



**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)  
West Scotland Area Meeting**  
Scottish charity number SC011234

**Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts**  
Year ending 31 December 2021

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**Principal Office:**

Glasgow Meeting House, 38 Elmbank Crescent, GLASGOW G2 4PS

[www.quakerscotland.org/west](http://www.quakerscotland.org/west)

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting**

Scottish charity number SC011234

**Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021**

**Reference and administration details**

**Office bearers**

Alastair Reid	Clerk	Appointment 01/01/2021
Margaret Roy	Assistant Clerk	Date released 31/12/2021
Peter Christy	Assistant Clerk	Appointment 01/01/2021
Bronwen Currie	Treasurer	Appointment 01/01/2021

**Trustees** on date of approval of Trustees Annual Report

Liz Anderton		Re-appointment 01/01/2022
Rob Claxton Ingham		Appointment 01/01/2022
Bronwen Currie	Ex-officio	Appointment 01/01/2021
Tim Denvir		Re-appointment 01/01/2022
Tony Ellis	Clerk	Appointment 01/01/2021
Mary Alice Mansell		Re-appointment 01/01/2022
Peter Morton		Appointment 01/01/2022
Kate Philbrick		Re-appointment 01/01/2022
Gill Reid		Appointment 01/01/2021
Wendy Reynolds		Re-appointment 01/01/2022
Peter Christy	Ex-officio	Appointment 01/01/2021

**Trustees** who have completed their service      Date released

Clare Phillips	31/12/2021
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**Premises**

Glasgow Meeting House, 38 Elmbank Crescent, Charing Cross, GLASGOW G2 4PS  
Wigtown Meeting House, Chapel Court, WIGTOWN DG8 9ET

**Bankers**

Bank of Scotland, 1 Munro Rd, STIRLING FK7 7SY  
Ecology Building Society 7 Belton Rd, Silsden KEIGHLEY BD20 0EE  
CCLA Investment Management Ltd. 80 Cheapside, LONDON EC2V 6DZ  
Triodos Bank UK, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AS  
Local Meetings also hold separate bank accounts.

**Solicitors**

Harper Macleod LLP Solicitors, The Ca'd'oro, 45 Gordon Street, Glasgow G1 3PE

**Independent Examiner**

Wylie & Bisset LLP, 168 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4TP

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Structure, governance and management

##### Organisation

West Scotland Area Meeting is the primary administrative unit for church affairs of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in the area of West Scotland, and is a constituent part of Britain Yearly Meeting, which is the final constitutional authority of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain. The members of West Scotland Area Meeting are all those persons who are for the time being recorded in the official register maintained in accordance with the book of discipline of Britain Yearly Meeting, *Quaker Faith & Practice*. *Quaker Faith & Practice* is a book of faith and practice and constitutes the Christian discipline of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain. It was first issued in manuscript form in 1738 and has been revised at periodic intervals. The most recent edition, the fifth, was published in 2013 and work is currently being undertaken by Britain Yearly Meeting in preparation for the next edition. An online copy is available at <http://www.quakerweb.org.uk/qfp/>.

West Scotland Area Meeting along with the other three Area Meetings in Scotland form the membership of the General Meeting for Scotland, which acts on behalf of Britain Yearly Meeting in such procedures as may be required by the Scottish Parliament and Scottish legal affairs.

The constituent local Quaker meetings of West Scotland Area Meeting in 2021 were: Argyll, Arran, Ayrshire, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Dunblane, Glasgow, Islay & Jura, Lanark, Milngavie, Mull & Iona and Wigtown Meeting.

##### Governing Document

West Scotland Area Meeting has adopted a Governing Document, based on *Quaker Faith & Practice*, which is approved by the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR) and reviewed annually by trustees.

##### Trustees

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Governing Document. The names of members are brought forward by the Nominations Committee and appointed by West Scotland Area Meeting in session. Trustees are drawn from a number of our local Quaker meetings

Trustees are directed to the *Governing Document*; *Trustees Terms of Reference*; the *Handbook for Trustees of Quaker Meetings* and the *OSCR Guidance for Charity Trustees*. All of these are available on the internet.

The trustees meet six times per year, and are responsible for ensuring compliance with charity law and other relevant legislation. The Annual Report and Accounts of the Area Meeting are approved at a meeting of the trustees and are then presented for acceptance by the Area Meeting in session.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

General Meeting for Scotland, on behalf of the four Area Meetings in Scotland, subscribes to Thirty-One:Eight for guidance on safeguarding issues. West Scotland Area Meeting subscribes to Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector's *Employer's Advice Service* for guidance on employment matters and is a member of the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers for financial and governance guidance. Trustees attend relevant conferences and training courses to enable them to fulfil their duties.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### Charitable purpose

The charitable object of West Scotland Area Meeting is the advancement of the religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of west Scotland and beyond as laid down in *Quaker Faith and Practice*.

West Scotland Area Meeting supports the spiritual development and religious beliefs of its members and attenders. It enables Quaker meetings for worship to be held within West Scotland. It maintains the Quaker witness and presence within the area. It provides public benefit by its provision of meetings for worship which are open to everyone.

##### Activities

In normal circumstances regular meetings for worship are held at numerous locations throughout West Scotland. These are advertised locally and details are available nationally through the Britain Yearly Meeting website [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) and the General Meeting for Scotland website [www.quakerscotland.org](http://www.quakerscotland.org).

Meetings for Worship for Church Affairs (the business meetings of Area Meeting) are held on seven occasions during the year. Decisions at business meetings are not settled by voting but through long established Quaker process in which those present seek in worship to discern the right way forward with God's guidance. Once the meeting has come to a decision it is recorded in minutes which are approved and signed in the meeting.

Area Meeting owns two properties: the meeting houses in Glasgow and Wigtown. Under normal circumstances these are available for hired use by community and voluntary groups when they are not required for Quaker activities. Co-wardens are employed at Glasgow Meeting to facilitate its use and to provide a Quaker presence in the building.

The meeting fundraises from its members and others for the furtherance of its objectives, the maintenance of its meeting houses and to support the work of the General Meeting for Scotland and the central work of the Society carried out by Britain Yearly Meeting.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance

##### West Scotland Area Meeting and Covid-19

“Lanark Meeting throughout 2021 continued to hold most of its Meetings for Worship on Zoom. This was both a blessing and a disadvantage. A blessing because we were able to worship each Sunday, reduce travelling time and environmental costs for most of our far-flung members and attenders and include members from our Meeting and other Meetings who, currently, are not able to travel easily. A disadvantage because, undeniably, a virtual meeting is not as ‘gathered’ as an in-person Meeting. We also miss the social interaction during the coffee and chat afterwards . . .

At a business meeting earlier in the year it was decided to hold one physical meeting (compliant with Covid regulations) on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We have met in different places . . . underneath the parachute sitting around a camp fire, in a large polytunnel surrounded by flowers and pollinating insects, sheltered by Meg’s large canopy overlooking the hills surrounding the Upper Clyde . . .”

This extract from the 2021 annual report of Lanark local meeting brings vividly to life the felt experience of Quakers during this second year of the Covid pandemic and is replicated, in different ways according to differing local circumstances, across our Area. It illustrates the continuing resourcefulness, resilience and flexibility of Friends, the positive possibilities that have been created through on-line ways of meeting and, inevitably, the challenges with which we have worked.

During the course of the year all local meetings have been sustained by regular online meetings though Zoom. Most have also re-introduced face-to-face meetings as and when these have been possible in compliance with Scottish Government requirements, typically offering a mixed pattern of online and face-to-face meetings. Several meetings have sought to bring together online and face-to-face modes of participation in blended meetings. This has been greatly assisted where rented premises have good quality bespoke equipment, as for example in the case of Ayrshire Meeting, and more of a challenge where improvisation has been required. Area Meeting and trustees recognise that adequate technology is vital for a blended meetings to work well for participants in either mode and have set aside funds to enable purchase of equipment. So far this has been used to equip the meeting room at Glasgow and it is also available for meetings to acquire portable equipment for use in rented accommodation.

The possibilities that online meetings provide for connectedness continue to be valued by Friends and will undoubtedly be a positive part of our future beyond the necessities of managing the pandemic. In our large geographical area with individuals and meetings widely scattered there is potential for gathering online that would not be possible face-to-face and would, in any case, involve demanding and environmentally costly travel. We are also mindful of the needs of Friends who may not be able to be present at meetings for health or personal reasons. Meetings of Area Meeting and trustees have been strengthened by online accessibility that has enabled greater equality of access from across our region and increased participation.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

The weekly Area Meeting online meeting for worship on Sunday evenings has been well supported and appreciated and is set to continue; local meetings have enjoyed participation by Zoom of Friends from outside their locality or have been able to join together online, as in the case of our island and western meetings; one local meeting has continued its daily opportunity for a Zoom catch-up to enable Friends to support one another. We have also been able to feel more connected in West Scotland with Quakers more widely not only in Scotland, where alongside General Meeting itself we now have greater contact through Zoom between those with roles such as Area Meeting treasurer or Clerk of Trustees, but also with Britain Yearly Meeting, with many sharing in the wonderful opportunities of online Yearly Meeting, and indeed internationally. This enriching sense of wider connectedness is well illustrated by our Area Meeting in August: a blended meeting uniting Friends that were able to gather in mid-Ayrshire with those online from farther afield in which we engaged directly by Zoom with the co-ordinator of the Young Friends Wednesday Night Epilogue (itself an online initiative) and heard the first-hand experience of Young Izere, a Friend working on issues of climate change with farmers in Kenya.

Our challenge looking ahead is to build on the best of what we have learnt of online meeting during the necessities of Covid whilst being mindful of its limitations. There has undoubtedly been fragmentation in our meetings because of the different ways in which Friends have been able, or felt it right to participate, and this has sometimes been painful especially in smaller meetings. Over the last two years, Friends have certainly witnessed to our testimony to "live adventurously" (Advices and Queries 27) and in this spirit can feel confident in exploring together the right and most inclusive ways for our Society in the coming years.

#### West Scotland Friends

At the end of 2021 there were 228 members in West Scotland Area Meeting plus a further 215 people not in membership who attended on a regular basis; occasional visitor numbers are not recorded. The number in formal membership has increased by 2 from the previous year. The overall figure represents a changing situation with 6 new members (3 by application, others by transfer from different Area Meetings) and 4 leaving membership (2 deaths, 1 transfer to another Area and 1 resignation). The number of attenders in 2021 has decreased by 2. It is encouraging to note that local meetings report that visitors and enquirers have continued, and have in some instances been enabled by online meetings. There were no marriages held under Friends' auspices in 2021. Planned children's meetings have taken place in Glasgow both by Zoom and face-to-face and Dunblane has kept in touch with its young members though not held meetings for them during the year. Castle Douglas meeting is ready to run children's meetings as occasion demands. All are run by PVG-registered volunteers whilst a number of smaller meetings have PVG-registered Friends available to organise activities for any children who may attend.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

##### Meetings for Worship

Within the shifting circumstances of Covid all local meetings have adapted their arrangements to maintain a regular pattern of meetings for worship. Some examples give a feel for what this means for different meetings: in Castle Douglas it has involved a face-



to-face meeting every Sunday and weekly Zoom gathering on a weekday; in Ayrshire and, towards the later part of the year, Glasgow and Dunblane there have been blended meetings; in Mull and Iona resumption of some face-to-face gatherings has been combined with ongoing Zoom meetings shared with other island and western meetings; Area Meeting has continued to offer a weekly meeting for worship by Zoom on Sunday evenings.

Online meetings by Zoom have been a key part of this mix and Friends continue to reflect thoughtfully on this experience of worship that brings connectedness but in a significantly different way from the silent gathering of people together in the same room. This potential for connection is certainly valued in that it has enabled participation in the context of the pandemic and there are Friends who, for a variety of reasons, continue to find this their preferred, or sometimes only practicable, way of joining a meeting for worship. There are also meetings such as those shared amongst western and island local meetings or the Sunday evening Area Meeting worship that could only happen online. For other Friends, anything "virtual" cannot replicate the spiritual gathering of a face-to-face meeting for worship and they have been keen to seize opportunities to return to physical meetings and, in some cases, made a decision in conscience not to be part of any worship online. There are also those for whom the technology is, itself, inaccessible. Blended meetings have helped to bring together Friends with these different perspectives and circumstances. Some mix of face-to-face, online or blended modes of meeting is likely to be a continuing part of life for Friends as we seek to discern patterns of worship that are as rich and inclusive as possible in our local meetings and across the Area.

##### Spiritual Development and Learning

Whilst the gathered silence of meeting for worship is the lifeblood of the Society, Friends are also nurtured by spoken ministry which, in many local meetings, includes readings from Advices and Queries. There is also a variety of study and discussion groups across the Area and these have continued, mostly, online. At Dumfries meeting, for example, Friends discuss one of the Advices and Queries after meeting for worship each Sunday and there is a monthly discussion group which, during 2021, explored topics such as forgiveness, happiness, non-theism and inter-faith worship. Advices and Queries have also been the focus of discussion groups at Mull and Iona meeting, whilst those at Ayrshire have considered truth and what it means for Quakers.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

Dunblane Friends have explored themes around climate breakdown and this issue was also picked up in Castle Douglas through study of Alastair McIntosh's book *Riders on the Storm*. Glasgow meeting ensured provision for spiritual development and learning through a sub-group of elders which, this year, organised four study groups on themes related to COP26. The *Experiment with Light* group at Glasgow continues to meet weekly, by Zoom, and a fortnightly *Young Friends Epilogue* has been introduced to provide younger Friends with opportunity for worship and discussion of what spirituality means for them. The Glasgow Vision Group also highlighted worship and spiritual development as one of the themes which all committees at the meeting were invited to reflect on.

Online delivery of our UK-wide Quaker Yearly Meeting in 2021 enabled greater participation from Friends from West Scotland who benefitted from the wealth of opportunities for reflection, spiritual development and learning and from the sharing of experience with so many others. Some Friends have also engaged in learning with the Woodbrooke Quaker study centre whilst meetings for worship online have not only enabled us to be enriched by the attendance of those outside our geographical area but also enabled individual Friends to experience meetings in other parts of the country or internationally. A number of meetings such as Glasgow and Dumfries maintain strong inter-faith links and many are actively engaged ecumenically, as for example in Wigtown where Friends join periodic ecumenical worship, contribute to the Easter newsletter and take their turn with other denominations in leading spiritual reflection at the weekly *Ninian Moment*.

#### Quaker Community

Our shared community and mutual support for one another as Friends is an important dimension of the Society. Over the years, meetings have sustained this in a variety of ways whether in the informal blether over tea following each meeting for worship, shared meals or other social events, including those at Area Meeting or in clusters of local meetings. All of this has been less straightforward with continuing Covid restrictions, and the curtailing of our informal social contact with each other is certainly experienced as a concerning negative impact of the pandemic by all local meetings as well as at Area Meeting. Friends have, of course, been resourceful in making the best of this situation. Where face-to-face meeting has been possible social gatherings have taken place as, for example, in the picnic near Kirkcudbright for the southern cluster meetings and their shared lunch later in the year or Glasgow's hill walking group and the picnic arranged by the children's meeting at Kelvingrove Park. A number of young Friends from West Scotland were able to attend the annual residential Summer Shindig in Yorkshire organised by the Northern Friends Youth Events Trust. Other social events have taken place online with Milngavie meeting continuing its daily time on Zoom for shared, mutual support and the West Coast Friends Gathering meeting virtually, rather than for the customary residential weekend at Crianlarich Youth Hostel, providing opportunity this year for shared reflection on revision of *Quaker Faith and Practice*.



## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

##### Social Witness and Engagement

Friends' testimonies to peace, justice, equality, truth and integrity and to the environment lead members and attenders from all parts of the Area to witness to their beliefs. This extends from the work of our Local and Area Meetings themselves,



including in partnership with other churches and community groups, to the



actions of individual Friends, many of whom live-out their Quaker values through participation in non-Quaker groups and activities. Some flavour of these varied forms of witness is given in examples such as Dunblane Friends' support for the exhibition of the *Loving Earth Project* textile panels at Alloa; Argyll meeting pilgrimage to the ancient Glenan Wood, Portavadie; the involvement of Castle Douglas in the local *Orchard Project* and participation in an inter-faith event at the Dumfries peace sanctuary; the

voluntary work of a number of Glasgow Friends with social initiatives in the city such as the food bank and our continued regular meetings for worship in witness to our peace testimony outside the military base at Faslane. Most local meetings also hold special collections as a matter of routine to support charitable causes agreed by the meeting.

During 2021 Area Meeting took forward two particular concerns through special interest groups, one on White Privilege and the other focussing on Gender-based Violence. Both groups have been active not only in exploring their concern but also as a resource in enabling others to become engaged and informed. Area Meeting devoted much of its April meeting to reflection on building Quaker community and there has been very significant work on environmental concerns, both at Area Meeting itself and in discussion groups across the Area, in the run up to COP26.

West Scotland Area Meeting has continued to contribute, through its annual giving to General Meeting for Scotland, to the employment in Scotland of a Parliamentary Engagement Officer to help strengthen our advocacy role in public life. This work is supported in Scotland by a Parliamentary Engagement Working Group, and our representative gave us regular reports on its activities.

##### Sustainability and COP26

Friends are committed in their testimonies to the environment and many work tirelessly for climate justice. Many individual Friends strive to reduce their carbon footprint by reducing car use and plane travel and by practising simplicity in their purchases and eating habits.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

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### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

All but two local meetings use rented premises and we seek to encourage sustainability in so far as we can in these circumstances. The Meeting House at Wigtown is a relatively new and energy efficient building and steps have been taken over the year, with some grant support, towards improving the energy efficiency of Glasgow Meeting House through more environmentally responsible lighting and updated heating systems. All meetings have seen a reduced carbon footprint through the move online and it is recognised that this needs to shape our future planning.

COP26 has been the major focus in 2021 for Quaker concerns with sustainability, not just for Glasgow local meeting but for Friends across the area. This has involved careful and detailed planning over the year and intensive engagement during the event itself. The meeting house at Glasgow was open daily throughout COP26, staffed by our co-wardens and a team of volunteers. Provision was made for quiet reflection each day and hospitality including refreshments each afternoon. Available rooms at the meeting house were all fully booked and we were host to a wide range of events, both Quaker and non-Quaker. One room throughout the event provided a base for Quaker teams from London and Geneva and another for *Keeping your Cool*, a group dedicated to mediation. Rooms unsuitable for meetings provided well used storage space for visiting groups. Alongside

provision focussed on the meeting house, many Friends around the Area within travelling distance of Glasgow provided accommodation for those attending COP26 and individual Friends responded to appeals for financial help to support the participation of delegates from the Global South. Friends were, of course, also themselves



participants in COP26 in a variety of ways including for example involvement in the Dunbar to Glasgow pilgrimage, Young People's Friday Strike demonstration and the People's March through the city.

#### Property

Glasgow and Wigtown Local Meetings are responsible for the ongoing care and maintenance of their Meeting Houses, and report formally to the Area Meeting trustees on an annual basis. During periods of closure because of Covid both buildings have been checked frequently and regularly in accordance with the requirements of our insurers and any routine maintenance or essential repairs undertaken.

Wigtown meeting house is in good repair but it has been recognised for some while that major work is needed at Glasgow, not only in terms of the condition of the fabric but also in relation to improving accessibility and environmental efficiency.

## **Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting**

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### **Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021**

#### **Achievements and performance (continued)**

All of this requires a thoroughly developed strategy, grounded both in discernment of how the witness of Quakers in the city and area is best served and in a realistic business plan. In July, Area Meeting held a special meeting, informed by careful briefing from Glasgow Friends, in order to reflect on the future of Glasgow meeting house and on alternatives to use of this building. This was of great value in enabling Friends to share and hear different perspectives. It was agreed that a way forward would need to be settled in shared discernment in no more than two or three years and that the building should be kept in repair in the meantime with minimal expenditure. In setting this timescale, Friends were mindful of professional advice that the value of the building, should we decide to sell, could be enhanced by resolution of development plans for the empty site adjacent to the meeting house.

#### **Governance**

In the conduct of our life as a Religious Society, practical and spiritual matters are seen as interwoven. This is reflected in the title of our business meetings as Meetings for Worship for Church affairs; in our agendas which include ethical, social and religious concerns alongside practical questions and in the expectation of engagement from members and attenders. During 2021, there were 7 meetings of our Area business meeting and 6 trustees meetings, one of which was dedicated to the development of trustees. All of these took place by Zoom, excepting one blended gathering of Area Meeting, with very good levels of attendance both in terms of numbers and representation across the Area. Online meetings have also facilitated and increased the participation of West Scotland Friends in Scotland General Meeting and Britain Yearly Meeting. Ensuring that Quaker discipline is adequately maintained throughout the Area remains important for us and all local meetings periodically held their own Meetings for Worship for Church Affairs during the course of the year.

#### **Financial review**

The continuing pandemic meant that there was no income at all from room hire for the first half of the 2021, and hirings only began to pick up gradually, in Glasgow, from June. Income from room hire was therefore reduced for the second year in succession, to £4,578 (£6,004 in 2020). However, the continuation of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant to September and the reduction in staff complement compared with 2019, has kept hiring costs down. At the same time, expenditure on attendance in person at conferences and training events, together with associated travel costs, has remained minimal, whilst Friends quite substantially increased their giving to both the Area Meeting and the Local Meetings. This has meant that we have ended the year with a surplus of £8,499.

The pandemic has continued to impact upon requests for legacy funds to attend events and training, and our triennial national gathering of Britain Yearly Meeting was once again held entirely online in 2021, so that the sum budgeted for attendance at this event was not called upon.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021

#### **Financial review**

West Scotland Area Meeting was able to continue to provide financial support to the national structure of the Religious Society of Friends in the United Kingdom. The quota payment requested by General Meeting for Scotland was reduced again to £2,104, partly owing to continued restriction of its work and activities as a result of the pandemic, and also because the post of Parliamentary Engagement Officer, to which General Meeting contributes, was unfilled for several months in 2021. The Area Meeting continued to receive individual contributions for Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM), totalling £22,585 inclusive of relevant Gift Aid, which was sent on along with a donation of £10,000, making a total of £32,585. In addition, Arran, Ayrshire, Castle Douglas, Islay & Jura, Lanark, and Mull & Iona Quaker Meetings, together with a number of individual Friends, made direct donations to BYM, giving a total amount given to support the central work of the Society of £37,877, an average contribution of £168 per member (£129 in 2020).

#### **Reserves Policy**

The established policy is that Area Meeting holds the equivalent of four months annual expenditure and that each local meeting holds up to one year's annual expenditure in the general reserves. There are also designated building reserves held by Area Meeting and the relevant local meetings, currently standing at £71,734: £33,000 held by Area Meeting; £28,184 by Glasgow Meeting and £10,550 by Wigtown Meeting. With the agreement of Trustees early in 2021, Glasgow Meeting transferred £5,000 from employment reserves (which now stand at £12,000) to building reserves, in the light of the reduced complement of staff and the expected expenditure on maintenance and repairs for Glasgow Meeting House. This expected expenditure also explains the fact that the Area Meeting currently holds considerably more in general reserves than the four months annual expenditure mentioned above, as Trustees await clarity on the future of Glasgow Meeting House.

#### **Plans for Future**

The priority for West Scotland Area Meeting is to maintain and support its worshipping communities in West Scotland, to enable our continued and active witness to Quaker testimonies and concerns and to increase the profile of Quakerism within this area. In the coming year it is expected that particular attention will be given to:

- continued reflection and planning on how Friends can best build on the digital opportunities that have been experienced through the Covid pandemic to create a more blended, inclusive and environmentally responsible future;
- watchfulness of the challenges and opportunities for housing Glasgow meeting so that we move as quickly as we can to resolution of the situation with the meeting house;
- work, with Friends across Scotland, to make the most of opportunities arising from appointment of a Local Development Worker for Scotland and Quaker initiatives for simpler meetings.

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting**

Scottish charity number SC011234

**Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2021**

**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed: 979AF6A5418E430...

Tony Ellis  
Clerk of Trustees

Date: 19 May 2022

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Independent Examiners Report for year ending 31 December 2021

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 14 to 21.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

DocuSigned by:  
  
3EBD29AABFF044E...  
Jenny Simpson BSc (Hons) FCA DChA  
**Wylie & Bisset LLP**  
168 Bath Street  
Glasgow  
G2 4TP

Date: 19 May 2022

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Financial Statements for year ending 31 December 2021

#### Statement of Receipts and Payments

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	<i>Total</i> 2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Contributions		24,895	67,208	<b>92,103</b>	78,442
Legacies		501	-	<b>501</b>	-
Grants		-	4,593	<b>4,593</b>	-
Hiring receipts		-	4,578	<b>4,578</b>	6,004
Bank interest		784	883	<b>1,667</b>	2,029
Receipts from Quaker activities		253	3,836	<b>4,089</b>	1,535
Other receipts	3	-	3,758	<b>3,758</b>	9,149
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>26,433</b>	<b>84,856</b>	<b>111,289</b>	<b>97,159</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Hiring costs	4	-	10,531	<b>10,531</b>	23,382
Cost of Quaker activities	5	7,184	44,116	<b>51,300</b>	35,040
Grants & donations	6	15,188	23,945	<b>39,133</b>	35,727
Governance costs	7	809	-	<b>809</b>	665
Examination	7	1,008	-	<b>1,008</b>	984
Bank charges		-	9	<b>9</b>	95
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>24,189</b>	<b>78,601</b>	<b>102,790</b>	<b>95,807</b>
<b>Net receipts</b>		<b>2,244</b>	<b>6,255</b>	<b>8,499</b>	<b>1,352</b>
<b>Transfers to/(from) funds</b>	8	-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<b>2,244</b>	<b>6,255</b>	<b>8,499</b>	<b>1,352</b>

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting


Scottish charity number SC011234

### Financial Statements for year ending 31 December 2021 (cont.)


#### Statement of Balances

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>				
Cash & bank balance at start of year	138,926	110,891	<b>249,817</b>	248,465
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,244	6,255	<b>8,499</b>	1,352
<b>Cash and bank balance at end of year</b>	<b>141,170</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<b>258,316</b>	<b>249,817</b>
 <b>Cash and bank balances</b>				
Current accounts	11,055	29,798	<b>40,853</b>	29,745
Deposit accounts	130,115	87,217	<b>217,332</b>	220,012
Cash in hand	-	131	<b>131</b>	60
<b>Cash and bank balance at end of year</b>	<b>141,170</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<b>258,316</b>	<b>249,817</b>
 <b>Funds</b>				
General funds (AM and LM)	16,990	51,922	<b>68,912</b>	69,671
Building reserves (AM and LM)	33,000	38,734	<b>71,734</b>	60,026
Glasgow Employment reserve	-	12,000	<b>12,000</b>	17,000
Designated funds (AM and LM)	91,180	6,250	<b>97,430</b>	95,146
AM restricted funds	-	3,750	<b>3,750</b>	3,750
LM restricted funds	-	4,490	<b>4,490</b>	4,224
	<b>141,170</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<b>258,316</b>	<b>249,817</b>
 <b>Other assets</b>				
HMRC refund due			1,632	1,885
Glasgow Meeting House	<i>Revalued 2015</i>		300,000	300,000
Wigtown Meeting House	<i>Purchase/redevelopment 2009-10</i>		78,820	78,820
 <b>Liabilities</b>				
Examination fee ~ Wylie & Bisset			1,086	1,008

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees;

Signed   
Tony Ellis (Clerk of Trustees)

Date: 19 May 2022

Signed   
Bronwen Currie (Trustee & Treasurer)

Date: 19 May 2022

Accepted by West Scotland Area Meeting;

Signed   
Alastair Reid, Clerk of Area Meeting

Date: 19 May 2022



## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Notes to the Accounts for year ending 31 December 2021

- 1 **Basis of accounts** These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006 (as amended).
  
- 2 **Nature and purpose of funds**

**Area Meeting General Funds** ~ these are unrestricted funds available for general use by the Area Meeting.

**Designated funds** ~ These are unrestricted funds designated for a particular purpose by the Area Meeting. These are:

  - Building fund ~ to cover major work on the buildings
  - Disability fund ~ to costs associated to ensuring accessibility
  - Organ/Giles fund ~ to support the spiritual life of the Meeting
  - Glasgow Meeting House Development fund ~ to support the future development of the meeting house

**Area Meeting Restricted funds** ~ These are funds where the donor has specified the use of the funds. There is one restricted fund: the Pastoral Care Fund (£3,750). This year the Area Meeting also received a grant from the Francis Camfield Trust (£1,800), for purchase of AV equipment, all of which was used for that purpose.

The Area Meeting collects Scheduled Contributions and passes them on (along with relevant Gift Aid receipts) to the Local Quaker Meetings and Britain Yearly Meeting as specified by the donor.

**Local Meeting funds** ~ these are recorded as Restricted funds within the Area Meeting accounts, the funds having been given specifically for these areas of work (Local Meeting activities).

Glasgow Meeting holds four restricted funds. The Spiritual Renewal Fund (previously called the Vera Long fund) is used to promote and provide activities to strengthen the spiritual life of the meeting (£1,417), the Social fund is used to support community and family activities to strengthen the community of Glasgow Meeting (£340), the Glasgow Friends Against Homelessness fund is used to support the Homeless Tea Run (£2,239) and the Camfield Trust Fund to be used towards travel (£228).
  
- 3 **Other income** Comprises government grants as part of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.
  
- 4 **Hiring Costs** This includes a proportion (40%) of the employment and other support costs for Glasgow Meeting House. This represents a reduction in the proportion of costs allocated to fundraising in 2020 to reflect the fact that in 2021 the majority of staff time was spent on building issues, and on work connected with the heightened use of the building by Quakers during COP26.
  
- 5 **Quaker activities** This includes: insurance (£3,117) room hire for meetings for worship; conferences, training and travel expenses; and a proportion (60%) of the employment and other support costs for Glasgow Meeting House (see 3 above).

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

During 2021, Glasgow continued to make use of the extension to the flexible furlough scheme for wardening staff of 2, until it ended at the end of September 2021, with one co-warden working the contractual 16 hours and the other being furloughed for 8 hours. We continued to top-up the co-warden's furlough salary to 100% as in 2020. While the building was closed to hirings until June, there was considerable warden activity required for both routine building checks, and administration and to enable access to the property by surveyors and contractors. Hirings gradually built up from June onwards, though still at a lower level than previously.

From mid-October 2021, both co-wardens were employed on their regular 16 hours a week. This enabled us to meet the additional wardening demands of COP26. Subsequently, one co-warden left at the end of November, leaving a staffing complement of 1 p/t warden and 1 cleaner (paid for 6 hours per week throughout the year).

- 6 Grants and donations** Grants are given to other bodies in accordance with the governing document to further the work and witness of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

Grants from Unrestricted Funds represent donations made by Area Meeting on the basis of an agreed budget. The restricted funds for BYM represent money collected for BYM and passed on by Area Meeting. Local Meeting grants (Restricted Funds) ranged from £20 to £500.

<b>Breakdown of grants</b>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>Total 2021</b>	<i>Total 2020</i>
Britain Yearly Meeting	10,000	22,285	<b>32,285</b>	26,828
General Meeting for Scotland	2,104	-	<b>2,104</b>	3,902
Northern Friends Peace Board	2,034	-	<b>2,034</b>	2,043
Northern Friends Youth Events Trust	-	-	-	1,180
Quaker Council for European Affairs	300	60	<b>360</b>	150
Friends World Committee for Consultation	500	-	<b>500</b>	250
Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre	-	100	<b>100</b>	744
Simon Community	-	-	-	200
Quaker Disability Group	-	100	<b>100</b>	100
Stirling Start Up	-	100	<b>100</b>	100
Stirling Interfaith Community Justice Group	-	100	<b>100</b>	100
Forth Valley Welcome	-	100	<b>100</b>	100
Emmaus	-	200	<b>200</b>	-
Medical Aid for Palestinians	-	300	<b>300</b>	-
Other small grants (less than £100)	-	20	<b>20</b>	30
Quaker Meeting House Appeals	-	375	<b>375</b>	-
Quaker Tapestry	-	125	<b>125</b>	-
Bursaries, Personal Needs & Pastoral Care	250	80	<b>330</b>	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,188</b>	<b>23,945</b>	<b>39,133</b>	35,727

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Notes to the Accounts for year ending 31 December 2021 (cont.)

- 7 **Governance** This includes subscriptions to advisory organisations (31:8, GCVS Employment Advisory and Health & Safety Services) and legal expenses.
- No remuneration was paid to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee.
- No trustee expenses were claimed in 2021.
- 8 **Transfers** There were no transfers from Local Meeting funds to Area Meeting in 2021, although two Local Meetings transferred funds to Glasgow Local Meeting, to a total of £1,100.

## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) West Scotland Area Meeting

Scottish charity number SC011234

### Breakdown of Unrestricted funds 2021

	Designated Funds					Total 2021 £	Total 2021 £
	General Fund £	Building £	Disability £	Organ/ Giles & Gill Brooks £	GMHD £		
<b>Receipts</b>							
Contributions	24,895	-	-	-	-	<b>24,895</b>	21,892
Legacies	-	-	-	501	-	<b>501</b>	-
Bank interest	710	-	-	-	74	<b>784</b>	1,152
Receipts from Quaker activities	-	-	-	-	253	<b>253</b>	1,365
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>25,605</b>	-	-	<b>501</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>26,433</b>	<b>24,409</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
Cost of Quaker activities	4,490	-	-	2,694	-	<b>7,184</b>	4,948
Grants & donations	15,088	-	-	100	-	<b>15,188</b>	14,525
Governance costs	809	-	-	-	-	<b>809</b>	665
Examination	1,008	-	-	-	-	<b>1,008</b>	984
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>21,395</b>	-	-	<b>2,794</b>	-	<b>24,189</b>	<b>21,122</b>
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>4,210</b>	-	-	<b>(2,293)</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>3,287</b>
Net transfers to AM funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,150
<b>Gross transfers</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1,150</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>4,210</b>	-	-	<b>(2,293)</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>4,437</b>
<b>Cash funds</b>							
Cash & bank balance at start of year	12,780	33,000	1,640	35,742	55,764	<b>138,926</b>	134,489
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	4,210	-	-	(2,293)	327	<b>2,244</b>	4,437
<b>Cash &amp; bank balance at end of year</b>	<b>16,990</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>33,449</b>	<b>56,091</b>	<b>141,170</b>	<b>138,926</b>
<b>Bank &amp; cash balances</b>							
Current account	11,055	-	-	-	-	11,055	9,849
Deposit account	5,935	33,000	1,640	33,449	56,091	130,115	129,077
<b>16,990</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>33,449</b>	<b>56,091</b>	<b>141,170</b>	<b>138,926</b>	

**Breakdown of Restricted funds 2021**

	AM	Argyll	Arran	Ayrshire	Castle Douglas	Dumfries	Dunblane	Glasgow	Islay & Jura	Lanark	Milngavie	Mull & Iona	Wigtown	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>															
Contributions	20,585	67	250	1,072	1,604	556	4,338	36,093	309	334	375	670	955	<b>67,208</b>	56,550
Grants	1,800	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,793	-	-	-	-	-	<b>4,593</b>	9,150
Hiring receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,578	-	-	-	-	-	<b>4,578</b>	6,003
Bank interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	759	-	-	-	-	124	<b>883</b>	877
Receipts from Quaker activities	-	-	3	-	43	13	-	3,724	-	20	33	-	-	<b>3,836</b>	170
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,758	-	-	-	-	-	<b>3,758</b>	9,150
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22,385</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,647</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>4,338</b>	<b>51,705</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>84,856</b>	<b>72,750</b>
<b>Payments</b>															
Hiring costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,531	-	-	-	-	-	<b>10,531</b>	23,382
Cost of Quaker activities	1,800	106	67	576	1,392	213	1,107	37,523	110	116	366	33	707	<b>44,116</b>	30,092
Grants & donations	20,585	80	500	350	500	-	440	320	200	220	200	500	50	<b>23,945</b>	21,202
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	<b>9</b>	95
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22,385</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>48,374</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>78,601</b>	<b>74,685</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus before transfers</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(119)</b>	<b>(314)</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>(245)</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>2,791</b>	<b>3,331</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>(158)</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>6,255</b>	<b>(1,935)</b>
Net transfers to/from AM funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,150)
Net transfers between LM funds	-	-	-	(100)	-	-	-	1,100	-	-	(1,000)	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross transfers</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,150)</b>
<b>(Deficit)/surplus for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(119)</b>	<b>(314)</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>(245)</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>2,791</b>	<b>4,431</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>(1,158)</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>6,255</b>	<b>(3,085)</b>
<b>Cash funds</b>															
Cash & bank balance at start of year	3,750	133	568	521	1,521	1,272	2,980	82,665	315	497	2,160	819	13,690	<b>110,891</b>	113,976
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	-	(119)	(314)	46	(245)	356	2,791	4,431	(1)	18	(1,158)	137	313	<b>6,255</b>	(3,085)
<b>Cash &amp; bank balance at end of year</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>5,771</b>	<b>87,096</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>14,003</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<b>110,891</b>

**Breakdown of Restricted funds 2021 (Continued)**

	AM	Argyll	Arran	Ayrshire	Castle Douglas	Dumfries	Dunblane	Glasgow	Islay & Jura	Lanark	Milngavie	Mull & Iona	Wigtown	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Bank &amp; cash balances</b>															
Current account	-	14	254	567	677	1,628	5,771	16,778	314	515	1,002	956	1,322	<b>29,798</b>	<i>19,896</i>
Deposit account	3,750	-	-	-	599	-	-	70,318	-	-	-	-	12,550	<b>87,217</b>	<i>90,935</i>
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	131	<b>131</b>	<i>60</i>
<b>Cash &amp; bank balance at end of year</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>5,771</b>	<b>87,096</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>14,003</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<i>110,891</i>
<b>Held as</b>															
General funds	-	14	254	567	1,276	1,628	5,771	36,172	314	515	1,002	956	3,453	<b>51,922</b>	<i>58,891</i>
Building reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,184	-	-	-	-	10,550	<b>38,734</b>	<i>27,026</i>
Employment reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	<b>12,000</b>	<i>17,000</i>
Designated (other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,250	-	-	-	-	-	<b>6,250</b>	<i>-</i>
Restricted funds	3,750	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,490	-	-	-	-	-	<b>8,240</b>	<i>7,974</i>
	<b>3,750</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>5,771</b>	<b>87,096</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>14,003</b>	<b>117,146</b>	<i>110,891</i>