

Report from MFW Trustees to MFW: June 2020.

A. Highlights from the annual report 2019 and updates in 2020

You can read the full report [HERE WEBLINK](#). But these are some highlights.

1. **A Welsh whoosh?** There is a sense of vibrancy in the air: despite the lockdown, there's a lot happening! In 2019 many of these new initiatives started but are really coming to fruition now.
2. **Working with associated AMs.** Last year I said that much of the focus would be on work with area meetings, little did I know what was around the corner. In September the meeting of area meeting clerks, and clerks of trustees, together with their counterparts in MFW led, through discernment at MFW, to the joint explorations which have taken place under the banner Newid? Change? looking to see how we might simplify our structures. They seem to be generating a lot of excitement, and energy. We look forward to hearing the result of their activity in October this year. A series of workshops were held in February to share good practice between role holders within associated area meetings.
3. **Representing Wales to BYM.** We had several discussions about working more closely together, relating to Meeting Centred Support. We were represented at both the diversity conference and Yearly Meeting agenda committee, and attended BYM Trustees to talk about the work of MFW. Last year we began the year with a workshop on the revision of the Book of Discipline and expect to continue to be engaged, when appropriate, throughout its process.
4. **Representing Quakers in Wales.** We started the year with a statement on Brexit, and continued with conversations about how BYM can effectively support MFW on advocacy matters
5. **Outreach.** The main outreach activity last year related to preparation work for the new bilingual website. In February, Friends at MFW were able to comment on the plans. It is hoped to have something operational by the end of the year although there will be more work to do in 2021.
6. **Spiritual Nurture** for all ages. A residential meeting group has been set up, and an exciting new venture to link young people from Wales with those in Pennsylvania to share the issues which are close to their hearts.
7. **Governance.** The meeting is working well. Having a strong framework with effective administration supports all the work which Friends want to do together. Subgroups are active, the clerking team is working supportively backed up by the forward planning group. This group ensures that everyone is in touch with each other and plans for meetings are in hand. We spent last year ensuring that all the policies relating to our employment were in place. We hope to have policies which relate to those of the associated area meetings in place by early next year. We have been working on memoranda of understanding both last year and this year.
8. **Finance.** The meeting is in good heart financially, holding funds in hand for the website and for other projects in the future.

B. Other matters from Trustees

MFW Trustees have met twice via Zoom since the last MFW meeting in February. Although we miss the chance to physically meet one another, meeting for shorter sessions more often has kept a sense of momentum. As well as agreeing the annual report we have been dealing with our responsibilities for employment, and for policies. Minutes of trustee meetings are available on request.