



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

At the Yearly Meeting Gathering
Held online, 19 July – 8 August 2021

Friday 30 July, Evening

Minute 1: Clerks

Central Nominations Committee nominates the following Friends to serve as clerk and assistant clerks for Yearly Meeting Gathering 2021, serving until the first session of Yearly Meeting 2022:

Clerk:	Clare Scott Booth	London West AM
First Assistant Clerk:	Siobhan Haire	North London AM
Second Assistant Clerk	Adwoa Bittle	East Scotland AM

These nominations being acceptable, we appoint the Friends named accordingly.

Minute 2: Worship

We have met in worship and we have heard read *Quaker faith & practice* 2.89.

Minute 3: Welcome to all

We welcome everyone who is attending any part of Yearly Meeting Gathering this year. This year 2,149 people have registered in advance to attend. Of this number, there are 430 non-members attending with permission.

Minute 4: Children and Families, Young People's Programmes and Junior Yearly Meeting

As well as the Friends gathered here, there are 66 children and young people attending Yearly Meeting Gathering. These comprise:

- 34 0- to 11-year-olds and their families in three groups participating in the Children and Families sessions exploring the theme Let's explore our world and find who we are.
- 18 11- to 15-year-olds taking part in the Young People's Programme on the theme Exploring Truth, Finding Hope.
- 14 15- to 18-year-olds taking part in Junior Yearly Meeting on the theme 'For our comfort and discomfort: how can we use Quaker testimonies to live faithfully?'

There are 18 adult volunteers working across these programmes, supported by members of the Quaker Life staff team.

We look forward to joining with these Friends during the Gathering and to sharing their ministry and contributions to our discernment.

Minute 5: Report of Central Nominations Committee

Central Nominations Committee brings forward nominations as specified in table 3 of the *Schedule of nominations* as appended to these minutes.

These nominations being acceptable, the Friends named are appointed accordingly.

Minute 6: Central Nominations Committee: Nominations Required

We ask Central Nominations Committee to bring nominations to Yearly Meeting 2022 as specified in table 4 of the *Schedule of nominations* appended to these minutes.

Minute 7: Report of Yearly Meeting Nominating Group

The Nominating Group appointed at Yearly Meeting 2020 brings forward nominations as specified in table 5 of the *Schedule of nominations* as amended in this meeting, and appended to these minutes.

These nominations being acceptable, the Friends named are appointed accordingly.

Minute 8: Nominations to the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group (2021–2022)

Friends are asked to consider nominations for the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group 2021–2022.

The nominations process has been explained. We will return to this later in this Yearly Meeting.

Minute 9: Agenda

We receive and accept the report of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee in appendix A of *Agenda and notes* and accept the agenda as listed in section 4.

The clerk of Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee has introduced the agenda and outlined the main theme for this Yearly Meeting Gathering: For our comfort and discomfort: living equality and truth at a time of crisis.

We have reflected on this theme in worship.

Saturday 31 July, Morning

Minute 10: Eldership and Pastoral Care at Yearly Meeting Gathering

We have heard from Jane Mace and Michael Hutchinson, conveners of Yearly Meeting elders, and from Sue Tyldesley and Yvonne Estop-Wood, conveners of the Yearly Meeting Pastoral Care Group, about arrangements for eldership and pastoral care over the period of Yearly Meeting Gathering.

Minute 11: Epistle

Part of the epistle from Ireland Yearly Meeting held 8–11 April 2021 has been read.

Minute 12: The work of our national representative body: receipt of annual report from Meeting for Sufferings

We receive the annual report for 2020 from Meeting for Sufferings. The report is at appendix B in *Agenda and notes* and has been introduced by the clerk of Meeting for Sufferings.

The relationship between Meeting for Sufferings and Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees has the opportunity to be a creative and trusting partnership and it is important to keep working on it. We have encouraged Meeting for Sufferings to keep experimenting with its ways of working and welcome the time that has been available to reflect on how the truth prospers.

We thank Meeting for Sufferings for their work on our behalf.

Minute 13: Changes to *Quaker faith & practice*

Further to minute 21 of Yearly Meeting 2019, Meeting for Sufferings has reported changes made to *Quaker faith & practice* sections 4.05, 4.39, 4.43, 4.44 and 13.41. We note these minor factual changes that have been made to the online published version of our *Quaker faith & practice*, which is the definitive edition.

Minute 14: Meeting for Sufferings – appointments for the triennium from Yearly Meeting 2021 to Yearly Meeting 2024

Further to minute 10 of Yearly Meeting 2020, nominations from area meetings for representatives and alternates to serve on Meeting for Sufferings as received by the Recording Clerk by 7 June 2021 are listed in table 6 of the *Schedule of nominations* appended to these minutes.

These nominations being acceptable, we appoint the Friends named accordingly.

Minute 15: Appointment of Clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and Yearly Meeting Treasurer

Further to minute 9 of Yearly Meeting 2020, Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees bring forward nominations as specified in table 2 of the *Schedule of nominations* appended to these minutes.

These nominations being acceptable, the Friends named are appointed accordingly.

Saturday 31 July, Afternoon

Minute 16: Epistle

Part of the epistle from Baltimore Yearly Meeting held 27 July to 3 August 2020 has been read.

Minute 17: Anti-racism, our Quaker journey

Tackling systemic racism is a spiritual imperative. (BYM Epistle 2020). Around our yearly meeting Friends have been hearing and acting on a call to tackle systemic racial injustice. In December 2020, Meeting for Sufferings minuted “Our testimonies to equality and truth demand that we engage in a drive towards real change, turning our declared intentions into reality. We are called to commit to becoming an actively anti-racist church.”

Preparatory events at this Gathering have given us time to reflect on Quaker responses to racism. We have heard about some of the ways Quakers have responded to racism, in local and area meetings and our local communities. We have had opportunities for discernment regarding racism and anti-racism, and to think more deeply about what we are tasked with doing.

As a religious society we are still failing to live up to our testimony on equality and we have been deeply moved by honest ministry about these failings. There is white privilege in our community, and there is work to do. As a body we must seek to inhabit feelings of shame and discomfort.

But if not now, then when? We cannot tolerate any further delay. We may not be ready, we may not feel that we are ready, but this next step we take in faith and trust that the Spirit will show us what we need to do.

We declare our commitment to becoming an actively anti-racist faith community. We are still wrestling with what this means for us. We have work to do and will return to this.

Sunday 1 August, Morning

Minute 18: Worship

We have spent time in worship together.

Sunday 1 August, Afternoon

Minute 19: Testimony

Parts of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Sam Challis have been read.

Minute 20: The work of our yearly meeting trustees: receipt of annual report of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees

We receive and accept the Trustees' annual report including financial statements for 2020. The clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees and the Yearly Meeting Treasurer have introduced this report on the trustees' work and responsibilities.

We have heard a strong sense of gratitude for the gift we have been given by the service of Friends serving us on committees, those who serve us as staff and serve us as trustees.

We know that the decisions they have had to make in the past year have not been simple or easy. We uphold our staff and trustees knowing that they are continuing to work at a challenging time.

We have heard the call for a continuation of the higher level of donations from Friends and meetings received in 2020, and hope that Friends will respond to this as they are able.

We have heard concerns in ministry about the communications between our trustees and Meeting for Sufferings. We trust that the efforts of these bodies to work productively together, and for regular communications between their respective clerks, will continue.

Friday 6 August, Afternoon

Minute 21: Worship

We have worshipped together with those participating in the Children and Families and Young People's Programmes and Junior Yearly Meeting, focusing on faith and witness through a story about Elizabeth Fry.

Minute 22: Receipt of minutes from the Children and Families and Young People's Programmes

We have received and heard read minutes from the groups of the Children and Families and Young People's Programmes of this Yearly Meeting as follows:

Children and Families Programme 0–7s Minute (YMG 2021)

The 0–7s children and families' group have met each morning this week for 45 minutes.

The children – from 9 months to 6 years old – have engaged well online taking everything in their stride.

We adapted Yearly Meeting Gathering themes to suit under 7s. We have been exploring ourselves, the world around us and what is important to and for each of us.

The children have shared who they are and what goes on in their own worlds – the games they play, their families, friends and what they enjoy doing. Their energy for life was shown in their eagerness to participate. They made trains out of Lego, Meccano, boxes and used their own train sets. They also made beautiful animals to go on their trains.

They made dens at home and brought their photos to show us. They made lollipop people and brought them back to show us. They shared who their little person was and what they are called. We made our contribution to COP26 with messages on green hearts to send to Glasgow.

The children used their imaginations in delightful and moving ways.

All engaged with short periods of worship as a time to reflect at the end of our sessions.

Families have expressed their appreciation of the quality and content of each session.

Being online has its restrictions but seeing the children's smiles and hearing their responses to the activities made it all worthwhile.

Light Explorers 7–9s Minute (YMG 2021)

Our theme this week was ‘Let’s explore the world and find out who we are’. Each day we got together on Zoom to explore different aspects of the theme by listening to stories, making things, chatting to each other, playing games, doing activities and worshipping together.

After hearing the story *You Be You* by Linda Franz, we reflected on what is unique about each of us. We liked what Adri the fish said, “There are so many of us! We all have something special that only we can share.”

We have enjoyed painting rocks, making God’s eyes and yummy fruit salad, and decorating family crests.

We thought about how we support the communities that we are part of and found out that between us we can lead and organise, have ideas, bring hugs and share facts, tell jokes, be logical and help our friends.

We watched and listened to a meditation from the Loving Earth Project. We could hear birds and the ocean waves. We thought about the world and had some ideas about how we can save our planet like planting flowers and buying fewer new things.

Being together, having fun and getting to know each other better has made us happy. We hope to meet each other in person in the future!

Spiritual Adventurers 9–11s Minute (YMG 2021)

We have had a great time and shared lots of things about ourselves. We have been creative and there has been lots of laughter. We have relaxed while thinking about our planet and used meditation to explore what needs saving.

We have loved going all over the world without leaving our houses!

We have read from ‘Living Our Beliefs’ and thought about our Faith in Action.



Britain Yearly Meeting Young People's Programme at Online Yearly Meeting Gathering, 2–6 August 2021

25 friends gathered together for this week online, young people aged 11–15, and adult volunteers and staff. A peer arrangements committee worked with support to plan the event with the theme 'Exploring Truth, finding Hope'.

Community building started early on, focussing on introductions, community boundaries and games both in base groups and the whole group. The base groups were a safer and smaller community to explore issues. As the week went on people became freer to contribute, a sign that they felt secure and welcome. Community building continued throughout the week through social games, activities and crafting.

We started the exploration of our theme through philosophy games with Rosie Carnall, considering truth through metaphors. We thought of truth as a cake deciding they should be straight forward and that we should see through the decoration to the truth. Truth should present its true self and might not be as palatable as we wish. Slices of truth cake should not be too big so we could eat the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

With Thomas Penny, the Swarthmore lecturer, we considered why we believe lies? Are the people who believe the lies as guilty as the people who tell them? Where do we get information from? How do we balance bias and what in our lives nurture the seeds of truth?

With Lee Lester we thought about active hope, what are our hopes for the world? How we keep hope and prevent activism burnout. We concluded by writing our own mission statements on how we wish to work in the world, recognising the skills we can bring including educating the world on climate change and equality, striving towards a better world and helping bring struggling communities out of conflict or poverty.

We explored different perspectives on the effect of climate change, deciding policy and actions need to be taken at a community level and hoping we can influence those decisions and ensuring we are aware of those who do not have a voice but are affected.

We worshipped together to start our sessions and in daily epilogue. We used different ways to help centre in worship and also used prepared ministry of words, images, music, film. The worship relaxed us and brought us together as a group; getting us ready and helping us take in the day.

This year's YPP required a different commitment, energy and motivation but our community still allowed us to persevere, explore, and have fun together.

Peter Foussat, Matthew Burnell, Seren Sim. Arrangements Committee Young People's Programme 2021

Minute 23: Epistle of Junior Yearly Meeting

We have received the epistle of Junior Yearly Meeting which has been read by the clerks of Junior Yearly Meeting, as follows:

Epistle of Junior Yearly Meeting

held on Gather Town

2–6 August 2021

As the Arrangements Committee of Junior Yearly Meeting this year, we would like to say how important this event is to us, the young people that attend each year, and to the community. JYM provides a space for young Quakers in Britain to feel a part of our beautiful and diverse Quaker community, a part of a family, but perhaps most importantly we feel like we have had our voices

heard in the decision making process of an important Quaker body, something that young Quakers do not often feel outside of the event. It is for these reasons that when asked if we wanted to serve the JYM community for another year, we both knew we had to say yes.

The form that JYM took for the 2021 event broke from tradition, and this epistle is no different. We have divided the epistle into 2 parts: the first on behalf of Junior Yearly Meeting 2021, and the second on behalf of us, Kit and Sasha.

To all Friends everywhere,

From 2 August to 6 August 2021, 11 young Quakers, 2 Arrangements Committee members, and 6 Adult Team members met together in Gather Town, having created and designed our own unique space. We explored the theme 'For our comfort and discomfort: how can we use Quaker testimonies to live faithfully?', through the lens of anti-racism, climate justice, and other issues that intersect.

With the event being held online, there were concerns over the ability to foster community amongst the participants. However, we were extremely impressed by how quickly, easily, and organically, the community of young people came together and bonds formed. This ranged from small groups talking in 'private spaces', to post-epilogue conga lines with Clare Scott Booth. The surprising similarity to an in person event and use of the chat function allowed participants to engage more fully with theme sessions, in perhaps a more accessible fashion.

Throughout the week, Rachel Swancott, Edwina Peart, Beatrice Liese, and Daniel Nteziyaremye delivered sessions on a range of topics that allowed us to address the theme from different perspectives.

Rachel's session left us with a strong metaphor that carried us through the event: if your life is a boat, who makes up the crew? What role does Quakerism play – is it the wind in your sails or is it the anchor keeping you grounded? And finally, how is your boat equipped to make change in this world?

To start us thinking about race, racism, and how to navigate anti-racism Edwina Peart quoted Stuart Hall's book *The Fateful Triangle: Race, Ethnicity, Nation*, saying that race is "one of those major or master concepts (the masculine form is deliberate) that organize the great classificatory systems of difference that operate in human societies. Race, in this sense, is the centerpiece of a hierarchical system that produces differences". It is this sense of "difference" that causes the issues we have with race in society today. She drew our attention to the racial abuse that the members of the England football team that are black, brown, or people of colour received after the final of the Euros and we heard Marcus Rashford's open letter about the abuse he received and the support from his teammates. This was extremely moving for many members, leading us to discuss the uncomfortable and comfortable aspects of the story, and what kind of world that we ourselves would like to create. She closed the session with a conversation about the links between modern racism, and how we are taught about colonialism and the transatlantic slave trade. Participants particularly responded to the words of Professor Kehinde Andrews; "Society can only ever be as equal as the knowledge it is built upon".

We had 2 workshops led by Beatrice Liese from the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) and Daniel Nteziyaremye from Turning The Tide (TTT). Beatrice spoke to one small group about the work of QUNO in international negotiations, particularly about working towards climate justice. We then practiced Quiet Diplomacy – speaking from the heart, answering the question "What can I do to support myself and those around me to act on climate change?". Daniel gave an overview of the advocacy that TTT carries out with young people in Rwanda, their philosophy and methods for engagement, and encouraged us to think about issues that were local to British Quakers.

In the final theme session, we reflected on institutionalised racism within Quaker bodies, and the attitudes that allow it to go unchallenged, in preparation for our Meeting for Worship for Business. This allowed the participants to engage with the theme one last time and bring their thoughts to the front of their minds, ensuring that they attended with hearts and minds prepared.

Participants were enriched by Meetings for Worship at the beginning and end of each day, allowing space for all to be calm, reflective, and engaged with the Spirit. Themes of different worships included starfish, change for the common good, and remaining in touch with your conscience. In order to emulate the refreshing nature of prologue this was held on our beach, and to preserve the soothing nature of epilogue we gathered on the sofas of the virtual rooftop.

During the course of the event, we welcomed several guests – Paul Parker, Jasmine Peripanayagam, Clare Scott Booth, Rob Francis, Wendy Sender, and Ella Otomewi – who joined us for worship, story telling, base group sessions, and gave us their own perspective of the theme and how it relates to their Quakerism.

To keep us excited and energised, the evenings were filled by community sessions ranging from a retro game show themed quiz to a dress up drama. These sessions encouraged participants to let go and express themselves through performance and healthy competition. The high number of participants that opted to stay on during their break for optional community activities, such as crane making or a musical quiz, is a testament to how well the community formed despite being online. Our Adult Volunteers facilitated base group sessions which were at times very thought provoking, and at other times had debates on whether banana has a place on pizza.

This week has been an exciting week of learning; learning about the theme, learning about online events, and learning about ourselves as individuals and Quakers. We have been encouraged to engage in deep reflection and introspection from start to end, and we can leave this event content in the knowledge that our participants have come away feeling equipped to make positive change in themselves, in our community, and in the wider world.

Signed in and on behalf of Junior Yearly Meeting 2021,

Kit King, Clerk and Sasha King-Smith, Arrangements Committee

To our participants,

We are extremely grateful to you all for making the decision to come to, yet another, online youth event as we are aware that the prospect of not having an in person JYM is not a particularly attractive one. You put your trust in us and the Quaker community that we could produce a fun and worthwhile event that includes you in wider Quaker society, and for that we thank you.

To Matthew Bittle, Grace Bach, and Gabriel Carter,

We started this journey as a group of five, with a different theme, a different venue, and no pandemic. Some of our original ideas, thoughts, and feelings remained in the planning for the event this week. We wanted to take this opportunity to recognise and give thanks for your input and remember the event we had pre-COVID.

To the Adult Volunteer team,

Thank you for supporting us during and in the run up to the event. From stepping in and taking the lead on base group sessions, to helping us in times of need, we are eternally grateful for stepping up and taking on roles that you did not originally sign up for.

Finally, To Cat Waithaka and Howard Nurden,

The last two years have not gone the way we expected them to, since we met at JYM 2019. This process has been transformative, insightful, and challenging to say the least. Howard, we thank you for the incredible work you have done, not just in the first phase of this process but the years you have spent working on the Children and Young People's Team, and we feel sorry that future AC's will not have the pleasure of receiving your guidance and experience. Cat, you have taught us about Quaker process, taught us more about ourselves than any self-help book could, and you have taught us to be mindful of all the different aspects that people contribute to a group which has allowed us to deliver this event. We have been your longest serving AC and yet it still feels like our time together has been cut short.

In 1991, the clerks of JYM wrote in their epistle "We realised that we are individuals and that we are alone but, as part of a loving community, to be alone does not necessarily mean to be lonely. [] We should not feel guilty when we are wrong, and appreciate that there must be room for mistakes." and 30 years later, these words are still true to JYM.

Signed,

Kit King, Clerk and Sasha King-Smith, Arrangements Committee

Minute 24: Minute from Junior Yearly Meeting

We have received minute 1 of Junior Yearly Meeting which reads as follows:

We considered the question "How can we become a Religious Society that centres justice and equity in it's anti-racism and climate justice work?". As young Friends, we reflected that oftentimes, when discussing diversity in Quakerism, we use language that laments the absence of diverse Friends, without considering the root causes of why those people are not present in the first place. This root cause is often the fact that we are prioritising Diversity and Inclusion, over Equity and Justice.

People need to encourage conversations about the differences between diversity and equity, and inclusion and justice. Diversity tries to include a variety of people to make them seem as if they aren't discriminatory, but equity is about giving everyone the same opportunity. This means that anything can be adapted to ensure people are comfortable. Inclusion and justice here are opposites, as inclusion creates a general safe space. Justice, however, actively seeks out discomfort to ensure comfortability. Justice is okay with having uncomfortable conversations whereas inclusion is not.

Equity and justice address the root causes of these issues, rather than celebrating a result. As Quakers we need to understand that we are not exempt from racism because we wish to be anti-racist – it is our actions that will make a difference, not our intentions, since racism is so systemic that it's often subconscious. Therefore we must listen to how we can be more welcoming, and believe when we are told what issues we currently have, so that we can act accordingly.

We must listen not just to ourselves, but to others, to those outside our meeting, to those who may provide us with discomfiting truths, to those who have experienced racism or climate destruction first hand. For only when all are listened to equally, may all be treated equally.

To dismantle the prejudice present in our community, we must first dissect what makes us a society. Structural racism and bias is often subconscious but is present in most communities nonetheless. We must strive to make a difference to uphold our fundamental beliefs in all aspects of our society.

Friday 6 August, Evening

Minute 25: Testimony

Parts of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Mario van Boeschoten have been read.

Minute 26: Worship

During our opening worship we have prayed for peace and a world free of nuclear catastrophe, remembering the victims of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Minute 27: Review of Quaker Stewardship Committee

Further to minute 14 of Yearly Meeting 2018, which asked Meeting for Sufferings to review Quaker Stewardship Committee and its terms of reference, we receive minute MfS 20/10/12 of Meeting for Sufferings held 3 October 2020, and the accompanying report from the review group appointed by Meeting for Sufferings. The report is at appendix C in *Agenda and notes*, and has been introduced by the convenor of the review group.

We agree to lay down Quaker Stewardship Committee, with effect from the rise of Yearly Meeting 2022. We agree that its advice and guidance functions should be transferred to Quaker Life Central Committee. We have heard the need for support of Area Meeting trustees.

We ask Meeting for Sufferings to take responsibility, on behalf of Yearly Meeting, for the oversight of certification of Area Meeting compliance responsibilities.

We ask Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees to take responsibility for liaising with the Charity Commission on matters of general concern to Quakers, and, working with General Meeting for Scotland, for liaison with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

We ask Meeting for Sufferings to agree the necessary factual alterations to [Quaker faith & practice](#) and to inform us, in accordance with minute 21 of Yearly Meeting 2019. We also ask them to lay down the review group.

We uphold those carrying out the work of transferring these responsibilities over the next year.

Minute 28: Review of the terms of reference for Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees

Further to minute 35 of Yearly Meeting 2018, which asked Quaker Stewardship Committee to review the terms of reference for Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees, we receive minute QSC 2020/09/04 of Quaker Stewardship Committee held 19 September 2020 along with the proposed revised terms of reference contained in the report at appendix C of *Agenda and notes*. The review was carried out in conjunction with the review of Quaker Stewardship Committee and has been introduced by the convenor of the review group.

The group found that the overwhelming view was that Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees works successfully according to the current terms of reference, but that there was a need for greater clarity about the respective roles of Meeting for Sufferings and Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees in developing vision and strategic direction, as well as some other updating.

We affirm that Yearly Meeting in session retains its central role as the body with the ultimate authority for church affairs for Quakers in Britain.

“The intent and holy design of our annual assemblies, in their first constitution, were for a great and weighty oversight and Christian care of the affairs of the churches pertaining to our holy profession and Christian communion; that good order, true love, unity and concord may be faithfully followed and maintained among all of us” (Quaker faith & practice 6.03)

The different parts of our governance are inextricably intertwined and we know the importance of their working well together. We have opportunities to examine this when they report to us at Yearly Meeting. We acknowledge that there are unresolved tensions that impact on the role of Meeting for Sufferings and that their role may now need review. We ask Meeting for Sufferings to consider this and return to us.

We accept the revised terms of reference for Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees, noting that further revisions are likely to be required as part of the revision of our book of discipline. We ask that they be reviewed again in 2026.

We ask for the charity governing document of Britain Yearly Meeting to be updated to reflect the changes made to the terms of reference and we authorise the Yearly Meeting Clerk to sign this on our behalf.

Minute 29: The work of Quaker Stewardship Committee: receipt of annual report

We receive the annual report, including the compliance report, from Quaker Stewardship Committee. The report is at appendix D in *Agenda and notes*, and has been introduced by the clerk of Quaker Stewardship Committee.

We accept this report and give thanks for the work accomplished.

Saturday 7 August, Morning

Minute 30: Testimony

Part of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of Rebecca Garnault has been read.

Minute 31: Acknowledging and Welcoming Gender Diverse People

Our testimony of equality stems from the religious conviction that all people are of equal spiritual worth, that each one of us is unique, precious, a child of God.

In 2003, Meeting for Sufferings responded to the Gender Recognition Bill, based on our testimony of equality, and encouraged Quaker Life Central Committee to promote the pastoral care of transgender people, their families, spouses and children, their friends and meetings. In 2015 the Tabular Statement started to record “Other” as well as men and women as one step to acknowledging the diversity among us. More recently, following consideration of trans and non-binary inclusion in a number of meetings, Quaker Life drafted an initial statement in 2018, inviting all Quakers in Britain to discuss and reflect together on gender diversity.

These discussions and reflections have not always been easy. Our consideration has coincided with wider consideration of legislation reform in Britain, and the associated conflict has been reflected among Friends in our yearly meeting. We recognise that we need to keep listening and searching together.

In an atmosphere of trust, we need to listen, to share our journeys, in silent worship, and in prayer. We all have human gifts and friendship to offer. We need to rejoice in the things that make us different, not be ashamed or excluded. Our differences are a blessing, and we must all work to ensure that the support is there in each meeting to allow this blessing to bear fruit.

We seek to provide places of worship and community that are welcoming and supportive to trans and non-binary people who want to be among us. Belonging is more than fitting in.

With glad hearts we acknowledge and affirm the trans and gender diverse Friends in our Quaker communities, and express appreciation for the contribution and gifts that they bring to our meetings, which are communities made up of people with a diverse range of gender expressions. The end of our travelling is for differences not to divide us. We rejoice in recognising God's creation in one another. This is what love requires of us.

Saturday 7 August, Afternoon

Minute 32: Epistle

Part of the epistle from Wilmington Yearly Meeting held 23–26 July 2020 has been read.

Minute 33: Faith-based action for climate justice

Friends across the world have long held a concern for us to live in right relationship with creation. We stand now, looking back at minutes from our own Yearly Meeting in 2011, from worldwide gatherings of friends in Kabarak and Pisac, and looking ahead to the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference taking place in Glasgow later this year. Events of recent weeks remind us that climate crisis is here, and that it affects us already. There is so much to lose, and so much to gain.

What more does love require of us here, and now?

To those gathering at COP 26 we offer our anger, our grief and our kinder ground, as well as our hope that they can share a vision of a better world. We ask them to renew and redouble their efforts, as we will do ourselves, giving no less than all we can to deliver a liveable planet and just societies.

From personal witness, let us build collective action. Those privileged by our current economic and political systems will not give up their positions without a struggle. To the extent that we hold privilege in these systems, we must also be ready to sacrifice this. We believe that our current political systems do not serve us effectively in this work. We pray that we will remain undaunted by obfuscation, delay and distraction in response to our work.

Seeking to reduce carbon emissions is an urgent priority, but without interrogating and disrupting our existing economic systems, this will only us back to an unjust system, and may encourage corporations, governments and individuals to delay necessary action and avoid systemic change.

While living faithfully, taking practical action to reduce our personal impact on the planet allows us to work in this area with integrity, it cannot be where our faith-led action ends. Eldership, building resilient communities, right ordering and witness are also fundamental parts of the actions we must take.

Climate justice is anti-racist work. The people most affected by the urgent and systemic crisis must be placed first in gaining this justice. If we have faith we will find many things to do but we cannot set the agenda without centering the experience and needs of people on the front line of

climate change. Quakers in Britain must join with Friends and others across the world learning and acting together.

Can our anger, grief and love push us forward to renewed action?

Sunday 8 August, Morning

Minute 34: Testimony

Parts of the testimony to the Grace of God as shown in the life of George Bunney have been read.

Minute 35: For our comfort and discomfort: living equality and truth at a time of crisis

We have approached our theme of living equality and truth through three areas of focus: anti-racism, gender diversity and climate justice. We have been both comforted and discomforted. We have recognised things that we have left undone and things that we ought not to have done and we have resolved to do the work to do better.

Junior Yearly Meeting asked us: How can we become a Religious Society that centres justice and equity in its anti-racism and climate justice work?

We need to love and listen humbly to one another, centering the voices of those who lack privilege. We can bring tools and stand alongside people rather than bringing solutions. We can learn anti-racism, anti-bias and anti-oppression techniques. We can listen and look for where the spirit is moving within other groups of like mind with whom we can work. We have Quaker experience to share, of holding space for people to listen.

If I can see you as other, I can ignore your lived experience, your pain, your truth – because that couldn't happen to me.

If I can see you as like me, it will be deeply discomforting, but your truth and your pain become mine, and I can ally myself with you.

We need to strengthen our worshipping communities from which we all can draw strength for action and service to each other and in the world. We come to worship to meet God and to be changed.

We support and affirm the priority placed by QPSW central committee on work on sustainability and climate justice “In the face of overwhelming evidence of rapidly increasing destruction of the Earth, we are called to work for a world that prioritises ecological repair and well-being. To this end we will call for and work towards a just solution to the climate crisis; with national and worldwide economies operating within ecological limits and upholding the wellbeing, dignity and equality of all.” (QPSW strategy 2021–2025). We uphold Friends and staff travelling to Glasgow for COP 26 to make sure that call is heard.

We ask Quaker Life Central Committee to consider how best to support local and area meetings to work on cultivating an inclusive culture of welcome, and on developing a vision for what it means to be an anti-racist faith community.

We ask QWRC and QCCIR to consider how we can work with Friends around the world and with other churches and faith groups to take our work forward.

We ask Meeting for Sufferings to receive and consider interim reports on our behalf and to share examples of successful practice.

We ask Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee to consider how and when we should return to these matters.

Sunday 8 August, Afternoon

Minute 36: Receipt of the Yearly Meeting draft Epistle

The Epistle Drafting Committee appointed by minute 5 has submitted a draft Epistle which has been read and accepted after amendment.

Minute 37: Yearly Meeting Nominating Group: appointment and nominations required

Further to minute 8, the following nominations are received for service on the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group from the end of Yearly Meeting 2021 until the end of Yearly Meeting 2022.

Eleni Burgess, East Cheshire AM

Ruth Thompson, Northumbria AM

Marian Liebmann, Bristol AM

Peter Kennedy, East Scotland AM

Abigail Maxwell, North West London AM

David Coutts, Ipswich & Diss AM

Marlène Cantan-Taylor, Hampshire & Islands AM

Being acceptable to the meeting, the Friends nominated are appointed to work with their convener, John Sheldon, who was appointed by our minute 5.

We ask the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group to bring nominations to Yearly Meeting Gathering 2022 as follows: 6 Friends to serve on Central Nominations Committee from the end of Yearly Meeting 2022 to the end of Yearly Meeting 2025; and, 1 Friend to serve as Convener of the Nominating Group from the end of Yearly Meeting 2022 to the end of Yearly Meeting 2023.

Minute 38: Receipt of other reports

We receive and accept the following reports presented in appendices in *Agenda and notes*, giving thanks for the service of those Friends involved during the year:

Central Nominations Committee (appendix E)

Quaker Housing Trust (appendix F).

We note that Friends Trusts Ltd's audit has not yet taken place. The report will be available on the Britain Yearly Meeting website together with the company's Annual Report and Financial Statements when they have been approved by the Directors.

Minute 39: Tabular Statement

We receive and accept the Tabular statement as at 31 December 2020.

Minute 40: Meeting for Sufferings – interim membership changes since Yearly Meeting

2020

We note that a number of appointments to and releases from the membership of Meeting for Sufferings have occurred since Yearly Meeting 2020. Table 7 of the *Schedule of nominations* appended to these minutes records the membership of Meeting for Sufferings, excluding those who serve ex officio, as advised to the Recording Clerk's Office and appointed by Meeting for Sufferings, as of its meeting on 10 July 2021.

Minute 41: Epistles from other Yearly Meetings

We have received greetings from Friends around the world via epistles from 39 Yearly Meetings and other bodies, available on the website of Friends World Committee for Consultation and listed in *Testimonies* (page 5).

Minute 42: Testimonies

The following testimonies to the Grace of God as shown in the life of deceased Friends have been received (pages 8–33 of *Testimonies*) in addition to those from which extracts have been read in our sessions.

Rachel Mary Ashton

Ruth Baker

Robin Bennett

Michael Neave (Mike) Brayshaw

Peter Coleridge

Sandra Goddard

Peter Jackson

Brian Meara

Stephanie (Steph) Morland

Aubrey Norton Hill

Rachel Rogers

Minute 43: Visitors from other yearly meetings

We have welcomed 68 representatives and other visitors from yearly meetings and Friends' groups around the world.

Minute 44: Inter-church and interfaith visitors

We have welcomed:

Richard Reddie, Director of Justice and Inclusion for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), and

Paul Goodliff, General Secretary of Churches Together in England (CTE)

as visitors to this Yearly Meeting.

Minute 45: Thanks

We record our thanks to all our staff and volunteers who have served us so well both during this meeting and over the past year. We are profoundly grateful that we have been able to meet, and give thanks for our clerks, technical team, and all those who have enabled and supported us to meet virtually. We give thanks for Friends who have brought their personal experience, difficult or joyful, into our ministry in words or in silence.

Minute 46: General Epistle

The General Epistle approved by minute 36 has been read and signed by the clerk on behalf of the meeting. It reads as follows:

Epistle from Britain Yearly Meeting Gathering, held online from 19th July to 8th August 2021.

We send loving greetings to Friends everywhere

We have no time but this present time

Friends in Britain have gathered online at this time of great upheaval, amid the pandemic, climate and environmental breakdown, and increasing social inequality and division. We are grateful for technology, and the hard work of Britain Yearly Meeting staff, Agenda and Arrangements Committees, the Woodbrooke team, and others in bringing us together.

At this Yearly Meeting Gathering Friends have considered the theme 'For our comfort and discomfort: living equality and truth in a time of crisis'. We have been wrestling with what it will mean to be truly committed to anti-racism and faith-based action for climate justice. We have thought about how to better affirm gender diversity in our meetings. We have discovered the challenges of attempting to make statements as a unified 'we' in a way that acknowledges the different experiences among us.

We have greatly missed the opportunities of being together as an all-age community that we would have had in a face-to-face Gathering. We held a worship session during which the children and young people shared their exploration of community, climate, equality and truth. Junior Yearly Meeting asked how we could centre justice and equity in our anti-racism and climate justice work. Only when all are listened to equally, may all be treated equally.

As in the days of early Friends, we sense this is a time of prophecy and want to uphold the prophets in our midst and in the wider world. We must heed the Spirit's call to urgent action. Prophets are visionaries, calling out those in power, and reconcilers stand in the middle of conflict: in this both run great risk.

A Friend of Colour spoke in ministry:

*All I have ever wanted for the longest time is to feel equal,
and again, here in this room, I don't.
I hear people talk all week about George Floyd but we are here now,
in the UK, in your meetings, feeling like outsiders every day.
This is not the experience I was promised.*

Racism is systemic. To most white people – including white Quakers – it is largely invisible, like the air they breathe. As long as it stays unrecognised, systems and institutions that perpetuate white power are left unchallenged. Racism and oppression are often daily realities for those without the advantages conferred by white skin.

As a Yearly Meeting in session we have declared our commitment to becoming an actively anti-racist faith community.

Our theologians and historians are helping us to root our action in our faith, reminding us of the examples of Friends of the past who have listened to the voice of the Spirit and followed the inward Light. They challenge the complacency of some white Friends' perception of themselves as 'good' people.

We have heard trans and non-binary Friends and their loved ones talk about their gender journeys and of being in Quaker community. Acknowledging trans or non-binary identity can be compounded by unfamiliarity, ignorance and prejudice. Providing support can lead to greater self-acceptance, enabling Friends to flourish and contribute. Belonging is being accepted as one's true self. Who are we to resist what God has created and continues to create in all their glory?

As a Yearly Meeting in session we lovingly acknowledged and affirmed the trans, non-binary and gender non-conforming Friends in our communities.

It is ten years since Britain Yearly Meeting in session committed to becoming a low carbon, sustainable faith community. Friends across the world have long held a concern for us to live in right relationship with creation. We grieve for the planet we love – our home – but we have no time to despair. We must act with urgency and imagination – the consequences of inaction are upon us.

For those experiencing injustice, the need for transformation is urgent. We know those who have contributed least to climate and ecological breakdown are the most affected: the poor, the global majority, and vulnerable communities everywhere. We recognise and abhor the legion of violent, deadly impacts of economic and exploitative systems on both the people, other species and lifeforms, and the body of our Earth. The climate crisis is fuelled by a system based on growth, consumption and systemic inequalities. If life on earth is to survive we must push for a more democratic, compassionate and equitable world.

Britain Yearly Meeting has asked its central committees to emphasise the urgency of work on climate and ecological justice and to cooperate with others across the world in this task.

Our individual tasks are our Quaker spiritual discipline: loving our neighbour – on our street and across oceans; and caring, cherishing and protecting our natural world. Let's not be self-conscious about speaking of the Quaker faith that underpins our action.

Friends have talked about the need to let go of stories we tell ourselves about our shared near-400-year history and hold fast to the essence of the Quaker way. Is it time to look afresh at systems, structures, processes and procedures – and possessions like meeting houses that might hold us back? We're already starting to address this by agreeing to change some committee responsibilities next year, and through our Simpler Meetings project.

Our Quaker forebears were wild about their faith. And they challenged the establishment. Suggesting that anyone could have a direct, unmediated relationship with the Divine, and that our relationship with God should not be confined to the steeple house, was revolutionary and upended the status quo. Is it time to rewild our Quakerism?

We will often get things wrong. But we have been comforted by the reminder that Jesus' disciples often did not understand, they argued with him about who he was and what he should do. When Jesus said, 'Feed these five thousand', they said, 'you must be joking?!' When it got to the really difficult stuff, they ran away.

Faithfulness is not about always getting it right, it is about committing ourselves to carefully seeing and listening. We need to walk together in the Light, so we can see what we are meant to do and find the strength to do it.

We have been heartened to hear through their epistles that other Yearly Meetings and faith bodies are grappling with the same issues. It is vital we work alongside and be led by Friends and others across the world. We do not have to do things on our own and have learned the value of

sharing our skills, resources and insights with each other. We have enjoyed welcoming international and ecumenical visitors, exploring with them common areas of concern. One of the things we have gained through the pandemic is new ways to meet with one another, so that we are no longer limited by geography.

We can meet one another on kinder ground, in our personal relationships, meetings, wider communities, and on social media. We can help create listening spaces using our skills and resources. We can help create a climate where the pursuit of truth is not about becoming dug into our rigid positions.

We need to quietly listen, and tenderly explore difference, disagreement and areas of discomfort, and thereby avoid a false peace. A commitment to truth requires us to be open to new experiences with a readiness to learn, while weighing up what we hear and see through the light of our faith.

There is so much to do but we have been inspired by the prophetic voices we have heard throughout our Gathering. We have pledged ourselves to continue to be a 'gentle, angry' people who dare to live for truth and justice in such a time of crisis.

Our Salter Lecturer told us 'I didn't choose politics, politics chose me'. She asked us: what work is choosing us at this time?

Friends, we have no time but this present time. We should now do what love requires of us.

Signed in and on behalf of Britain Yearly Meeting

Clare Scott Booth, Clerk

Minute 47: Concluding Minute

We have met, online, to keep our Yearly Meeting in turbulent times. For many, these have been times of bereavement, illness, anxiety, economic uncertainty and loneliness. Meeting online has enabled some Friends to attend Yearly Meeting for the first time. Some have embraced the technology; others have found it challenging. Many look forward with joy to seeing one another's faces in person once more. Our experience is that the Spirit has been undeterred in moving among us. Hallelujah!

"If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care – then do me a favour: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends." (Philippians 2: 1–2, The Message)

May that holy and loving Spirit fill us with compassionate courage. May we truly build loving, inclusive and welcoming communities in which all can be heard, valued and supported in our needs and our leadings. May we listen deeply and may we be deep-spirited Friends.

There being no further business for the Yearly Meeting, we separate, hoping to meet again at Friends House, London, from 27–30 May 2022, should nothing occur to prevent.



Clare Scott Booth, Clerk

Schedule of nominations

Nominations and Releases being brought to Yearly Meeting 2021

Table 2. Report from Britain Yearly Meeting Trustee Nominations Group

Nominated (/renominated):

Position	Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Clerk of Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees	Caroline Nursey*	London West AM	from 1 January to 31 December 2022
Yearly Meeting Treasurer	Linda Batten*	Sheffield & Balby AM	

Table 3. Report from Central Nominations Committee

Central Nominations Committee brings forward the following nominations to Yearly Meeting Gathering 2021:

a) Appointments for this Yearly Meeting:

Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee

Nominated (/renominated):

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Alison Mitchell*	Devon AM	from YMG 21 until the end of YM 24
Sue Tyldesley*	Lancashire Central & North AM	
Vanessa Grimes*	Central England AM	
David Amos*	Kingston & Wandsworth AM	
Melanie Thomas	Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire AM	
David Simpson	Teesdale & Cleveland AM	

We record the following appointments made in the interim period by Meeting for Sufferings.

Appointed by Meeting for Sufferings on behalf of Yearly Meeting to serve from February 2021 until the end of Yearly Meeting 2023:

Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Jessica Metheringham	Mid-Thames AM	from February 2021 until the end of YM 23

Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee

Arrangements Committee serve during Yearly Meeting Gathering 2021 with the Yearly Meeting clerks and representative Friends from Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee.

Appointed by Meeting for Sufferings on behalf of Yearly Meeting:

Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Harry Albright	Leicester AM	from June 2021 until the end of YMG 21
Anna Sharman	North London AM	

Yearly Meeting Elders

To serve during Yearly Meeting Gathering 2021, nominate:

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Esther White	Devon AM	during YMG 21
Michael Hutchinson	West Scotland AM	from YMG 21 to YM 22
Huw Meredydd Owen	North Wales AM	from YMG 21 to YM 22

Yearly Meeting Elders (cont.)

Appointed by Meeting for Sufferings on behalf of Yearly Meeting:

Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Jane Mace	Gloucestershire AM	from April 2021 until the end of YMG 21
Gloria Dobbin	Luton & Leighton AM	
Tess James	Dorset & South Wiltshire AM	
Caro Kelly	Lancashire Central & North AM	
Ruth McTighe	Central Yorkshire AM	
Wendy Sender	London West AM	
Peter Squire	Devon AM	

To serve as co-convenor, nominate:

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Jane Mace	Gloucestershire AM	for YMG 21

To serve as co-convenor, nominate:

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Michael Hutchinson	West Scotland AM	from YMG 21 to YM 22

Yearly Meeting Epistle Drafting Committee

To serve during Yearly Meeting Gathering 2021, nominate (/*renominate):

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Vicky Cowell*	Central England AM	during YMG 21
Sam Cooper	Young Friends General Meeting	
Christine Habgood-Coote	West Sussex AM	
Joanna Godfrey Wood	North West London AM	
Stevie Krayner	Southern Marches AM	
Ella Otomewo	Young Friends General Meeting	

To serve as convenor, nominate:

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Rob Francis	London West AM	at YMG 21

b) Appointments and other changes to committees and groups for work outside Yearly Meeting in session:**Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees**

Nominated (/*renominated):

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Eleanor Harding*	Central England AM	from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024
Georgina Bailey*	London West AM	
Carolyn Hayman*	North West London AM	

Quaker Stewardship Committee

Nominated (/*renominated):

Position	Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Clerk	Yvonne Dickson*	Wirral & Chester AM	from the end of YM 2021 to the end of YM 22
Assistant Clerk	Mary Aiston	Kingston & Wandsworth AM	

Nominated (/renominated):

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Peter Morris*	Surrey & Hampshire Border AM	from YM 2021 to YM 22
Louise McCann*	Northamptonshire AM	
Martin Burnell*	South East Scotland AM	

Yearly Meeting Pastoral Care Group

Nominated:

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Steven Walton	Norfolk & Waveney AM	from YMG 21 to the end of YM 24
Susan Mitchell	West Scotland AM	at YMG 21

Appointed by Meeting for Sufferings on behalf of Yearly Meeting:

Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Sasha Lawson-Frost	Young Friends General Meeting	at YMG 21, and from YMG 21 to YM 24
Brian Ashley	North Scotland AM	at YMG 21

Central Nominations Committee co-clerks

Appointed:

Position	Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Co-Clerk	Lucy Parker	Norfolk & Waveney AM	from YM 2021 to YM 22
Co-Clerk	Fran Hicks	West Somerset AM	
Assistant Clerk	Sandra Horsfall	London West AM	

Table 4. Central Nominations Committee: nominations required

Nominations to be brought to Yearly Meeting 2022

Committee	Nominations required	For service
Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee	6	from the end of YM 22 to YM 25
Yearly Meeting Arrangements Committee	2	from the end of YM 22 to YM 25
Yearly Meeting Elders	4	at YM 22 to YM 23
Yearly Meeting Epistle Drafting Committee	5-7 (1 as convenor)	at YM 22
Yearly Meeting Pastoral Care Group	1-2	from the end of YM 22 to YM 25
Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees	4	1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025
<i>Dependent on Yearly Meeting's decision in 2021 on Quaker Stewardship Committee:</i>		
Quaker Stewardship Committee (if not laid down at YM 2022)	6	from the end of YM 22 to YM 25
Quaker Stewardship Committee (if not laid down at YM 2022)	2 (1 clerk and 1 assistant clerk)	from the end of YM 22 to YM 23

Table 5. Report of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group**Yearly Meeting Nominating Group**

Released in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings held 10 July 2021, on behalf of Yearly Meeting:

Name	Meeting
Kellie Turner	Manchester & Warrington AM

Yearly Meeting Nominating Group brings forward the following nominations:

Central Nominations Committee

Nominated (/renominated):

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
Fran Hicks*	West Somerset AM	from the end of YMG 21 until the end of YM 24
Meri Goad*	East Scotland AM	
Margaret Calvert*	Manchester & Warrington AM	
John Ainsworth*	West Somerset AM	
Gisela Creed*	West Scotland AM	
David Lewis*	Hampshire & Islands AM	from the end of YMG 21 until the end of YM 22

Appointed in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings between meetings decision:

Name	Meeting	Appointed to serve:
Gill Greenfield	Mid-Somerset AM	to YM 22

Released in the interim by Meeting for Sufferings held 10 April 2021, on behalf of Yearly Meeting:

Name	Meeting
Meg Forrest	York AM

Convener of the Yearly Meeting Nominating Group

Name	Meeting	Nominated to serve:
John Sheldon	Central England	from the end of YMG 21 until the end of YM 22

Table 6. Meeting for Sufferings appointments**Appointments for the triennium from Yearly Meeting 2021–2024**

Area Meeting	Representative	Alternate
Banbury & Evesham AM	Lynne Richardson	Susie Tombs
Bournemouth Coastal AM	Anthony Woolhouse	Kate Mellor
Brighouse West Yorkshire AM	Rosemary Daley	
Bristol AM	Dawn Snape	Kerren Davey
Cambridgeshire AM	Dorothy Ball	Hilary Mansfield
Central England AM	Claire Bowman	Margot Williams
Central Nominations Committee	Co-clerk	Co-clerk
Central Yorkshire AM	David Bunney	David Cook
Chilterns AM	Anthony Philpott	Sheila Stevenson
Cornwall AM	Les Hereward	
Craven & Keighley AM	Chris Hart	Lois Lodge
Cumberland AM		
Devon AM	Judy Thurgood	Juliet Morton
Dorset & South Wiltshire AM	Rachel Celia	Tess James
East Cheshire AM	Sally Mendham	Keith Braithwaite
East Kent AM		
East Scotland AM		
General Meeting for Scotland	Ann Kerr	Mike Shilson
Gloucestershire AM	Jane Mace	Pat Beard
Hampshire & Islands AM	Jane Wilde	Catherine Brown
Hardshaw and Mann AM		
Hertford & Hitchin AM	Kathy Hindle	Ian Chandler
Ipswich & Diss AM	Helen Kennedy	David Coutts
Kendal & Sedbergh AM		
Kingston & Wandsworth AM	Keith Walton	Sarah Bean

Lancashire Central & North AM		
Leeds AM		
Leicester AM		
Lincolnshire AM	David Howard	Christopher Rose
London West AM	Nim Njuguna	Victoria Bentley
Luton & Leighton AM	Neil Morgan	Simon Colbeck
Manchester & Warrington AM	Hilary Tucker	Stephen Johnson
Meeting of Friends in Wales		
Mid-Essex AM	Brian Wardrop	Susan Garratt
Mid-Wales AM	David Jones	Carol Satterthwaite
Mid-Somerset AM		
Mid-Thames AM	Jenny Gordon	Jean Scott-Barr
Norfolk & Waveney AM	George Gawlinski	
North East Thames AM	Jane Natai	
North London AM	Arthur Charlton	Anna Sharman
North Scotland AM		
North Somerset AM	Shella Parry	Shena Deuchars
North Wales AM	Helen Still	Ros Morley
North West London AM	Emily Milner	Tony D'Souza
Northamptonshire AM	Sue Jenkins	Elaine Smith
Northumbria AM	Barbara Adshead	Faith Goodfellow
Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire AM	Maggie Lightowler-Cook	Nicky Hoskin-Stone
Oxford & Swindon AM	Jennifer Barraclough	Tina Leonard
Pendle Hill AM	Pip Swancott	Ben Pink Dandelion
Pickering & Hull AM	Paul Wicks	Chris Fellowes
QCCIR	Penelope Cummins	Judith Mason
QPSWCC	Caroline Kibblewhite	
QLCC	Jeffrey Dean	Harry Albright
QWRC	Tracey Martin	Nim Njuguna
Sheffield & Balby AM	Emma Norminton	Howard Gordon
South East London AM		

South East Scotland AM	Jennifer Wilson	Katrina McCrea
South London AM	Janet Veitch	Eva Kalmus
South Wales AM	David Harries	Carole Rakodi
Southern East Anglia AM		
Southern Marches AM	Ann Davison	Jan Arriens
Staffordshire AM	Linda Skellam	Richard Ashwell
Surrey & Hampshire Border AM	Ivan Hutnik	Gregory Valatin
Sussex East AM	Peter Aviss	Susan Walton
Sussex West AM	Neil Macdonald	Sue George
Swarthmoor (SW Cumbria) AM	Robert Straughton	Bill Shaw
Teesdale & Cleveland AM	Mary Wilkinson	
Thaxted AM	Sue Moloney	Margaret Somerville
Wensleydale & Swaledale AM	Edna Rossiter	Ian Hunter Smart
West Kent AM		
West Scotland AM	Michael Hutchinson	Elaine Millar
West Somerset AM	Fran Hicks	Valda Dagnell
West Weald AM	Kim Hope	Mariu Hurriaga
West Wiltshire & East Somerset AM	Jane Stephenson	Ruth Cook
Wirral & Chester AM	Sheila Houldin	Na'amat Little
Worcestershire & Shropshire AM	Penny Osborne	Lesley Richards
York AM	Barbara Penny	John Bourton
Young Friends General Meeting		
Young Adults		

Table 7. Meeting for Sufferings**Interim membership changes since Yearly Meeting 2020**

For information, we record here the membership of Meeting for Sufferings, excluding those who serve ex officio, as advised to the Recording Clerk's Office and appointed by Meeting for Sufferings as at its final meeting on 10 July 2021.

Area Meeting	Representative	Alternate
Banbury & Evesham AM	Susie Tombs	Lynne Richardson
Bournemouth Coastal AM	Anthony Woolhouse	Kate Mellor
Brighouse West Yorkshire AM	Rosemary Daley	Ann Banks
Bristol AM	Heather Lister	Helen Chambers
Cambridgeshire AM	Sue Brock-Hollinshead	Hannah Morrow
Central England AM	Cathy Khurana	Claire Bowman
Central Nominations Committee	Hannah Brock Womack and Lucy Parker	Sandra Horsfall
Central Yorkshire AM	Ruth McTighe	Jane Pinder
Chilterns AM	Jane Edmonds	Anthony Philpott
Cornwall AM	Glynis Davies	Leslie Hereward
Craven & Keighley AM	Richard Vesey	Keith Reeves
Cumberland AM	Bob Pritchard	David Day
Devon AM	Jacqui Poole	Sally Hartog
Dorset & South Wiltshire AM	Jane Fowles	Rachel Celia
East Cheshire AM	Jacqui Moore	Sally Mendham
East Kent AM	Danny Chesterman	Caroline Howden
East Scotland AM	Alyson Buchan	Robert Thompson
General Meeting for Scotland	Ann Kerr	Mike Shilson
Gloucestershire AM	Jane Mace	Pat Beard
Hampshire & Islands AM	sarah coote	Jane Wilde
Hardshaw and Mann AM	Richard Melling	Diana Jeater
Hertford & Hitchin AM	Kathy Hindle	Katey Earle
Ipswich & Diss AM	Elaine Green	Avril Dawson
Kendal & Sedbergh AM	Chris Bullard	Pamela Coren
Kingston & Wandsworth AM	Keith Walton	Kim Boyd

Lancashire Central & North AM	Liz Eddington	Elizabeth Guar
Leeds AM	Martin Ford	Richard Levitt
Leicester AM	Fiona Cownie	Chris Myers
Lincolnshire AM	Mark Lilley	David Howard
London West AM	Simon Risley	Sandy Horsfall
Luton & Leighton AM	Simon Colbeck	Neil Morgan
Manchester & Warrington AM	Hilary Tucker	Steven Johnson
Meeting of Friends in Wales	Gethin Evans	
Mid-Essex AM	Deirdre Haslam	Brian Wardrop
Mid-Wales AM	David Jones	Carol Satterthwaite
Mid-Somerset AM	Gill Greenfield	Andy Hall
Mid-Thames AM	Jenny (Elizabeth) Gordon	Jean Scott-Barr
Norfolk & Waveney AM	Jenny Routledge	
North East Thames AM	Anne Smith	Jane Natai
North London AM	Anna Sharman	Arthur Charlton
North Scotland AM	Sue Horne	Mary Dower
North Somerset AM	Shella Parry	Shena Deuchars
North Wales AM	Helen Still	Ros Morley
North West London AM	Ruth Hawthorn	Emily Milner
Northamptonshire AM	Karen Draycott	Sally Lewis
Northumbria AM	Barbara Adshead	Faith Goodfellow
Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire AM	Maggie Lightowler Cook	Judith Green
Oxford & Swindon AM	Bridget Walker	Tina Leonard
Pendle Hill AM	Gordon Benson	Pip Swancott
Pickering & Hull AM	Sam McNair	Christine Fellowes
QCCIR	Penelope Cummins	Judith Mason
QPSWCC	Caroline Kibblewhite	Ann Bettys
QLCC	Jeffrey Dean	Harry Albright
QWRC		
Sheffield & Balby AM	Craig Barnett	Emma Norminton
South East London AM	Rowena Loverance	Jo-Anne Fraser

South East Scotland AM	Henry Thompson	Kate Arnot
South London AM	Janet Veitch	Eva Kalmus
South Wales AM	Julia Lim	Carole Rakodi
Southern East Anglia AM	Robert Parkes	
Southern Marches AM		Jan Arriens
Staffordshire AM	Richard Ashwell	Win Sutton
Surrey & Hampshire Border AM	Ivan Hutnik	Gregory Valatin
Sussex East AM	Peter Bolwell	Peter Aviss
Sussex West AM	Colin Holliday	Neil MacDonald
Swarthmoor (South West Cumbria) AM	Robert Straughton	Bill Shaw
Teesdale & Cleveland AM	Mary Wilkinson	Gaynor Hemming
Thaxted AM	Sue Moloney	Margaret Somerville
Wensleydale & Swaledale AM	Edna Rossiter	Ian Hunter Smart
West Kent AM	Jill Clarke	Janet Ferguson
West Scotland AM	Barbara Robinson	Ed Tyler
West Somerset AM	Fran Hicks	Valda Dagnell
West Weald AM	Mariu Hurriaga	Rosemary Elias
West Wiltshire & East Somerset AM	Jane Stephenson	Ruth Cook
Wirral & Chester AM	Alan Vernon	Sheila Houldin
Worcestershire & Shropshire AM	Andrew Jameson	David Bowgett
York AM	Barbara Penny	Sarah Allen
YFGM	Alexandra Boliver-Brown	Rachael Booth
Young Adults	Sophie Bevan	
	Joseph Fuller	
	Stephen Lonsdale	
	Jenny Orme	
	Bianca Rawlinson	
	Ellen Setterfield	