

UNCHECKED

YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) IN BRITAIN

AT THE YEARLY MEETING GATHERING HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK 29 JULY–5 AUGUST 2017

Sunday 30 July

Morning

Minute 1: Clerks

The Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks nominates the following Friends to serve as clerk and assistant clerks for Yearly Meeting 2017, serving until the first session of Yearly Meeting in 2018:

Clerk:	Deborah Rowlands	South Wales AM
First Assistant Clerk:	Clare Scott Booth	London West AM
Second Assistant Clerk:	Siobhan Haire	North London AM

These nominations being acceptable, we appoint the Friends named accordingly.

Minute 2: Worship

We have started our Gathering in worship as a community of all ages during which we have heard a story about working together.

Minute 3: Permission for non-members to attend

Permission has been given for the attendance of 134 non-members, and we welcome them to this Yearly Meeting.

Minute 4: Children & Young People's Programme and Junior Yearly Meeting

As well as the adult Friends gathered here, there are 227 children and young people attending Yearly Meeting Gathering. These comprise:

120 0–11 year olds in five groups participating in the Children's Programmes exploring the theme 'Building a better world'.

45 11–14 year olds taking part in the Young People's Programme on the theme 'What can young Quakers do with their beliefs?'

62 14–17 year olds taking part in Junior Yearly Meeting on the theme 'Working with others to make a difference'.

There are also 43 adult volunteers working across these programmes, supported by the five members of the Quaker Life Children and Young People's staff team. Young people have been involved in the planning of Junior Yearly Meeting and the Young People's Programme over the last year and will be leading some workshops; additionally, in both these programmes young people will be facilitating small groups of their peers. All the children and young people's programme themes reflect the theme of

the Gathering and all the children and young people will be attending sessions at some points during the week.

We look forward to joining with these Friends during the Gathering and to sharing their ministry and contributions to our discernment.

Minute 5: Committee to Examine Minutes

We appoint the following Friends to arrange, by rota, for two of their number to examine the minutes of this Yearly Meeting at the close of each session, and to correct any slight inaccuracies:

Carinne Allinson - West Somerset AM
Tess Bailey-Sayer - Worcestershire & Shropshire AM
Catherine Brewer - Northumbria AM
Elaine Green - Ipswich & Diss AM
Leah Heywood - North London AM
Jonathan Lingham - London West AM
Dorothy Nelson - Cornwall AM
Jackie Robinson - Sussex West AM
Chris Skidmore - Craven & Keighley AM

If any substantive alterations appear to be required, they are to be proposed at the next session prior to further business.

Minute 6: Report of Central Nominations Committee – part 1

Appointments for this Yearly Meeting

Further to minute 20 of Yearly Meeting held at Friends House, London, 27–30 May 2016, Central Nominations Committee brings forward nominations to Yearly Meeting 2017 as specified in Table 1 of the Schedule of Nominations appended to these minutes.

These nominations being acceptable, we appoint the Friends named accordingly.

Minute 7: Agenda

We receive and accept the report of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee in *Documents in advance* Part 1 (appendix I) and accept the agenda as listed in Agenda and Notes – *Documents in advance part 1* section 1.3.

The clerk of agenda committee and one of the members of the committee have introduced the agenda and outlined the main theme for the week: Living out our faith in the world; working with others to make a difference. They explained how the committee had found it helpful to think of it in terms of Heart, Head, Hands and Feet. We will be looking at the theme from each of these aspects.

We have also heard about the shape of the week and how we hope to live in a loving, inclusive community of all ages.

Minute 8: Living out our faith in the world – working with others to make a difference. Part 1: Heart

In the first of our sessions on Living out our faith in the world, we have acknowledged the heartfelt Spirit which drives our witness.

When we open our hearts, we are vulnerable to the movement of the Spirit in our lives. Workshops continuing this theme will be offered during this Gathering.