**Quakers in Yorkshire**

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

**Minutes of meeting held on 29 March 2021 by Zoom**

**Present:** David Bunney (CY),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 (co-opted).

**Prevented:** Alison Clarke (York)

**We began our meeting with worship.**

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of our meeting held on 8 February 2021 have been circulated.

**2. Round-up**

We have heard from each of us of developments in our areas and how the GRASP report is being received and considered.

Some AMs considered our report this month and are setting up working groups to bring forward proposals for action. Other AMs are planning to consider the report in May. There is general enthusiasm for our recommendations. GRASP has a clear role in coordinating discussions between AMs.

**3. QiY quarterly meeting – Saturday 17 April 2021**

The QiY Clerks have allocated 50 minutes in the afternoon session on Saturday 17 April 2021 to the GRASP report.

We have discussed how to use the time and agree to have an introductory overview and then meet in break-out groups to consider a few focus questions.

The composition of the break-out groups should, if possible, have representatives from each AM.

David O will circulate draft questions and he will collate responses to come up with the focus questions.

Those of us who are able to attend on 17 April will facilitate the break-out groups.

**4. Local Development Worker / Youth Development worker / Leeds hub**

We have heard of the current situation with the Yorkshire Local Development Worker, the Yorkshire Youth Development Worker and the BYM Leeds hub.

Interviews for the shortlisted candidates for the Local Development Worker took place last month and a coordinated announcement is expected soon on the appointment.

QiY Trustees are proposing to re-allocated money in the Adult School Union fund to support the continuation of the Yorkshire Youth Development Worker. They are asking QiY on 17 April to endorse the re-allocation. BYM has agreed to find matched funding so that the work can continue for another year. BYM is also starting to fund-raise so that the work can continue in future years.

The new BYM staff hub at Carlton Hill meeting house should be up and running soon. Juliet Prager (Deputy Recording Clerk), Jude Acton (Children and Young People Officer), Lee Lester (Youth Development Worker) and the new Local Development Worker will all be permanently based at Carlton Hill. Tracey Martin, who works for Woodbrooke, and other BYM staff who live in Yorkshire might be partially based at Carlton Hill.

**5. Prison visitors/chaplains**

Tim has introduced a discussion on whether coordinating prison visitors/chaplains on a multi-AM basis might be a good example of sharing roles.

Being a prison visitor is a challenging role and really a vocation. We have heard that the process of getting accreditation to become a prison visitor is complex and time consuming.

We agree to email contacts in area meetings with the aim of having a one-off zoom discussion asking the question what can AMs do to support each other in their prison work. Rosie and David O agree to take this forward, probably later in the year.

**6. GRASP next period**

Our primary task is completed, but we seem to have a role over the next period as a coordinating group representing all AMs. We hope to be clearer after QiY on 17 April.

**7. Date of next meeting**

We agree to meet next by Zoom on **Monday 24 May (7.00pm to 9.00pm)**

David Olver

29 March 2021