

Simpler Meetings and Sustainability

Quakers round Britain are trying to simplify their meetings:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair, Refuse, Rethink, Rot

Reduce

Fewer overburdened Friends
More time for Spirit led witness and community
Less long tiring business meetings
Fewer separate area charities duplicating
Skype: less travel time and carbon, opens up access

Re-use

Good ideas from other meetings
Policy documents: stop re-inventing the wheel
Tried and tested Quaker methods
Buildings you have, and spaces others have

Recycle

Don't retain things for ever and ever
Melt them down
Re-form them for new shapes and purposes
Keeping the inner Quaker principles

Repair

Repairing saves energy
Spending a little can fix things you value
Other people may have the skills you need

Refuse

Say no to some things.
Just stop doing them. With joy.
There's always another way.

Rethink

Take a fresh approach. Include different people.
Divide busy roles: match people with tasks they like.
Do it differently. Experiment.
Believe it possible that you are mistaken!!

Rot

For a nutritious compost, lay some things down,
Stir, leave in the warm and dark
And in the quiet, listen for the Spirit:
Something good will grow from it.

Simpler Quaker meetings: making space for the Spirit!