

**Association of Talking Friends: 20<sup>th</sup> AGM**  
**Priory Rooms, Bull Street Meeting House, Birmingham: 10:30 hrs, 10 May 2008**

**Friends Present:** Joy Aldworth, Gill Coffin, Joe Coffin, David Grimshaw, Alan Johnson, Victor Lobb, Jules Morris, Helen Steel, and Mary Wong.

**Friends Prevented:** Anne Austin, Hillary Davies, Anne Fletcher, John and Diana Lampen, Jean Osborne, Linder Pegler, and Stella Roberts.

**1. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM**

- 1.1 Copying, distribution and new technologies would be considered under the agenda item: Annual Report.
- 1.2 Administrative actions arising from the 19th AGM have all been taken. The transfer from Dorking and Horsham MM has been completed and we should like to thank them for their work.

**2. Annual Report**

- 2.1 We noted that the report follows the format laid down by the Charity Commissioners as best practice.
- 2.2 Distribution of tapes is undertaken by Quaker Life, although this was meant to be temporary, there will be an opportunity to discuss this in June 2008. It would make sense to continue with current activities until decisions can be made about new technology options. We noted that for the “documents in advance” more people opted to receive in Word format rather than on tape.
- 2.3 Friends, aware that the matter of new technology is already being considered, would urge the Committee to solicit views about technology preferences and find out which technologies our users currently have. Responses from subscribers should be actively sought.
- 2.4 We observed that (in page 2 of the report) there are a whole range of publications being subscribed to. The committee will need to co-ordinate with other Friends in other Area Meetings to take an inclusive approach.

**3. Treasurers Report**

- 3.1 The report was introduced by the Treasurer, Victor Lobb. It was noted that some subscribers do not take the Friend, therefore, when subscribers are contacted about new technologies we need to recognise the range of individual subscriptions.
- 3.2 We formally accept the accounts as tabled.
- 3.3 Our thanks go to Victor Lobb for preparing the accounts and bringing the format into line with standard Quaker Treasurer Practice.
- 3.4 Gill Coffin agreed to write a note for The Friend to publicise the work of the Association of Talking Friend, and we thank her for this.

**4. To Appoint Members of the Committee**

- 4.1 We appoint the following Friends (who are present) and agree to serve: Anne Austin, Alan Johnston, Joe Coffin, and Victor Lobb.
- 4.2 We appoint the following Friends (who are prevented) provided that they are happy to serve: Linda Pegler, Stella Roberts, William Waddilove, AnneFletcher.

**5. Recording of Quaker Journals**

- 5.1 We should like to thank all our readers. We are aware of the high level of satisfaction from the users which is testimony to their good work.

**6. Any Other Business**

- 6.1 The following Minute from the Committee Meeting held on 29th April 2008 was read out: "The Annual General Meeting will be asked to approve an alteration to the current bank mandate. The proposed change would allow one signatory to sign cheques and make withdrawals to the value of £100.00." We agreed the proposal and ask the committee to change the bank mandate to allow one signatory to sign cheques up to the value of £100. Victor Lobb undertook to let the Charity Commission know of this change in addition to updating them on other relevant matters (through the Annual Information Update).
- 6.2 Clause 4(b) in the Constitution. We agreed to substitute "Dorking and Horsham Monthly Meeting" with "Central England Area Meeting" of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).
- 6.3 We approve the appointment of Peter Ullathorne as Examiner, noting that he has agreed to serve for one more year.

David J. Grimshaw  
Trustee  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2008.