

Approved by Minute 12 of
East Cheshire Area Quaker Meeting
on 9th May 2010

**Religious Society of Friends
East Cheshire Area Quaker Meeting**

Terms of reference for Trustees

Introduction

A Meeting for Worship for Business (for example, Yearly Meeting or an area meeting) is made up of all those present. Those present in the gathered meeting meet in the Light to discern the will of God, decide on future action and agree how to go forward.

Trustees appointed by the meeting as required by charity law will carry the statutory responsibility for this action and for the stewardship of resources. The trustees have a responsibility to advise the meeting about legal constraints and about whether any proposed actions can be properly financed and managed. The law may assume that authority for determining action passes to the trustees and the meeting may choose to do this. However, under gospel order, the ultimate authority will still lie with the gathered meeting. This also means that the meeting provides support for the trustees and is ready to release a trustee who no longer feels able to fulfill this responsibility.

1. Summary of purpose

- 1.1 Accountable to the Area Meeting, the Trustees hold the legal and statutory responsibilities of trusteeship for East Cheshire Area Quaker Meeting.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Between five and fifteen, normally nine, members of East Cheshire Area Quaker Meeting appointed by the Area Meeting to serve for a three year period, one third retiring annually on a rolling basis. Reappointment is possible for up to a total of three terms but then a break of at least three years is required before further reappointment.

When a mid-term appointment is necessary it will run only until the end of the relevant 3-year term.

- 2.2 The trustees will normally include the Area Meeting treasurer and, as far as is practicable, representatives of each local meeting contained within the Area Meeting, but not the clerk of the Area Meeting nor any employee of the Area Meeting.
- 2.3 The trustees will nominate a clerk from among their number for appointment by the Area Meeting.
- 2.4 The trustees will not receive any remuneration for their work as trustees but should claim expenses as appropriate.