

East Cheshire Quaker Meeting
To be held as a blended meeting at Marple Methodist Church
Saturday 24 January 2026 at 10.30 am

Agenda

1. Friends present

2. Reading

3. Caring for Friends

4. Death of Ann Lewis

We have received a minute from Cheadle Hulme Meeting (circulated with this agenda).

5. Application for membership: Clare Finnis (Disley Meeting)

6. Termination of membership: Joe Taylor (Disley Meeting)

7. Termination of membership: David Powell (Disley Meeting)

8. Tabular statement for 2025

The Tabular Statement for 31 December 2025 and a report from Denise Renshaw, Assistant Clerk, Membership, are circulated with this agenda.

9. Marple Meeting

We have received two minutes from Marple Meeting about the future of the Meeting (circulated with this agenda).

10. Area Meeting trustees

We have received the minutes of a meeting held 4 December 2025 (circulated with this agenda). There will be a spoken report on Trustee activities in 2025.

11. Area Meeting appointments

Area Meeting Nominations Committee has forwarded the following nominations:

Pastoral Friend: Elizabeth Lees (Wilmslow) to serve until 31 December 2026;

Planning group for Area Meeting weekend in October: Andrew Backhouse, Frances Hill and Frances McCann.

12. Meeting for Sufferings

We have received from Sally Mendham a report about the meeting held 6 December 2025 (circulated with this agenda).

13. Junior Yearly Meeting

Proposed minute:

On the nomination of Children and Young People's Committee, we appoint Kai Leslie (Frindley) to attend Junior Yearly Meeting this year at a cost of £295 plus travelling expenses.

14. Britain Yearly Meeting 2026

The calling letter for Britain Yearly Meeting 2026 to be held at Friends' House and online from 1 to 4 May 2026 is attached. The Area Meeting treasurer recommends that anyone from East Cheshire attending Yearly Meeting in person should be entitled to receive £200 support from Area Meeting funds. There will be two further one day sessions of Yearly Meeting this year on 18 July (in Manchester) and on 21 November (in London). We have been asked to appoint two representatives to Yearly Meeting (whose expenses will be paid by Yearly Meeting) to serve from July 2026. Nominations Committee suggests that we appoint

Keith Braithwaite and Sally Mendham who had previously been appointed as our Meeting for Sufferings representative and alternate to serve until 31 May 2027.

15. Northern Friends Peace Board

A letter from the NFPB requesting financial support in 2026 suggesting a contribution of £11 per member is circulated with this agenda as well as a report on the work of the Board from our representative Phoebe Spence. Our normal procedure is to give half of the suggested amount from Area Meeting funds and to encourage local meetings to give at least the other half.

16. Dates and venues for Area Meeting business meetings in 2026

Further to Minute 25.11.15 of our last meeting it is suggested that we change the date of the July Area Meeting at Crewe & Nantwich from 18 July to 25 July because of the clash with the Yearly Meeting session on 18 July. The date of the September Area Meeting at Disley (to be held in the Community Centre) is confirmed as 12 September.

17. Working more closely with neighbouring area meetings: meeting in Manchester on 29 November 2025

A report on this meeting from Andrew Backhouse including the minute of the meeting and a request for funding for the proposed regional gathering in September is circulated with this agenda.

18. A Children and Young People's Development Worker for the Northwest: Regional Gathering held at Stockport on 22 November 2025

The minute from the Regional Gathering is circulated with this agenda.

19. Yealand Easter Camp 7-11 April: appointment of responsible adults

Names received: Andrew Backhouse, Charlotte Harrison, Matt Lee and Anna Poole. It would be good to have an additional person as no younger adults are available, possibly to be the cook. It is expected to be well attended by young people.

20. Annual Duties: reports from local meetings

21. Outward affairs: reports from local meetings

22. Intervisitation reports: reports from local meetings

Marple Friends will coordinate a shared lunch after the meeting (offers of contributions to the lunch to marplequakers@gmail.com).

Papers circulated with the agenda

Cheadle Hulme minute about Ann Lewis

Tabular statement for 2025

Report on the Tabular statement

Minutes from Marple Meeting about the future of the meeting.

Minutes of Area Meeting Trustees held 4 December 2025

Report on Meeting for Sufferings held 6 December 2025

Calling letter for Britain Yearly Meeting 2026

Letter from Northern Friends Peace Board about financial contributions in 2026

Report on Northern Friends Peace Board

Report on meeting to consider working more closely with neighbouring area meetings

Report on Regional Gathering