

Minutes of a meeting of Quakers in Yorkshire

Held at Ilkley FMH

on Saturday 18th April 2026

Some 40 + Friends attended in person over the day and we were joined by 3 Friends online.

1. Reading

In our opening worship we have heard read the introductory paragraph from Advices & Queries.

2. Welcome

Our clerks have welcomed us to this, our second meeting of 2026, and introduced the programme to us. Following our opening worship there will be a brief business meeting, after which we will break for a social time with brunch. The main part of the day will feature three sessions on the Spiritual basis of Quakerism, on Quaker roles, and on Quaker service. Each topic will have a facilitator and we will break into three groups to discuss the topics.

Towards the end of the day there will be time for a quiet reflection on what we have heard and discussed today. The meeting will close at around 5.30, at the end of our worship together and the closing minute.

Note for the meeting: Friends, you will note that there is no agenda item for Yorkshire Quakers at this meeting. This is a decision that reflects the business of the day as we try something new for QM, but also recognises the amount of communication that has taken place recently between the Implementation Group, YQ Trustees and AMs and LMs. We hope that there are plenty of conversations in your meetings that allow you to keep up with developments. However, we do expect to include an agenda item at our July meeting.

Alice Hamar welcomed us to Ilkley Meeting House and dealt with the housekeeping matters for today. We appoint Diana Jakeways to act as Elder for this meeting.

3. Appointments and Releases

Release from Service

Ellie McCarthy, of York AM, has requested release from her service on the Arrangements Committee; to this we agree, with immediate effect, and thank our Friend for the service she has given in this role.

Appointments

From Area Meetings:

We have received the following nominations:

Position	Nominated	Notes
Nominations Committee	Susan Dickinson [YAM]	From 1 Jan 2026 to 31 Dec 2028
Nominations Committee	Joyce Hughes [CYAM]	From 1 Jan 2026 to 31 Dec 2028
Outreach Projects Committee	Joe Shaw [BWYAM]	18 April 2026 to 31 Dec 2028
Arrangements Committee	Ruth McTighe [CYAM]	1 Jan 2026 to 31 Dec 2028

These nominations being acceptable, the named Friends are appointed accordingly.

We agree to minute here that Ruth McTighe of CYAM has served on the QiY Arrangements Committee from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 and we agree to appoint Ruth to serve a further three years from 1 Jan 2026 to 31 Dec 2028. We thank Ruth for her continued willingness to serve.

We agree that Pat Gerwat [Leeds AM] is to serve a further year as a QiY Trustee until 31 Dec 2026. We thank Pat for her continued service.

(iii) From the Schools:

Releases: We have received the following requests for release from service:

Name	School	Notes
Phil MacDonald	The Mount	With immediate effect

To this release we agree, and thank Phil for his service.

Nominations:

We have received the following nominations:

Position	Nominated	Notes
The Mount School Committee	Mark Smith	1 May 2026 to 31 Dec 2029
The Mount School Committee	Sarah Tate	1 May 2026 to 31 Dec 2029

These nominations being acceptable, those named are appointed accordingly.

We heard a reminder of the procedure required to bring 'names' to our quarterly meetings. QiY Nominations bring names for certain roles; Area Meetings bring names for several other roles. In each instance, these are nominations and not appointments. Appointments take place at QMs in session. Our clerks are trying to ensure that all appointments are correctly in place and are grateful for the tireless work of our Nominations Committee and of each of the seven AMs across Yorkshire.

4. Notices

For our QM in October 2026 the Clerks have spoken with the Clerks of the York schools regarding the holding of our October meeting in 2026. To coincide with a school Open Day, it is proposed that we meet on Saturday 3 October at the Mount School where we can see more of the school in session. In the afternoon we will be joined by Friends from Quaker Social Action.

5. Afternoon Session

After a welcome, and excellent, brunch prepared by Jo Baynham we broke into three groups to hear sessions on the spiritual roots of the Quaker way, on our various Quaker roles, and on the Quaker Business Method. The participation of all those present meant that the varied experiences of all Friends present were shared across the ages; in the words of one reflection, 'proper bread'. We were helped to understand the importance of and effects of service, and how 'to serve' supports the Quaker community, by challenging us as well removing the ego.

We thank Wendy Hampton, Remy Dimmock and Ed Rugg for facilitating these sessions, which brought forward different aspects from each group.

6. Thanks to our Ilkley Friends, our caterers and those supporting the meeting

We thank the Friends at Ilkley LM for their excellent hospitality and for all the prior arrangements that have helped to make today such a success.

In addition, Jo Baynham and his catering crew served an excellent brunch that helped us through a most valuable and joyful day.

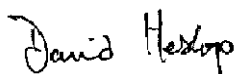
7. Concluding Minute

There being no further business to be taken today, we conclude. We intend to meet again in person at Beverley Meeting House on Saturday 25th July 2026, should nothing occur to prevent.



David Bunney

Clerk



David Heslop

Assistant Clerk