

HERTFORD AND HITCHIN AREA MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

England & Wales · Charity number 1131894

Details

Other names	HITCHIN FIRENDS MEETING QUAKERS, Hertford and Hitchin Quakers
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-09-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE AREA MEETING IS THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GENERAL RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE PURPOSES OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) IN BRITAIN IN THE AREA OF THE AREA MEETING AND BEYOND.

Activities: The furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Cambridgeshire
- Central Bedfordshire
- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£187,481	£180,329	-	-
2023-12-31	£214,754	£166,578	-	-
2022-12-31	£300,882	£195,855	-	-
2021-12-31	£165,450	£140,941	-	-
2020-12-31	£165,450	£140,941	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Hindle		2019-01-01
Mary Lai Peng Brown		2025-01-18
Nicholas John Needham		2023-03-19
PHILIP ROWE		2023-01-20

Accounts

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting**

Annual Report 2024

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Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting

1. The Area Meeting was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th September 2009 with Registered Charity Number 1131894.
2. The Area Meeting is part of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, of which Britain Yearly Meeting is the body which centrally manages the policy, property, employment and work of the Religious Society.
3. The Area Meeting contains six local meetings (LMs), which hold public meetings for Worship, five of which have day-to-day care of Meeting Houses and other property.
4. Officers of the Area Meeting
 - Area Meeting Clerk for Meeting for Worship for Business, and Assistant Area Meeting Clerk (these roles are rotated between Clerks and Members/Attendees of constituent local meetings, and is supported by a 'continuity' clerk (Kathy Hindle) to maintain the flow of information between constituent local meetings.
 - Area Meeting Treasurer David Hindle
 - Safeguarding Coordinator Clare Cooper
 - Clerk to the Trustees Clare Cooper
5. The objective of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the local community and beyond, through:
 - strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in the local communities they serve, and sharing Quaker values and principles through outreach;
 - interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
 - undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
 - funding the concerns that the Area Meeting has adopted or agreed to support;
 - providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attendees including assistance to those in need, and for education;
 - maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
 - administering and maintaining the organisation of the Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting.

Public Benefit Statement

1. The principal public benefit of the Area Meeting is that in normal circumstances, at least weekly each of the five Meeting Houses in current use is open to the public for Meeting for Worship. The Meeting Houses are also made available as appropriate, sometimes at a subsidised charge, to local community and interest groups and charities which align with our Quaker values.
2. The Area Meeting and its constituent local meetings provide financial support to Quaker activities in the UK and abroad, mostly through contributions to national Quaker organisations. Support is also provided to a number of organisations and projects which are in broad agreement with Quaker principles, including peace, justice, and welfare.

Governance

1. Governing Document

The Area Meeting in session adopted a Governing Document on 13 October 2007 (Minute 81/07), amended on 9 November 2008 (Minute 81/08). As a result of meetings for worship being held online due to Covid, a further amendment was made to incorporate this change (Minute 22/23).

2. Meetings for Worship for Business

The Area Meeting conducted its affairs through six Meetings for Worship for Business during the year. These are based on silence, carrying the expectation that God's guidance can be discerned if members are truly listening to each other. The unity that is sought depends on the willingness of all to seek the truth in each other's utterances. No voting takes place as this would inhibit the process of seeking to know the will of God as expressed in the sense of the meeting. The Clerk has responsibility for preparing the business, conducting the meeting and drafting the minutes during the meeting. The decision about whether the minute represents the sense of the meeting is the responsibility of the meeting itself, not of the Clerk.

3. Trustees

The activities of the trustees are defined by the Governing Document, and by the Terms of Reference for trustees adopted by the Area Meeting business meeting on 9 June 2007. The minutes of trustees' meetings and supporting documents, are available (currently passworded) on the internet. The trustees met six times during the year online. During 2024 four trustees served. The trustees provide advice and guidance to local meetings, or flag up matters of concern for discernment to Area Meeting for Business by minute. Trustees appoint representatives to all Area Meeting Business Meetings. New trustees are appointed by the Area Meeting following expressions of interest or nominations by local meetings.

The following Trustees served in 2024:

Clare Cooper (Hertford Meeting)
David Hindle (Eyeworth Meeting)
Nick Needham (Stevenage Meeting)
Phil Rowe (Hitchin Meeting)

Mary Brown of Letchworth Meeting was appointed as a Trustee on 18 January 2025.

Subsidiary committees made up of local meeting representatives provide information to the trustees:

- Finance Committee, comprised of local meeting treasurers, assists the Area Meeting Treasurer in recommending financial policy and overseeing the financial affairs of the Area and local meetings.
- Properties Committee meets regularly to discuss ongoing maintenance and repair concerns.
- Camp Committee organises an annual residential camp on behalf of Grand Union Quaker Camps, a registered charity, for Members and Attenders of the Area Meeting and other interested friends.

Risk assessment

The trustees considered a number of areas of possible risk, as follows:

1. Health and Safety:

Local meetings are responsible for assessing the safety aspects of the use of the buildings in their care or which they use. The Trustees plan to incorporate oversight of this into Memoranda of Understanding which are currently being drafted.

2. Financial probity:

All local meetings are authorised to hold bank accounts. No local meeting has activities which constitute a major financial risk. There is a financial reporting system which includes independent examination of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies' annual accounts.

3. Investments policy:

The Area Meeting's funds are all in established bank accounts and building societies which reflect our values regarding ethical investment. The placement of the funds is reviewed periodically.

4. Employment:

Three of the local meetings accommodate wardens. The Trustees have examined the employment practices in the local meetings with regard to legal requirements.

5. Safeguarding

Our safeguarding policy and practice was reviewed in September 2024 following the substantial amendment in 2022 based on the guidance from British Yearly Meeting working with the Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight. It is the responsibility of all friends and attenders in local meetings to abide by the safeguarding policy for everyone who comes to our meeting houses or premises. Where needed, friends or attenders volunteering with children attended safeguarding training, paid for by the local meeting.

Properties

Friends Trusts Limited (173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ) is the custodian of properties for the Area Meeting.

The Area Meeting owns six meeting houses:

Letchworth
Hertford
Hitchin
Stevenage
Welwyn Garden City (WGC).
Hoddesdon*

*The local meeting at Hoddesdon was laid down at the start of 2012. The Area Meeting continued to oversee the maintenance and redevelopment of the building as a community support hub, known as Peace Cottage. Regular Meetings for Worship have recommenced in 2025.

The properties are appropriately insured, and Area Meeting Properties Committee has oversight of any significant alterations to property which local meetings propose. Local meeting representatives submit annual reports to trustees on the condition of the meeting houses or other properties.

Activities

1. The main activity of the constituent local meetings is the holding of public meetings for worship using Quaker practice, and regular meetings for church affairs. The Area Meeting itself holds business meetings for church affairs and supports its constituent local meetings, including providing grants and practical support to develop the life of meetings, and of individual Quakers (members) and attenders.
2. Other activities include:
 - Fostering relations with Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker Area Meetings (such as through online forums and meetings), and with other denominations and faiths;
 - Promoting our Quaker way of life, values, beliefs and practices through outreach activities, or individually in our personal lives;
 - Witness through action, engaging in work to support peace initiatives and resettling and befriending of refugees, often in partnership with other organisations.
 - Funding Quaker and non-Quaker organisations whose objectives and activities are in accordance with core Quaker values, including peace, simplicity, truth, sustainability and equality.

Membership

At the end of 2024, for Tabular Statement purposes, there were 138 Members of the Area Meeting, 1 more than the previous year, and 105 attenders. The Area Meeting lost 2 Members by death, and 1 by transfer out. We also welcomed 4 new members by conviction.

Average attendances across local meetings were as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Eyeworth	3-5	2-5
Hertford	10-15	12
Hitchin	10-15	12-16
Letchworth	10-15	10-15
Stevenage	3-5	2-6
Welwyn	4-10, 20-25	4-10, 20

Although most local meetings regularly receive new visitors and enquirers who have heard about Quakers and want to know more, membership numbers and attendance have declined overall over several years. This results in there being fewer people available to take on administrative roles within the local and area meetings due to age or other work/life commitments. Some of these functions are managed through shared responsibility, such as clerking teams, at local and area level.

Achievements and performance (in relation to our objectives)

- **Strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in local communities;**

Meetings for Worship were held every Sunday in five local meetings, and Eyeworth Meeting met twice monthly. Welwyn Garden City Meeting continued to hold two meetings for worship on Sunday mornings. Hitchin Meeting continued to make use of online 'blended' Meetings for Worship allowing the participation of those who were unable to attend in person, or who lived or moved further away.

Three local meetings had families attending regularly and planned activities for children. At Letchworth and Hitchin a Children's Meeting was held monthly and followed by a shared lunch. Children either stayed in the silent meeting for worship, for all or part of the time, or went out with a parent and volunteer from the meeting for age-appropriate Quaker/play activities. This included garden play where they were supported to care for nature and the environment. A monthly Toddler Café was held at Welwyn Garden City Meeting House on Saturday mornings. Initiated by parents attending the Sunday Quaker meeting, this proved popular in the local community, with up to 30 families attending regularly by the end of the year. As volunteers to organise a children's meeting during the Sunday Meeting for Worship could not be found, a youth worker was employed with specific responsibility for safeguarding.

Hertford Meeting welcomed the Mayor and several councillors at a meeting for worship in the spring, sharing refreshments afterwards.

Christmas was an opportunity to celebrate with all age meetings for worship, poetry and readings, with a Peace and Hope celebration at Welwyn, and to send cards to those friends seen less often due to vulnerabilities or commitments.

- **Interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;**

Meetings for Worship included 'Afterthought' sessions and regular readings from Advices and Queries, as a means of supporting reflective spiritual practice.

Local Meetings held regular events to allow Friends to get to know each other better and to provide opportunities for spiritual reflection, including shared lunches, 'fellowship and cake' discussions, book groups, and craft mornings. These events took place at Meeting House or in Friends' homes. A series of discussions on Exploring Quakers was held at Hitchin for the benefit of newcomers and seasoned Friends and Attenders, and a set of 'Food for Thought' reflection sessions. The inspiring ideas of Emily Provance, who addressed the Yearly Gathering at Friends House, were used as a basis for considering how newcomers were welcomed at Hitchin Quakers.

A Hitchin Friend arranged a trip for members of the Area Meeting to visit the Jain Temple in Potters bar, creating an opportunity to learn about the principles and practice of Jainism and meet with some of their local representatives.

Support for a Welwyn Meeting monthly contemplative prayer group 'Wild Prayers' grew substantially and at times attracted up to 25 people. Held on the first Saturday of the month the group it was led by an invited guest to share a different devotional practice, through chanting, movement or art for example.

Hitchin and Hertford Meetings conducted research into historical Quaker links to slavery, following concerns raised by Britain Yearly Meeting into ways in which reparations for this practice can be made.

Clerks used email and digital messaging groups to share ideas, information or requests for support with friends and attenders in their meetings. In Welwyn Meeting, this is called 'Inspirations' and friends share short readings, photographs or artwork. Hitchin continued to produce their newsletter (Quakerview) although as it was a challenge to source a sufficient number of articles this reduced from monthly to quarterly production.

Online forums for role holders (trustees, safeguarding representatives, clerks, elders and pastoral carers, treasurers) run by Britain Yearly Meeting were a valuable source of learning and support to many individuals across local meetings as they were able to share issues and ideas with Quakers in other areas of the country. Many Friends and attenders from across the Area Meeting joined online workshops and courses run by the Woodbrooke Centre over the course of the year.

Welwyn Garden City Meeting supported one of its younger members to attend Senior Gathering, an annual event for young people to enrich their Quaker knowledge and experience. Taxis to meeting for worship were provided on occasion for elderly friends, and many Welwyn families attended Quaker Camp in Buckinghamshire.

- **Sharing Quaker values and principles through outreach;**

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting continued to seek in various and imaginative ways to uphold the testimonies of Quakers of truth, simplicity, peace, sustainability and equality in their witness to the community. Hitchin Meeting held their annual witness event for the UN International Day of Peace, which included a peace blessing and walking meditation, and attracted many local people to their Peace Garden. They took part in a preaching exchange to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Welwyn Meeting invited speakers to a Peace event to talk on nonviolent communication, and held monthly 'Activism for Peace' sessions.

Local Meetings took regular part in interfaith group events during the year. Hitchin took part in the North Herts Interfaith Group film festival, screening a Quaker film and providing a speaker. Welwyn Meeting also maintained strong links with their local interfaith group.

Friends from Hertford attended the World Day of Prayer service at Hertford Baptist Church and opened their Meeting House for the Good Friday Churches Together Walk of Witness. Hertford Friends invited other faith communities and the public to join them in a 15 minute Prayer for the Earth in the town centre, gathering in prayerful stillness for a Meeting for Worship, and afterwards with prayers and song. This took place every day during the year. Also in Hertford, a 30 minute silent vigil was held each Friday at the Meeting House for peace in the Middle East conflict.

Letchworth and Welwyn Garden City Meetings organised family-friendly open days for their local communities, involving activities and refreshments, to learn more about the history and activities of Quakers in the area. The Letchworth event celebrated the 400th birthday of George Fox, the founder of the Quaker movement. The events were well attended by interested individuals and families, and supported by volunteer help from other local Quaker meetings. Hertford and Letchworth Meeting Houses are also of significant historical interest and were open to the public on the national Heritage Open Day in October. This event coincided with the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Bike and Hike event, and both meeting houses received a high number of visitors. Hertford also held regular open mornings during the summer, welcoming local visitors and others who were

interested in the history of the Grade 1 Meeting House, which provided an outreach opportunity to share information about Hertford Quakers and their values.

Hertford Meeting welcomed the visit of a local cub scout group to find out about Quaker history in Hertford during which the children made origami peace doves to hang on a peace tree. Hitchin Meeting House received 60 Year 6 school pupils for a talk on Quakerism. Artwork and posters were displayed on meeting house exteriors to demonstrate Quaker values and invite interest to passers-by.

The availability of meeting house premises to the community is regarded as a form of service, particularly when these are used by groups providing a social, health, faith or educational support function. Hiring rates were maintained at an affordable level for groups that may struggle financially. The hiring of these premises was a significant source of revenue for local meetings. Hirers across the Area Meeting included support groups for substance abuse and gambling, health and wellbeing activities, U3A interest groups, women's support, art and music activities, carer support groups, education and activities for young children, and counselling. Premises were also hired to groups from other faiths, including Muslims and Buddhists.

Across the Area Meeting, local meetings supported the Herts Welcomes Refugees charity, through individual volunteering and financially. Welwyn Meeting continued to provide the hall and garden free for use by the local Ukrainian refugee support group which was much valued by the Ukrainian families and well supported by Friends from WGC meeting. Hitchin held an event in support of Herts Welcomes Refugees as part of the Hitchin Festival, which attracted 30 visitors and very positive feedback.

- **Providing for the pastoral care of individual members and attenders including assistance to those in need, and for education;**

Meetings around six times a year allowed Elders and Pastoral Carers in local meetings to consider ways to nurture spiritual wellbeing in their meetings, reaching out to Friends and Attenders with vulnerabilities and supporting newcomers. Elderly Friends and Attenders who had difficulty attending Meeting for Worship were supported through visits and phonecalls, and taxis arranged at times to bring them to the meeting.

- **Maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;**

Friends and Attenders at local meetings continued to work to maintain their premises in good condition and improve them for the communities they serve, carrying out annual premises checks, repairs, servicing of equipment. Meetings carried out annual 'deep' spring cleaning and other maintenance projects with the help of volunteer working parties. Hitchin Meeting continued to experience the challenge of managing technical difficulties with their lift, which was installed in order to increase accessibility.

Continued service from the HMP Community Payback scheme was used to maintain the burial ground at Hoddesdon Meeting House and internal decoration work was completed at Hitchin Meeting.

Welwyn Meeting maintained a grass labyrinth in front of the premises which was enjoyed particularly by children.

Plans for the use of Peace Cottage as a community hub progressed and an Area Meeting for Worship for Business was held during the summer. Development work was supported by a steering group of members from

Welwyn Garden City, Hertford, and Eyeworth Meetings, and a dedicated team of volunteers from the Hoddesdon area made improvements in clearing the garden and planted raised vegetable beds. Two open garden events drew in members of the local community as well as Quakers from other meetings.

- **Undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;**

Financial support for Quaker organisations in 2024 amounted to about £17,700, for non-Quaker organisations about £7,200.

Individual meetings raised money through cake sales (Hitchin and Letchworth) for Quaker and non-Quaker organisations that provide support to those in need, in particular to Herts Welcomes Refugees, and made donations from their meeting's resources, or individually. Meetings encouraged their Friends and Attenders to donate items to their local foodbanks, and posted lists of items that were in short supply. Some subscribed or made donations to peace organisations such as Campaign Against the Arms Trade and CND.

Some of our Meetings have sent funds to support the Quaker-run schools in Palestine and Lebanon. These schools have support programs for local families as well as providing education to local children.

A number of health and disability support groups hire our premises regularly and as part of our witness, our hire rates are set at an affordable or discounted rate to enable them to make use of our facilities.

Sustainability

Local meetings continued to seek ways to fulfil our commitment to the policy of sustainability at their meeting houses. We were mindful in limiting or reducing our energy consumption (such as using water-saving taps and lights in Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City) and bought energy from renewable sources. Local meetings continued to encourage wildlife through the maintenance of ponds and wild areas in their gardens.

Individually, Friends continued to discern ways to live more sustainably and support sustainability initiatives, also displaying information about this in their public spaces. Meetings researched fitting solar panels, increasing thermal insulation and reducing energy consumption. They bought environmentally-friendly cleaning products and where available used Fairtrade or home-made goods for refreshments.

Hertford Meeting regularly hosted the Climate Café and was a venue for a Hertford Town Council 'Ecofest' event, showing a public screening of a film on regenerative agriculture.

Financial review 2024

1. **Bank:** Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AS

2. **Examiner of Accounts:** John Presland

3. **Financial Governance**

During 2024 the Area Meeting continued to pursue policies of good governance and furtherance of our charitable objectives in compliance with its governing document.

Fiscal oversight was achieved at all levels by the receipt and acceptance of the examined Area Meeting business accounts, and also the receipt of the Area Meeting amalgamated accounts for 2024, which include the examined account of the local meetings over which the Area Meeting has oversight. The proposed budget, financial timetable, and Area Meeting Quotas for 2025 were received and accepted.

4. **Investment Policy**

Our funds are mostly held by or invested in organisations with good ethical policies such as Triodos Bank, Ecology Building Society, Co-operative Bank. Some funds are held by Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. Investments are regularly reviewed, and care is taken that no institution holds funds in excess of the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

5. **Reserves Policy**

The criteria and levels of reserves for local meetings are currently under review. The reserves policy for Area Meeting central funds is based on holding money in various nominal funds at Area Meeting level. We have been in the process of running down some central Area Meeting funds as agreed by the Treasurer in consultation with Finance Committee. The target levels are as follows:

Funds held for the following purposes	Amount £
Properties Emergency Fund	15,000
General Purposes	12,000
Designated funds:	
Clerks Fund	200
Peace Group	400
Quaker Work	1,000
Total	28,600

The actual total value of the central funds at 31 December 2024 was £36,812.

For the operation of local meetings and Area Meeting Camp, it is expected that each of these should hold enough reserves to operate for 6 months and meet future building requirements. The target level of funds for 2024 were:

Local Meeting	Amount £
Guilden Morden	100
Hertford	10,000
Hitchin	10,000
Letchworth	14,000

Stevenage	11,000
Welwyn Garden City	46,000
Camp Committee	5,000
Total	96,100

6. **Income and Expenditure** None of the Area Meeting's funds were in deficit during 2024. At 31st December 2024, the Area Meeting had a total cash value of £379,706 (2023: £372,348).

7. **Income:** Following the significant insurance repayments in 2022, we received a further payment for lost income during the Covid shutdowns, but the major component of our income in 2024 was from lettings. Total income in 2024 was £187,481 (2023: £214,755).

Income in the previous year had been unusually increased by a grant and an insurance payment, so the fall in income in 2024 is not of concern.

Funds from Friends, including Gift Aid refunds, were £32,540 (2023: £37,060).

Income from letting our Meeting Houses etc was £135,153 (2023: £109,379),

2.5% below pre-pandemic income but somewhat recovered compared to 2023. Much of the letting business has now returned, but there are some previous hirers who no longer operate.

Grants or donations from outside bodies were £439 (2023: £16,000).

At the end of 2024, £4,559 remained held as restricted funds for the purpose of developing Peace Cottage; this includes some donations by individual Friends for this purpose.

Interest received on cash balances was £12,259 (2023: £10,701).

8. **Expenditure:** Our largest expenditure remains the insurance, maintenance, and improvement of our properties, at £143,702 (2023: £124,705) in support of our role as a religious organisation at a local level. This includes planned expenditure at the Peace Cottage, Hoddesdon, of £24,778 to support, repair and improve the property, of which £15,987 was funded by external grants and donations. Some of the work at Peace Cottage was completed in late 2023 but paid for in 2024.

In 2024, £16,362 (2023: £24,252) was expended on grants and other support to outside bodies, of which about 72% went to Britain Yearly Meeting in furtherance of the centrally organised work of the Religious Society of Friends.

The amount spent on administration within the Area Meeting in 2024 was £19,154 (2023: £17,621).

Key plans for the future

- To further develop outreach, particularly to engage the interest of families and younger attenders.
- Peace Cottage Community Hub – to continue to build ties with the local community, attract greater use of the building by local groups, and progress with the improvements to the building, including obtaining a grant to instal sustainable heating. Resident Managers were appointed in March 2025.
- Continue to find ways towards reducing our carbon footprint and make our buildings more sustainable.
- To use our virtual communication to develop Quaker community and Quaker work.
- To seek imaginative and creative ways to managing roles and functions within local and area meetings, encouraging wider participation and in the sharing of responsibilities.
- To undertake maintenance and repairs to local meeting Houses.
- To consider use of services outside the Society to take on management of some administrative tasks if needed.
- Trustees to continue work on establishing more formal agreements (Memoranda of Understanding) as to the reciprocal responsibilities of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies (local meetings).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)		Charity No (if any)	1131894
Annual accounts for the period			
Period start date	01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2024

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£ F01	£ F02	£ F03	£ F04	£ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	34,040	-	-	34,040	54,062
Charitable activities	S02	5,290	-	-	5,290	3,211
Other trading activities	S03	135,153	-	-	135,153	109,379
Investments	S04	12,259	-	-	12,259	10,701
Separate material item of income	S05	439	-	-	439	34,500
Other	S06	300	-	-	300	2,901
Total	S07	187,481	-	-	187,481	214,754
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	36,627	-	-	36,627	24,252
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	127,712	15,990	-	143,702	142,326
Total	S12	164,339	15,990	-	180,329	166,578
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	23,142	- 15,990	-	7,152	48,176
Net income/(expenditure)	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Extraordinary items	S15	23,142	- 15,990	-	7,152	48,176
Transfers between funds	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S20	23,142	- 15,990	-	7,152	48,176
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	352,004	20,550	-	372,554	324,378
Total funds carried forward	S22	375,146	4,560	-	379,706	372,554

Section B Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		B05	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	13,858	-	-	13,858	13,765
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	336,904	4,559	-	341,463	374,134
Total current assets		B10	350,762	4,559	-	355,321	387,899
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	7,906		-	7,906	15,551
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	342,856	4,559	-	347,415	372,348
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	422,856	4,559	-	427,415	452,348
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	422,856	4,559	-	427,415	452,348
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-			-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18	-	4,559		4,559	20,518
Unrestricted funds		B19	375,148	-	-	375,148	352,035
Revaluation reserve		B20				-	-
Total funds		B21	375,148	4,559	-	379,707	372,553
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
					David Hindle		25/10/2025

Note 3

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Analysis						
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	29,995	-	-	29,995	34,015
	Gift Aid	2,545	-	-	2,545	3,047
	Legacies	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,000
	General grants provided by government/other charities	439	-	-	439	16,000
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	34,479	-	-	34,479	54,062
Charitable activities:	Area Meeting Camp	5,290	-	-	5,290	2,137
	Hitchin Meeting event	-	-	-	-	1,074
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	5,290	-	-	5,290	3,211
Other trading activities:		-	-	-	-	-
	Hirings and Lettings of Meeting Houses	135,153	-	-	135,153	109,379
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	135,153	-	-	135,153	109,379
Income from investments:	Interest income	12,259	-	-	12,259	10,701
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	12,259	-	-	12,259	10,701
Separate material item of income:	Insurance payment for loss of business (covid19)	-	-	-	-	34,500
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	34,500
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	300	-	-	300	2,901
	Total	300	-	-	300	2,901
TOTAL INCOME		187,481	-	-	187,481	214,754

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for:
(please provide description and amounts)

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Section C

Notes to the accounts

(cont)

Note 6

Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
Expenditure on raising funds:				£				£
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:								
Area Meeting Camp	4,346	-	-	4,346	4,882	-	-	4,882
Grant Making (see note 13)	16,362	-	-	16,362	24,252	-	-	24,252
Hitchin Peace Garden	-	-	-	-	834	1,000	-	1,834
Education and Information	2,117	-	-	2,117	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	22,825	-	-	22,825	29,968	1,000	-	30,968
Separate material item of expense								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other								
Area and Local Meeting Expenses	13,458	-	-	13,458	12,739	-	-	12,739
Premises Costs	126,712	16,990	-	143,702	118,724	4,147	-	122,871
Miscellaneous	345	-	-	345	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	140,515	16,990	-	157,505	131,463	4,147	-	135,610
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	163,340	16,990	-	180,330	161,431	5,147	-	166,578

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Activity or programme	This year				Last year			
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activity 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note 11 **Paid employees**
Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	16,666	15,854
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	918	712
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	17,584	16,566

This year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Last year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Please give details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity. For specific amounts paid to trustees, see Note 28.

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	2
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	2	2

Note 13 Grantmaking

Please complete this note if the charity made any grants or donations which in aggregate form a material part of the charitable activities undertaken.

This year:

13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	-	-	-	-
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous grants of under \$1000	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	7,473
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000		8,889
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		16,362
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		16,362

Last year:

13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	17,532.00	-	nil	17,532.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	nil	-
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	6,720.00	-	nil	6,720.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	24,252	-	-	24,252

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.4 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	17,532
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		17,532
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		17,532

Note 14

Tangible fixed assets

Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	**Basis	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
	** Rate					
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Net book value at the end of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

14.5 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied and significant assumptions

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year
-	-

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) Please state the amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments.

19.1 Analysis of debtors

Trade debtors
Prepayments and accrued income
Other debtors

Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
13,858	13,765
0	0
13,858	13,765

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

Trade debtors
Prepayments and accrued income
Other debtors

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
Total -	-

Note 20 Creditors and accruals

Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	7,906	35,669	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	7,906	35,669	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

Please complete this note if the charity has deferred income.

Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.

This year	Last year

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 24 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)

Short term deposits

Cash at bank and on hand

Other

Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
299,640	282,180
74,116	91,954
-	-
373,756	374,134

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds**

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	14,750	1,254	- 21,437	16,561	-	11,128
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	360	- 800	440	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	5,462	5,787	- 4,346	-	-	6,904
Area Meeting Clerks Fund	UR	small expenditures	200	-	-	-	-	200
Area Meeting Peace Fund	UR	Peace education and publicity	400	-	-	-	-	400
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	314,987	180,440	- 138,120	- 17,001	-	340,306
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used fo Hitchin PeaceGarden	-	-	-	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc	2,113	-	- 223	-	-	1,890
Peace Cottage Dementia Café	R	Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities	2,664	-	- 764	-	-	1,900
Peace Cottage General Fund	R	Peace Cottage general	773	-	-	-	-	773
Meeting Houses Fund	R	Peace Cottage building	15,000	-	- 15,000	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			372,349	187,841	- 180,691	-	-	379,500

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds (cont)**

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	15,018	1,464	- 16,213	15,081	-	15,350
Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	6,773	3,570	- 4,882	-	-	5,462
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	278,354	192,049	- 139,015	- 16,401	-	314,987
			-	-	-	-		-
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used fo Hitchin PeaceGarden	-	-	-	-	-	-
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705		- 705	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-		-
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds	105	-	- 172	67	-	-
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc	4,180	-	- 2,211	144	-	2,113
Peace Cottage Dementia Café	R	Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities	2,664	-	-	-		2,664
Peace Cottage General Fund	R	Peace Cottage general	371	402	-	-		773
Meeting Houses Fund	R	Peace Cottage building		15,000	-	-		15,000
Peace Cottage Refurb	R	Peace Cottage refurbishment		1,270	- 2,379	1,109		-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			324,170	213,755	- 165,577	-	-	372,349

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1131894

Set out on page

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

J.R. Preland

Date:

27/4/25

Name:

John Preland

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

24 Town Meadow Drive
Shefford Beds SG17 5EF

Accounts

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting

Annual Report 2023

Headings:	Page:
Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting	2
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Governance	4
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Outreach to other communities	8
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Financial Review 2023	12
Key plans for the future	14

Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting

1. This annual report has been compiled by the trustees of the Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), abbreviated as Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting . The Area Meeting is also known as Hertford and Hitchin Quakers, and was previously known as Hertford and Hitchin Monthly Meeting.

The Area Meeting is part of the organisation of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, and the national body is known as Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM). The Area Meeting contains six local meetings (LMs), which hold public meetings for Worship and have day-to-day care of Meeting Houses and other property.

The objective of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond. This may be done by work such as:

- strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in the local communities they serve, and sharing Quaker values and principles through outreach;
- interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
- undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- funding the concerns that the Area Meeting has adopted or agreed to support;
- providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders¹ including assistance to those in need, and for education;
- maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
- administering and maintaining the organisation of the Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting

2. This report covers the calendar and financial year ended 31st December 2023.
3. The Area Meeting was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th September 2009 with Registered Charity Number 1131894.
4. Address that can be used for communication with the Clerk to the Trustees:
Clare Cooper, 11 Eleanor Road, Hertford, SG4 3DN
5. Trustees:

The following Trustees served in 2023:

Clare Cooper
David Hindle
Nick Needham
Phil Rowe

¹ “Members” are those who have formally been accepted into membership of the Area Meeting, “Attenders” are those who regularly attend Meeting for Worship but are not Members. The Area Meeting has a general policy of not distinguishing between Members and Attenders.

6. Key officers

- Area Meeting Clerk for Meeting for Worship for Business (held six times annually)
- Assistant Area Meeting Clerk

These roles are rotated between Clerks and Members/Attenders of constituent local meetings. A Continuity Clerk (Kathy Hindle) was appointed to maintain the flow of information to and between constituent local meetings.

- Area Meeting Treasurer David Hindle
- Safeguarding Coordinator Clare Cooper

Names and addresses of other relevant organisations or persons:

Bank: Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AS

Examiner of Accounts: John Presland

Custodian Trustees for the Area Meeting:
Friends Trusts Limited, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

Serious Incidents.

There were no serious incidents in 2023 which should have been reported.

Public Benefit Statement

1. The principal public benefit of the Area Meeting is that in normal circumstances, at least weekly each of the 5 Meeting Houses in current use is open to the public for Meeting for Worship. The Meeting Houses are also made available as appropriate, sometimes at a subsidised charge, to suitable local community and interest groups and charities.
2. The Area Meeting and its constituent local meetings provide financial support to Quaker activities in the UK and abroad, mostly through contributions to national Quaker organisations. Support is also provided to a number of organisations and projects which are in broad agreement with Quaker principles, including peace, justice, and welfare.

Governance

1. The Area Meeting in session adopted a Governing Document on 13 October 2007 (Minute 81/07), amended on 9 November 2008 (Minute 81/08). As a result of meetings for worship being held online due to Covid, a further amendment was made to incorporate this change (Minute 22/23)
2. The activities of the trustees are defined by the Governing Document, and by the Terms of Reference for trustees adopted by the Area Meeting business meeting on 9 June 2007. The minutes of trustees' meetings, and supporting documents, are available (currently passworded) on the internet, and the attention of existing and new trustees is drawn to this and other significant information sources on the internet.
3. Meetings for church affairs, in which the Religious Society conducts its business, are meetings for worship based on silence, carrying the expectation that God's guidance can be discerned if members are truly listening together and to each other. The unity that is sought depends on the willingness of all to seek the truth in each other's utterances. There is no voting in any meeting as this would inhibit the process of seeking to know the will of God as expressed in the sense of the meeting.

The Clerk of the meeting bears the final responsibility for preparing the business, conducting the meeting and drafting the minutes of the meeting. Minutes are drafted by the Clerk during the course of the meeting, but the final decision about whether the minute represents the sense of the meeting is the responsibility of the meeting itself, not of the Clerk.

4. The Area Meeting during 2023 had 6 constituent geographically based local meetings which organise public Meetings for Worship. These local meetings are at:

Guilden Morden Meeting (at Eyeworth)
Letchworth
Hertford
Hitchin
Stevenage
Welwyn Garden City (WGC).

The Local Meeting at Hoddesdon was laid down at the start of 2012; the Area Meeting continues to oversee the building and plans for its use are progressing. Occasional Meetings for Worship and other events are held there.

5. All of these local meetings are authorised to hold bank accounts, and each (except Guilden Morden) has the use of a Meeting House, as its place of worship. These are owned by the Area Meeting. Three of the local meetings also accommodate wardens, and WGC also has a small building used as a function room.

Friends Trusts Ltd is the custodian trustee of the Area Meeting's properties.

A number of advisory and executive functions are delegated to subsidiary committees:

- the Finance Committee assists the Area Meeting Treasurer in recommending financial policy and overseeing the financial affairs of the Area and local meetings.
- the Properties Committee oversees the care of properties, mainly by receiving properties reports from each local meeting, and reporting annually to Area Meeting.

- the Camp Committee organises an annual residential camp on behalf of Grand Union Quaker Camps, a registered charity, for Members and Attenders of the Area Meeting and some others; the Camp Committee is authorised to hold a bank account.

The Area Meeting is part of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, of which Britain Yearly Meeting is the body which centrally manages the policy, property, employment and work of the Religious Society.

6. Risk assessment: the Trustees have considered a number of areas of possible risk, as follows:

Care of property:

The properties are appropriately insured, and Area Meeting Properties Committee has oversight of any significant alterations to property which local meetings propose and provide advice as needed on proposals, and receives annual reports on the condition of the Meeting Houses and other properties.

Health and Safety:

The local meetings are responsible for assessing the safety aspects of the use of the buildings in their care or which they use. The Trustees will incorporate oversight of this into Memoranda of Understanding.

Financial probity:

The Area Meeting and its constituent bodies have no activities which constitute a major financial risk. There is a financial reporting system which includes independent examination of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies' annual accounts.

Investments:

The Area Meeting's funds are all in bank accounts and building societies. The placement of the funds is reviewed periodically.

Employment:

The Trustees have examined the employment practices in the local meetings with regard to legal requirements.

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding policy and practice was revised in 2022 in light of new guidance from British Yearly Meeting working with the Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight. This was reviewed again in September 2023. It is the responsibility of all Friends and Attenders to abide by the Safeguarding policy for everyone who comes to our Meeting Houses or premises. Where needed, Friends or Attenders volunteering with children attended Safeguarding training, usually paid for by the local meeting.

Activities

1. The main activity of the constituent local meetings is the holding of public meetings for worship using Quaker practice, and regular meetings for church affairs. The Area Meeting itself holds business meetings for church affairs and supports its constituent local meetings, including providing grants and practical support to develop the life of meetings, and of individual Quakers (Members) and attenders.
2. In general, membership continues to age and decline in numbers, although most local meetings regularly receive new visitors and enquirers who have heard about Quakers and want to know more. Some of these enquirers return, and some decide to become Quakers. Overall however, there are fewer people available to take on administrative roles within the local and area meetings due to age or other work/life commitments. At the local meeting level, some of these functions are managed by Business Meetings. At the Area Meeting level, administrative functions have been shared amongst different local meetings.
3. Other activities include:
 - Fostering relations with Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker Area Meetings (such as through online forums and meetings), and with other denominations and faiths;
 - Promoting our Quaker way of life, values, beliefs and practices;
 - Witness through action, engaging in work to support peace initiatives and resettling and befriending of refugees, often in partnership with other organisations.
4. The Area Meeting and its constituent local meetings decide how to use their funds to support Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker bodies, and support individuals and non-Quaker organisations whose objects and actions are in accordance with core Quaker values, including peace, simplicity, truth, justice, and equality.

Achievements and Performance

1. Membership and Meetings for Worship

At the end of 2023, for Tabular Statement purposes, there were 111 Members of the Area Meeting, 5 fewer than the previous year, and 137 attenders. The Area Meeting lost 2 Members by death, 3 by transfer out and 2 by resignation. We also welcomed 1 new member by conviction and 1 by transfer in.

Meetings for Worship were held every Sunday in all local meetings, except Guilden Morden which meets twice monthly. Hitchin Meeting held a second half-hour online Meeting for Worship on Wednesday evenings, and Welwyn Garden City Meeting held two meetings for worship on Sunday mornings. Some Meetings continued to make use of digitally 'blended' Meetings for Worship with the use of a laptop allowing the participation of those who were unable to attend in person, or who lived or moved further away, or abroad. Average attendance reduced from 2022, varying from three to five at Stevenage and Guilden Morden, and 10-15 at Hitchin, Hertford and Letchworth. Attendance at the earlier Meeting for Worship at Welwyn Garden City attracted between 4 and 10 people, and up to 25 at the later meeting.

Six Area Meetings for Business were held in person. Average attendance was around 9 apart from the Business Meeting at Welwyn Garden City when extra all-age activities were arranged, which encouraged 15 Friends to attend. Reports were received regularly from Meeting for Sufferings (the national standing executive body between Yearly Meetings) and the various committees accountable to Area Meeting. A triennial report was received from Guilden Morden Meeting. Area Meeting dates for 2024 were agreed, and the tabular statement (an indicator of the numerical strength of our local meetings) for 2022 was received, the Area Meeting being the body responsible for membership.

2. Children and Young People

Three of the six local meetings held regular activities for children. At Letchworth two children regularly attended with their parents, and in addition an All-Age Meeting was held around four times a year followed by a shared lunch. Children's Meetings, play or garden-based, were held monthly in Hitchin Meeting where there were three children under five who attended. These were also followed by a shared lunch for the families to enjoy. In Hitchin there were additional online Zoom meetings with children in Israel and Canada but these ceased. In Welwyn Garden City, between 2 and 10 children joined the monthly Children's Meetings, for play, stories and circle time. Hertford had no children attending regularly but two All-Age Meetings were held in May and December, which a few young people were able to join.

3. Pastoral and spiritual life of the community

Meetings around six times a year allowed Elders and Pastoral Carers to share information and consider ways to reach out to other Friends and Attenders with vulnerabilities, and plan activities to strengthen their Quaker community. Difficulty filling these roles due to smaller numbers attending regularly, meant that some local meetings continued to share these functions and work collaboratively (for example at Hertford and Hitchin). Elderly Friends and Attenders who had difficulty attending Meeting for Worship were supported through visits and phonecalls, and taxis arranged at times to bring them to the Meeting.

Meetings for Worship included 'Afterthought' sessions and readings from Advices and Queries. Clerks used email or digital messaging groups to share information and requests with Friends and Attenders in their meetings, and 'Inspirations' submitted by Friends such as short readings, photographs or artwork. Hitchin continued to produce their monthly newsletter of 6 articles (Quakerview) which was sent to all other local meetings and to Friends who had moved away from the area.

Hitchin, Welwyn Garden City and Letchworth Meetings held monthly social events to allow Friends to get to know each other better and to provide opportunities for spiritual reflection, such as shared lunches, discussion or book groups, craft mornings, monthly walks and speakers. Some of these events took place at the Meeting House or in Friends' homes. A Hertford Friend arranged a winter Area Meeting group visit to Bayfordbury Observatory, creating an opportunity to meet together socially and enjoy the night sky.

A Friend from Welwyn Garden City Meeting hosted community afternoon tea parties with slide shows. Welwyn Garden City Meeting also held a games afternoon for young and old Friends to learn new or old games. A small group of Friends at Welwyn Garden City Meeting arranged a series of 'Wild Prayer' meetings over the year, inviting Friends and Attenders from other local meetings to explore alternative ways of developing their spiritual life.

Online forums for role holders (trustees, safeguarding representatives, clerks, elders and pastoral carers, treasurers) run by Britain Yearly Meeting were a valuable source of learning and support to many individuals across local meetings. The Woodbrooke centre continued to provide online learning opportunities for Friends and Attenders, many of whom also joined workshops and talks online during the Britain Yearly Meeting annual meeting. Welwyn Garden City Meeting supported two of its members financially to pursue studies in Talking Peace and in Christian Spirituality.

4. Outreach to other communities

Local meetings continued to connect with local faith groups, including Churches Together and Interfaith Fora. In Welwyn Garden City Meeting, a Friend gave talks at their Interfaith group meeting and read from Quaker Faith and Practice at a public Peace gathering. Hitchin Meeting focussed on completing their Peace Garden, organising a peace walking meditation in readiness for the UN International Day of Peace, which attracted 20 people from the local community. They took part in a preaching exchange to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Friends from Hertford attended the World Day of Prayer service at the Catholic Church and took part in the Churches Together Walk of Witness at Easter. Hitchin, Hertford and Letchworth opened their Meeting Houses to the public for the Bedfordshire Bike 'n Hike day and/or UK Heritage Day in September, attracting many local visitors from their communities. Hertford also held monthly open mornings during the summer months for local people to be able to visit the Grade 1 listed building and ask about Quaker life and activity. Guilden Morden Meeting has, with the support of other local churches, organised occasional sessions entitled "Exploring Silence".

5. Use of meeting houses by the community

All the local meetings except Guilden Morden have Meeting Houses and other facilities which are well used by groups in the wider community. The availability of these premises is regarded as a form of service to the community, particularly when they are used by groups providing a social, health, faith or educational support function. Hiring rates were adjusted following the rise in energy prices in 2022, but these are maintained at an

affordable level for groups that may struggle financially. The hiring of these premises was a significant source of revenue for local meetings.

Hirers across the Area Meeting include:

- Group training for counsellors
- Mental health support groups
- Buddhist meditation
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Days for Girls (provides education and menstruation products for women and girls)
- Carers' support group
- Climate café
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Spiritualist group
- Islamic Cultural (Friday prayers)
- Children's play and music groups
- Yoga and Tai Chi
- U3A groups
- Bridge club
- Music clubs/concerts
- Dance groups

Friends and Attenders at local meetings continued to work to maintain their premises in good condition and improve them for the communities they serve, carrying out annual premises checks, repairs, servicing of equipment and annual 'deep' spring cleaning. Letchworth Meeting undertook asbestos removal from the Meeting House making this a safer environment for users. At Hitchin Meeting House, challenging work continued to install a lift to increase accessibility, despite ongoing technical difficulties. Hertford Meeting was able to employ a team from the prison service Community Payback scheme to carry out external woodwork decoration.

Peace Cottage Community Hub (formerly Hoddesdon Quaker Meeting House)

While no longer an active Quaker Meeting, Peace Cottage continued to develop as a community hub, with the support of a steering group of members from Welwyn Garden City, Hertford, and Guilden Morden Meetings, and a dedicated team of garden volunteers from the Hoddesdon area. A prison service Community Payback team carried out garden weed clearance and grass cutting in the burial ground, and local volunteers continue to develop the garden. A number of events intended to draw in the local community have been organised, including community forums to discuss the future of the Hub, a local history talk, explorations of sustainability and wellbeing, "coffee and craft" sessions during the school summer holidays, and performances by a drama group. A grant of £15,000 from a Britain Yearly Meeting fund was used to improve roofing and electrical installations.

6. Sustainability

Local meetings continued to seek ways to fulfil our commitment to the policy of sustainability being pursued by Britain Yearly Meeting. We were mindful in limiting or reducing our energy consumption (such as using water-saving taps and lights in Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City) and bought this from renewable sources. All local meetings continued to encourage wildlife through the maintenance of ponds and/or wild life areas in their

gardens. Hertford Meeting regularly hosted the Climate Café and was a venue for Hertford Town Council showing films to the public on environmental issues.

7. Quaker witness

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting has sought in various and imaginative ways to uphold the testimonies of British Quakers of truth, simplicity, peace, sustainability and equality in their witness to the community. Hitchin Meeting organised a peace walking meditation in readiness for the UN International Day of Peace, which attracted many local visitors to their Peace Garden. They took part in a preaching exchange to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Friends from Hertford attended the World Day of Prayer service at the Catholic Church and took part in the Churches Together Walk of Witness at Easter. Welwyn Garden City Friends invited other faith communities and the public to join them in a day of Prayer for the Earth in the town centre, gathering in prayerful stillness for a Meeting for Worship, and afterwards with prayers, song and dance. In Hertford, a 30 minute vigil was held each Friday at the Meeting House for peace in the Middle East conflict.

Letchworth, Hertford and Hitchin Meetings ran educational sessions to school groups or local history groups, on Quaker history, and artwork and posters were displayed on the building exteriors to demonstrate Quaker values and invite interest to passers-by.

Financial support for Quaker organisations in 2023 amounted to about £18,200, for non-Quaker organisations about £6,000.

Individual meetings raised money through events such as a clothes exchange (Welwyn Garden City), cake sales (Hitchin and Letchworth), and an acapella concert (Hertford), and made donations from their meeting's resources, to a wide range of Quaker organisations and other associations sharing our values in promoting peace and justice. Welwyn Garden City Meeting donated a large amount to the Palestine Trauma Centre after their offices were bombed. Meetings subscribed to organisations such as Campaign Against the Arms Trade and Individuals from other meetings actively supported Israeli conscientious objectors and groups protesting against the London arms trade fair (DSEI). Other charities supported, local and national, included:

- Glebe House (Friends Therapeutic Community Trust, Cambs)
- Jackie's Drop In Centre for disabled adults and children
- Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline
- Tree Aid (NGO tackling climate poverty in Southern Africa)
- Food banks
- Helping Herts Homeless
- Herts Welcomes Refugees
- Diapalante (community education project in Senegal)
- Friends' School Ramallah
- St Francis Leprosy Guild
- Embrace the Middle East
- Brumana High School in the Lebanon

A number of health and disability support groups hire our premises regularly and as part of our witness, our hire rates are set at an affordable or discounted rate to enable them to make use of our facilities.

8. Financial governance

During 2023 the Area Meeting continued to pursue policies of good governance and furtherance of our charitable objectives in compliance with its governing document.

Fiscal oversight was achieved at all levels by the receipt and acceptance of both the examined Area Meeting business accounts, and also the receipt of the examined Area Meeting amalgamated accounts, for 2022 for the local meetings over which it had oversight. The proposed budget, financial timetable, and Area Meeting Quotas for 2024 were received and accepted.

9. Trustees

During 2023 four trustees served. The trustees see one of their functions as providing advice and counsel to local meetings. Trustees occasionally flag up matters of concern to Area Meeting for Business by minute and may bring proposals. Trustees appoint representatives to all Area Meeting Business Meetings. New trustees are appointed by the Area Meeting following expressions of interest from local meetings and nominations by local meetings. The trustees compiled the Annual Report for 2022 on the activities of the Area Meeting, which was presented to the Area Meeting Business Meeting and submitted to the Charity Commission. The trustees also produced a report to Area Meeting Business Meeting on trustees' activities. During 2023 all trustee meetings were quorate and minutes were kept of matters discussed.

Financial Review 2023

- 1. Reserves Policy** The reserves policy for Area Meeting central funds is based on holding money in various nominal funds at Area Meeting level. We are in the process of running down some central Area Meeting funds as agreed by the Treasurer in consultation with Finance Committee. The target levels are as follows:

Funds held for the following purposes	Amount £
Properties Emergency Fund	15,000
General Purposes	11,000
Designated funds:	
Peace Group	500
Quaker Work	1,000
Camp Committee	5,000
Total	32,500

The actual total value of the central funds at 31 December 2023 was £36,812.

For the operation of local meetings, it is expected that each of these should hold enough reserves to operate for 1 year and meet future building requirements. The target level of funds for 2023 were:

Local Meeting	Amount £
Guilden Morden	100
Hertford	10,000
Hitchin	10,000
Letchworth	14,000
Stevenage	11,000
Welwyn Garden City	46,000
Total	91,100

The criteria and levels of reserves for local meetings are currently under review.

- 2. Income and Expenditure** None of the Area Meeting's funds were in deficit during 2023. At 31st December 2023, the Area Meeting had a total cash value of £372,348 (2022: £324,394).
- 3. Income:** Following the significant insurance repayments in 2022, we received a further payment for lost income during the Covid shutdowns, but the major component of our income in 2023 was from lettings. Total income in 2023 was £214,765 (2022: £300,882). Income in the previous year has been unusually increased by a large legacy, so the fall in income in 2023 is not of concern.

Funds from Friends, including Gift Aid refunds, were £37,060 (2022: £38,702).

Income from letting our Meeting Houses etc was £109,379 (2022: £94,217), 2.5% below pre-pandemic income but somewhat recovered compared to 2022. Much of the letting business has now returned, but there are some previous hirers who no longer operate.

Grants or donations from outside bodies were £16,000 (2022: £35,850). This includes a grant of £15,000 for various aspects of the work at Peace Cottage at Hoddesdon. At the end of 2023, £20,518 remained held as

restricted funds for the purpose of developing Peace Cottage; this includes some donations by individual Friends for this purpose. Grants to local meetings amounted to £1,000, mostly for work on the Hertford Meeting House which is a Grade 1 Listed Building; this work was completed within 2023.

Interest received on cash balances was £10,701 (2022: £2,581).

- 4. Expenditure:** Our largest expenditure remains the insurance, maintenance, and improvement of our properties, at £124,705 (2022: £159,176) in support of our role as a religious organisation at a local level. This includes planned expenditure at the Peace Cottage, Hoddesdon, of £4,761 to repair and improve the property, of which £3,442 was funded by external grants and donations. Further substantial work was completed at Peace Cottage late in 2023, to be paid for in 2024 from the accumulated funds mentioned above.

In 2023, £24,252 (2022: £21,415) was expended on grants and other support to outside bodies, of which about 72% went to Britain Yearly Meeting in furtherance of the centrally organised work of the Religious Society of Friends.

The amount spent on administration within the Area Meeting in 2023 was £17,621 (2022: £15,264).

- 5. Investment Policy:** Our funds are mostly held by or invested in organisations with good ethical policies such as Triodos Bank, Ecology Building Society, Co-operative Bank. Some funds are held by Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. Investments are regularly reviewed, and care is taken that no institution holds funds in excess of the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Key plans for the future

- To grow our membership and develop outreach, particularly to engage the interest of families and younger attendees.
- To balance the use of our time and energy between management of our premises and Quaker witness through action
- Carry on support of food banks and homelessness initiatives and participate in Hertfordshire refugee support programmes.
- Peace Cottage Community Hub project – to continue to build ties with the local community, attract more local use of the building, and progress with the improvements to the building, including obtaining a grant to instal sustainable heating
- Continue to find ways towards reducing our carbon footprint and make our buildings more sustainable.
- To use our newly acquired knowledge of virtual communication to develop Quaker community and Quaker work.
- Continue to implement learning from the ‘Simpler Meetings’ approach to managing roles within local and area meetings, to reduce the burden on a small number of role holders.
- To undertake maintenance and repairs to local meeting Houses, when funds are available
- To engage services outside the Society to take on management of some administrative tasks if needed
- Trustees to continue work on establishing more formal agreements (Memoranda of Understanding) as to the reciprocal responsibilities of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies (local meetings).



Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)			Charity No (if any)	1131894
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01/01/2023	To	Period end date	31/12/2023

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Restricted income funds					Prior year funds
		Unrestricted funds	income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds		
		£	£	£	£	£	
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05	
Incoming resources (Note 3)							
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	S01	36,390	17,672	-	54,062	171,366	
Charitable activities	S02	3,211	-	-	3,211	2,997	
Other trading activities	S03	109,379	-	-	109,379	94,227	
Investments	S04	10,701	-	-	10,701	2,581	
Separate material item of income	S05	34,500	-	-	34,500	29,657	
Other	S06	2,901	-	-	2,901	54	
Total	S07	197,082	17,672	-	214,754	300,882	
Resources expended (Note 6)							
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable activities	S09	24,252	-	-	24,252	21,415	
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	S11	131,778	10,548	-	142,326	174,440	
Total	S12	156,030	10,548	-	166,578	195,855	
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)							
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	41,052	7,124	-	48,176	105,027	
Net income/(expenditure)	S14	-	-	-	-	-	
Extraordinary items	S15	41,052	7,124	-	48,176	105,027	
Transfers between funds	S16	-	-	-	-	-	
Other recognised gains/(losses):	S17	-	-	-	-	-	
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-	
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-	
Net movement in funds	S20	41,052	7,124	-	48,176	105,027	
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	S21	316,146	8,027	-	324,173	219,146	
Total funds carried forward	S22	357,198	15,151	-	372,349	324,173	

Section B

Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		B05	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	13,765	-	-	13,765	16,412
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	353,616	20,518	-	374,134	332,272
Total current assets		B10	367,381	20,518	-	387,899	348,684
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	15,551		-	15,551	24,288
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	351,830	20,518	-	372,348	324,396
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	431,830	20,518	-	452,348	404,396
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	431,830	20,518	-	452,348	404,396
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-			-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18		20,518		20,518	8,027
Unrestricted funds		B19	351,830		-	351,830	316,369
Revaluation reserve		B20				-	
Total funds		B21	351,830	20,518	-	372,348	324,396
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
					David Hindle		25/10/2024

Note 3 Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
	Analysis					
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	32,343	1,672	-	34,015	34,351
	Gift Aid	3,047	-	-	3,047	4,352
	Legacies	1,000	-	-	1,000	96,815
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	16,000	-	16,000	35,850
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	36,390	17,672	-	54,062	171,368
Charitable activities:	Area Meeting Camp	2,137	-	-	2,137	2,997
	Hitchin Meeting event	1,074	-	-	1,074	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	3,211	-	-	3,211	2,997
Other trading activities:		-	-	-	-	-
	Hirings and Lettings of Meeting Houses	109,379	-	-	109,379	94,217
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	64
	Total	109,379	-	-	109,379	94,281
Income from investments:	Interest income	10,701	-	-	10,701	2,581
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	10,701	-	-	10,701	2,581
Separate material item of income:	Insurance payment for loss of business (covid19)	34,500	-	-	34,500	29,657
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	34,500	-	-	34,500	29,657
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	2,901	-	-	2,901	-
	Total	2,901	-	-	2,901	-
TOTAL INCOME		197,082	17,672	-	214,754	300,884

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for:
(please provide description and amounts)

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Section C

Notes to the accounts

(cont)

Note 6

Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£				£			
Expenditure on raising funds:								
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:								
Area Meeting Camp	4,882	-	-	4,882	3,613	-	-	3,613
Grant Making (see note 13)	24,252	-	-	24,252	21,415	-	-	21,415
Hitchin Peace Garden	834	1,000	-	1,834	-	6,651	-	6,651
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	29,968	1,000	-	30,968	25,028	6,651	-	31,679
Separate material item of expense								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other								
Area and Local Meeting Expenses	12,739	-	-	12,739	11,651	-	-	11,651
Premises Costs	118,724	4,147	-	122,871	110,984	41,541	-	152,525
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	131,463	4,147	-	135,610	122,635	41,541	-	164,176
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	161,431	5,147	-	166,578	147,663	48,192	-	195,855

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Activity or programme	This year				Last year			
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activity 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 11 **Paid employees**
Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	15,854	13,504
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	712	1,875
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	16,566	15,379

This year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Last year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Please give details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity. For specific amounts paid to trustees, see Note 28.

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	2
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	2	2

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

Please complete if an ex-gratia payment is made.

Please explain the nature of the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Please complete if any redundancy or termination payment is made in the period.

	<table><tr><th>This year</th><th>Last year</th></tr><tr><th>£</th><th>£</th></tr></table>	This year	Last year	£	£
This year	Last year				
£	£				
Total amount of payment	<table><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-		
-	-				
The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)	<table><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>				
	<table><tr><th>This year</th><th>Last year</th></tr><tr><th>£</th><th>£</th></tr></table>	This year	Last year	£	£
This year	Last year				
£	£				
The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date	<table><tr><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	-	-		
-	-				
Please state the accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments	<table><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>				

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 13 **Grantmaking**

Please complete this note if the charity made any grants or donations which in aggregate form a material part of the charitable activities undertaken.

This year:

13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
Britain Yearly Meeting	17,532.00	-	-	17,532.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous grants of under \$1000	6,720.00	-	-	6,720.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	24,252	-	-	24,252

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	<i>Please provide details of charity's URL.</i>
	No	<i>Provide details below</i>

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	17,532
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		17,532
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		17,532

Last year:

13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	12,438.00	-	nil	12,438.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	nil	-
Miscellaneous grants of under \$1000	8,977.00	-	nil	8,977.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	21,415	-	-	21,415

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.4 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.

Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	12,438
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		12,438
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		12,438

Section C
Notes to the accounts
(cont)
Note 14 Tangible fixed assets
Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets
14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
** Rate					
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Net book value at the end of the year	80,000	-	-	-	80,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

14.5 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied and significant assumptions

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year
-	-

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) Please state the amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments.

19.1 Analysis of debtors

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
13,765.0	16,412.0
-	-
13,765.0	16,412.0

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Section C**Notes to the accounts****(cont)****Note 20****Creditors and accruals**

Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	35,669	24,288	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	35,669	24,288	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

Please complete this note if the charity has deferred income.

Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.

This year	Last year

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 24 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)
Short term deposits
Cash at bank and on hand
Other
Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
282,180	268,900
91,954	63,371
-	-
374,134	332,271

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds**

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	15,018	1,464	- 16,213	15,081	-	15,350
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	6,773	3,570	- 4,882	-	-	5,462
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	278,354	192,049	- 139,015	- 16,401	-	314,987
			-	-	-	-		-
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used fo Hitchin PeaceGarden	-	1,000	- 1,000	-	-	-
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705		- 705	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-		-
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds	105	-	- 172	67	-	-
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc	4,180	-	- 2,211	144	-	2,113
Peace Cottage Dementia Café	R	Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities	2,664	-	-	-		2,664
Peace Cottage General Fund	R	Peace Cottage general	371	402	-	-		773
Meeting Houses Fund	R	Peace Cottage building		15,000	-	-		15,000
Peace Cottage Refurb	R	Peace Cottage refurbishment		1,270	- 2,379	1,109		-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			324,170	214,755	- 166,577	-	-	372,349

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds (cont)**

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	13,315	821	- 15,514	16,399	-	15,021
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	7,212	3,174	- 3,613	-	-	6,773
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	165,505	257,783	- 128,535	- 16,399	-	278,354
								-
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	6,401	250	- 6,651	-	-	-
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705	24,700	- 24,700	-	-	705
								-
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds	105	-	-	-	-	105
Peace Cottage cleaning	R	Peace Cottage cleaning	30	-	- 30	-	-	-
Broxbourne BC	R	Peace Cottage refurbishment	4,950	-	- 4,950	-	-	-
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc	4,920	-	- 740	-	-	4,180
Peace Cottage Dementia Café	R	Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities			- 336	3,000		2,664
Peace Cottage General Fund	R	Peace Cottage general		3,256	- 10,785	7,900		371
								-
Captain Tom Dementia Café	R	(Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities)		1,500		- 1,500		-
Herts CC Dementia Café	R	(Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities)		1,500		- 1,500		-
								-
Community Wealth Building Fund	R	(Peace Cottage general)		5,000		- 5,000		-
Rosedale Community	R	(Peace Cottage general)		500		- 500		-
Broxbourne BC	R	(Peace Cottage general)		1,400		- 1,400		-
Herts CC	R	(Peace Cottage general)		1,000		- 1,000		-
								-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			219,143	300,884	- 195,854	-	-	324,173



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no 1131894

Set out on page

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

J.R. Presland

Date:

11/3/24

Name:

JOHN PRESLAND

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

24 TOWN MEADOW DRIVE
SHEFFORD BEDS SG17 5GF

Accounts

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting**

Annual Report 2022

Headings:	Page:
Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting	2
Public benefit statement	3
Governance	3
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Outreach to other communities	
Use of meeting houses by the community	
Sustainability	
Quaker witness	
Peace Cottage Community Hub (formerly Hoddesdon Quaker Meeting House)	
Financial governance	
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Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting

1. This annual report has been compiled by the trustees of the Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), abbreviated as Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting . The Area Meeting is also known as Hertford and Hitchin Quakers, and was previously known as Hertford and Hitchin Monthly Meeting.

The Area Meeting is part of the organisation of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, and the national body is known as Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM). The Area Meeting contains six Local meetings (LMs), which hold public Meetings for Worship and have day-to-day care of Meeting Houses and other property.

The objective of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond. This may be done by work such as:

- strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in the local communities they serve, and sharing Quaker values and principles through outreach;
- interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
- undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- funding the concerns that the Area Meeting has adopted or agreed to support;
- providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders¹ including assistance to those in need, and for education;
- maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
- administering and maintaining the organisation of the Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting

2. This report covers the calendar and financial year ended 31st December 2022.
3. The Area Meeting was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th September 2009 with Registered Charity Number 1131894.
4. Address that can be used for communication with the Clerk to the Trustees:
Clare Cooper, 11 Eleanor Road, Hertford, SG4 3DN
5. Trustees:

The following Trustees served in 2022:

Clare Cooper
David Hindle
Andrew Meek
Paul Evans

¹ "Members" are those who have formally been accepted into membership of the Area Meeting, "Attenders" are those who regularly attend Meeting for Worship but are not Members. The Area Meeting has a general policy of not distinguishing between Members and Attenders.

6. Key officers

- Area Meeting Clerk for Meeting for Worship for Business (held six times annually)
- Assistant Area Meeting Clerk

These roles are rotated between Clerks and Members/Attendees of constituent local meetings.

A Continuity Clerk (Kathy Hindle) was appointed to maintain the flow of information between constituent local meetings.

- Area Meeting Treasurer David Hindle
- Safeguarding Coordinator Clare Cooper

Names and addresses of other relevant organisations or persons:

Bank: Triodos Bank, Brunel House, 11 The Promenade, Bristol, BS8 3NN

Examiner of Accounts: Chris Maylin

Custodian Trustees for the Area Meeting:

Friends Trusts Limited 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ#

Serious Incidents.

There were no serious incidents in 2022 which should have been reported.

Public Benefit Statement

1. The principal public benefit of the Area Meeting is that in normal circumstances, at least weekly each of the 5 Meeting Houses in current use is open to the public for Meeting for Worship. The Meeting Houses are also made available as appropriate, sometimes at a subsidised charge, to suitable local community and interest groups and charities. Due to Covid, many Meetings for Worship continued to be held online at the start of the year, before government guidance allowed the reopening of places of worship. Access to the online meetings was permitted for genuine requests from members of the public who contacted the local meeting link.
2. The Area Meeting and its constituent Local meetings provide financial support to Quaker activities in the UK and abroad, mostly through contributions to national Quaker organisations. Support is also provided to a number of organisations and projects which are in broad agreement with Quaker principles, including peace, justice, and welfare.

Governance

1. The Area Meeting in session adopted a Governing Document on 13 October 2007 (Minute 81/07), amended on 9 November 2008 (Minute 81/08). As a result of meetings for worship being held online due to Covid, a further amendment was made to incorporate this change (Minute 22/23)

2. The activities of the trustees are defined by the Governing Document, and by the Terms of Reference for trustees adopted by the Area Meeting business meeting on 9 June 2007. The minutes of trustees' meetings, and supporting documents, are available (currently passworded) on the internet, and the attention of existing and new trustees is drawn to this and other significant information sources on the internet.
3. Meetings for church affairs, in which the Religious Society conducts its business, are meetings for worship based on silence, carrying the expectation that God's guidance can be discerned if members are truly listening together and to each other. The unity that is sought depends on the willingness of all to seek the truth in each other's utterances. There is no voting in any meeting as this would inhibit the process of seeking to know the will of God as expressed in the sense of the meeting.

The Clerk of the meeting bears the final responsibility for preparing the business, conducting the meeting and drafting the minutes of the meeting. Minutes are drafted by the Clerk during the course of the meeting, but the final decision about whether the minute represents the sense of the meeting is the responsibility of the meeting itself, not of the Clerk.

4. The Area Meeting during 2022 had 6 constituent geographically based Local meetings which organise public Meetings for Worship. These Local meetings are at:

Eyeworth (Guilden Morden Meeting)
Letchworth
Hertford
Hitchin
Stevenage
Welwyn Garden City (WGC).

The Local Meeting at Hoddesdon was laid down at the start of 2012; the Area Meeting continues to oversee the building and plans for its use are progressing. See *Plans for the Future* below.

5. All of these Local meetings are authorised to hold bank accounts, and each (except Guilden Morden) has the use of a Meeting House, as its place of worship. These are owned by the Area Meeting. Three of the Local meetings also accommodate wardens, and WGC also has a small building used as a function room.

Friends Trusts Ltd is the custodian trustee of the Area Meeting's properties.

A number of advisory and executive functions are delegated to subsidiary committees:

- the Finance Committee assists the Area Meeting Treasurer in recommending financial policy and overseeing the financial affairs of the Area and Local meetings.
- the Properties Committee oversees the care of properties, mainly by receiving properties reports from each local meeting, and reporting annually to Area Meeting.
- the Camp Committee organises an annual residential camp on behalf of Grand Union Quaker Camps, a registered charity, for Members and Attenders of the Area Meeting and some others; the Camp Committee is authorised to hold a bank account.

The Area Meeting is part of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, of which Britain Yearly Meeting is the body which centrally manages the policy, property, employment and work of the Religious Society.

6. Risk assessment: the Trustees have considered a number of areas of possible risk, as follows:

Care of property:

The properties are appropriately insured, and Area Meeting Properties Committee have oversight of any significant alterations to property which Local meetings propose and provide advice as needed on proposals, and receives annual reports on the condition of the Meeting Houses and other properties.

Health and Safety:

The Local meetings are responsible for assessing the safety aspects of the use of the buildings in their care or which they use. The Trustees will incorporate oversight of this into Memoranda of Understanding.

Financial probity:

The Area Meeting and its constituent bodies have no activities which constitute a major financial risk. There is a financial reporting system which includes independent examination of the Area Meeting's and its constituent bodies' annual accounts.

Investments:

The Area Meeting's funds are all in bank accounts and building societies. The placement of the funds is reviewed periodically.

Employment:

The Trustees have examined the employment practices in the Local Meetings with regard to legal requirements.

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding policy and practice was revised in 2022 in light of new guidance from British Yearly Meeting working with the Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight. A programme of induction provided for all Meetings during the year to explain the implications of the new policy. Due emphasis was placed on the responsibility of all Friends and Attenders to abide by the Safeguarding policy for everyone who comes to our Meeting Houses or premises. Where needed, Friends or Attenders volunteering with children attended Safeguarding training, which was funded by the Area Meeting.

Activities

1. The main activity of the constituent local meetings is the holding of public meetings for worship using Quaker practice, and regular meetings for church affairs. The Area Meeting itself holds business meetings for church affairs and supports its constituent local meetings, including providing grants and practical support to develop the life of meetings, and of individual Quakers (Members) and attenders.
2. While we have seen an increase in attendance by younger people in two Meetings, the membership in general continues to age and decline in numbers. Fewer people are available to take on administrative roles within the local and area meetings due to age or other work/life commitments. At the Local Meeting level, some committee functions continue to be held by Local Meetings' Business Meetings (eg Premises Committees). At the Area Meeting level, committee functions have been shared amongst different local meetings (such as the Area Meeting Nominations Committee, and Area Meeting Business Meeting Clerking).

3. Other activities include:
 - Nurturing relations with other Quaker bodies, other denominations and other faiths;
 - Promoting our Quaker way of life, values, beliefs and practices;
 - Witness through action, engaging in work to address social problems including supporting those struggling with the cost of living, and resettling and befriending of refugees, often in partnership with other organisations.
4. The Area Meeting and its constituent local meetings decide how to use their funds to support Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker bodies, and also to support individuals and non-Quaker organisations whose objects and actions are in accordance with core Quaker values, including peace, simplicity, truth, justice, and equality.

Achievements and Performance

1. Membership and meetings for worship

At the end of 2022, for Tabular Statement purposes, there were 142 Members of the Area Meeting, the same as the previous year, and 108 attenders. The Area Meeting lost 1 Member by death, and 1 by transfer out. We also welcomed 2 new members by convincement and 1 by transfer in.

The year 2022 continued to see the gradual return to weekly Meetings for Worship across the Area Meeting. The pace of return across the Area Meeting was varied, given that Covid-19 was still around but became less of a threat as most people were vaccinated. In general, local meetings reported a reduced attendance following Covid. The use of a laptop using Zoom enabled blended meetings to continue to take place in Hertford and Hitchin Meetings, and this allowed the participation of those who lived, or had moved, further away, which was warmly welcomed. In Welwyn Garden City, online participation was discontinued as Friends returned to the Meeting House. Hitchin Meeting continued to hold a second half-hour online Meeting for Worship on Wednesday evenings, and Welwyn Garden City Meeting held two meetings for worship on Sundays. Average attendance, including online meetings, varied from three to five in the two smallest meetings, 14 – 18 in larger meetings and up to 30 in the largest meeting.

Six Area Meetings for Business were held online until the middle of the year, when they resumed in person. Average attendance was between 10 and 15 attending when meetings resumed in person. Reports were received regularly from Meeting for Sufferings (the national standing executive body between Yearly Meetings) and the various committees accountable to Area Meeting. Triennial reports were received from Stevenage and Welwyn Garden City. Area Meeting dates for 2023 were agreed, and the tabular statement (an indicator of the numerical strength of our Local meetings) for 2021 was received, the Area Meeting being the body responsible for membership.

2. Children and Young People

In-person children's meeting continued regularly at Hitchin and Welwyn Garden City Meetings where families regularly attended with their children. In Hitchin, the regular child attenders were under 2 years old and so the meetings were mostly play and stories, or garden activities. In one local meeting an online older children's meeting took place monthly at weekends until October 2022, held to keep some contact with families who had

moved abroad. Four children (along with their parents) regularly took part in discussions ranging from the meaning of gifts to what they thought about war. Welwyn Garden City Meeting held monthly children's meetings with between 2 and 6 children joining. In other local meetings, children joined in shared lunch events for celebration occasions, such as summer picnics and Christmas. Three local meetings held All Age Worship Meetings at different times of the year, some monthly, including at Christmas, and these were often followed by shared lunches.

3. Pastoral and spiritual life of the community

Local meetings continued to support Friends and Attenders through the roles of Elders and Pastoral Carers. Regular meetings, usually around six times a year, allow these role holders to share information and consider ways to reach out to other Friends and Attenders with vulnerabilities, and plan activities to strengthen their Quaker community. As numbers have declined however and it continues to be difficult to fill these roles, Local meetings have started to share these functions and work more collaboratively. The use of the term 'Overseer' was replaced across all local meetings by the term Pastoral Carer or Pastoral Friend, given its association with oppressive contexts. One meeting agreed to also drop the term 'Elder' as this could feel exclusive to some, and now use the term 'Pastoral and Spiritual Care Friend'.

Meetings for worship included 'Afterword' sessions or sharing of spiritual readings or art works. Most local meetings continued to share readings from Advices and Queries during their Meetings for Worship for Business. Three local meetings held regular discussion groups on spiritual themes, reading from different texts, including Friendly Bible Study, Advices and Queries, and 'Experiment with Light'. One Meeting invited a speaker from Quaker Peace Education to talk to their community.

Across different local meetings, special meetings were held to bless a wedding, celebrate a birth, and to celebrate the lives of two Friends who had passed away.

As in-person contact increased, local meetings gradually resumed regular group activities to support each other and rebuild their social connectedness, such as shared lunches, discussion or book groups, craft mornings, monthly walks and talks. Hitchin continued to produce their monthly newsletter (Quakerview) which is also shared and enjoyed by other local meetings. Other meetings set up email or digital messaging groups, to share notices and news, or photos with each other.

The emerging trend of on-line training, which increased during Covid, has allowed the increased availability to learning for Friends and Attenders. This included regular online discussions regarding the revisions to the Safeguarding policy, and meetings for Clerks and Trustees around the country. Friends across different Local Meetings attended on-line or in-person talks and workshops during the annual Britain Yearly Meeting conference.

4. Outreach to other communities

Local meetings continued to have regular contact with Church and community groups within their immediate areas. Examples in 2022 were:

- Churches Together 'Warm Spaces' initiative
- Interfaith group meetings

- Food banks
- Refugee groups
- Baby and toddler group

Some meetings have strong links with other faith groups and volunteers attended and assisted in regular Interfaith events and shared suppers. One meeting house was regularly used by their local Ukrainian support group for Hosts and Visitors free of charge, twice a month. The group loved coming to the QMH and valued the opportunity to meet each other. A number of Friends and Attenders across all local meetings were involved individually with working with refugee groups, disability groups, food banks, and projects in the UK or overseas working for the relief of poverty.

Welwyn Garden City Meeting hosted a successful Arts and Craft Extravaganza to draw in the local community, including Ukrainian refugees. The Peace Garden in the grounds of Hitchin Meeting which is also supported by other faith groups saw the installation of the sundial donated by Churches Together in Hitchin, a Unity sculpture, and a mosaic panel. This brought together local artists and sculptors, the Tilehouse Rotary Club and local churches to share readings and prayers.

The Peace Garden was also used for an event recognising International Peace Day on 21 September 2022. Members of the Orpheus Choir sang, and a Ukrainian refugee spoke of the loss of her country and flight to the UK, and doves were hung in trees.

The 17th century Hertford Meeting House opened for visitors on the second Saturday of the month from May to September and all day on September 10th for Heritage Open Day and the Herts and Beds Bike 'n Hike. Friends welcomed 34 Bike 'n Hike participants and 59 other visitors. The Meeting House also opened for visitors during Quaker Week in October and a group from Friends House visited in September when a friend gave a talk about the history of the Meeting House and Quakers in Hertford.

The Area Meeting joined other faith communities when invited to covenant with the local authority in building a relationship of mutual understanding and goodwill. Hertfordshire local authority were pleased to see the support offered by faith communities to local communities, during and after Covid. This may mean that faith bodies, including Quakers, are included into the council's consultation process regarding planning for example, or are encouraged to participate in training, such as safeguarding.

5. Use of meeting houses by the community

Local meetings with meeting houses have continued to work to maintain their premises in good condition and improve them for the communities they serve, carrying out annual premises checks, repairs, servicing of equipment and annual 'deep' spring cleaning.

Some refurbishment and building work that was delayed due to Covid was able to be completed, such as restoring the perimeter wall at Hertford Meeting House. Letchworth Meeting undertook work to roof fascia boards, removing asbestos, refurbishment of the Warden's flat, and alterations to the Garden room in order to make it viable to be let to community groups and to decrease their carbon footprint.

All the Local meetings except Guilden Morden have Meeting Houses and other facilities which are normally available for use by the wider community. Welwyn Garden City Meeting has the Backhouse Room which is an additional separate meeting room. The availability of these premises is regarded as a form of service to the community, particularly when they are used by groups answering a social need or providing a cultural service. Meetings reported a steady return to pre-Covid levels of hiring, or an increase, including to some new groups:

- Music clubs and town music festivals
- Addiction support: Gamblers Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous
- Muslims for Friday Prayers and Ramadan observance
- Hertford Spiritualist Church
- Carers in Hertfordshire
- Health and wellbeing: Yoga, pilates, Tai Chi, Buddhist meditation, dance, Weight Watchers
- Children's and young people: Pre-school music, children's theatre, Days for Girls (charity) (for production of reusable period pads)
- HACC (Hertford Action on Climate Change), and Climate Cafe
- Adult education: Language Tuition, U3A groups, Bridge Club
- Mental Health support: counselling, counselling training group, Rethink charity
- Community and Voluntary Services

The hiring of these premises remains a significant source of revenue for the meetings. Charges may be reduced to encourage groups in difficulty, however, as a result of increased energy charges, meetings also needed to increase their basic hire rates, and this was understood by hirers.

6. Sustainability

Our local meetings continue to support our commitment to the policy of sustainability being pursued by Britain Yearly Meeting, and this includes the care and use of our properties. We continue to aim to make our meeting houses become sustainable and reduce our energy consumption, buying this from renewable sources. Letchworth Meeting made alterations to their heating system and installed cavity wall insulation.

Local meetings are continuing to manage their grounds to encourage wildlife and biodiversity (ponds, wild areas meeting house gardens). Hertford Meeting is exploring the idea of installing swift boxes although this requires planning permission as the building is Grade 1 listed.

Hertford continues to work closely with local sustainability groups when suitable opportunities arise, for example at the Extinction Rebellion carnival and hosting a Transition Hertford sustainability fair which was well attended by the local community.

7. Quaker witness

Our witness included supporting Quaker and non-Quaker organisations which pursue aims in line with our values, particularly (but not exclusively) historical Quaker concerns such as peace, justice, refugees, treatment of

criminals, and emergency relief, all areas where 'that of God in all people' is often not recognised. As part of our support, Local meetings have provided funds for Quaker and non-Quaker charitable bodies either on a regular or one-off basis, or by holding a special event to raise funds: These include:

- Central work of Britain Yearly Meeting
- Campaign Against the Arms Trade
- Water Aid
- Glebe House (Friends Therapeutic Community Trust, Cambs)
- Drop In Centre for disabled adults and children
- Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline
- Tree Aid (NGO tackling climate poverty in Southern Africa)
- Palestine Trauma Centre (UK)
- Food banks
- Helping Herts Homeless
- Herts Welcomes Refugees

Financial support for Quaker organisations in 2022 amounted to £12438, for non-Quaker organisations £8977.

Local meetings have supported Amnesty International in various ways, including organising and participating in letter writing events (individually and in groups).

8. Peace Cottage Community Hub (formerly Hoddesdon Quaker Meeting House)

The Peace Cottage Community project continued to thrive, with significant involvement from a dedicated steering group from Welwyn Garden City, Hertford and Eyeworth Meetings. Relationships with representatives from the Hoddesdon community continued to strengthen and events were held to draw in local people. Another open day was held in August and further progress made in developing and clearing the garden with a team of committed local volunteers. Further grant applications were successful in obtaining funds to upgrade the building.

9. Financial governance

During 2022 the Area Meeting continued to pursue policies of good governance and furtherance of our charitable objectives in compliance with its governing document.

Fiscal oversight was achieved at all levels by the receipt and acceptance of both the examined Area Meeting business accounts, and also the receipt of the examined Area Meeting amalgamated accounts, for 2021 for the Local meetings over which it had oversight. The proposed budget, financial timetable, and Area Meeting Quotas for 2023 were received and accepted.

10. Trustees

During 2022 four trustees served. The trustees see one of their functions as providing advice and counsel to local meetings. Trustees occasionally flag up matters of concern to Area Meeting for Business by minute and may bring proposals. Trustees appoint representatives to all Area Meeting Business Meetings. New trustees are appointed by the Area Meeting following expressions of interest from local meetings and nominations by local meetings. The trustees compiled the Annual Report for 2021 on the activities of the Area Meeting, which was presented to the Area Meeting Business Meeting and submitted to the Charity Commission. The trustees also produced a report to Area Meeting Business Meeting on trustees' activities. During 2022 not all trustee meetings were quorate although records were kept of matters discussed.

Financial Review 2022

1. Reserves Policy The reserves policy for Area Meeting central funds is based on holding money in various nominal funds at Area Meeting level. We are in the process of running down Area Meeting funds as agreed by the Treasurer in consultation with Finance Committee. The level will be as follows:

Funds held for the following purposes	Amount £
Properties Emergency Fund	15,000
General Purposes	10,000
Designated funds:	
Peace Group	500
Quaker Work	1,000
Camp Committee	7,000
Total	33,500

For the operation of Local meetings, it is expected that each of these should hold enough reserves to operate for 1 year and meet future building requirements. The level of funds for 2022 were:

Local Meeting	Amount £
Guilden Morden	1,000
Hertford	17,000
Hitchin	22,000
Letchworth	45,000
Stevenage	9,000
Welwyn Garden City	63,000
Total	157,000

The criteria and levels of reserves for Local meetings are currently under review.

2. Income and Expenditure None of the Area Meeting's funds were in deficit during 2022. At 31st December 2022, the Area Meeting had a total cash value of £324,394 (2021: £219,793). A significant part of the increase in value was due to a legacy received by one of the Local Meetings.

- 3. Income:** Our income was significantly increased by a legacy and by insurance payments for lost income during the Covid shutdowns, income in 2022 was £300,882 (2021: £128,614). A further insurance payment will be reflected in the 2023 accounts.

Funds from Friends were £33,676 (2021: £53,306).

Income from letting our Meeting Houses etc was £94,217 (2021: £53,502), a fall of 14% compared to pre-pandemic income. Much of the letting business has now returned, but there are some previous hirers who no longer operate. Local Meetings have received insurance compensation for some of the lost business due to Covid.

Grants or donations from outside bodies were £35,850 (2021: £21,240). This includes grants of £10,900 for various aspects of the work at Peace Cottage at Hoddesdon. At the end of 2021, £7,320 remained held as restricted funds for the purpose of developing Peace Cottage; this includes some donations by individual Friends for this purpose. Grants to Local Meetings amounted to £24,950, mostly for work on the Hertford Meeting House which is a Grade 1 Listed Building. £705 remains held as a restricted fund.

Interest received on cash balances was £2,581 (2021: £359).

- 4. Expenditure:** Our largest expenditure remains the insurance, maintenance, and improvement of our properties, at £159,176 (2021: £99,063) in support of our role as a religious organisation at a local level. This includes planned expenditure at the Peace Cottage, Hoddesdon, of £21,017 to repair and improve the property, of which £16,841 was funded by external grants and donations.

In 2022, £21,415 (2021: £23,819) was expended on grants and other support to outside bodies, of which about 58% went to Britain Yearly Meeting in furtherance of the centrally organised work of the Religious Society of Friends.

The amount spent on administration within the Area Meeting in 2022 was £15,264 (2021: £11,709).

- 5. Investment Policy:** Our funds are mostly held by or invested in organisations with good ethical policies such as Triodos Bank, Ecology Building Society, Co-operative Bank. Some funds are held by Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. Investments are regularly reviewed, and care is taken that no institution holds funds in excess of the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Key plans for the future

- Peace Cottage Community Hub project – to strengthen ties with the local community, attract more local use of the building, and progress with the improvements to the building, including obtaining a grant to install sustainable heating
- To undertake maintenance and repairs to Local Meeting Houses, when funds become available.
- To grow our membership and develop outreach, particularly to engage the interest of families and younger attendees.
- To use our newly acquired knowledge of virtual communication to develop Quaker community and Quaker work.
- Continue to implement learning from the ‘Simpler Meetings’ approach to managing roles within local and area meetings, to reduce the burden on a small number of role holders.
- To engage services outside the Society to take on management of some financial tasks if needed
- Carry on support of food banks and homelessness initiatives and participate in Hertfordshire refugee support programmes.
- Continue to find ways towards reducing our carbon footprint and make our buildings more sustainable.
- Trustees to work on establishing more formal agreements (Memoranda of Understanding) as to the reciprocal responsibilities of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies (Local meetings).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)			Charity No (if any)	1131894
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01/01/2022	To	Period end date	31/12/2022

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	132,259	39,107	-	171,366	74,726
Charitable activities	S02	2,997	-	-	2,997	-
Other trading activities	S03	94,227	-	-	94,227	53,502
Investments	S04	2,581	-	-	2,581	359
Separate material item of income	S05	29,657	-	-	29,657	-
Other	S06	54	-	-	54	27
Total	S07	261,775	39,107	-	300,882	128,614
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	21,415	-	-	21,415	23,189
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	126,248	48,192	-	174,440	110,772
Total	S12	147,663	48,192	-	195,855	133,961
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	114,112	- 9,085	-	105,027	- 5,347
Net income/(expenditure)	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Extraordinary items	S15	114,112	- 9,085	-	105,027	- 5,347
Transfers between funds	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S20	114,112	- 9,085	-	105,027	- 5,347
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	202,255	17,112	-	219,367	224,714
Total funds carried forward	S22	316,367	8,027	-	324,394	219,367

Section B Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		B05	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	16,412	-	-	16,412	11,585
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	324,245	8,027	-	332,272	220,888
Total current assets		B10	340,657	8,027	-	348,684	232,473
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	24,288	-	-	24,288	12,682
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	316,369	8,027	-	324,396	219,791
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	396,369	8,027	-	404,396	299,791
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	396,369	8,027	-	404,396	299,791
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-			-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18		8,027		8,027	17,112
Unrestricted funds		B19	316,369		-	316,369	202,680
Revaluation reserve		B20				-	
Total funds		B21	316,369	8,027	-	324,396	219,792
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
					David Hindle		28/10/2023

Note 3

Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
	Analysis					
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	31,094	3,257	-	34,351	46,911
	Gift Aid	4,352	-	-	4,352	6,395
	Legacies	96,815	-	-	96,815	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	35,850	-	35,850	21,420
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	132,261	39,107	-	171,368	74,726
Charitable activities:	Area Meeting Camp	2,997	-	-	2,997	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	2,997	-	-	2,997	-
Other trading activities:		-	-	-	-	53,502
	Hirings and Lettings of Meeting Houses	94,217	-	-	94,217	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	64	-	-	64	27
	Total	94,281	-	-	94,281	53,529
Income from investments:	Interest income	2,581	-	-	2,581	359
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	2,581	-	-	2,581	359
Separate material item of income:	insurance payment for loss of business (Covid19)	29,657	-	-	29,657	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	29,657	-	-	29,657	-
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		261,777	39,107	-	300,884	128,614

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for: (please provide description and amounts)

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 6 **Analysis of expenditure**

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£				£			
Expenditure on raising funds:								
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:								
Area Meeting Camp	3,613	-	-	3,613	808	-	-	808
Grant Making (see note 13)	21,415	-	-	21,415	23,189	-	-	23,189
Hitchin Peace Garden	-	6,651	-	6,651	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	25,028	6,651	-	31,679	23,997	-	-	23,997
Separate material item of expense								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other								
Area and Local Meeting Expenses	11,651	-	-	11,651	10,901	-	-	10,901
Premises Costs	110,984	41,541	-	152,525	87,488	11,575	-	99,063
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	122,635	41,541	-	164,176	98,389	11,575	-	109,964
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	147,663	48,192	-	195,855	122,386	11,575	-	133,961

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Activity or programme	This year				Last year			
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activity 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 11 **Paid employees**
Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	13,504	12,806
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	1,875	1,778
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	15,379	14,584

This year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Last year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Please give details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity. For specific amounts paid to trustees, see Note 28.

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	2
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	2	2

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

Please complete if an ex-gratia payment is made.

Please explain the nature of the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Please complete if any redundancy or termination payment is made in the period.

Total amount of payment

This year £	Last year £
-	-

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

--	--

The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year £	Last year £
-	-

Please state the accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments

--	--

Note 13 Grantmaking

Please complete this note if the charity made any grants or donations which in aggregate form a material part of the charitable activities undertaken.

This year:

13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	12,438.00	-	nil	12,438.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	nil	-
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	8,977.00	-	nil	8,977.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	21,415	-	-	21,415

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	12,438
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		12,438
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		12,438

Last year:

13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	19,342.00	-	nil	19,342.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	nil	-
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	3,817.00	-	nil	3,817.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	23,159	-	-	23,159

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.4 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	19,342
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		19,342
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		19,342

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 14 **Tangible fixed assets**

Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	**Basis	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)				
** Rate					
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Net book value at the end of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

14.5 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied and significant assumptions

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year
-	-

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) Please state the amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments.

19.1 Analysis of debtors

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

Total

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
16,412.0	11,585.0
-	-
16,412.0	11,585.0

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
Total -	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
-----------	-----------------------	--------

Note 20 **Creditors and accruals**
Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	24,288	12,682	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	24,288	12,682	-	-

20.2 Deferred income
Please complete this note if the charity has deferred income.

Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.

This year	Last year

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 24 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)
Short term deposits
Cash at bank and on hand
Other
Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
268,900	159,062
63,371	62,029
-	-
332,271	221,091

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 27 **Charity funds**

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	13,537	821	- 15,514	16,399	-	15,243
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	7,212	3,174	- 3,613	-	-	6,773
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	165,505	257,783	- 128,535	- 16,399	-	278,354
								-
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	6,401	250	- 6,651	-	-	-
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705	24,700	- 24,700	-	-	705
								-
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds	105	-	-	-	-	105
Peace Cottage cleaning	R	Peace Cottage cleaning	30	-	- 30	-	-	-
Broxbourne BC	R	Peace Cottage refurbishment	4,950	-	- 4,950	-	-	-
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc	4,920	-	- 740	-	-	4,180
Peace Cottage Dementia Café	R	Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities			- 336	3,000		2,664
Peace Cottage General Fund	R	Peace Cottage general		3,256	- 10,785	7,900		371
								-
Captain Tom Dementia Café	R	(Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities)		1,500		- 1,500		-
Herts CC Dementia Café	R	(Peace Cottage Dementia Café facilities)		1,500		- 1,500		-
								-
Community Centre Learning Fund	R	(Peace Cottage general)		5,000		- 5,000		-
Rosedale Community	R	(Peace Cottage general)		500		- 500		-
Broxbourne BC	R	(Peace Cottage general)		1,400		- 1,400		-
Herts CC	R	(Peace Cottage general)		1,000		- 1,000		-
								-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			219,365	300,884	- 195,854	-	-	324,395

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 Charity funds (cont)

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendable endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	15,723	1,144	- 18,204	14,874	-	13,537
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	8,020	-	- 808	-	-	7,212
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	183,377	100,377	- 103,374	- 14,874		165,506
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	888	5,513	-	-	-	6,401
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705	-	-	-	-	705
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds		1,250	- 1,145			105
Peace Cottage cleaning	R	Peace Cottage cleaning		150	- 120			30
Broxbourne BC	R	Peace Cottage refurbishment		4,950	-			4,950
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc		4,920	-			4,920
Peace Cottage garden	R	Peace Cottage garden		10	- 10			-
Allchurches Trust	R	Peace Cottage building work		1,800	- 1,800			-
Broxbourne PCN	R	Peace Cottage general		1,500	- 1,500	-	-	-
Countryside Properties	R	Peace Cottage general		7,000	- 7,000	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			224,713	128,614	- 133,961	-	-	219,366



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2022

Charity no

1131894

Set out on page

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

C.D. Maylin

Date:

3- APR - 2023

Name:

C. D MAYLIN

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

F.C.A

Address:

11 THE RIDGEWAY

HITCHIN

HERTS

SG5 2BT

Accounts

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting

Annual Report 2021

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Structure and objectives of the Area Meeting

1. This annual report has been compiled by the trustees of the Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), abbreviated as Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting . The Area Meeting is also known as Hertford and Hitchin Quakers, and was previously known as Hertford and Hitchin Monthly Meeting.

The Area Meeting is part of the organisation of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, and the national body is known as Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM). The Area Meeting contains six Local Meetings (LMs), which hold public Meetings for Worship and have day-to-day care of Meeting Houses and other property.

The objective of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond. This may be done by work such as:

- strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in the local communities they serve, and sharing Quaker values and principles through outreach;
- interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
- undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- funding the concerns that the Area Meeting has adopted or agreed to support;
- providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders¹ including assistance to those in need, and for education;
- maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
- administering and maintaining the organisation of the Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting

2. This report covers the calendar and financial year ended 31st December 2021.
3. The Area Meeting was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th September 2009 with Registered Charity Number 1131894.
4. Address that can be used for communication with the Clerk to the Trustees:
Clare Cooper, 11 Eleanor Road, Hertford, SG4 3DN
5. Trustees: The following Trustees served in 2021:
Clare Cooper
Paul Evans
David Hindle
Andrew Meek
Nick Needham
Headley Parkins

6. Key officers

- Area Meeting Clerk for Meeting for Worship for Business (held six times annually)
- Assistant Area Meeting Clerk

¹ "Members" are those who have formally been accepted into membership of the Area Meeting, "Attenders" are those who regularly attend Meeting for Worship but are not Members. The Area Meeting has a general policy of not distinguishing between Members and Attenders.

These roles are rotated between Clerks and Members/Attendees of constituent local meetings. A Continuity Clerk (Kathy Hindle) was appointed to maintain the flow of information between constituent local meetings.

- Area Meeting Treasurer David Hindle
- Safeguarding Coordinator Clare Cooper

Names and addresses of other relevant organisations or persons

Bank: Triodos Bank, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AS

Examiner of Accounts: Sarah Partridge

Custodian Trustees for the Area Meeting:

Friends Trusts Limited, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ#

Serious Incidents.

There were no serious incidents in 2021 which should have been reported.

Public Benefit Statement

1. The principal public benefit of the Area Meeting is that in normal circumstances, at least weekly each of the 5 Meeting Houses in current use is open to the public for Meeting for Worship. The Meeting Houses are also made available as appropriate, sometimes at a subsidised charge, to suitable local community and interest groups and charities. Due to Covid, many Meetings for Worship continued to be held online at the start of the year, before government guidance allowed the reopening of places of worship. Access to the online meetings was permitted for genuine requests from members of the public who contacted the local meeting link.
2. The Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings provide financial support to Quaker activities in the UK and abroad, mostly through contributions to national Quaker organisations. Support is also provided to a number of organisations and projects which are in broad agreement with Quaker principles, including peace, justice, and welfare.

Governance

1. The Area Meeting in session adopted a Governing Document on 13 October 2007 (Minute 81/07), amended on 9 November 2008 (Minute 81/08). As a result of meetings for business being held online due to Covid, a further amendment was made to incorporate this change on 14 May 2022 (Minute 22/23)
2. The activities of the trustees are defined by the Governing Document, and by the Terms of Reference for trustees adopted by the Area Meeting business meeting on 9 June 2007. The minutes of trustees' meetings, and supporting documents, are available (currently passworded) on the internet, and the attention of existing and new trustees is drawn to this and other significant information sources on the internet.
3. Meetings for church affairs, in which the Religious Society conducts its business, are meetings for worship based on silence, carrying the expectation that God's guidance can be discerned if members are truly

listening together and to each other. The unity that is sought depends on the willingness of all to seek the truth in each other's utterances. There is no voting in any meeting as this would inhibit the process of seeking to know the will of God as expressed in the sense of the meeting.

The Clerk of the meeting bears the final responsibility for preparing the business, conducting the meeting and drafting the minutes of the meeting. Minutes are drafted by the Clerk during the course of the meeting, but the final decision about whether the minute represents the sense of the meeting is the responsibility of the meeting itself, not of the Clerk.

4. The Area Meeting during 2021 had 6 constituent geographically based Local Meetings which organise public Meetings for Worship. These Local Meetings are at:

Eyeworth (Guilden Morden Meeting)
Letchworth
Hertford
Hitchin
Stevenage
Welwyn Garden City (WGC).

The Local Meeting at Hoddesdon was laid down at the start of 2012; the Area Meeting continues to oversee the building and plans for its use are progressing. See *Plans for the Future* below.

5. All of these Local Meetings are authorised to hold bank accounts, and each (except Guilden Morden) has the use of a Meeting House, as its place of worship. These are owned by the Area Meeting. Three of the Local Meetings also accommodate wardens, and WGC also has a small building used as a function room.

Friends Trusts Ltd is the custodian trustee of the AM's properties.

A number of advisory and executive functions are delegated to subsidiary committees:

- the Finance Committee assists the Area Meeting Treasurer in recommending financial policy and overseeing the financial affairs of the Area and Local Meetings.
- the Properties Committee oversees the care of properties, mainly by receiving properties reports from each local meeting, and reporting annually to Area Meeting.
- the Camp Committee organises an annual residential camp on behalf of Grand Union Quaker Camps, a registered charity, for Members and Attenders of the Area Meeting and some others; the Camp Committee is authorised to hold a bank account.

The Area Meeting is part of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, of which Britain Yearly Meeting is the body which centrally manages the policy, property, employment and work of the Religious Society.

6. Risk assessment: the Trustees have considered a number of areas of possible risk, as follows:

Care of property:

The properties are appropriately insured, and Area Meeting Properties Committee have oversight of any significant alterations to property which Local Meetings propose and provide advice as needed on proposals, and receives annual reports on the condition of the Meeting Houses and other properties.

Health and Safety:

The Local Meetings are responsible for assessing the safety aspects of the use of the buildings in their

care or which they use. The Trustees have incorporated oversight of this into a memorandum of understanding.

Financial probity:

The Area Meeting and its constituent bodies have no activities which constitute a major financial risk. There is a financial reporting system which includes independent examination of the Area Meeting's and its constituent bodies' annual accounts.

Investments:

The Area Meeting's funds are all in bank accounts and building societies. The placement of the funds is reviewed periodically.

Employment:

The Trustees have examined the employment practices in the Local Meetings with regard to legal requirements.

Safeguarding

A Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy for the Area Meeting was agreed in 2009 and a network of Designated Safeguarding Friends for the Area Meeting and each Local Meeting was implemented. A Safeguarding Handbook for the context of Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting was produced in 2010, and revised in 2016. This is being updated in light of new guidance from British Yearly Meeting working with the Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone:eight. We plan to implement the actions in the revised policy by the end of 2022.

Activities

1. The main activity of the constituent Local Meetings is the holding of public meetings for worship using Quaker practice, and regular meetings for church affairs. The Area Meeting itself holds business meetings for church affairs and supports its constituent Local Meetings, including providing grants and practical support to develop the life of meetings, and of individual Quakers (Members) and attenders.
2. The membership in general is aging and declining in numbers, resulting in fewer people being available to take on administrative roles within the local and area meetings. Some committee functions have therefore reverted to LMs' Business Meetings (eg Meeting House Management Group, at WGC), or have been shared amongst different local meetings (such as the Area Meeting Nominations Committee, and Area Meeting Business Meeting Clerking).
3. Other activities include:
 - Nurturing relations with other Quaker bodies, other denominations and other faiths;
 - Promoting our Quaker way of life, values, beliefs and practices;
 - Witness through action, carrying out active programmes of work to address social problems including conflict resolution and reconciliation, often in partnership with or by supporting other organisations.
4. The Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings decide how to use their funds to support Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker bodies, and also to support individuals and non-Quaker organisations whose objects and actions are in accordance with core Quaker values, including peace, simplicity, truth, justice, and equality.

Achievements and Performance

Membership and meetings for worship

1. At the end of 2021, the Area Meeting had 142 Members, and 108 Attenders. The Area Meeting lost 5 Members by death, 2 by transfers out, and 1 by termination of membership. We also welcomed 4 new members by conviction, and 1 by reinstatement.
2. The measures taken by the government as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to impact Meetings for Worship in 2021. Over the year our Meeting Houses reopened in line with government guidance, and according to the needs and decisions of each local meeting. Trustees were asked for advice on the correct interpretation of Covid guidance. Some Friends and Attenders continued to use 'blended' meetings for worship (with additional online access), particularly those with health conditions or disability. Weekly meetings for worship continued online or in a blended format throughout the year. In two local meetings, a second weekly meeting was also held online. Average attendance, including online meetings, varied from three to five in the two smallest meetings, 15 – 19 in larger meetings and up to 30 in the largest meeting.

Meetings for children and young people continued but mostly took place online. In one meeting, children and parents resumed face to face meetings for a short period. There were three meetings with active children's groups and in two there was an increase in the number of children joining. In two meetings there were single families with children and they often joined online with other local meetings.

3. Six area meetings were held online with an average attendance of **16.7 Friends**. Reports were received regularly from Meeting for Sufferings (the national standing executive body between Yearly Meetings) and the various committees accountable to Area Meeting. A Triennial report from Hitchin Meeting was received. Area Meeting dates for 2022 were agreed, and the tabular statement (an indicator of the numerical strength of our Local Meetings) for 2020 was received, the Area Meeting being the body responsible for membership.

Pastoral and spiritual care

This was provided by the appointment of Overseers and Elders. Local Meetings considered use of the word 'Overseers' given its link to oppressive contexts, including slavery, some LMs replacing this with 'Pastoral Carers'.

Local Meetings found various ways for Friends to support each other while we were unable to meet, including cards, telephone calls, WhatsApp groups, online meetings, and meetings outdoors when permitted.

The self-isolation measures to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic continued to affect access to in-person development and training opportunities. However, an emerging trend has been the increased availability and access to online learning. An example of this was a series of free discussion sessions run by Quakers in Britain on running 'simpler meetings', a nationwide initiative to help local meetings manage their meeting houses in more equitable ways and reduce the burden on a few individual role holders. A number of Friends and Attenders participated in these sessions, and local meetings have implemented some of the ideas generated. Other online learning events included local library and civic society history talks on Quaker slavery links and Quaker meeting houses, safeguarding (ThirtyOne:Eight), and Quaker spirituality (Woodbrooke).

Meetings for worship included 'Afterword' sessions or sharing of spiritual readings or art works. Most LMs continued to read from Advices and Queries. Regular small discussion groups took place across several meetings: Friendly Bible Study, 'Food for Thought' topics, and reading groups using books that had inspired Friends, or extracts from Quaker Faith and Practice.

Spiritual and social life

The usual formal and informal programmes of our Local Meetings to develop the spiritual and social life of Friends, continued to be curtailed in 2021 by the restrictions to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. Events taking place in 2021 were online in most cases but some face to face group activities also took place when the lifting of Covid restrictions permitted:

- Festive meetings for worship / New Year's Party
- Outdoor picnic lunches (own food, not shared) when possible
- Art together session
- Friendly Bible Study
- Reading/Study group
- Eldership and Oversight meetings
- Experiment with Light

Hitchin continued to produce a monthly newsletter (Quakerview). The all-age summer camp was cancelled, and the earliest date for resumption is 2022. Friends and attenders joined other local meetings for open mornings or afternoons when these were possible (at Welwyn Garden City, Hoddesdon). A number of friends from local meetings attended Yearly Meeting workshops and gatherings, which was held online this year.

Outreach to other communities

Most Local Meetings had regular contact with Church and Community groups within their immediate areas as far as Covid restrictions would allow, and often using online communication. Examples of these were:

- Churches Together
- Interfaith groups
- Hitchin Counselling Service
- Food Banks
- Supporting refugee groups
- Joining Remembrance Day events
- Hosting homeless support group events
- The Peace Garden in the grounds of Hitchin Meeting is also supported by other faith groups
- World Day of Prayer

To celebrate the 350th anniversary of Hertford Meeting House in 2020, which in the event could not be celebrated due to Covid, Hertford Meeting produced a series of Quaker information banners. These were displayed in another Hertford church during a public concert of music from around 1670, in June. Hertford Meeting was also open for the September Heritage Weekend and Bike 'n Hike Historic Churches sponsorship event.

The North Herts Interfaith Forum, in which Hitchin Quakers are active, published a statement from faith leaders encouraging people of faith to have the Covid vaccination, in response to the concern of low take-up in some communities.

Use of meeting houses for the community

Local meetings with Meeting Houses have continued to work to maintain their premises in good condition and improve them for the communities they serve. Some of this has been hard to complete due to the Covid restrictions. Work has included refurbishing of toilets and facilities for disabled people, and internal decorating, in preparation for lettings. Some significant building work plans had to be postponed in two meeting houses, due to Covid.

All the Local Meetings except Guilden Morden have Meeting Houses and other facilities which are normally available for use by the wider community. Welwyn Garden City Meeting has the Backhouse Room which is an additional separate meeting room. The availability of these premises is regarded as a form of service to the community, particularly when they are used by groups answering a social need or providing a cultural service. In some cases, additional support (staffing or facilities) is provided to some of these groups. Covid restrictions impacted heavily on lettings to the local community for group activities, and only in later months of 2021 did some groups start to resume their activities. Until the start of Covid, groups included all of the following, and it is hoped that they will return over time:

- Music, dance and art activities for children
- Community art groups
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Spiritualists
- Buddhist Meditation
- Counselling Tuition
- Health and Well Being groups
- Yoga and Tai Chi groups

- Local Music Society performances
- Bridge club
- Choir groups
- A Day Centre for adults with learning difficulties at Stevenage Meeting House
- Muslims (Friday prayers and Ramadan observance)
- A number of social and cultural events for Syrian families
- Liberal Jewish Synagogue.

The hiring of these premises remains a significant source of revenue for the meetings, however, charges may also be reduced or held to a level which encourages groups in difficulty. The development of facilities within and outside Meeting Houses are also seen to be closely related to outreach.

Sustainability

Our Local Meetings continue to support our commitment to the policy of sustainability being pursued by Britain Yearly Meeting, and this includes the care and use of our properties. We continue to aim to make our meeting houses become sustainable and reduce our energy consumption. WGC Meeting successfully linked the heating system directly to the lettings system and to the outside temperature, and will potentially be fully automated throughout the year.

Members of local meetings took part in national and local projects to publicise the need for positive outcomes from the COP 26 climate conference which took place in November 2021. This included members taking part in a Vigil for the Earth, hosting a public climate change all-day event with workshops, and the 'Stitches for Survival' knitting project for a display to coincide with the COP 26 conference.

Local meetings are continuing to manage their grounds to encourage wildlife and biodiversity (ponds, wild areas meeting house gardens).

Quaker witness

Our witness included supporting Quaker organisations and also non-Quaker organisations which pursue aims in line with Quaker values, particularly (but not exclusively) historical Quaker concerns such as peace, justice, refugees, treatment of criminals, and emergency relief, all areas where 'that of God in all people' is often not recognised. As part of our support, Local Meetings have raised funds for Quaker and non-Quaker charitable bodies both on a regular basis and as special events or series of events. These include:

- Central work of Britain Yearly Meeting
- Foodbanks
- Helping Herts Homeless (previously North Herts Sanctuary)
- A Quaker school in Lebanon
- Bigg Welcome Refugees settlement project in Biggleswade
- Bric-a-brac, plant and clothes sale for Herts Welcomes Refugees
- Selling of white poppies money to raise awareness of the victims of war, leading up to Remembrance Sunday.

Financial support for Quaker organisations in 2021 amounted to £19342, for non-Quaker organisations £3448

Individually Friends have supported the local resettlement of refugee families. Several meetings have supported Christian Aid Week. Several meetings have been involved with activities to support local

Churches Together groups. Welwyn Garden City Meeting participated in inter-faith work and Herts and Beds Welcomes Syrian refugees, contributing to study events, and hosting a number of social and cultural events.

Local meetings supported Amnesty International in different ways, including organising or participating in letter writing events (individually and in groups), and hosting a public Amnesty International Festival of Social Justice evening event (WGC).

Local Meetings continue to be active in support of the Quaker commitments to peace and justice, although at a lower level in the light of restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Hitchin Meeting continues to develop their Peace Garden, which has attracted interest from media and other churches in the area. Crowdfunding was successful in raising money for a sculpture for the garden, and the meeting held an event for the UN Day of Peace collaborating with other local organisations.

Meetings considered their banks' ethical investment performance and transferred their accounts to banks with stronger ethical credentials in some instances.

Peace Cottage Community Hub (formerly, the Hoddesdon Options Group)

The Hoddesdon Options Group was relaunched as The Peace Cottage Community Hub in June. The plan for this Grade 2 disused meeting house has been to rejuvenate and breathe new life into it as a centre for post-Covid recovery and well being for the local Hoddesdon community, while encouraging a Quaker presence. Discussions continued to be held with representatives from community groups and Churches Together in Hoddesdon, and local services (NHS primary care network) through the steering group. An open day in August with a range of activities attracted 100 local people. The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Leader of the Council also attended. Progress was made in clearing and developing the garden with a team of local volunteers and when possible, health walks were run by the local NHS social prescribing service, arriving afterwards at Peace Cottage for drinks and refreshment. Successful grant applications were successful in obtaining funds to upgrade the building, while some of the work was necessarily delayed due to Covid.

Financial governance

During 2021 the Area Meeting continued to pursue policies of good governance and furtherance of our charitable objectives in compliance with its governing document.

Fiscal oversight was achieved at all levels by the receipt and acceptance of both the examined Area Meeting business accounts for 2020 and also the receipt of the examined Area Meeting amalgamated accounts for 2020. for the Local Meetings over which it had oversight. The proposed budget for 2022 was received and accepted. The financial timetable for 2021 was received, and Area Meeting quotas for 2021 (contributions from Local Meetings) were also accepted.

Trustees

During 2021 six trustees served, five at a time. The trustees see one of their functions as providing advice and counsel to local meetings. This included guidance regarding the safe use of meeting houses during the Covid pandemic, as guidance changed and restrictions started to reduce. Trustees occasionally flag up matters of concern to Area Meeting for Business by minute and may bring proposals. Trustees appoint representatives to all Area Meeting Business Meetings. New trustees are appointed by the Area Meeting following expressions of interest from local meetings and nominations by local meetings. The trustees compiled the Annual Report for 2020 on the activities of the AM, which was presented to the Area Meeting Business Meeting and submitted to the Charity Commission. The trustees also produced a report to Area Meeting Business Meeting on trustees' activities. During 2021 all trustee meetings were quorate.

Financial Review 2021

- 1. Reserves Policy** The reserves policy for Area Meeting central funds is based on holding money in various nominal funds at Area Meeting level. We are in the process of running down Area Meeting funds as agreed by the Treasurer in consultation with Finance Committee. The level will be as follows:

Funds held for the following purposes	Amount £
Properties Emergency Fund	15,000
General Purposes	10,000
Designated funds:	
Peace Group	500
Quaker Work	1,000
Camp Committee	7,000
Total	33,500

For the operation of Local Meetings, it is expected that each of these should hold enough reserves to operate for 1 year and meet future building requirements. The level of funds for 2021 were:

Local Meeting	Amount £
Guilden Morden	1,000
Hertford	17,000
Hitchin	22,000
Letchworth	45,000
Stevenage	9,000
Welwyn Garden City	63,000
Total	157.000

The criteria and levels of reserves for Local Meetings are currently under review.

- 2. Income and Expenditure** None of the Area Meeting's funds were in deficit during 2021. At 31st December 2021, the Area Meeting had a total cash value of £219,793 (2020: £224,971).
- 3. Income:** Our usual sources of income continued to be very significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, income in 2021 was £128,614 (2020: £165,450).

Funds from Friends were £53,306 (2020: £49,984).

Income from letting our Meeting Houses etc was £53,502 (2020: £42,356), a fall of 49% compared to pre-pandemic income, resulting from the closures because of the Covid-19 pandemic. This follows a loss

of about 60% of the income from lettings in 2020 for the same reason. Places of religion are excluded from the compensation scheme for lost business, but claims are being lodged with our insurers.

Grants or donations from outside bodies were £21,420 (2020: £27,220). These were all grants for various aspects of the work at Peace Cottage at Hoddesdon. At the end of 2021, £10,006 remained held as restricted funds for the purpose of developing Peace Cottage; this includes some donations by individual Friends for this purpose.

Interest received on cash balances was £359 (2020: £852).

- 4. Expenditure:** Some costs relating to the use of our properties were reduced as a result of the closures due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the cancellation of the annual Camp.

Our largest expenditure remains the insurance, maintenance, and improvement of our properties, at £99,063 (2020: £104,940) in support of our role as a religious organisation at a local level. This includes planned expenditure at the Peace Cottage, Hoddesdon, of £21,059 to repair and improve the property, of which £13,851 was funded by external grants and donations.

In 2021, £23,189 (2020: £25,918) was expended on grants to outside bodies, of which about 83% went to Britain Yearly Meeting in furtherance of the centrally organised work of the Religious Society of Friends.

The amount spent on administration within the Area Meeting in 2021 was £11,709 (2020: £9,109).

- 5. Investment Policy:** Our funds are mostly held by or invested in organisations with good ethical policies such as Triodos Bank, Ecology Building Society, Co-operative Bank. Some funds are held by Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. Investments are regularly reviewed, and care is taken that no institution holds funds in excess of the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Key plans for the future

1. Following the laying down of Hoddesdon Meeting at the beginning of 2012, the Peace Cottage Community Hub (previously, the Hoddesdon Options Group) continues to meet and report to Area Meeting with ongoing developments. We aim to progress with the improvements to the building delayed by Covid, using successfully obtained grant funds, and to attract more local activity use of the building.
2. Local Meetings plan to undertake maintenance and repairs to Meeting Houses postponed due to Covid.
3. We aim to rebuild our membership and develop outreach following the decline in meeting attendance and new enquirers in our meetings during Covid. We want to engage the interest of younger attenders and families. We continue to have an outreach presence at local events.
4. We hope to find ways to use newly acquired knowledge of virtual communication to develop Quaker community and Quaker work.
5. The Area Meeting continues to implement learning from the 'Simpler Meetings' approach to managing roles within local and area meetings, to reduce the burden on a small number of role holders.
6. Some local meetings plan to engage services outside the Society to take on management of some financial tasks.
7. In the continuing environment of economic austerity, Local Meetings carry on with their support of food banks and homelessness initiatives and participate in Hertfordshire refugee support programmes.
8. We continue to find ways towards a greater 'greening' of our Meeting Houses.
9. Local Meetings look to work on best ways to utilise the spiritual, financial, and people resources that are available to nurture the life of the Meeting.
10. The Trustees hope to establish more formal agreements (Memoranda of Understanding) as to the reciprocal responsibilities of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies (Local Meetings).

Charity Name		Charity No (if any)		
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01/01/2021	To	31/12/2021	

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	47,632	27,094	-	74,726	83,438
Charitable activities	S02	-	-	-	-	75
Other trading activities	S03	53,502	-	-	53,502	42,356
Investments	S04	359	-	-	359	852
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	27	-	-	27	38,729
Total	S07	101,520	27,094	-	128,614	165,450
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	23,189	-	-	23,189	27,672
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	98,574	11,575	-	110,149	113,269
Total	S12	121,763	11,575	-	133,338	140,941
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	S13	- 20,243	15,519	-	- 4,724	24,509
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	S15	- 20,243	15,519	-	- 4,724	24,509
Extraordinary items	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S20	- 20,243	15,519	-	- 4,724	24,509
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	223,546	1,593	-	225,139	200,630
Total funds carried forward	S22	203,303	17,112	-	220,415	225,139

Section B

Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year	
			£	£	£	£	£	
			F01	F02	F03	F04	F05	
Fixed assets								
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-	
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000	
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-	
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-	
Total fixed assets		B05	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000	
Current assets								
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-	
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	11,585	-	-	11,585	9,341	
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-	
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	221,091	-	-	221,091	230,239	
Total current assets		B10	232,676	-	-	232,676	239,580	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year								
	(Note 20)	B11	12,682	-	-	12,682	14,609	
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	219,994	-	-	219,994	224,971	
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	299,994	-	-	299,994	304,971	
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year								
	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-	
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-	
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	299,994	-	-	299,994	304,971	
Funds of the Charity								
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-			-	-	
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18		17,112		17,112	1,593	
Unrestricted funds		B19	202,882		-	202,882	223,378	
Revaluation reserve		B20				-		
Total funds		B21	202,882	17,112	-	219,994	224,971	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy	
					David Hindle		26/10/2022	

Note 1 Basis of preparation

This section should be completed by all charities.

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- and with*

✓

 the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- and with*

✓

 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.*

--

* -Tick as appropriate

1.2 Going concern

If there are material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, please provide the following details or state "Not applicable", if appropriate:

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;

--

Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;

--

Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.

--

1.3 Change of accounting policy

The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note { }.

Yes*	✓	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	✓	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of the change in accounting policy;</i>	
---	--

<i>(ii) the reasons why applying the new accounting policy provides more reliable and more relevant information; and</i>	
<i>(iii) the amount of the adjustment for each line affected in the current period, each prior period presented and the aggregate amount of the adjustment relating to periods before those presented, 3.44 FRS 102 SORP.</i>	

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes*	☒	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	☒	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of any changes;</i>	
<i>(ii) the effect of the change on income and expense or assets and liabilities for the current period; and</i>	
<i>(iii) where practicable, the effect of the change in one or more future periods.</i>	

1.5 Material prior year errors

No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes*	☒	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	☒	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of the prior period error;</i>	
<i>(ii) for each prior period presented in the accounts, the amount of the correction for each account line item affected; and</i>	

<i>(iii) the amount of the correction at the beginning of the earliest prior period presented in the accounts.</i>	
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Note 2

Accounting policies

Please complete this note when first reporting under FRS2102. Section 35 of FRS102, requires 3 reconciliations to be presented, if all are applicable.

2.1 RECONCILIATION WITH PREVIOUS GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRACTICE

Please provide a description of the nature of each change in accounting policy

Reconciliation of funds per previous GAAP to funds determined under FRS 102

	Start of period	End of period
	£	£
Fund balances as previously stated		
<i>Adjustments:</i>		
Fund balance as restated		

Reconciliation of net income/(net expenditure) per previous GAAP to net income/(net expenditure) under FRS 102

	End of period
	£
Net income/(expenditure) as previously stated	
<i>Adjustments:</i>	
Previous period net income/(expenditure) as restated	

[illegible]

Note 3

Analysis of income

Analysis		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	41,917	4,994	-	46,911	60,831
	Gift Aid	5,715	680	-	6,395	5,419
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	21,420	-	21,420	17,188
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	47,632	27,094	-	74,726	83,438
Charitable activities:	Area Meeting Camp	-	-	-	-	75
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	75
Other trading activities:	Hirings and Lettings of Meeting Houses	53,502	-	-	53,502	42,356
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	27	-	-	27	-
	Total	53,529	-	-	53,529	42,356
Income from investments:	Interest income	359	-	-	359	852
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	359	-	-	359	852
Separate material item of income:	refunds	-	-	-	-	38,729
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	38,729
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		101,520	27,094	-	128,614	165,450

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for: (please provide description and amounts)

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Note 4

Analysis of receipts of government grants

	Description	This year £
Government grant 1		-
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	-

	Description	Last year £
Government grant 1		-
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	-

	This year	Last year
<i>Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to grants that have been recognised in income.</i>		

	This year	Last year
<i>Please give details of other forms of government assistance from which the charity has directly benefited.</i>		

Note 5

Donated goods, facilities and services

	This year £	Last year £
Seconded staff	-	-
Use of property	-	-
Other	-	-
	-	-

	This year	Last year
Please provide details of the accounting policy for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services.		
Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to resources from donated goods and services not recognised in income.		
Please give details of other forms of other donated goods and services not recognised in the accounts, eg contribution of unpaid volunteers.		

Section C

Notes to the accounts

(cont)

Note 6

Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
Expenditure on raising funds:				£				£
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities:								
Area Meeting Camp	605	-	-	605	680	-	-	680
Grant Making (see note 13)	23,189	-	-	23,189	26,918	-	-	26,918
Hitchin Peace Garden	-	-	-	-	-	74	-	74
Peace Summer School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	23,794	-	-	23,794	27,598	74	-	27,672
Separate material item of expense								
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other								
Area and Local Meeting Expenses	10,901	-	-	10,901	8,329	-	-	8,329
Premises Costs	87,068	11,575	-	98,643	88,457	16,483	-	104,940
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	97,969	11,575	-	109,544	96,786	16,483	-	113,269
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	121,763	11,575	-	133,338	124,384	16,557	-	140,941

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

This year	Last year
-----------	-----------

Activity or programme	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activity 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note 7

Extraordinary items

Please explain the nature of each extraordinary item occurring in the period.

	Description	This year £	Last year £
Extraordinary item 1		-	-
Extraordinary item 2		-	-
Extraordinary item 3		-	-
Extraordinary item 4		-	-
Total extrordinary items		-	-

Section C

Notes to the accounts

Note 8

Funds received as agent

8.1 Please complete this note if the charity has agreed to administer the funds of another entity as its agent. Note: If a charity is acting as an agent, it should not recognise the income in the Statement of Financial Activities or the Balance Sheet.

Description/name of party	Related party (Yes or No)	Amount received		Amount paid out		Balance held at period end	
		This year	Last year	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-	-

8.2 Where a consortia or similar arrangement exists whereby 2 or more charities co-operate to achieve economies in the purchase of goods or services, please disclose details of any balances outstanding between any participating members.

Description/name of party	Balance held at period end	
	This year	Last year
	£	£
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Section C

Notes to the accounts

Note 9

Support Costs

Please complete this note if the charity has analysed its expenses using activity categories and has support costs.

This year

Support cost (examples)	Raising funds	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3	Grand total	Basis of allocation (Describe method)
	£	£	£	£	£	
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

Last year

Support cost (examples)	Raising funds	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3	Grand total	Basis of allocation (Describe method)
	£	£	£	£	£	
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

Please provide details of the accounting policy adopted for the apportionment of costs between activities and any estimation techniques used to calculate their apportionment.

Note 10 Details of certain items of expenditure**10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts**

Please provide details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner. If nothing was paid please enter '0' in the appropriate box(es).

Independent examiner's fees**Assurance services other than audit or independent examination****Tax advisory fees****Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner**

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 11

Paid employees

Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	12,806	11,118
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	1,778	1,741
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	14,584	12,859

This year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Last year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Please give details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity. For specific amounts paid to trustees, see Note 28.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	2
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	2	2

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

Please complete if an ex-gratia payment is made.

Please explain the nature of the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year	Last year
£ -	£ -

11.4 Redundancy payments

Please complete if any redundancy or termination payment is made in the period.

Total amount of payment

This year	Last year
£ -	£ -

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

--	--

The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year	Last year
£ -	£ -

Please state the accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments

--	--

Note 12 Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

12.1 Please complete this note if a defined contribution pension scheme is operated.

Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-

Please explain the basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds.

--	--

12.2 Please complete this section where the charity participates in a defined benefit pension plan but is unable to ascertain its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

Please confirm that although the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution plan, it is a defined benefit plan.

Please provide such information as is available about the plan's surplus or deficit and the implications, if any, for the reporting charity for this year and last year, if different

12.3 Please complete this section where the charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

Describe the extent to which the charity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan. If this is different for last year, provide details

Provide an explanation of how any liability arising from an agreement with a multi-employer plan to fund a deficit has been determined. If this is different for last year, provide details

Section C

Notes to the accounts

(cont)

Note 13 Grantmaking

Please complete this note if the charity made any grants or donations which in aggregate form a material part of the charitable activities undertaken.

This year:

13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
Britain Yearly Meeting	19,342.00	-	nil	19,342.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	-	nil	-
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	3,817.00	-	nil	3,817.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	23,159	-		23,159

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	19,342
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		19,342
Other unanalysed grants		3,817
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		23,159

Last year:

13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	13,949.00	-	nil	13,949.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	1,000.00	nil	1,000.00
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	10,645.00	-	nil	10,645.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	10,645	1,000	-	Cross Add Error

Please enter “Nil” if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.4 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.

Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	13,949
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		13,949
Other unanalysed grants		10,645
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		24,594

Section C

Notes to the accounts

(cont)

Note 14 **Tangible fixed assets***Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets***14.1 Cost or valuation**

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
** Rate					

At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
Net book value at the end of the year	8,000	-	-	-	8,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

14.5 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied and significant assumptions

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year
-	-

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) Please state the amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Note 15 Intangible assets*Please complete this note if the charity has any intangible assets***15.1 Cost or valuation**

	Research & development	Patents and trademarks	Other	Total
	£	£	£	£
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-

15.2 Amortisation and impairments

**Basis	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	Straight Line ("SL") or Reducing Balance ("RB")
** Rate					

At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-
At end of year	-	-	-	-

15.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-

15.4 Accounting policy*Please disclose the accounting policy for intangible fixed assets including:**Reasons for choosing amortisation rates**Policies for the recognition of any capital development*

15.5 Impairment

This year:

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year:

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

15.6 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year

15.7 Other disclosures

(i) If your intangible asset was acquired by way of grant, provide value on initial recognition and carrying amount of the asset.

(ii) Details of the carrying amounts of any intangible assets to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

(iii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of intangible assets.

(iv) State the amount of research and development expenditure recognised as expenditure in the year.

(v) Please detail the headings in the SOFA in which a charge for amortisation of intangible assets is included.

(vi) For any material intangible assets, please provide a description, its carrying amount and any remaining amortisation period.

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Note 16 Heritage assets*Please complete this note if the charity has heritage assets***16.1 General disclosures for all charities holding heritage assets**

(i) Explain the nature and scale of heritage assets held.

(ii) Explain the policy for the acquisition, preservation, management and disposal of heritage assets.

This year	Last year

16.2 Cost or valuation

	Heritage asset 1 £	Heritage asset 2 £	Heritage asset 3 £	Heritage asset 4 £	Total £
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

16.3 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis						Straight Line ("SL") or Reducing Balance
** Rate						

At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of year	-	-	-	-	-

16.4 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

16.5 Impairment

This year

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

16.6 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

qualifications of independent valuer

the methods applied and significant assumptions

any significant limitations on the valuation

This year	Last year

16.7 Analysis of heritage assets by class or group distinguishing those at cost and those at valuation

Carrying amount at the beginning of the period

Additions

Disposals

Depreciation/impairment

Revaluation

Carrying amount at the end of period

At valuation Group A	At cost Group B	Total
£	£	£
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

16.8 Heritage assets (where heritage assets are not recognised on the balance sheet)

(i) Explain the reason why heritage assets have not been recognised on the balance sheet.

(ii) Describe the significance and nature of heritage assets.

(iii) Disclose information that is helpful in assessing the value of heritage assets.

(iv) Explain the reason why it is not practicable to obtain a valuation of heritage assets.

This year	Last year

16.9 Five year summary of heritage assets transactions

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	£	£	£	£	£
Purchases					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-				
Other	-				
Donations					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total additions	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for impairment					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total charge for impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals					
Group A - carrying amount	-	-	-	-	-
Group B - carrying amount	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total disposals	-	-	-	-	-

Please complete this note if the charity has any investment assets.

	Cash & cash equivalents	Listed investments	Investment properties	Social investments	Other	Total
Carrying (fair) value at beginning of period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: additions to investments during period*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Reversal of impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): transfer in/(out) in the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	-	-
Social investments	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	-	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		-

	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	-	-
Social investments	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	-	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		-

17.3 If your charity holds investment properties, please complete the following note:

(i) Explain the methods and significant assumptions in determining the fair value of investment property held by the charity

(ii) Name or independent valuer, if applicable, and relevant qualifications

(iii) Provide details of any restrictions on the ability to realise investment property or on the remittance of income or disposal proceeds

(iv) Explain any contractual obligations for the purchase, construction or development of investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements

This year	Last year

17.4 Please provide a breakdown of current asset investments, if applicable, agreeing with the balance sheet.

Analysis of current asset investments

Cash or cash equivalents

Listed investments

Investment properties

Social investments

Other investments

Total

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

17.5 Guarantees

Please provide details and amount of any guarantee made to or on behalf of a third party

Name of the entity or entities benefitting from those guarantees

Please explain how the guarantee furthers the charity's aims

This year	Last year

17.6 Concessionary loans

Amount of concessionary loans made (*Multiple loans made may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Amount of concessionary loans received (*Multiple loans received may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Terms and conditions eg interest rate, security provided

This year	Last year

Value of any concessionary loans which have been committed but not taken up at the reporting date

Amounts payable within 1 year

Amounts payable after more than 1 year

Amounts receivable within 1 year

Amounts receivable after more than 1 year

17.7 Additional information

Please provide information about the significance of investments to the charity's financial position or performance eg. terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

For all investments measured at fair value, the basis for determining the value, including any assumptions applied when using a valuation technique.

Where a charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial asset pledged as security and the terms and conditions relating to its pledge.

This year	Last year

Note 18

Stocks

Please complete this note if the charity holds any stock items

18.1 Please state the carrying amount of stock and work in progress analysed between activities.

Charitable activities:

Opening

Added in period

Expensed in period

Impaired

Closing

Other trading activities:

Opening

Added in period

Expensed in period

Impaired

Closing

Other:

Opening

Added in period

Expensed in period

Impaired

Closing

Total this year

Total previous year

Stock		Donated goods		Work in progress
For distribution	For resale	For distribution	For resale	
£	£	£	£	£
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-

This year	Last year
£	£

**18.2 Please specify the carrying amount of any
stocks pledged as security for liabilities**

--	--

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments.

19.1 Analysis of debtors

Trade debtors
Prepayments and accrued income
Other debtors

Total

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
11,585.0	9,341.0
-	-
11,585.0	9,341.0

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

Trade debtors
Prepayments and accrued income
Other debtors

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
Total	-

Note 20 **Creditors and accruals**

Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	12,682	14,609	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	12,682	14,609	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

Please complete this note if the charity has deferred income.

Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.

This year	Last year

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Please complete this note if you have included in charity expenditure any provisions. A provision is made when the charity has a liability of uncertain timing or amount.

21.1 Movements in recognised provisions and funding commitment during the period

Balance at the start of the reporting period
Amounts added in current period
Amounts charged against the provision in the current period
Unused amounts reversed during the period
Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

21.2 Please provide:

- a brief description of any obligations on the balance sheet and the expected amount and timing of resulting payments;
- an indication of the uncertainties about the amount or timing of those outflows; and
- the amount of any expected reimbursement, stating the amount of any asset that has been recognised for that expected reimbursement.

This year	Last year

21.3 For any funding commitment that is not recognised as a liability or provision, provide details of commitment made, the time frame of that commitment, any performance-related conditions and details of how the commitment will be funded (with contracts for capital expenditure separately identified).

This year	Last year

21.4 Where unrestricted funds have been designated to a fund commitment, please disclose the nature of any amounts designated and the likely timing of that expenditure.

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Note 22 Other disclosures for debtors, creditors and other basic financial instruments

22.1 Please provide information about the significance of financial instruments (eg. debtors, creditors, investments etc) to the charity's financial position or performance, for example, the terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

This year	Last year

22.2 If the charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial assets pledged as security and the terms and conitions related to its pledge should be given here.

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Note 23 Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

23.1 Contingent liabilities

Where the charity has contingent liabilities, please complete the following section unless the possibility of their existence is remote.

This year

Description of item including its legal nature. Please describe any security provided in connection to the liability.	Estimate of financial effect

Last year

Description of item including its legal nature. Please describe any security provided in connection to the liability.	Estimate of financial effect

23.2 Contingent assets

Where the charity has contingent assets, please complete the following section when their existence is probable

This year

Description of item	Estimate of financial effect

Last year

Description of item	Estimate of financial effect

23.4 Other disclosures for contingent assets and/or liabilities

Please provide the following information where practicable:

This year	Last year
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Explain any uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of settlement; and the possibilty of any reimbursement

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Where it is not practical to make one or more of these disclosures, please state this fact

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Note 24 **Cash at bank and in hand****Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)****Short term deposits****Cash at bank and on hand****Other****Total**

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
159,062	179,049
62,029	51,190
-	-
221,091	230,239

Note 25 Fair value of assets and liabilities

	This year	Last year
25.1 Please provide details of the charity's exposure to credit risk (the risk of incurring a loss due to a debtor not paying what is owed) , liquidity risk (the risk of not being able to meet short term financial demands) and market risk (the risk that the value of an investment will fall due to changes in the market) arising from financial instruments to which the charity is exposed at the end of the reporting period and explain how the charity manages those risks.		
25.2 Please give details of the amount of change in the fair value of basic financial instruments (debtors, creditors, investments (see section 11, FRS 102 SORP)) measured at fair value through the SoFA that is attributable to changes in credit risk.		

Note 26

Events after the end of the reporting period

Please complete this note events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting

	This year	Last year
Please provide details of the nature of the event		
Provide an estimate of the financial effect of the event or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made		

Note 27 Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	15,724	1,144	- 18,204	14,874	-	13,538
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	8,020	-	- 605	-	-	7,415
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	183,634	98,299	- 101,129	- 14,874	-	165,930
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	888	5,513	-	-	-	6,401
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	705	-	-	-	-	705
Herts CC	R	Peace Cottage raised garden beds		1,250	- 1,145			105
Peace Cottage cleaning	R	Peace Cottage cleaning		150	- 120			30
Broxbourne BC	R	rPeace Cottage refurbishment		4,950				4,950
Places Called Home	R	Peace Cottage garden workshops etc		4,920				4,920
Peac Cottage garden	R	Peace Cottage garden		10	- 10			-
Allchurches Trust	R	Peace Cottage building work		1,800	- 1,800			-
Broxbourne PCN	R	Peace Cottage general		1,500	- 1,500	-	-	-
Countryside Properties	R	Peace Cottage general		7,000	- 7,000	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			224,971	126,536	- 131,513	-	-	219,994

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds (cont)**

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	11,837	11,998	- 4,622	- 6,006		13,207
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	2,026	-	-	- 1,026		1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Maintenance and repair of our buildings	32,450	-	- 21,704	4,254	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	7,178	5,535	- 4,089	-	-	8,624
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	152,813	144,671	- 136,901	2,026	-	162,609
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	2,093	275	- 1,506	-	-	862
Sawell Fund	R	to be used for Hoddesdon	4,520	-	- 4,520	-	-	-
WGC Quaker Work Fund	R	to be used for Quaker work only	24	-	- 24	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	- 252	752		500
Total Funds			212,941	162,479	- 173,618	-	-	201,802

Charity funds (cont)

This year

This year		
	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
Between unrestricted and restricted funds		
Between endowment and restricted funds		
Between endowment and unrestricted funds		

	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
Between unrestricted and restricted funds		
Between endowment and restricted funds		
Between endowment and unrestricted funds		

This year

[illegible][illegible]

Note 28 Transactions with trustees and related parties

If the charity has any transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in guidance notes) details of such transactions should be provided in this note. If there are no transactions to report, please enter “True” in the box or "False" if there are transactions to report.

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits

This year

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity (True or False)

In the period the charity has paid trustees remuneration and benefits. Please give the amount of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to a trustee by the charity or any institution or company connected with it.

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

Please give details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

Last year

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity (True or False)

In the period the charity has paid trustees remuneration and benefits. Please give the amount of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to a trustee by the charity or any institution or company connected with it.

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£		£	£
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

Please give details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

28.2 Trustees' expenses

If the charity has paid trustees expenses for fulfilling their duties, details of such transactions should be provided in this note. If there are no transactions to report, please enter “True” in the box below. If there are transactions to report, please enter "False".

No trustee expenses have been incurred (True or False)

Type of expenses reimbursed	This year	Last year
	£	£
Travel	-	-
Subsistence	-	-
Accommodation	-	-
Other (please specify):	-	-
	-	-
TOTAL	-	-

Please provide the number of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by the charity

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

Please give details of any transaction undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a related party has a material interest, including where funds have been held as agent for related parties. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

This year

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period (True or False)

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

Last year

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period (True or False)

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

Note 29	Additional Disclosures
The following are significant matters which are not covered in other notes and need to be included to provide a proper understanding of the accounts. If there is insufficient room here, please add a separate sheet.	



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of	Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
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On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2021	Charity no	1131894
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Set out on page 1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 12 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: James Hodge

Date: 8.4.27

Name: S. P. KILBIDGE

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address: 23 WINGS WAY
HITCHIN SG4 9NR.

Accounts

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Annual Report 2020

Reference details

1. This is the annual report, compiled by the trustees, of the Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), abbreviated as Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting. The Area Meeting is also known as Hertford and Hitchin Quakers, and was previously known as Hertford and Hitchin Monthly Meeting.

The Area Meeting is part of the organization of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, and the national body is known as Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM). The Area Meeting contains a number of Local Meetings, which hold public Meetings for Worship and have day-to-day care of Meeting Houses and other property.

The object of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond. This may be done by work such as:

- strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings in the area of the Area Meeting and beyond;
- spreading the message of Quakers and interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
- undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- funding the concerns that Quaker meetings in the area of the Area Meeting or beyond have adopted or agreed to support;
- providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders¹ including assistance to those in need and for education;
- maintaining and developing its Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
- administering and maintaining the organization of the Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting

2. This report covers the calendar and financial year ended 31st December 2020.
3. The Area Meeting was registered with the Charity Commission on 29th September 2009 with Registered Charity Number 1131894.
4. Address that can be used for communication with the Clerk to the Trustees:
6 Mallard Walk, Biggleswade, BEDS, SG18 8DY

¹ "Members" are those who have formally been accepted into membership of the Area Meeting, "Attenders" are those who regularly attend Meeting for Worship but are not Members. The Area Meeting has a general policy of not distinguishing between Members and Attenders. "Friends" describes both Members and Attenders.

5. Trustees:

The following Trustees served in 2020:

Clare Cooper
David Hindle
Andrew Meek
Nick Needham (Clerk of Trustees)
Headley Parkins (from March 15th 2020)

6. Key officers

Area Meeting Clerk Katey Earle

The appointment of an Assistant Clerk of Area Meeting has not been made after 2011, the functions of the role are rotated between the Local Meetings hosting the Area Meeting sessions.

Area Meeting Treasurer David Hindle

Names and addresses of other relevant organizations or persons

Bank: Triodos Bank, Brunel House, 11 The Promenade, Bristol, BS8 3NN

Examiner of Accounts: Sarah Partridge

Custodian Trustees for the Area Meeting:

Friends Trusts Limited 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

Public Benefit statement

The principal benefit is that, in normal circumstances, at least weekly each of the 5 Meeting Houses in current use is open to the public for Meeting for Worship. The Meeting Houses are also made available as appropriate, sometimes at a subsidized charge, to suitable local community and interest groups and charities.

The Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings provide financial support to Quaker activities in the United Kingdom and abroad, mostly through contributions to national Quaker organisations. Support is also provided to a number of organisations and projects which are in broad agreement with Quaker principles, including peace, justice, and welfare.

Serious Incidents.

There were no serious incidents in 2020 which should have been reported, but were not.

Governance

1. The Area Meeting in session adopted a Governing Document on 13 October 2007 (Minute 81/07), amended on 9 November 2008 (Minute 81/08)
2. The activities of the trustees are defined by the Governing Document, and by the Terms of Reference for trustees adopted by the Area Meeting in session on 9 June 2007. The minutes of trustees' meetings, and supporting documents, are available (currently passworded) on the internet, and the attention of existing and new trustees is drawn to this and other significant information sources on the internet.
3. Meetings for church affairs, in which the Religious Society conducts its business, are meetings for worship based on silence, carrying the expectation that God's guidance can be discerned if Friends are truly listening together and to each other. The unity that is sought depends on the willingness of all to seek the truth in each other's utterances. There is no voting in any meeting as this would inhibit the process of seeking to know the will of God as expressed in the sense of the meeting.

The Clerk of the meeting bears the final responsibility for preparing the business, conducting the meeting and drafting the minutes of the meeting. Minutes are drafted by the Clerk during the course of the meeting, but the final decision about whether the minute represents the sense of the meeting is the responsibility of the meeting itself, not of the Clerk. This procedure is used for the Area Meeting in session, and for meetings of the trustees.

4. The Area Meeting during 2020 had 6 constituent geographically based Local Meetings which organize public Meetings for Worship. These Local Meetings are at:
 - Eyeworth (Guilden Morden Meeting)
 - Letchworth
 - Hertford
 - Stevenage
 - Hitchin
 - Welwyn Garden City.

The Local Meeting at Hoddesdon was laid down at the start of 2012; the Area Meeting continues to oversee the building and plans for its use are progressing. See *Plans for the Future* below, also the Hoddesdon Options Group in *Achievements and Performance* (5).

5. All of these Local Meetings are authorized to hold bank accounts, and each (except Guilden Morden) has the use of a Meeting House, as its place of worship. These are owned by the Area Meeting. Several of the Local Meetings also have wardens' accommodation, and Welwyn Garden City also has a small building used as a function room.

Friends Trusts Ltd is the custodian trustee of the Area Meeting's properties.

A number of advisory and executive functions are delegated to subsidiary committees, including

- the Finance Committee assists the Area Meeting Treasurer in recommending financial policy and overseeing the financial affairs of the Area and Local Meetings.
- the Properties Committee oversees the care of properties, mainly by receiving properties reports from each Local Meeting, and reporting annually to Area Meeting.

- the Camp Committee organizes an annual residential camp on behalf of Grand Union Quaker Camps, a registered charity, for Members and Attenders of the Area Meeting and some others; the Camp Committee is authorized to hold a bank account.

The Area Meeting is part of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, of which Britain Yearly Meeting is the body which centrally manages the policy, property, employment and work of the Religious Society.

6. Risk assessment: the Trustees have considered a number of areas of possible risk, as follows:

Care of property

The properties are appropriately insured, and Area Meeting Properties Committee have oversight of any significant alterations to property which Local Meetings propose and provide advice as needed on proposals, and receives annual reports on the condition of the Meeting Houses and other properties.

Health and Safety

The Local Meetings are responsible for assessing the safety aspects of the use of the buildings in their care or which they use. The Trustees have incorporated oversight of this into a memorandum of understanding.

Financial probity

The Area Meeting and its constituent bodies have no activities which constitute a major financial risk. There is a financial reporting system which includes independent examination of the Area Meeting's and its constituent bodies' annual accounts.

Investments

The Area Meeting's funds are all in bank accounts and building societies. The placement of the funds is reviewed periodically.

Employment

The Trustees have examined the employment practices in the Local Meetings with regard to legal requirements. New contracts have been employed by Welwyn Garden City Meeting. Letchworth Meeting has now employed a new contract. Model contracts for paid workers and agreements for volunteers are close to completion.

Child Safety

A Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy for the Area Meeting was agreed in 2009 and a network of responsible persons for the Area Meeting and each Local Meeting has been implemented. A Safeguarding Handbook for the context of Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting was produced in 2010, and revised in 2016.

Nationally Quakers are in the process of standardising the Safeguarding policies of Area Meetings so as to provide a common framework with improved structures and better defined responsibilities, and this Area Meeting is taking part in this process.

Objectives and Activities

1. The object of the Area Meeting is the furtherance of the religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends.

The main activity of the constituent Local Meetings is the right holding of public meetings for worship, and regular meetings for church affairs.

The Area Meeting itself holds meetings for church affairs and supports its constituent Local Meetings, including providing grants and practical support to develop the life of meetings, and of individual Quakers and attenders.

Other activities include:

- Sustaining faith relations. Nurturing relations with other Quaker bodies, with other denominations and with other faiths.
 - Promoting the Quaker way of life, including promoting our beliefs and practices.
 - Witness through action, which involves carrying out active programmes of work to address social problems including conflict resolution and reconciliation. This work is often in partnership with or by supporting other organizations.
2. The Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings decide how to use their funds to support Britain Yearly Meeting and other Quaker bodies, and also to support individuals and non-Quaker organizations whose objects and actions are in accordance with core Quaker values, including peace, truth, justice, and equality.

Achievements and Performance

1. At the end of 2020, the Area Meeting had 145 Members, and 106 Attenders. The Area Meeting lost 9 Members by death. We also welcomed 4 new members by conviction, and 1 by transfer.
2. This section of the report usually lists the number of Meetings for Worship held by each Local Meeting, with an estimate of the average attendance, but the measures taken by the government as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic significantly impacted Meetings for Worship in 2020, and the effects have continued into 2021.

For much of 2020 our Meeting Houses have been closed, and the Local Meetings have varied in their responses, most using Zoom or similar for online Meetings for Worship. While some Friends were unable to access Meetings for Worship remotely, others have found access improved, especially when normally unable to attend Meetings for Worship due to distance, illness, or disability. Following the re-opening of our Meeting houses for worship, some Local Meetings intend to experiment with "blended" Meetings for Worship, combining remote and in-person attendance.

3. During 2020 the Area Meeting has continued to pursue policies of good governance and furtherance of our charitable objectives in compliance with its governing document.

Fiscal oversight has been achieved at all levels by the receipt and acceptance of both the examined Area Meeting business accounts 2019, and also the receipt of the examined amalgamated accounts 2019 for the Local Meetings over which it has oversight. The proposed budget for 2020 was received and accepted, and

Area Meeting quotas for 2020 (contributions from Local Meetings) were agreed.

4. Pastoral and spiritual responsibility has been overseen by the appointment of Overseers and Elders. Local Meetings have found various ways for Friends to support each other while we have been unable to meet, including cards, telephone calls, Whatsapp groups, online meetings, and meetings outdoors when permitted.

The social isolation measures to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic had significant effects on the usual development and training opportunities available. An ongoing likely result is the current and future development of "distance learning" techniques which may replace the traditional in-person sessions. Our all-age summer camp was also cancelled, the earliest date for resumption is 2022.

5. A total of 6 Area Meetings (4 by Zoom) were held with an average attendance of 16.7 Friends. Reports have been received regularly from Meeting for Sufferings (the national standing executive body between Yearly Meetings) and the various committees accountable to Area Meeting. Triennial reports from our Local Meetings continue to be received. Area Meeting dates for 2021 were agreed, and the tabular statement (an indicator of the numerical strength of our Local Meetings) for 2019 was received, the Area Meeting being the body responsible for membership.
6. The Hoddesdon Options Group continues to report regularly to Area Meeting. During 2020 the plans for this project are continuing to progress slowly. One of the aims of this project is to exercise our responsibility to a grade 2 listed disused Meeting House, and working towards a rejuvenation of its fortunes by breathing new life into it. With changes in ideas and aspirations, and in planning requirements, the Area Meeting has left the previous intention of gaining planning permission for the adjacent plot containing the warden's cottage for eventual sale to provide funds. The Area Meeting is now supporting the Options Group in exploring ways to develop the complex as a community resource while encouraging a Quaker presence. Discussions are being held widely with community groups and other interested parties.
7. During 2020 five trustees served. The trustees see one of their functions as providing advice and counsel to Area Meeting in session. Trustees occasionally flag up matters of concern to Area Meeting by minute, and may bring proposals to Area Meeting in session. Trustees appoint representatives to all Area Meetings in session. New trustees are appointed by the Area Meeting following nomination from the Area Meeting Nominations Committee. The trustees compiled the Annual Report for 2019 on the activities of the Area Meeting, which was presented to the Area Meeting and submitted to the Charity Commission. The trustees also produced a report to Area Meeting on trustees' activities. During 2020 all trustee meetings were quorate.
8. The usual formal and informal programmes of our Local Meetings, to develop the spiritual and social life of Friends, was curtailed in 2020 by the restrictions to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. For much of the year places of worship were closed by government order, but even at those times when the order was lifted our Local Meetings were very cautious about the use of our properties. Many Friends who normally attend our Meetings for Worship and other events are quite elderly and were at greater than average risk of harm from the Covid-19 virus.

Some events took place in the early part of 2020, before the lockdown was in place, including:

- New Year celebrations
- meetings to discuss climate change and support for climate change action
- meetings to explore aspects of our faith and our life and death

- Taize chant sessions
- interchurch events

Local Meetings were also able to organize some online events, including:

- poetry readings
- explorations of Quaker faith
- exploring "Build Back Better" for post-pandemic action

In their business meetings (online from March) Local Meetings considered items prior to Area Meetings, including their representation at the Area Meetings.

9. Most Local Meetings have regular contact with Church and Community groups within their immediate areas and actively work with others in our community. Examples of these are:

- Hitchin Counselling Service
- Food Banks
- Supporting refugee groups
- Joining Remembrance Day events
- Hosting homeless support group events
- The Peace Garden in the grounds of Hitchin Meeting is also supported by other faith groups

10. All the Local Meetings except Guilden Morden have Meeting Houses and other facilities which are normally available for use by the wider community. Welwyn Garden City Meeting has the Backhouse Room which is an additional separate meeting room. The availability of these premises is regarded as a form of service to the community, particularly when they are used by groups answering a social need or providing a cultural service. In some cases additional support e.g. staffing or facilities is provided to some of these groups.

Examples of these in previous years have been:

- Music and dancing groups and clubs
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Spiritualists
- Health and Well Being groups
- A Day Centre for adults with learning difficulties at Stevenage Meeting House
- Muslims (Friday prayers and Ramadan observance)
- Children's Art and Community Art Groups
- A number of social and cultural events with and for Syrian Families
- Liberal Jewish Synagogue.

Some of these groups used our facilities in the early part of 2020, and some activities were permitted to continue during lockdown, in particular food banks and health-related activities.

11. Our Local Meetings continue to support our commitment to the policy of sustainability being pursued by Britain Yearly Meeting, and this includes the care and use of our properties. Building on the various past activities of reducing energy and resource usage, some double glazing has been renewed, the use of plastics has been tackled (especially single use plastics), and meetings are continuing to manage their grounds to encourage wildlife and biodiversity. A wildlife pond has been created at Stevenage.

The hiring of these premises remains a significant source of revenue for the meetings, however, charges may also be reduced or held to a level which encourages groups in difficulty. The development of facilities within and outside Meeting Houses are also seen to be closely related to outreach.

12. Quaker witness includes supporting Quaker organizations and also non-Quaker organizations which pursue aims in line with Quaker values, particularly (but not exclusively) historical Quaker concerns such as peace, justice, refugees, treatment of criminals, and emergency relief, all areas where “that of God in all people” is often not recognized. As part of our support, Local Meetings have raised funds for Quaker and non-Quaker charitable bodies both on a regular basis and as special events or series of events. These include:

- Central work of Britain Yearly Meeting
- Foodbanks
- Helping Herts Homeless (previously North Herts Sanctuary)
- A Quaker school in Lebanon
- Bigg Welcome refugee settlement project in Biggleswade

Individually Friends have supported the local resettlement of refugee families. Several meetings have supported Christian Aid Week. Several meetings have been involved with activities to support local Churches Together groups. Welwyn Garden City Meeting participated in inter-faith work and Herts and Beds Welcomes Syrian refugees, contributing to study events, and hosting a number of social and cultural events.

Financial support for Quaker organisations in 2020 amounted to £13875, for non-Quaker organisations £11662.

13. Local Meetings were unable to hold their usual events for children, but by using online Meetings for Worship some were able to re-establish contact with families who had moved away from the area.
14. Both Local Meetings and Area Meeting considered their outreach activities. Stevenage Meeting House, and Welwyn Garden City Meeting Houses remain popular and well-used venues for local community, cultural, and religious groups, and although they were not used for much of 2020 we have received requests for their use since Covid-19 pandemic restrictions have been eased.
15. Area Meeting and the Local Meetings continue to be active in support of the Quaker commitments to peace and justice, although at a lower level in the light of restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Hitchin Meeting continues to develop their Peace Garden, which has attracted interest from media and other churches in the area. Friends at Hertford have participated in Amnesty campaigns. Black Lives Matter and other social justice issues have been the subjects of Friends concerns.

Financial Review 2020

- 1. Reserves Policy** The reserves policy for Area Meeting central funds is based on holding money in various nominal funds at Area Meeting level. We are in the process of running down Area Meeting funds as agreed by the Treasurer in consultation with Finance Committee. The level will be as follows:

Funds held for the following purposes	Amount £
Properties Emergency Fund	15,000
General Purposes	10,000
Designated funds:	
Peace Group	500
Quaker Work	1,000
Camp Committee	7,000
Total	33,500

For the operation of Local Meetings it has expected that each of these should hold enough reserves to operate for 1 year and meet future building requirements. The level of funds for 2020 were:

Local Meeting	Amount £
Guilden Morden	1,000
Hertford	17,000
Hitchin	22,000
Letchworth	45,000
Stevenage	9,000
Welwyn Garden City	63,000
Total	157,000

The criteria and levels of reserves for Local Meetings are currently under review.

- 2. Income and Expenditure** None of the Area Meeting's funds were in deficit during 2020. At 31st December 2020, the Area Meeting had a total cash value of £224,971 (2019: £200,462).
- 3. Income:** Although some sources of income were very significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, some unusual sources of income in 2020 resulted in an overall increase in income to £165,450 (2019: £163,579).

Funds from Friends were £49,984 (2019: £53,197).

Income from letting our Meeting Houses etc was £42,356 (2019: £105,888), a fall of 60% resulting from the closures because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Places of religion are excluded from the compensation scheme for lost business, but claims are being lodged with our insurers.

Legacies plus grants or donations from outside bodies were £27,220 (2019: £2,788), which includes a grant of £15,000 towards building work at Hitchin, and a grant of £10,032 as compensation for lost business for the non-Meeting House property at Welwyn Garden City.

Welwyn Garden City Meeting received a refund of £38,729 of funds taken by fraud in 2018.

Interest received on cash balances was £852 (2019: £1,281).

4. Expenditure: Some costs relating to the use of our properties were reduced as a result of the closures due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the cancellation of the annual Camp.

Our largest expenditure remains the insurance, maintenance, and improvement of our properties, at £104,940 (2019: £128,529) in support of our role as a religious organization at a local level. This includes planned expenditure at Hitchin of £27,740 to improve toilet and kitchen facilities, partly covered by a grant of £15,000.

In 2020 a £25,918 (2019: £30,725) was expended on grants to outside bodies, of which about 53.0% went to Britain Yearly Meeting in furtherance of the centrally organized work of the Religious Society of Friends.

The amount spent on administration within the Area Meeting in 2020 was £9109 (2019: £8,302).

5. Investment Policy: Our funds are mostly held by or invested in organizations with good ethical policies such as Triodos Bank, Ecology Building Society, Co-operative Bank. Some funds are held by Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. Investments are regularly reviewed, and care is taken that no institution holds funds in excess of the limits of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Key plans for the future

The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted or delayed some plans for 2020, but these plans still remain as long-term objectives.

1. The Trustees are continuing to review their work and relationships, and hope to establish more formal agreements (Memoranda of Understanding) as to the reciprocal responsibilities of the Area Meeting and its constituent bodies.
2. Following the laying down of Hoddesdon Meeting at the beginning of 2012, the Hoddesdon Options group continues to meet and report to Area Meeting on ongoing developments. A Steering Group has been established to coordinate plans and activities with local organisations and individuals to develop the properties at Hoddesdon as the Peace Cottage Community Hub, intended to provide wellbeing facilities for local residents.
3. In the continuing environment of economic austerity, Local Meetings continue to support food banks and other initiatives.
4. Involvement with local initiatives to participate in Herts Welcomes Syrian Refugees and similar programmes.
5. Local Meetings look to work on best ways to utilise what spiritual, financial, and people resources are available to nurture the life of the Meeting.
6. Plan our revitalisation and outreach strategy for the longer term, including encouragement of new, especially younger attenders.
7. Continue to have an outreach presence at local events.
8. Improvements to and continuing laying out of a Peace Garden at Hitchin Local Meeting.
9. Greater greening of our Meeting Houses.
10. How we can mark the 350th anniversary of Hertford Meeting House in 2020 (*now postponed to 2021*).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)		1131894		
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01 1 20	To	Period end date	31 12 20

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£ F01	£ F02	£ F03	£ F04	£ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	66,150	17,288	-	83,438	48,992
Charitable activities	S02	75	-	-	75	5,535
Other trading activities	S03	42,356	-	-	42,356	105,888
Investments	S04	852	-	-	852	1,281
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	784
Other	S06	38,729	-	-	38,729	-
Total	S07	148,162	17,288	-	165,450	162,480
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	27,598	74	-	27,672	35,474
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	96,786	16,483	-	113,269	138,144
Total	S12	124,384	16,557	-	140,941	173,618
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)						
	S13	23,778	731	-	24,509	- 11,138
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S14	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	S15	23,778	731	-	24,509	- 11,138
Extraordinary items	S16	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	S20	23,778	731	-	24,509	- 11,138
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	- 11,138	-	-	- 11,138	-
Total funds carried forward	S22	12,640	731	-	13,371	- 11,138

Section B Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
			£	£	£	£	£
			F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		B05	80,000	-	-	80,000	80,000
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	9,341	-	-	9,341	13,217
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	228,646	1,593	-	230,239	201,260
Total current assets		B10	237,987	1,593	-	239,580	214,477
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	14,609	-	-	14,609	12,675
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	223,378	1,593	-	224,971	201,802
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	303,378	1,593	-	304,971	281,802
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		B15	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	303,378	1,593	-	304,971	281,802
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18	-	1,593	-	1,593	862
Unrestricted funds		B19	223,378	-	-	223,378	200,940
Revaluation reserve		B20	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds		B21	223,378	1,593	-	224,971	201,802
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees			Signature		Print Name		Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
					David Hindle		22 10 21

Section C Notes to the accounts

Note 1 Basis of preparation

This section should be completed by all charities.

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- and with*

✓

 the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- and with*

✓

 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.*

* -Tick as appropriate

1.2 Going concern

If there are material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, please provide the following details or state "Not applicable", if appropriate:

An explanation as to those factors that support the conclusion that the charity is a going concern;

Disclosure of any uncertainties that make the going concern assumption doubtful;

Where accounts are not prepared on a going concern basis, please disclose this fact together with the basis on which the trustees prepared the accounts and the reason why the charity is not regarded as a going concern.

1.3 Change of accounting policy

The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note { }.

Yes*	✓	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	✓	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of the change in accounting policy;</i>	
<i>(ii) the reasons why applying the new accounting policy provides more reliable and more relevant information; and</i>	
<i>(iii) the amount of the adjustment for each line affected in the current period, each prior period presented and the aggregate amount of the adjustment relating to periods before those presented, 3.44 FRS 102 SORP.</i>	

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes*	✓	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	✓	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of any changes;</i>	
<i>(ii) the effect of the change on income and expense or assets and liabilities for the current period; and</i>	
<i>(iii) where practicable, the effect of the change in one or more future periods.</i>	

1.5 Material prior year errors

No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

Yes*	✓	* -Tick as appropriate
No*	✓	

Please disclose:

<i>(i) the nature of the prior period error;</i>	
<i>(ii) for each prior period presented in the accounts, the amount of the correction for each account line item affected; and</i>	
<i>(iii) the amount of the correction at the beginning of the earliest prior period presented in the accounts.</i>	

Note 2

Accounting policies

Please complete this note when first reporting under FRS2102. Section 35 of FRS102, requires 3 reconciliations to be presented, if all are applicable.

2.1 RECONCILIATION WITH PREVIOUS GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRACTICE

Please provide a description of the nature of each change in accounting policy

Reconciliation of funds per previous GAAP to funds determined under FRS 102

	Start of period £	End of period £
Fund balances as previously stated		
<i>Adjustments:</i>		

Fund balance as restated _____

Reconciliation of net income/(net expenditure) per previous GAAP to net income/(net expenditure) under FRS 102

	End of £
Net income/(expenditure) as previously stated	
<i>Adjustments:</i>	

Previous period net income/(expenditure)
as restated _____

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)		
Note 2				
Accounting policies				
2.2 INCOME				
This standard list of accounting policies has been applied by the charity except for those ticked "No" or "N/A". Where a different or additional policy has been adopted then this is detailed in the box below.				
Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.	Yes	No	N/A
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.	Yes	No	N/A
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP). In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).	Yes	No	N/A
Legacies	Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.	Yes	No	N/A
Government grants	The charity has received government grants in the reporting period.	Yes	No	N/A
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.	Yes	No	N/A
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions.	Yes	No	N/A
Donated goods	Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so. The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution. Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'income from other trading activities'.	Yes	No	N/A
	Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.	Yes	No	N/A
	Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.	Yes	No	N/A
Donated services and facilities	Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.	Yes	No	N/A
Support costs	The charity has incurred expenditure on support costs.	Yes	No	N/A
Volunteer help	The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.	Yes	No	N/A
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.	Yes	No	N/A
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.	Yes	No	N/A
Settlement of insurance claims	Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP) and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.	Yes	No	N/A
Investment gains and losses	This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the	Yes	No	N/A
2.3 EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES				
Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.	Yes	No	N/A
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.	Yes	No	N/A
Grants with performance conditions	Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.	Yes	No	N/A
Grants payable without performance conditions	Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation must be recognised.	Yes	No	N/A
Redundancy cost	The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.	Yes	No	N/A
Deferred income	No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.	Yes	No	N/A
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.	Yes	No	N/A
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.	Yes	No	N/A
Basic financial instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.	Yes	No	N/A
2.4 ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least			
	They are valued at cost.	Yes	No	N/A
Intangible fixed assets	The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.2. The charity has intangible fixed assets, that is, non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the charity through custody or legal rights. The amortisation rates and methods used are disclosed in note 9.5.	Yes	No	N/A
	They are valued at cost.	Yes	No	N/A
Heritage assets	The charity has heritage assets, that is, non-monetary assets with historic, artistic, scientific, technological, geographical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The depreciation rates and methods used as disclosed in note 9.6.1.4.	Yes	No	N/A
	They are valued at cost.	Yes	No	N/A
Investments	Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.	Yes	No	N/A
Stocks and work in progress	Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower or cost or net realisable value. Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.	Yes	No	N/A
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.	Yes	No	N/A
Current asset investments	The charity has investments which it holds for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.	Yes	No	N/A
	They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.	Yes	No	N/A

Note 3

Analysis of income

Analysis		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	60,756	75	-	60,831	42,504
	Gift Aid	5,394	25	-	5,419	6,488
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	17,188	-	17,188	-
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	66,150	17,288	-	83,438	48,992
Charitable activities:	Area Meeting Camp	75	-	-	75	5,535
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	75	-	-	75	5,535
Other trading activities:	Hirings and Lettings of Meeting Houses	42,356	-	-	42,356	105,888
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	42,356	-	-	42,356	105,888
Income from investments:	Interest income	852	-	-	852	1,281
	Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
	Rental and leasing income	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	852	-	-	852	1,281
Separate material item of income:	Refunds	38,729	-	-	38,729	784
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	38,729	-	-	38,729	784
Other:	Conversion of endowment funds into income	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a tangible fixed asset held for charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
	Gain on disposal of a programme related investment	-	-	-	-	-
	Royalties from the exploitation of intellectual property rights	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		148,162	17,288	-	165,450	162,480

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for: (please provide description and amounts)

£15,000 for repairs and refurbishment at Hitchin Meeting House
£2,188 for repairs and refurbishment at Hertford Meeting House
£100 for Hitchin Peace Garden

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Note 4 Analysis of receipts of government grants

	Description	This year £
Government grant 1		-
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	-

	Description	Last year £
Government grant 1		-
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	-

	This year	Last year
<i>Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to grants that have been recognised in income.</i>		

	This year	Last year
<i>Please give details of other forms of government assistance from which the charity has directly benefited.</i>		

Note 5	Donated goods, facilities and services
--------	--

	This year £	Last year £
Seconded staff	-	-
Use of property	-	-
Other	-	-
	-	-

	This year	Last year
Please provide details of the accounting policy for the recognition and valuation of donated goods, facilities and services.		
Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to resources from donated goods and services not recognised in income.		
Please give details of other forms of other donated goods and services not recognised in the accounts, eg contribution of unpaid volunteers.		

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
Expenditure on raising funds:				£				£
Incurred seeking donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurred seeking grants	-	-	-	-				-
Operating membership schemes and social lotteries	-	-	-	-				-
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	-				-
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	-				-
Operating charity shops	-	-	-	-				-
Operating a trading company undertaking non-charitable trading activity	-	-	-	-				-
Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Start up costs incurred in generating new source of future income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Database development costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-				-
Investment management costs:	-	-	-	-				-
Portfolio management costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of obtaining investment advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment administration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intellectual property licencing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent collection, property repairs and maintenance charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure on raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Expenditure on charitable activities:

Area Meeting Camp	680	-	-	680	4,069	-	-	4,069
Grant Making (see note 13)	26,918	-	-	26,918	30,725	-	-	30,725
Hitchin Peace Garden	-	74	-	74	-	-	-	-
Peace Summer School	-	-	-	-	636	24	-	660
Total expenditure on charitable activities	27,598	74	-	27,672	35,430	24	-	35,454

Separate material item of expense

	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Other

Area and Local Meeting Expenses	8,329		-	8,329	9,616	-	-	9,616
Premises Costs	88,457	16,483	-	104,940	122,759	5,768	-	128,527
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other expenditure	96,786	16,483	-	113,269	132,375	5,768	-	138,143
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	124,384	16,557	-	140,941	167,805	5,792	-	173,597

Other information:

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Activity or programme	This year				Last year			
	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total this year	Activities undertaken directly	Grant funding of activities	Support Costs	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Activity 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Activity 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 7 Extraordinary items

Please explain the nature of each extraordinary item occurring in the period.

	Description	This year £	Last year £
Extraordinary item 1		-	-
Extraordinary item 2		-	-
Extraordinary item 3		-	-
Extraordinary item 4		-	-
Total extraordinary items		-	-

Section C

Notes to the accounts

Note 8

Funds received as agent

8.1 Please complete this note if the charity has agreed to administer the funds of another entity as its agent. Note: If a charity is acting as an agent, it should not recognise the income in the Statement of Financial Activities or the Balance Sheet.

Description/name of party	Related party (Yes or No)	Amount received		Amount paid out		Balance held at period end	
		This year	Last year	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-	-

8.2 Where a consortia or similar arrangement exists whereby 2 or more charities co-operate to achieve economies in the purchase of goods or services, please disclose details of any balances outstanding between any participating members.

Description/name of party	Balance held at period end	
	This year	Last year
	£	£
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Section C Notes to the accounts

Note 9 Support Costs

Please complete this note if the charity has analysed its expenses using activity categories and has support costs.

This year

Support cost (examples)	Raising funds £	Activity 1 £	Activity 2 £	Activity 3 £	Grand total £	Basis of allocation (Describe method)
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

Last year

Support cost (examples)	Raising funds £	Activity 1 £	Activity 2 £	Activity 3 £	Grand total £	Basis of allocation (Describe method)
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	

Please provide details of the accounting policy adopted for the apportionment of costs between activities and any estimation techniques used to calculate their apportionment.

Section C	Notes to the accounts
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Note 10 **Details of certain items of expenditure**

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

Please provide details of the amount paid for any statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by your independent examiner. If nothing was paid please enter '0' in the appropriate box(es).

Independent examiner's fees

Assurance services other than audit or independent examination

Tax advisory fees

Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 11 **Paid employees**
Please complete this note if the charity has any employees.

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	12,859	14,634
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	-	-
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	12,859	14,634

This year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Last year:

Please provide details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Please give details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

TRUE

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

	This year £	Last year £
Please provide the total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity. For specific amounts paid to trustees, see Note 28.	-	-

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	2
Governance	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	2	2

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)
Please complete if an ex-gratia payment is made.

Please explain the nature of the payment

This year	
Last year	

Please state the legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	
Last year	

	This year £	Last year £
Please state the amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)	-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Please complete if any redundancy or termination payment is made in the period.

	This year £	Last year £
Total amount of payment	-	-

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

--	--

The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year £	Last year £
-	-

Please state the accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments

--	--

Note 12 **Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.**

12.1 *Please complete this note if a defined contribution pension scheme is operated.*

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense	-	-

Please explain the basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds.

--	--

12.2 *Please complete this section where the charity participates in a defined benefit pension plan but is unable to ascertain its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.*

Please confirm that although the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution plan, it is a defined benefit plan.

Please provide such information as is available about the plan's surplus or deficit and the implications, if any, for the reporting charity for this year and last year, if different

12.3 *Please complete this section where the charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.*

Describe the extent to which the charity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan. If this is different for last year, provide details

Provide an explanation of how any liability arising from an agreement with a multi-employer plan to fund a deficit has been determined. If this is different for last year, provide details

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 13 Grantmaking

Please complete this note if the charity made any grants or donations which in aggregate form a material part of the charitable activities undertaken.

This year:

13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	13,949.00	-	nil	13,949.00
Grants of £1000 and over	-	1,000.00	nil	1,000.00
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	10,645.00	-	nil	10,645.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	24,594	1,000	-	25,594

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	13,949
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Total grants to institutions in reporting period

13,949

Other unanalysed grants

10,645

TOTAL GRANTS PAID

24,594

Last year:

13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Britain Yearly Meeting	16,304.00	-	-	16,304.00
Grants of £1000 and over	1,317.00	-	-	1,317.00
Miscellaneous grants of under £1000	12,467.00	-	-	12,467.00
	-	-	-	-
Total	30,088	-	-	30,088

Please enter "Nil" if the charity does not identify and/or allocate support costs.

13.4 Grants made to institutions

My charity has made grants to particular institutions that are material in the context of its grantmaking. Details of the institution supported, purpose of the grant and total paid to each institution is available on the charity's web site.	Yes	Please provide details of charity's URL.
	No	Provide details below

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Britain Yearly Meeting	Central Funding of Quaker activities	16,304
North Herts Sanctuary	Hostel and help for homeless	1,317
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Total grants to institutions in reporting period

17,621

Other unanalysed grants

12,467

TOTAL GRANTS PAID

30,088

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

Please complete this note if the charity has any tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

	**Basis	SL or RB (Straight Line or Reducing Balance)	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB
	** Rate					
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.4 Impairment

This year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year: Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

14.5 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

the effective date of the revaluation

the name of independent valuer, if applicable

the methods applied and significant assumptions

the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.

This year	Last year
-	-

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) Please state the amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Note 15 Intangible assets

Please complete this note if the charity has any intangible assets

15.1 Cost or valuation

	Research & development	Patents and trademarks	Other	Total
	£	£	£	£
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-

15.2 Amortisation and impairments

**Basis	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	Straight Line ("SL") or Reducing Balance ("RB")
** Rate					
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of year	-	-	-	-	-

15.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-

15.4 Accounting policy

Please disclose the accounting policy for intangible fixed assets including:

Reasons for choosing amortisation rates

Policies for the recognition of any capital development

15.5 Impairment

This year:

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year:

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

15.6 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

	This year	Last year
the effective date of the revaluation		
the name of independent valuer, if applicable		
the methods applied		
the carrying amount that would have been recognised had the assets been carried under the cost model.		

15.7 Other disclosures

(i) If your intangible asset was acquired by way of grant, provide value on initial recognition and carrying amount of the asset.

(ii) Details of the carrying amounts of any intangible assets to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

(iii) Please provide the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of intangible assets.

(iv) State the amount of research and development expenditure recognised as expenditure in the year.

(v) Please detail the headings in the SOFA in which a charge for amortisation of intangible assets is included.

(vi) For any material intangible assets, please provide a description, its carrying amount and any remaining amortisation period.

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Please indicate the method of depreciation by deleting the method not applicable (SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Also please indicate the rate of depreciation: for straight line, what is the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, what is the percentage annual deduction.

Section C **Notes to the accounts** (cont)

Note 16 **Heritage assets**

Please complete this note if the charity has heritage assets

16.1 General disclosures for all charities holding heritage assets

	This year	Last year
(i) Explain the nature and scale of heritage assets held.		
(ii) Explain the policy for the acquisition, preservation, management and disposal of heritage assets.		

16.2 Cost or valuation

	Heritage asset 1 £	Heritage asset 2 £	Heritage asset 3 £	Heritage asset 4 £	Total £
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

16.3 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis						Straight Line ("SL") or Reducing Balance
** Rate						
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-	
At end of year	-	-	-	-	-	

16.4 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Net book value at the end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

16.5 Impairment

This year

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

Last year

Please provide a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

16.6 Revaluation

If an accounting policy of revaluation is adopted, please provide:

	This year	Last year
<i>the effective date of the revaluation</i>		
<i>the name of independent valuer, if applicable</i>		
<i>qualifications of independent valuer</i>		
<i>the methods applied and significant assumptions</i>		
<i>any significant limitations on the valuation</i>		

16.7 Analysis of heritage assets by class or group distinguishing those at cost and those at valuation

	At valuation Group A £	At cost Group B £	Total £
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Depreciation/impairment	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-
Carrying amount at the end of period	-	-	-

16.8 Heritage assets (where heritage assets are not recognised on the balance sheet)

	This year	Last year
(i) Explain the reason why heritage assets have not been recognised on the balance sheet.		
(ii) Describe the significance and nature of heritage assets.		
(iii) Disclose information that is helpful in assessing the value of heritage assets.		
(iv) Explain the reason why it is not practicable to obtain a valuation of heritage assets.		

16.9 Five year summary of heritage assets transactions

	2015 £	2014 £	2013 £	2012 £	2011 £
Purchases					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Donations					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total additions	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for impairment					
Group A	-	-	-	-	-
Group B	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total charge for impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals					
Group A - carrying amount	-	-	-	-	-
Group B - carrying amount	-	-	-	-	-
Group C	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total disposals	-	-	-	-	-

Section C **Notes to the accounts** (cont)

Note 17 Investment assets

Please complete this note if the charity has any investment assets.

17.1 Fixed assets investments (please provide for each class of investment)

	Cash & cash equivalents	Listed investments	Investment properties	Social investments	Other	Total
Carrying (fair) value at beginning of period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: additions to investments during period*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Reversal of impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): transfer in/(out) in the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Please specify additions resulting from acquisitions through business combinations, if any.

Please note that Fair Value in this context is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction. For traded securities, the fair value is the value of the security quoted on the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List or equivalent. For other assets where there is no market price on a traded market, it is the trustees' or valuers' best estimate of fair value.

17.2 Please provide a breakdown of investments shown above agreeing with the balance sheet row B04 differentiating between those held at fair value and those held at cost less impairment.

This year:

Analysis of investments

	Fair value at year end £	Cost less impairment £
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	-	-
Social investments	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	-	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)	-	-

Last year:

Analysis of investments

	Fair value at year end £	Cost less impairment £
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	-	-
Social investments	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	-	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)	-	-

17.3 If your charity holds investment properties, please complete the following note:

	This year	Last year
(i) Explain the methods and significant assumptions in determining the fair value of investment property held by the charity		
(ii) Name or independent valuer, if applicable, and relevant qualifications		
(iii) Provide details of any restrictions on the ability to realise investment property or on the remittance of income or disposal proceeds		
(iv) Explain any contractual obligations for the purchase, construction or development of investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements		

17.4 Please provide a breakdown of current asset investments, if applicable, agreeing with the balance sheet.

Analysis of current asset investments

	This year £	Last year £
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	-	-
Social investments	-	-
Other investments	-	-
Total	-	-

17.5 Guarantees

	This year	Last year
Please provide details and amount of any guarantee made to or on behalf of a third party		
Name of the entity or entities benefitting from those guarantees		
Please explain how the guarantee furthers the charity's aims		

17.6 Concessionary loans

Description	This year £	Last year £
Amount of concessionary loans made (Multiple loans made may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information).	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Description	This year £	Last year £
Amount of concessionary loans received (Multiple loans received may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information).	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

This year	Last year
Terms and conditions eg interest rate, security provided	
Value of any concessionary loans which have been committed but not taken up at the reporting date	
Amounts payable within 1 year	
Amounts payable after more than 1 year	
Amounts receivable within 1 year	
Amounts receivable after more than 1 year	

17.7 Additional information

This year	Last year
Please provide information about the significance of investments to the charity's financial position or performance eg, terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.	
For all investments measured at fair value, the basis for determining the value, including any assumptions applied when using a valuation technique.	
Where a charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial asset pledged as security and the terms and conditions relating to its pledge.	

Note 18

Stocks

Please complete this note if the charity holds any stock items

18.1 Please state the carrying amount of stock and work in progress analysed between activities.

	Stock		Donated goods		Work in progress
	For distribution	For resale	For distribution	For resale	
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities:					
<i>Opening</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Added in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Expensed in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Impaired</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Closing</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities:					
<i>Opening</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Added in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Expensed in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Impaired</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Closing</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Other:					
<i>Opening</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Added in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Expensed in period</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Impaired</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Closing</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total this year	-	-	-	-	-
Total previous year	-	-	-	-	-

18.2 Please specify the carrying amount of any stocks pledged as security for liabilities

This year	Last year
£	£

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Please complete this note if the charity has any debtors or prepayments.

19.1 Analysis of debtors

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

Total

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
9,341.0	13,217.0
-	-
9,341.0	13,217.0

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

Other debtors

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
Total	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 20 **Creditors and accruals**

Please complete this note if the charity has any creditors or accruals.

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	14,609	12,675	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	14,609	12,675	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

Please complete this note if the charity has deferred income.

Please explain the reasons why income is deferred.

This year	Last year

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Please complete this note if you have included in charity expenditure any provisions. A provision is made when the charity has a liability of uncertain timing or amount.

21.1 Movements in recognised provisions and funding commitment during the period

	This year £	Last year £
Balance at the start of the reporting period	-	-
Amounts added in current period	-	-
Amounts charged against the provision in the current period	-	-
Unused amounts reversed during the period	-	-
Balance at the end of the reporting period	-	-

21.2 Please provide:

- a brief description of any obligations on the balance sheet and the expected amount and timing of resulting payments;

- an indication of the uncertainties about the amount or timing of those outflows; and

- the amount of any expected reimbursement, stating the amount of any asset that has been recognised for that expected reimbursement.

This year	Last year

21.3 For any funding commitment that is not recognised as a liability or provision, provide details of commitment made, the time frame of that commitment, any performance-related conditions and details of how the commitment will be funded (with contracts for capital expenditure separately identified).

This year	Last year

21.4 Where unrestricted funds have been designated to a fund commitment, please disclose the nature of any amounts designated and the likely timing of that expenditure.

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Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 22 Other disclosures for debtors, creditors and other basic financial instruments

22.1 Please provide information about the significance of financial instruments (eg. debtors, creditors, investments etc) to the charity's financial position or performance, for example, the terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

This year	Last year

22.2 If the charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial assets pledged as security and the terms and conditions related to its pledge should be given here.

--	--

Note 23 Contingent liabilities and contingent assets**23.1 Contingent liabilities**

Where the charity has contingent liabilities, please complete the following section unless the possibility of their existence is remote.

This year

Description of item including its legal nature. Please describe any security provided in connection to the liability.	Estimate of financial effect

Last year

Description of item including its legal nature. Please describe any security provided in connection to the liability.	Estimate of financial effect

23.2 Contingent assets

Where the charity has contingent assets, please complete the following section when their existence is probable

This year

Description of item	Estimate of financial effect

Last year

Description of item	Estimate of financial effect

23.4 Other disclosures for contingent assets and/or liabilities

Please provide the following information where practicable:

	This year	Last year
Explain any uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of settlement; and the possibility of any reimbursement		
Where it is not practical to make one or more of these disclosures, please state this fact		

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 24 **Cash at bank and in hand**

Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)
Short term deposits
Cash at bank and on hand
Other
Total

This year £	Last year £
-	-
179,049	149,674
51,190	51,586
-	-
230,239	201,260

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 25 **Fair value of assets and liabilities**

	This year	Last year
25.1 Please provide details of the charity's exposure to credit risk (the risk of incurring a loss due to a debtor not paying what is owed) , liquidity risk (the risk of not being able to meet short term financial demands) and market risk (the risk that the value of an investment will fall due to changes in the market) arising from financial instruments to which the charity is exposed at the end of the reporting period and explain how the charity manages those risks.		
25.2 Please give details of the amount of change in the fair value of basic financial instruments (debtors, creditors, investments (see section 11, FRS 102 SORP)) measured at fair value through the SoFA that is attributable to changes in credit risk.		

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 26 **Events after the end of the reporting period**
Please complete this note events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the

	This year	Last year
Please provide details of the nature of the event		
Provide an estimate of the financial effect of the event or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made		

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds**

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	13,706	4,419	- 14,602	12,201	-	15,724
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	1,000	-	- 1,000	1,000	-	1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Emergency repair of our buildings	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	8,625	75	- 680	-	-	8,020
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	161,269	143,668	- 108,102	- 13,201	-	183,634
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	862	100	- 74	-	-	888
BYM Meeting Houses Fund	R	to be used for Hitchin Meeting House	-	15,000	- 15,000	-	-	-
350th Anniversary Fund	R	to be used for Hertford Meeting House	-	2,188	- 1,483	-	-	705
				-	-	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds			200,462	165,450	- 140,941	-	-	224,971

Section C	Notes to the accounts	(cont)
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Note 27 **Charity funds (cont)**

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Area Meeting General Fund	UR	General Purposes of Area Meeting	11,837	11,998	- 4,622	- 6,006		13,207
Area Meeting Quaker Work Fund	UR	Supporting Quaker projects	2,026	-	-	- 1,026		1,000
Area Meeting Building Fund	UR	Maintenance and repair of our buildings	32,450	-	- 21,704	4,254	-	15,000
Area Meeting Camp Fund	UR	Area Meeting Camp	7,178	5,535	- 4,089	-	-	8,624
Local Meetings General Funds	UR	General Purposes of Local Meetings	152,813	144,671	- 136,901	2,026	-	162,609
Hitchin Peace Garden	R	to be used for Hitchin Peace Garden	2,093	275	- 1,506	-	-	862
Sawell Fund	R	to be used for Hoddesdon	4,520	-	- 4,520	-	-	-
WGC Quaker Work Fund	R	to be used for Quaker work only	24	-	- 24	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
			-	-	-	-	-	-
Other funds	N/a	N/a	-	-	- 252	752		500
Total Funds			212,941	162,479	- 173,618	-	-	201,802

Note 27

Charity funds (cont)

27.3 Transfers between funds

This year

	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
Between unrestricted and restricted funds		
Between endowment and restricted funds		
Between endowment and unrestricted funds		

Last year

	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
Between unrestricted and restricted funds		
Between endowment and restricted funds		
Between endowment and unrestricted funds		

27.4 Designated funds

This year

Planned use	Purpose of the designation	Amount

Last year

Planned use	Purpose of the designation	Amount

Section C **Notes to the accounts** **(cont)**

Note 28 **Transactions with trustees and related parties**

If the charity has any transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in guidance notes) details of such transactions should be provided in this note. If there are no transactions to report, please enter "True" in the box or "False" if there are transactions to report.

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits

This year

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity (True or False)

In the period the charity has paid trustees remuneration and benefits. Please give the amount of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to a trustee by the charity or any institution or company connected with it.

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office) ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

Please give details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

Last year

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity (True or False)

In the period the charity has paid trustees remuneration and benefits. Please give the amount of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to a trustee by the charity or any institution or company connected with it.

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office) ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-

Please give details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

28.2 Trustees' expenses

If the charity has paid trustees expenses for fulfilling their duties, details of such transactions should be provided in this note. If there are no transactions to report, please enter "True" in the box below. If there are transactions to report, please enter "False".

No trustee expenses have been incurred (True or False)

Type of expenses reimbursed	This year	Last year
	£	£
Travel	-	-
Subsistence	-	-
Accommodation	-	-
Other (please specify):	-	-
	-	-
TOTAL	-	-

Please provide the number of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by the charity

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

Please give details of any transaction undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a related party has a material interest, including where funds have been held as agent for related parties. If there are no such transactions, please enter 'true' in the box provided.

This year

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period (True or False)

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

Last year

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period (True or False)

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

Note 29	Additional Disclosures
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The following are significant matters which are not covered in other notes and need to be included to provide a proper understanding of the accounts. If there is insufficient room here, please add a separate sheet.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

**Hertford and Hitchin Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
(Quakers)**

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2020

**Charity
number**

1131894

Set out on page

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2020**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

7TH MAY 2021

Name:

STEVE PARTRIDGE

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

23 NINESPRINGS WAY

HITCHIN, HERTFORDSHIRE

SG4 9NR