**Quakers in Yorkshire**

**Group to Reinvigorate and Simplify Structures and Processes (GRASP)**

**Minutes of meeting held on 9 November 2020 by Zoom**

**Present:** David Bunney (CY), Alison Clarke (York), Tim Herrick (S&B), Jim Ledwidge (BWY), Tracey Martin (Leeds), David Olver (C&K & Convenor), Rosie Roberts (co-opted to link with young people), Phyllis Wicks (P&H), Barbara Windle (QiY Trustees).

Rachel Matthews (BYM Head of Local Development, Minute 2)

**We began our meeting with worship.**

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of our meeting held on 5 October 2020 have been circulated.

**2. Yorkshire Local Development Worker**

We welcome Rachel Matthews, BYM Head of Local Development to our meeting.

We have heard of the background to the LDW to be placed in Yorkshire and the schedule for recruitment. Rachel has responded to questions and comments.

We have agreed to assist with the recruitment process which will start in December, and we will provide names as appropriate.

We have also heard of progress with the staff hub to be based at Carlton Hill Meeting House.

We thank Rachel for joining us and look forward to the exciting potential of the Yorkshire Local Development Worker.

**3. GRASP Nominations Workshop**

Jim and Rosie have given us an update on the Nominations Workshop to be held on Saturday 21 November. This will be helped by Tracey. There has been a good response to the targeted invitation to Friends in each area meeting who are concerned with nominations. The maximum number of 25 Friends are expected to attend the zoom meeting.

We look forward to hearing how this experiment has worked.

**4. Recommendations to go in GRASP report**

We have discussed the suggested recommendations which we have received from members. We will discuss the topic of filling roles and the nominations process after the workshop.

For simplification at local and area meeting level, we have discussed the future of online and blended meetings and how they can help the simplification agenda. There is considerable potential but ways need to be found to engage everyone, including those who do not wish, or cannot, use online platforms as well as those who have previously been unable to get to physical meetings.

We recognise that we need to build confidence in new ways of working.

We should say WHY we are making recommendations.

It may help to cluster topics together and include examples which are already working.

We have started to discuss sharing roles across local and area meetings, such as safeguarding and Registering Officers. One recommendation may be to suggest that a group is set up to explore sharing particular issues, such as property. The Local Development Worker could have a role.

We agree to discuss how to structure our recommendations at our next meeting.

**6. Date of next meeting**

We agree to meet next by Zoom on

**Monday 30 November from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm.**

David Olver

9 November 2020