

This file contains

(a) Introduction to the Annual Report and Accounts from QIY Trustees.

(b) Summary of the Annual Report and Accounts of Quakers in Yorkshire.

(a) Introduction given by Barbara Windle, Clerk of Trustees.

I am pleased to commend to you a shortened version of QIY's **annual report and accounts** and to outline briefly how we are seeking to fulfil the responsibilities we carry on your behalf. You know the process whereby QIY Trustees are responsible for approving the accounts and accompanying report; these then go to the Independent Examiner, who must pass the accounts before I send them and the narrative to Charity Commission, where they are rechecked before going on the CC website. We also send them to Quaker Stewardship Ctee. Michael Sturge, the Examiner, has already indicated to me that he sees no problems. Once the Examination is complete we shall be happy to put on the website a full electronic copy, including the report narrative, for to any Friend who wishes to see it.

Trustee membership: At the end of 2016 June Lewis completed her first term as trustee; she has been reappointed to serve from 2017- 2019. We thank Andrea Killen, who completed her service at the same time. Unfortunately it has not yet proved possible for Brighthouse West Yorkshire AM to replace her so we are one trustee light at present.

Early this year George Race found it necessary to ask for release from the Treasurership. I've said something in the programme about my appreciation of the exemplary commitment he has brought to this work. He has fought to complete the 2016 accounts regardless of the physical difficulty this has caused him. I shall always be grateful to have worked with George, to enjoy his care for our meetings and for QIY activities with children and young people. His efficiency has been a great support, not to mention his sense of humour. I'm very grateful too that QIY Noms went quickly into action so that we were able to welcome Chris Petrie, appointed in April as George's successor. Thank you too to Chris Love for her great help during the interregnum.

What else have we been doing and why do we need to look after money? As one example I'll just mention today how fortunate we are to have the Forrest Meeting House Fund. A century hence some Quaker historian may go through over 100 years of accounts to work out how many meeting houses have benefited from grants or loans out of this fund. Recently High Flatts, Settle, York Friargate and even Brigflatts in the near future (ask one of us at lunchtime) have all applied successfully for help. So it's not just a line in the accounts, it's a very present help to meetings. We are careful to maintain its value precisely so that we can go on giving this help where it's really needed and over the long term.

Next a reminder that **we come to you today asking you find creative ways to spend one pot or money on deepening our faith experience and knowledge.** We want to spend all the £31,500 bequest from the Adult School Union, if possible within ten years of making the first grant. How? Here are a few ideas. Bring Woodbrooke to your own AM – Woodbrooke on the Road. That costs a mini of £480 & could be twice as much depending on numbers. This is the fund that can make it affordable if your AM puts forward a good case. Take a meeting group to Swarthmoor Hall for the Women's Theological Conference – or to undertake a Fox's Footsteps Pilgrimage – or to study the Letters of John. Go to Glenthorne to study mysticism and the Quaker tradition- unless you prefer something on Paul's Letters – or a course on Allowing Forgiveness – or will it be Stillness Faith & Action? Those are thoughts just plucked from a short look on three websites; so many other possibilities exist and by applying for a significant grant for your meeting, you could open them up at a greatly reduced cost to a number of people. What joy your meeting could gain from the relaxed fellowship of time together combined with spiritual nurture and inspiration. When you get

home, blow up the article in the Newsletter, get it in a prime spot on your board - ask for ideas & offer some yourself. What a chance for enjoying ourselves, deepening our lives & getting a spiritual boost. And all without worrying about some being left out because of cost. We do have other thoughts if Friends can't be persuaded to come up with their own, but we really can't believe the great do-it-ourselves crowd called Quakers would want us to do it for them! You'll need to take time to think it through and choose well – but don't take for ever! Early September would be good. We meet as trustees on September 23rd. I admit it's too ambitious to hope for an outline application from all 7 AMs - but surely we can manage two or three by then? And some more before we meet in February.

At the most recent meeting of York AM an elder read during worship Beth Allen's words para 8.25 QFP; I'd like to read it now.

'For some of us this does not seem sufficiently religious. I remember an outburst in Meeting for Sufferings, when Friends felt that Britain Yearly Meeting was becoming 'just a well-run charity'. 'I don't want to be part of a well-run charity, I want to be part of a religious group, a church,' said a weighty Friend. The point is that we need to be an ordinary well-run organisation, with good structures and sensible practices, which we then make extraordinary by transcending, not discarding them.'

As one of your Trustees I find that very helpful – and I felt the same when I was serving on Quaker Life Central Committee. These activities do not constitute the glamorous or exciting aspects of Quaker work but they are an essential bit of the bedrock. Like the foundations, you don't actually want to see them too often, but you feel safer if they're known to be solid, durable, and well-maintained. We do our best to see that they are and the Charity Commission's acceptance of our reports and accounts is part of that evidence. So is the ever-ongoing work of keeping the handbook up to date. It's like painting the Forth Bridge – and like that, it strengthens the basics and enables the vital work that can only happen when the structure really works.

It is good that Friends should take an informed interest in trustee work. Our Friend Peter Jarman, who was formerly a trustee and latterly a co-opted member, made a very significant and valued contribution towards creating QIY's ethical investment policy. He continues to take a concerned interest and has recently queried some financial decisions. These queries all relate to trustee decisions taken while Peter was a co-opted member and were discerned very thoroughly and on more than one occasion at the time. They have all been reviewed again since then.

Finally I'd like to thank all our trustees for their support, guidance and wisdom.

Barbara Windle

July 2017

Quakers in Yorkshire

Annual Report for 2016

QUARTERLY MEETINGS IN 2016

The quarterly meetings of QIY provide a forum for its two main tasks: (1) that of making appointments and disseminating information to Friends from all seven area meetings about wider activities in support of its objectives and (2) that of providing opportunities at each meeting for learning, fellowship and spiritual enrichment. Specific agendas are agreed at twice-yearly meetings of the Arrangements Committee, which comprises representatives from each area meeting, together with the Clerks of QIY acting as convenors.

Arrangements Committee proposes topics and speakers, creating programmes that it hopes will be of interest to all Yorkshire Quakers and will reflect their need for both spiritual and social enrichment.

Leeds (January) and York (October) are the usual venues for the first and fourth meetings of the year, with the intervening (April & July) meetings normally rotating among the remaining area meetings.

Reports are submitted regularly at each meeting as indicated by the separate sections below.

January 2016's meeting considered work with Under 19s, was told of the plans for Easter Settlement and heard from a reinvigorated Outreach Projects Committee. Two informative and inspirational presentations followed. One described the work of and Quaker involvement in Breckenbrough School, the only Quaker Foundation residential school for boys with learning and behavioural difficulties. The second introduced Friends to Circles of Support and Accountability in Yorkshire, Humberside and Lincolnshire (YHLCOSA). Friends heard how this challenging voluntary work gives sustained support to released prisoners so as to reduce their reoffending and thus work towards YHLCOSA's aim of 'No More Victims'.

April's meeting in Huddersfield focused on peace issues. Friends saw a powerful performance of 'Over the top' (Journeymen Theatre), a play commissioned by West Midlands Quaker Peace Committee. It stimulated strong discussion of the issue of militarisation of schools. This fed directly into three presentations on Taking action and Peace Education (both led by Quaker Peace & Social Witness workers) and Veterans for Peace (led by two 'Vets' who are QIY members). Another lively and thoughtful discussion concentrated on the actions individuals and local groups can take to be effective even in the face of strong opposition.

The July session held in Ilkley began with QIY Trustees' presentation of the annual report and accounts before moving on to the annual report of Glenthorne Quaker Centre and Guesthouse (Grasmere). It then heard from and engaged with the activities and concerns of some of the 18 - 30 year old Quakers who comprise the national body of Young Friends General Meeting.

The October meeting, held at The Mount School York, spent the morning engaging with the work of The Mount and Bootham over the past year, hearing from governors, staff and pupils in the process and learning of the Schools' future plans. During the afternoon Friends were told of proposed changes to governance of The Retreat and agreed to support those relevant to QIY. For the afternoon's main topic Stephen Pittam spoke of the development of human rights from the signing of the European Convention of Human Rights following World War 2, to actions close to home especially the University of York's Centre of Applied Human Rights and the recent initiative which aims in 2017 to launch York as the first Human Rights City in the UK. He encouraged QIY to continue the Quaker tradition of getting involved in these issues.

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Providing activities for Quaker young people remains a significant responsibility of QIY. The

Under 19s umbrella Coordinating Group oversees and supports the activities of Yorkshire Friends Holiday School (13 - 18 year olds) and Junior Holidays (7 - 12 year olds) and comprises representatives from each of the holiday groups and independent QiY members.

Junior Holidays gave seventeen children the experience of Barmoor in June and ten that of Robins Hood Bay in August. The Yorkshire Friends Holiday School, run in August by sixteen staff for seventy-four young people at Bootham School, took as its theme Social Justice, including a day of social action in York as well as hearing from two excellent external speakers; there was also plenty of time for getting to know people through the essential social activities.

Children's activities at Easter Settlement, held at Cober Hill, were much enjoyed.

The Under 19s Coordinating Group advises on legal requirements and on best practice regarding safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people. Much work has been done during the year keeping safeguarding documents and procedures fully up to date. The Group continues to keep the overall provision for young people under review, with involvement from the trustees.

OUTREACH

The new Outreach Projects Committee has settled into a strong working pattern. During 2016, it awarded eleven grants, a significantly larger number than in the previous year.

Easter Settlement 2016, with over sixty participants, considered the theme 'Building a confident Quaker Voice' with Arthur Pritchard and also ran a successful children's programme (see above).

APPOINTMENTS & OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Quakers in Yorkshire in session plays a significant role in appointing both internal office-holders and Quaker representatives to external bodies and committees. It appoints governors for Bootham and The Mount, two schools in York which were established by Yorkshire Quarterly Meeting of Quakers in the nineteenth century. Both are now independently governed Quaker schools, registered charities and companies limited by guarantee. They report annually to the October session of Quakers in Yorkshire.

Quakers in Yorkshire also appoint: governors to Breckenbrough School, an independent charitable trust school of Quaker foundation, for boys with emotional, social and behavioural problems; trustees to Glenthorne Quaker Centre, Grasmere, Cumbria; and, currently, members for The Retreat, a charitable provider of specialist mental health care (see the final paragraph of Quarterly Meetings in 2016.) In addition, it appoints representatives to regional ecumenical bodies.

All appointments are made by QiY in session. Most of the names of Friends to be considered for appointment are brought forward via QiY Nominations Committee, though some are nominated by area meetings, or other groups. Nominations Committee consists of representatives of each of the seven area meetings. In 2016 thirty Friends took up appointments in various roles on behalf of QiY.

CONCLUSION

Some regions within Britain Yearly Meeting (Quakers) have ceased to maintain their regional gatherings. We continue to believe that Quakers in Yorkshire fulfil a valuable function. It carries out the responsibilities that come with significant financial assets and it keeps living links with the various Quaker institutions founded in our region and still active there. It provides opportunities for young people to feel part of a wider Quaker community and it strengthens awareness of the breadth of Quaker work and fellowship across all our meetings, small or large.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The unrestricted funds have shown overall, a lower income of £46,000 (£84,600 in 2015) and decreased expenditure at £48,700 (£54,950 in 2015).

Within these totals, the main variation on the year has been that no funds have been transferred into the General Fund

The General Fund, apart from its direct expenses, made transfers of £2,000 to support Easter Settlement. Donations have been received from all the participating Area Meetings in 2016.

The aggregated balances carried forward are £118,500 (£122,900 in 2015) of which £40,900 (£39,500 in 2015) is represented by a loan to Glenthorne Guest House out of the Linton Taylor bequest.

Restricted and endowment funds

The Forrest's Meeting House Trust spent £7,900 drawn from its £4,800 income for the year supplemented by accumulated income and currently has some £1,600 accumulated income for Yorkshire Quaker meeting house projects. The capital fund is worth £188,100 (£174,200 in 2015).

Rawdon Friends School Trust accounts had a total income of £8,700. Confirmation that bursaries have been given to eligible pupils at Quaker schools has been received. A total of £12,200 has been paid to the three Schools who have Quaker children attending. The portfolio value at the year-end was £303,700 (£279,600 in 2015).

Yorkshire General Meeting Charity funds were transferred to Quakers in Yorkshire Charity when the two charities were merged in May 2011. Trustees have continued to account for these separately to maintain consistency. The fund is worth £19,200 of which £16,800 is the capital endowment. No grants were made during the year.

Quakers in Yorkshire	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2016	2015
Incoming resources					
Voluntary contributions	4,720	0	1,220	5,940	7,924
Grants	7,300	0	0	7,300	38,500
Activities for generating funds	219	0	0	219	2,932
Investment income	250	4,810	7,353	12,413	14,081
Bank interest on deposits	118	9	15	142	144
Income from Easter Settlement & Holiday School	33,381	0	0	33,381	35,466
Income from other Quaker Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources	0	0	0	0	0
Total incoming resources	45,988	4,819	8,588	59,395	99,047
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds	0	0	0	0	0
C&YP, Holiday School events	28,368	0	0	28,368	28,296
Cttees., conferences, Easter Settlement.	14,643	0	0	14,643	16,547
Outreach, publicity, newsletter	3,723	0	0	3,723	8,559
Refund of expenses to office holders	880	0	0	880	696
Other costs of Quaker activities	0	7,913	12,245	20,158	23,500
Support costs - insurance	561	0	0	561	538
Costs of governance	553	1,481	2,537	4,571	3,938
Other resources expended	0	0	0	0	0
Total resources expended	48,728	9,394	14,782	72,904	82,074
Net inc. resources before transfers	(2,740)	(4,575)	(6,194)	(13,509)	16,973
Transfers into each fund	0	0	0	0	0
Net incoming resources after transfers	(2,740)	(4,575)	(6,194)	(13,509)	16,973
Gains (losses) on investments	(1,730)	14,601	28,563	41,434	12,867
Net movement in funds	(4,470)	10,026	22,369	27,925	29,840
Total funds brought forward, 1 Jan	122,936	179,722	309,480	612,138	582,298
Total funds carried forward, 31 Dec	118,466	189,748	331,849	640,063	612,138