

Charity Number: 224603

Pendle Hill Area Meeting

Report and financial statements
For the year ended 31st December 2023

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st December 2023

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Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Reference and administrative information
for the year ended 31st December 2023

Charity Name	Pendle Hill Area Quaker Meeting
Charity number	224603
Status	A charity registered with the Charity Commission
Clerk to the Trustees	Clare Frackleton
Principal Office	(Address of the Clerk of Trustees) 6 Alfred Street Egerton Bolton BL7 9TA
Treasurer	Pink Dandelion
Trustees	Peter Damian Entwistle (appointed 8 th July 2023) Clare Heather Frackleton Wendy Hampton Alex Houghton (appointed 10 th December 2023) Norma Lee Tony Robinson Philip Whitehead
Custodian Trustee	Friends Trusts Ltd
Independent Examiner	David Evans FCA Evans Accountants Unit 27B Mitton Road Business Park Mitton Road, Whalley, Clitheroe BB7 9YE
Bankers	
Pendle Hill Area Meeting:	Cooperative Bank
Bolton Quaker Meeting	Cooperative Bank, Charities Deposit Fund, F&C Fund Management
Blackburn Quaker Meeting	Lloyds Bank, The Charity Bank
Chorley Quaker Meeting	Chorley Building Society
Clitheroe Quaker Meeting	Yorkshire bank, Marsden Building Society
Crawshawbooth Quaker Meeting	NatWest, NS&I
Marsden Quaker Meeting	Yorkshire Bank

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31st December 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Governing Document was adopted on 13 September 2008. Necessary revisions and amendments were made with the agreement of the Area Meeting on 14 November 2015; 12 November 2016; and 11 March 2017.

Trustees

Suitable persons from among the Members of the Area Meeting are identified by the Area Meeting Nominations Committee. A person's name is put forward to the Area Meeting and if discerned to be appropriate the appointment of the person as a Trustee is recorded in the Area Meeting minutes. Trustees are encouraged to attend training courses organised nationally by Britain Yearly Meeting.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Constitution and purpose

The Area Meeting is a charity established for the advancement of Quakerism and other related charitable purposes such as derive from or bear witness to the principles and practices of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). The principal activity is the holding of public meetings for worship in the constituent Local Meetings of Blackburn, Bolton, Chorley, Clitheroe, Crawshawbooth and Marsden.

The affairs of the Area Meeting are governed by "Quaker Faith and Practice", the Book of Discipline of Britain Yearly Meeting and the Area Meeting governing document. Pendle Hill Area Meeting is a charity registered under Charity Commission Reg. No. 224603. The Members of the Area Meeting are all those persons whose names are for the time being recorded in its official register maintained in accordance with the procedures of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain (Britain Yearly Meeting).

Strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings both in the area of Pendle Hill Area

Meeting and beyond:

Meeting for worship is held twice-weekly in one Meeting House, weekly in four Meeting Houses and once fortnightly in a church schoolroom. All are public meetings for worship which are advertised outside the venues, online on our website, on the national Quaker website, on social media via two Facebook pages and one X (formerly known as twitter) account and through a church bulletin. Of those 26 Meetings for worship 20 are held 'blended' there is online participation through a Zoom link for those wishing to join the meeting remotely for whatever reason. The links to public online link are available through clerks to each of the six local groups. Local Meetings have been part of wider ecumenical and Christians Together groups to support wider religious experience, understanding and tolerance.

Use of Property:

We maintain five meeting houses that we have used to hold public Meeting for Worship and which are available for community and individual use in line with our beliefs and concerns at the discretion of Friends in the meeting. Within those buildings we promote Quakerism, our public meetings for worship, our beliefs and our work in the world locally nationally and internationally through posters, books and leaflets. Burial grounds are maintained in such a way that they reflect our values, Chapel Hill Burial Ground is tidied annually in such a way that it is welcoming to people and wildlife. Blackburn Meeting is a welcome green space open when the Meeting House is in use. Clitheroe's green strip is tidy and provides a talking point next to the public carpark. It is now wildlife friendly and has been twinned with a gardening

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project in Africa. Crawshawbooth's large well-kept garden has been a welcome community green space used when there is a Quaker presence in the building and a valuable community green space when open in the summer. Marsden's garden provided mature trees and a green aspect to an urban area. Tong cemetery, associated with Bolton Meeting, has been cared for by the council as a valued green space.

Undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad:

Friends Fellowship of Healing meetings are held by Friends in Pendle Hill Area Meeting, one Meeting Houses is regularly used for these meetings to relieve suffering and support those in need of healing from within the Quaker and wider community, they are open to all. The other group is largely online.

Funding the concerns that Quaker meetings in the area of Pendle Hill Area Meeting or beyond have adopted or agreed to support:

We have had financial contributions which have been used to support our concerns for example this year: Promotion of environmental concerns within the community and in the world: Support of Money for Madagascar relief of poverty and girls' education; Destitution project in Bolton; Refugee group welcome in Blackburn; Friends of Hlekweni's peace work and poverty relief; Chorley Help the Homeless.

Providing for the pastoral care of individual members and Attenders including assistance to those in need and for education:

We have people appointed to take care of eldership, pastoral care. We hold learning events and discussion groups as well as supporting understanding and answering enquires of members, members of the public and attenders in the meetings. In addition, it is part of our membership that we all share in the responsibility for these tasks, we do them for each other. We also hold community building events to strengthen Quaker community, these are open to members, attenders and the wider community.

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

Use by the local communities close to our Meeting properties.

We have continued to practice good stewardship to maintain our premises to a high standard that demonstrates a warm welcome to the public. We are completing the process of developing equal access facilities at our oldest Meeting House. Each Meeting House has its own programme of works and maintenance which is budgeted for by the local meeting and overseen by trustees for high expenditure. Other Meeting Houses have welcomed in community groups including those doing yoga, having coffee mornings for refugees, welcoming refugees for Friendship, promoting environmental action, children's groups, Buddhist group, and the wider community to use the space when there are public events with high numbers of people attending.

Administering and maintaining the organisation of Pendle Hill Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting:

Friends make financial contributions and treasurers locally and as a group/ Area Meeting monitor the use of funds, produce financial reports to trustees and annual audited accounts.

Friends have served Britain Yearly Meeting through being part of committees of the national body, on Quaker Life Representative Council, Meeting for Sufferings (national executive body) and the Book of Discipline Revision Committee and attendance at the Yearly Meeting of our national body Britain Yearly

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Meeting. These bodies all maintain and develop Quaker thought and beliefs as well as advertising our presence to the world.

Friends have used the services of an accountancy firm for some financial record keeping and accounting but other than that Friends serve the Area Meeting and in some cases the wider Yearly Meeting voluntarily to maintain our organisation.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities are undertaken to further Pendle Hill Area Quaker Meeting charitable purposes for the public benefit. Strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings both in the area of Pendle Hill Area Meeting and beyond; the online element of our worship has allowed us to welcome worshippers from abroad as well as across this area and the UK. We hold one Meeting for Church Affairs (Business Meeting) for ten months of the year which are open to members and to any attenders who seek permission to attend. Two socials are held each year to help build and maintain our worshipping community and these are open to all associated with our Meetings. We maximise welcome and attendance through advertising and supporting people financially where that is helpful. Quakers from this Area Meeting attend other Quaker Meetings both virtually and in person for fellowship and education to strengthen our meeting and others. Once a month we hold a Children's Meeting for those people who are too young to benefit from largely silent worship, this has encouraged families into worship.

We have held both Meetings for Worship for Marriage and for Remembrance, these are both spiritually enriching for our own community and have been a wonderful way to have a meeting in which there are many non-Quaker attenders who experience our way of worship and see our values in action.

Spreading the message of Quakers and interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society:

This last year we have been developing a website and within that information on Quakerism, links to wider messages and information on Quakerism and links to our national resources to make known our openness to all. We have also attended Quaker gatherings; Britain Yearly Meeting, Quaker Life Representative Council, Northern Friends Peace Board, public Regional Gatherings of Quakers for education on peace, freedom, imprisonment and equality. These are also for community building and to further understanding of our beliefs and our work in the world.

Discussion groups, open to all, have been held regularly in one location and online and periodically in three locations to help interpret and develop Quaker thought and beliefs. These have been informative, and well attended. New attenders have joined Meetings as a result in some part of the network of Meetings in this country and abroad.

Clitheroe Meeting House was open for public access during the Clitheroe Food Festival to provide a restful space and facilities for individuals and families. Crawshawbooth held an open day combined with our Area Meeting social in August which was very well attended.

We have welcomed several school groups who have been told about Quakerism as part of a specifically Quaker education or as part of a school religious education event. Youth groups have also been welcomed and introduced to Quakerism. Local Meetings have been part of wider ecumenical and Christians Together groups to support wider religious experience, understanding and tolerance. Marsden Friends participated in Interfaith Week - one Member joined other faith groups in a local Secondary School, and presented sessions about The Society of Friends to different year groups.

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Marsden Friends have been instrumental in joining with Building Bridges Pendle (BBP) to hold a 'talking lounge' on the topic of prayer & spirituality for the local community, 'Soul Food'. Joining with Clitheroe Friends, another collaborative event with BBP was held, that allowed residents a chance to find out about the strong local connection between Pendle Hill, George Fox, and the earliest days of the Society. Marsden Friends have collaborated with Building Bridges Burnley to offer sessions in a local primary school, teaching about Christianity, as part of the national curriculum, presenting sessions to four different year groups.

Developing Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world:

Use by the local communities close to our Meeting properties.

We have continued to practice good stewardship to maintain our premises to a high standard that demonstrates a warm welcome to the public. We are completing the process of developing equal access facilities at Crawshawbooth, our oldest Meeting House, and are rebuilding the boundary wall at Marsden. Each Meeting House has its own programme of works and maintenance which is budgeted for by the local meeting and overseen by trustees for high expenditure. Other Meeting Houses have welcomed in community groups including those doing yoga, having coffee mornings for refugees, welcoming refugees for Friendship, promoting environmental action, children's groups, Buddhist group, alternative health and mindfulness.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives, and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process. Many examples of such public benefit have been described earlier in this report.

SAFEGUARDING

With support for Britain Yearly Meeting and 31:8, Pendle Hill Area Meeting has a new Safeguarding policy and procedure to ensure appropriate care of children and vulnerable adults. The policy includes provision for the safeguarding training of a number of role holders to various levels depending on the exact role in the Area Meeting. We now have a safeguarding Trustee and a Deputy Safeguarding Trustee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal funding sources for the Area Meeting remain donations from Members and attenders and income from letting rooms or 'wardens' cottages' at the various Meeting Houses. For the year ending 31st December 2023, taking Area Meeting's own general funds and the consolidated accounts for the designated funds held by our six constituent Local Meetings, our total income was £100,014 compared to the previous year of £189,458 due to a building project appeal at Crawshawbooth to improve public access, especially disabled access.

Against this, our total expenditure decreased to £178,889 compared to £201,438 in the previous year also due to the ongoing building project.

Investment income continues to be low, reflecting the interest rates currently available.

Reserves Policy

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for the year ended 31st December 2023

Local Meetings will hold only the equivalent of one year's expenditure as a local reserve. In addition, a Local Meeting may hold any funds given to it specifically for use by that Meeting. However, such funds should be used before the Local Meeting requests any funding from the Area Meeting Reserves. The Area Meeting Reserves Fund is managed by the Area Meeting to minimise erosion by inflation whilst maintaining availability for urgent requirements. The Trustees will administer the allocation of money from the Reserve Fund in a prompt and fair way.

Funds in deficit

None.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Area Meeting employs Peninsula Business Services Limited as consultants for health and safety, and human resources. Peninsula has provided risk management systems for each of the Local Meetings, gives advice as required, and visits each Local Meeting annually to ensure that guidelines are being followed. Where appropriate, Local Meetings have implemented policies for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Trustees have also overseen the way each Meeting House is being managed by regular visits and by strongly encouraging each of the Local Meetings to provide at least one Trustee.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Regular monitoring by the Clerking Team, Treasurers and the Trustees has helped to ensure that the Area Meeting continues to function effectively and meet its charitable objectives. Unfortunately, it is still proving to be difficult to find people to take on essential roles within the Area Meeting and Local Meetings. The long-term viability of some of our Meetings in terms of the number of people attending remains a concern to the Trustees. However, the regional Quaker Local Development Worker has helped several Local Meetings tackle problems that have been hindering their development. Trustees will continue to review and update Area Meeting policies in the light of new legislation and guidelines. We are concerned about the financial implications of maintaining five Meeting Houses and plan to review this in 2024.

Statement of responsibilities of the Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with The Charities Act 2011.

Approved by the Area Meeting on September 7, 2024 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Wendy Hampton, Trustee

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
for the year ended 31st December 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

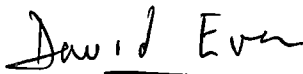
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 company as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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.



David Evans FCA
Independent Examiner

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Date: September 11, 2024

David H Evans Ltd
Unit 27b Mitton Road Business Park, Mitton Road, Whalley, Clitheroe, BB8 9YE

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure account)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted			
	General	Designated		
	Fund	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Receipts:				
Voluntary Income	0	32,273	32,273	122,827
Income from activities to generate funds	0	52,500	52,500	41,194
Investment income	723	2,495	3,218	814
Grant income	10,000		10,000	2,250
Other income	0	2,023	2,023	26,654
Movement on Glenthorne account	0	0	0	(4,281)
Total receipts	10,723	89,291	100,014	189,458
Payments:				
Costs of generating funds	0	377	377	48,168
Costs of Quaker activities	6,177	60,208	66,385	65,584
Donations to other Quaker bodies	760	0	760	37,977
Donations to non Quaker bodies	0	2,584	2,584	1,695
Governance costs and professional fees	7,428	1,080	8,508	3,018
Repairs and maintenance	0	80,559	80,559	44,996
Stable project	0	19,716	19,716	0
Total payments	14,365	164,524	178,889	201,438
Net receipts (payments) for the year	(3,642)	(75,233)	(78,875)	(11,980)
Transfers from Designated Funds	5,480	(5,480)	0	0
Net movement in funds	1,838	(80,713)	(78,875)	(11,980)
Bank and cash balances at start of the year	38,230	231,854	270,084	282,064
Bank and cash balances at end of the year	40,068	151,141	191,209	270,084
All of the charity's operations are classed as continuing.				

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 31st December 2023

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Bank and cash balances		195,926	270,084
Debtors:			
Tax reclaim due		916	407
Other debts due to charity	3	13,073	6,155
		<u>13,989</u>	<u>6,562</u>
Fixed asset investments		29,022	26,800
Buildings and contents	2	<u>3,700,763</u>	<u>3,700,763</u>
Creditors	4	<u>(16,503)</u>	<u>(1,044)</u>
The Fixed Asset Investments is held by Bolton Quaker Meeting in CAF Ethical Plus Fund, managed by F&C Fund Management Limited.			
Approved by the Trustees on 2024 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:			
		W. Hanlyon	

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Notes to the accounts
for the year ending 31st December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost (except where otherwise indicated) in accordance with the charity's governing document, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005)

The accounting statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2. Land, buildings and contents

The properties owned by Pendle Hill Area Meeting comprise of Meeting Houses and warden's accommodation which are held for the furtherance of the Area Meeting's charitable objects. With the exception of the Clitheroe Meeting House which is stated at cost, the other Meeting Houses are shown at their current insured values as the original costs of the buildings are not known.

		Buildings £	Contents £	Total £
Bolton Quaker Meeting	50 Silverwell Street, Bolton, BL1 1PP	1,430,000	66,150	1,496,150
Marsden Quaker Meeting	21 Walverden Road, Brierfield, Nelson, BB9 0PJ	435,000	16,538	451,538
Crawshawbooth Quaker Meeting	13 Co-operation Street, Crawshawbooth, Rossendale, BB4 8AG	660,000	11,025	671,025
Blackburn Quaker Meeting	Friends Meeting House, Paradise lane, Blackburn, BB2 1LY	400,000	22,050	422,050
Clitheroe Quaker Meeting	Eastham House, New Market street, Clitheroe, BB7 2JW	555,000	105,000	660,000
		3,480,000	220,763	3,700,763

3 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Glenthorne receipts	0	1,874
Refund due in respect of VAT charged on the Stable project (Crawshawbooth)	13,073	0
	13,073	1,874

3 Creditors

	£	£
Glenthorne receipts in advance	1,041	0
Loan from BYM (Britain Yearly Meeting)	11,900	
Bookkeeping (Bolton Meeting)	560	0
Accountancy	3,002	1,044
	16,503	1,044

5 Trustees' expenses

No expenses were paid to trustees during the year.

Pendle Hill Area Meeting

Notes to the accounts
for the year ending 31st December 2023

	Bolton Quaker Meeting	Marsden Quaker Meeting	Clitheroe Quaker Meeting	Crawshawbooth Quaker Meeting	Blackburn Quaker Meeting	Chorley Quaker Meeting	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income:								
Voluntary Income	10,885	2,899	3,368	4,333	7,443	3,345	32,273	122,827
Income from activities to generate funds	39,834	3,450	3,200	4,740	1,130	146	52,500	35,672
Investment income	0	301	1,026	537	432	199	2,495	814
Grant income	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,250
Other income	80	1,943	0	0	0	0	2,023	26,654
Total Income Resources	50,799	8,593	7,594	9,610	9,005	3,690	89,291	188,217
Resources expended:								
Costs of generating funds	0	0	0	377	0	0	377	43,718
Costs of Quaker activities	32,487	6,219	6,640	9,622	3,718	1,522	60,208	64,147
Donations to other Quaker bodies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27,477
Donations to non Quaker bodies	0	200	1,784	0	500	100	2,584	1,445
Governance costs and professional fees	1,080	0	0	0	0	0	1,080	438
Repairs and maintenance	9,306	30,945	38,400	120	1,788	0	80,559	42,111
Stable project	0	0	0	19,716	0	0	19,716	0
Total resources expended	42,873	37,364	46,824	29,835	6,006	1,622	164,524	179,336
Net income (expenditure) resources before transfers	7,926	(28,771)	(39,230)	(20,225)	2,999	2,068	(75,233)	8,881
Transfers from (to) General Funds	(6,880)	7,850	(2,580)	(645)	(1,720)	(1,505)	(5,480)	(14,398)
Net movements in funds	1,046	(20,921)	(41,810)	(20,870)	1,279	563	(80,713)	(5,517)
Funds at 31st December 2022	30,837	29,567	64,214	60,586	44,637	2,013	231,854	237,371
Funds at 31st December 2023	31,883	8,646	22,404	39,716	45,916	2,576	151,141	231,854

Pendle Hill Area Meeting
Notes to the accounts
for the year ending 31st December 2023

5. Detailed statement of current assets and liabilities

5. Detailed statement of current assets and liabilities								
	Bolton Quaker Meeting	Marsden Quaker Meeting	Clitheroe Quaker Meeting	Crasshawbooth Quaker Meeting	Blackburn Quaker Meeting	Chorley Quaker Meeting	Area Meeting General Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank and cash balances	32,443	8,947	22,405	26,643	45,916	2,576	56,996	195,926
Tax Claim due	0	0	0	0	0	0	916	916
Debtors	0	0	0	13,073	0	0	0	13,073
Fixed asset investments	29,022	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,022
Liabilities	(560)	0	0	0	0	0	(15,943)	(16,503)
Net Assets less liabilities at 31st December 2023	60,905	8,947	22,405	39,716	45,916	2,576	41,969	222,434
Net Assets less liabilities at 31st December 2022	59,859	29,567	64,214	60,586	44,637	2,013	43,748	43,748