Meeting for Sufferings 6 April 2019.

**Overview of finances up to 31 December 2018**

£12m income

£12.75m overall expenditure

£750,000 decrease in donations last year

£1.3m contribution from Friends House Hospitality Company

2/3 of the reserves arise from the buildings – not readily available money.

Investment losses late last year: £2.3m (followed by a partial recovery this year, in common with other charities)

Legacy income is significant. Trustees have recently set a new investment policy to spread investments more globally, thus lessening the risks of dramatic decrease in value if based in the UK.

**Court and Prison Register** – Lynsday Burtonshaw from Brighton Meeting was added for the suspended sentences she received as part of the Stansted 15 protests. Marita Over, from Llanidloes Meeting was also included. She was charged with aggravated trespass as part of the Extinction Rebellion protest. Marita received a conditional discharge with a fine. Jilly Chadwick from Brighouse West Yorkshire Area Meeting, was added for obstructing a highway as part of an anti-fracking protest but released without charge.

**There are two areas of work which are going to figure large in the years ahead.**  One is Diversity and Inclusion, headed by Edwina Peart. She spoke of her survey, which had 1693 responses. The survey asked questions about race, social class, gender-identification. Collecting such data will help to answer questions on how can we become a more welcoming worship group, and what is our place in society to be.

The other area is the Vibrancy in Meetings project. Local Development Workers have been going out to selected meetings where numbers are low and there is a feeling of inadequacy. Friends in Vibrancy Areas spoke of the valuable contributions made by the development workers, and the hope was expressed that this project would continue. Michael Hutchison, clerk of Woodbrooke trustees, said that it was clear the ‘exciting and energising’ work was producing results. Paul Parker, recording clerk of BYM, commented ‘We’ll know when we have been successful when Vibrancy stops being talked about as separate, and just becomes part of what support looks like for Quakers in Britain.’