

Quaker Arts Network

Annual General Meeting 8 May 2022

Minutes

1. Opening worship

We held some silent worship.

2. Annual report and accounts

We have received the 2021 annual report and accounts and heard that QAN is in very good financial shape. Despite the vagaries of the pandemic, we have had an active year with some highly successful online events as well as the Loving Earth Project. We intend to invest some of our assets once we have achieved charitable status and would also like to be able to support suitable projects through making small grants.

However all our committee members have been stretched; a number will need to stand aside from their current roles, and we hope other Friends will bring new energy to the group soon.

3. Constitution

QAN is already a charity, currently unregistered, and all members of the committee are already trustees. We have received in advance a new draft Constitution together with a brief introduction. The new Constitution is based on the Charity Commission's Model for charitable unincorporated associations and is adapted as appropriate to our Quaker business method and to our membership. The essentials of our existing constitution remain but the new one is more detailed. It will enable us more easily to register with the Charity Commission; registration is required, now that our income has increased.

We agree to adopt this new Constitution and ask our clerks to proceed with an application for Charity Commission registration.

4. Membership

The new constitution requires that we are clearer about our membership. We have around 370 people on our newsletter mailing list but only 63 have confirmed their membership at present.

We will continue to include the others on our mailing list for the time being and encourage them to let us know if they wish to become formal members.

5. Loving Earth Project

A report on LEP activities in 2021 has been circulated. Since the start of this year we have already held many exhibitions (see lovingearth-project.uk/events) and are booked for the coming year. Our first publication of an Alphabet book has already been reprinted. The project has placed many demands on the organisers, but has been very rewarding.

6. Appointments

We appoint the following to our committee

Sylvia Clare (Hampshire and Islands)

John Lampen (Central England) - Treasurer

Kate Green (North East Thames) - Assistant clerk

Linda Murgatroyd (Kingston and Wandsworth) - acting Clerk

Sue Tyldesley (Central and North Lancashire)

We are grateful to Elena Krumgold whose service has come to an end. She has been a stalwart member of the group for many years, working on our social media, the website and the newsletter, and contributing to our discernment.

John Lampen would like to be released as Treasurer by the end of 2022 and Linda Murgatroyd as Clerk as soon as another Friend can be appointed. They are both willing to remain on the committee.

7. Future events

(This is a note, rather than a minute).

After general introductions we brainstormed some potential ways to help commemorate 400 years since George Fox' was born in 1624. Suggestions included some short films for/by Quaker children and a calendar or diary.

Ten Friends present.