



Minutes of the Meeting held at Lampeter 24th February 2018

2018.01 Opening worship

During our opening worship, Advices and Queries number 7 was read in Welsh and in English.

2018.02 Clerking team:

It is agreed that Catherine James, assistant clerk of Meeting of Friends in Wales (MFW), should act as clerk of MFW until co-clerks are found. Jill Evans South Wales Area Meeting (SWAM) will act as co-clerk for the day.

2018.03 Those present today

We welcome 29 Friends here today, as recorded on the attendance list. Representatives from Area Meetings are:

Mid Wales Area Meeting (MWAM): Medi James

North Wales Area Meeting (NWAM): Ros Morley (reporting) Frank Brown, (prevented) Martin Hughes

Southern Marches Area Meeting (SMAM): Stevie Kraye

South Wales Area Meeting (SWAM): Lyn Moseley

Our elders today are: Deborah Rowlands and Julia Aspden

Our translator today is: Steffan William

2018.04 Calon and *The Friend*

Medi James MW will write a report of this meeting for Calon, and Frances Voelcker NW will write for *The Friend*.

2018.05 Between meetings minutes of record:

- a) **Report to Meeting for Sufferings:** The clerk of Meeting of Friends in Wales having been prevented, Gethin Evans presented the first of what will be annual reports to Meeting for Sufferings, on December 2nd 2017. This was very well received; minute MfS 17.12.16, sent to us, records this appreciation. (Minute attached)
- b) **Quaker Life Representative Council (QLRC):** The established (but seemingly unMinuted) arrangement between MFW and MWAM that they will share the cost of a representative to QLRC continues into the 2017-20 triennium. That representative will report separately and at least annually to Meeting of Friends in Wales and act as a Wales Friends' presence in any input MFW might wish to make.

2018.06 Nominations and appointments

a) Appointments between meetings

- The Nominations subgroup looking for an immediate replacement for Kate Robertson on Nominations Committee brought forward the name of Jeff Beatty (SMAM). He has been appointed for the period of service from 9.11.2017-31.12.2019.
- Angela Ormrod has been re-appointed by MWAM as Quaker Life Representative Council (QLRC) representative in the 2017-2020 triennium and will continue that role for MFW also to 31.12.2020.
- Theresa Haine (Lampeter Meeting) was appointed to attend the enthronement of John Davies the new Anglican Archbishop of Wales in Brecon on December 2nd 2017, representing Quakers in Wales.
- SWAM has brought to MFW the name of Janet Rees to be co-ordinator for Friends' volunteering at the National Eisteddfod in Cardiff in August 2018.
- SMAM has brought to MFW the name of Jeff Beatty to be co-ordinator for Friends' volunteering at the Royal Welsh Show in Llanelwedd in July 2018.

b) Nominations brought forward

Editor for Calon: Ros Morley NW from 01.01.2018-31.12.2020

Trustee: Deborah Rowlands SW from 30 June 2018 – Dec 31 2020

Cytûn trustee: Gethin Evans MW June 2018 – June 2021

Meeting for Sufferings representative: Gethin Evans MW (second triennium)

Focus group clerk: Part of a minute from focus group: 'We recommend to our parent body that Peter Hussey SM be appointed Clerk from 1st March 2018.'

These nominations being acceptable, they are hereby appointed

c) Nominations sought

- QCCIR representative May 2018 – May 2021
- Co-clerk to serve immediately and to 31.12.2019.
- Co-clerk to serve immediately and to 31.12.2020.
- Four Friends to serve on Arrangements committee, immediately and to 31.12.2020 (or staggered end dates may be possible)
- Member of Focus group to serve immediately

2018.07 Meeting of Recording clerk with the clerks of Scotland, Wales, Britain Yearly Meeting and Meeting for Sufferings

Catherine James, the assistant clerk, attended this meeting in Inverness on behalf of MFW.

She attended General Meeting for Scotland on the Saturday, and there was a meeting on the Sunday morning to discuss the relationships between BYM and the nations of Britain. A memorandum of understanding will be drafted, and will come to MFW in due course. A Welsh Language policy, to be included in the memorandum, has been drafted by our Focus Group (see below). It was recognised by the group that a language policy should form part of that memorandum.

2018.08 Focus Group: Welsh Language Policy

We have received the draft of a Welsh Language policy from Focus Group. It has been circulated by email and is available in print at this meeting. Friends have had an opportunity to comment today; these comments have been noted. We thank the focus group for their work

and ask the clerk to take the matter forward, so that MFW can work with the Recording Clerk to reach agreement so that it can become part of the memorandum of understanding.

2018.09 Britain Yearly Meeting Tabular Statement

In response to minute MFW 2017.43, we have received a response from the recording clerk, suggesting that BYM's tabular statement should include the number of Friends on the membership lists of SWAM, MWAM, NWAM and the meetings in Wales of SMAM. We thank the Recording Clerk for his response and accept his suggestion as good enough for the present, but ask that Oswestry be included also. We need to know the numbers of our members as we are, as MFW, partly financed by a quota based on the number of members of MFW, according to the definition in *Quaker faith & practice* 5.04/5.05. We feel it is important that BYM recognises that it is comprised of three nations.

We will return to this matter.

2018.10 Minute from Focus Group: Future direction and governance of Meeting of Friends in Wales

Following minute 2017.45 'The future path of MFW', we have received minute 6/18 from our Focus Group (attached). We agree to their suggestion of a group to work on governance issues, and ask the clerk of trustees to convene a meeting of trustees together with members of the focus group to take this matter forward.

2018.11 Property in Wales

In response to the report from the meeting of Clerks of Wales and of AMs and Trustees (MFW minute 2017.44) we have received a minute from SWAM and from MWAM minute 27/17, together with a minute from NW trustees. These express some interest in exploring further the matter of working together on Quaker property in Wales. We await a response from SMAM. We ask MFW trustees to consider these responses and to report their thinking to us at a later meeting.

2018.12 Work in Wales: Money for Madagascar

Theresa Haine (SW) has told us of the work of Money for Madagascar, a charity established in 1986 by Barbara Prys-Williams with the support of Swansea meeting, which provides much needed help for the poor of that country by raising money which enables the Malagasy to develop their own projects. We are extremely impressed by the difference they have made.

2018.13 Website

Work has been completed on registration and domain name for the new website. Content and image of the new website need to reflect the developments suggested by the focus group.

2018.14 Role description for clerks and laser group representative

The updated role descriptions for the clerkship team of MFW and for the Cytûn laser group MFW representative have been sent out via email and have been available during the lunch period. We have accepted these. They will be appended to the minutes.

2018.15 Testimony to the Grace of God in the Life of David Binney

We have received a testimony to the Grace of God in the Life of David Binney. Meeting of Friends in Wales forwards this testimony to Britain Yearly Meeting recognising that his contribution was to the life of the spirit of BYM as a whole, in addition to MFW.

2018.16 'Yr Eiliad, yr Awr a'r Twll yn y To' The moment, the hour and the hole in the roof.

Huw Meredydd Owen, NWAM, has opened our minds and souls by his lecture which speaks of our sense of and connection with the Spirit. We thank him for leading us into the depth of his understanding of openness to the Spirit, and the ways in which we too can be more open.

2018.17 National Eisteddfod Lecture

Jane Harries(CRhDC) yw ein darlithydd yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yng Nghaerdydd eleni, a'i thestyn yw: 'Treftadaeth a thystiolaeth heddwch, ddoe a heddiw'. Mi fydd yn darlithio mewn ystafell yn y Senedd yng Nghaerdydd. Dyma'r olaf o'r tri darlith rydym wedi eu trefnu ar gyfer y Genedlaethol. Trafodwn yn 2020 os ydym am gael cylch arall o ddarlithoedd.

Jane Harries (SWAM) will be the lecturer at the National Eisteddfod in Cardiff this year. Her subject will be Heritage and Peace witness, yesterday and today. This is the last of the planned series of three lectures which have been arranged for the National Eisteddfod.

In 2020 we will discuss whether to have a further series of lectures.

2018.18 Hay Festival

Gill Sewell has asked for more volunteers to staff the Quaker stall and application forms are available at this meeting and on the BYM website. Ros Morley has produced new bilingual materials, including the new map, for this event, which can also be used at the Royal Welsh Show and the National Eisteddfod.

2018.19 Budget:

Martin Hughes, our treasurer, tells us that BYM trustees have agreed to our request for further funding for MFW, recognising that our role is now greater than it was when the grant was first agreed. We thank them for this, and ask AMs to send £5.25 per member to MFW, the same sum as last year.

2018. 20 Reports:

We have received the following lively and interesting reports which have been distributed via the email list and which are available today in print:

- a from Christine Trevett: October 2017 Commemoration of the Reformation
- b from Theresa Haine: enthronement of the new Anglican Archbishop of Wales
- c from Deborah Rowlands: Cytûn: Churches Together in Wales
- d from David Harries: laser group (Meeting of Church and Society Officers in Wales)

This report asks us to support the Welsh government's initiative to remove the defence of reasonable chastisement in criminal law. We wish to make a submission to the Welsh Assembly, and ask Stevie Krayner to work with Jessica Metherringham to produce this.

We base our support of this measure on our Peace testimony, our testimony to equality and on our work in schools (for example the Peaceful Schools Project) amongst other aspects of our spiritual witness.

- e from Alan Clark: restoration of our archives

We thank them for their service.

Signed:

Catherine James
Clerk at this time

Jill Evans
Co-clerk at this time.