



Quaker Peace
& Social Witness

QPSW Sustainability and New Economy Grants

Guidance notes

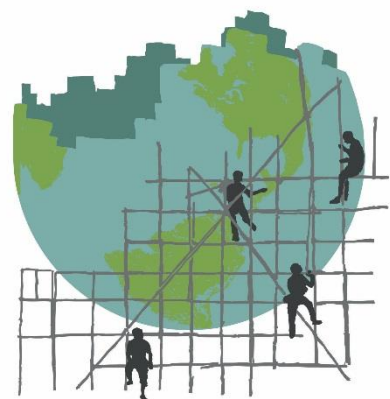
Quaker Peace & Social Witness (QPSW) awards grants to innovative Quaker or Quaker-supported projects focused on sustainability and the new economy.

We hope to enable projects that help to build low-carbon, sustainable communities and a different type of economic system – ‘an economic system in which Quaker testimony can flourish’¹.

We do not have a blueprint for the new economy, nor do we know exactly what a low-carbon, sustainable community would look like. But we believe that they will happen, in part, because individuals and communities challenge the current mainstream system by doing things differently. This may be building alternative economic structures, running initiatives that show how we can live lower carbon lives, or creating local currencies or energy co-operatives to demonstrate that an alternative is possible.

We would like to receive applications for your project, however big or small - from a one-off event to something longer-term. When planning your application it might help to think about some of the following:

- Is its primary purpose to connect people to the Earth, cut carbon or increase sustainability, engage in politics, speak out, campaign, challenge unsustainable and unjust economics or build alternative models? Or more than one of these things?
- Does it enable people to take action or behave differently in the future?
- Is it practical? Educational? Does it excite people, or encourage them to do something differently? Will it bring about a change? Does it get people thinking more deeply? Which one – or more – of these are you focusing on?
- How are Friends and your local meeting involved?
- How could you extend its reach? Could it include people beyond the meeting? How could the impact be deepened?
- Grants are intended to help facilitate new, or support existing, initiatives. Particular attention will be given to those projects that may not otherwise happen.



¹ Minute 23, Yearly Meeting Gathering 2011

Eligibility

- The project must be initiated or supported by a local or area meeting. The project need not be Quaker-led (and collaborative projects are encouraged) but there should be significant Quaker involvement.
- Applications should be accompanied by a minute of support from the local or area meeting.
- The project should be intended to build low-carbon sustainable communities or the new economy.
- We are no longer accepting applications for projects to do work to the fabric of a building or for the installation of solar panels. If you are interested in making your building more efficient please apply to the Meeting Houses Fund by contacting Malgosia Barczyk at malgosb@quaker.org.uk or on 0207 663 1097.

Applications

- Application forms are available from www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/grant-making/sustainability-economy from **10 March 2016**. You can also request an application form from Ellie Roberts by emailing ellier@quaker.org.uk or telephoning 020 7663 1056. You can submit an application at any point between March and **3 October 2016**, when applications will close.
- All applications must be made on a fully completed application form, though further supporting material can be included. Applications need to be accompanied by a minute of support from the appropriate local or area meeting.
- All applications need a main applicant and a supporting applicant who are both members or attenders of the same local or area meeting.
- Applications also need to be signed by the appropriate local or area meeting clerk. Please see the 'notes for clerks' section in these guidance notes for more detail on this.
- Applications are generally considered once a year only.
- Applicants will be informed as to whether they have been successful or unsuccessful by the end of **December 2016**. The money will be distributed to successful applicants by **January 2017**. Final decisions on awarding grants are made by the QPSW Economics, Sustainability and Peace sub-committee.

Sharing the story

- All successful applicants will be expected to work with QPSW staff to find ways to share information about their project within the Yearly Meeting. This could be through writing an article for publication, giving talks at other meetings, or workshops at events.

- We will also expect an opening and closing report that we can share on the Quaker website through the *Our Stories* blog (<http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories>).
- We hope to be able to link grant recipients with other active Quakers who are working on similar issues.

Examples of previous projects

This year, we are funding:

- A performance of *Three Acres and a Cow* in Bristol, a show about the history of land rights and protest in the UK told through folk song, storytelling and poetry².
- The running of three *Footpaths to a Greener Life* courses in North Wales, which explore community carbon-reduction³.

In 2015, we funded:

- Publicity and community engagement work ahead of the launch of the Exeter Pound⁴.
- A facilitation training weekend for the carbon-reduction *Footpaths to a Greener Life* programme⁵.
- Martha House, which offers accommodation to destitute migrants with no access to public funds⁶.
- The creation of a grass-free lawn at Dorchester Meeting⁷.
- An urban harvest project at Northfield Ecocentre

Sums available

- You can apply for a grant of between £100 and £2000
- A maximum of £5000 in grants will be distributed annually.
- Grants are one-off payments, though applicants can re-apply in future years. We may prioritise applications from new projects and/or meetings that have not received a grant before.
- A grant may provide the sum total of the amount needed by the project, or may only cover a proportion of the costs, though it must comprise no less than 20% of the total.
- If the grant covers a proportion of the cost, you will need to explain where the balance of funds will come from, how much of this is already secured, how much is still to be secured, and if any risks are foreseen. You can find information about some other Quaker grants at <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/grant-making>.

² <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/three-acres-and-a-cow-1>

³ <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/community-carbon-reduction-initiatives-1>

⁴ <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/exeter-pound-project>

⁵ <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/facilitating-footpaths-to-a-greener-life>

⁶ <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/martha-house>

⁷ <http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/our-stories/creating-a-grass-free-lawn>

Origin of funds

The funds for these grants come from the annual budget of QPSW. Grants are intended to enable meetings that would not otherwise be able to carry out this work on sustainability or new economics to do so. They are also a means for Friends to support the work of other Friends across the Society and to strengthen the corporate concern for sustainability and economic justice.

Notes for Clerks

All applicants should make sure that the following information is shared with the clerk/s of the local or area meeting:

- Clerks need to make sure that the project has been discerned within the local and/or area meeting, and that if the meeting is led to support the project an appropriate minute of support, signed by the clerk/s, comes with the application.
- Clerks will also need to read through and sign the completed application form before it is returned to Friends House.
- We would also hope clerks ensure that the meeting remains informed about project throughout the year, particularly if the project is not a project of the Quaker meeting. We recommend a regular (perhaps six monthly) update to the meeting from the project.

For further information and support

We recommend that you contact QPSW to discuss your project before applying. We can answer any questions you may have about the grants or the application process, and can provide support to help develop ideas into project plans.

Successful applicants can also get in touch at any point during their project to ask for advice and share updates.

Please contact:

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