

# **YOUNG FRIENDS GENERAL MEETING (YFGM)**

***Norwich Friends Meeting House  
25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2010***

## ***Minutes***

### **Present:**

Co-Clerks: Cáit Gould & Siobhan Haire  
YFGM Treasurer: Andrew Rendle  
YFGM Finance Officer: Eleanor Coss  
Co-Convener of Overseers: Hugh Williams  
Management Officer: Tom Rowlands  
Coordinator: Hugo Finley

### **Area Meeting and Yearly Meeting Representatives:**

James Davies - Norwich and Waveny AM and Craven and Keighley AM  
Ellen Elliott - Norwich and Lynn  
Maud Grainger - Colchester and Coggeshall AM  
Selina Larsen - Mid-Thames AM  
Jenny McCathy - York AM  
Ian Nicholls - Darlington  
Mark Russ - London West Area Meeting  
Ericka Smith - South East Scotland  
Edward Ullathorne - Warwickshire MM  
Katrina Richter - Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

### **Those Present:**

Sam Barnett-Cormack, Jennifer Brett, Kathleen Bright, Hannah Brock, Helen Close, Andrew Dimond, Bryony Elias, Alex Foxe, Rajit Gholap, Toby Gibbons, Matt Godwin, Larissa Hansford, Elizabeth Howard, Esther Leighton, Sophie Loewendahl, Hannah Macpherson, Ged Manning, Rebecca Mattingly, Susannah Mattingly, Jessica Metheringham-Owlett, Sally Nicholls, John Nicholls, Helen Percy, Nick Rendle, Becky Riddell, Oliver Robertson, Niel Ryan, Helen Sims, Majk Stokes, Brigid Stoney, Rachael Swancott, Thomas Taylor, Kris Turner, Andrew Williams, Robin Winslow Morris, Chris Wood, Ruth Wood

### **Total: 55**

10/20 Opening Minute

We welcome one another to YFGM this June in Norwich and look forward to sharing this weekend together. We would like to welcome Kat Richter who joins us from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

10/21 Planning Weekend Report

Kathleen Bright and Rajit Gholap have presented their experiences as newcomers to planning weekend, we thank them for their informative, amusing and reflective report.

#### 10/22 Jordans YF(GM Free) Event 2

We have heard from Niel Ryan, Sophie Lowendakl and Cáit Gould who have introduced and will facilitate a planned informal fun event aimed at people of a YFGM age-range. The event is planned to take place at Jordans Meeting House and Youth hostel on July 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.

We are happy to adopt and support this as an official YFGM event and look forward to future exciting gatherings. We approve the budget, and attach it to these minutes.

#### 10/23 Quaker Life Rep. Council Report

We have heard a report from Helen Percy of her feedback from a recent Quaker Life Rep. Council meeting held in Woodbrooke on the 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> March. We thank Helen for this report.

#### 10/24 Quaker Business Method 'on the road' Project

Nick Rendle of Quintessential, our eldering body, has introduced a plan which has been developed to bring 'Introduction to Quaker Business Method' workshops 'on the road' for Area Meetings around the UK. Quintessential will be coordinating this in the name of YFGM and will be looking for volunteer who may wish to help facilitate these workshops.

Following on from minute 09/48 when we affirmed our strong desire for Quintessential to put on an event to bring the Quaker Business Method to other friends within the Quaker and non Quaker society we confirm our support to take this further. We feel it is a valuable gift to share and ask that Quintessential offer to join local and Area Meetings sending information out in the August and Christmas Area Meeting Clerks meetings, and follow up as appropriate to their requests.

We also ask them to collate a list of volunteers during this weekend who can help out with workshop requests from Area Meetings, and to look into liaising with Yearly Meeting Group Planning Committee 2011 to incorporate our work in this area in the Yearly Meeting gathering in Canterbury in summer 2011.

#### 10/25 YF(GM Free) feedback report

We have heard from Ged Manning on the YF(GM Free) event held at Osmotherly Meeting House from March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> 2010. This weekend offered the chance to relax and bond in a small group. We thank those involved in organising the event and Ged for giving this report.

## 10/26 Spirituality Event

Sam Barnett-Cormack has led us in a short small-group discussion session on the Quaker Testimony of simplicity. He hopes to organise an event on all 4 Quaker testimonies. We recognise that this is an opportunity to live adventurously, and are excited by the event. We support Sam's exploration of the possibilities including:

1. Which locations and formats might be best suited.
2. Working with Woodbrooke and/or Quintessential.
3. The potential for outreach within the event.

And to bring his findings back to us at September planning weekend.

## 10/27 Accounts

Our Finance Officer, Eleanor Coss has presented us with the 2009 accounts. We approve these accounts which have been signed off by our trustees to be submitted to the charity commission. We thank Finance Committee, our coordinator, and the independent examiner for preparing accounts so stupendously.

## 10/28 Friends World Committee for Consultation Global Change Consultation

Ruth Wood has presented Friends' World Committee for Consultation's procedure for a global change consultation, and asked us if we feel that Young Friends have a specific response to global change.

We feel that a one day event dedicated to the questions posed by FWCC is the most appropriate way of finding this response. We feel that in order to maximise accessibility and breadth of response, electronic communication, (if necessary) consultation with other young friends would be beneficial.

We ask that Ruth finds a group of volunteers willing to organise such an event, bringing names to our October YFGM, to be nominated on the same basis as an event committee.

## 10/29 Coordinators Support Group

Rachael Swancott has been serving as our coordinators support group since April Planning weekend.

## 10/30 Spirituality Session: Young Quaker Responses to Alcohol & Drugs

Quintessential have led us in a thought provoking, reflective session exploring our relationship with Alcohol and Drugs. The questions posed provoked discussion, and for worship sharing in small groups. This offered us the chance to share a range of experiences from within and outside the society.

10/31 Speaker Session: 'Reinterpreting Quaker Values in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: A discussion with the New Jordans Programme'.

Cáit Gould and David Matthews presented a brief overview of the actions of Quakers over the last two centuries. They asked us to consider our action today. We thank Cáit and David for this thought provoking and enjoyable session.

#### 10/32 Minute of Record – Committee Co-option

We thank Sally Nicholls for serving on Nominations committee, Edward Ullathorne for serving on Quintessential Committee and Majk Stokes and Ruth Wood for serving on overseers as coopted members for these committees for this YFGM 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> June in Norwich.

#### 10/33 Special Interest Groups

At our gathering we have enjoyed the following special interest groups:

- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party Planning
- Living our faith discussion
- Rap Poetry
- Walk to Norwich Cathedral
- Quakers in the World web portal
- Making Pride Placards

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

#### 10/34 Minute of Record – Volunteers

Sophen Clements, and Isabel Lane have been prevented from volunteering to help with catering at this YFGM. We thank the following people for volunteering in the following ways at October YFGM in Liverpool:

Caterers: Chris Wood, Becky Riddle, Larissa Hansford.

#### 10/35 Nominations Returns...

Position	Released	Appointed	Date
Clerk	Cáit Gould	Sally Nicholls	May 2013
YQ Editor	Hand over	Becky Riddell	May 2013
Meeting for Suffering Rep	Reappointed	Toby Gibbons	May 2011
Pollard & Dickson Trust	John Bacon	Sophie Lowendahl	May 2015
Convenor of Officers	Maud Grainger	Hannah Spiers	May 2013
YQ Editor	Jessica Kellgren-Hayes	Kathleen Bright	May 2013
Planning Weekend Newcomers	Peter Doubtfire Rajit Gholap	Hannah Brock Beth Howard	October 2010

	Kathleen Bright	Matt Godwin	
Coordinators Support Group	Maud Grainger	Rachael Swancott	May 2011
Quaker Life Rep	Nick Rendle	Laid down	
Nomination Committee	Ian Goggin	Rajit Gholap Sophie Loewendahl	May 2012
Finance Officer	Ellie Coss	Hand over period	
Fundraiser	Sam Barnet-Cormack	Hand over period	
Management Officer	Hand over period	Jessica Metheringham-Owlett	May 2013
Quaker Life Rep	Siobhan Haire	Ester Leighton	May 2013
Nominations Committee	Jessica Metheringham-Owlett		
YF(GM Free)	Ged Manning Hannah Spiers		
YF(GM Free) 2		Cáit Gould Niel Ryan Sophie Loewendahl (FO)	October 2010

#### 10/36 Minute of Record – Trustees

Further to minute 10/35 we appoint Broyony Elias, Sally Nicholls and Hannah Spiers as officers and trustees of YFGM for a period of 3 years. We release from service Maud Grainger, Eleanor Coss and Cáit Gould as officers and trustees of YFGM.

#### 10/37 Minute of Record – Signatories

We authorize the following people to act as signatories for the following accounts with the Co-operative bank:

General Fund Current and Deposit Accounts: Siobhan Haire, Andrew Rendle and Sally Nicholls

Employment Fund Current and Deposit Accounts: Andrew Williams, Siobhan Haire, and Sally Nicholls

Employment Fund Petty Cash Account: Andrew Williams, Hugo Finley, Siobhan Haire, and Sally Nicholls

#### 10/38 Clerks Offering

Our weekend in Norwich has been blessed by beautiful weather, friendship, a woven net of fellowship and a deepening of the spirit. Whilst our business sessions have been jam-packed, they have been filled with heartening news of our activities and plans we hope through sharing the Quaker business method we come to be more than the sum of our parts. Four events were discussed this weekend, from an informal weekend at Jordans, to the 'Quaker Business' on the road project. We had a lively discussion on simplicity, as well as a thought provoking spatiality session on our response to the issue posed by alcohol and drugs.

Our speaker session was a talk from the New Jordans programme, who led us in an enlightening exploration of Quaker action in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We

dressed up for a 1920's themed evening on Saturday night, learnt to ballroom dance (with mixed success) and played parlour games. We prepared for Meeting for Worship with some simple singing and some far less simple physical activities.

This weekend we say goodbye to 3 of our trustees; Ellie, Maud and Cáit. In their dedication and good humour they have contributed immeasurably to our community. So thank you Cáit, for your many much needed reminder emails and your excited – Cáit – noises, to Ellie for your sound financial advice and for being an accounts HERO! Maud, thank you for reigning in the trustees, and making OOO more fun and shorter. And please come back soon.

We tank all those who have worked so hard to make our gathering a success caterers, committee members and all attendees, and look forward to seeing each other in Liverpool in October.