

Quakers in Yorkshire

Quarterly Meeting held at

Beverley FMH

on Saturday 25 July 2026

Representatives

A total of 30 Friends attended in person, with 5 Friends joining us online for the business meeting.

1. Testimony

We have heard a testimony to the grace of God as shown in the life of our Friend Jean Asher, latterly of Craven and Keighley AM.

We thank the Friends concerned for preparing this testimony and add our endorsement.

2. Welcome

Our clerks have welcomed us to this, our third meeting of 2026, and introduced our agenda. The theme this time is Rewilding, with activities outdoors, if weather allows, that all of us can adopt for a better environment. There will be a business meeting in the morning session, followed by lunch. The day will end with a meeting for worship before the day closes at 4 pm.

Jane Wilson welcomed us to Beverley LM and Pickering and Hull AM and dealt with the housekeeping matters for today.

We appoint Brenda Rigby and Stephen Deas to act as Elders for this meeting.

3. Reports

A) QiY Trustees

David Olver, Clerk to QiY Trustees, has spoken to the report for 2025 from QiY Trustees. This has been placed on the QiY website together with his summary to this meeting. We heard of the work of Jo Baynham, our Youth Development Worker, reflected in more activities and increased numbers attending. Safeguarding is an important aspect to support this work and there is a search for a coordinator for Yorkshire. We were asked for support for this critical role.

We have heard that 82 people attended the first summer camp in 2025, including 28 children. For 2026 an alternative site has been found and currently there are 114 people registered to attend, with 6 places still available.

David also mentioned the essential role of volunteers in supporting these activities in Yorkshire and the need for more people to come forward.

We give thanks for the energy and effort and professionalism that Jo Baynham has brought to his role, the success of which is seen in increased activities and more Friends wishing to attend.

We have also heard from Yorkshire Quaker trustees that the Charity Commission has recently approved the application for registration as a charitable incorporated organisation [CIO] made by Yorkshire Quakers, which will allow more activities to take place in order to establish the single charity. A revised consultation will be sent to Area and Local Meetings with responses to be received in the Autumn.

We record our thanks for the work of both trustee bodies, and the Implementation Group, for the work being carried out on our behalf.

B) Glenthorne

We have heard read a report from William Taylor chair of trustees at Glenthorne for 2025. There is an enthusiastic community that helps to open the resource to those in need of support as well as making the facilities available for others to enjoy.

We have heard how much Glenthorne is valued as a place of refuge, peace and reenergising that might have been expressed in the report.

We thank William Taylor for his report, which will be available to read on the QiY website.

C) Breckenbrough School

Digby Swift, deputy clerk of the school committee to the new clerk Lynne Ward, has reported to us on the life of Breckenbrough during the year 2024-25. The full report will be available on the QiY website, and Friends are encouraged to access the report, to uphold this special school in its endeavours to provide support for up to 70 boys and young men, (the current level being 76) to enable them to move effectively into adult life.

New facilities may open up opportunities for girls but the focus for the estate has recently been on the upkeep and improvement of current facilities.

There is always a need for governors, especially those with Quaker connections, and we understand that potential candidates are in the process of being recruited.

We include a link to a video on the life of Breckenbrough for viewing outside this meeting, [here](#). A segment was shown in the meeting.

We thank Digby for this report and for his continuing service to Breckenbrough School.

4. Appointments and Releases

a. Releases

1. Fiona Lewin, of Sheffield & Balby AM, has asked to be released from her service on QiY Nominations Committee, with immediate effect; to this we agree, and thank Fiona for her service. We understand and appreciate that Sheffield & Balby AM are looking to bring a name for this role (to serve until 31 December 2027 in the first instance.)
2. David Bunney, of Central Yorkshire AM, has asked to be released from service as Clerk of Quakers in Yorkshire from the end of 2026; to this we agree, and thank David for the dedicated service he has given in this role. We ask QiY Nominations Committee to bring a name as soon as is feasible.

b. Appointments

1. Our Nominations Committee has brought the following nomination for service: as Custodian of Yorkshire Quaker Archives, Chris Skidmore, of Craven & Keighley AM, to serve a second term, from 1 Jan 2027 to 31 Dec 2029. This nomination being acceptable, the Friend named is duly appointed.

QiY Nominations Committee continue in their efforts to bring a name for the urgently required role of Safeguarding Coordinator, but so far without success. This role will still be needed under Yorkshire Quakers. Any Friend with relevant experience is encouraged to send ideas and suggestions to QiY Nominations [via the Clerks].

5. Notices

There were no notices.

6. Afternoon Session

Our afternoon activities were varied and benefitted from the continuing good weather. There was plenty of conversation, art and walks around Beverley.

7. Thanks to Beverley Friends

The day did not quite turn out as expected but it was good to meet on a lovely day in Beverley. The support and hospitality from Beverley Friends is much appreciated. We are grateful for the delicious pizzas created by Jo Baynham and for the excellence of the cakes made in great quantity by Robyn Lee. Crucial technical assistance was given by John Clint.

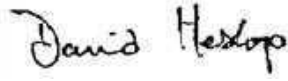
8. Concluding Minute

There being no further business to be taken today, we conclude. We intend to meet again in person at the Mount School, York on Saturday 3 October 2026, should nothing occur to prevent.



David Bunney

Clerk



David Heslop

Assistant Clerk