**QSAIG Annual General Meeting**

**8th October 2023**

Present

Anne Smith, Norman Smith, Stuart Morton, Willemina Morton, Abu Siddique, Liz Schweiger, Martin Schweiger.

Apologies

Rob Gallagher

Convenor’s report

Thanks to all members of the Steering Group for help and support during the past year.

Today’s meeting was intended to be a hybrid meeting with some QSAIG members in Westminster Meeting House and other people attending on Zoom. The planned date was 22nd October 2022.

However, Westminster Meeting House then asked us to change the date because of a wedding that was planned for the same date and time and is expected to use the room we had hoped to use. In view of the continued threat of Covid-19 the whole QSAIG meeting has been moved on line. Several people were unable to attend on 22nd so the meeting was changed to 8th October 2022. Apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.

Activities have been similar to previous years with a half day meeting in April, a presence at the BYM Groups Fair, a newsletter and minor changes to the QSAIG website.

The half day meeting focussed on The Third Pole and we had a presentation by Rob Gallagher on the impact and consequences of climate change on the Himalayas. We also heard about water flows across borders, voluntarism, GUP and Nagaland. We also heard about the death of Andrew Clarke who led a lot of Quaker interest in South Asia for many years.

The powerpoint presentation about the Third Pole is now on the QSAIG website along with the QSAIG newsletters. We do appreciate all the hard work and research undertaken by Rob Gallagher in preparing these.

The future of QSAIG remains an open question, but as long as people can be found to act as officers for QSAIG and others are interested in attending meetings and contributing to them it seems sensible to continue.

It would be good to welcome new people to act as officers for QSAIG to widen the knowledge and experience available to the group.

QSAIG remains a Registered body with Britain Yearly Meeting so we remain in contact with the wider Society of Friends in the UK as well as with a range of activities and projects in South Asia.

Report from Newsletter Editor

Unfortunately Rob Gallagher had to send his apologies. We can record that an excellent newsletter was produced and sent out. It is also available on the QSAIG website.

QSAIG Website

Website address is <http://www.qsaig.co.uk>

The links to English language newspapers in South Asia were added last year and this is one of the most used sections of the website.

Accounts for 2021

Anne Smith presented the Accounts for 2021.

Total income for the year was £114.05 and the expenditure was £66.00 leaving QSAIG with a balance of £450.80

All members are reminded about subscriptions (£10 waged, £5 unwaged).

**Bank Transfer details:**

Account name: Ecology Building Society

Sort code: 08 90 72

Account no: 70361591

Reference: 2601-00524-7

Please could you let the Treasurer know that you have made the payment: [m\_anne\_smith@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:m_anne_smith@yahoo.co.uk)

**Paying by Cheque:**

Made out to: the Ecology Building Society

On the back write: 'Quaker South Asia Interest Group Account no 2601-00524-7'

Post it to: Anne Smith, 37 Hermitage Court, Woodford Road, London E18 2EW

There was an agreement to send £100 as a donation to Sohagpur School by kind favour of Merryl Titus. Martin Schweiger to ask Merryl how best to send this.

Officers for 22/23

Convenor Martin Schweiger

Treasurer Anne Smith

Membership Secretary Anne Smith

Newsletter Editor Rob Gallagher (Subject to consent)

Website Manager Martin Schweiger

Communications Officer Norman Smith

All posts are being undertaken by those who have undertaken them for at least 3 years. We note the need for new officers next year and hope all QSAIG members will give this careful consideration.

Future Meetings

Meeting to be held on 1st April 2023 on Zoom. (Morning only, with priority being given to the consequences of climate change on women, time may also be given to consider reparations.)

A Meeting and Annual General Meeting will be held on 7th October 2023, probably a hybrid meeting, based at Westminster Meeting House with other people on Zoom.

2.30pm Closing Meeting for Worship.