

**At a meeting of Warwick Friends held at the Quaker Centre  
on Sunday 14th December 2019**

Present: 14 Friends were present for our meeting, starting at 12 noon and Rob Hooper acted as the duty Elder

Minute 19/73 We appoint Sarah Thompson to act as assistant clerk for the duration of today's meeting.

Minute 19/74 *Advices & Queries* 34 was read aloud during worship today, December 14th.

Minute 19/75 Past and future area meetings

Gill Smith represented us at Bull Street FMH on Sat 23rd November and reported back to us on the following Sunday. We appoint Paula Button to represent us on Sat 18th January at Bull Street FMH and ask for their report asap after the meeting.

Minute 19/76 Item from Elders: Plan for 25th December

We agree that the meeting house should be open at 10.30 for an hour on 25th December for a meeting for worship or gathering of Friends. Paula Button has agreed to open the Meeting House.

Minute 19/77 Item from Elders: Proposed Meeting for Clearness re 5 year vision

We heard a short report from the Elders about the progress made during our two recent meetings regarding the vision for the next five years.

We agree that the next step is to ask the Elders to arrange to hold a Meeting for Clearness at an appropriate time. Our Clerk asks that this is not the same weekend as a Business Meeting.

We are clear that the question to present at this meeting is 'What is our purpose at a time of change?' We understand that the process involves 'listeners' and we ask our Elders to discern if these should be members/attenders of this meeting or invited in from other meetings Our Clerk asks that this is not on the same weekend as a Business Meeting.

Minute 19/78 Nominations for 2020

We received the following Nominations for roles for 2020 from Nominations Committee and accepted them all.

**Proposed Nominations for 2020 as of 14.11.19**

Clerk: Meg Harper (to 12/20)	Assistant clerk: Anna Edelsten
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Treasurer: Sarah Thompson	Assistant treasurer: Alan Sanger
Assistant treasurer (accounts): Marilyn Biles	

Examiner of Accounts: To be determined

Premises and finance: Paul Rutter,  
Stephen Holt.

Under the Terms of Reference for this committee Stephen Holt (to 12/21) and Mel Dearing (to 12/20) do not need to be nominated this year.

Fund-raising group: *Ex officio*: Treasurer. In attendance: Warden  
Sunita Evans, Marian Millington, John Sheldon, *Ex officio*:  
Treasurer

Garden Group No nominations required. This is an ad hoc group.

Library committee: Stella Rutter, Paula Button, Sarah Thompson  
 CYPC: Annie Pettifer, Ruth Gaston, John Harding, John Sheldon (rota only). An elder and overseer will try to attend each meeting of this committee.  
 Nominations committee: Roger Chapman, Wendy Edwards, Helen Pemberton  
 Peace Festival: John Harding, Ruth Gaston  
 Web manager and Meeting Information Manager: Dave Rawcliffe  
 Café committee: Marilyn Biles, Dave Rawcliffe, Sarah Thompson, John Sheldon. Paul Lively, cafe manager, is *ex officio* and up to four community reps co-opted by the committee.  
 Social committee: Stella Rutter, 2 vacancies.....  
 Welcomers' rota: Gill di Calvo, Wendy Edwards  
 Safeguarding co-ordinators: John Harding, Jane Holt  
 QPSW link: Laid down  
 Friendly Link editor: Anna Edelsten  
 Children's Birthday cards: Meg Harper  
 GDPR Lead Dave Rawcliffe  
 "What I believe" column co-ordinator: Meg Harper  
 Warwick Hospital chaplain: John Sheldon  
 Funeral Advisors: Wendy Edwards & John Sheldon  
 Warwick District Faith Forum: Ann James  
 University of Warwick Link: Rob Hooper  
 Churches Together in Warwick Representative: Mary Hawker  
 Maintainer of Members/Attendees and GMail list. Helen Pemberton  
 \*Elders: Jane Holt, Gill Smith, Paula Button, John Sheldon  
 \*Overseers: Jane Beale, Ann James. Marilyn Biles, under review  
 \*Area Meeting Nominations: John Sheldon (12/20), Rob Hooper  
 \* Note that these are AM appointments

In the case of the nomination of John Sheldon as an Elder until 12/20, we ask our Clerk to forward this name to Area Meeting as it is an Area Meeting appointment.

We thank Paul Rutter for agreeing to serve for a third term on Premises and Finance Committee and for the hard work that he does, for which we are very grateful.

We have heard a concern from Nominations Committee regarding the possibility of a precedent being set and, whilst we are very grateful to those Friends who willingly accept nominations for extended terms, we hold to the principle that guidance in these matters comes from the Light.

#### Minute 19/79 Treasurer's Report and Draft Budget

We received the Treasurer's Report and Draft Budget (filed with these minutes).

Questions were raised about the possibility of applying for financial help from Area Meeting and about the two legacies we have received and what we intend to do with them. Our treasurer gave us clear, robust answers.

There was a concern about the loss of hirings. Our Treasurer explained that how we manage hirings and how we use the building could be considered as part of our 5 year plan.

We thank and congratulate our Treasurer for the clarity of the accounts.

#### Minute 19/80 Re-visiting 'Wheel of Friendship' - Overseers' proposal

We received a Review of Oversight from the Overseers (filed with these minutes), outlining their idea for a Wheel of Friendship which would form part of our

oversight process. This is a concept which we first considered in April 2017.  
Minute 17/22.

*Minute 17/22 Feedback on Circle of Support*

*We discussed the idea of a Network of Support to replace Oversight and/or Eldership and agreed that in a meeting as large as Warwick, there remained a need for traditional Oversight and Eldership. We will continue to seek more Overseers to support those already in role.*

*In addition, we agreed that a Network of Support that involves the whole meeting, might be a helpful addition and might provide support to the Overseers. We ask them to give this their consideration and to report back to BM if and when appropriate.*

Overseers have been asked to revisit the idea by Nominations, Overseers and other Friends.

We note that it is a matter that would need the support and approval of Area Meeting.

Considerable discussion followed. It was unclear to some Friends how the arrangement of the Wheel would work.

We are aware that ground rules for confidentiality will need to be agreed and communicated to those on the Wheel.

We agree that the system is worth trialling and that this is a good time to do it. We to start the process of creating the Wheel. Concern was expressed that some people might be hurt by the process but many advantages were also expressed.

Overseers are aware that the creation of the Wheel might be quite complex and we ask them to discern whether it is best to ask Friends to suggest their potential supporters on the Wheel or to randomly assign them.

We thank our Overseers for the time, effort and thought they have put into this proposal.

Minute 19/81 Date of the next Business Meeting

For the last three years, we have not held a Business Meeting in January. Our current Clerk would prefer to continue this system and proposes that the next BM is on the first Sunday of February.

We agree to this proposal.

God willing we shall meet again on Sunday February 2nd commencing 12 noon after Meeting for Worship, with agenda items and papers to the clerk by Thursday 23rd January.

Meg Harper, clerk

Continuing Minutes

19/70: (part) Proposed New Role - Keeper of the Members and Attenders contact list Existing

16/28 (part): Fund-raising committee – annual report – re. use of contribution schedule