

Friargate Information and Communications Group

Meeting 2 13th July 2017 7 pm

Minutes

Present: Julia Terry, Raymond Williams, Barbara Windle

Prevented: Tasha Heny, Richard Safhill, John Fieldhouse

1.1 Agenda

We have agreed and finalised the agenda.

1.2 Posters in the Meeting House

Since our last meeting, Graham Ralph contacted the group with a suggestion that a set of posters (60 x 80) be produced for permanent display in the meeting house. Following the example of posters at Manchester Mount Street meeting house, these would set out information about Quakerism and Quaker practice.

Members of this group agreed to take the suggestion to elders for their consideration.

Raymond provided elders with information for a discussion at their June meeting.

It was felt:

- that the texts in the original posters were perhaps too long;

- they would need to be re-written to suit Friargate;

- that perhaps consideration be given to fewer posters, or possibly one poster on display to be varied occasionally;

- that a single poster in the window facing Friargate might be preferable.

However, overall elders felt that they were happy for Resources Committee to take decisions about this matter, though they were willing to advise on the wording of any proposed texts if requested.

This group feels that it would be good to take the idea forward in some form, although we are not convinced that the lengthy, text-based posters under discussion are appropriate for Friargate. We are grateful for the suggestion for display of information about Quaker beliefs, and agree to take this forward. After discussion, we felt that it could be a matter for Communications Group to take the lead, in collaboration with others, rather than pass the matter on. One possibility would be to use posters produced by central Quaker bodies.

We will return to this at our next meeting.

1.3 Website Matters

A webpage for the group has been uploaded and the library page modified as agreed at our last meeting. The library page can be further modified if wished, for example giving information about recent acquisitions or innovations.

1.4 Library Matters

A small selection of books of current and general interest has been displayed on a bookstand in the foyer as agreed at our last meeting. There has been some uptake on this, with 6 books having been borrowed in the first two months.

At our last meeting we discussed the possibility of obtaining professional advice regarding the future development of the library. Sandra Hall will be in York in the summer and is willing to meet us. Barbara will be in contact with Sandra to arrange a date.

Our librarian has been ordering new books for the library and has been in contact with other members of the group about this. We hope that it will be possible to make new acquisitions known to Friends, perhaps via the website.

We note the work which our librarian has carried out in the library, with the display of books much improved since the move of the library to its new home. Taking into account the fact that the library committee has now been laid down, we hope our Librarian will feel empowered to take decisions regarding the care of the library and obtaining new acquisitions.

Barbara will be at Yearly Meeting Gathering and will look out for new publications which might be of interest to the library.

1.5 Quakevine Matters

Barbara has prepared a short piece for Quakevine about our group, inviting Friends to contact us with suggestions.

We are exercised by the dual role of Quakevine as an Area Meeting publication and Friargate newsletter. Other LMs now have their own newsletters and only Friargate does not have a newsletter with purely LM content. We think a future step would be to clarify our thinking and then to share it with AM.

1.6 Staff items

At a future meeting we would like to review our processes for maintaining and selecting stocks of leaflets for enquirers. We also suggest reviewing the criteria for displaying non Quaker publications.

1.7 Overseers' Matters

No matters were raised.

1.8 Elders' Matters

We suggest that elders review the stock, management and location of their library.

1.9 Next Meeting

Provisional date: October 17th, 7pm, Friargate
(Additional meeting beforehand as per 1.4.)

Raymond Williams