Charity registration number 1134224 (England and Wales)

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025



LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	A A Marsden	
	W N Taylor	
	J S Vicary	
	S M Tyldesley	(Appointed 1 January 2025)
	S W Ackroyd	(Appointed 1 January 2026)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1134224	
Principal address	Lancaster Friends Meeting House Lancaster Lancashire England LA1 1TX	
Independent examiner	T M Preece FCCA Dalton House 9 Dalton Square Lancaster Lancashire United Kingdom LA1 1WD	

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

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LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

Objectives and activities

Objectives
The object of Lancashire Central and North Area Meeting is the furtherance of the general religious and charitable purposes of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain in the area of Lancashire Central and North Area Meeting and beyond.

- The right holding of public Meetings for Worship in our constituent meetings.
- The holding of regular meetings for church affairs (i.e. business) in all the constituent meetings and for the Area Meeting as a whole.
- Taking collective action in accordance with Quaker principles and the discernment of our meetings for church affairs.

These objectives are a key part of the means whereby the Society provides public benefit.

Significant activities
Activities are usually similar from year to year and include:

- The regular holding of public Meetings for Worship in the local meeting houses, situated in Bailrigg (at The University of Lancaster Chaplaincy Centre), Garstang, Lancaster, Preston and Yealand, and other meetings to which the public are invited.
- Publicising our meetings and other events
- Providing Children's and Young Persons' Meetings and activities at all our Meetings and events.
- Maintaining our Meeting Houses and religious burial grounds.
- Raising awareness and understanding of religious beliefs and practices
- Promoting fellowship among our Members and Attenders
- Ecumenical and interfaith activity
- Regular publication of newsletters for use of Members and Attenders
- Regular financial collections at our Meetings for Quaker objectives
- Participation in Quaker Week events (usually held in October each year).

More information about our meetings and activities is available on our website at www.lancashirequakers.org.uk which also has links to the local meeting websites.

Public benefit
The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Sustainability
The Religious Society of Friends has a long-standing commitment to the respect and right use of the earth’s natural resources.
In 2011 at Britain Yearly Meeting held in Canterbury a Minute was adopted instructing all Area Meetings and Friends to consider how truth prospers with regard to sustainability, taking care to relate this to all our testimonies – peace, truth, simplicity, equality and care for the environment.

Lancashire Central and North Area Quaker Meeting adopted this minute and has worked since to its implementation within the resources available. It reflects in much of what has been written before, from our investment and reserve policies to the use of our buildings and land. Local meetings consider their own sustainability when making decisions about the use of resources and the impact that they have on the environment.

Volunteer roles within the charity

Most activities within the charity are led and organised by volunteers and supported by other volunteers. Many Members and Attenders will give service during the year, this can vary from helping make tea and coffee after meeting for Worship to taking on substantive roles such as Area Meeting clerk or as a trustee. There is further guidance on what roles are needed and the relationship between Area Meeting and its constituent Local Meetings in Chapter 4 of Quaker Faith and Practice, the book of discipline of The Religious Society of Friends (https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/chapter/4/).

	Volunteering in 2025				
	Members	**Local nominations**	**Area nominations**	**Total**	**%**
Bailrigg	6	1	3	4	67%
Garstang	23	7	9	16	70%
Lancaster	114	30	29	59	52%
Preston	22	4	5	9	41%
Yealand	38	15	10	25	66%
TOTALS	203	57	56	113	56%

This chart records the number of individuals volunteering at each level. Individuals may appear in the Local and Area column. As many are nominated for more than one role it is not reflective of the total volunteer roles. At any one time up to 10% of roles may be unfilled.

Grantmaking

Grants made during the year totalled £27,179 (£58,243 2024). Of this £25,979 (£54,373 2024) was to institutions. This included grants to:

	2025	2024
Britain Yearly Meeting	£12,054	£43,205
Rookhow	£5,000	£5,000
Lancaster and Morecambe City of Sanctuary	£5,000	Nil
Northern Friends Peace Board	£2,060	£2,100
Others	£1,865	£4,068

Grants to individuals from the Trustee Grant Committee consisted of:

	2025	2024
Need Fund	£500	£2,000
Education Fund	Nil	Nil
Other Grants	£700	£1,870

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Membership of the Area meeting was steady over the year with a slight reduction in members to 203 (205 2024) offset by an increase in attenders to 187 (163 2024). In the local meetings there was modest growth in all meeting apart from Yealand.

Information regarding our Area and Local Meetings is available from the Directory of Meetings on the website of Quakers in Britain (see www.quaker.org.uk/our-organisation/book-of-meetings) and on our Area Meeting website, www.lancashirequakers.org.uk/. Area and Local Meeting newsletters are circulated to Members and Attenders.

Local Meeting Life and Service Reports

Each of the Local Meetings compiles a detailed report on its activities, achievements and challenges over the past year. These are shared with the Area Meeting during the year, normally when the local meeting acts as the host. Each meeting is free to consider the format of this in their own way. Sharing these reports helps all members have a clearer picture of the social and spiritual life of each other's meetings and demonstrates how the area meets its objectives. They are available on local websites or via the Area Meeting website listed above. A summary of the key reported achievements is shared below.

Bailrigg

A central thread that continues to guide the life of Bailrigg Meeting is that of holding the space. University life, by its nature, is marked by movement and change: students arrive and move on, staff timetables shift, and the campus itself seems always in flux. In such a setting, it remains our calling to ensure that there is a place, both physical and spiritual, where Friends may gather in stillness, and know that whenever they are able to come, they will be welcomed.

The key moments of the year were the retirement of a long serving Quaker chaplain and welcoming their replacement. The meeting continued its pattern of online and in person Meetings for Worship and offers a presence in the University Chaplaincy centre. Members helped with the redesign of the central lounge space. It has also taken part in ecumenical chaplaincy events. Members are aware of the strains in the wider life of the University. Continuing uncertainty in the higher education sector has brought distress and anxiety for staff facing insecurity, and for students navigating changing course structures and expectations.

We remain a small community, but we continue to hold the space for all who seek a moment of stillness in the midst of a shifting world.

Garstang
Attendance at meetings for Worship has increased during the year. This includes Friends who have transferred from other meetings. We have shared our concerns and celebrated our personal and shared milestones; there is a renewed optimism about the future. We continue to enjoy our shorter Meetings for business that allow time for shared lunches and fellowship. Donations from members have increased although the building continues to need constant care and we seek ways of becoming more sustainable. We continue with our plans to create areas of wildflower meadow within the burial grounds to encourage biodiversity.

There remain strong links with the wider community, such as the support for the ecumenical Lenten lunches at the local United Reform Church. Garstang Friends played a full role in the life of the Area meeting serving in many and varied roles.

In challenging times locally, nationally and internationally, we remain in good heart as we renew our commitment to truth, equality, simplicity and peace.

Lancaster
Lancaster continues to be a striving and large meeting with the added complexities that size brings to communication and fostering a sense of belonging. It offers a space and support, both physically and spiritually, for many groups and individuals. Meetings for Worship are held on Sundays, with a weekly Children's meeting, supported by between 40 to 60 people.

Mid-week meeting on a Wednesday attracts around 10 people. There is also a monthly Young Adult Friends meeting, a fortnightly reading for the soul on Zoom and a small upholders group commits to 15 minutes of silent prayer each day to focus on the wellbeing of the meeting and all those who help and are involved.

The first Sunday of each month is a Meeting for Worship for Business, held after the regular meeting. This is supported by about 25 friends. On third Sundays we run Becoming Friends to support the spiritual life of the meeting. On fourth Sundays we have an afterword and a shared lunch. On fifth Sunday months we have an all-together Meeting for Worship which is lightly programmed and attended by both children and adults.

We celebrated a marriage, held Meetings for Worship to celebrate the lives of two Friends. The annual Families weekend residential took place at Rookhow and was enjoyed by all. Our Young Adult Friends group organised Tending the Flame, a Quaker Lake District pilgrimage across all the different Quaker hostels in 1652 country. We continue to explore new ways of reaching out to others.

We have cared for the building and grounds, enjoying our membership of the Quiet Garden Movement which allows the garden to be enjoyed by people in the local community and beyond. A small pond has been established to further enhance the biodiversity. Our climate action group has organised a series of vigils in the centre of town after Meeting for Worship on Sundays. We continue our long-standing work with refugees and asylum seekers in Lancaster and Morecambe.

Reflection from members and Attenders on what Lancaster Meeting means to them in their own words:

"Lancaster Meeting is my spiritual home. Meeting for Worship is a time for deeply encountering others and playing with God. It is practice in attending to the beautiful mystery beyond yourself which at its best chaotically turns the rest of life upside down. The meeting is also a community of people deeply rooted in each other and the spirit. These deep roots make for trust, vulnerability, care and powerful friendship."

"A quiet place to reflect and worship with others. Friends. A place to feel at home. An opportunity to find out new things. A group of people to engage with on climate issues. A lovely garden to enjoy."

"A vitally important and powerful sense of being part of a much-loved community. My children and I attend Meeting for Worship almost every Sunday, which enriches our lives. My Pastoral Friends have been and are hugely supportive, both in intangible and extremely practical ways – including emergency babysitting! With no family nearby, Quakers are our family here in Lancaster."

Preston
We hold a blended Meeting for Worship each Sunday, enabling our less able Friends to join us and those living further away. We are pleased that numbers have shown a modest increase during the year with some new faces and some who have returned. We have a shared lunch on fifth Sundays and have also held three open air Meetings for Worship in Friends' gardens'.

Quarterly collections have supported local and international causes this year with over £2,500 raised. In October we held an exhibition to celebrate the 100 years of the meeting house with panels on Quaker faith, history, peace efforts, and women's contributions. Held over two Sunday afternoons and a Thursday evening, about 80 attended, with 50 signing the visitors' book.

The Meeting House continues to be used by other religious and community groups. Several groups that regularly use the Meeting House have sent messages of thanks, saying how much they appreciate our building. On 21 December, Imran Ali, the president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community and David Callaghan presented us with a trophy to mark the centenary of the Meeting House and their appreciation of ten years using the Meeting House for their jumaa prayer meetings. A number of members hold roles within Area Meeting and a few hold Quaker roles on a national or international level.

Our Meeting is a happy one. We draw strength from our Meetings for worship and our Fellowship. These make for good foundations as we enter the second centenary of our Meeting House.

Yealand
The meeting has experienced a gradual reduction in numbers, both in terms of attendance but also those willing or able to take on roles within the meeting. Thanks are given to all contributors to Meeting including those who uphold the silence. Thanks, is also given to those Friends who are able to give service in any manner.

The Wednesday Meeting is smaller but has a core group that uphold the space. The meeting is usually about 30 minutes followed by a sharing conversation often following on from themes heard in ministry. Those who attend feel that they know each other well and respect each other's differences. The meeting often attracts those passing by who call in to see the meeting house and stay for worship.

The general finances of the meeting remain healthy, and the premises group manages the challenging property portfolio with a light touch and dedication. There have been some significant tree and hedge planting during the year although the dry spring means that the take has been poor and some replanting will be necessary. A new mowing regime is being trialled in the "herb rich" burial ground to try and reverse a recent decline in species although over forty species were counted in June when the meeting took part in the Caring for God's Acre open sacred gardens scheme.

The Old School House continues to do well with a wide variety of groups making use of the facilities. These include Quaker Groups, large family groups, Schools, and groups with disadvantaged participants. The meeting is able to maintain several specialist interest groups and enjoys the strength and nourishment that this brings. Despite our challenges we continue as a meeting to uphold our Quaker testimonies, to care for each other and to live our lives with a sense of humbleness and often humour.

Trustee Activities
Trustees met seven times in 2025, once each at Lancaster, Yealand and Preston Meeting houses and the other times by Zoom. Most meetings were attended by almost all Trustees. The Minutes were made available to the Area Meeting via the Clerk. Some Trustees were available at each Area Meeting to answer any questions that might arise concerning Trustee work. A report on the work of Trustees was presented at Area Meeting in March.

During 2025, Trustees continued to be concerned with providing assistance to Members and Attenders. Policies for Safeguarding, Data Protection and Employment were reviewed. A policy on Lettings was put in place. A new Trustees' Handbook, provided by Britain Yearly Meeting, was adopted. A major exercise in reconsidering how we assess and manage risk has led to the creation of a new Risk management framework and will carry forward with new remits for the sub groups to take on responsibility for the risks identified in this process.

Many of our buildings are well used by the wider community and offer rooms for hire at reasonable rates, providing income which is used to keep property in good order, thus enabling further lettings. Income from such lettings in 2025 was higher than in the previous year, as reflected in the accounts.

Other Area Meeting Activities
There is an ongoing concern to recognize the evils of slavery and the involvement of Quakers and others in the transatlantic slave trade in past centauries and consider ways forward to offer amelioration of the lasting effect of that. Friends from our Area have taken significant roles at national level in support of this.

Area Meeting together with the Trustees are committed to being a part in the Crossing Boundaries Group, consisting of nominated individuals from eight other Area Meetings in the North of England to explore possible advantages of closer collaboration and the possibility of creating a new charity for Quakers in the North of England. This reports back to both Area Meeting and Trustee meetings.

Financial review
Free reserves are the unrestricted funds held by the charity that are readily available to be spent on the charity's purposes. Unrestricted funds at 31 December 2025 amounted to £2,182,769 (2024 - £2,195,332), of which £1,322,361 is investment property and tangible assets, £711,394 is investments and £4,764 relates to the designated fund.

Reserves policy
A reserves policy agreed by Area Meeting in May 2024 set out the following target reserves:

Reason	**Amount Required**	Explanation
To provide for unexpected falls in income	£200,000	Approximately 12 months of income to allow time for expenditure to be reduced
To carry out planned work on buildings over next 5 years	£800,000	Identified by Trustees property committee. Includes sustainability commitments
To carry out planned work on buildings in 5 - 10 years	£50,000	Identified by Trustees property committee
Total	**£1,050,000**	

This is approximately £100,000 more than the realisable assets (cash and listed investments) plus the unlisted investments held by the charity. This is reviewed as needed by Trustees and changes are taken to Area Meeting for approval.

Investment property and land is held to provide an income for ongoing maintenance of the functional buildings, but some may have to be sold to provide funds for carrying out planned work to our functional buildings.

Investment policy

The charity holds investments in property, listed securities and unlisted investments. At the end of 2025 60% of assets are property and other tangible assets, 30% are listed investments, 3% are unlisted investments and 7% are cash. Of these the cash and the listed investments are easily realisable, whereas the value of our property can only be realized if it is sold.

Our portfolio of listed securities is managed by Canaccord Genuity Wealth Management, who have an office in Blackpool. The portfolio is managed to generate income with a risk profile of 5 (on a scale of 1 to 9, with 9 being the highest risk). The restrictions on the portfolio are taken from the investment policy of Britain Yearly Meeting. This excludes companies that are primary producers of pornography, munitions and related products, fossil fuels, tobacco, alcohol or involved in gambling, or which are profiting from the occupation of Palestine.

At the end of 2025 our investment portfolio was split approximately as follows:
Debt and fixed interest – 32.7% (2024: 34.5%)
Equities - 62.1% (2024: 56%)
Alternative Investments - 3.7% (2024: 6%)
Cash – 1.5% (2024: 3.5%)
The Trustees Finance Subcommittee reviews our investment portfolio in the light of quarterly statements.

Unlisted investments are direct investments in organisations whose work furthers the concerns of the Meeting. These include withdrawable share capital in societies, as well as bonds and unlisted company shares. Organisations we have invested in are active in renewable energy, provision of affordable housing and the energy efficiency retrofit of buildings.

Area Meeting, Preston, Garstang and Yealand Meetings bank with the Co-operative Bank, as this is one of the few banks with a good record on ethics and sustainability that still offer accounts to organisations. Lancaster Meeting has its current accounts with the Cumberland Building Society and a savings account with the Ecology Building Society. In addition, Yealand Meeting have an account with NatWest.

Major risks

Risk assessment

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. This year a comprehensive review of risks was undertaken using guidelines from the Charity Commission and this has led to the creation of an ongoing register of risks that will be reviewed annually by the trustees and their subgroups.

As part of the above review, the frequency of risk assessments for buildings, fire and activities has been increased in frequency to annually and procedures are in place to manage these risks. Insurance needs have been reviewed and following a visit from the insurers we have acted upon the matters identified. No Local Meetings or committees reported Data Protection issues to our Data Protection officer. The Area Meeting is a member of Thirtyone:eight (previously known as CCPAS), for Safeguarding. Safeguarding training is now a requirement for role holders within the AM. The Child Protection Policy of the Area Meeting is reviewed annually and shared with members. This review for 2025 is satisfactory,

Plans for future periods

The charity has no commitments at the year end for future capital works. The plans for the future are focused on the development of greater planned activity and less reactive maintenance. This will be achieved by the development of a five-year cycle of planned maintenance and a review of current building conditions to include measures needed to meet the commitment to moving towards a Zero Carbon footprint for all the activities of the charity while respecting and being aware of the resource footprint that we create. To fund this, Trustees are working with Area Meeting to review individual giving of members and attenders and encourage members to consider including some legacy gifts in their wills. It is anticipated that this will in part be achieved by providing clarity on where our income comes from and what it is needed for. A fund for the future will be designated in the coming year to provide the initial resources needed to maintain our buildings and meet our sustainability commitments.

Trustees have set several targets in terms of the overhaul of governance structures, policies and method of delivery.

Structure, governance and management

The Governing Document was adopted on 12 July 2009. The charity is an unincorporated Trust registered with the Charity Commission on 9th February 2010 having previously been exempt.

The Meeting is named Lancashire Central and North Area Quaker Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (previously Lancaster Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends), Charity Commission registration number 1134224. The Trustees who served during the year did so in accord with the Governing Document of 12 July 2009 which manages Charity Commission Scheme 145636 Sealed 31 May 1995, amended with case number 343881 Sealed 4 March 2004, and further amended with case number 346795 Sealed 17 May 2013.

There is a proposal under consideration to adopt the shorter name of Lancashire Area Meeting as stated in the current constitution paragraph 2.

There are three linked charities registered at the Charity Commission:
The Maintenance Fund (1134224-1)
The Education Fund (1134224-2)
The Need Fund (1134224-3)
Any remaining income at the end of the year shall be applied for any charitable purpose of the benefit of the Friends and Attenders in the Area Meeting, according to the Charity Commission Scheme dated May 17th 2013, under schedule Part 1.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

J Bennetts	(Resigned 31 December 2025)
A A Marsden	
W N Taylor	
J S Vicary	
A E Hughes	(Resigned 31 December 2025)
F Cranmer	(Appointed 1 January 2025 and resigned 10 November 2025)
S M Tyldesley	(Appointed 1 January 2025)
J A G Paris	(Appointed 10 May 2025 and resigned 8 November 2025)
S W Ackroyd	(Appointed 1 January 2026)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

All Trustees and the Area Meeting Treasurer, who is normally a trustee, are appointed by Area Meeting following nomination by Area Meeting Nominations Committee. The clerk to the Trustees is nominated by the Trustees nominations group and subsequently confirmed by Area Meeting.

Policies for the induction and training of trustees

The work of Trustees is defined by the Terms of Reference and Memoranda of Understanding between Trustees, Area Meeting and Local Meetings. Guidance for Quaker Trustees is provided by the Handbook for Trustees of Quaker Meetings published by the Quaker Stewardship Committee (2014) This is referenced to further guidance from the Charity Commission. Upon nomination, Trustees are provided with a set of induction papers, referral to online sources and a briefing by the Clerk(s) to Trustees. All Trustees are encouraged to attend training courses for Quaker Trustees through the virtual Woodbrooke College, and any related courses or conferences.

Custodian Trustees

The Area Meeting properties are all held by Friends Trusts Ltd as custodian Trustee. Area Meeting Trustees manage and operate the buildings on behalf of Area Meeting as the beneficial owners.
Friends Trusts Limited, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NWl 2BJ, Company Number: 188362, Registered Charity Number: 237698

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

W N Taylor
Trustee

S M Tyldesley
Trustee

22 June 2026

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Lancashire Central and North Area Quaker Meeting (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

T M Preece FCCA
Dalton House
9 Dalton Square
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 1WD
United Kingdom
17 August 2026

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	**3**	69,087	966	70,053	57,610	42	57,652
Charitable activities	**4**	109,303	-	109,303	99,617	-	99,617
Investments	**5**	31,406	16,830	48,236	32,544	22,943	55,487
Other income	**6**	13,541	-	13,541	14,130	-	14,130
Total income		223,337	17,796	241,133	203,901	22,985	226,886
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	**7**	11,312	-	11,312	12,473	-	12,473
Charitable activities	**8**	275,021	554	275,575	279,332	2,005	281,337
Total expenditure		286,333	554	286,887	291,805	2,005	293,810
Net gains/(losses) on investments	**14**	33,191	-	33,191	41,942	-	41,942
Net income/(expenditure)		(29,805)	17,242	(12,563)	(45,962)	20,980	(24,982)
Transfers between funds		17,242	(17,242)	-	20,980	(20,980)	-
Net movement in funds	**11**	(12,563)	-	(12,563)	(24,982)	-	(24,982)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2025		2,195,332	8	2,195,340	2,220,314	8	2,220,322
Fund balances at 31 December 2025		2,182,769	8	2,182,777	2,195,332	8	2,195,340

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL AND NORTH AREA QUAKER MEETING

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**16**		2,369		8
Investment property	**17**		1,320,000		1,320,000
Investments	**18**		711,394		721,841
			2,033,763		2,041,849
Current assets					
Debtors	**19**	13,214		17,091	
Cash at bank and in hand		145,984		146,239	
		159,198		163,330	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**20**	(10,184)		(9,839)	
Net current assets			149,014		153,491
Total assets less current liabilities			2,182,777		2,195,340
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	**22**		8		8
Unrestricted funds	**23**		2,182,769		2,195,332
			2,182,777		2,195,340

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 22 June 2026

S M Tyldesley
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	not depreciated
Equipment and furniture	20% straight line
Computers	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

The charity owns meeting houses, warden's cottages and a burial ground. No historical cost or valuation is available. The trustees feel that obtaining a valuation would be too costly and add little value to the financial statements. All expenditure on the properties is written off to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year.

1.7 Investment property

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is initially recognised at cost, which includes the purchase cost and any directly attributable expenditure. Subsequently it is measured at fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in profit or loss.

Market values have been based on a local Estate Agent's opinion valuation of the expected sales price and agreed by the Trustees.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity’s contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee’s services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	60,375	912	61,287	46,598	37	46,635
Legacies	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
BYM funds received as agent	-	54	54	-	5	5
Gift aid	8,712	-	8,712	8,012	-	8,012
	69,087	966	70,053	57,610	42	57,652

Other

Funds collected as an agent

The charity collects donations which are passed on to other organisations. At the balance sheet date there was £1,510 (2024 - £1,224) collected which will be passed to the relevant charities in the following year.

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Quaker activities		
Letting of Old School	30,015	28,113
Letting of Meeting Houses	79,288	71,504
	109,303	99,617

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Rental income	11,535	6,780	18,315	13,540	9,040	22,580
Income from listed investments	18,147	10,050	28,197	17,138	13,903	31,041
Wayleave income	121	-	121	121	-	121
Interest receivable	1,603	-	1,603	1,745	-	1,745
	31,406	16,830	48,236	32,544	22,943	55,487

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other income	2,448	5,263
Septic tank maintenance	1,454	1,277
VAT on Listed Places of Worship Grant	9,639	7,590
	13,541	14,130

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Investment property costs		
Rental management fees	3,406	2,146
Property repairs	2,039	3,806
	5,445	5,952
Investment management	5,867	6,521
Total costs	11,312	12,473

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Quaker activities 2025 £	Quaker activities 2024 £
Direct costs		
Depreciation and impairment	689	-
Sundries	339	219
Quaker activities	1,438	598
Library	428	462
Glenthorne weekend	-	3,610
Children and young people	2,889	1,052
Fellowship costs	589	787
Committees and conferences	1,333	4,531
Outreach	2,258	2,420
	9,963	13,679
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	27,179	58,243
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	232,273	202,999
Governance	6,160	6,416
	275,575	281,337
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	275,021	279,332
Restricted funds	554	2,005
	275,575	281,337

9 Grants payable

	Quaker activities 2025 £	Quaker activities 2024 £
Grants to institutions:		
Britain Yearly Meeting	12,054	43,205
Northern Friends Peace Board	2,060	2,100
Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre	-	1,000
Rookhow	5,000	5,000
City of Sanctuary	5,000	-
Other	1,865	3,068
	25,979	54,373
Grants to individuals	1,200	3,870
	27,179	58,243

Grants to individuals consists of Need fund grants of £500 (2024 - £2,000), Education fund grants of £nil (2024 - £nil) and other grants of £700 (2024 - £1,870).

-

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	64,894	68,264
Utilities	21,965	21,851
Insurance	12,479	11,610
Admin and computer costs	4,576	5,143
Building works	79,183	60,634
Maintenance costs	46,654	32,804
Wage admin and staff costs	1,180	1,640
Sundries	1,342	1,054
Governance costs	6,160	6,415
	238,433	209,415
Analysed between:		
Quaker activities	238,433	209,415

11 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	1,500	1,400
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	689	-

12 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year, or any expenses for their roles as trustees.

13 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	8	8

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	64,542	68,077
Other pension costs	352	187
	64,894	68,264

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

14 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
Gains/(losses) arising on:	£	£
Revaluation of investments	26,722	(3,814)
Sale of investments	6,469	756
Revaluation of investment properties	-	45,000
	33,191	41,942

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and furniture	Computers	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2025	8	-	-	8
Additions	-	1,470	1,580	3,050
At 31 December 2025	8	1,470	1,580	3,058
Depreciation and impairment				
Depreciation charged in the year	-	294	395	689
At 31 December 2025	-	294	395	689
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2025	8	1,176	1,185	2,369
At 31 December 2024	8	-	-	8

Tangible fixed assets include the meeting houses, warden's houses and a burial ground, which are held at a deemed costs of £1 each in the balance sheet.

Functional Property Assets
Below are listed the individual meetings, the buildings that relate to each meeting, and the insurance value of those buildings at the balance sheet date:

1) Garstang - meeting house. Insurance value of £1,174,200
2) Lancaster - meeting house and warden's house. Insurance value of £4,068,500
3) Preston - meeting house and warden's house. Insurance value of £1,426,550
4) Yealand - meeting house, warden's house and Old School (used as a hostel). Insurance value of £2,658,250

17 Investment property

	2025
	£
Fair value	
At 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025	1,320,000

Investment property comprises of two dwellings and farmland. The investment properties were valued by Hackney and Leigh Estate Agents, Carnforth on 29 January 2025 and the valuation is agreed by the trustees as a good estimate of the market value. The agents based their valuation on sale values of similar properties in the area.

18 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments	Unlisted investments	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2025	663,671	58,170	721,841
Additions	118,805	-	118,805
Valuation changes	26,722	-	26,722
Capital repayment	-	(250)	(250)
Disposals	(155,724)	-	(155,724)
At 31 December 2025	653,474	57,920	711,394
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2025	653,474	57,920	711,394
At 31 December 2024	663,671	58,170	721,841

19 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Trade debtors	13,114	16,991
Prepayments and accrued income	100	100
	13,214	17,091

20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,674	3,614
Other creditors	1,510	1,225
Accruals and deferred income	5,000	5,000
	10,184	9,839

21 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	352	187

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

22 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings for church use	8	-	-	-	8
Restricted donations	-	54	(54)	-	-
Linked charity - Education	-	670	-	(670)	-
Linked charity - Maintenance	-	1,339	-	(1,339)	-
Linked charity - Needs	-	15,733	(500)	(15,233)	-
	8	17,796	(554)	(17,242)	8

Previous year:	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Buildings for church use	8	-	-	-	8
Restricted donations	-	5	(5)	-	-
Linked charity - Education	-	867	-	(867)	-
Linked charity - Maintenance	-	1,734	-	(1,734)	-
Linked charity - Needs	-	20,379	(2,000)	(18,379)	-
	8	22,985	(2,005)	(20,980)	8

23 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated (Yealand septic tank fund)	3,560	1,454	(250)	-	-	4,764
General funds	2,191,772	221,883	(286,083)	17,242	33,191	2,178,005
	2,195,332	223,337	(286,333)	17,242	33,191	2,182,769

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

23 Unrestricted funds **(Continued)**

Previous year:	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated (Yealand septic tank fund)	2,533	1,275	(248)	-	-	3,560
General funds	2,217,781	202,626	(291,557)	20,980	41,942	2,191,772
	2,220,314	203,901	(291,805)	20,980	41,942	2,195,332

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£
At 31 December 2025:			
Tangible assets	2,361	8	2,369
Investment properties	1,320,000	-	1,320,000
Investments	711,394	-	711,394
Current assets/(liabilities)	149,014	-	149,014
	2,182,769	8	2,182,777

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	-	8	8
Investment properties	1,320,000	-	1,320,000
Investments	721,841	-	721,841
Current assets/(liabilities)	153,491	-	153,491
	2,195,332	8	2,195,340

25 Related party transactions

25 Related party transactions **(Continued)**

Transactions with related parties

Donations made without conditions by the Trustees and their spouses to the charity totalled £4,090 (2024 - £4,121) in the year.

W N Taylor, a Trustee of the charity, is also a Trustee of Glenthorne Quaker Centre. During 2025, no payments were made to this organisation. During 2024, the charity made payments of £3,610 for the provision of accommodation.