

**At a meeting of Warwick Friends held at the Quaker Centre  
on Sunday March 1st 2020**

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

Minute 20/09 *Advices & Queries 42* was read aloud during worship today, March 1st.

Minute 20/10 Past and future area meetings

There was no Area Meeting in February and we have already appointed Dave Rawcliffe to represent us on Sat 7th March at Hall Green FMH and to report back to us.

Minute 20/11 Subscription to Positive News - Elders

We received a Minute from our Elders, filed with these minutes, suggesting that we subscribe to the journal 'Positive News' for one year, at a cost of £30. Our Treasurer will organise and pay for the subscription. Gill Smith will label each journal (and The Friend Publications) with the phrase; 'Please enjoy and return promptly when finished' or similar.

We agree to place 'Positive News' in the cafe after Friends have finished with it.

We agree to this recommendation and look forward to reading the journal.

Minute 20/12 Submission of Annual Return

The Clerk wishes to record that the Annual Return is ready for return to Area Meeting and thanks those Friends who have helped with its completion.

With some amendments, Friends accept as appropriate the paragraphs written to describe the Meeting's main activities in 2019.

Minute 20/13 Treasurer's Report and Accounts

We received our Treasurer's Report and accounts, filed with these minutes.

The following questions were raised:

Whether more Friends can be encouraged to make regular contributions and, if so, how?

Why was the rent with the new tenant agreed at a lower rate than previously?

What are the reasons for our debtor to be in debt? Are there any reasons why we should not be pursuing this debtor 'hard'?

Do we need to be finding ways to advertise our rooms more widely?

Re grants to other meetings doing building works etc and making appeals.

Are we making any other regular payments to charities/BYM/AM etc?

What was the breakdown of the expenses re GDPR and our website? Is the Treasurer happy with that?

A question about the reserves

A question about the cafe account

Our Treasurer answered these questions to our satisfaction. There was, however, particular concern about how things stood for our debtor. We agree that our

the Convenor of Premises and Finance Committee will have a conversation with the debtor in order to ascertain the reasons for the non-payment and to see if we can offer support in any way eg. a return to weekly payments. It was explained, however, that our Examiner is concerned to make sure that the debt is paid off and is not allowed to mount up.

There was considerable discussion of the report but we accept both it and the accounts and thank our Treasurer and also Marilyn Biles and Alan Sanger for their work on them and their clarity, which we very much appreciate.

#### Minute 20/14 Garden Update and further discussion

We received an update on the work on our garden, filed with these minutes.

We also received information that there is a plan of the burial ground at Birmingham Library, which may be of use in creating displayed information, an idea which was welcomed. If we wish to see it, an appointment must be made in advance at the library.

We ask that the matter of recording and displaying details of scattered ashes, is brought to a future Business Meeting.

We ask the Garden Group to try to ensure that the box bush stumps are not grubbed up, in order to ensure their regeneration, seeing as they are a native species. If this proves to be absolutely impossible, we ask the Garden Group to return this matter to Business Meeting.

Other concerns raised were:

1. Regarding the re-siting of the 2 remaining headstones and the safety of the re-siting.
2. Ensuring that the garden is wildlife friendly and regarding re-wilding.
3. Whether there is more text available re the plan. Friends were referred to the Appeal Leaflet.
4. Safety of the proposed playhouse.
5. Whether information/quotations about Quakers will be included in the garden.
6. The current financial position.

We appreciate that the Garden Group is addressing all of these concerns and is still actively fund-raising.

We thank Kris Turner for working on and achieving grants from Area Meeting and Area Meeting itself for their generous support. We also thank the Garden Group for their work in this matter.

We also encourage Friends to submit ideas for the new gates.

#### Minute 20/15 Facebook Page - Elders

We have received a suggestion from Elders that we set up a Facebook page our meeting.

We ask Friends to go away and find out what this would involve. We received information that one had been set up in the past. We do not know if it is still in existence.

God willing we shall meet again on Sunday April 5th commencing 12 noon after Meeting for Worship, with agenda items and papers to the clerk by Thursday 26th March.

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