

Friends Southern Summer Events Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday, 9 November, Leslie Forster Suite,
Friends House, Euston London, NW1 2BJ

Minutes

Present

Bernard Leeser, Bianca Rawlinson, Bryony Rowntree, Candia Crosfield, Clon Ulrick, David Holtam, Emily Collins, Graham Torr, Kate Ulrick, Keith Walton, Margaret Lee, Michael Wood, Oliver Waterhouse, Olivia Sewell-Risley, Peter Slade, Philip Wood, Rob Johnson, Ruth Jesson-Smith, Steve Russell

Apologies

Anna Trethewey, Eleanor Brooks, Gwen de Sousa, James Barnard, Jess Kendall, Kathy Gibbs, Katy Oliver, Matt Baker, Tavi Austin, Tessa Brown, Trottie Kirwan

FSSEAGM19-1 Opening worship

We have opened our meeting with a period of silent worship during which was read advice 18.

FSSEAGM19-2 Agenda check

We have agreed our agenda. We note the apologies that have been given in advance.

FSSEAGM19-3 Minutes of AGM 2018

We have received the minutes of the 2018 FSSE Annual General Meeting.

We note that when we met last year we were preparing for the strategy day which took place in February. The strategy day highlighted: our need to develop our publicity and marketing of the events and to continue our focus on mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding of participants and our staff teams.

We are pleased that we have continued our work on both requirements. In terms of our publicity we have developed a method and will continue working in the way that we have been. Mental health and wellbeing are areas that we will always need to keep learning to be sure that we are providing spaces that young people and staff are safe well. We are committed to continuing the training of volunteers and planning teams.

We are aware that there is much more work to be done about ongoing training of volunteers and officers.

We accept the minutes of last year's AGM.

FSSEAGM19-4 Trustees report

We thank David for the work that he and trustees have done over the course of 2019. Trustees meet on a regular basis throughout the year and have oversight of the events. Trustees support event coordinators in advance of the events. Huge thanks are given to the volunteer team as without these people the events could not take place.

We receive and accept the annual report and ask that it be uploaded to the Charities Commission website.

We are grateful to the trustee body for the work that they do on FSSE's behalf.

FSSEAGM19-5 Change of FSSE Constitution

David Holtam has presented the suggested change to the FSSE constitution, which is a small change to the objects, as per appendix 1.

We welcome this change and ask David to make it on our behalf and submit the changes to the Charities Commission.

FSSEAGM19-6 Treasurers report and fee setting for events in 2020

We have received a report of FSSE's draft annual accounts and had the opportunity to ask Graham Torr our treasurer questions.

Graham has encouraged us to think about how we might engage with local meeting appeals following one LM's regular donation.

We anticipate that we are going to soon receive an increase in the fees that our venue's charge. Management Committee has proposed that we raise fees by £10 per participant in 2020 which makes the cost per place £370. It has also been suggested that we raise the fee for the coach from Friends House to Junior Gathering and return from £16 to £20 per person. We agree to both suggested rises in our fees.

We thank and Graham Torr for his work as treasurer.

FSSEAGM19-7 Junior Gathering

We have had the Junior Gathering epistle read and had the opportunity to ask and answer questions of the event teams who are present.

We have heard about a week where young Friends have valued the space for worship in a community that shares values and faith experiences.

The theme, Modern equality has helped to bring the event together in exploring through a variety of facilitators the ways that Quakerism is working in a modern world on issues of equality.

Fun activities such as giant cluedo and a barn dance have helped to bring the community closer together with various ways to participate and include all the young people. 🍷

We thank the staff and event planning team that have made this event happen in 2019.

FSSEAGM19-8 Senior Conference

We have received the Senior Conference epistle. We have had the opportunity to ask questions of those participants and the event coordinators and planning team who are present.

The theme of 'Quakerism in the 21st Century, what will our chapter be?' helped to bring the event together and understand how younger Friends can relate to the society and what is important them. The theme gave the opportunity to explore from a variety of experiences such as those of worldwide Quakers.

We are grateful to the event team for putting together such a wide-ranging programme that clearly had huge amount of fun included as well and the exploration of a theme that was so relevant to the participants. It was great to hear that there were embarrassing moments that helped to add to the sense of joy in the community.

We thank the staff and planning team that make this event possible and so successful in 2019.

FSSEAGM19-9 Matters referred by Management Committee

Dates and venues 2020

The two events will take place at the following venues at the dates listed. Please note that the events are not due to take place in the same dates as each other in 2020.

- JG on 15-22 August at Leighton Park School: theme, Mental health
- SC on 22-29 August at Sibford School: theme, Understanding our place as a religious society. With new information SC cords will look at the dates and may bring the event in to line with the dates of JG.

Nominations brought forward from Management Committee

We receive the following names from FSSE Management Committee which met this morning.

Role	Outgoing	Incoming	Status	Term	Start	End
FSSE Trustee	Bernard Leeser	Bernard Leeser	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
FSSE Trustee	Tessa Brown	Tessa Brown	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
FSSE Trustee (convener)	David Holtam	David Holtam	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
JG Event Coordinator #1	Katy Oliver	Matt Baker	Nomination	3	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2022
JG Planning Coordinator #1	Olivia Sewell-Risley	Olivia Sewell-Risley	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020

JG Planning Coordinator #2	Phil Wood	Phil Wood	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
JG Planning Coordinator #3	Matt Baker	Eduin Boater-Latimer (STC)	Nomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
SC 22+ Reserve Coordinator	Huw Still	Emily Collins	Nomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
SC Administrative Coordinator	Steve Russell	Steve Russell	Renomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020
SC Bookings secretary	Katie Ulrick			3	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2022
JG Bookings Secretary	Trottie Kirwan (released)			3	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2022
FSSE Publicity	Eleanor Brooks	Bianca Rawlinson	Nomination	1	09-Nov-2019	AGM 2020

We ask Junior Gathering to appoint a safeguarding lead from within their staff team in good time ahead of the 2020 event so that they can receive adequate training for the role. We know that Al Page has agreed to hold this role for SC in 2020.

We will hold a standing item at the Management Committee for roles such as first aid, safeguarding, mental health to be sure that each event has enough cover for these areas.

We are still keen to have younger trustees and will continue our search for younger people to be represented on trustees as soon as a nomination can be made.

Bryony and Ollie have agreed to be part of a nominations committee to continue the search for Bookings Secretaries for the 2020 events and beyond.

We thank all of the people who have come to the end of their service.

All names being suitable we agree to appoint these names to the roles that they have been nominated to.

We ask the treasurer to update the banking arrangements to make sure that the event coordinators and treasurer are signatories and that the current limits are maintained.

FSSEAGM19-10 Date and venue for FSSE AGM 2020

We hope to meet for the 2020 FSSE AGM on Saturday 7 November at Friends House, Euston (TBC).

We ask our clerk to make the arrangements on our behalf.

Closing worship

Signed

Oliver Waterhouse

Clerk

Appendix 1 – Change to FSSE constitution

The full FSSE constitution can be found by visiting, <http://fsse.org.uk/fsse/organisation/>.

The details of the change to the constitution is highlighted in orange below:

5 Objects

The charity's objects are:

(a) to promote and advance the religious education of the community and in particular of young people, including those of the Quaker tradition, and others with an interest in learning more about Quakers;

AND in furtherance thereof:

(b) to organise and promote events for the spiritual growth and moral benefit of the community and in particular of young people with an interest in Quakers;

(c) to disseminate by whatever means the ideals of truth, non-violence and equality and all Quaker testimonies within a Quaker background; and

(d) to promote any purpose that is charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and for the benefit of the public as may from time to time be determined by the trustees.