

North Scotland Area Quaker Meeting Area Meeting Planning Group

10 January 2021.
7pm online

Friends present: 9 Friends were present representing Dingwall, Inverness, Aberdeen, Forres, Lochaber & Lorn, Caithness and Orkney.

AM Nominations:

The Nominations Committee bring forward the following nominations and proposals and the Planning Group has drafted the following minutes to be confirmed at AM on 5th February .

a) Pastoral & Spiritual Care Group:

The following Friends are willing to serve and are appointed to this group. The time periods are to initiate a staggered replacement so that continuity is provided in the group:

- Anthea Mason: 1 year, 1st January to 31st December 2022
- Penny Selbie: 1 year, “ “
- Fabien Camus: 1 year, “ “
- Phyllida Sayles: 1 year, “ “
- Chris MacGregor: 1 year, “ :”

- David James: 2 years, 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2023
- Oriole Hall: 2 years, “ “
- Nigel Dower: 2 years, “ “
- Anthony Buxton: 2 years, “ “
- Sue Buxton: 2 years, “ “
- Brian Ashley: 2 years, “ “

- Mary Dower: 3 years, 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2024
- Sandy McEwen: 3 years, “ “
- Clive Potter: 3 years, “ “
- Jean Thomson: 3 years, “ “

b) Other positions, mainly to clarify earlier minutes of appointment and/or extend appointments to roles that were ending in December 2021 or in some cases had ended earlier, we confirm the following:

Assistant Clerks, Andrew Collins: 2nd triennium ends December 2023.

John Hitchen: 1st triennium ends December 2023.

Communications & web-page Team:

Clive Potter: second period of appointment to complete a 2nd triennium to December 2022

Alastair Simmons: second period of appointment to complete a 2nd triennium to December 2022

Newsletter Editor: Harry Horsley: 4th triennium backdated to January 2021 (as his 3rd triennium ended in December 2020) until December 2023. This is on the understanding that the Nominations Committee will seek to nominate someone to be an Assistant Editor with a view to him or her taking over from Harry either before or no later than the end of the triennium.

Archivist/Custodian of Records: Clare Trinder: to serve another triennium (backdated) from January 2021 to December 2023.

Assistant Treasurer & *ex officio* Trustee: Peter Heald to serve a second triennium (backdated) from January 2021 to December 2023. This is on the understanding that as soon as the Nomination Committee is able to find someone to be Assistant Treasurer willing to take over the position of Treasurer, Peter would step down from this role.

Registering Officer: Penny Selbie: a fourth triennium from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.

Deputy RO: Clunie Conochie: a second triennium from May 2022 to December 24 (her previous period had been up to April 2022).

Verifier of Marriage Returns: LM (Aberdeen) clerk: from November 2020 to December 2024 (to coincide with the period of service of Penny Selbie as a member of ALM).

Safeguarding Officer: Clunie Conochie: January 2022 to December 2024 (replacing Anthea Mason)

Deputy Safeguarding Officer: this position is now vacant.

Children & Young People Supporting Friend (note new title to fit the new P&SCG structure): Oriole Hall from January 2021 to December 2023. (Oriole had been appointed Children & YP Elder and thought she had continued in that role until now though the post had not been extended beyond April 2019: since her role is to support the Children & YP Advocate her proposed period of service is for the same period of that of Anne Hitchen who was appointed in early 2021 until the end of 2023.)

c) AM Organising/planning Committee

It is agreed, on the basis of a proposal of Nominations Committee, that in place of two sets of appointments of individuals as members of the AM planning /organising committee, this group is made up of Friends who, in effect, hold other roles: that is they are members of this committee *ex officio* (so no separate appointments need to be made):

- AM Clerk and Assistant Clerks
- Clerk to Trustees
- Treasurer
- Nominations Committee Convener
- Communications / Web Team Clerk
- Two representatives of the Pastoral & Spiritual Care Group
- Local Meeting Clerks & Correspondents

It is also acknowledged that there are other role holders who might be appropriately involved in the planning group, such as the children and young people's advocate.

d) The Pastoral & Spiritual Care group (acting as the nominating committee) bring forward the name of Alistair Simmons to serve on the Nominations Committee and he is appointed to serve from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2024.

AM Membership:

We note that Kim Mawer's transfer of membership is accepted by Cumberland Area Meeting (November 2021).

Area Meeting, February 5th

It is agreed that this again would be online, based on the format of
30 minutes worship,
20 mins other business, e.g. nominations
1hr discussion

Piers will discuss with Lynden Easterbrook how we can develop the discussion session based on the recent work of Quaker Life Representative Council.

AM May 7th, Cromarty

It was agreed that this too would be an online Meeting, given the spread of the Omicron variant of Covid and that it may also now be late for securing Meeting space and accommodation for Friends.

It was agreed that we would plan for a face to face AM at Pluscarden over the weekend 20/21 August. Phyllida will make contact with the Abbey and Piers will book the village hall.

Area Meeting and Planning Group dates for 2022

- AM: 5th February, online, 10am-12pm
- Planning group, 7pm 11th April
- AM: 7th May, online, 10am-12pm
- Planning group, 7pm, 6th June
- Planning group, 7pm, 25th July
- AM: 20th & 21st August, Pluscarden
- Planning group, 7pm, 19th September
- AM: 22nd October (?tbc), 11am, Aberdeen

We note that North Scotland has been asked to host General Meeting on 19th November. It is possible that Aberdeen Meeting will have conference facilities by then in order to host a blended GM.

Other Business:

Piers will advise Leighton Park School not to expect a booking from North Scotland to attend their AGM on Friday 18th March, themed on building an inclusive community.

AM safeguarding report 2021. The last Safeguarding report was to Trustees on 7th April 2021. The next safeguarding report will be brought to AM in May.

Closed Captions (Sub-titles) for Zoom Meetings. Piers will add closed captions to our Zoom settings to see if this can help for those who are hard of hearing.

Piers Voysey
Clerk