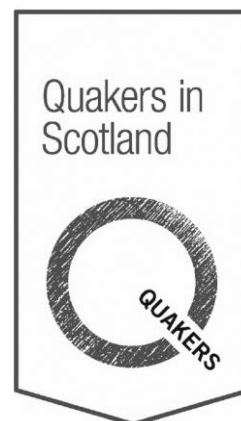


## GENERAL MEETING FOR SCOTLAND

At a hybrid Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at the Soutar Theatre, Bell Library, York Place, Perth PH2 8EP, and by video conference.



### Minutes

#### 25/09/01 Opening worship

During our opening worship our assistant clerk read section 3.22 of *Quaker faith & practice*, quoting 1 Corinthians 12:4-7. it is a responsibility of a Christian community to enable its members to discover what their gifts are and to develop and exercise them to the glory of God.

#### 25/09/02 Welcome to all present

We welcome all Friends who are with us today, both by Zoom and in Perth.

The numbers of those present for all or part of the meeting were:

East Scotland AM	32 (25 in Perth, 7 on Zoom)
North Scotland AM	18 (10 in Perth, 8 on Zoom)
South East Scotland AM	26 (11 in Perth, 15 on Zoom)
West Scotland AM	23 (13 in Perth, 10 on Zoom)
Unattributed	1
Visitors	2

**Total: 102**, including 12 attenders

We thank East Scotland Area Meeting for asking Connie Wright and Anneke Kraakman to act as elders for us today in Perth.

#### 25/09/03 Agenda

We adopt the agenda as circulated.

#### 25/09/04 Reporter to *The Friend* and *Scottish Friend*

We thank Clive Potter and Piers Voysey for agreeing to report on this meeting, and on Quakers in Scotland this afternoon, for *The Friend* and *Scottish Friend*.

#### 25/09/05 New members, transfers and deaths

From Area Meeting minutes since General Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025, we record the following membership changes:

##### DEATHS

Anne Rado    WSAM            died 18/8/25

## **NEW MEMBERS**

James Philip Ascher    SESAM  
Rebecca Carter        SESAM  
James Shemilt        WSAM  
Sue Greenwood       NSAM

## **TRANSFERS**

Sheena Goulty from ESAM to SESAM

## **RESIGNATIONS**

James Garry            SESAM  
Ruth Johnston        WSAM  
Lesley Reynolds      NSAM

[ESAM = East Scotland Area Meeting; NSAM = North Scotland Area Meeting;  
SESAM = South East Scotland Area Meeting; WSAM = West Scotland Area Meeting]

## **25/09/06 Roger Quinn**

We receive minute 38/25 of North Scotland Area Quaker Meeting held 30 & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 forwarding a testimony to the grace of God as shown in the life of Roger Quinn (Paper A). We endorse this testimony and ask the clerk to inform Britain Yearly Meeting.

## **25/09/07 Shindig Report**

Northern Young Friends Summer Shindig is a residential summer camp for young Quakers aged 11-16, mainly from Scotland and the North East of England. This year it was held for the second time running at the Field Studies Council centre at Millport on the Isle of Cumbrae, from 26<sup>th</sup> July to the 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

We are joined by Shindig young Friends Grace Robertson and George Donaldson with volunteer helper Vix Hobba, who were interviewed by Mary Troup, our Children and Young People's Advocate Support, to help us appreciate the experience of Shindig. It was 'full on' event with 52 young people and some 20+ volunteer staff. The event gave opportunity to join together and be aware and inclusive of each other. Shindig helped those involved to listen to each other, and being listened to was equally important. Learning about people who are different helps make our community stronger – 'we are all different but we are all the same'. It also gave an understanding of what Quakerism is and how we work as a religious community. This was seen particularly through the daily epilogue. Friends are encouraged to think who could attend next year, and also to consider becoming a volunteer and helping to plan and run these events.

We thank Mary, Vix, Grace and George for their presentation today.

### **25/09/08 Report on Central European Yearly Meeting**

Buša Cochrane-Muir has spoken to her report (Paper B) after representing us at Central European Yearly Meeting (CEYM) held in Terezin, Czechia and online, 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

The main business was on discerning the question of membership and how CEYM welcomes and accompanies those new to the Quaker way, but more in hearing how Friends throughout Europe are faring in these days of uncertainty, searching for hope, peace and spiritual fulfilment. The situation in Ukraine, Gaza and elsewhere was ever present.

We thank Buša for representing us at CEYM and its predecessor over the last five years, and are open to maintaining this contact through others in future years.

### **25/09/09 Nordic Yearly Meeting**

Mary Woodward attended Nordic Yearly Meeting held in 3-6 July 2025, Her travelling letter was endorsed by the clerks as follows:

*Thank you for sending your, and now our, Friend Mary to our Gathering. We have had a few blessed, gathered and stimulating days together. Mary has contributed to this with her presence and also by leading a workshop on the revision of BYM's "Faith and Practice"*

### **25/09/10 Quaker Voices on Mental Health**

Rosemary (Rosie) Roberts of York Area Meeting has spoken to us of the recent publication of *Quaker Voices on Mental Health* published by the Quaker Voices on Mental Health (QVoMH), a Quaker Recognised Body. This is a national network of Quakers who have a concern for mental health and wellbeing. The purpose of the book is to bring before Friends the urgent need for a renewed focus on mental health within the work of Britain Yearly Meeting. The book is a series of twelve chapters written by Friends for Friends, on different Quaker perspectives of mental health. The aim is to raise awareness within the Society about current mental health issues and their relevance to us as Quakers today. All four hundred and thirty-nine Local Meetings in Britain Yearly Meeting will receive a free copy, and Rosie has brought with her copies for all Scottish meetings. The book is also available through the Quaker Bookshop. The Quaker Voices on Mental Health website may found at: <https://quakervoicesonmh.org.uk/>

We thank Rosie for being with us today.

## **25/09/11 Meeting for Sufferings report**

Elaine Millar, our representative on Meeting for Sufferings, has spoken to points from her report of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (Paper C). Minutes and papers can be found on the Britain Yearly Meeting website.

Business included a workshop on Quakers and Protest, which focused on the emotional and spiritual aspects of activism, and the importance of nurturing interpersonal relationships within our local and area meetings, where a range of different attitudes to protest can lead to divisions.

Elaine has also explained how Meeting for Sufferings received a minute from Worcestershire & Shropshire Area Meeting concerned the implications of the recent Supreme Court judgment (on the meaning of 'sex' in the Equality Act 2010) for trans inclusion and single-sex spaces. This case was brought by the group, 'For Women Scotland' against Scottish ministers. This issue is also live within Quakers and is at risk of becoming polarised and divisive between Friends who wish us to stand up for trans rights for inclusion, and Friends speaking up for women's right for single-sex spaces. Both groups express fears, and both must be heard and must hear each other. Elaine asks if sharing about 'needs' rather than 'rights' could help this process.

We will return to this matter so that we may feed into the ongoing consideration by Meeting for Sufferings. A method of taking this sensitively will be brought to the November Meeting of Quakers in Scotland.

Other business included the addition of Friends' names to the Prison and Court Register; the BYM Trustees' report; progress on 'new ways of belonging' with proposals regarding membership; and consideration of handing on the functions of Meeting for Sufferings to Continuing Yearly Meeting. Meeting for Sufferings also received General Meeting's minute on the transition to Quakers in Scotland, to which we will return.

We thank Elaine for her report.

## **25/09/12 Parliamentary Engagement Working Group report**

We receive the report of our Parliamentary Engagement Working Group (Paper D) and Richard Raggett, co-convenor, has spoken to it. The report includes an update on Climate Justice.

We are very pleased to hear that the post of interim Parliamentary Engagement Officer (PEO) during Sarah Komashko's parental leave (October-'25- October '26 has been accepted by Lucy Le Roux (formerly of Christian Aid), well known to GM Clerks and PEWG Convenors through our regular meetings with and co-working with Christian Aid, and known to Friends who were at GM in March last year when she spoke to us about

Loss and Damage funding. Lucy starts in early October so soon after that she will be reachable by email; meanwhile Sarah continues in post till mid-October and will keep us all updated. We wish Sarah well as she awaits the arrival of her baby.

The highlights of ongoing work are:

a) Stop Climate Chaos Scotland mass lobby on 18<sup>th</sup> September

Thanks to Friends who took part in this event; please let our PEO know how your conversations went as it's very helpful to be as fully informed as possible about MSPs' views. The next PEO email will include comment on this event. Do sign up for this email - contact Sarah [SarahK@quaker.org.uk](mailto:SarahK@quaker.org.uk) to know what's happening in Scottish Quaker advocacy. New sign-ups would boost Lucy as she starts.

b) Briefing Quakers in Scotland on the May 2026 election manifestos and election: The PEO will be providing materials to Friends to facilitate their contacting their MSPs and election candidates – this will be towards the end of this year and early in 2026.

c) We've responded to four Consultations since June's GM

- *Wellbeing and Sustainable Development (Scotland) Bill*: call for views from the Social Justice and Social Security Committee (closed 24.8.25)
- *Ecocide Bill*: consultation from the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee (closed 9.9.25)
- *Draft Climate Change Plan 2026 -2040 (CCP)*: call for views from the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee (closed 19.9.25)
- *Environment Strategy* (closes 29.9.25) A response is underway

d) Discussions with Scottish Enterprise (SE) human rights checks

- The PEO is working with Amnesty International to respond to the initial review of the human rights checks that Scottish Enterprise apply to funding decisions. The genocide in Gaza has sharpened attention and added urgency to this issue. The First Minister made a speech on 3 September about the situation in Gaza, which included a change in funding policy on arms but we will be looking closely at this (loopholes are a risk) as we work with Amnesty to continue the dialogue with SE. Contact Sarah if you would be interested to read John Swinney's speech.

We will receive the report on PEWG's 3-year priorities (2026 – 2028) at our November meeting.

We are made aware that our Nominations Committee has not been able to find sufficient names of Friends to maintain a proper succession for the working group after the end of this year, including a lack of anyone to act as convenor(s). To assist our Nominations Committee, we agree to hold a special online evening meeting before the 8<sup>th</sup> November Quakers in Scotland Meeting, to showcase the work of the group and foster interest in service on it.

We have been reminded of *Advices & queries 34: Remember your responsibilities as a citizen for the conduct of local, national, and international affairs. Do not shrink from the time and effort your involvement may demand.*

Richard has spoken personally of how his being a member of PEWG has opened up for him what Quaker activism is all about, with its emphasis on truth and integrity.

We thank Richard and the Group for their work on our behalf.

*Afternoon*

## **25/09/13 Correspondence and events**

### **a) No New Gas at Peterhead: Joint Objection.**

On 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025, the clerk signed a letter, with others, calling on Scottish Ministers to reject the application by SSE Thermal Generation (Scotland) Ltd for the Peterhead Low Carbon CCGT Project. This letter was a Friends of the Earth initiative urging the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit to reject the new gas power station at Peterhead on account of the unproven nature of Carbon Capture and Storage viability integral to the project; and the fact the project locks us into extended years burning fossil fuels.

### **b) Rosebank Oil field**

On 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the clerk signed a letter, with others, to the Prime Minister urging him to reject the development of the Rosebank Oil Field in the North Sea.

### **c) Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee**

The clerk attending Yearly Meeting Agenda Committee held 26<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and submitted a report (Paper E).

### **d) Faslane Peace Gathering**

Paul Parker, Recording Clerk, the GMS clerks and other Friends attended a Christian ecumenical peace gathering, “No to nuclear weapons”, commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, held at the Faslane naval base south gate on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2025.

## **25/09/14 Appointments**

### **a) QiS Foundation Trustee**

In order to facilitate the opening of a bank account for Quakers in Scotland by having the requisite minimum number of trustees, Susan Mitchell was appointed to the Quakers in Scotland Foundation Trustees on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025, ex-officio as assistant clerk designate of Quakers in Scotland. This appointment was made using between-

meetings procedure, under the regulation for ex-officio trustees defined in the Quakers in Scotland Governing Document.

b) QiS Assistant Treasurer

On 19th July 2025, using between-meetings procedure, Bronwen Currie was appointed to serve as QiS Assistant Treasurer for a period of three years. This position does not make her a trustee.

c) Nominations Committee Clerk

Although we released her as clerk of GMS Nominations Committee by minute 25/06/11, Anna Mitchell was willing to continue service until a new clerk had been found, so was reappointed to the role under between-meeting procedure.

## **25/09/15 Transition from General Meeting for Scotland to Quakers in Scotland**

Elizabeth Allen, co-clerk of Quakers in Scotland Foundation Trustees, has reviewed the process of winding up/dissolving General Meeting for Scotland both as a Quaker body and as a charity, and has explained the significance for both.

Further to minute 25/06/09, we receive minute MfS/25/07/12 (Governance in Scotland) of Meeting for Sufferings held 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025, which reads as follows:

MfS/25/07/12 Governance in Scotland

We receive and note minute 25/06/09 from General Meeting for Scotland informing us of the creation of a new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation called 'Quakers in Scotland', and asking us to approve the transition of General Meeting for Scotland (GMS) to Quakers in Scotland (QiS), planned for 20 September 2025. From that date forwards all Friends in Scotland will become part of QiS. GMS suggests that its current responsibilities as set out in *Quaker faith and practice* 5.03 become the responsibilities of QiS.

We give our approval for General Meeting for Scotland to transition to Quakers in Scotland, and agree that from the date of the final transfer of GMS to QiS, forwards, the GMS responsibilities stated in *Quaker faith and practice* 5.03, will pass to QiS.

The resulting laying down of GMS will require changes to *Quaker faith and practice*, and we will ask the Church Government Advisory Group to propose necessary amendments for Meeting for Sufferings to approve, on completion of the transfer to QiS. We ask GMS to inform Meeting for Sufferings of this.

We acknowledge changing our structures can be difficult but we are pleased to learn that GMS is excited by the opportunities arising from the transition to QiS.

We hold Friends in Scotland in the Light as they go through this process of change, creating and finding new ways forward.

We send this minute to General Meeting for Scotland.

Robert Card, Clerk

We are therefore ready to lay down General Meeting for Scotland as a Quaker body and a charity.

Robin Waterston, clerk of GMS Trustees, has updated us on the work of trustees to wind up General Meeting for Scotland as a charity. Trustees have received approval in principle from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) to dissolve General Meeting for Scotland as a charity and transfer its assets to Quakers in Scotland. The details are given in the minutes of the Trustees, which are on the General Meeting for Scotland/Quakers in Scotland website. The Trustees minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> July have appended the letter of consent from OSCR for reference.

Trustees do not consider that this winding up would materially change the purpose or aims and objectives of the organisation, and do not anticipate that it would cause any risks to the current charity or to the new body.

We note that whilst we intend to transfer the Quaker functions of General Meeting for Scotland today, the charitable body and Trustees will continue until the formal dissolution is complete, with all affairs wound up, and recognised by OSCR. *We extend the service of those trustees whose term of service would end on 31<sup>st</sup> December into 2026, should that be needed.*

We are grateful to our Trustees and Treasurer for their service, as we are to the General Meeting clerks.

We are also grateful for the work of the Quakers in Scotland Co-ordinating Group and ask them to continue until Quakers in Scotland is fully operational.

We will minute the dissolution of General Meeting for Scotland in a final minute of conclusion.

## **25/09/16 General Meeting for Scotland: concluding minute**

General Meeting for Scotland has served Friends in Scotland since 1807 and we remain spiritually connected to all those who have belonged to it and served it over the years. We are grateful for the manner in which General Meeting has given life to our faith and witness in Scotland. That will continue under a new name and potentially enlarged responsibilities as we continue to adapt our structures to a changing world.



With the authority given us by Meeting for Sufferings by its minute MfS/25/07/12 (Governance in Scotland) of 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025, we hereby lay down General Meeting for Scotland and transfer its functions to Quakers in Scotland, which will begin functioning as a Quaker body this afternoon.

As noted in minute 25/09/13, we have heard that the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) has given consent to dissolving General Meeting for Scotland the charity.

We, having received notification of agreement from Meeting for Sufferings to the same, agree to wind up the affairs of the charity and after settlement of all debts and liabilities, transfer the remaining assets of the charity for nil consideration to Quakers in Scotland (registered charity SC054060).

Upon completion of this, the charity shall be declared dissolved.

We give authority to the General Meeting Trustees to take all measures they consider necessary to give effect to this. We ask them to report to Quakers in Scotland when the charity is finally wound up.

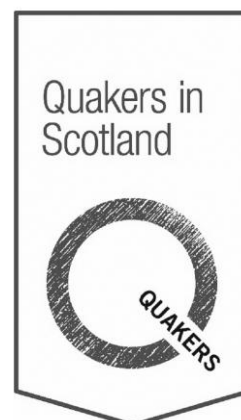
We send this minute to Meeting for Sufferings and to the Recording Clerk.

Michael Hutchinson  
Clerk

Susan Mitchell  
Assistant Clerk

## **QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND**

**At a hybrid Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at the Soutar Theatre, Bell Library, York Place, Perth PH2 8EP, and by video conference.**



### Minutes

#### **QiS 25/09/01 Quakers in Scotland: clerks**

We appoint Michael Hutchinson as clerk, and Susan Mitchell as assistant clerk, of Quakers in Scotland, to serve until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

#### **QiS 25/09/02 Membership of Quakers in Scotland**

Quakers in Scotland Foundation Trustees, as the only members of Quakers in Scotland as at 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 other than the Assistant Treasurer Bronwen Currie, have accepted into membership of Quakers in Scotland the 429 Friends in the list tabled with the formal copy of these minutes.

We accept the transfer from GM to QiS of the following further Friends:

Margaret Anderson, South Edinburgh Local Meeting  
Mary Dower, Aberdeen Local Meeting  
John Eccles, Central Fife Local Meeting  
Edmund Holt, Orkney Local Meeting  
Tanya Jones, Dundee Local Meeting  
Sandra Marks, South Edinburgh Local Meeting  
Rici Marshall Cross, South Edinburgh Local Meeting  
Dinah McDonald, Argyll Local Meeting  
Emma Milton, Portobello & Musselburgh Local Meeting  
Bridget Ramsay, Central Edinburgh Local Meeting  
Heather Simpson, Inverness Local Meeting  
Skye Simpson, Inverness Local Meeting  
Daniel Suda, Inverness Local Meeting  
Ian Williams, Inverness Local Meeting.

#### **QiS 25/09/03 Quakers in Scotland: attendance**

We record the attendance during this meeting of 100 Friends, including 10 attenders. We also had 2 visitors.

## **QiS 25/09/04 Quakers in Scotland: open worship**

We meet as Quakers in Scotland as the new Quaker body for all Friends in Scotland, in succession to General Meeting for Scotland, the concluding minute (25/09/14) of which is noted. GMS minute 25/06/09 also detailed the transition arrangements.

We began in open worship in which Friends ministered of the emotions this change raises, in the context of our thankfulness for all those who worked to bring this transition about. It has been a long journey and we give thanks to God that we have lived adventurously. We have heard read the final three paragraphs of the Epistle from the Young Adult Friends Gathering 2025 held at Jordans:

We met at a time of fear, with uncertainty about the future – our own and the world's. Sitting with this, we felt God prying open doors we had closed, inviting us home, inviting us to trust, inviting us to lean in to God and each other. We heard a voice of Divine comfort and assurance: "I will provide. I will be there. I am always there, even and especially when things are hard and uncertain."

Together, we are answering the call to come home, to extraordinary peace that passes understanding. This peace endures even in times of fear, uncertainty, and crumbling institutions. What is the ground of our faith? Not our meeting houses, or our practices, or our structures, but the Life we have felt together, the peace that Life gives, and the fire it lights in us.

In days like these, we must not be ashamed of the gospel message: that the Light is in and with us, and the darkness of the present time cannot overcome it. Let us rejoice in sharing that Light with each other, as we have begun to here.

Thank You, God.

## **QiS 25/09/05 Agenda**

We adopt the agenda as circulated.

## **QiS 25/09/06 Report from QiS Foundation Trustees**

We receive the report from our Trustees (Paper QiS A), and Elizabeth Allen and Adwoa Burnley (co-clerks) have spoken to it. Elizabeth likened our present situation as being at a New Year's party – we start anew.

Foundation Trustees have worked collaboratively with the QiS Co-ordinating Group, with its convener, Lesley Richards, attending Foundation Trustees meetings. Trustees have sought to be true to our understanding of transparency and accountability and have been liaising with area meetings and holding or taking part online meetings to

explain the process of transition. QiS Foundation Trustee minutes are posted on the Quakers in Scotland website.

Foundation Trustees first met on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and since then have met mainly monthly. The first task of QiS Foundation Trustees was to register QiS as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), which was accomplished on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 with the charity number SC054060.

A QiS Finance Sub-committee has been set up and a bank account to be used as the Collections Account has been opened with the Cooperative Bank. An application to open an account for use as a General Account, has been submitted to the Bank of Scotland.

Trustees are managing the TUPE [Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)] transfers of staff.

The following essential policies are in place, drafted by QiS Co-ordinating Group: a QiS Governing Document; draft General Memorandum of Understanding; draft Property Memoranda of Understanding.

The following documents about how essential tasks might be carried out within the new structure are available online: Possible Eldership arrangements; Possible Pastoral Care arrangements; Possible committee structure and nominations process; Possible financial structure and organisation; Summary of how Intermediate Meeting might work; What difference might it make to the number of roles.

The transfer of membership from GMS to QiS is underway, as is seeking consent for transfer of personal data. Trustees are answering Friends' Queries about this and have produced a frequently asked questions sheet, 'Further Clarifications as QiS Evolves', which is on the QiS website. On 27<sup>th</sup> August, Trustees also co-hosted with GMS an online meeting to answer Friends' questions.

The online registers of QiS members and trustees are set up, and details of the first members and trustees have been entered. The numbers of members transferring to QiS now totals 445. We urge remaining Friends to register as soon as possible and ask local meetings and all Friends to check that those on their lists understand the need for this.

Trustees have instructed a lawyer to deal with legal aspects of all transfers of Scottish Quaker bodies to QiS. He is currently working on the GMS transfer and has drafted the Transfer Agreement. This document is appended to these minutes (Paper QiS B). He is in possession of all relevant documents from the 4 transferring

Quaker charities, including completed QiS due diligence questionnaires. The present situation regarding transfers is summarised here:

- East Scotland Area Meeting hopes to transfer as soon as possible after 18<sup>th</sup> October, and has agreement from OSCR to close the ESAM charity.
- Dundee Friends Property Trust intends to transfer in the New Year.
- West Scotland AM intends to lay itself down and complete the transfer process in October. It has OSCR's agreement to close the WSAM charity.
- North Scotland AM intends to join QiS by the end of October, and has OSCR's agreement to close the NSAM charity.
- South East Scotland AM is still considering its position and expects to make a decision in January.
- General Meeting for Scotland MS transferred to QiS today (20<sup>th</sup> September 2025). OSCR agreed to the closure of GMS, as has Meeting for Sufferings.

All three area meetings currently seeking to lay themselves down have written to Meeting for Sufferings for permission to do so. Meeting for Sufferings next meets in October.

Adwoa Burnley has illustrated the transition by analogy to the process of moving house. We pack everything we want to take away in boxes and work through them after we arrive, arranging things to suit the new situation. So we will all be working together to establish our new Quaker home, and at our November meeting we plan to spend time on how we operate Quakers in Scotland.

Many Friends have been and are involved in setting up Quakers in Scotland. Foundation Trustees have expressed their gratitude for all this work, especially from the QiS Co-ordinating Group.

### **QiS 25/09/07 Report from Quakers in Scotland Co-ordinating Group**

Lesley Richards, convenor of the Quakers in Scotland Co-ordinating Group has updated us on its work.

We record our thanks to Lesley and the Group for their continuing work.

### **QiS 25/09/08 General Meeting for Scotland minutes**

Minutes from General Meeting for Scotland remain a reference for decisions, policies and procedures for Quakers in Scotland, unless otherwise updated by minute by Quakers in Scotland or its Trustees.

### **QiS 25/09/09 dates and host meetings for QiS in 2025/26/27**

We agree to meet as follows (meetings are hybrid unless otherwise indicated):

8 November 2025 – South East Scotland AM (Edinburgh Meeting House)

21 February 2026 – online meeting during the day  
7 March 2026 – Perth  
6 June – Glasgow (tbc)  
19 September – Inverness or Aberdeen  
7 November – South East Scotland AM (Edinburgh Meeting House)  
6 March 2027 – Glasgow

We ask South East Scotland AM to provide Friends to act as elders for our next meeting.

We ask East Scotland Area Meeting to provide the name of a Friend to report on our next meeting.

We may need extra meetings or single topic meetings online and will appoint those as required.

### **QIS 25/09/10 Appointments carried over from General Meeting for Scotland**

As part of the transition arrangements, General Meeting for Scotland agreed to transfer all its appointments other than those of GMS Trustees and Treasurer, to Quakers in Scotland. We receive the list of these appointments (Paper QIS B) and appoint them, under their existing lengths of service, to Quakers in Scotland.

The list of appointments is appended to these minutes.

### **QIS 25/09/11 Nominations Committee Report**

Nominations Committee has brought us the following nominations:

QIS CLERK, to serve 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the end of September 2026:  
Adwoa Burnley (Perth Meeting)

QIS ASSISTANT CLERK, to serve 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028:  
Pleasaunce Perry (Dunblane Meeting)

#### **QIS TRUSTEE**

Peter Hancock (Dunblane Meeting), to serve from appointment until the end of 2027.

#### **QIS ZOOM HOST**

Clive Potter (Aberdeen Meeting), to serve from appointment until the end of 2027.

#### **QIS SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR**

Madeleine Harding (Central Edinburgh Meeting), to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.

#### INTERFAITH GROUP ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

Margaret Roy (Milngavie Meeting), to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SCOTTISH COMMITTEE

Kate Arnot (South Edinburgh Meeting), to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.

#### INTERFAITH SCOTLAND REPRESENTATIVE

Kate Arnot (South Edinburgh Meeting), to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.

#### THE SCOTTISH QUAKER COMMUNITY JUSTICE WORKING GROUP (SQCJWG)

Anneke Kraakman (Perth Meeting) to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028.

#### ACTION OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SCOTLAND (ACTS)

##### MEMBERS MEETING

Adwoa Burnley (Perth Meeting), to serve a second triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028. Note: - ACTS is likely to be laid down during this period.

#### PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Ed Tyler (Argyll Meeting), to serve a fourth triennium from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2028. Note: a fourth term is unusual, but this is suggested as the working group is low in numbers, and he contributes specialist knowledge around land reform and can support work around the Land Reform Bill.

These names being acceptable, we appoint our Friends accordingly.

#### Resignation: THE SCOTTISH QUAKER COMMUNITY JUSTICE WORKING GROUP (SQCJWG)

Mike Nellis (Glasgow LM) asks to be released from this service.

We agree to this and thank him for his contribution to the Group.

#### **QiS 25/09/12 QiS Nominations Committee**

GMS minutes 25/06/11 and 25/09/13c refer. The Search Group appointed to find new clerk(s) for the Nomination Group brings in the following names:

To serve as CLERK from appointment until the end of 2027, Marilyn Higgins (Central Edinburgh Meeting);

To serve as ASSISTANT CLERK from appointment until the end of 2027, Rob Claxton-Ingham (Mull & Iona Meeting).

These names being acceptable, we appoint our Friends accordingly. Marilyn and Rob are working with the retiring clerk, Anna Mitchell, the Committee and our Local Development Worker, Zoe Prosser, on how Nominations Committee might work within Quakers in Scotland. This will include a liaison meeting open to Friends.

### **QIS 25/09/13 Ecumenical/Interfaith Appeal (witness to President Trump)**

GMS minute 25/03/14 (Peacebuilding in dark times) refers. At the March 2025 meeting it was agreed that an informal group could be convened to plan a response to a potential visit by US President Trump later this year. That group was convened and has been drafting a letter of appeal in conjunction with Scottish ecumenical and interfaith groups. A final version of this appeal has been available as Paper QIS C. Susan Mitchell has briefed us on the collaboration with other churches and faiths on a synchronous reading of the appeal. The appeal was shared with Christian denominations and other faiths through the auspices of the Scottish Church Leaders Forum and Interfaith Scotland with an invitation to share it widely and to read it at places of worship. Not all Christian denominations and no other faiths were able to openly join in this but we are grateful to the United Reformed Church for their full support and to the Salvation Army and the Iona Community for sharing it with their members. Despite a full media release by Friends House we have not been approached for information but we know that it has been read at Meetings for Worship throughout Britain and that many individuals in other churches have read it. We hope that this quiet and powerful message will continue to ripple.

We are grateful to the informal group for its work and witness.

### **QIS 25/09/14 Scottish Quaker Community Justice Working Group**

Kate Philbrick, clerk of the Scottish Quaker Community Justice Working Group (SQCJWG), has told us that they are preparing a document, which to be available online and ultimately in print, *Changing how we respond to crime- a Quaker perspective*, which they plan to share with Quakers in Scotland alongside their annual report at the November meeting. We hope to engage with the SQCJ Network in creating this and with other Friends in Quakers in Scotland. The group would welcome being invited to talk to groups of Quakers about this work.

The group and the network are also planning an open zoom meeting entitled *No soft option* on 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7:00 pm as part of the official Prisoners Week timetable. This will include a speaker from the Howard League and a Quaker speaker as well as time in smaller groups. We hope this will provide valuable space for reflection and dialogue on the crucial issues facing our whole justice system which is at a Crossroads.



## **QiS 25/09/15 Upcoming Business**

On 8<sup>th</sup> November, we envisage the main business as being a welcome to those area meetings and Dundee Friends Property Trust Friends coming into Quakers in Scotland, and how we plan to operate with enlarged responsibilities.

We will hear from Zoe Prosser on the discernment process for the Local Development worker priorities for 2026. The Community Justice Working Group annual report is to come to us too. We also await the conclusion of the review of the Parliamentary Engagement Working Group' three-year priorities.

Minute GMS 25/09/11 also refers (Meeting for Sufferings report).

## **QiS 25/09/16 Concluding minute**

We record our thanks to East Scotland Area Meeting and Perth Local Meeting Friends for being our hosts today, for all the arrangements for our venue in Perth Library and their hospitality that enabled this hybrid meeting. We also thank Clive Potter for Zoom hosting today.

There being no further business to bring before Quakers in Scotland, we conclude, intending to meet next in Edinburgh Meeting House and online on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025, if nothing occurs to prevent.

Michael J. Hutchinson,  
Clerk

Susan Mitchell,  
Assistant Clerk

### **Documents appended to these minutes:**

List of members as of 15<sup>th</sup> September (Minute QiS 25/09/02 refers).

*NOTE: this list is kept to the formal archive copy but not otherwise distributed. All those transferred will be informed by Jane Booth, Administrator, that they are on the list.*

Transfer Agreement (Minute QiS 25/09/06 refers):

*NOTE: this document will be attached to the archival copy of the minutes. It is available to view on the Quakers in Scotland website.*

List of appointments carried over from General Meeting for Scotland (Minute QiS 25/09/10 refers):

**QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

## APPOINTMENTS CARRIED OVER FROM GENERAL MEETING FOR SCOTLAND

GMS minute 25/06/09 refers.

CLERK	Michael Hutchinson	01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> triennium
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ASSISTANT CLERK Susan Mitchell 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS Paul Burton 11 11 2023 – 31 12 2026

ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS Douglas Shaw 09 03 2024 – 31 12 2026

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE SUPPORT

Mary Troup 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

EDITOR OF THE SCOTTISH FRIEND

vacant

## QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND FACEBOOK PAGE MODERATORS

To serve

Jane Booth (Banchory) 01 01 2024 – 31 12 2026 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

Martin McCaffery (St Andrews LM) 01 07 2025 – 30 06 2028 3<sup>rd</sup> triennium

Clive Potter (Aberdeen LM) 01 07 2025 – 30 06 2026 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR

Madeleine Harding (Central Edinburgh LM) 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

## WEB MANAGER

David Sterratt (Central Edinburgh LM) 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 3<sup>rd</sup> triennium

ZOOM HOST

vacant

## REPRESENTATIVES

Meeting for Sufferings Elaine Millar to the rise of YM 2027 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

Meeting for Sufferings Alternate Ann Kerr to the rise of YM 2027 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

NORTHERN FRIENDS YOUTH EVENTS CHARITABLE TRUST (Trustees)

Charlene Dalton 09 02 2024 – 31 12 2026 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

(James McLeod\* 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium)

Genevieve Orr 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 3rd triennium

\*Acting as clerk from Jan 2024. Clerk chosen by the Board.

## PEACE & JUSTICE

Vacancy

## REPRESENTATIVES FOR ECUMENICAL AND INTER-FAITH GROUPS

### ACTION OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SCOTLAND (ACTS) MEMBERS MEETING

Adwoa Burnley 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

Alternate: Susan Mitchell 18 06 2024- 17 06 2027 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

Trustee (appointed by ACTS): Martin Burnell

### CHURCH LEADERS FORUM (SCOTTISH CHRISTIAN FORUM)

Adwoa Burnley ? – 31 12 2025? Dates to be confirmed

### ECUMENICAL OFFICERS' FORUM (SCOTTISH CHRISTIAN FORUM)

Mary Woodward (Portobello and Musselburgh LM) 01 07 2025 – 30 06 2028 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

### FAITH IN COMMUNITY SCOTLAND

Kate Arnot 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 (ongoing service formalised with this appointment as a first triennium)

### INTERFAITH SCOTLAND REPRESENTATIVE

Kate Arnot 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

### RELIGIOUS LEADERS FORUM (INTERFAITH SCOTLAND)

Kate Arnot 10 09 2025 – 31 12 2027 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

### INTERFAITH GROUP ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

Margaret Roy 10 06 2023 – 31 12 2025 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

### IONA COMMUNITY BOARD (GM Link person)

Stella Cranwell 05 01 2024 – 31 12 2026 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

### SCOTTISH FAITHS ACTION FOR REFUGEES (Link person)

Lynne Barty 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

### SCOTTISH INTERFAITH COUNCIL

Currently vacant

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SCOTTISH COMMITTEE

Kate Arnot 10 06 2023– 31 12 2025 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

## QUAKER COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN AND INTERFAITH RELATIONS

Appointed by BYM for Scotland representation: Nigel Dower

Derek McLean BYM appointment

The clerk or other representatives also attend:

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Scottish Episcopal Church General Synod

United Reform Church National Synod of Scotland

## COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Convener: Anna Mitchell (Central Fife LM) 01 01 2025 – 20 9 2025 3<sup>rd</sup> triennium

Appointed by Area Meetings:

Jill Marshall (East)

Clive Potter (North)

Alison Chalmers (South East)

Margaret Roy (West)

### PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Joint Convenors: Richard Raggett (NSAM) – 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium &

Kate Aspinwall (WSAM) 08 03 2025 - 31 12 2027 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

Carolyn Burch (NSAM) 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

Carol Jennings (SESAM) 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

Tanya Jones (ESAM) 01 01 2025 – 31 12 2027 2<sup>nd</sup> triennium

Gareth Rae (SESAM) 01 01 2025 - 31 12 2027 1<sup>st</sup> triennium

Ed Tyler (WSAM) 01 01 2023 – 31 12 2025 3<sup>rd</sup> triennium

### QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND CO-ORDINATING GROUP (QiSCG)

To serve from the rise of General Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 until the process is through, or as determined by the General Meeting:

Pam Brunt (East Scotland AM, St Andrews LM)

Nigel Dower (North Scotland AM, Aberdeen LM)

appointed by between meetings process 18 September 2023

Kate Gulliver (West Scotland AM, Ayrshire LM)

Edmund Holt (North Scotland AM, Orkney LM)

Ken Jobling (South East Scotland AM, Central Edinburgh LM)

Jane Mitchell (West Scotland AM, Argyll LM)

Martin Pippard (East Scotland AM, Dundee LM)

Lesley Richards (Worcester & Shropshire AM) – convenor

Neil Turner (South East Scotland AM, South Edinburgh LM)

Supported by Zoe Prosser, LDW

### THE SCOTTISH QUAKER COMMUNITY JUSTICE WORKING GROUP

Minute 24/11/09 allowed variation of terms of reference so more than one Friend from an AM may serve.

Clerk: Kate Philbrick (WSAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2026 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> triennium
Andrew Collins (NSAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2027 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> triennium
Chris Holman (SESAM)	08 03 2025 - 31 12 2027 - 1 <sup>st</sup> triennium
Jenny Copsey (WSAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2026 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> triennium
Anneke Kraakman (ESAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2025 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> triennium
Bob Mandeville (WSAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2027 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> triennium
Mike Nellis (WSAM)	12 06 2025 – 31 05 2027 – 1 <sup>st</sup> triennium

### **QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND FOUNDATION TRUSTEES**

To serve initially from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 until 31 12 2025, except where indicated.

From East Scotland AM: Adwoa Burnley - co-clerk

From North Scotland AM: Brian Ashley

From South East Scotland AM David Somervell and Elizabeth Allen – co-clerk

From West Scotland AM: Chris Holmes

Treasurer & ex-officio trustees: Kate Gulliver 07 06 2025 – 2027

Ex-officio GMS/QiS Assistant Clerk: Susan Mitchell

QUAKERS IN SCOTLAND: Assistant Treasurer

To serve from 19 07 2025 until the 31 July 2028, Bronwen Currie