

**East Cheshire Quaker Meeting**  
**To be held as a blended meeting at Stockport Meeting House**  
**Sunday 12 November 2023**

**Agenda**

- 1. Friends present**
- 2. Reading**
- 3. Caring for Friends**
- 4. Appointments: nominations received from Nominations Committee**  
We have received the following nominations from Area Meeting Nominations Committee (to serve from January 2024 to December 2026 unless otherwise stated):  
*Area Meeting Assistant Clerk:* Denise Renshaw  
*Examiner of Accounts:* Ian Smallwood (January 2024 to December 2024)  
*Area Meeting Trustee:* Anne Sumner  
*Elder:* Paul Gee  
*Quaker Life Representative Council:* Gillian Smith  
*Quaker Life Representative Council Deputy:* Bou Mowl  
The Clerk of Area Meeting Trustees has expressed concern that it has not proved possible to nominate Friends to serve as Trustees from Crewe and Nantwich Meeting or from Stockport Meeting.
- 5. Appointments: nominations received from local meetings**  
We have received the following nomination for service on Area Meeting Nominations Committee from January 2024 to December 2026  
*From Cheadle Hulme Meeting:* Susan Clark  
*From Disley Meeting:* Anne Sumner
- 6. Report from Meeting for Sufferings held 6-8 October 2023 (Sally Mendham)**  
*Circulated with this agenda together with a minute and template letter to MPs regarding modern slavery*
- 7. Report from Quaker Life Representative Council held 13-15 October 2023 (Bou Mowl)**
- 8. Report from Quaker Prison Chaplains Conference held 13-15 October 2023 (Denise Renshaw)**
- 9. Report from Trustees and Treasurers Conference held 22-24 September 2023 (Hilary Brooks)**
- 10. Report from Website Group (Peter Eccles)**  
*Circulated with this agenda*
- 11. Israel/Palestine: report from Jessica McGarty who has recently returned from participation in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel**  
*This item will be taken at around 3.00 pm regardless of our progress with the agenda*

## **12. Worshipping group in Glossop**

We have received Minute 5 of Disley Meeting's Meeting for Business held on 5 November as follows:

### **Worshipping Group in Glossop:**

Keith Braithwaite has expressed his thoughts on seeking support for establishing a worshipping group in Glossop, to meet perhaps once a month for six months on a weekday evening, with reviews of the outcome after three months and six. He asks for both spiritual and practical support, eg. raising the awareness of the group in Disley meeting and providing some degree of Elder support.

Keith has had positive feedback from individuals at Marple and Stockport meetings. He suggests the venue for the group will be Bradbury House in Glossop. We propose an Outreach event to publicise the group and Keith will continue to take advice from 'Discovering Quakers'.

Disley meeting wholeheartedly welcomes this idea and supports Keith in this project. We will send this Minute to Area meeting for discussion and ask AM to support this experiment.

## **13. Report from Area Meeting Library Catalogue Group (Till Geiger)**

*The report has already been circulated to local meetings but is included again with this agenda.*

## **14. Drs Green and Slater Rest Houses (Frances McCann)**

The Trustees of Drs Green & Slater Rest Houses have approached Area Meeting in the hope that the Area Meeting will be able to provide them with some support. An email from Frances McCann, Chair of the Trustees, is circulated with this agenda.

## **15. Meet the Quakers event at Macclesfield on 7 October 2023 (Jill Maguire)**

## **16. Area Meeting weekend at Glenthorne 12-14 April 2024**

This weekend was booked in 2022 but we have not yet asked anyone to arrange the weekend.

## **17. Bamford Quaker Community**

We have received a request from Notts and Derby Area Meeting to nominate a trustee for the Bamford Quaker Community. It is hoped that each of the surrounding area meetings will nominate a trustee but currently only Notts and Derby does. Quaker Community Bamford is in the process of disposing of the property at Bamford, but intends to continue as a charity, and will be looking either to run retreats at other locations, for example a conference centre, hiring it for a weekend, or will be looking to buy, lease or build another place for a community that is more eco-friendly, and definitely more energy efficient and lower maintenance than the present buildings and grounds. Our "Way Forward" group is exploring the options for when the property is sold, which may take some time.

## **18. Annual Duties**

Local Meetings are asked to report to our January meeting on how they have managed their annual duties. These duties include the regular and right holding of Meetings for Worship, making use of the Advices and Queries and the reading of the Epistle from Britain Yearly Meeting, the holding of regular meetings for church affairs and compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act.

## 19. Outward Affairs

We remind Friends of their responsibility for the right ordering of their outward affairs. This involves personal consideration of the proper acquisition and use of income, the stewardship of money held for others, conduct in business, and the importance of making and from time to time reviewing their wills. If contemplating making legacies to the Society, its committees or associated bodies, Friends are advised to take advice from experienced Friends, and to consult the Quaker website or to contact Friends House. We ask local meeting clerks to report to AM clerk in time for our January Business Meeting that they have brought this to the attention of their meetings. It may also be appropriate for Friends to make known their funeral wishes in some suitable manner. Friends are also reminded that should any help be required towards the amicable settlement of disputes, the Clerk to Elders, Clerk to Pastoral Friends and Area Meeting Clerk have been asked to act together to find a suitable Friend or Friends to give their help.

## 20. Intervisitation

Reports on visits undertaken received from Cheadle Hulme, Disley, Frandley and Wilmslow Meetings. All these meetings have been able to undertake visits but not all visits on the schedule have been achieved.

*Lunch will be provided by Stockport Friends*

Stockport Meeting will have lots of books discarded from our library for Friends to help themselves to on Sunday 12th November at Area Meeting. Any left after this will be taken to a charity shop. Donation bowl for Stockport Wellspring.

**Date and place of next meeting:** Saturday 20 January 2024 at 10.30 am at Wilmslow Meeting House

### **Papers circulated with this agenda:**

Report from Meeting for Sufferings held 6-8 October together with a minute and template letter to MPs regarding modern slavery

Report from the Website Group

Report from the Library Catalogue Group (two documents)

Email from Drs Green & Slater Rest Houses Trustees