

Meeting for worship each Sunday at 10.30

Never attended a silent Quaker Meeting for Worship?

Live adventurously and join us – we would love to welcome you!

Our regular Quaker Meeting for Worship is resuming at 10.30 am, 2 August 2020 (doors open from 10). To ensure the safety of all, we have made changes to the layout and use of our building. Details are explained in our community behaviour agreement below.

We invite all to attend our meetings where they can discover what has been called “the amazing fact of Quaker worship”. Currently, however, as social distancing limits our space, you must register in advance by 6 pm on the preceding Saturday if you wish to attend here: <https://cotteridgequakermeeting.eventbrite.co.uk>. Alternatively, you may register by telephoning our warden (0121 459 0111).

Essential details of your registration will be retained for 21 days to support the government’s track and trace programme.

We also have Zoom meetings linked to those in the meeting house. If you wish to attend our meetings virtually by Zoom, email cotteridgequakermeeting@gmail.com or phone our warden (0121 459 0111) before 6 pm on the Saturday before the meeting to obtain the Zoom link.

Our car park will be opened to allow worshippers only to park between 10.00am and 10.30am. The gates will then be locked until the conclusion of the meeting and relocked after everyone has departed.

Community Behaviour Agreement

Government advice on reopening places of worship during the current pandemic recommends that we implement an informal community behaviour agreement. These guidelines assume that visitors are compliant with current government guidelines in their conduct outside the Meeting House, and in particular: -

- Do not attend if any member of your household has symptoms of coronavirus (amongst which could be fever, cough or loss of smell/taste).
- Follow advice from the test and trace process to self-isolate if you have had any contact with people suffering from the virus
- Follow Government guidance on vulnerable groups, including current advice to over 70s to minimise contact outside your household.
- Keep a safe space (currently two metres) between you and other households.
- Avoid public transport and wear protective face covering if you do use it

For attending Meeting for Worship in the Meeting House: -

- Register your attendance in advance by 6 pm on the preceding Saturday. Only a limited number of households can be admitted. Register at: <https://cotteridgequakermeeting.eventbrite.co.uk> (or telephone the warden on 0121 459 0111 if this is not possible). Do not exceed maximum numbers as advised by signs. The names of people attending will be kept for 21 days before being destroyed. GDPR regulations are being amended to allow this.
- Use hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the building. Follow cleaning instructions. Wash your hands regularly
- Proceed to take a seat, preferably as far into the Meeting House as space allows. Once you are seated in the Meeting House, do not change your position or use other seats
- Do not make physical contact with Friends beyond your household group, and observe distancing protocols
- Follow any one-way systems and queuing procedures.
- Do not stand in the corridor. Move through without delay.
- Give way to people exiting.
- Toilet facilities are only accessible by one person/household at a time. Observe the rules for controlling this. Paper towels will continue in use. Please dispose of carefully.
- Follow instructions given by those responsible for the building.
- Take care for children and vulnerable adults in your care.
- Please take any used tissues etc home with you for disposal. If necessary, use litter bins provided.
- Consider others and follow advice and instructions on signs.
- Do not go into any taped-off areas
- Leave the meeting in a methodical way to avoid compromising social distancing. 'If asked, please stack chairs in the places requested. Those nearest the door should leave first if possible.
- The garden will be accessible in clement weather, so can be used for post-meeting conversations (retaining social distancing). If you use this area, please leave via the back gate behind the classrooms.

General points

For the time being there will be no books (QF&P, Holy Bible, Advices & Queries) on the table for general use. Friends are encouraged to bring their own copies. There will not be the usual carafe of water or glasses. Please bring your own if you feel you may need them. Tea/coffee will not be served after Meeting until such time as it is safe to do so. The kitchen will not be available.

Extract from advice prepared by Britain Yearly Meeting staff:

Should I come to meeting for worship in person, or stay at home?

Situation	Explanation	Advice
<p>Fairness and inclusion:</p> <p>Do you have less need to meet for worship in person than other people?</p> <p>By attending, might you be unintentionally excluding others?</p>	<p>People who are not able to use the internet, or are very isolated, or children, or have a particular need, may have higher priority for the limited seats than you do.</p> <p>Whose experience of worship is most enhanced by worship in person?</p> <p>Can you worship online, or separately, or outdoors?</p> <p>Do your circumstances and social contacts give you less need to attend?</p>	<p>Preferably stay at home, to leave space for others.</p>
<p>Are you at increased risk, or living with anyone who is?</p>	<p>70+ years, certain medical conditions: see NHS guidance</p>	<p>Home as much as possible</p>
<p>Do you have any COVID-19 symptoms?</p>	<p>Cough, and/or high temperature, and/or loss of, or change in, your normal sense of smell or taste</p>	<p>Home</p>
<p>Are you frontline staff in contact with patients?</p>	<p>Doctors, nurses and other staff working in clinical settings. Evidence shows that many of them may have COVID-19 without realising it due to increased exposure.</p>	<p>Home as much as possible</p>
<p>Are you unable to socially distance?</p>	<p>Some people may struggle to maintain social distancing, including some young children.</p>	<p>Home</p>

Agreed by Cotteridge Quaker Meeting on 26 July 2020