trustee, and former Treasurers, [records attached], we understand that of the £6180 in our restricted funds, £5656 is for Firefly International, (an appeal we fundraised for between 2010 and 2012), and £524 is for use as accessibility funds. We agree to distribute the sum of £5656 from the restricted funds to Firefly International who we believe are the intended recipients, and utilise the grant money for accessibility bursary requests. We ask that our Treasurer makes this payment to Firefly International's account and notify the former appeal coordinator Majk Stokes that this has happened. We ask that our Treasurer makes use of the accessibility grant money when requests are made, and keep a record as the money is spent to update our restricted funds reporting.

The meeting asks the Finance Committee to ensure that accounts are kept clearly and funds are distributed promptly in future.

We thank our Finance Committee for their investigation into this.

## 2018.09 Nominations Returns

<b>Role</b>	<b>Released</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>Until</b>
Events Co-ordinator	n/a carried over	carried over (see below)	Feb 2020
General Fund Treasurer	Tas Cooper	None (handover)	-
Mental wellbeing working group	n/a carried over	Zoe Wide	Feb 2020
Outreach	Abi Rowse (from co-option)	Amanda Veale	Feb 2021
Planning Weekend Newcomer	Ali Hussein	Jules Irengue	May 2018
	Vickey Cowell	Laura McQuillan	May 2018
	Alice Harrold	Grace Roberts	May 2018
Living Witness Rep	Lynda Berry	Laura McQuillan	Feb 2020
Meeting for Sufferings Rep	Rici Marshall Cross	Eleanor Fuller	Feb 2021
Northern Friends Peace Board Rep	Laurence Hall	Hannah Larn	Feb 2021
The Young Quaker Editors	Rosie Clarke	Chloe Scaling	Feb 2021
	Michelle Dumont	Sasha Lawson-Frost	Feb 2021

We thank Nominations Committee for their work in bringing names forward. We thank Friends who have been released for their service.

We also note the following minute from Nominations Committee:

Nominations have been discerning the role of Events Co-ordinator and concerns over the responsibilities have arisen. We ask for clarification from Trustees on what Young Friends require from this position.

## 2018.10 Co-options to committees

Jacob Webb was co-opted to Nominations Committee. We thank Jacob for his service this weekend.

## 2018.11 Convenor of Overseers

We note that in September 2017, the Overseers Committee appointed Rachael Booth as the Convenor of Overseers.

## 2018.12 Catering

We thank Victoria Cowell and Zoe Wide for catering this weekend.

## 2018.13 Special Interest Groups

The following Special Interest Groups were held this weekend:

Special Interest Group	Led by
Engaging Young Adult Quakers Project and Yearly Meeting 2018	Kellie Turner, Michelle Dumont and Jenny McCarthy
The experience of being a refugee	Hirad Babakhani
Quaker Prison Chaplaincy	Frances Hewett What
Partner Dance and Mental Health Workshop	Grace Hawley
Sanctuary Everywhere	Tatiana Garavito
Cooking	Freya Blyth

We thank Friends who have led sessions for their contribution.

## 2018.11 Clerk's Offering

Despite it being February, Friends have enjoyed the sunshine and Brighton beach - though we have not all been for a swim!

We've made some significant business decisions about our policies and internship and learnt more about the business process. We have also heard moving stories from refugees and learnt about what support we can offer. We have found out more about Quaker Prison CHaplaincy.

We have explored both dancing and walking as spiritual practices, and have discussed what meeting for worship means for us.

Once again we were pleased to welcome newcomers into our growing community and look forward to meeting again in Manchester in May.

### Attachments

- Pollard & Dickson Trust Report
- Data Protection Policy
- Provisional Safeguarding Policy
- Details of investigations into Restricted Funds.

## Pollard & Dickson Trust Report

I'm really sorry not to be with you for YFGM, I hope you all have a fantastic time in Brighton!

For those who may not have heard of the Pollard & Dickson Trust before, here's a brief summary...

Legacies left by two Quakers in the 1690s are still going strong and the Pollard & Dickson Trust, made up of around a dozen distributors, is responsible for distributing grants in line with their wishes. The Trust can provide grants of up to £1000 (increased from £750 in 2017) to members and attenders of the Religious Society of Friends for the following reasons:

- **Hardship:** Where Friends are unable to meet their daily living expenses; or
- **Travelling in the ministry:** Meaning travel that benefits the wider Society (excluding attendance at Yearly Meeting). For example, this could help with the cost of attending the Young Adult Leadership Programme, but not a personal reflection course at Woodbrooke.

If you would like to apply all you need to do is:

- Send a letter to [pdtrust.yfgm@gmail.com](mailto:pdtrust.yfgm@gmail.com) explaining: the reason for the grant, how much you are applying for, how the money would be used and confirming that you haven't had a grant from the Trust in the current calendar year.
- Ask a member of YFGM's Quinty team or an overseer from your Local Meeting for a letter of support to confirm your link with the Quaker community and that your application represents a genuine need.

In 2017 I distributed 95% of the fund I'm responsible for and referred on a number of applications to other distributors who had more left at the end of the year. Soon our top-up for 2018 will be coming through so if you or anyone you know would benefit from a grant, please get in touch.

The Pollard & Dickson Trust also isn't the only way of accessing help:

- William Gunn's Charity (<http://bit.ly/2DJi22n>) makes grants to members in financial need.
- Hope Grants (<http://bit.ly/2rMKlvg>) makes grants to Friends affected by unemployment.

There are other grant-making Quaker bodies out there too. Britain Yearly Meeting's website lists some others (<https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/grant-making>) but can also provide a directory of grant-making trusts on request.

- Elinor Smallman