



Central England Quakers  
Finance Committee

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## FUNDING FOR ATTENDANCE ON CONFERENCES AND COURSES

### INTRODUCTION

This note clarifies and confirms arrangements for providing financial support for CEQ Friends attending conferences and courses, which were published as proposals in November 2008.

There is a distinction between (a) providing bursary support for activities which are aimed at general spiritual nourishment or personal development, and (b) providing funding for Friends undertaking essential “training”, or Friends appointed by area meeting to attend specific events. The work undertaken by Friends appointed to specific roles by Area (or their Local) Meeting contributes to the work and witness of the area meeting, and the governance of the charity, and we have a duty, as a charity and a Religious Society, to equip our volunteers and staff properly for these roles.

### ARRANGEMENTS

- 1 Area Meeting offers full funding, from the AM General Fund, for the cost of training courses (internal or external) and associated travel expenses, for Friends undertaking specific Quaker roles – such as Elder, Overseer, Clerk, Treasurer, Examiner, Trustee, Chaplain etc. Applications for funding for such training courses should be made in writing to the General Fund Treasurer (see para 4 below).
- 2 Full funding is also provided to Friends appointed by Area Meeting to attend specific conferences or events which involve a fee and/or travel expenses.
- 3 For Friends wishing to attend other (non “role-specific”) gatherings, conferences or courses, at their own request or on their own initiative, bursary support is available from Area Meeting, using an existing procedure, which is:-

The Friend concerned should first approach his/her local Overseers, who consider the request and determine what the Friend can afford, and what support the Local Meeting can provide. If further support is still needed the request should be passed to the Area Meeting Bursaries Committee who consider the request and agree the amount of bursary support to be offered from central AM funds.

- 4 The contact within the Treasurer team for the administration of grants and bursaries, and associated travel expenses, is the General Fund Treasurer (currently Ted Raybould) and written requests for grants and bursaries, together with any supporting Minutes from authorising Committees, should be directed to this Treasurer. Payments to individuals (or to Event Organisers if appropriate) will normally be arranged by the Area Meeting Secretary, acting on instructions from the General Fund Treasurer.

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The Central England Area Quaker Meeting Charities, registered charity number 224571

- 5 An estimate of expenditure on fees, grants and bursaries will be included in the General Fund budget for each year. Records of all grants and bursaries will be kept by the General Fund Treasurer, and a commentary on expenditure over the year will be included in the annual report to Area Meeting.

James Bradbury  
CEQ Trustee & Property Treasurer