

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain
(Registered charity, number 1180217)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Page	Contents
2-5	Trustees annual report
6	Independent examiners report
7	Receipts and Payments account
8	Statement of assets and liabilities
9-11	Notes on accounts

**Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Full name: Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Other names by which the charity is known: Northamptonshire Area Meeting

Organisation type: Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number: 1180217

Principal address:

Quaker Meeting House, Wellington Street, Northampton, NN1 3AS

Trustees at 31st December 2024

Olaseni Alaka - *Treasurer from 13th July 2025*

Paul Bertin

Patrick Braithwaite

Annette Candy

Andrew Halliwell - *Treasurer until 13th July 2025*

Elizabeth Rees *resigned 31st December 2024*

John Theodore Sturge - *Clerk to Trustees from 1st January 2025*

Independent examiner

Howard N Sanderson

Accountancy Compliance Solutions (UK) Limited,

1 Endcliffe Avenue, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 2RB

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 05/10/2018. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years by the Area Meeting following nomination by its Nominations Committee.

Business meetings within the Society are conducted as "Meeting for Worship for Church Affairs" in which there is no voting., the Clerk, is a servant of the meeting and the minutes are agreed at each meeting. Membership of the Society of Friends is held within the Area Meeting.

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Objectives and activities

The object of Northamptonshire Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in Northamptonshire Area Meeting and beyond.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The Area Meeting ensures the right holding of public meetings for worship, and regular meetings for church affairs in each of the constituent meetings - Kettering, Northampton and Wellingborough. The Area Meeting supports Quaker witness through its public meetings for worship, and supports social projects for the relief of poverty and suffering as well as witness for peace and reconciliation, both within its own geographical area and more widely through the work of Britain Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Northamptonshire Area Meeting is one of seventy area meetings of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in England, Wales and Scotland. Contributions, donations, legacies, income raised from the use of the property by other charitable and nonprofit making organisations, and interest received are used on deepening and sharing our spiritual experience and acts that arise from our faith. We support work for peace, justice, a sustainable environment, the alleviation of suffering and victims of oppression. Our local meetings for worship are open to all with no tests, and membership of the Society is open to anyone seeking truth.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

Northampton local meeting has continued to work on making blended meeting work effectively as a permanent feature to extend worship face to face and on-line meeting together.

The Meetings have continued to support the work of NDAS, local refugees and have provided a Quaker Kitchen in Wellingborough.

Financial review

The total liquid funds available to the Area Meeting remain stable, at about £371,000; held between Area Meeting, and its Local Meetings. The trustees consider this to be sufficient to meet the anticipated demands of the Area Meeting, which includes the upkeep of three Mature Meeting Houses. Each local meeting has its own treasurer; the local meeting accounts being consolidated each year within those of the Area Meeting. The three Meeting Houses are not shown as a fixed asset in the accounts, as they are

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

functional properties and there is no intention to sell them. Buildings are insured for £3,345,000 in total.

Additionally, the Area Meeting owns two investment properties. Both are currently leased to Northampton Domestic Abuse Service as refuge houses and are insured for £490,000 in total. The income from rents is used for general purposes.

It should be noted that although labelled as investment properties, the provision of these two Refuge Houses is undertaken primarily as a means of providing a socially sustainable use for Capital Assets of the Area Meeting and is not managed on profit maximisation principles.

The rent of the investment properties provides some income, but the majority of income within the Area Meeting come from the contributions of members and attenders, and from the hiring of the Meeting Houses to other groups. Matching expenditure and income remained challenging in a time of high inflation and fairly static income streams, but the Area Meeting Cash Flow as a whole was able to grow by about £9,000 in 2024.

Hiring revenues remain below pre-pandemic levels, but are slowly recovering. Member contributions remain broadly flat. Offset against this is the impact of rising inflation, which puts pressures on costs. Reserves remain at a comfortable level for now, with overall cash flows positive in 2024. However, income and expenditure will need to be carefully managed to prevent an entrenched structural deficit from developing. The three Meeting Houses are of an age that require ongoing, substantial renovation to ensure their proper upkeep.

The combination of substantial cash and investment assets and regular contribution income provide strong risk protection against variable hiring income and ongoing upkeep costs of maintaining its 3 Meeting Houses. The long-term viability of The Area Meeting ultimately rests on maintaining its membership at a viable level in the decades and centuries to come, as existing local meetings grow or decline, and new local meetings arise.

The Funds of the Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings are not cumulatively at current risk of running into deficit. The option and facility exist to transfer funds from one fund to another within the Area Meeting where required. Ultimately the contributions of members have always remained the core means of maintaining the liquidity of the Area Meeting and have remained responsive to the needs of the Area Meeting.

The charity's policy on reserves.

Local Meetings have their own Reserves Policy. Northampton Local Meeting implemented a reserves policy in 2015; Kettering Local Meeting implemented theirs in 2017; Wellingborough Local Meeting adopted theirs in July 2020.

**Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain**

Area Meeting does not currently have a separate formal reserves policy, but in practice maintains a reserve sufficient to enable it to undertake the following year's expenditure as well as to respond to unforeseen needs, both for property restoration and ongoing support for the concerns supported by members of the Meeting. To this end a rolling budget is maintained and five yearly surveys of the properties are carried out. Whilst Local Meetings pay the costs for everyday repairs and maintenance the Area Meeting itself assumes the responsibility for the renovation works on the Meeting Houses; accordingly, a core and ongoing priority of Area Meeting is to ensure there are sufficient reserves at all times to cover such costs within the Building Fund. Annual Contributions from Local Meetings to the Building Fund are to ensure the Building Fund remains healthy.

A quinquennial survey was conducted in 2024 and work needed on the Meeting Houses is in progress.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:

Signed:



Theo Sturge
Clerk to the Trustees

Dated:

17/10/2025

**Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain**

**Independent Examiner's report to the trustees
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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 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 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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:



Date:

12/10/25.

**Howard N Sanderson
Accountancy Compliance Solutions (UK) Limited
1 Endcliffe Avenue, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17 2RB**

**Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain**

Receipts & payments account for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024				2023
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Receipts:						
Bank interest		5,570	-	-	5,570	3,976
Collections & Contributions	2a	21,896	-	-	21,896	20,988
Donations and grants received		1,622	-	-	1,622	4,900
Gift aid		1,837	-	-	1,837	6,083
Gift aid:Interest		43	-	-	43	
Hire of meeting rooms		21,979	-	-	21,979	23,231
Other Miscellaneous Income	2b	3,906	-	-	3,906	1,353
Rents received		21,400	-	-	21,400	19,065
Total receipts		78,253	-	-	78,253	79,596
Payments:						
Donation to BYM		2,320	-	-	2,320	
Governance costs	2c	2,879	-	-	2,879	1,550
Internal transfer from AM		300	-	-	300	
Internal transfer to AM		160	-	-	160	
Life of meeting costs	2d	17,457	-	-	17,457	29,199
Miscellaneous Expenses		12	-	-	12	
Office/General Administrative Expenditures		72	-	-	72	
Property costs	2e	44,923	-	-	44,923	46,532
SundryExpense		636	-	-	636	
Total payments		68,759	-	-	68,759	77,281
Net receipts/(payments)		9,494	-	-	9,494	2,315
Cash funds at start of this period		359,616	775	-	360,391	358,076
Cash funds at end of this period		369,110	775	-	369,885	360,391

**Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2024

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Properties - Functional *				
Kettering	814,049	-	-	814,049
Wellingborough	1,198,220	-	-	1,198,220
Northampton	1,248,207	-	-	1,248,207
	3,260,476	-	-	3,260,476
<i>* functional property comprising of three local meeting houses - shown at insured values</i>				
Properties - Investments at Cost				
Kettering House	118,836	-	56,164	175,000
Wellingborough House	200,000	-	-	200,000
	318,836	-	56,164	375,000
Cash assets				
Bank accounts	370,559	775	-	371,334
less Monies held as agent	(1,449)			(1,449)
	369,110	775	-	369,885
Other assets				
Insurance prepayment	3,095	-	-	3,095
				3,020
Liabilities				
Legal and professional fees	(960)			(960)
Monies held as agent	(1,449)			(1,449)
	(2,409)	-	-	(2,409)
				(930)

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed: Andrew Halliwell

Dated: 17 Oct 2025

Andrew Halliwell – Trustee

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Notes to the accounts

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received, and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Notes to the accounts

2024				2023	
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds	
2a . Collections & Contributions Receipts:					
Collections	323	-	-	323	290
Collections for AasA	135	-	-	135	-
Contributions	21,438	-	-	21,438	20,698
21,896		-	-	21,896	20,988
2b. Other Miscellaneous Income:					
Other Income	50	-	-	50	514
Quaker activities	879	-	-	879	
Sales	276	-	-	276	
Solar panels WMH	2,012	-	-	2,012	839
Uncategorised Income	689	-	-	689	
3,906		-	-	3,906	1,353
2c. Governance costs:					
Bank charges	74	-	-	74	260
Bookkeeping	2,318	-	-	2,318	1,056
Legal & professional fees	192	-	-	192	234
Other Governance	295	-	-	295	
2,879		-	-	2,879	1,550
2d. Life of meeting costs:					
Conferences & courses	380	-	-	380	1,743
Donations	14,085	-	-	14,085	25,962
Dues and Subscriptions	509	-	-	509	410
Elders and overseers		-	-	-	40
General	1,193	-	-	1,193	
Library	28	-	-	28	
Meals and entertainment	30	-	-	30	
Other payments		-	-	-	350
Postage & Stationery	24	-	-	24	18
Safeguarding	145	-	-	145	145
Website & WiFi	1,063	-	-	1,063	531
17,457		-	-	17,457	29,199

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

2024					2023
Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds		Total Funds
2e. Property costs					
Cleaning	7,444	-	-	7,444	7,733
Garden Equipment and Maintenance	2,394	-	-	2,394	3,612
General	3,872	-	-	3,872	
Insurances	3,096	-	-	3,096	3,020
Kitchen And Catering	53	-	-	53	74
Major Repairs	7,761	-	-	7,761	
Minor Repairs	833	-	-	833	
Refuge House:Improvements & Rates	-	-	-	-	984
Refuse Collection	1,246	-	-	1,246	1,164
Repairs & Maintenance	7,708	-	-	7,708	15,566
Tests And Inspections	336	-	-	336	426
Utilities General	1,898	-	-	1,898	13,061
Utilities:Broadband	445	-	-	445	892
Utilities:Electricity	4,714	-	-	4,714	
Utilities:Gas	2,611	-	-	2,611	
Utilities:Water	512	-	-	512	
	44,923	-	-	44,923	48,532

3. Restricted Funds summary

	Opening Balance	Recelpts	Payments	Transfers	Closing Balance
Restricted funds					
Gravelly Legacy	775	-	-	-	775
	775	-	-	-	775

The Gravelly Legacy is a restricted fund to finance work in the annexe (Community Room), garden and meeting house in Wellingborough. The transfers from the Local Meeting funds to the Area Building fund reflect the quotas charged to the Local Meetings.

Northamptonshire Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

4. Endowment funds analysis

The following Endowment funds are held as part of the Kettering Investment property:

	£
Betty Desborough fund	50,000
Kingsthorpe Land Accumulated Income	890
Kingsthorpe Land Capital	500
Land at Old Accumulated Income	545
Land at Old Capital	500
William Dry Accumulated Income	1,338
William Dry Capital	500
Woodford Close Accumulated Income	1,391
Woodford Close Capital	500
	<hr/> 56,164 <hr/>

The Area Meeting holds within its assets The Betty Desborough Fund, a legacy given specifically for the purposes of Outreach Work and is thus held and used by the Area Meeting as a restricted fund for this purpose. Its current size is £50,000 or 25% of any future sale proceeds of the Kettering investment property, whichever is the greater. Note, the Betty Desborough Fund is currently invested within the Kettering property that is rented out; and that in the event of that property's sale the receipts would be returned to the fund proportionately to its original stake.

Trustees have utilised an accounting convention of dividing its (unrestricted) funds between the General Fund, and a Building Fund. The Building fund is designed to provide a sufficient pot of monies to be used over a 5-year cycle for the preservation in good condition of the 3 Meeting Houses that it owns, topped up each year through contributions from the local meetings. Note that everyday maintenance and repairs are paid for by the local meetings directly.

5. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.