**YEARLY MEETING**

**OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) IN BRITAIN**

**AT THE YEARLY MEETING**

**HELD AT FRIENDS HOUSE, LONDON**

**27 - 30 MAY 2016**

Friday 27 May

*Evening*

**Minute 1: Clerks**

The Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks nominates the following Friends to serve as clerk and assistant clerks for Yearly Meeting 2016, serving until the first session of Yearly Meeting in 2017:

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 met in worship and we have heard read *Quaker faith & practice* 19.43.

**Minute 3: Permission for non-members to attend**

Permission has been given for the attendance of 172 non-members, and we welcome them to this Yearly Meeting.

**Minute 4: 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:

Margaret Batten North Somerset AM  
Sue Goodson Sheffield & Balby AM  
Mary Lou Leavitt North West London AM  
Jane Mace Gloucestershire AM  
Marion McNaughton Manchester & Warrington AM  
Sheila Peacock Hampshire & Islands AM  
Alan Pinch Manchester & Warrington AM  
Jeffrey Smith Bristol AM  
Elspeth Wollen Oxford & Swindon AM

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

**Minute 5: Agenda**

We receive and accept the report of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee in Appendix Iof *Documents in advance* *part 1* and accept the agenda as listed in *Documents in advance part 1* section 1.3.

The clerk of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee has introduced the agenda. During our meeting both during our sessions and in times of informal fellowship, we will be hearing stories of how individuals have lived out their faith in the world, discovering their gifts, following concerns laid upon them, and hearing some stories from our corporate work.

**Minute 6: Children & Young People**

As well as the Friends gathered here, there are 112 children and young people attending Yearly Meeting. These comprise:

60 0 -11 year olds in four groups participating in the Children’s Programmes based in Friends House exploring the theme *Using our gifts for good.*

41 11-14 year olds taking part in the residential Young People’s Programme being held at Felden Lodge, on the theme *Why are Quakers active in the world.*

11 15-18 year olds taking part in the Accompanying Programme.

There are 21 adult volunteers working across these programmes, supported by the 4 members of the Quaker Life Children and Young People’s staff team. All the children and young people’s programme themes reflect the theme of the Yearly Meeting and all will be attending sessions at some points during the weekend.

We look forward to joining with these Friends during this weekend and to sharing their ministry and contributions to our discernment at various times during the weekend.

**Minute 7: Yearly Meeting Nominating Group 2016 – 2017**

Friends are asked to consider nominations for the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group 2016–2017.

Our clerk has explained the nominations process. We will return to this later in this Yearly Meeting.

**Minute 8: Report of Central Nominations Committee – part 1**

Appointments for this Yearly Meeting

Further to minute 8 of Yearly Meeting held at Friends House, London 1- 4 May 2015, Central Nominations Committee brings forward nominations to Yearly Meeting 2016 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 9: Living out our faith in the world – responses to Minute 36 Yearly Meeting 2015**

We have begun our continuing consideration of how we live out our faith in the world by

1. **Hearing read parts of Minute 36 of Yearly Meeting 2015.**
2. **Hearing read the Epistle of Junior Yearly Meeting, held 2-6 April 2016, at the Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough, Northampton as follows:-**

To all Friends everywhere,

From the 2 - 6 April 2016, participants from all over Britain joined the Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) team at the Frontier Centre in Northampton, creating an event of 90 Friends, to explore the theme *“Inner Light: opening and inspiring us?”* in the context of: “What does love require of you; to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your inner light?”. We were joined by two representatives from the Methodist Church and visitors from Ireland Yearly Meeting. Throughout the event we welcomed many visitors, including those from Quaker Life Central Committee, Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee and the Student Christian Movement.

The theme of JYM last year was focused on action, and this year our concept was to explore whether the Inner Light drives us to act and how it does so. This links with the Yearly Meeting (YM) three year arc of: “Living out our faith in the world: our response to social inequality and economic justice.” JYM participants have been given the opportunity to be involved with YM to strengthen connections with Friends of all ages, for example the session to create a time capsule for the new Friends House garden. Many young Friends appreciated the experience of feeling involved in the decision-making of YM, as this meant we felt we were being respected and taken seriously as part of Quakerism in Britain.

Our spiritual growth was guided by the group worship sessions of Prologue and Epilogue, including a guided meditation and live music. These sessions allowed for the confidence to speak, leading to a lot of thought-provoking ministry from all involved. Participants felt that the event balanced spirituality and philosophy, allowing us to be rejuvenated after some young people had felt briefly absent from Quakerism. The whole event was facilitated in a state of worship, with silence prevalent throughout.

Following on from brief talks from each of the Arrangements Committee members about what the theme meant to them individually, we welcomed Alistair Fuller from Quaker Life, to speak about ‘What is your root? Who holds you to task?’ Participants felt that he used accessible analogies to engage with us and our theme, prompting many interesting discussions about ‘bringing your whole self’. Other smaller sessions offered participants the chance to be mindful, to centre in silence and to meditate walking a labyrinth. We held a business meeting to discern the question: ‘How are we opened by the Inner Light and how might we be moved to speak truth to power?’ Thoughtful and imaginative ministry provoked a discernment process described as ‘vibrant and fascinating’. The minute was agreed as follows:

*Our Friends spoke of the Inner Light as something constantly present, developing since birth, which is easiest to feel when in the stillness of silence and in the communities at young people’s events, where the Light can burn brightly and can open us to inspiration. The Light and truth is felt to be evident through the celebration and exploration of our talents and passions: you should not be afraid of how this light may affect you but let it shine out of yourself for all to see you.*

*A Friend compared the Inner Light to a door; even if there’s no answer at first, if you keep knocking and looking then an answer will be found. Perhaps we should try to be open by keeping looking for own answers. A common theme was the Inner Light as ‘that of God/good in everyone’, giving all people innate worth. If people can see their light, it can help the acceptance of self-worth and this opens many to feeling able to speak truth to power.*

*Some Friends felt the Inner Light as guidance: even if we don’t understand it at first, hearing others’ beliefs/opinions can help us to develop and strengthen our own. Many who spoke thought that the Inner Light gave them confidence to be themselves fully and speak out against society’s norms.*

*Our Friends felt that to speak truth to power it is best to start locally, building up as you go or that by working on our own truths we can improve the world. It was considered that how each of us speaks can be different and that while at first big actions can appear to have a large effect, sometimes the smaller things can make the most real difference – we should have the confidence to speak these things. Although speaking truth to power verbally is important, harnessing the Inner Light to bring your life into line with your values is also and by doing this speaking can be done through living.*

*A Friend contributed that in order to speak truth to power you must understand yourself and your morals first, letting the Light be a form of self-exploration and a driving force. It is the pure, unrefined Inner Light that is released when we are able to speak our own truths to power.*

We hosted guests from Quaker Peace and Social Witness who, alongside JYM team members, facilitated a rotational activity with several different workshops considering the idea of ‘We speak truth to power with love’, also examining how this can be portrayed in different ways. Paul Parker, BYM’s Recording Clerk, led a session focused on ‘Our Faith in the Future’, specifically exploring the place where ‘our deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet’, which promoted a variety of lively discussions. We were very grateful for the contribution of our Adult Volunteers, who shared about ‘Living out our Quaker faith’ through their own personal experiences.

Social activities like the Ceilidh and Scavenger Hunt helped us to create a supportive and nourishing community, where all participants felt able to contribute, bridging the diversity of our roots. There were a wide range of inventive social activities, catering for everyone’s needs and comfort. Group games encouraged mingling, creating new and strong friendships. This was developed in Base Groups, which many participants described as a second home or family; special, warm and inclusive. These smaller groups encouraged many to be more confident and involved, across both deep discussions and energetic games.

Participants left the event feeling that they had strengthened their sense of Quaker faith and personal identity and discussed the power of their intentions and influences. Most appreciated that JYM was a welcome break from technology that allowed people to better deal with stresses of life outside the event. Together we discovered that small individual actions bring out greater goods, as the theme was felt to reconnect with the very heart of Quakerism.

As we go our separate ways for now, we are conscious that the world is waiting for our actions from the Inner Light, which can be seen as inspiration and “that of good/God in everyone”.

Signed on behalf of JYM 2016 Community,

Alice and Kirk

1. **Hearing a reflection on the actions taken by area and local meetings and by individuals as gathered by Meeting for Sufferings.**

Many of us have heeded the Inward Light, and acted on it collectively. From large projects to small acts of faithful witness, Friends have been active and engaged, working together as groups of Friends, and also with others where it has added strength to our witness.

How does the Light push us into action? We have been reminded that it can be an important step to test our concerns both as individuals and as a whole yearly meeting.

We will return to this matter in further sessions of this Yearly Meeting.

*Saturday 28 May*

*Morning*

**Minute 10: Worship**

During our opening worship we have heard read 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7*, Quaker faith & practice 10.27,* and part of *Quaker faith & practice 13.09.*

**Minute 11: Living out our faith in the world – using our gifts**

We have considered the questions:

* What do we mean when we speak of the gifts of the Spirit?
* Can we think of times when someone we know acted on a Spirit-given gift?
* How am I acting on my gifts?

Our responses will help us address the over-arching question of how we live out our faith in the world. We will continue this consideration in further sessions of this Yearly Meeting.

*Saturday 28 May*

*Afternoon*

**Minute 12: Preparation meetings**

We have spent the first part of our afternoon session in preparation meetings to consider the reports of Meeting for Sufferings, Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and Quaker Stewardship Committee; these reports will come before us later in this Yearly Meeting.

During the opening worship of the preparation meetings, part of the epistle from New England Yearly Meeting (pages 27-28 of the printed version of *Epistles & testimonies*) has been read.

**Minute 13: Testimony**

Part of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Margaret (Maggie) Glover (pages 49 & 50 of the printed version of *Epistles & testimonies)* has been read.

**Minute 14: The report of Meeting for Sufferings**

We receive, and now accept, the annual report of Meeting for Sufferings for 2015, which has been introduced by its clerk and is contained in Appendix III of *Documents in advance* part 1.

**Minute 15: Proposed amendments to *Quaker faith & practice***

We receive Minute MfS/15/12/07 of Meeting for Sufferings, held 4-6 December 2015, forwarding to us proposed amendments, prepared by Church Government Advisory Group, to *Quaker faith & practice.*

We have had the opportunity to make comments and consider these in a preparation meeting held before this session, during which part of the introduction to *Quaker faith & practice* was read.

The Church Government Advisory Group has considered further minor suggestions which have now been incorporated in the text.

With these amendments we agree text, as follows:-

# a) 3.27 - Authority for Public Statements

Further to minute 32 of Yearly Meeting 2015, Meeting for Sufferings brings a revised Section 3.27, and a new Section 3.28, entitled ‘Guidance on making public statements’. These revisions take account of the comments made during Yearly Meeting in session and in commentaries submitted subsequently by individual Friends.

# b) 9.05 / 9.06 - Quaker World Relations Committee

Meeting for Sufferings recommends amendments to sections 9.05 and 9.06, to reflect the change in governance by Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and the evolving relationships between the yearly meeting and the world-wide community of Quakers.

# c) 9.13/9.14 - Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations (QCCIR)

Meeting for Sufferings recommends amendments to sections 9.13 and 9.14, to reflect the change in governance by Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and the evolving relationships within the yearly meeting.

# d) 13.45 to 13.57 - Prison Ministers, Visitors and Chaplains; College Chaplains

At the request of Quaker Prison Chaplains Committee and Quaker Life, Meeting for Sufferings recommends changes to sections 13.45 to 13.57, to reflect changes in government and the prison service in both England/Wales and in Scotland.

# e) Friends House (London) Hospitality Limited

Friends House (London) Hospitality Limited was created in 2007. Currently our book of discipline does not record the role and functions of the Company or its relationship to Britain Yearly Meeting. Meeting for Sufferings proposes the insertion of a new section after section 8.15, to become section 8.16 Friends House (London) Hospitality Limited.

# f) Small changes, intended to improve accuracy

Meeting for Sufferings recommends eight minor changes, intended to increase accuracy. They are within the following sections:

3.24i Nominations & Appointments

4.10.t Area Meetings

4.40 Records

6.18 Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee

10.21 Conflict within the meeting

14.23 Property

14.29 Sale and other disposal of property

14.45 Friends Trusts Limited

We agree the revisions as contained in appendix IV, sections a-c and e-f, of *Documents in advance part 1,* amended as noted in the meeting. We will return to section d, *Prison Ministers, Visitors and Chaplains; College Chaplains*, later in our Yearly Meeting.

*Sunday 29 May*

*Morning*

**Minute 16: Worship**

We have spent time together in worship as a community of all ages, during which we heard the story of Samuel adapted from the first book of Samuel, chapter 3.

**Minute 17: Testimony**

Part of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Bernard Vaughan (pages 67-69 of the printed version of *Epistles & testimonies*) has been read.

**Minute 18: Receipt of Annual Report of Central Nominations Committee**

The annual report of Central Nominations Committee for 2015, which has been introduced by its clerks and is contained in Appendix II of *Documents in advance part 1*,is received, and accepted.

The annual report focuses on how we recognise and use our gifts in the service of the yearly meeting and has reminded us that we are the hands, the hearts and the minds that make our worshipping community work, although we recognise that requests for service can bring challenges, as well as opportunities for flourishing. The reflections we have heard will feed into our over-arching theme for this Yearly Meeting.

**Minute 19: Report of Central Nominations Committee - part 2**

Appointments and other changes to committees and groups for work outside Yearly Meeting in session.

Further to minute 8 of Yearly Meeting held at Friends House, London 1- 4 May 2015, Central Nominations Committee brings forward nominations to Yearly Meeting 2016 as specified in Table 2 of the Schedule of Nominations appended to these minutes.

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

**Minute 20: Central Nominations Committee: Nominations required**

We ask Central Nominations Committee to bring nominations to Yearly Meeting 2017 as specified in Table 3 of the Schedule of Nominations appended to these minutes.

**Minute 21: Clerks to Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

The Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks brings the following nominations as clerks to Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees to serve from 1 January – 31 December 2017:

Nominated for a second year as clerk:

Ingrid Greenhow Chilterns AM

Nominated for a second year as assistant clerk:

Nick Francis West Wiltshire & East Somerset AM

These nominations being acceptable we appoint the Friends named accordingly.

**Minute 22: Yearly Meeting Treasurer**

The Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks brings the following nomination as Yearly Meeting Treasurer and ex officio Britain Yearly Meeting Trustee:

To serve from 1 January – 31 December 2017.

Nominated to serve for a fifth year:

Peter Ullathorne Central England AM

This nomination being acceptable we appoint the Friend named accordingly.

**Minute 23: Report of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group**

Further to minute 45 of Yearly Meeting 2015, the Nominating Group appointed at Yearly Meeting 2015 brings forward nominations as specified in Table 4 of the Schedule of Nominations appended to these minutes.

We accept this as the report of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group.

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

**Minute 24: The report of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

We receive the *Trustees’ annual report* and the *Financial statements* for 2015 (published as two documents). The clerk and assistant clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and the Yearly Meeting Treasurer have introduced this report on the Trustees’ work and responsibilities.

We have had the opportunity to comment and ask questions both today and in the preparation meeting.

We have been reminded that last year, in Minute 36 of BYM 2015, we encouraged Friends to fund the work as generously as possible, to enable further work to put our faith into action.

We thank our Trustees, those who serve on committees, volunteers and all our staff for continuing faithfulness in their work on our behalf.

We accept the *Trustees’ annual report* and the *Financial statements* for 2015.

*Sunday 29 May*

*Afternoon*

**Minute 25: Worship**

During our worship part of section 13.02 *Quaker faith & practice* has been read.

**Minute 26: Receipt of annual report of Quaker Stewardship Committee**

We receive and accept the annual report for 2015, including the compliance report, from Quaker Stewardship Committee in Appendix VI of *Documents in advance part 1,* with the amendment which has been noted*.*

**Minute 27: Review of Terms of Reference of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

Minute 35 of Yearly Meeting 2014 asked Quaker Stewardship Committee “to conduct a review of the terms of reference of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees, in consultation with the relevant bodies, and to report back to Yearly Meeting in 2016”.

We have had opportunity to make comments both before Yearly Meeting and during the preparation meeting held earlier this weekend.

The present terms of reference were adopted by Yearly Meeting in 2008. The new terms of reference reflect the way in which the role of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees has evolved over the intervening years, and to simplify the presentation of the responsibilities and duties.

We accept the new terms of reference inAppendix VII *of Documents in advance part 1* with the addition of ‘employment’ in 3.11 so that it reads:

3.11 To monitor the application of Britain Yearly Meeting policies on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, equal opportunities, employment, the involvement of volunteers and health and safety in the workplace.

We note that they will be reviewed every three years.

**Minute 28: Review of Terms of Reference for Central Nominations Committee**

We receive minute MfS/15/12/10 of Meeting for Sufferings held 4-6 December 2015, forwarding proposals for a revision of the Terms of Reference of Central Nominations Committee presented as Appendix V in *Documents in advance part 1*.

We approve these terms of reference, as amended, and thank Meeting for Sufferings for keeping the proposed new way of working under careful review over the next three years.

We note that subsequent changes to *Quaker faith & practice* sections 6.21 and 6.22 will be required, and ask Meeting for Sufferings, through its Church Government Advisory Group, to take this in hand.

We note the suggestion that the Terms of Reference of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group should be reviewed. We ask the Recording Clerk to take this forward, consulting as necessary, and forwarding new terms of reference, via Meeting for Sufferings, to Yearly Meeting 2017.

**Minute 29: Proposed amendments to *Quaker faith & practice***

Further to minute 15, we now agree the revisions as contained in Appendix IV, section d) of *Documents in Advance part 1*, amended as noted in the meeting

We record all the amendments noted in our meeting as follows:

**Appendix IV**

section a) 3.27

Third sentence: remove “also guided by” so the third sentence becomes

*Quaker witness to the world is guided by the Spirit and our religious discipline*

section b)9.05 Quaker World Relations Committee

First sentence – delete the words ‘serve on’: it becomes –

*Representatives of Britain Yearly Meeting appointed by Meeting for Sufferings to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) also form the Quaker World Relations Committee (QWRC) of Britain Yearly Meeting.*

section d)13.53

Remove “or coordinating” from the first line so the first sentence reads-

*The newly nominated Quaker prison chaplain then needs to contact the managing chaplain in the particular institution for their appointment actually to happen*.

section d)new paragraph 13.58

Amendment to the first sentence so that it now reads-

*Official Prison Visitors in England and Wales are volunteers who are appointed by the Ministry of Justice on the recommendation of the prison governor to visit certain prisoners who have asked for visits to be arranged. Their duty is to befriend those they visit. They have no duties of a specifically religious nature and are sometimes required to avoid religious topics. Friends wishing to offer this service should approach the governor of the prison where they wish to serve. They are supported by a charity known as the National Association of Official Prison Visitors (NAOPV). Some Quakers become prison chaplains after having been a visitor.*

section f)4.10t Area Meetings

Delete ‘procedures for work with children, young people and vulnerable adults’ and also change ‘disabled access’ to read ‘accessibility’.

The end of the sentence now reads:

*current concerns include matters as diverse as charity law, criminal records checking (4.14), data protection (4.45) and accessibility.*

Section f) 14.45

Delete the final words “Appendix VIII” after the full stop, they are a type-setting error.

**Minute 30: Receipt of Other Reports**

We receive and accept the following reports presented as appendices in *Documents in advance part 1*:

Quaker Housing Trust (Appendix IX);

Friends Trusts Limited (Appendix VIII).

**Minute 31: Living out our faith in the world – recognising and testing a concern.**

We have continued our consideration of Living out our faith in the world by considering the questions:

* How do we hear the impelling call to service from God?
* What resources, spiritual and practical, may we need?
* In what ways might we be called to give faithful support to others acting under concern?
* How might we recognise when the time is right to lay down a concern, or relinquish it into the care of others?

We will return to this consideration tomorrow.

*Monday 30 May*

*Morning*

**Minute 32 Worship**

During our worship we have heard read Galatians 5:22 and 23 in the New Revised Standard Version, and in The Message.

**Minute 33 Epistle**

Part of the epistle from Europe and Middle East Young Friends (EMEYF) Spring Gathering 2015 held 4-11 April 2015 (pages 10-11 of the printed version of Epistles & testimonies) has been read.

**Minute 34: Living out our faith in the world**

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Galatians 5: 22-23 New Revised Standard Version

We live out our faith in the world in diverse ways. Throughout this weekend we have shared and heard diverse stories: stories which celebrate the inspiring work being done in the name of Quakers; stories of meetings listening and responding to our Yearly Meeting’s call for equality; stories of individual Friends being pushed by the Light or hearing a clear call to which they responded; stories of acts which have led to change and transformation; stories of Friends in court and in prison for their beliefs; stories of quiet faithful service, bringing up children, seeing to the electrics in the meeting house, supporting others in a task. We have been moved, encouraged and stirred up. There are many more stories to be told. We need to have the courage to share them with one another.

If we are to live out our faith in the world, we need to recognise our own and other people’s Spirit-given gifts and to encourage one another to develop and exercise these gifts. Some individuals’ gifts are so deeply held that they are indistinguishable from their character. Other gifts are given to us at moments when we need them. When we reach out, we may receive the gift of brokenness from others, which speaks to our own brokenness and dark places, and helps us to grow.

Others may discern gifts in us that we do not, and growth may come when we accept others’ discernment. One of the gifts we can give each other is to recognise and encourage each other’s gifts and to be ready to hear when our own gifts are identified. In order to live out our faith and to be a “do it together” church it is the responsibility of us all to be the hands and to trust in discernment at all levels. In this way we grow spiritually, deepening our understanding of our true self, discovering more about our connection with the divine and breathing life into our Quaker meetings. We, and our meetings, flourish when we have opportunities to give our whole selves in the service of God and the community, and the Spirit will nourish us and our gifts if we listen faithfully, and act with integrity.

What makes something a gift of the Spirit is not the gift itself but the way in which it is used. Some gifts come at a cost, and sometimes we need to learn to make burdens into gifts. All our gifts are of the Spirit if we use them in the right way. We may have skills and talents which the Light can push us to use, but often the greatest gifts are less glamorous and come through others: making time to listen, hospitality, being alongside one another, experiencing the love of God.

Heeding the call to act can be exhilarating but also frustrating; we may be brimming over with happiness and at the same time feeling a great deal of discomfort. The process of recognising and testing what love and truth require of us may mean a long period of painful uncertainty; whilst recognising that it is possible we may be mistaken, we have to keep trusting and stay faithful to the leading. Faith is the first gift.

Testing concerns in our meetings is an important step, one we sometimes forget, or find difficult: we may feel that the meeting is too busy or not interested but often we can be supported in unexpected ways. When in our meetings we test a Friend’s concern, we may be asked to listen to God’s voice speaking to us through that Friend. We are not called to judge, and we are all ourselves tested. When we understand the process of testing through experience, we will have the courage to turn to our meetings more readily, both for support for individual concerns and to test and recognise corporate concerns. As individuals we feel empowered to act in following the discernment of a wider body: we have heard stories of Friends acting on the Yearly Meeting’s discernment on sustainability and equality, and we have heard of the importance of Quaker support, which can give us great strength, to act, and to be different.

A Friend shared with us: “I was given the gift of an open door, and I walked through”.

Returning to our meetings, we feel the urgent need, and support one another to respond by:

Being more faithful – in taking heed of the Light pushing us to act

Being more bold – in taking our leadings to our meetings and asking for support

Being more open – in our meetings for worship for business, to sharing the experience of testing and acting on concerns.

**Minute 35: Living out our faith in the world – movement building**

In living out our faith in the world, we often work within, and in partnerships with, movements for change in the world. What can be distinctive about Quaker contributions in those movements and what can we learn from them?

What are the changes we need and what are our priorities?

We expect to return to this theme at Yearly Meeting in 2017.

*Monday 30 May*

*Afternoon*

**Minute 36: Testimony**

Part of the testimony to the grace of God as shown in the life of Joy Simpson (page 66 of the printed copy of *Epistles and testimonies*) has been read.

**Minute 37: Receipt of the Yearly Meeting draft Epistle**

The Epistle Drafting Committee appointed by minute 8 has submitted a draft Epistle, which has been read and accepted.

**Minute 38: Meeting for Sufferings: interim membership changes since Yearly Meeting 2015**

We note that a number of appointments to and releases from the membership of Meeting for Sufferings have occurred since Yearly Meeting 2015. We here confirm and record the current membership of Meeting for Sufferings, excluding those who are members *ex officio*, as advised to the Recording Clerk’s Office and appointed by Meeting for Sufferings as at 2 April 2016 and as printed in table 5 of the schedule of nominations appended to these minutes.

**Minute 39: Tabular statement**

We receive the Tabular statement as at 31 December 2015.

We note that again this year the analysis has been extended to make clearer to Friends and meetings what changes are taking place within the Yearly Meeting. We welcome the provision of an extended dataset online which increases transparency.

We accept the Tabular statement with the amendments noted.

**Minute 40: Epistles from other yearly meetings**

We have received epistles from 23 yearly meetings and other bodies (pages 9 – 33 of the printed edition of *Epistles & testimonies*).

**Minute 41: Testimonies**

The following testimonies to the Grace of God as shown in the life of deceased Friends have been received (pages 37 – 73 of the printed edition of *Epistles & testimonies*) in addition to those from which extracts have been read in our sessions:

Bernard Sidney Alloway

Catherine King Ambler

Gerard Benson

Peris Miles Coventry

John Charles Crawford

Winifred Joyce Douglas

George Farebrother

David Burtt Gray

David Hall

Rupert Hedger

Aileen King

Ruth Margaret Marshall

James McCarthy

William Grigor McClelland

Hugh McGregor Ross

Janet Pascoe

Oonah Pim

Arthur Taylor

Jim Waterhouse

Monica Weeden

Harry Youngman

**Minute 42: Visitors from other yearly meetings**

We have welcomed 32 representatives and other visitors from yearly meetings and Friends’ groups around the world.

**Minute 43: Minute of record: inter-church and interfaith visitors**

We have welcomed interfaith and inter-church visitors to this Yearly Meeting as follows:

Billy Kennedy, 4th President of Churches Together in England

Jagbir Jhutti-Johal, Senior Lecturer in Sikh Studies at the University of Birmingham.

**Minute 44:** **Yearly Meeting Nominating Group: appointment**

Further to minute 7 the following nominations are received for service on the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Mat Alton Cambridgeshire AM

Ann Banks Brighouse West Yorkshire AM,

Hannah Brock Hampshire & Islands AM

Sue Buxton North Scotland AM

Robert Card Mid Thames AM

Dawn Filtness Norfolk & Waveney AM

Rhiannon Grant Luton & Leighton AM

Being acceptable to the meeting, the Friends nominated are appointed to work with their convenor Jeffery Smith, Bristol AM, who was appointed by our minute 23.

**Minute 45:** **Yearly Meeting Nominating Group: nominations required**

We ask the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group to bring nominations to Yearly Meeting 2017 as specified in Table 6 of the Schedule of Nominations appended to these minutes.

**Minute 46: Thanks**

We record our thanks to all our staff and volunteers who have served us so well both during this meeting and over the past year.

**Minute 47: Introduction to Yearly Meeting Gathering 2017**

We have been given a flavour of the Yearly Meeting Gathering to be held at the University of Warwick 29 July – 5 August 2017.

**Minute 48: Receipt of minutes from the Children and Young People’s Programmes**

We have received minutes from the groups of the Children’s and Young People’s Programmes of this Yearly Meeting as follows:

New Shoots (0-2 year olds)

With the theme of gifts and giving we first took time to get to know each other and to independently explore the activities we could see. Tower building was fun but taking them out of the box and putting them straight back in was satisfying.

We enjoyed the company of the other groups particularly Fox Cubs. They took us for a walk to the park, dancing with coloured ribbons, encouraged us to paint and join in their playtime on the balcony and shared their snack with us.

Our snooze time was important to recharge our batteries so that we could run around on the grass and explore the popup tent and tunnel.

At the end of our sessions we sat in silence and looked at the colour changing bunny and cube, but the desire to pick them up was challenging, however we did manage a whole 30 seconds.

Fox Cubs (3-5 year olds)

*Using our gifts for good*

We have been thinking about gifts all weekend. We all felt welcomed and we used pictures to help us make the right choices so that everyone could feel safe and happy.

We have been given gifts several times this weekend.

We have had the gift of new friends and smiles and kindness in our group. Mel and Gill gave us a box with seeds to grow and bubbles to blow. Penn Friends came and gave us a brilliant gift of stories and songs. Spiritual Adventurers shared worship and biscuits with us. Seeing our brothers, sisters and friends in other groups was great.

We have a kindness tree which is full of leaves that help us to remember how we were kind to each other. We saw a tree in the park that reminded us of the kindness tree.

We loved making fruit dipped in chocolate and then creeping along the corridor to make it a surprise gift for Penn Friends. That made us feel happy.

We have worshipped together and taken turns being elders. We have thought about pebbles on the beach, seeds growing, stars in the sky, the taste and texture of chocolate and fruit, coloured flowers opening and thanking God for all these wonderful things.

We have thought about laughing and being happy and enjoyed laughing together every day. We danced with ribbons to the “Happy” song and enjoyed sharing this with the babies and some adults. We were two thumbs happy.

Penn Friends­ (6 – 8 year olds)

This is the minute of the Penn Friends.

Some of us settled in as we walked through the doors because we knew we would have fun and we saw people playing.

Many of us enjoyed making things and being creative, in response to the story about a person who planted the smallest seed that turned into a massive tree, which birds came to.

We enjoyed singing songs with Spiritual Adventurers. We went to Fox Cubs to perform a gift for them because they gave us fruit covered in chocolate.

We made tree-people – paper dolls – that we put on a paper tree and moved it up if we were feeling brave and confident, making friends and enjoying ourselves. We moved the paper doll lower if we were uncomfortable, nervous or scared.

We went to Coram’s Fields, aka park, and we saw a shelf where babies were left in the old days when their family could not look after them.

We made lots of friends, especially in our small table groups.

We had journals which we could do anything in. We like drawing and writing in them about what we were doing.

We liked the story with the stars and liked having peace and quiet.

We also enjoyed listening to the box story about Miss Nancy who had lost her memory. We liked looking at the things in the basket. In the basket there was a ball as precious as gold, a puppet that made people laugh and shells from the beach. There was a medal that reminded Miss Nancy of when her brother went to war and never came back. There was an egg from under a chicken that was warm and reminded Miss Nancy of warmth. Then she got her memory back.

We were visited by Mel and Alistair because we were learning about gifts that you give to people. We all chose a ‘gift’ from a blanket and we said to the person next to us who the gift was for and why. Rupert visited us to help.

“In my journal I put, ‘This afternoon is going to be great fun’.”

Most of us enjoyed Quaker meeting.

Spiritual Adventurers (8 – 11 year olds)

This weekend in Spiritual Adventurers we have been thinking about using our gifts for good. We have done this in a variety of ways, for example playing games, being creative, writing promises to our future selves and sharing our stories through worship.

Meeting new people of different ages was exciting, we learned each other’s names through NameZombie, quickly becoming friends.

We shared games with the younger children in Penn Friends and they shared songs with us.

We thought hard about questions ‘Who is the best person to help those in need?’ Is it important to know their backstories, and is it always good to help those in pain?

We learnt about Quaker business method through having a business meeting to nominate minute readers and writers and elders.

Sitting in quiet worship and meditation calmed us down and we were helped by the support of the group to share our stories and ministry.

We invited the Fox Cubs and New Shoots to share worship where we heard a story about promises and then shared the gift of biscuits that we had decorated.

Our group boundaries had stated that we would treat everybody the way we expect to be treated. We feel, as a group, we have worked this way which has led to a special atmosphere of calm and inclusivity.

Young People’s Programme (11-15 year olds)

From the 27th to the 30th May 2016, 40 young people and 5 adult volunteers met at Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, to consider the theme of *“Why are Quakers active in the world?- considering what we as young Quakers can do.”*

We explored the theme through a variety of speaker sessions, discussions and activities. On Saturday Lee Taylor told us the amazing stories of Mama Rosa, John Woolman and herself as they followed through on the promptings they experienced.

Later on we split into four groups to discuss climate change, poverty, refugees and lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender plus (LGBT+) issues. We discussed our experiences, thoughts and what we could do to make a difference.

We had a session in which the adult volunteers shared their experiences of promptings and how they acted upon them. We then went into our base groups - small groups we gathered in regularly throughout the event, which were like our family - to create parodies of popular songs based on the four themes we had discussed earlier.

On Sunday afternoon we joined the Yearly Meeting session- “Living out our faith in the world; recognising, testing and supporting concerns.” which allowed us to explore our own concerns whilst listening to the views of the Quaker community as a whole, and helped us feel a valid part of YM. Two young people felt prompted to minister during the session and were heard. We stayed at Friends House to witness the burial of Junior Yearly Meeting’s time capsule, and to visit the groups fair.

On Monday we had a question and answer session with Cait Gould, Laurence Hall and Holly Wallis addressing the question: “What can young Quakers do?” We heard their stories and considered the question for ourselves.

We explored the Quaker business method through holding our own Meeting for Worship for Business and nominating next year’s Arrangements Committee.

Over the whole event we explored our purpose as young Quakers, and our thoughts on various topics. We would like to thank the adult volunteers and speakers for making the event interesting and enjoyable. We look forward to the future of Quakerism.

**Minute 49: General Epistle**

The General Epistle approved by minute 37 has been read and signed by the clerk on behalf of the meeting. It reads as follows:

**Epistle from Britain Yearly Meeting**

**Held at Friends House, London on 27 – 30 May 2016**

Loving Greetings to Friends everywhere,

British Friends of all ages, and visiting Friends from around the world, have gathered in London for our second of three Yearly Meetings looking at ‘Living out our faith in the world’ and have experienced a great depth of worship.

We reminded ourselves where we ended last year, with a call for equality and action. We were inspired by hearing an epistle from Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) and news of projects undertaken by individual Friends, local meetings and area meetings. We all, adults, children and young people, have considered how we use our gifts, how we recognise, test and support concerns, and how we work with others.

Taking so much time to consider the concept of Spirit-given gifts has brought us to a point of deeper understanding. What makes something a gift of the Spirit is not the gift itself but the way in which it is used.

As written in Corinthians: ‘There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are varieties of service, but the same Lord. There are varieties of activity, but in all of them and in everyone the same God is active. In each of us the Spirit is seen to be at work for some useful purpose.’

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7 Revised English Bible)

Even our brokenness and burdens, which may change our lives in deep and challenging ways, can become gifts.

How does the Light push us into action? Quakers have a long tradition of testing concerns in local, area and yearly meetings. Testing a concern may challenge not just the leading of one Friend, but the commitment of the whole Meeting and lead to growth for everyone. Through the right use of this process we can support our Friends in their callings.

We have heard inspiring examples of Friends living out their faith. Friends had the opportunity to see a play about Ada Salter’s outstanding social and political work a hundred years ago. Some Friends described their own personal journeys of acting under concern.

Our Swarthmore Lecturers shared their experiences of Quaker peace work in Central and East Africa. Although we heard the words of both we were deeply saddened that Cécile Nyiramana was prevented and Esther Mombo attended alone. They spoke of using and adapting existing peacemaking tools. Some of the causes of conflict they see, such as poverty and inequality, are present in our own society. Sustainable peacebuilding begins with individuals working within their local communities.

Our working with others and “movement building” will be the theme of our next Yearly Meeting. We have been challenged to consider whether we ought to be a prophetic voice crying in the wilderness, like John the Baptist, or take direct action in collaboration with others.

The problems we face are big and urgent and we may feel as if we are standing at the edge of all we know. However, if we have faith and trust in our leadings, when we take the next step together, either we will find earth under our feet or God will give us wings.

**Minute 50: Naming of Clerks for Yearly Meeting 2017**

The Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks expect to bring the following names to serve as clerk and assistant clerks for Yearly Meeting 2017:

Clerk: Deborah Rowlands South Wales AM

First Assistant Clerk: Clare Scott Booth London West AM

Second Assistant Clerk: Siobhan Haire North London AM

We ask the Friends named above to undertake the work of preparing for Yearly Meeting 2017 as required, expecting to appoint them at the first session of Yearly Meeting 2017.

**Minute 51: Concluding Minute**

“Keep your meetings in the power of God… And when Friends have finished their business, sit down and wait a while quietly and wait upon the Lord to feel him. And go not beyond the Power, but keep in the Power by which God almighty may be felt among you… For the power of the Lord will work through all, if … you follow it.”

George Fox, 1658

*Quaker faith & practice 3:30*

There being no further business for the Yearly Meeting, we separate, hoping to meet again at the University of Warwick, 29 July – 5 August 2017.

**Schedule of nominations**

**Table 1 – Report of Central Nominations Committee – Part 1**

**Appointments for this Yearly Meeting**:

**Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee**

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019:

Re-nominated:

Elizabeth Allen South East Scotland AM

Mary Waldmeyer Teesdale & Cleveland AM

Nominated:

Rebecca Mattingly Brighouse West Yorkshire AM Roger Bartlett Southern Marches AM

Wendy Hampton Pendle Hill AM

One name to follow.

**Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee**

Nominated to serve during this Yearly Meeting with the Yearly Meeting clerks and Anthony Buxton, Elizabeth Allen and Heather Rowlands of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee:

Fred Langridge North East Thames AM

Alison Breadon Chilterns AM

**Yearly Meeting elders**

Nominated to serve at Yearly Meeting 2016 (in addition to those appointed in 2015) until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Adwoa Bittle East Scotland AM

Simon Risley London West AM

Fred Ashmore Kingston & Wandsworth AM

Robin Davis West Scotland AM

Nominated to serve as convener of Yearly Meeting elders for Yearly Meeting 2017: Robin Davis West Scotland AM

**Yearly Meeting Epistle Drafting Committee**

To serve during this Yearly Meeting, including a convener:

Nominated to serve as convener:

Sally Allen Northumbria AM

Nominated:

Rachael Swancott Pendle Hill AM

Eleanor Tew York AM

Sue Tyldesley Lancashire Central & North AM

Roger Bartlett Southern Marches AM

Catriona Troth Chilterns AM

**Table 2 – Report of Central Nominations Committee – Part 2**

**Appointments and other changes to committees and groups for work outside Yearly Meeting in session:**

**Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

To serve from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019:

Re-nominated:

Roy Love York AM

Alastair Reid West Scotland AM

David Olver Craven & Keighley AM Nominated:

Hazel Shellens Cambridgeshire AM

Nick Eyre Lincolnshire AM

**Quaker Stewardship Committee**

To serve as clerks from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Re-nominated to serve as clerk:

Ursula Fuller East Kent AM

Nominated to serve as assistant clerk:

Daphne Wasserman West Scotland AM

To serve as a member from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Nominated:

Martin Ford Leeds AM

To serve as members from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019:

Nominated:

Yvonne Dickson Wirral & Chester AM

Mary Aiston Kingston & Wandsworth AM

Fred Ashmore Kingston & Wandsworth AM

**Yearly Meeting Pastoral Care Group**

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019: Nominated:

Anthony Woolhouse Bournemouth Coastal AM

**Yearly Meeting Publications Group for Quaker faith & practice**

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019: Nominated:

Peter Parr Sussex East AM

**Central Nominations Committee two co-clerks**

We note that Central Nominations Committee has made the following appointments: to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Co-clerk: Christine Habgood-Coote Sussex East AM

Co-clerk: Terry Faull Devon AM

**Table 3 – Central Nominations Committee: nominations required**

Nominations to be brought to Yearly Meeting 2017:

* Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee: six Friends to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020
* Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee: one or two Friends to serve with the three Yearly Meeting clerks and three Agenda Committee members at Yearly Meeting 2017
* Yearly Meeting Pastoral Care Group: one Friend to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020
* Yearly Meeting Publications Group for Quaker faith & practice: one Friend to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020
* Yearly Meeting Epistle Drafting Committee: five to seven Friends to serve at Yearly Meeting 2017, including one to act as a convener
* Yearly Meeting elders: four Friends to serve for Yearly Meetings 2017 and 2018 and two Friends to serve for Yearly Meeting 2017
* Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees: three Friends to serve from 1 January 2018 until 31 December 2020
* Quaker Stewardship Committee: three Friends to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020.

**Table 4 – Report of Yearly Meeting Nominating Group**

**Central Nominations Committee**

Appointed in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings, held 5 December 2015, to serve until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 to fill a vacancy:

Michael Long Northumbria AM

Appointed in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings, held 6 February 2016, to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 to fill a vacancy:

Louise Rendle North West London AM

Nominated to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Area Meeting (AM) | Member of Meeting for Sufferings |
| David Beale | Cumberland AM | Yes |
| David Day | Cumberland AM | Yes |
| Ann Titman | Hampshire & Islands AM | No |
| Aidan Childs | Devon AM | No |
| Jane Lewis | Hampshire & Islands AM | No |

Released by Meeting for Sufferings

Dorothy Nelson Cornwall AM

Helen Still North Wales AM

**Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks**

Appointed in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings, held 5 September 2015, to serve until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 to fill a vacancy:

Nominated:

Tony Fitt Cornwall AM

One Friend to fill a vacancy following appointment of their clerk from amongst their number, to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017:

Beryl Milner East Scotland AM

Four Friends to serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2019:

Renominated:

Tony Fitt Cornwall AM

Nominated:

Andrew Backhouse East Cheshire AM

Gethin Evans Mid-Wales AM / CCR Canolbarth Cymru

Judith Thompson Devon AM

Released by Meeting for Sufferings:

Christine Cannon Kingston & Wandsworth AM

One Friend to serve until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2018 to fill a vacancy: Nominated:

Elsa Dicks North West London AM

**Convener of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group**

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2016 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017: Nominated:

Jeffery Smith Bristol AM

**Table 5 – Meeting for Sufferings: interim membership changes since Yearly Meeting 2015**

For information we record here the membership of Meeting for Sufferings, excluding those who serve ex officio, as advised to the Recording Clerk’s Office and appointed by Meeting for Sufferings as at its meeting on 2 April 2016.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Area Meeting | Representative | Alternate |
| Banbury & Evesham Area Meeting | Judith Mason |  |
| Bournemouth Coastal Area Meeting | Stuart Yates | Ruth Bush |
| Brighouse West Yorkshire Area Meeting | Ann Banks | Ailie Kerrane |
| Bristol Area Meeting | Judy Holyer | Miriam Yagud |
| Cambridgeshire Area Meeting | Debbie Cates | Hannah Morrow |
| Central England Area Meeting | John Cockcroft | Cathy Khurana |
| Central Nominations Committee | Catherine Putz | Christine Habgood-Coote |
| Central Yorkshire Area Meeting | Ruth McTighe | Jane Pinder |
| Chilterns Area Meeting |  | Jane Edmonds |
| Cornwall Area Meeting | Alethea Wigzell | Julie Taylor-Browne |
| Craven & Keighley Area Meeting | Sylvia Boyes | Patricia Saunders |
| Cumberland Area Meeting | David Day | David Beale |
| Devon Area Meeting | Robert Lovett | Terry Faull |
| Dorset & South Wiltshire Area Meeting | Jane Fowles | Joan Wright |
| East Cheshire Area Meeting | Andrew Backhouse | Jacqui Moore |
| East Kent Area Meeting | Ursula Fuller | Peter Atherall |
| East Scotland Area Meeting | Robin Waterston | Beryl Milner |
| General Meeting for Scotland | Jane Pearn | Kevin Franz |
| Gloucestershire Area Meeting | Colin Burns Brown | Pat Beard |
| Hampshire & Islands Area Meeting | Graham Dragon | Sarah Coote |
| Hardshaw and Mann AM | Jennie Barnsley | Denise Graham |
| Hertford & Hitchin Area Meeting | Kim Noy-Man Jackson | Headley Parkins |
| Ipswich & Diss Area Meeting | Elaine Green | Avril Dawson |
| Kendal & Sedbergh Area Meeting | Christopher Bullard | Pamela Coren |
| Kingston & Wandsworth Area Meeting | Joan Bulmer | Graham Torr |
| Lancashire Central & North Area Meeting | Jennifer Maclennan | Elizabeth Gruar |
| Leeds Area Meeting | John Arnison | Martin Ford |
| Leicester Area Meeting | Jenny Mattingly | Angela Walker |
| Lincolnshire Area Meeting | Mark Lilley | Roger Seal |
| London West AM | Simon Risley | Sandra Horsfall |
| Luton & Leighton Area Meeting | Gloria Dobbin | Jayne Meadows |
| Manchester & Warrington Area Meeting | Diane Furber | Marion McNaughton |
| Meeting of Friends in Wales | Gethin Evans |  |
| Mid Essex Area Meeting | Deirdre Haslam | Brian Wardrop |
| Mid Wales AM | David Jones | Dave Butler |
| Mid-Somerset Area Meeting | Gill Greenfield | Janet Lailey |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Mid-Thames Area Meeting | Doreen Osborne | Judy Still |
| Norfolk & Waveney Area Meeting | Jenny Routledge | Teresa Belton |
| North East Thames Area Meeting | Margarete Briggs | Anne Smith |
| North London Area Meeting | Joycelin Dawes |  |
| North Scotland Area Meeting | Jane Booth | David Sanders |
| North Somerset Area Meeting | Aubrey Hill | Enid Smith |
| North Wales AM | Frances Voelcker | Helen Still |
| North West London Area Meeting | Elise Sakamoto | Claire Farrier |
| Northamptonshire Area Meeting | Karen Draycott | Sally Lewis |
| Northumbria Area Meeting | Stella Clark | Michael Long |
| Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Area Meeting | Nicky Hoskin-Stone | Maggie Lightowler-Cook |
| Oxford & Swindon Area Meeting | Bridget Walker | Jenny Buffery |
| Pendle Hill Area Meeting | Wendy Hampton | Stanley Lee |
| Pickering & Hull Area Meeting | Christine Fellowes | David Malone |
| QCCIR |  | Douglas Butterfield |
| QPSWCC | Rachel Berger | Jenny Amery |
| Quaker Life CC | Isobel Dunbar |  |
| Quaker World Relations Committee | Anne Bennett | Barbara Windle |
| Sheffield & Balby Area Meeting | Sue Goodson | Sallie Ashe |
| South East London Area Meeting | Rowena Loverance | Jo-Anne Fraser |
| South East Scotland Area Meeting | Henry Thompson | Kate Arnot |
| South London Area Meeting | Gillian Turner | Antony Barlow |
| South Wales AM | Maggie Vicuna | Liz Muir-Edwards |
| Southern East Anglia Area Meeting | Robert Parkes | Carol Holding |
| Southern Marches AM | Julian Rutherford | Roger Bartlett |
| Staffordshire AM | Win Sutton | Robert Horton |
| Surrey & Hampshire Border Area Meeting | Peter Morris | Mary Prior |
| Sussex East Area Meeting | Kim Ashcroft | Peter Bolwell |
| Sussex West Area Meeting | Colin Holliday | Chris Bemrose |
| Swarthmoor (South West Cumbria) AM | Robert Straughton |  |
| Teesdale & Cleveland Area Meeting | Kate Allcock | Jane Nicholls |
| Thaxted Area Meeting | Angela Pivac | John Capper |
| Wensleydale & Swaledale AM | Judy Nicholls | Edna Rossiter |
| West Kent Area Meeting |  | Jill Clarke |
| West Scotland Area Meeting | Barbara Robinson | Ed Tyler |
| West Somerset Area Meeting | Kathy Gollin | Jefferson Horsley |
| West Weald Area Meeting | Rosemary Elias |  |
| West Wiltshire & East Somerset Area Meeting | Jane Stephenson | Diana Jeater |
| Wirral & Chester Area Meeting | Dori Miller | Keith Rycroft |
| Worcestershire & Shropshire Area Meeting | David Bowgett | Andrew Jameson |
| York Area Meeting | Sarah Allen | James McCarthy |
| Young Friends General Meeting | Laurence Hall | Rici Marshall |

**Table 6: Yearly Meeting Nominating Group: Nominations required**

Nominations to be brought to Yearly Meeting 2017:

* Three Friends to serve on Central Nominations Committee from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020
* Four Friends to serve on the Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2020
* One Friend to serve as convener of the Nominating Group from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2017 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2018.