



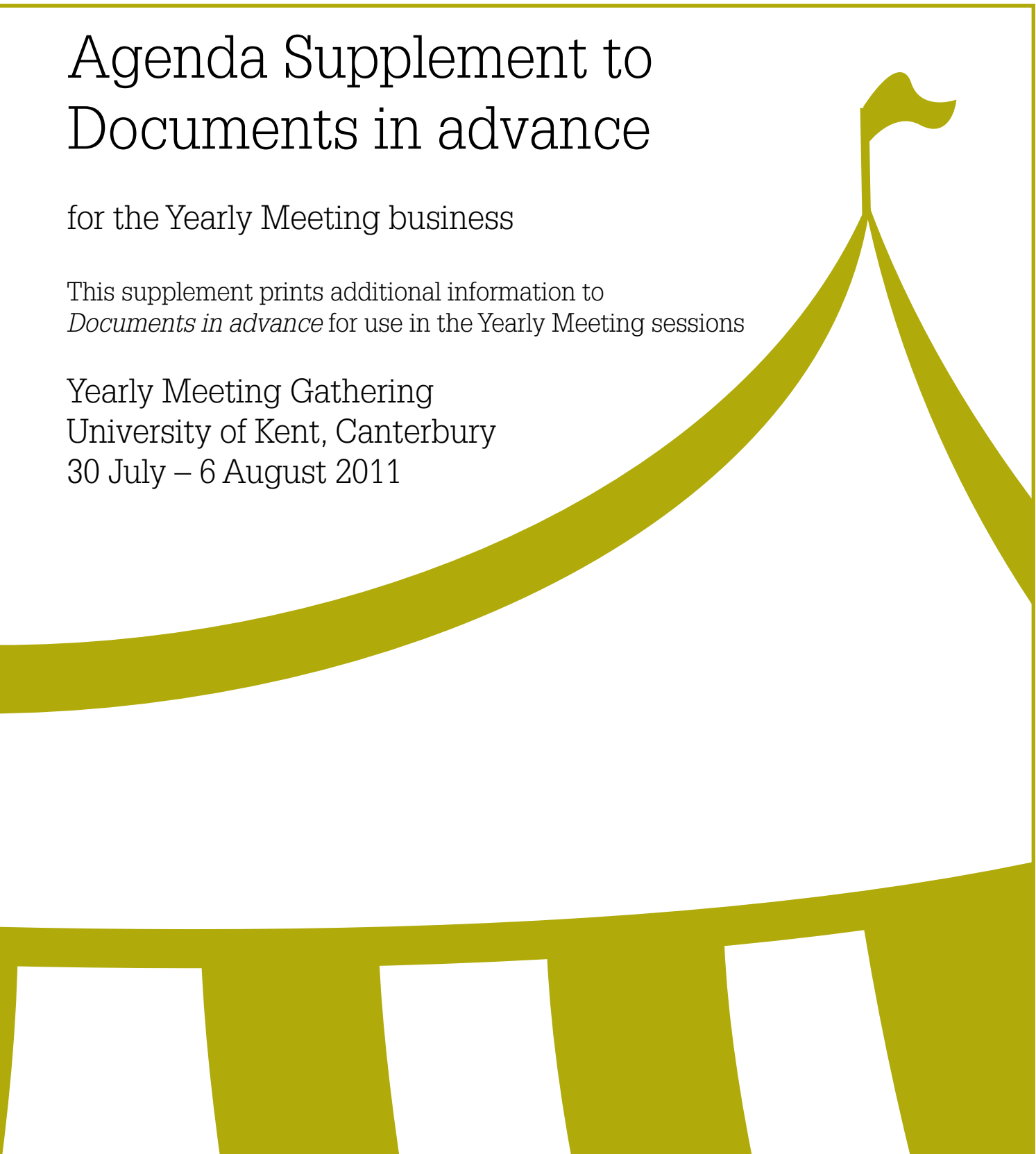
Yearly Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

# Agenda Supplement to Documents in advance

for the Yearly Meeting business

This supplement prints additional information to  
*Documents in advance* for use in the Yearly Meeting sessions

Yearly Meeting Gathering  
University of Kent, Canterbury  
30 July – 6 August 2011



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YEARLY MEETING SESSION 1 Sunday afternoon 31 July 14:15 – 16:45

Further nominations received are indicated below so Friends may see names in advance of the session. Please see *Documents in advance* page 38 for advice on nominations, and the page references below for the specific nominations.

Agenda item 5 (pages 39–41)

Report of Central Nominations Committee Additional appointments for this Yearly Meeting:

Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee

To serve during this Yearly Meeting with the Yearly Meeting clerks, James Eddington, Jane Pearn and Sarah Richards of YM Agenda Committee:

Nominated:

Kiri Smith                                  Notts & Derbys AM

Judith Thompson                          Devon AM

Yearly Meeting elders

To serve for Yearly Meeting 2011 (in addition to those appointed in 2010) and Yearly Meeting 2012:

Nominated:

Phil Lucas                                  South East Scotland AM

John Miles                                  Gloucestershire AM

Lizz Roe                                      Central England AM

*Vacancy – no other nomination found*

To serve as convener of Yearly Meeting elders for Yearly Meeting 2011:

Nominated:

Phil Lucas                                  South East Scotland AM

Yearly Meeting overseers

Release:

Elisabeth Salisbury                      Oxford & Swindon AM

To serve for Yearly Meeting 2011 only:

Siobhan Haire                              Young Friends General Meeting

To serve for Yearly Meeting 2011 (in addition to those appointed in 2010) and Yearly Meeting 2012:

Nominated:

Patricia Cockrell                          Sussex East AM

Emma Roberts                      Leeds AM  
Enid Smith                          North Somerset AM

*Vacancy – no other nomination found*

To serve as convener of Yearly Meeting overseers for Yearly Meeting 2011:

Nominated:

Enid Smith                          North Somerset AM

Yearly Meeting Epistle Drafting Committee

To serve during this Yearly Meeting, including one to act as convener:

Nominated:

Elizabeth Backhouse              East Cheshire AM  
Robin Bowles                        Brighouse West Yorkshire AM  
Sheila Peacock                      Hampshire & Islands AM  
Juliet Prager (convener)          Leeds AM  
Michael Wright                      Teesdale & Cleveland AM

*(up to two further names to follow)*

**Additional appointments and other changes to committees and groups for work outside Yearly Meeting in session:**

Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees

To serve from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2014:

Renominated for a third term (appointed 2006, but for first terms of two years or less):

Gethin Evans                        Mid-Wales AM  
Sandy Horsfall                      London West AM

Nominated:

Dorothy Carson                      Gloucestershire AM  
Nicolas Francis                      West Wiltshire & East Somerset AM  
Ingrid Greenhow                    Chilterns AM

### Quaker Stewardship Committee

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2014:

Renominated for a second term:

Mark Tod                                  North West London AM

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2014:

Nominated:

Margaret Lever                          Manchester & Warrington AM

Roger Paddison                         Kendal & Sedbergh AM

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2013:

Nominated:

Eric Rigby                                 Pickering & Hull AM

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2012:

Nominated:

Viv Streets                                 South Wales AM

### Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2014:

Renominated for a third term (appointed 2007 but for a first term of less than one year:

Ethel Livermore                         South London AM

Nominated:

Gavin Burnell                             Leeds AM

Jo Weedon                                 Cambridgeshire AM

### Yearly Meeting Publications Group for *Quaker faith & practice*

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2014:

Nominated:

Leslie Hereward                         Kingston & Wandsworth AM

Agenda item 29 (page 55)

Yearly Meeting Gathering 2011 Planning Committee: changes in membership

Further to minute 6 of Yearly Meeting held 28-31 May 2010, we are informed of the following changes to the membership of the Yearly Meeting Gathering 2011 Planning Committee since our last Yearly Meeting.

Friends nominated through East Kent Area Meeting, to serve until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2012:

Chris Henson

Friend co-opted by the Planning Committee:

Ian Arnot

Polmont LM

Jenny Routledge

Norfolk & Waveney AM

Joe Thwaites

Lincolnshire AM

Agenda item 7 (pages 41–42)

Report of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group (pages 41–42)

Additional nominations:

Central Nominations Committee

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2014:

Additional nominations:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area Meeting</b>	<b>Member of Meeting for Sufferings</b>
John May	Lancashire Central & North	Yes
<i>Two names to follow</i>		

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2013:

Nominated:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area Meeting</b>	<b>Member of Meeting for Sufferings</b>
Margaret Doubell	Surrey & Hampshire Border	No
Cathy Eglington	Hampshire & Islands	Yes
Gillian Patton	Northumbria	No

Yearly Meeting Committee on Clerks

Additional nomination

To serve from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2011 until the rise of Yearly Meeting 2013:

Nominated:

Jane Muers                      Leicester AM

Note also a vacancy in the nominations list on page 42 owing to the death of Rachel Carmichael.

Agenda item 16 (pages 46–47)

Meeting for Sufferings: interim membership changes since last Yearly Meeting

Additional names to those already published:

<b>Added:</b>	<b>Released</b>	<b>Nominating Body</b>
	Beryl Shilton	Dorset & South Wiltshire AM
Jane Burn		Banbury & Evesham AM
Stella Roberts		Central England AM
	Elizabeth Bailey	Manchester & Warrington AM
	Margot Lunn	London West AM
	Vernon White	Cornwall AM
Simon Ewart		Cornwall AM
Simon Risley		London West AM
Angela Seddon		Manchester & Warrington AM

New Management Meeting Membership noted:

Gina Fenton (Interim Head of Quaker Communications and Fundraising)

Paul Parker (Recording Clerk)

Vincent Poupard (Interim Head of Quaker Finance & Property)

Agenda item 20 (page 50)

Review Group for reviewing Meeting for Sufferings and Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees

**Report to Yearly Meeting 2011, Meeting for Sufferings and Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

**Summary of recommendations for decision by Yearly Meeting taken from Appendix IV.**

See pages 71-87 of *Documents in advance* for the full report

The list below gives a checklist of the decisions to be asked of Yearly Meeting.

**A. Meeting for Sufferings**

Recommendations affecting the composition and size of Meeting for Sufferings.

The present membership of Meeting for Sufferings is defined in section 7.05 of *Quaker faith & practice*.

1. **We recommend that the size of Meeting for Sufferings be reduced to best serve the Yearly Meeting. (section 1.7, page 73)**
2. **We therefore recommend that area meetings each nominate one member, and additionally nominate an alternate. (Section 1.7, page 74)**
3. **We recommend that General Meeting for Scotland, Meeting of Friends in Wales and Young Friends' General Meeting also nominate on this basis. (Section 1.7, page 74)**
4. **We recommend that standing committees, like area meetings, nominate one member to Meeting for Sufferings, with an alternate. (Section 1.8, page 74)**
5. **We recommend that service of clerks as members of Sufferings be limited to:**
  - the clerk and assistant clerk of Meeting for Sufferings then serving**
  - the clerk of Yearly Meeting**
  - the clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**
  - the clerk of the Central Nominations Committee.****(Section 1.8, page 74)**
6. **We recommend that continuing membership under *Quaker faith & practice* 7.05e be discontinued. (Section 1.8, page 74)**
7. **Rather than keep the power to co-opt up to ten members we recommend that Meeting for Sufferings be formally empowered to invite other Friends, committee members or staff members to participate for specific business. (Section 1.8, page 74)**

If our recommendations are accepted the new membership of Meeting for Sufferings would be:

		Compared to 2010
Area meetings	71	142
General meetings	3	6
Standing committees	4	10
Trustees inc. Clerk	16	16
Other clerks	4	3
Other <i>ex officio</i>		2+
Total	98	179
Plus appropriate staff in attendance (5-7)		

*Recommendations relating to the service of trustees on Meeting for Sufferings.*

8. **All Trustees are ex officio members of Meeting for Sufferings. We recommend no change to that.**  
(Section 1.8, page 74)
9. **We recommend that the Assistant Clerk of Meeting for Sufferings should no longer also be appointed as a trustee.**  
(Section 1.8, page 74)

*Recommendations relating to name of Meeting for Sufferings.*

10. **We admit that we have not addressed the name of Meeting for Sufferings and we ask Friends not to launch into that exercise at this stage.** (Section 1.11, page 75)

## **B. Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

*Recommendations relating to terms of reference of BYM Trustees.*

11. **We recommend that any member of a central or other standing committee being appointed as a Trustee, lay down their membership of the standing committee. We ask Yearly Meeting to change the terms of reference for Trustees to include this point.** (Section 2.4, page 78)

## YEARLY MEETING SESSION 5 Thursday afternoon 4 August

Agenda item 22 (page 52)

Revision of chapter 11 of *Quaker faith & practice* on Membership

Following comment from a Friend, Church Government Advisory Group recommends a rewording of draft section 11.29 as follows (see appendix VII pages 93–103):

Current text in *Documents in advance*:

11.29 Any Friend (~~who has attained the age of sixteen~~) may address a letter of resignation to the clerk of the area meeting. If the Friend is under 16 this would have to be accompanied by written consent from those with parental responsibility. Area meetings are at liberty in special circumstances to dispense with the signature of one of the parents. Such a resignation should be accepted by the area meeting unless in its judgment this is contrary to the best interests of the child.

Area meetings should arrange for letters of resignation to be referred to the local or area meeting overseers for advice. Normally a resignation should not be accepted until after a visit on behalf of the area meeting. On the acceptance of a resignation the area meeting clerk shall immediately inform the Friend concerned.

Church Government Advisory Group suggests clarity would be improved by re-ordering this text as follows:

11.29 Any Friend (~~who has attained the age of sixteen~~) may address a letter of resignation to the clerk of the area meeting. Area meetings should arrange for letters of resignation to be referred to the local or area meeting overseers for advice. Normally a resignation should not be accepted until after a visit on behalf of the area meeting. On the acceptance of a resignation the area meeting clerk shall immediately inform the Friend concerned.

If the Friend resigning is under 16 the letter would have to be accompanied by written consent from those with parental responsibility. Area meetings are at liberty in special circumstances to dispense with the signature of one of the parents. Such a resignation should be accepted by the area meeting unless in its judgment this is contrary to the best interests of the child. A visit may be made on the advice of the overseers.

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Agenda item 23 (page 53)

Revision of chapter 16 of *Quaker faith & practice* on Quaker marriage:  
additional information

Yearly Meeting by minute 23 in 2009 asked Meeting for Sufferings to arrange for a draft revision of the relevant sections of *Quaker faith & practice*, 'so that same sex marriages can be prepared, celebrated, witnessed, recorded and reported to the state, as opposite sex marriages are'.

Meeting for Sufferings held 5 February 2011 approved ( by minute S/11/02/ 12, printed below) draft amendments to chapter 16, as considered by the Church Government Advisory Group, and forwarded them to Yearly Meeting. The draft text is printed as appendix VIII in *Documents in advance* pages 104-126.

Yearly Meeting in 2009 also asked Meeting for Sufferings to engage with our governments to seek a change in the relevant laws so that same sex marriages under Quaker auspices can be recognised as legally

valid, without further process, in the same way as opposite sex marriages. Opportunity arose to influence amendments to what became the Equality Act 2010 with the result that civil partnerships will be able to be held in religious premises in England and Wales. The Government Equalities Office has published a consultation document giving proposals on how the Equality Act legislation would be implemented, to which Britain Yearly Meeting has submitted a response. However, the regulations will not be implemented until the end of this year. General Meeting for Scotland has set up a working group to work with the Scottish government on marriage equality but no legislation is expected soon. The United Kingdom government is expected to bring proposals for marriage and civil partnership equality in England and Wales in this Parliament, but no details are yet known.

Considering the present legal situation, Church Government Advisory Group, through the Recording Clerk, has advised Yearly Meeting to adopt for the time being alternative A text in the draft chapter 16. The proposed revised chapter works to the principle that all couples married under Quaker auspices would have a legal status for their partnership. It also continues with the wish of Yearly Meeting in 2009 that registering officers and meetings do not break the law in undertaking same sex marriages, so that separate Quaker registers would be used for them until the law allows full equality.

If the provision for civil partnerships on religious premises in England and Wales is implemented by the end of the year, it can be expected that Yearly Meeting in May 2011 will receive a further revision of the chapter 16 text to accommodate this.

Note on the text in *Documents in advance*: the Welsh translation text on pages 120-121 may require further work.

The minute from Meeting for Sufferings:

**At a Meeting for Sufferings**

**held in London**

**5 February 2011**

**S/11/02/ 12: *Quaker faith & practice* chapter 16**

Further to minute S/10/10/08 of 2 October 2010, we have received a summary paper and the latest revision of chapter 16 (Quaker Marriage Procedure) of *Quaker faith & practice*, from the convenor of the Church Government Advisory Group chapter 16 working group (paper S/11/02/I).

We now confirm this latest revised draft chapter 16 and forward it to Yearly Meeting 2011 for decision. We ask the Recording Clerk to advise Yearly Meeting over any further implications of the implementation of the Equality Act 2010 on the content of the chapter.

We ask Michael Bartlett, our Parliamentary Liaison Officer, to share this work with Lynne Featherstone of the Government Equalities Office.

Christine Cannon  
Clerk