

**WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	M Grundy	
	K Garner	
	J Laxton	
	K Hooper	
	D Bull	(Appointed 1 January 2024)
	T Miller	(Appointed 10 September 2023)
	N Richardson	(Appointed 1 January 2024)
Charity number	1134210	
Independent examiner	McIntocks (NW) Limited 46 Hamilton Square Birkenhead Wirral Merseyside CH41 5AR	
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc Grange Road Birkenhead Merseyside CH41 6EA	
	Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6GH	
	Triodos Bank Brunel House 11 The Promenade Bristol BS1 5AS	
	Skipton Building Society The Bailey Harrogate Road	
Custodian Trustee	Friends Trust Ltd Friends House 173 Euston road London NW1 2BJ	

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 15

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

As a constituent part of Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), the Area Meeting used to be exempted from registration with the Charity Commission under Statutory Instrument 180 of 1996 and 1598 of 2002. The Area Meeting applied for registration in December 2008, and in February 2010 became a registered charity with the registered charity number 1134210.

The Governing Document adopted by the Area Meeting on 7 September 2007 states that 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 Wirral and Chester and beyond.

Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit set out in *The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit* and the Trustees keep in mind the legal requirements of the Charity Commission that they must 'have regard' to the commission's public benefit guidance 'when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant'. The Trustees ensure that the resources of the charity are expended wisely in maintaining peaceful and welcoming places for public worship without charge and providing room hire for local organisations which provide facilities and services needed by the local community. Trustees receive no remuneration and there are no paid employees.

In supporting local and nationally managed Quaker work and thus ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of Quaker Meetings and other Quaker charities for the benefit of individuals, communities and society as a whole, the Trustees believe that the work of Wirral and Chester Area Quaker Meeting provides benefit to the public in accordance with its objects. The Trustees believe that there is no disbenefit or private benefit in our work.

Activities

The Governing Document lists the main activities of the Area Meeting as follows:

- strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings both in the area of Wirral and Chester 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 Wirral and Chester or beyond have adopted or agreed to support;
- providing for the pastoral care of individual members and Attenders including assistance to those in need and for education;
- maintaining and developing Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world;
- administering and maintaining the organisation of Wirral and Chester Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Meetings

The affairs of the Area Meeting are managed by the Area Meeting for Business which meets regularly throughout each year. The three constituent Local Quaker Meetings in Birkenhead, Chester, and Heswall also hold meetings for business which manage the affairs delegated to them by the Area Meeting.

Members

The members of the Area Meeting are all those persons whose names are for the time being recorded in its official register.

Managing Trustees

The Trustees of the Area Meeting are members of the Area Meeting who are nominated by the nominations committee and appointed by the Area Meeting for Business, normally for a term of three years.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Wirral and Chester Area Quaker Meeting is made up of three Local Meetings - at Birkenhead, Chester and Heswall. The accounts also currently include Teenage General Meeting which has been under the care of this Area Meeting on behalf of the North West region for the last 16 years. In addition there is an ongoing, vibrant online meeting held every Sunday which currently does not have any funds of its own but is very much considered part of the Area Meeting.

Birkenhead Meeting continues in good heart. Apart from the normal Meetings for Worship and Business, monthly discussions and appeals, a Garden Party for Area Meeting in June and the taking part in Wirral heritage Open Days, our main concern during 2023 was the use of the cottage that adjoins the Meeting House. Our caretaker retired from duties and became a paying tenant but sadly died in October. New volunteer caretakers were appointed but the arrangements fell through. A new paying tenancy is in place which it is hoped will be mutually satisfactory.

Throughout the year, Chester Local Meeting held Meetings for Worship every Sunday and also at lunchtime on the second Thursday of each month. Meetings for Learning were held covering various topics. In particular a full-day session was hosted in partnership with Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre. In June, Chester LM hosted twenty GCSE students from the Kings School Chester who were visiting places of worship. An open day was held in October. Bi-monthly 'Let's Talk About...' lunches were held after Meeting for Worship. A system of small friendship circles has continued to form the basis of pastoral care for members and attenders. Pastoral Friends organised our monthly in-person link group meetings.

Heswall Local Meeting have continued to hold weekly meetings for worship. The meeting experienced a reduction of members during the covid pandemic and it is good to report that the numbers attending Sunday Meeting for Worship in 2023, though small, have begun to rise. Management Group is working well in managing the Meeting House and its hirers. Our tenants of the adjacent Peace Cottage are into their third year. This long-term tenancy is what was originally hoped for. Earnings from community letting of the Meeting House have also risen and we have a regular group of mid-week hirers. As a result, our financial situation is improving with good reserves now in place. Friends have continued with studying to improve understanding of local and national issues eg learning of the work of Asylum Link Merseyside. Like Birkenhead Local Meeting, Heswall LM took part in the Wirral Heritage Open Day and enjoyed showing the local community the architectural splendours of the building. A garden party was held in August open to all Friends.

There has been an online Meeting for Worship for Wirral and Chester since lockdown early in 2020. During 2023, on average the number of Friends attending were 3 to 4 from Chester LM, 3 to 4 from Heswall LM and 1 or 2 from Birkenhead LM. In addition a Friend often joins from their home in Aberdeen and another has joined on occasions from Japan, both have previously attended Heswall LM in person. Everyone is muted as the hour begins and occasionally our Meeting for Worship is a silent one but more often than not 1 or 2 Friends will minister. We have had some memorable ministries in 2023. The Online Meeting has a host rota comprising 8 hosts across all 3 Local Meetings. The host for the week sends out the e-invitations for that week's Meeting to everyone on the mailing list, with only the hosts having access to these email details. The host rota is devised every 3 months by the Convenor with the back-up of a call out on the What's App group should a replacement be needed. Friends who attend online feel it is a pleasure to be part of the Meeting, knowing that those who cannot always go to a Meeting House can enjoy some fellowship from the comfort of their own home.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Wirral and Chester Area Meeting continues to be responsible for the administration of Teenage General Meeting which provides activities for young people aged 13 to 18 associated with Quaker Meetings in the North West of England and North Wales. They have around 60 young people on the mailing list and a consistent average of 20 young people at each TGM weekend. In addition to the seven Area Meetings in the TGM catchment (Wirral and Chester, North Wales, Pendle Hill, Manchester and Warrington, Lancashire Central and North, Hardshaw and Mann, and East Cheshire) a small number of teenagers from Worcester and Shropshire, and Central England have connections with TGM through Summer School and other events. As well as the 'adult' committee members, there are currently five young people on the committee, very actively involved with the organising. There is one regular volunteer helper as well as several volunteers who have offered support as and when it is needed. A minimum of five helpers (from the committee and the volunteers) are needed at each weekend event to achieve an adult to young person ratio of 1:5 as per BYM's guidelines. There were three TGMs in 2023: Manchester; Liverpool; and Stockport. These included workshops and local museum visits. Three are planned for 2024 but venues are yet to be confirmed to meet accessibility needs.

Members of all three Local Meetings continue to be involved with non-Quaker groups as well, either financially or as volunteers, such as Christian Aid, the Food Bank, Chester Aid to the Homeless, Wirral Ark (charity for the homeless) and CND. In addition, one Friend is appointed by Area Meeting to visit HMP Berwyn regularly, supporting prisoners and holding Meetings for Worship, and this was done most weeks throughout the year.

The Area Meeting is still a member of CCPAS (Churches Child Protection Advisory Service), which remains the supporting organisation for technical and procedural advice on safeguarding matters.

Financial review

Total expenditure on Quaker activities was £50,339 (2022 £49,846) and total resources expended were £71,309 (2022 £72,026) against a total income of £82,496 (2022 £65,987). Total funds carried forward at the end of 2023 were £178,849 (2022 £167,662).

Our total free reserves are £177,032 which is considered adequate to cover running costs and unforeseen expenditure

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is an unincorporated charity governed by its constitution adopted 9 September 2007 and amended on 9 November 2008.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

D Williams

(Resigned 31 October 2023)

M Grundy

K Garner

J Laxton

K Hooper

P Vernon

(Resigned 31 December 2023)

D Bull

(Appointed 1 January 2024)

T Miller

(Appointed 10 September 2023)

N Richardson

(Appointed 1 January 2024)

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Managing Trustees met regularly during 2023, covering matters such as safeguarding practices, ensuring insurance cover is fit for purpose, and supporting Local Meetings.

In supporting locally and nationally managed Quaker work and thus ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of Quaker Meetings and other Quaker charities for the benefit of individuals, communities and society as a whole, the Trustees believe that the work of Wirral and Chester Area Quaker Meeting provides benefit to the public in accordance with its objectives. The Trustees believe that there is no disbenefit or private benefit in our work.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



M Grundy
Trustee



T Miller
Trustee

Date: 17/1/2024

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Wirral and Chester Area Meeting of Quakers (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.



McIntocks (NW) Limited

46 Hamilton Square
Birkenhead
Wirral
Merseyside
CH41 5AR

Dated: 17.9.24...

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	51,543	475	52,018	42,696	-	42,696
Other trading activities	4	15,812	-	15,812	13,050	-	13,050
Investments	5	1,618	-	1,618	275	-	275
Other income	6	13,048	-	13,048	13,138	-	13,138
Total income		<u>82,021</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>82,496</u>	<u>69,159</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,159</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	1,913	-	1,913	1,335	-	1,335
Charitable activities	8	69,396	-	69,396	70,691	-	70,691
Total expenditure		<u>71,309</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,309</u>	<u>72,026</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,026</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		10,712	475	11,187	(2,867)	-	(2,867)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	8,185	(8,185)	-
Net movement in funds	11	10,712	475	11,187	5,318	(8,185)	(2,867)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		166,320	1,342	167,662	161,002	9,527	170,529
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		<u>177,032</u>	<u>1,817</u>	<u>178,849</u>	<u>166,320</u>	<u>1,342</u>	<u>167,662</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		180,757		169,539	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,908)		(1,877)	
Net current assets			178,849		167,662
Net assets excluding pension liability			178,849		167,662
			=====		=====
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	15		1,817		1,342
Unrestricted funds			177,032		166,320
			=====		=====
			178,849		167,662
			=====		=====

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on17.9.24



M Grundy
Trustee

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Wirral and Chester Area Meeting of Quakers is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The registered office is Quaker Meeting House, Union Walk, Frodsham Street, Chester, CH1 3LF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.7 Leases

Chester Meeting House is part of a building owned and insured for £900,000 by the Townson Pension Scheme. The rest of the building is sublet by them. The site belongs to the Area Meeting, and is leased to the Townson Pension Scheme until 2125. There is no financial commitment involved.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and gifts	51,543	475	52,018	42,696	-	42,696

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Room hire	15,812	13,050

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Interest receivable	1,618	275

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Other income	2,618	5,482
Rents received	10,430	7,656
	<u>13,048</u>	<u>13,138</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Support costs	<u>1,913</u>	<u>1,335</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Quaker activities 2023 £	Quaker activities 2022 £
Direct costs		
Grants and donations (see note 9)	19,890	21,100
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	48,426	48,511
Governance	1,080	1,080
	<u>69,396</u>	<u>70,691</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>69,396</u>	<u>70,691</u>

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

9 Grants payable

	Quaker activities 2023 £	Quaker activities 2022 £
Grants to institutions:		
Donations to BYM	10,335	19,358
Donations to other Quaker bodies	2,360	1,062
Donations to non-Quaker bodies	7,195	680
	<u>19,890</u>	<u>21,100</u>

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Meeting House costs	39,722	30,859
Other costs	10,617	18,987
Governance costs	1,080	1,080
	<u>51,419</u>	<u>50,926</u>
Analysed between:		
Fundraising	1,913	1,335
Quaker activities	49,506	49,591
	<u>51,419</u>	<u>50,926</u>

11 Net movement in funds

	2023 £	2022 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,080</u>

12 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,908	1,877

15 Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Property fund	1,342	475	-	1,817
Previous year:	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Property fund	1,342	-	-	1,342
Children's fund	8,185	-	(8,185)	-
	9,527	-	(8,185)	1,342

The **Property Fund** receives a half share of the income arising from the Wirral and North Wales Fund, an endowment managed by Friends Trusts Ltd, to be used for the maintenance and repair of Meeting Houses.

The **Children's Fund** was created from money donated by a Chester Friend. The fund was restricted with the primary aim of providing continuing support for the American Exchange, and the Area Meeting was asked to consider paying £500 each year for that purpose. The Area Meeting could spend both the capital and the income, and after at least 5 years the Area Meeting could spend all of the fund on work for children and young people, or transfer what remained to the General Fund of the Area Meeting. The decision was taken to close this fund and the balance of £8,185 was transferred to the general funds.

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Area meeting general fund	13,633	-	(8,409)	3,850	9,074
Winter Gathering	3,850	-	-	(3,850)	-
Teenage general meeting	7,605	1,438	(773)	-	8,270
Birkenhead local meeting	50,044	18,748	(17,923)	-	50,869
Chester local meeting	42,325	32,050	(25,881)	-	48,494
Heswall local meeting	48,863	27,167	(15,705)	-	60,325
Acting as agent for special collections	-	2,618	(2,618)	-	-
	<u>166,320</u>	<u>82,021</u>	<u>(71,309)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>177,032</u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Area meeting general fund	5,401	-	(8,318)	16,550	13,633
Winter Gathering	7,700	-	(3,850)	-	3,850
Teenage general meeting	6,689	2,310	(1,394)	-	7,605
Birkenhead local meeting	48,814	13,315	(10,328)	(1,757)	50,044
Chester local meeting	50,171	26,873	(29,951)	(4,768)	42,325
Heswall local meeting	42,227	23,489	(15,013)	(1,840)	48,863
Acting as agent for special collections	-	3,172	(3,172)	-	-
	<u>161,002</u>	<u>69,159</u>	<u>(72,026)</u>	<u>8,185</u>	<u>166,320</u>

WIRRAL AND CHESTER AREA MEETING OF QUAKERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 Unrestricted funds

(Continued)

Area Meeting Designated Funds

The **Winter Gathering Fund** - By agreement with North Wales Area Meeting the Winter Gathering Committee uses this fund to administer a residential weekend for both Area Meetings. The Gathering is usually held in February or March, and so this fund uses an accounting period from July to June, so as to show the complete income and expenditure for one Gathering. Using an accounting period from January to December would give a misleading impression by showing the expenditure for one gathering and the income for the next. Payments from Local Meetings to the Winter Gathering Fund are technically transfers, but they are shown in these accounts as income and expenditure to avoid the complexity created by the overlapping financial years.

The **Teenage General Meeting Fund** was established during 2008 when the Area Meeting took over the administration on the closure of Lancashire and Cheshire General Meeting. It is a fund designated for the provision of events for children and young people in this and nearby Area Meetings.

The Local Meeting funds are primarily for the expenses of each local meeting, but may also be used for the centrally-managed work of the Society of Friends, or other purposes of the Area Meeting, and may be held in the name of the Local Meeting.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Current assets/(liabilities)	177,032	1,817	178,849
	<u>177,032</u>	<u>1,817</u>	<u>178,849</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
At 31 December 2022:			
Current assets/(liabilities)	166,320	1,342	167,662
	<u>166,320</u>	<u>1,342</u>	<u>167,662</u>

18 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).