

**Quakers in Yorkshire  
Trustees**

**Minutes for meeting held by Zoom  
on Saturday 20 February 2021**

**Present:** David Bower, Gavin Burnell, Meg Forrest, Pat Gerwat, David Olver, George Penaluna, Chris Petrie, Digby Swift.

*Quaker faith & practice* 15.01 (part) was read in our opening worship.

David Olver was welcomed to the QiY Trustees.

**QYT-2021-02-01 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2020 have been circulated and received today.

We agree that in future our minutes will be published on the QiY website.

**QYT-2021-02-02 Trustees**

(a) We send warm thanks to Barbara Windle for her six-year service as Clerk which finished at the end of 2020.

(b) We thank Jane Morris for her service as a trustee. She was released at the January QiY.

(c) We receive a list of trustees and terms of service (paper QYT-2021-02-02) which is updated today.

(d) We note that there are vacancies from Brighthouse West Yorkshire AM and Pickering & Hull AM.

**QYT-2021-02-03 Clerk's Report**

We receive paper QYT-2021-02-03 with the Clerk's report. This covers the following items: Handover from Barbara Windle; Book of Members and Attenders; GRASP (report published 15 February 2021); Yorkshire Local Development Worker; BYM staff hub at Carlton Hill; moves in London and Wales to have one charity and multiple AMs; Linking clerks of AM trustees; QiY meeting on 16 January 2021; Consequences of COVID-19 pandemic.

We thank all those who have helped compile the Book of Members and Attenders. Their efforts are much appreciated.

We like this report and ask our Clerk to write a report in advance of each meeting of QiY Trustees.

### **QYT-2021-02-04 Youth Development Worker**

We receive paper QYT-2021-02-04 and we note Minute 4 of the last meeting. We have been updated by Digby and Meg on their interactions with BYM staff.

We note that the January meeting of QiY heard a number of contributions of support for the current youth development work and the hope expressed that ways could be found for it to continue and be extended to cover the whole of the QiY region.

We are pleased to endorse this support. We confirm the decision of our last meeting to allocate the money in the Adult School Union Fund, which at the end of the year was £24,975.

We recommend to QiY in session that the purpose of the Adult School Union Funds be amended to support youth work in the QiY region and that the funds be given to BYM.

The money available in the Adult School Union Fund will only support youth work for a limited period. So we agree to explore whether the terms of the Rawdon School Trust might be changed to support youth work. We also agree to approach trusts for support.

We agree to ask Nominations Committee to help find one or two Friends to provide local support for the youth development worker. The names to be agreed between meetings if necessary.

We thank Digby and Meg for their work and ask them, together with our Treasurer, to continue to interact with BYM staff over the arrangements. They should bring back to us any decisions which are needed, including a draft service agreement.

### **QYT-2021-02-05 Glenthorne**

We receive letters from Glenthorne trustees and minute 15/17 from QiY Trustees in June 2015 agreeing to a loan to Glenthorne (paper QYT-2021-02-05).

We have heard from Chris and David B about the financial situation of Glenthorne.

The Linton Taylor Bequest was given in 1961 to Yorkshire and Westmoreland Quarterly Meetings to support Glenthorne. The original will was declared invalid and the courts ruled that the Bequest was for the general charitable purposes of the two meetings. Yorkshire Quarterly meeting (now Quakers in Yorkshire) has always recognised the intention of Linton Taylor that the funds should be used to support Glenthorne. Over the years, loans and grants have been given for charitable purposes. The most recent loan was in 2016 when £40,000 was provided to help exit from the Pension Trust. This loan to be repaid, interest free, over ten year. Last year we agreed to postpone payment of the 2020 sum due to the first COVID-19 lockdown (minute 4, 20 June 2020).

We have discussed the issues and are sympathetic to the financial situation facing Glenthorne this year. If they are allowed to re-open by July then they should be able to recover financially quite quickly.

We agree to offer to loan the remainder of the Linton Taylor Bequest so as to ease their cash-flow during 2021. This would be on the same terms as the present loan. We ask for the repayments of the current loan to recommence in 2022. Trustees will be open to further negotiation if the financial situation warrants it.

## **QYT-2021-02-06 The Mount School Governance**

We receive a letter from the Clerk of The Mount School Committee together with background information (paper QYT-2021-02-06).

The Mount School Committee wishes to amend their Articles of Association to remove the requirement that the Clerk must be a Quaker and to replace the requirement that there should be a majority of Quakers by at least three (out of currently nine) governors. The Memorandum of Understanding between QiY and the York Schools (dated 27 November 2017) states that "*In the event of any change to the Articles being planned, the Schools will inform Quakers in Yorkshire before any such change is decided*".

The Articles for The Mount are quite detailed. Those for Bootham are much more general and do not mention the Quaker composition of the governors. The proposed changes will make the rules for the composition of the governors of the two schools similar.

We endorse the actions of The Mount School Committee. We note that the Memorandum of Understanding will need amending.

We hope that nominations committees can still aim for Quaker governors but recognise that it is not easy to achieve.

## **QYT-2021-02-07 Financial matters**

### **7.1 Treasurers report**

The Treasurer (Chris Petrie) has given us a summary of the financial year (paper QYT-2021-02-07a). Our finances are sound with about £889,467 of total investments. The capital value has increased by about 5.7% but the income has decreased and the trend is downward. This has implications for our ability to give grants.

We ask our Investment Sub-committee to explore with the Investment Managers how to have higher dividends but lower capital growth for some of our funds.

### **7.2 Annual Accounts**

We receive the draft outline annual accounts, finance review and support papers (paper QYT-2021-02-07b). Both income and expenditure have roughly halved by comparison with 2019 – due to the pandemic restrictions. The accounts will now be sent to our Examiner (Crozier Jones).

### **7.3 Investment Report**

We receive the Investment Report Summary for 2020 (paper QYT-2021-02-07c).

### **7.4 Reserves**

We receive a report on the level of reserves at the end of 2020 (paper QYT-2021-02-07e). Our Reserves Policy sets a minimum and maximum level based on the expected annual expenditure. Application of the policy indicates that our unrestricted reserves are well in excess of the calculated maximum. However, this is mainly due to the reduced expected activities because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Treasurer recommends treating this year as an exception and not altering our expenditure pattern.

We approve this recommendation.

#### 7.5 State of funds

We receive a state of funds report as at 5 February 2021, giving the amount of available funds (paper QYT-2021-02-07f).

#### 7.6 Grant application

We receive an application from Airton meeting for a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of essential maintenance work on the Grade II\* meeting house (paper QYT-2021-02-07d).

We have limited funds available and feel that this application is not high enough priority to justify full support. We will be willing to consider a future costed proposal.

#### **QYT-2021-02-08 Matters continued**

8.1 Updating the Safeguarding Policy. This is expected to be presented to our June meeting.

8.2 The Handbook. The latest updates are being collated by Barbara Windle.

#### **QYT-2021-02-09 Future meetings**

We confirm the dates of the next two meetings as Saturday 19 June 2021 (10.30am) and Saturday 18 September 2021 (10.30am). The June meeting will be virtual using Zoom. We will decide the format of the September meeting in June.

#### **QYT-2021-02-10 Date of next meeting**

We separate hoping to meet again on Saturday 19 June 2021 at 10.30am

David Olver

20 February 2021