

GENERAL MEETING FOR SCOTLAND Trustees

Minutes of the meeting held in Central Edinburgh Meeting House
25.2.2014

Present: Pam Brunt, Robin Davis (Clerk), David James, Margaret Morton, Jacqueline Noltingk, John Phillips

1 Welcome

Robin welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially Jacqueline (Jackie) Noltingk as the new trustee for South-East Area Meeting, replacing Martin Burnell who was now General Meeting Clerk.

2 General Meeting Administrator: leave of absence

(See also minute 4 of our meeting 1.10.2013, and minute 2 of 15.6.2013)

We noted the arrangements our GM Administrator had met for the period of her absence 1 April to 2 July this year as an Ecumenical Accompanier in Palestine / Israel.We ask the Clerk to thank our Administrator for the care she has taken over this matter and assure her that the trustees, and the General Meeting Clerk, would manage any other business that arose during this period. We wish her well for her time in Israel / Palestine. Our Clerk will also thank the Friends who are helping her at this time.

Confidential minute omitted

3 Treasurer's matters: mileage allowance

We reviewed the current mileage allowance or those claiming the expense of travelling by car on behalf of General Meeting and agreed to raise the allowance to 30 pence per mile. We ask the Treasurer to inform Area Meeting treasurers of this decision.

4 Treasurer's matters: Healing Fund

We have been informed that following General Meeting's acceptance of funds from the former Christian Fellowship of Healing (Scotland), the Friends appointed by the minute 7 of General Meeting held 17.11.2012 have suggested that the whole fund be transferred to the John Wigham (Enjoyment) Trust, whose funds are held within South-East Scotland Area Meeting. After discussion, we agree this would be appropriate and authorise the Treasurer to transfer the funds as suggested with the condition that the Healing Fund moneys are restricted for use within the terms of the original Christian Fellowship of Healing (Scotland): these funds will remain in General Meeting's accounts. We ask our Treasurer to ask that publicity to this be given in the "Scottish Friend".

5 Treasurer's matters: annual report and accounts

We approve the annual report and accounts for 2013 and ask our Clerk to sign them and pass them to General Meeting for its meeting on 7 March.

6 Advocacy: reporting to General Meeting

We have seen the minutes from North of Scotland (15.2.2014) and South East (11.1.2014) Area Meetings on the advocacy proposal, but have yet to see that from East of Scotland; we note that West Scotland has still to discuss the matter. The two minutes we have seen express general support for the proposal but voice concerns about finance and management. We agree to report to General Meeting on 7 March that we have still to see all the Area Meeting minutes, and also that we have arranged to meet with Paul Parker,

Recording Clerk, before the June General Meeting to negotiate finance and management issues. We note that we have the resources in General Meeting funds to make our own limited term appointment.

We ask our Clerk and Treasurer to discuss the position at present with the Parliamentary Liaison Function Group, including Alastair Reid, General Meeting's representative on the Scottish Churches Parliament Office Advisory Group. In particular we will look at how liaison with the Scottish Churches Parliament Office may be improved.

7 Advocacy: meeting with the Recording Clerk

We confirm this meeting will be held in Edinburgh on 2 June, from 11am to 2pm.

8 Date of next meeting

We may meet before 2 June if necessary, pending developments in the advocacy proposal.

Robin Davis,
Clerk