YM 2026 11 10

Area meeting minutes received

Agenda Planning Committee has discerned that three minutes received from area meetings should be forwarded to Yearly Meeting for its discernment. All three relate to constitutional changes happening at area meeting level. Two concern changes in Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting and one relates to the area meetings in London.

Yearly Meeting is asked to endorse the changes proposed by these area meetings.

Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting and Central England Area Meeting

Minute of Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting

2026:56 Transfer of BEAM Local Meetings (excluding Evesham) to Central England Quakers Area Meeting

The Clerk proposed the following Minute:

> "In 2024 Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting started the process of laying itself down with the support of the surrounding Area Meetings. In July 2026 Yearly Meeting agreed to the transfer of Evesham to become part of Worcestershire and Shropshire Area Meeting. Banbury and Evesham Area Quaker Meeting now seeks the approval of Britain Yearly Meeting for its remaining Local Meetings, namely Banbury, Broad Campden, Ettington, Sibford and Stratford to become part of Central England Quaker Area Meeting"

We agree the above Minute, and ask that it be sent to the Britain Yearly Meeting Agenda Planning Committee requesting inclusion on the agenda of continuing BYM in November 2026.

Central England Quakers Area
Meeting are considering a minute to go before Continuing Yearly Meeting at London in November seeking approval for all BEAM Local Meetings (with the exception of Evesham) to become part of Central England Quakers Area Meeting.

Minute of Central England Area Meeting

2026.097 Trustee update

1) Banbury & Evesham Area Meeting

b) Central England Area Meeting minute to BYM

Central England Area Meeting agrees to the transfer of Broad Campden LM, Stratford on Avon LM, Ettington LM, Sibford LM, and Banbury LM, currently part of Banbury & Evesham Area Meeting, into Central England Area Meeting. Therefore, we ask

Yearly Meeting to endorse the proposal from Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting that these Local Meetings should join Central England Area Meeting.

If this request is approved, we ask our trustees to work with the trustees of Banbury & Evesham Area Meeting in arranging the transfer of all relevant assets, including the Meeting Houses and grounds. We are aware that this may mean undertaking a further process of discernment about the future size, structure and organization of our Area Meeting, as has taken place in Wales, Scotland and other parts of Britain Yearly Meeting. At this stage, we cannot be sure about what may be required but the most pressing concern is that we offer the hand of friendship to these Local Meetings.

We ask our clerk to send this minute to Yearly Meeting Agenda Planning Committee and to the clerks of Banbury and Evesham Area Meeting.

Joint London Area Meeting

JLAM 2026/57 Minute to Britain Yearly Meeting

Quakers across London share a vision of working and worshipping more closely
together to strengthen our corporate witness and worship. Much work has been done to consider how this vision should be taken forward, with plans drawn up for a new structure that can serve all Quakers in London. We have been meeting as a Joint London Area Meeting for over two years, and this has helped us begin to get to know one another better and to see

how a London-wide body would work in practice. We are hopeful for the future.

Meeting for Sufferings in July 2022 (Minute 22/07/060 gave in-principle agreement to such mergers. We are now ready to advise Britain Yearly Meeting of our intention to lay down the seven existing London Area Meetings (Kingston and Wandsworth, North East Thames, North London, North West London, South London, South East London and London West) and to create a single Area Meeting at the end of this year. It will be known as Quakers in London.

We trust that Yearly Meeting will endorse this proposal.

We send this minute to Agenda Planning Committee, asking that it be placed before Yearly Meeting.