

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES
Held Friday 5th February 2021, 5 p.m. by Zoom

21/01 Present

Peter Green, Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads

This meeting is being held via Zoom under renewed lockdown regulations. We meet to continue good governance.

21/02 Reading

Paragraph 29.03 of Quaker Faith & Practice was read in our opening worship.

21/03 Trustee Declarations

We have reviewed our declarations of eligibility to serve as trustees, our declarations of interest and those required for employers' liability insurance. Trustees have no changes to notify. We agree to countersign and date them when we are next able to meet in person.

21/04 Meetings in 2021

We agree the attached (previously circulated) calendar of meetings and business for 2021, as far as we are able at present to determine, and will arrange for the relevant dates to be placed on the AM website. We recognize that we are likely to continue to have meeting by Zoom for some time.

21/05 External examiners

Further to minute 20/66 we note that by AM min 20/116 Myrus Smith have been appointed as our independent external examiners for the 2020 accounts.

21/06 Annual Report

After much delay in getting to work on our 2019 consolidated accounts Myrus Smith agreed them in late December. Further postal delay meant they were not signed by us until 15 January 2021. The annual report and accounts will be made available on the AM website. (AM min 21.15 refers). Peter Green will ask Myrus Smith for a formal letter of any deficiencies found during the account examination.

21/07 Treasurers Committee held 30th January

We receive their minutes of their last meeting and note the contents. We have also received summaries of the 2020 accounts and a revised draft budget for 2021 (attached).

21/08 Harlow Meeting House

We have received Min 20.56 Harlow LM minute regarding the future of their Meeting House, and we concur with the sentiments expressed in AM min. 21.08 (attached).

Alex Gourney (clerk of Harlow LM), Liz Brown (Premises Committee Clerk), John Dash (LQPT) and David Irwin met by Zoom on Wed 27th January to discuss ways forward regarding with the voluntary warden, the tied accommodation, lettings customers, in particular the nursery, finding an alternative venue for the meeting for worship and vacating the building.

The Clerk to Trustees has been asked to write formerly to the volunteer warden to end the tenancy agreement with effect from 1 October 2021. We agree to this being done.

21/09 Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults: new ways of working

We have received these documents (previously circulated) and thank Rose for speaking to her summary (attached).

All Area Meetings in England are being asked to make changes to improve the safeguarding in our Quaker communities by using a nationwide model of policies and procedures. The four main changes that affect our Area Meeting are:

- Appointing a Trustee as the AM Safeguarding Coordinator
- Appointing one or more Safeguarding Assistants
- Implementing the safer recruitment policy for nominating and appointing and training children's worker roles, clerks, overseers and elders
- Sending an annual written report to BYM from Trustees based on LM reports

Jim Grigg, Chrissie Pax and Rose John will be contacting LM clerks, convenors of children's and local meeting committees, Elders and Overseers to work on these new requirements together so that they enable us all in improving our safeguarding practices. We want them to be a support and not a barrier to our enthusiasm in working with younger Friends.

21/10 Pan London Reorganisation

We broadly welcome the proposals the Pan London Steering and Working Groups have brought us and give thanks for the clear and concise papers circulated. We recognize the work that would be placed on the shoulders of a small trustee body (e.g. safeguarding and finance), and the increased need for us all then to maintain links and open channels from all quarters of the pan-London area.

Whilst we see many advantages, we look forward to working further with these proposals.

We forward this minute to our AM.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES
Saturday 13th March 2021, 2 p.m. by Zoom

21/11 Present

Peter Green, Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads

This meeting is being held via Zoom under renewed lockdown regulations. We meet to continue good governance.

21/12 Reading

Paragraph 24.35 of Quaker Faith & Practice was read in our opening worship.

21/13 Re-opening our Meeting Houses

We thank Judith Roads (Health & Safety) for reporting to us on the situations at each of our meetings. We are content with the cautious and careful way in which our local meetings and premises committees are proceeding.

21/14 Furlough

We have taken soundings with Friends at Wanstead and Walthamstow. We have considered the benefits that might be gained by claiming back each month the hours not worked by our two employees.

We feel we need to show evidence that the extra administrative costs would not outweigh any savings to LQPT. We ask each line manager to estimate the number of unworked hours for February until September 21st 2021.

21/15 Data Protection / Safeguarding

We were made aware that an attender's contact details and their children's names had been printed in the List of Members and Attenders although consent had not been given. We have explained this to the attender, who is content with the situation and has accepted our apology.

An assessment of this breach of personal data and its safeguarding implications has been made and is attached to these minutes. The risk was deemed to be low and not leading "to physical, material or non-material damage for the individuals whose data have been breached". A report to the Information Commissioner's Office was not necessary.

All necessary remedial actions have been taken. A list of corrections to the *List of Friends and Attenders* will go out with the AM minutes next week. We are content this was an isolated occurrence.

21/16 Pay increase

We have received LQPT minute 20/43 about the staff pay award for 2021 of 0.7%. We agree to pay this to our two employees from 1 April.

We note (Trustees' & Treasurers' News, Issue 19: Spring 2021 – corrected edition) the expiry at the end of March 2021 of the extra statutory concession (relating to posts that existed before 6 April 1977) by which the accommodation provided for caretakers is exempt from tax. From April 2021, it seems that the exemption will cover only those employed in full-time caretaking jobs who are on-call outside normal working hours. We ask that this be taken into consideration in regard to the Wanstead and Romford bungalows.

[Minute amended 18 March 2021 as underlined in light of corrected edition of TnT News]

21/17 Real Living Wage Foundation

We consider we well fit the criteria and should register with the Foundation as a Living Wage Employer at an expected cost of £60/an.

We shall check that LQPT has not already issued advice on this matter. We shall re-check that we meet the requirements.

We see this as a visible sign of encouragement to other employers to pay a decent, living wage.

{Currently £10.85; £9.50 outside London. Cf. Govt's Nat. Living Wage / Nat. Min wage is £8.72}.

21/18 Changes to our Governing Document

We have considered 6 points which may need alteration. We ask our clerk to prepare a draft for circulation before our next meeting.

21/19 Training

We have considered our training needs and will look out for suitable courses, and ask AM to fund our participation.

21/20 Accounts 2019

Further to Minute 21/06, Peter Green asked Myrus Smith (Independent Examiner) for a formal letter of any deficiencies found during the (2019) accounts examination.

Kevin Fisher advised Peter that "In general there were no major concerns with records." He went on to refer to two adjustments to the draft 2019 accounts, both of which he had discussed with Jim Grigg (AM Treasurer): the write off of historical consolidation discrepancies and the treatment as a creditor of an amount paid by AM to LQPT after the year end.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES

Sunday 16th May 2021, 1.15 p.m. at Wanstead and by Zoom

21/21 Present

Peter Green (by Zoom), Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads

21/22 Reading

Paragraph 10.27 of Quaker Faith & Practice was read in our opening worship.

21/23 Pay Increases – minute 21/16

We note the changes made to our minute 21/16 and agreed by Trustees between meetings.

21/24 Opening our Meeting Houses – update

We thank Judith Roads for the attached report and Friends across the Area Meeting for the care they are exercising in safely returning to using our meeting houses.

21/25 Furlough

Further to minute 21/14 30 unworked hours have been claimed for April by our payroll company in respect of our two employees. This represents a potential gross benefit of £562.97 to our premises expenses. The payroll company charges £10 a month administration fee. Furlough is paid at March 2020 pay rates and our employees will be paid at their full current pay rate.

We agree to continue until the end of the government's furlough scheme (currently the end of September, 2021) or until costs outweigh the benefits.

21/26 Changes to our Governing Document

We agree the proposed changes as set out on the attached paper, adding also Para. 16 ii). We forward this schedule of amendments to Area Meeting recommending their adoption.

21/27 Premises report

We thank Peter Green for the attached report and are cognizant of the worries over Harlow Meeting House. We also note Epping's thoughts on their future as set out in their LM Min. 21/21

21/28 Employment Report

We thank David Irwin for the attached report and for answering our questions. We ask that the annual review conducted in June 2020 at Romford is placed on file.

21/29 Romford Voluntary Warden

Further to minute 20/37 we agree to extend the volunteer agreement for a further 6 months and ask Friends at Romford to report on progress towards a long-term strategy for a continued Quaker presence in the Romford area.

21/30 Finance – Treasurers’ Committee held 14 April 2021

We have received the attached minutes of our Treasurers’ Committee and note their contents, and thank all those associated with sorting our accounts most heartily.

We welcome the uptick in contributions received in the first quarter, and thank Friends who have taken out new standing orders, have updated the amounts given monthly and also those Friends who have responded to requests to cancel and move existing standing orders. The intention is to close the Wanstead LM account by the end of September.

We are glad to hear that all the outstanding issues with the consolidation have been ironed out and that the external examiner will soon receive the 2020 accounts.

21/31 Leigh-on-Sea’s transfer to Mid-Essex

We thank Debbie Taylor for sight of the Transfer Group’s action plan and Jim Grigg for speaking to it.

We have been asked to determine what value of funds Leigh-on-Sea Meeting might take with them on transfer to Mid-Essex Area Meeting. We have spoken of the principles that might underlie this and ask the Transfer Group to set these down with figures as they become available and then share these with us. We shall need to involve the current external examiner later this year.

We thank the Transition Group for their continuing care in this matter.

21/32 Clerks to AM Trustees national Zoom meeting, 28 April 2021

We have heard a short report on this meeting and note the topics comprising ‘what is coming to us from BYM level’:

Opening meetings safely	Supporting Quaker communities
Local Development Workers	Regional Youth Workers
QPSW support for local witness	Friends Trusts Ltd.
Simplification of Structures	End of Charitable excepted status
AM-BYM Memoranda of Understandings	Duty to Protect
Safeguarding	Data collection & sharing
Reserves policy	Quaker Stewardship Committee laid down

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES

Thursday 22nd July 2021, 1.15 p.m. by Zoom

21/33 Present

Peter Green, Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads

Prevented: Rose John

21/34 Woodbrooke donation

On a between meetings basis we agreed to recommend to AM the sending of £3000. Our Treasurers Committee suggested sending £2000 now and a further £1000 in October if the budget remained unused. AM agreed with this suggestion.

21/35 Furlough

Further to min 21/25 £562.97 was received as the April furlough grant, £306.56 as May's and £174.83 June's. We thank MBS for their assistance in this.

21/36 Trustees Annual Report text

With amendments and clarifications made in this meeting, we are now ready to approve the text of the 2020 annual report.

21/37 Premises matters update

We thank Peter Green for the attached summary and note the actions point which are covered elsewhere in our agenda today.

We note that the Voluntary Warden's house at Harlow will be surveyed to identify work to be completed before it is handed back to Harlow Council at the end of September. We are pleased at the level of help being extended to Harlow Friends.

LQPT has a Committee for Dis-used Premises which will advise on options in respect of Harlow Meeting House and site. We are aware of and share concerns that the building and grounds would be abused if left abandoned for long.

We regret that the surveyor's report has not yet been received for consideration by LQPT as time is short.

21/38 Use of our Meeting Houses, post 19th July 2021

In the absence of firm regulations, we urge Friends to maintain responsible vigilance, not to overfill meeting houses, to maintain good ventilation, and to continue wearing masks indoors.

We want premises committees and lettings customers to continue with the current safety precautions which arise from the risk assessments carried out immediately prior to 19th July.

21/39 Romford Strategy 2020-2025

Further to mins 20/37 & 21/29, in which we agreed to extend the volunteer warden's agreement by 6 months, we thank Romford Friends for the strategy they have sent us and their LM minute 21:37

We welcome the hopeful and enthusiastic plans, but would like to see firmer plans to carry the strategy beyond this year and towards 2025, showing how a burgeoning, vibrant meeting would become sustainable with an increasing and committed membership.

We are not convinced the level of bookings justify the presence of an on-site voluntary warden and ask that the use of a paid buildings manager – along the lines of that used by Mid-Essex AM – be looked at again. The drawing up of a job description for this role would be helpful to see.

We note that the use of possible alternative venues in and around Romford where a Quaker presence and witness might be more visible and provide a seedbed for a vibrant, Quaker meeting, has not been investigated.

We hope to work closely with Romford Friends in all these matters.

21/40 Finance – Treasurers' Committee held 14th July 2021

We have received the attached minutes of our Treasurers' Committee and note their contents

Jim Grigg will refer min 21:11 'Walthamstow Irregular Donation' to our independent examiner. We noted the difference between designated and restricted funds.

21/41 Financial Giving

We thank Rose John for her article in the latest AM Newsletter on the exuberance of daisies and the resilience of oaks, and David Irwin for his presentation at Area Meeting. It is hoped the slide-show, given all the provisos over the figures for just one month, might be shared with Local Meetings.

These continue with our aim of maintaining awareness throughout the year of the financial needs of the AM and BYM, and of encouraging more Friends and attenders to give: widening the supporter base.

21/42 Leigh-on-Sea's transfer to Mid-Essex – 'Dowry'

Further to Min. 21/31, we thank Jim Grigg for the attached table of figures. We ask Jim to remove any restricted funds from the figures and work with Peter Green before getting the independent examiner's view on a fair method of calculation of a sum which might go with Leigh-on-Sea to Mid-Essex AM.

We should return to a decision either on a specific sum or on a calculation at our September meeting.

21/43 Clerks to AM Trustees national Zoom meeting, 20 July 2021

We have heard a short report on this meeting, on the pros and cons of simplification vs cooperation among AMs. We have also had an update on the Pan-London plans from Judith.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES

Thursday 7th October, 7 p.m. by Zoom

21/44 Present

Peter Green, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads
Prevented: Jim Grigg

21/45 Furlough

Further to min 21/25 & 35 £115.75 was received as the July furlough grant and £140.68 for August. £43.37 has been claimed for September, the last month for which we can claim. We thank MBS for their assistance in this.

21/46 Harlow Meeting House

Further to Minute 21/47 we record that the Harlow Voluntary Warden has vacated the house and that LQPT has arranged for it to be put into the condition required by the town council before it is returned to them. This is all expected to be completed before the end of the year.

LQPT has arranged for a property guardian to live in the meeting house until it is decided what to do with it and the site. LQPT has a committee looking at the use of disused meeting houses. Interest in using the building has been expressed by a local organization just last week.

All wanted possessions have been removed from the meeting house and warden's accommodation. Proceeds from the sale of furniture is being credited to Harlow LM Premises Committee, and so to LQPT.

We thank heartily all Harlow Friends and John Dash (LQPT staff) as well as AM Friends who have assisted, for all their work in vacating the meeting house and for the arrangements made for the warden's accommodation.

We are pleased to learn that Harlow Meeting will continue as a Quaker community worshipping and witnessing in Harlow from newly rented rooms in St John's ARC (Arts & Recreation Centre).

21/47 LQPT Members Meeting, 30th September 2021

David Irwin attended this on behalf of the Area Meeting.

2022 Budget: income was shown as more cautious than this year. Quinquennial surveys are planned for Wanstead in 2022, and work at Walthamstow & Wanstead (windows)

The most significant change was the increase in staffing costs of around £100k - part-time senior manager at £37k, increased Finance officer time, £36k and the taking on of a Volunteer support officer £35k. This contributes to a deficit budget of £300k. We noted the deficit budget and queried what might be the strategy to avoid this continuing in the years ahead.

The quota will remain at £210,000 but this still means a 6% increase per capita to about £180/member.

The transfer of Leigh Meeting House to Mid-Essex AM was found agreeable to the other 6 AMs & legal title to Friends Trusts Limited is going ahead.

We shall address the newly drafted LQPT Articles of Association at a future meeting.

21/48 Financial giving

To continue with our aim of maintaining awareness throughout the year of the financial needs of the AM and BYM, and of encouraging more Friends and attenders to give "widening the supporter base", Judith Roads has written a piece for the next AM Newsletter. We ask Peter Green to write an article for the first AM newsletter of 2022.

We have been notified that the 2022 BYM Contributions materials are available. We shall send these round Friends and attenders, where possible by email, in late January 2022, encouraging a greater awareness of our centrally managed work and the financial needs of our Yearly Meeting.

We ask Judith Roads and AM Overseers to attend to the preparation of our AM appeal to go out in early March.

21/49 Safeguarding & the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)

We have noted the contents of this report on Child Sexual Abuse with regard to religious organizations and have received the covering email from the Deputy Recording Clerk (below).

We welcome the report and will assure ourselves that our policies and procedures are robust on receipt of our annual report. We have already responded to the new annual request to report annually on our safeguarding practice, and will ensure that we share information with BYM about any issues or cases.

As our Area Meeting implements a strategy of simplification, we should make certain that the AM Trustee with responsibility for Safeguarding is well supported by active, committed and trained Friends.

Recognizing the need for regular training in these regards, we shall arrange for a day's training with 31:8 in the first half of 2022. This might well be in conjunction with North London AM, or as part of London-wide training.

We should also ensure that the lists of those Friends and attenders who have had DBS checks are centralized as part of our membership information database and that all checks are current.

We ask our current Safeguarding Friends to initiate these actions this year.

21/50 Simplification of our Area Meeting

We have looked at the papers sent round (AM min. 21/67; 2. NETAQM Simplifying our AM Working Group Report May 21 final ; 2a. AM Nominations Committee Minute 13.07.21). We like some ideas but do not feel we should buy in expertise quite yet. We will have to return to this in the light of the discussion at Area Meeting.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

21/49 above refers

Safeguarding:

You may have seen in the news that earlier today the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) published the [report](#) of its investigation into child protection in religious organisations and settings in England and Wales. I'm writing to you about this, because AM Trustees are formally responsible for safeguarding in local Quaker meetings.

IICSA is a statutory inquiry which has been running since 2014. It is investigating different institutions and organisations and how they handle their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse. The Recording Clerk, on behalf of Quakers in Britain, provided written witness statements to this investigation in 2019.

We welcome the report, which is clear and helpful.

The recommendation which is particularly relevant for Quaker meetings says:

All religious organisations should have a child protection policy and supporting procedures, which should include advice and guidance on responding to disclosures of abuse and the needs of victims and survivors. The policy and procedures should be updated regularly, with professional child protection advice, and all organisations should have regular compulsory training for those in leadership positions and those who work with children and young people.

Before publishing the report, IICSA let us know they had criticisms about Quakers' lack of national record-keeping, and the limitations of statistic provided to the investigation. These points are made in the report, in relation to other bodies as well as Quakers. We agree with these points and have been taking steps to address them. We have established a national database, and QLCC has asked you (Area Meetings) to report annually on your safeguarding practice, and to share information with BYM about any issues or cases.

The report and its recommendations highlight the need to continue with the improvements we have already been working on. Of course, we need to keep improving, and staff will be considering the report in more detail over the coming days. We expect IICSA will make other recommendations in future, so we'll be watching their work with interest. I do encourage you to read the report. Among other things it identifies barriers to safeguarding in many faith groups, and I hope Friends will welcome the opportunity to ask ourselves how far we are allowing these barriers to put children at risk.

Juliet Prager, Deputy Recording Clerk. Text of the covering email to the Report

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES

Saturday 16th October, 10.30 a.m. by Zoom

21/51 Present

Peter Green, Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Judith Roads

Prevented: Antony Rawlinson

21/52 Reading

Paragraph 23:15 of Quaker Faith & Practice was read in our opening worship

21/53 David Amess

We have remembered David Amess, the MP for Southend West who was murdered yesterday

21/54 AM Treasurers Committee held Wed. 13th October 2021

We receive and note the minutes of their last meeting.

21/55 Budget 2022

With amendments made in this meeting we accept the draft budget for 2022 and commend it to Area Meeting. We thank all our local meetings and our AM Treasurers Committee for their work in drawing this together.

We note the decrease in contributions by Friends over the years and urge Friends to maintain, if not increase their financial giving to AM in 2022.

We ask our clerk to clarify our policy of asking Friends to give direct to BYM. Subject to this we may return to the consideration of giving £5,000 to BYM from AM funds.

We note that with ca. 150 members and an average 'ask' from BYM Trustees of £225/annum, we should expect Friends in our AM to be giving direct to BYM £34,000 in 2022. We are aware of flaws in the ways in which BYM Fundraising Department calculates and reports to us quarterly their receipts from our members and we are working with BYM staff to address these.

We should keep under review the number of Friends contributing and levels of contribution.

21/56 Simplification

We thank Judith Roads for the digest of the AM Report as it relates to Trustees,

We do not see at present great benefit from buying in external help, even if it were financially possible. We are reminded of the expertise available through our subscriptions to 31:8, the Association of Church Accountants & Treasurers and our central committees. Our need is for more replacement trustees.

With large & small meetings, and meetings with and without premises and our AM continuing to change, having an LM representative on 2 or even 1 committee dealing with finance & premises may be difficult to achieve. If combined in 1 committee careful agenda planning would be needed to ensure a balance between financial and property issues. We forward this minute to AM.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)

NORTH EAST THAMES AREA QUAKER MEETING TRUSTEES

Saturday 6th November 2021, 10.30 a.m. by Zoom

21/57 Present

Peter Green, Jim Grigg, David Irwin (Clerk), Rose John, Antony Rawlinson, Judith Roads

21/58 Reading

An extract of Patricia Loring's *Listening Spirituality* was read in our opening worship

21/59 Trustees Annual Report and Accounts 2020

We have received these from the independent examiner and they have been signed. No deficiencies were found during the account examination. They shall be presented to AM and be placed on our website.

21/60 Appointment of External Examiner for 2021 accounts

Recognizing that at this time of great change in our financial arrangements it is not wise to introduce another company fresh to our Quaker organizational ways, we recommend to AM that Myrus Smith again be appointed to examine our 2021 accounts next year. We shall endeavour to put the work on our 2022 accounts out to tender.

21/61 Leigh-on-Sea transfer amount

Further to Min. 21/42, we thank Jim Grigg, Peter Green, Brenda Geraghty and Debbie Taylor for their careful consideration of the principles which might lie behind the setting of an amount of money Leigh might take with them when moving from this AM to Mid-Essex AM. We have received the attached paper and note the acceptance of the basis of the calculation by our external examiner Myrus Smith.

We note that on current calculations the sum involved would be £6,862 but that the final figure would emerge when the 2021 AM accounts are consolidated. We agree to add £7,500 to the proposed 2022 AM budget, recognizing that this would be drawn from reserves.

We note that this transfer amount is in addition to the local meeting balance remaining in their account at 31 December 2021. Leigh Friends have to date contributed an equitable proportion to the 2021 AM budget.

We recommended acceptance of the basis of the calculation to Area Meeting as being just and equitable, and that AM permits a sum not exceeding £7,500 be passed to the Leigh-on-Sea account in 2022.

21/62 Leigh-on-Sea Quaker Meeting bank account

We record here that from the end of 2021, responsibility for the account (Coop Bank, Sort code 08 92 99, Account Number 65176924) passes from the Trustees of North East Thames Area Quaker Meeting to the ambit of Mid-Essex Area Quaker Meeting. This reflects the fact that Leigh-on-Sea Local Quaker Meeting is transferring from this Area Quaker Meeting to Mid-Essex Area Quaker Meeting.

We send this minute to the transfer committee of Leigh-on-Sea, and the clerk of Trustees to Mid-Essex AM

21/63 Donating Direct to BYM

Further to minute 21/5 we have considered our practice past and present of giving to BYM, whether personally or through AM acting as agent or as discerned and reflected in its budget.

We agree to continue to advocate for BYM and to encourage Ffriends to give direct to BYM as they personally choose, but will leave a BYM budget line in our accounts so that the AM may pass surpluses to BYM as they are led.

We shall continue to monitor financial giving by Ffriends. We also recognize the need to look again at our finance policy, including reserves.

21/64 2022 AM Budget

Further to minute 21/55 the budget has been further revised (attached). We agree to recommend its adoption by AM, whilst recognizing that it is a deficit budget, but one covered by our adequate reserves.

21/65 Premises Update

We thank Peter Green for this update (attached) and note its contents. The matter of the wardenship at Wanstead is being attended to by the group appointed by the LM, and this matter may return to us at a later date.

Romford Friends are considering our minute 39 of July's meeting this Sunday. We confirm the extension of our volunteer warden's contact until the end of May 2022. We hope to work with Romford Ffriends on the strategy document.

21/66 Looking forward to 2022

We have looked briefly forward to 2022 and arrangements that might be made if we have no new trustees appointed and how work might be handed over, especially in the areas of safeguarding and finance. We should ensure sustainability is on each agenda.

We say Goodbye to Jim and Rose, thanking them for their dedicated service to the AM as trustees and to the AM over many years.

Signed in and on behalf of the Trustees of NET AQM

David Irwin (Clerk)