# Annual Report for Pardshaw Quaker Centre CIO 2025

**Pardshaw Quaker Centre CIO no. 1193476**

Issued 9/5/2026

## Our Vision

To develop and progress the vision of Pardshaw Quaker Centre as a resource for Quakers, other groups and the local community – a place for worship, relaxation, learning, fun, creative activities, or short breaks in simple, affordable accommodation, in a historical and peaceful setting.



Trustees:

Graham Howell, Rowan Langley, Dave Moll, David Day, Christopher Thomas, Catherine Thomas, Kes Ward

## Introduction

We may look back on 2025 as being a watershed. This year bookings have increased markedly, with new people making bookings. We have also had enquiries for new uses like day courses, and we have received funding items including consultants' fees, new mattresses, and a new stove.

We have also found new issues. Roof and window leaks have been addressed, though we still need to renew various items alongside, our development work to make the premises safe and accessible.

Community activity has also increased, with an Open Day held at the end of the workcamp in August, now considered this an annual event, open gatherings in Spring and Autumn, and an international Zoom call over the Christmas holiday. We saw visits from "Tending the



Flame" Quaker Lake District walking pilgrimage and a Lancaster Quaker Meeting away weekend.

We welcome comments and ideas through the contacts on our website https://pardshawquakercentre.org.uk/

## Organisation

Pardshaw Quaker Centre Charitable Incorporated Organisation (PQC CIO) is the body responsible for development of the premises and holds a lease on the premises. The charity's objects are providing Pardshaw Quaker Centre for public benefit as a place of Quaker worship, of spiritual retreat and refreshment, and of education and learning (especially in relation to sustainability and the environment), that is open to all, including disadvantaged members of society; and sharing with others our understanding, exploration and development of the thinking and practice of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). The charity's only members are its trustees, who must be in membership of the Religious Society of Friends. It works with the small charity Friends of Pardshaw Quaker Centre (FPQC) to widen participation.

## Communications

Donations and subscriptions can now be made via JustGiving using the links on the website (and still by bank transfer).

### Newsletters

Newsletters continue to be issued which give information on upcoming events, reports of work which has been done and other information.

## Community

Open Day 2025 took place on 9/8/2025 and was successful in showcasing PQC's potential for exhibitions and workshops as well as many local residents meeting many Quakers. We estimate that over 60 people came on the Day, with over 50 signing the log and several that did not. The Loving Earth Art Exhibition in the School Room was very popular - about 20 panels were displayed, plus the Cockermouth Tapestry of Panels. Some took up the opportunity of the associated set of challenging questions and art materials. The willow weaving workshop was busy both morning and afternoon, and many took away their creations. The Small Meeting Room became the venue for photographs and crafts all related to Pardshaw. Walks were led up to the crags. Cakes and scones went down well too.

Our usual summer workcamp was held in August. Two social gatherings were held – Spring (April) and Autumn (October). A Meeting for Worship was held on Christmas Day.



We again held a Christmas zoom social, when some of our international friends as well as more local newcomers joined in.

We have again held a stall at the Groups Fair at BYM in person at Friends' House. This drew a lot of interest and those Friends on the stall were kept busy for the whole session.

Pardshaw was also the beginning stop of the inaugural "Tending the Flame" Quaker Lake District walking pilgrimage.

Quakers from Lancaster Meeting also attended an away weekend at Pardshaw back in May, and some are now involved in planning further usage of the site.

2025 Quaker Week was marked with a Special edition of the national Quaker Weekly, 'The Friend'. Pardshaw was included with an advert seeking more members and hopefully trustees, nationally. The advert was added to The Friend's online pages.

## Progress in development

Our Conservation Architect Alastair McGregor has now retired. However, we have had a seamless and encouraging handover to his replacement, Georgie Cray. We continue to work with fundraising consultants Welburn & Wood (W&W) of Cartmel. W&W helped with resources for the Open Day, Appeals literature, have scoped national Fund Raisers and are working on bids to Funds. This includes securing funding to continue paying for our professional consultants.

## Practical progress

The summer workcamp spent significant effort making the premises presentable for Open Day. One major achievement was removing the remains of tree stumps and roots that would obstruct any rout of sloping, accessible path from the main entrance to new North Door, when installed. We carried out some further improvements to the decoration inside the building, and completed the repairs to the outside of the former coach house hostel.

At the same time the final window painting was completed on the coach house and window repair and painting on the west wall of the meeting house, as well as the "fire escape" window, both of which had been damaged by storms. Also, door and window surrounds on the west wall and the road-facing wall were refreshed.

Inside of the main Meeting House, two walls with paint in poor condition were refreshed. Lots of items were moved to store, to give space for Open Day guests. The old library was cleared out and kitted out with comfortable chair, rugs, and books, to serve as Quiet Room as well as actual library.



## Bookings

Bookings in 2025 totalled 72 nights including the summer workcamp, with up to 19 persons staying overnight. Ages ranged from babies to those aged over 60.

With increasing numbers of users and interested locals, we have sought feedback by questionnaire, and are actively promoting membership of Friends of Pardshaw.

## Financial

We were delighted to receive:

- Funding to cover the cost of an essential new stove (£4046) including £2000 from Lakes to Sea Community Panel
- Sawell Family Fund towards consultants expenses, £3,000 from 2025 and a further grant agreed for payment
- Contributions towards the Safe and Accessible Pardshaw project of £5751, including Keswick QM, Cumbria Community Foundation, and individual donations.

We estimate, guided by our conservation Architect, that we may well need upwards of £40K for all development works proposed, plus ongoing renewal costs e.g. roof works and window replacements.

We also will apply to BYM's Meeting Houses fund to match other funding for the work itself, both of which applications to Quaker funds will require the discerned support of Cumberland Area Meeting. Following up on encouraging discussions, we also will apply to relevant CAQM funds for support.

Excluding the appeal and development costs, the income during the year of £10,943 easily covered the routine expenditure of £6,438. Income from bookings showed a welcome increase (Figure 1) though we are currently still dependent on our regular donors.

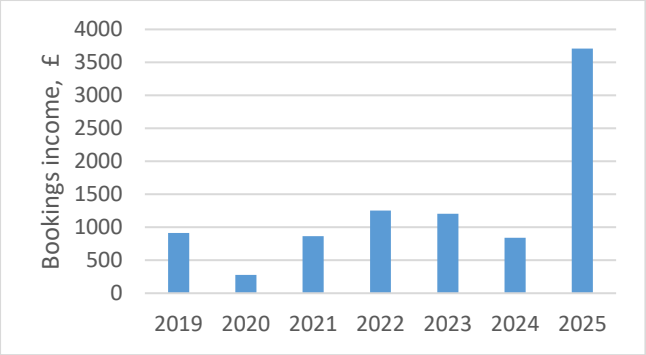



*Figure 1, Annual bookings income since 2019*



## Summary of Accounts to 31-12-2025

**Income:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Friends of PQC membership | 190.00 |
| donations (inc. Gift Aid) | 7,020.27 |
| bookings | 3,707.51 |
| other receipts | 25.20 |
| appeal | 11,231.00 |
| **total income** | **22,173.98** |

**Expenditure:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Electricity & water | 1,353.18 |
| small repairs & maintenance | 1,649.72 |
| insurance | 2,606.76 |
| promotion | 653.76 |
| PayPal fees | 0.00 |
| other payments | 174.26 |
| **routine expenditure** | **6,437.68** |
| developments | 8,427.17 |
| **total expenditure** | **14,864.85** |
| **opening balance** | **7,042.02** |
| income | 22,173.98 |
| expenditure | 14,864.85 |
| net movement | 7,309.13 |
| **closing balance** | **14,351.15** |

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*monies transferred from CAQM Pardshaw MH & BG account

| | |
|---|---|
| **Expenditure:** | (see next page for details) |
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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Opening balance at** | **01-01-2025** | **7,042.02** |
| **Add: Receipts** | | **22,173.98** |
| **Less: Payments** | | **14,864.85** |
| **Closing balance at** | **31-12-2025** | **14,351.15** |
| **Less: Receipts not recorded in bank statement to date** | | **1,396.75** |
| **Add: Payments not cleared by bank at B/S date** | | **812.62** |
| **Adjusted balance agrees with bank statement** | | **13,767.02** |
| | Check = 0 | **0.00** |

**Detailed breakdown of expenditure:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Electricity & water | | |
| | water | 79.03 |
| | coach house electricity | 234.52 |
| | main buildings electricity | 1,039.63 |
| | | **1,353.18** |
| small repairs & maintenance | | |
| | fridge/freezer | 215.00 |
| | fire extinguisher service | 683.29 |
| | cushions & high chairs | 97.33 |
| | cleaning materials | 89.21 |
| | miscellaneous materials | 564.89 |
| | | **1,649.72** |
| promotion | | |
| | open day | 257.76 |
| | advertisement | 235.00 |
| | webhosting | 161.00 |
| | | **653.76** |
| other payments | | |
| | safeguarding (course+sub) | 160.50 |
| | stamps | 13.76 |
| | | **174.26** |
| developments | | |
| | fund raising consultants | 4,065.45 |
| | architect | 340.00 |
| | stove | 3,568.00 |
| | mattresses | 453.72 |
| | | **8,427.17** |