

Property



Information on how to access the resources and support available to those entrusted with the care of Quaker property.



Contribute to Quaker work

Contribute time – There are many opportunities to get involved with the work we do on behalf Quakers in Britain, including serving on committees, volunteering at events and joining the Quaker Life Network. Visit www.quaker.org.uk/quaker-service to find out more or email nominations@quaker.org.uk or phone 020 7663 1121.

Contribute money – You can contribute to Britain Yearly Meeting funds direct or via your local or area meeting. To find out more about making a financial contribution visit www.quaker.org.uk/contributions or email contributions@quaker.org.uk or phone 020 7663 1015.

Leave a legacy – Legacy giving helps sustain Quaker work for future generations. After taking care of family and friends, please consider leaving a gift for Quaker work in your will. Visit www.quaker.org.uk/legacy or email legacy@quaker.org.uk or phone 020 7663 1019 for more information.

Find out more and connect with us

Find out more – You can find out more about all of Britain Yearly Meeting's work by reading the Trustees' annual report. Copies are sent to every meeting in April or visit www.quaker.org.uk/annualreport. *Quaker News* is a free magazine about the work of Britain Yearly Meeting. It is distributed via local meetings. You can also subscribe by email, access electronic back issues and read it online at www.quaker.org.uk/qn.

Connect with us – Contact details for specific areas of work are provided throughout the Directory of Services. The general contact details for Friends House are:

Friends House, 173 Euston Road,
London NW1 2BJ
www.quaker.org.uk
Email: enquiries@quaker.org.uk
Switchboard: 020 7663 1000.

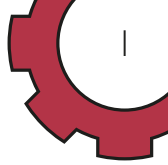
Quaker Centre Bookshop

You can order books, book boxes, resources and posters from the Quaker Centre Bookshop at Friends House, London.

Quaker Centre Bookshop, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

www.quaker.org.uk/shop
quakercentre@quaker.org.uk
020 7663 1030/1031.

Property



Introduction

“A meeting house should not be regarded primarily in terms of bricks and mortar, or merely seen in relation to potential site value. Its real value derives from the worship and service of the meeting. Even so, our meeting houses no less than our own homes deserve our care, attention and imaginative thought, so that they may be attractive both to ourselves and to others whilst remaining faithful to our commitment to simplicity, care of the environment and equality.”

Quaker faith & practice 14.25

Our yearly meeting is the custodian of many historical and contemporary Quaker meeting houses. Quaker property is owned at area meeting level and as such is the responsibility of area meeting trustees. We offer a variety of support, including information on the appropriate use of Quaker property and how to deal with many of the property issues that arise.

Resources

The following printed or electronic materials support those responsible for Quaker property.

Property advice sheets

This set of advice sheets on property issues for Quaker meetings is available online www.quaker.org.uk/dos-property. The sheets cover a wide range of topics, including building maintenance, facilities for people with disabilities, gardens and burial grounds, health and safety, security, insurance, risk assessments, as well as issues relating to historic meeting houses, conservation areas and listed buildings.

Quaker faith & practice

Quaker faith & practice 14.23–14.35 covers property, and includes sections on meeting houses and burial grounds.

Support

Burial grounds

The Recording Clerk can provide advice on the opening and closing of burial grounds. Please contact the Recording Clerk at recordingclerk@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1161.

Information on the sale or other disposal of burial grounds is available from Friends Trusts Limited. Please contact the secretary at friendstrusts@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1082.



Friends Trusts Limited

Friends Trusts Limited holds the legal title to the properties of almost all area meetings in England and Wales. Trustees of these meetings should contact Friends Trusts Limited if they plan to:

- purchase or otherwise acquire property (for example, through gift or bequest);
- sell, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of property.

If your meeting is planning any such actions, please contact Friends Trusts Limited as early as possible for guidance via the secretary, at friendstrusts@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1082. Area meetings in Scotland are subject to Scottish law, under which they are able to own property in their own name.

Meeting Houses Funds

Where appropriate, funds are available for making loans or grants, or both, to area meetings to meet part of the cost of:

- building new meeting houses;
- the purchase and adaptation of properties to make them suitable for use as meeting houses;
- major alterations to existing meeting houses;
- major repairs to historic meeting houses.

For an application form, please contact our Finance and Property Administrator at fpadmin@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1097. Alternatively, write to Quaker Finance and Property, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ.

Property Advice cluster

This acts as a first contact point for requests for support from meetings. Friends on this cluster offer informal advice on property matters relating to redundancy, demolition, sale, lease, purchase, alteration, extension, historic buildings, and the repair and maintenance of existing buildings and new buildings belonging to Quaker meetings.

Advice is given on the basis of being offered by Friends who have experience in the area but are not necessarily experts: the ultimate decision will rest with the trustees of the area meeting concerned.

To seek assistance from this cluster, please contact the staff member for Quaker Stewardship Committee at qsc@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1161.

Quaker Housing Trust


Quaker Housing Trust offers support and funding to area meetings that are enquiring about how to start a new project, or are already involved with housing projects, or that want to make use of their meeting's property and/or funds to meet a housing need. For more information, visit www.qht.org.uk.

Contact the secretary at involveme@qht.org.uk or on 020 7663 1036.

Quaker Stewardship Committee

Quaker Stewardship Committee is responsible for the provision of property advice to meetings. This is currently provided through our property advice sheets (see the 'Resources' section above) and the Quaker Life Network Property Advice cluster (see below). For queries not covered by these, please contact the staff member for Quaker Stewardship Committee at qsc@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1161.





Note: For meetings in London, Six Weeks Meeting should be the first port of call for property matters. See the 'Other organisations' section on page 5 for details of Six Weeks Meeting.

Sustainability and New Economy Grants

Quaker Peace & Social Witness (QPSW) awards small grants to innovative Quaker or Quaker-supported projects focused on sustainability and the 'new economy'. To discuss your project and the application process, please contact the Economics, Sustainability & Peace Network Coordinator at espnetwork@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1056.

Use of premises for marriage

We do not advise the use of Quaker meeting houses for non-Quaker marriages. If you have any questions about our marriage procedures, please contact the Support for Meetings Officer in Quaker Life at supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1023.

See also the 'Registering officers' booklet of this directory (booklet 6).

Wardenship advice

The Wardenship Secretary can offer advice and information to wardens and to meetings that employ wardens. Please contact the Wardenship Secretary at wardenship@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1007. See also the 'Wardens' booklet of this directory (booklet 8).

Key contacts

- **Staff member for Quaker Stewardship Committee:**
qsc@quaker.org.uk; 020 7663 1161.
- **Finance and Property Administrator:** fpadmin@quaker.org.uk;
020 7663 1097.
- **Secretary to Friends Trusts Limited:**
friendstrusts@quaker.org.uk; 020 7663 1082.

Other organisations

Northfield Ecocentre

An initiative of Central England Area Meeting, Northfield Ecocentre offers practical ideas and advice on how to make your lifestyle, home or business more ecologically sustainable. Visit www.northfieldecocentre.com, email enquiries@northfieldecocentre.com or telephone 0121 448 0119.

Six Weeks Meeting

Six Weeks Meeting is made up of representatives from the area meetings within Greater London. Its main objective is to maintain, preserve and insure the places of worship of the constituent area meetings. For meetings within London, Six Weeks Meeting should be the first port of call for property matters. Email: sixweeksmeeing@quaker.org.uk or telephone 020 7663 1065.

Write to: Six Weeks Meeting, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ.

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Supporting information

Safeguarding – Safeguarding is protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm. For more information visit www.quaker.org.uk/safeguarding. Here you will find a link to Meeting safety, which outlines the responsibilities for Quaker meetings in Britain. We recommend that area meetings join the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service. Visit www.ccpas.co.uk or email info@ccpas.co.uk.

For general safeguarding advice, as well as Quaker advice on how specific safeguarding matters may affect the pastoral needs of individuals and the meeting community, contact our Safeguarding Coordinator at safe@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1023.

General issues relating to a Quaker meeting

– If you have concerns about issues in your Quaker meeting that you would like to talk over, contact our Support for Meetings Officer at supportmeetings@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1023. Alternatively, contact the Recording Clerk's Office at recordingclerk@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1161.

Information updates – Please keep us informed of changes to the key role-holders in your local and area meetings: clerk, treasurer, safeguarding coordinator, registering officer, clerk of (area meeting) trustees. To let us know of any such changes please contact our Database Administrator at updates@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1119.

Data safety – Quaker meetings in Britain need to store information on their members and attenders in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, which protects individuals from the unauthorised use of their personal information. Friends House Data Safety Group can offer meetings general advice on data safety. For more information visit www.quaker.org.uk/data-safety. Here you will find a link to Data Safety and Information Security, which offers guidance to meetings. You can also contact our Data Safety Officer at datasafety@quaker.org.uk or on 020 7663 1161.

Complaints and feedback

– Britain Yearly Meeting's complaints and feedback procedure enables anyone to let us know about problems or to give feedback on service received from staff at Friends House. To find out more visit www.quaker.org.uk/contact-us. Complaints can be made in writing to the Recording Clerk's Office at Friends House. Alternatively, email feedback@quaker.org.uk or phone 020 7663 1161.

Quaker faith & practice – *Quaker faith & practice* is the book of Christian discipline of Quakers in Britain. It expresses the breadth of Quaker theology through the experience of Friends and describes our corporate structures. Copies can be purchased from the Quaker Centre Bookshop. It is also available at <http://qfp.quaker.org.uk>.

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Information on how to access the resources and support available from Britain Yearly Meeting




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Information on how to access the resources and support available to local and area meeting clerks.




Directory of Services

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Information on how to access the resources and support available to local and area meeting treasurers and those managing financial contributions.




Directory of Services

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Directory of Services

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Directory of Services

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Information on how to access the resources and support available to registering officers and those responsible for the right holding of Quaker marriages.




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The library



Information on how to access the resources, support and advice available from the Library at Friends House.



www.quaker.org.uk

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or see our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/QuakersinBritain

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