

Quakers in London

News Sheet 9 June 2026

Joint London Area Meeting at Westminster Meeting House

Around 80 people were present in the room and online on 13th June for the morning topic *How should QiL use its money?* The question prompted wide ranging and thoughtful ministry. We heard interesting facts – that the Darby family spent the equivalent of £1.5 million developing and building the Iron Bridge; and that the Pease family spent the equivalent of £10 million developing the Stockton to Darlington Railway.

Ideas included support for activities for children and young people, both Quaker and non-Quaker; prison visitors; raising the profile of Quaker values; enabling Britain Yearly Meeting to have the Quaker Bookshop at Friends House open for longer hours and at weekends; research on reparations; support to allow the two posts of London development workers to continue; setting up our buildings to provide warm and cool spaces, with drinking water and facilities; and making low interest loans to other project providers as the Quaker Housing Association does. 'Our duty is to turn money and friendship into light,' said one Friend.

The afternoon session began with seven applications for membership: all were accepted. Names were brought forward by nominations for various committees: each Friend was introduced to the meeting – this was well done – and they were appointed. Offers-of-service forms are on the website – we are asked to use them actively to bring other Friends in.

The London Development Group reported that things were going well. They seemed to be keeping to their timetable. LDG next meets on 4th July. Friends are cooperating within a lot of complexity. Specific proposals about financial arrangements for Quakers in London were discussed. The minutes of the meeting are available on the Quakers in London website and were sent to local meeting clerks for circulation.

London Quakers has now been laid down, and there was concern that provision is not being made for the many and various things it did. Perhaps we have not appreciated all their work, and have not been aware of and valued it enough.

Online worship

How might we build an online worshipping community across London? Ideas range from regular online meetings for worship to regular epilogues, or even a whole online local meeting (or worshipping group). There will be an informal online meeting to consider this question at 7:00 p.m. on **Thursday 2 July**. Ruth Moore Williams from North Wales AM was involved in setting up the UK's first ever entirely online Quaker local meeting, and she will be taking part.

Zoom link: <https://quaker.zoom.us/j/84944472208>

Monthly London-wide Meetings for Worship

The next London-wide meeting for worship is on **July 19th** at **Bunhill Fields Meeting House**, Quaker Court, EC1Y 8QQ (Old Street / Barbican tube). Meeting starts at 11.00. After that the next venues will be Croydon (August 16) and Ealing (September 20).

Future events

Yearly Meeting sessions take place on Saturday **July 18** (Manchester) and on Saturday **November 21** (Friends House). Further **Joint London Area Meetings** are planned for Saturday **September 12** (Wanstead), Sunday **October 11** (Friends House) and Sunday **December 13** (Friends House).



All these sessions can also be attended **online**.

For further information, talk to Friends in your local and area meetings! *Issued by the London Development Group.*