

Charity No. 224571

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

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THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name The Central England Area Quaker Meeting Charities

Working charity name Central England Quakers (CEQ)

Charity registration number 224571

Area meeting office 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF

The Trustees Christine Bagnall
Patricia Bradbury
James Green
Judith Jenner (Clerk) *(to December 2022)*
John Kimberley
Robert Morris
Carole Pannell
Anthony Pegler *(to December 2022)*
Steven Pullan
Gillian Smith
Jill Stow *(to February 2022)*
Sue Thompson *(to May 2022)*
Peter Ullathorne

Auditors BSN Chartered Accountants
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Wolverhampton Road Oldbury, West Midlands
B69 2JG

Nominee for Land Friends Trusts Limited
173-177 Euston Road, London
NW1 2BJ

Nominee for Investment Rathbone Greenbank Investments
10 Queens Square
Bristol BS1 4NT

Bankers CAF Bank Limited, Kings Hill,
West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, PO Box 908,
125 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2QD

Solicitors Veale Wasbrough Vizards
3 Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2JB

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

A Introduction

Central England Area Meeting trustees are pleased to report on our work in 2022. This was a significant year following our decision to recruit and appoint a principal officer after many years of examining our governance. Sarah Barker took up this new role in June and although new to the charity has taken on the challenge of getting to know the people and the organisation. In 2022 Covid restrictions were eased and Friends have been adapting to a different normal. During the year the Area Meeting has been spending time considering our vision and priorities for the future. This has been an exciting time, which will continue into 2023, when our process of discernment will help us to arrive at a renewed focus as we go forward.

B Structure, management and governance

The Religious Society of Friends in Britain is a Christian denomination founded in the seventeenth century.

The Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain is the final constitutional authority for the Society. Its membership consists of all those who belong to the Area Meetings in Great Britain. Central England Area Meeting is one of approximately 70 constituent Area Meetings established for the advancement of religious and other charitable purposes which derive from and bear witness to the principles and practices of the Religious Society of Friends. The principal activity of the Area Meeting is the holding of Meetings for Worship which are open to all who wish to attend in its Local Meetings, together with the other Branches and related projects which support the charity's objects in an area roughly bounded by Walsall, Warwick and Stourbridge and includes the Birmingham and Coventry conurbations. There is an office and paid administrator in Bull Street Meeting House in the centre of Birmingham.

On 16 March 2009 the Charity Commission granted the Area Meeting a scheme uniting the former registered and excepted parts of the charity, governing the charities identified in the scheme, to be known together as The Central England Area Quaker Meeting Charities, registered charity number 224571. The charity's working name is Central England Quakers ("CEQ").

The Charity's Governing Document defines the way it is organised and managed.

This report and the financial statements incorporate the affairs of the LMs (Local Meetings) and Branches. There are currently 14 active Local Meetings (LMs) which make up the Central England Area Meeting. These being:

Local Meetings

Barnt Green and Redditch
Bournville
Bull Street
Cotteridge
Coventry
Hall Green
Hartshill
Kings Heath
Selly Oak
Solihull
Stourbridge
Sutton Coldfield
Walsall
Warwick

There are 5 'Branches', which are projects or committees set up to further specific pieces of work related to Quaker concerns. These are:

Branches

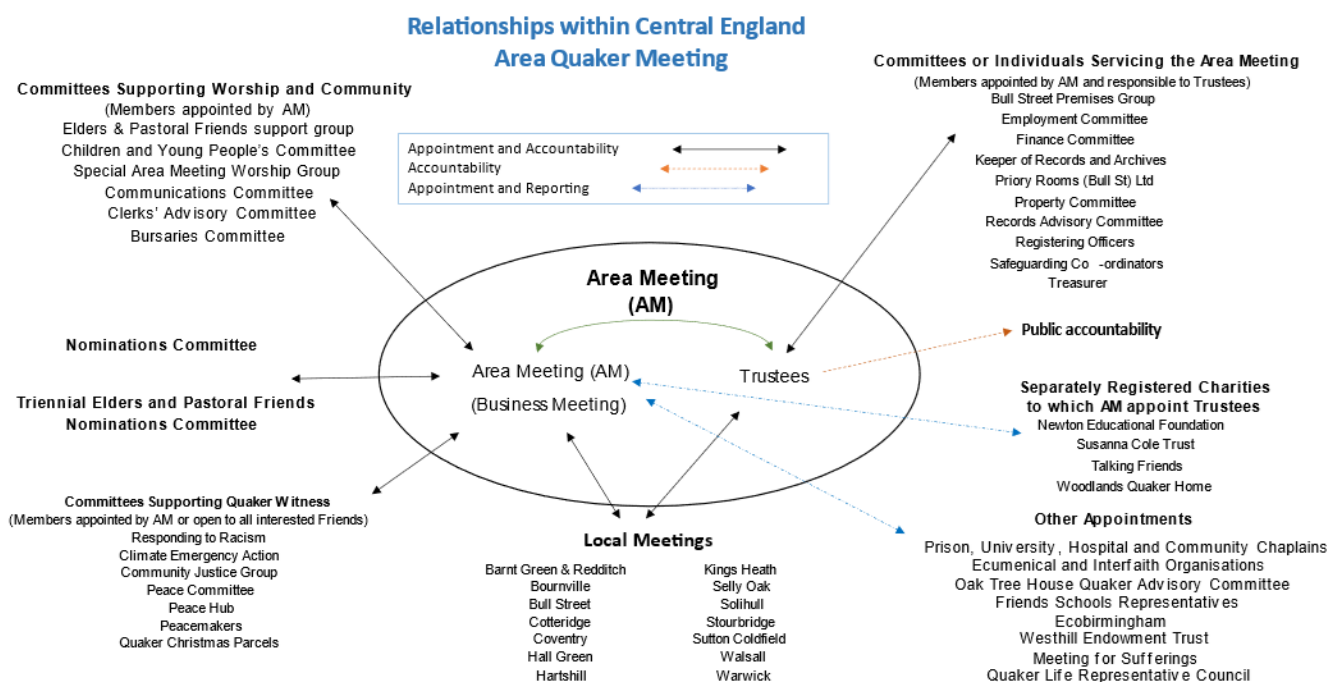
West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project (Peacemakers)
Quaker Christmas Parcels
Community Justice Group
Peace Committee
Peace Hub

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022 (continued)

Membership

The total number of members at the end of 2022 was 425 (2021 was 444). At the end of 2022 there were also 213 recorded adult attenders (2021 was 235) and 43 children were recorded at the end of 2022 (2021 was 39).



Trustees are appointed by Area Meeting, on the basis of nominations proposed by the CEQ Nominations Committee. (This process is a key part of the Quaker Business Method, and the CEQ Nominations Committee is responsible for considering all vacancies for voluntary roles, and for recommending “names” to area meeting. These “names” are then appointed or declined at the next area business meeting). In line with Quaker practice, trustees are appointed for a three-year term, which can be extended for a second “triennium” by mutual agreement between the trustee and Area Meeting. On occasions trustees serve a third term.

New trustees receive a detailed induction “briefing” and are given the opportunity to attend a training courses for trustees facilitated by the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre.

Trustees are responsible for monitoring the performance of the charity and managing its activities. In 2022 there were 11 Trustees and trustees met 4 times. Meetings took the form of joint face to face and online meetings (blended).

In the Quaker tradition, decisions about policies, charitable activities and priorities are taken by the members of the Area Meeting at regular business meetings, and not by the charity’s trustees who provide advice and guidance and take responsibility for the statutory and legal duties of the charity. Area business meetings are open to all members of the Area Meeting and with agreement to interested attenders. Local Meetings appoint representatives to ensure effective representation. All Local Meetings receive minutes of the business meetings and can comment freely on the work of CEQ.

In 2022 there were 9 area meetings for business, including a special away day at Woodbrooke in May to consider ‘What does love require of us?’ – a day of fellowship and to consider our future and next steps as an Area Meeting community.

Trading Subsidiary

Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of CEQ. This Quaker owned and managed conference centre is located at Bull Street Friends Meeting House. Directors are appointed by CEQ Area Meeting; there are at least two CEQ trustee Directors and at least four non-trustee Directors. The strategic vision for Priory Rooms is described in a “Purpose and Principles” document, and the relationship between the company and CEQ trustees is set out in a detailed Management Agreement. Both of these documents were reviewed and revised in 2019.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022 (continued)

C Objectives and Activities

Quaker faith is rooted in the belief of living our lives according to our spiritual experience. This is the basis of Quaker testimonies to peace, truth, simplicity, equality and sustainability, which guide Quaker behaviour, work and witness.

The object of Central England 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 Central England Area and beyond.

This includes:

- i. Strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings both in the area of Central England Area Meeting and beyond;
- ii. Spreading the message of Quakers and interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;
- iii. Undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- iv. Funding the concerns that Quaker meetings in the area of Central England Area Meeting or beyond have adopted or agreed to support;
- v. Providing the pastoral care of individual members and Attenders including assistance to those in need and for education;
- vi. Maintaining and developing Quaker Meeting Houses as places for public worship and from which to carry out our witness to the world;
- vii. Administering and maintaining the organisation of Central England Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting.

All 14 LMs and 5 Branches have contributed to the furtherance of the charity's objectives through:

Worship

In the early part of the year Meeting Houses opened up again for face to face worship, with many meetings also retaining the use of zoom and offering a blended format. Friends have also taken the opportunity to participate in international worship such as joining Friends across Spain for a bi-lingual Meeting for Worship on Global Quaker Day.

Weekly worship in the Local Meetings has been enhanced by Friends coming together for additional activities such as Bible studies, workshops, spiritual journey groups and Quaker Quest. Friends also shared in the reading of Advices and Queries or heard from local Friends who shared their spiritual journey stories and enjoyed performances by Journeymen Theatre.

4 LMs also have a regular children's meeting.

Community

Following the pandemic Friends have been able to once again enjoy the social support network offered by the Society and partake in shared lunches, coffee and chat sessions, visits to National Trust properties, craft and chat group and sleepovers on canal boats.

Pastoral support for members and attenders has continued throughout the year, including exploring ways to include everyone both young and old, such as holding Sunday meetings in the retirement home of a Friend or celebrating significant birthdays with a shared Sunday lunch. There have also been Friends who have passed away during the year and will be sadly missed but who have been fondly remembered through memorial meetings.

Local Meetings have engaged with their wider community in a number of ways including: film showings, coffee mornings, warm spaces, and participating in events such as Heritage Day, Music and Dance Festivals and Christmas Festivals.

Concerns

Charitable outreach has been approached in wide and varied ways. Centrally the Area Meeting has supported its own projects which include Peacemakers, Peace Hub and Quaker Christmas Parcels (QCP).

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022 (continued)

Quaker Christmas Parcels

This year was the 60th anniversary of the start of QCP.

- ✓ 870 Christmas parcels were packed for delivery this year;
- ✓ 530 were delivered by Probation Services across the West Midlands
- ✓ 340 parcels were collected by other charities working with refugees, asylum seekers and the homeless.

This scheme is unique to CEQ. The committee believes this is an essential act of outreach, showing those most in need that they are cared about, and supporting those working in these sectors who rarely get recognised for their challenging role in society.

Peacemakers

Peacemakers produce a separate annual report, however in 2022 they:

- ✓ Delivered courses and programmes to 1553 children/young people and adults.
- ✓ Worked with 995 children.
- ✓ Worked with 558 adults.
- ✓ Delivered programmes to 46 schools/organisations.
- ✓ Trained 434 children to become peer mediators.
- ✓ Delivered 6 Peer Mediation programmes and 11 new Peer Mediation Plus programmes.
- ✓ Trained 83 children to become Peace Explorers and 46 children to become Peacebuilders.
- ✓ Worked with the Peace Hub to deliver 9 Junior Peacemakers workshops to 373 children.

Peacemakers has received a three-year grant to promote and increase the uptake of peace education in the UK for 7-11 year olds. This exciting project will be a key focus for new work in 2023.

Peace Hub

In 2022 the Peace Hub welcomed back regular supporters and walk-in visitors. The friendly café-style layout in the Hub, enabled fruitful discussions on complex topics, connecting with people's concerns. The Hub tapped into the buzz around the Commonwealth Games to create a space that allowed different opinions to be heard and shared values to be found.

Three peace & social justice themes were promoted in 2022:

- ✓ **Live, Love, Learn** – peaceful and sustainable education;
- ✓ **Sharing Common Wealth?** –exploring issues of peace and justice in the Commonwealth;
- ✓ **Safe & Sound** – based on the five Rethinking Security principles: invest in peace; meet people's basic needs; protect human rights; promote climate justice; improve social equality.

CEQ is involved in several ecumenical and interfaith activities and has given grants to projects such as Footsteps which brings together people of faith to share ideas and taken action on climate change and the environment. Several CEQ members are also chaplains, offering services in prisons, hospitals and local universities.

Meetings and Branches also support local and international charities such as food and clothing banks, international peace and climate change work, assisting asylum seekers, refugees and rough sleepers or by promoting the work being undertaken by CEQ members such as the Peace Committee.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

D Performance and monitoring

Trustees manage the performance of the charity through service committees which oversee finance, property, employment, safeguarding and records management.

Liaison with and support for the LMs and Branches is provided by a 'Link Trustee' who reports on key issues via a report to the trustees meeting. Property Committee also appoint Property Link Friends who link with the LMs on property issues such as insurance claims or larger, more costly projects.

Following the appointment of the Principal Officer, who took up post in June 2022, a Scheme of Delegation was developed to help clarify roles and responsibilities. The PO role will support the work of the trustees and their committees and seek to undertake some of the practical work previously carried out by volunteers, releasing members to focus on the spiritual elements of the charity.

The PO also provides a report for each of the service committees' and trustees' meetings, highlighting key activities, risks and decisions which need to be considered.

The Risk Register was updated during the year and is now a standing agenda item at trustee meetings.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding team comprises 2 trustees (the Safeguarding Coordinator and deputy Safeguarding Coordinator) and a member appointed by the AM. The group also now includes the Principal Officer. During 2022 the Friend nominated by AM was released from this role, leaving 3 members of the team. Each LM also has its own Safeguarding Lead.

Introduction sessions to the new Safeguarding Policy and Procedure were delivered by the Safeguarding Team during the year and a safeguarding audit was undertaken and annual report prepared which was shared with trustees at the end of the year. The full procedure and toolkit is available via the CEQ website.

E Financial Review

Grants Policy

The Area Meeting is not a grant-making charity and the items referred to as 'grants' mostly consist of the gifts (from central funds and Local Meetings) to the charity's parent body, Britain Yearly Meeting, contributions to other Quaker work, donations to non-Quaker charities (mainly by Local Meetings acting under concern) and subscriptions to ecumenical bodies of which CEQ is a member. In 2022 the following donations were made from charitable funds to external beneficiaries (£): -

<u>Beneficiaries</u>	<u>£</u>
Overseas beneficiaries	0
Non-CEQ Quaker charities	32,195 *
Britain Yearly Meeting	38,330
Non-Quaker charities	25,839
Non-charities	4,715
TOTAL	<u>101,079</u>

* includes a £23,625 donation to ecobirmingham (formerly a CEQ Branch but from July 2018 an independent CIO supported by CEQ).

The funds used for these purposes derive from members' donations and investment income and not from the general public. All of the donations (as listed above) were approved at a formal business meeting, and recorded by Minute.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

Reserves policy and performance

The reserves policy for the Area Meeting's central funds was first approved by trustees in April 2009. It is regularly reviewed and was further revised in 2022. A copy can be found on the CEQ website.

The purpose of the policy is to:

- a) to ensure that the charity has adequate funds to undertake its charitable activities and protect itself from fluctuations in income or expenditure and
- b) to reassure CEQ members and the public that it is using its income for charitable work, and not accumulating excessive reserves.

All the funds were within approximately £10-15,000 of the target values on 31st December 2022.

These being:

- General Fund: bank balance £30,000
- Trustee Fund: bank balance £60,000
- Trustee Building Fund: bank balance £60,000

Most LMs and Branches carry some reserves to cover their day to day needs and guidance has been issued by the finance committee with regards to this, including encouraging them to develop individual reserves policies.

Investment Properties

In addition to the Meeting Houses which are used by LMs the charity also has a number of other properties and land which are used for regular lettings or leased on a longer term basis to bring in additional revenue to support the charity's objectives. These are managed centrally by the trustees and Principal Officer.

Priory Rooms Ltd (trading subsidiary)

Although 2022 started to see a return to pre-pandemic business levels for Priory Rooms they were affected by transport strikes which impacted on their business. They also had to build up their reserves again, meaning they were unable to make any donations to CEQ. The Service Agreement between the Charity and Priory Rooms, previously started in 2020, continued in 2022 and included the provision of services to support 4 centrally managed Meeting Houses.

Overall financial results for the year

2022 has been a good year for Central England Quakers with the majority of our Meetings settling back to regular worship and activities after the difficulties of the covid pandemic. Income is fairly evenly split between donations, rentals and income-generating activities and the overall level has risen to £766k (2021 £726k). As we look to the future, we are grateful to all those who support our Meetings and our project work. Our expenditure has risen to £987k (2021 £821k) mainly due to increased utility costs and governance costs as we increase our activity and reorganise our operational management. We therefore report a deficit of £220k this year compared with £94k in the previous year. Unfortunately the market value of our investments also fell and we report an overall loss of £530k for the year. We anticipate that we can improve this situation in the following years as we focus on our key priorities and more efficient management of resources. Our balance sheet remains strong despite the fall in equity values.

A more detailed breakdown of the charity accounts is included in the accompanying Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and notes, however the overall financial picture remains positive, particularly given the challenges of the pandemic, strikes, significant increase in utility costs and substantial expenditure on property repairs and maintenance. Overall, the charity is in a sound position as it goes into 2023.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

F Going Concern

The trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern, the evidence for which is as follows:

The key funds held by the charity are overall above target levels, as defined in the Reserves Policy. Principal sources of income are the rents from investment properties, donations from members and the hire of rooms. The rent income is underpinned by the length and stability of the leases, and donations from members have been stable for many years, with no known risk of any significant reduction. The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the charity's finances which continued into 2022, but there are sufficient reserves to support the charity through this period. The risks faced by the charity are well understood, with extensive mitigation measures in place. Specific financial risks are incorporated in the reserves policy. With the exception of one of its Branches, the charity is not dependent on external funding or fundraising for its income, and the relatively small scale of the activities limits the risks associated with this Branch. Property (repair and maintenance) risks are mitigated by the regular (quinquennial) building surveys undertaken, and by the comprehensive insurance cover that is in place. Major unforeseen expenditure on property is protected by the substantial (c. £500,000) central Building Fund held in reserve.

G Public Benefit Statement

The trustees consider they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The charity makes available and provides the following to further its purposes for the public benefit:

- ✓ Regular holding of public Meetings for Worship.
- ✓ Provision of information about the Quaker way to "seekers", through courses, discussion, study groups and literature.
- ✓ Meeting Houses which are used by many different groups and are of value to the local community.
- ✓ Support for a Dance School, which leases Redditch Meeting House, and provides tuition for young people.
- ✓ Support for ecobirmingham, an environmental charity which leases property in Northfield.
- ✓ Information on energy-saving and lifestyle improvements through CEQ Climate Emergency Action Group.
- ✓ Training in mediation skills in schools and anti-bullying strategies, provided online by the West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project (Peacemakers).
- ✓ Gifts of food for families in need, through the Quaker Christmas Parcels project and involvement with foodbanks in local areas.
- ✓ Housing and care for elderly people, in partnership with other Quaker charities.
- ✓ Funding for overseas work and for witness in UK.

Trustees consider that the following in particular benefit from the charity's activities:

- ✓ Members of the public
- ✓ All who are interested in the Religious Society of Friends, its worship, values, testimonies, business methods, projects and concerns.
- ✓ Members of CEQ, who are encouraged to participate actively in the work of the charity and its decision making. Quakers have no paid clergy, and volunteers who are given training as required, and acquire knowledge and skills, carry out much of the work.
- ✓ "Attendees" at Meetings for Worship, who are permitted to take an active part in many Quaker roles, and who may benefit as above.
- ✓ Local communities, which benefit from the use of Quaker Meeting Houses.
- ✓ Local councils, which may benefit from the use of Meeting Houses as polling stations and councillors' surgeries.
- ✓ Prisoners supported by Quaker prison chaplains, and Quakers involved in the criminal justice system.
- ✓ Asylum seekers, who are supported by various projects and through the work done on their behalf.
- ✓ Mental health patients in the Birmingham area, who benefit from the work of Quaker chaplains.
- ✓ Older people, through the provision of residential care.
- ✓ People interested in developing a more sustainable, low carbon lifestyle, through the Eco Church scheme and the services of ecobirmingham.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

H Future Plans

- The Area Meeting has appointed a Special Working Group to take forward the development of a vision for the charity. This will help Trustees to prioritise resources and funding.
- Facilitate opportunities for all age worship and social events.
- Further safeguarding training will be facilitated in 2023 and delivered to those undertaking paid and voluntary roles across the charity.
- Review and manage the impact of energy costs on our buildings and meeting houses, including supporting lettings for the centrally managed meeting houses with a new Lettings Advisory Group.
- Develop and roll out a digital contribution scheme to support quicker and easier member donations.
- Explore opportunities to grow the Peace Hub, including piloting new ways of working with volunteers and developing new projects with the Peacemakers such as the Peace Ambassadors.
- Promote and increase the uptake of peace education in the UK for 7-11 year olds.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Governing Document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

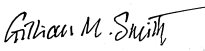

Statement of information to the auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the group's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow trustees and the group's auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 1st August 2023 and signed on behalf of the trustees by;

Gillian Smith)
) trustees
Robert Morris)

The financial statements were submitted to the Charity Commission on 6 September 2023 and to the BYM Recording Clerk's Office on 6 September 2023.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Central England Area Quaker Meeting Charities and group for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise of the charity and group statement of financial activities, the charity and group statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed. In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group and charity's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's or the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES (continued)

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- certain disclosures of Trustee remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent charity; or
- returns adequate for our audit have not been received from Branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In applying the financial reporting framework, the Trustees have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. In making such estimates, they have made assumptions and considered future events.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under Section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We have reviewed financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations. We have audited the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business. We have also made enquiries of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

P Miller - Hawkes

Philippa Miller-Hawkes BA CA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
BSN Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants & statutory auditor
3B Swallowfield Courtyard
Wolverhampton Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 2JG

1 August 2023

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations and legacies	90,643	149,922	240,565	185,851
Charitable activities	177,351	47,433	224,784	222,727
Investment Income	280,166	11,640	291,806	274,511
Other Income	5,372	4,034	9,406	43,582
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total income	553,532	213,029	766,561	726,671
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Expenditure				
Cost of raising funds	(10,225)	(6,402)	(16,627)	(11,371)
Charitable activities	(730,797)	(239,715)	(970,512)	(801,160)
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total expenditure	(741,022)	(246,117)	(987,139)	(821,531)
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(182,049)	(128,148)	(310,197)	452,529
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	(369,539)	(161,236)	(530,775)	357,670
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Transfers between funds	(41,640)	41,640	-	-
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Net movement in funds	(411,179)	(119,596)	(530,775)	357,670
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total funds brought forward	8,045,847	1,091,665	9,137,512	8,779,841
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total funds carried forward	7,634,668	972,069	8,606,737	9,137,512
	_____	_____	_____	_____

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

CONSOLIDATED (GROUP) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies		90,643	149,922	240,565	185,851
Charitable activities		177,351	47,433	224,784	222,727
Other trading activities		515,915	-	515,915	110,094
Investment Income		280,166	11,640	291,806	274,766
Other Income		9,372	4,034	13,406	126,212
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Total income	4	1,073,447	213,029	1,286,476	919,650
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds	5	(490,644)	(6,402)	(497,046)	(353,193)
Charitable activities	6	(691,440)	(239,715)	(931,155)	(772,263)
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Total expenditure		(1,182,084)	(246,117)	(1,428,201)	(1,125,456)
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	(182,049)	(128,148)	(310,197)	453,309
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(290,686)	(161,236)	(451,922)	247,504
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Transfers between funds	7	(41,640)	41,640	-	-
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Net movement in funds		(332,326)	(119,596)	(451,922)	247,504
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Total funds brought forward		8,172,269	1,091,665	9,263,934	9,016,428
		_____	_____	_____	_____
Total funds carried forward		7,839,943	972,069	8,812,012	9,263,934
		_____	_____	_____	_____

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

CHARITY AND CONSOLIDATED (GROUP) BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 December 2022

	Note	Charity 2022	Charity 2021	Group 2022	Group 2021
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11	1,402,865	1,500,591	1,414,801	1,522,062
Investments	12	6,468,209	6,825,885	6,468,209	6,825,885
Total fixed assets		7,871,074	8,326,476	7,883,010	8,347,947
Current assets					
Debtors	13	23,890	21,917	143,550	58,379
Cash at bank and in hand		749,920	820,437	884,356	915,227
Total current assets		773,810	842,354	1,027,906	973,606
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within 1 year	14	(38,147)	(31,319)	(105,696)	(82,745)
Net current assets		735,663	811,035	922,210	890,861
Total assets less current liabilities		8,606,737	9,137,512	8,805,220	9,238,808
Creditors falling due after 1 year	14	-	-	-	-
Provisions	16	-	-	(6,793)	(25,125)
Net assets	19	8,606,737	9,137,512	8,812,013	9,263,934
Unrestricted		6,204,538	6,215,658	6,409,814	6,342,079
Restricted	17	972,069	1,091,665	972,069	1,091,665
Designated	18	1,430,130	1,830,189	1,430,130	1,830,189
Total funds		8,606,737	9,137,512	8,812,013	9,263,934

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 1st August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Gillian Smith)

Trustees

Gillian M. Smith

Robert Morris)

RF Morris

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Net movement in funds	(451,921)	247,504
Depreciation Charge	112,379	101,079
Dividends and interest	(291,806)	(274,766)
Losses/(gains) on investments	310,197	(437,882)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(85,171)	(2,562)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors and provisions	41,284	(30,170)
Net cash used in operating activities	(365,038)	(396,797)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends and interest received	291,806	274,766
Purchase of fixed assets	(5,118)	(565)
Net sale/(purchase) of investments	47,479	74,985
Net cash provided by investing activities	334,167	349,186
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Repayment of borrowing	-	-
Management of liquid resources		
Movement in short term deposits	(19,603)	20,905
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the year	(50,474)	(26,705)
Increase/(decrease) in short term deposits	19,603	(20,905)
Cash at bank and in hand	802,719	829,424
Short term deposits	112,508	133,413
Net funds brought forward	915,227	962,837
Cash at bank and in hand	752,245	802,719
Short term deposits	132,111	112,508
Net funds carried forward	884,356	915,227

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

1. General information

The charity is a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the area meeting office is: 40 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to the charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements incorporate the affairs of Central England Area Quaker Meeting and the Local Meetings and other Branches set out in note 20 to the financial statements. Transfers between the Local Meetings, the Branches and the Area Meeting are eliminated from income and expenditure. The financial statements also exclude those donations received by the Area Meeting and Local Meetings, which are paid over to various charities at the donors' requests.

The financial statements also incorporate, where applicable and where amounts are described as 'group', the affairs of Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary.

The subsidiary, which is a limited company and not a charity has been consolidated on a line by line basis. Intergroup balances have been eliminated on consolidation.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Central England Quakers (CEQ) constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, as set out in their report.

Fund accounting

In order to differentiate the availability of funds they are categorised according to the following definitions:

- Unrestricted general funds are available for any purpose of the Charity.
- Designated funds represent amounts set aside for specific purposes but which remain at the discretion of the Area Meeting; and
- Restricted funds represent contributions, legacies and donations received earmarked by the testator or donor for specific purposes.

Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Voluntary income is recognised as above except where the income is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, when the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate and when the charity has been notified of the amount and settlement date.

Investment income is recognised when receivable and is shown gross to include income tax recovered and recoverable. Other income is accounted for on the basis of amounts receivable for the year.

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. The charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many members, in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of members is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services or facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on using the accruals basis, inclusive of any value added tax that cannot be recovered.

Taxation

Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited is chargeable to corporation tax on its income and capital gains. Otherwise Central England Area Quaker Meeting is a charity and is exempt from taxation on income derived from its charitable activities. Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited provides for taxation deferred as a result of timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date. Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Deferred tax is measured using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity owns a number of functional properties comprising Meeting Houses, wardens' accommodation and their contents, and other buildings used by CEQ Branches. These buildings are held in perpetuity for Meetings for Worship or other charitable activities, and contribute to the furtherance of the Central England Quaker's charitable objectives and are considered to be heritage assets under FRS 102. The heritage assets have been grouped together in the following categories:

Meeting Houses, Wardens' Accommodation and other buildings

There is no cost or accumulated depreciation recognised for these heritage assets, as allowable under Section 18 of FRS 102. Whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of £nil deemed cost and net book value, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date. Conventional valuation techniques are not appropriate for the unique and historical nature of the assets. In addition, the Trustees consider it an inefficient use of the charity's funds to obtain valuations for all 16 properties and not befitting of the objectives of the charity.

Major expenditure on improvements to property at 40 Bull Street incurred during 1999 were capitalised and are being depreciated at 5% per annum on cost from 1 January 2004. Expenditure on the conference centre in Bull Street is being depreciated at 2% per annum on cost from 1 January 2004. A replacement heating system for 40 Bull Street was installed during 2020 and is being depreciated at 10% per annum on cost from 1 November 2020. This has been included within the Refurbishment of Meeting House asset category in note 11.

Any developments or improvements to the building greater than £10,000 are capitalised at cost and depreciated over the improvement's useful economic life. Maintenance costs are charged to the SOFA in the period they are incurred.

Contents of Meeting Houses

A number of the Meeting Houses contents have also been recognised at £nil cost and £nil accumulated depreciation as it is impracticable and an inefficient use of the charity's resources to value the specific items in the following categories: organs, pianos, Quaker artwork, library books and other contents.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

3. Accounting policies (continued)

The Trustees capitalise individual items of equipment costing £10,000 or more where there is a continuing economic value and a reliable measurement of cost or fair value is available. These assets are depreciated annually so as to write off the cost over their economic useful lives. In the subsidiary company equipment is capitalised where the asset has a continuing economic value.

Other fixed assets, which have been capitalised, are being depreciated at the following annual rates on cost:

Furniture and fittings	-	at varying rates on cost
Computer equipment	-	25% on cost
Heating and hot water system	-	10 years
Refurbishment of Meeting house	-	20 years
Conference Centre etc.	-	50 years

Investments

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investments in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets, primarily the London Stock Exchange and fair value is equivalent to the market value. Holdings in common investment funds, unit trusts and open-ended investment companies are at bid price. The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial interests.

Investment properties are re-valued periodically or when changes in rental income necessitate revaluation. Fair value is generally open market value.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise.

Short term deposits comprise funds held in savings or deposit (rather than current) accounts which are surplus to immediate cash flow requirements and are classified as cash and cash equivalents.

Pension costs

The charity and its subsidiary contribute to defined contribution schemes for some of their employees. The pension cost represents the total amount payable to the schemes in the \year. The pension cost is directly charged to funds with contributory employees.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

4. Income

The comparative amounts for 2021 between consolidated funds are:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	_____	_____	_____
Donations and legacies	98,774	87,077	185,851
Charitable activities	192,444	30,283	222,727
Other trading activities	110,094	-	110,094
Investment Income	264,389	10,377	274,766
Other Income	120,628	5,584	126,212
	_____	_____	_____
Total income	786,329	133,322	919,650
	_____	_____	_____

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

5. Costs of raising funds (Group)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Priory Rooms (Bull St) Limited:				
Meeting & conference facilities	462,085	-	462,085	366,490
Corporation Tax	18,334	-	18,334	(24,668)
Commercial lettings:				
Letting fees	4,917	-	4,917	4,964
Other	5,308	6,402	11,710	6,407
	490,644	6,402	497,046	353,193
2021	350,068	3,428	353,193	

6. Expenditure on charitable activities (Group)

Support, governance and other costs are directly incurred by the various funds, there is no apportionment required centrally and there are no central function costs.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	
Payroll costs	67,945	133,024	200,969	190,669
Repairs and maintenance	204,291	11,985	216,276	140,248
Costs of Quaker activities	130,728	45,221	175,949	181,223
Depreciation	112,379	-	112,379	101,079
Other employee costs	54,132	28,681	82,813	72,857
Utilities	52,795	9,745	62,540	29,429
Insurance	25,147	2,251	27,398	28,489
Costs of governance	36,983	10	36,993	18,260
Other costs	7,040	8,798	15,838	10,010
	691,440	239,715	931,155	772,263
2021	576,394	195,869	772,263	

Included within the expenditure on activities are amounts paid to defined contribution pension plans for employees of £20,019 (2021: £21,037).

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

6. Expenditure on charitable activities (*continued*)

Costs of governance includes the auditors' remuneration of £10,031 (2021: £10,362) for auditing and accounting fees which is incurred by the central funds and is not apportioned to individual Branches. The amount also includes irrecoverable value added tax.

7. Restricted Transfers

The transfers into the restricted fund were grants from the Trustees General fund into the Peacemakers for £30,400 and the Peace Hub £3,000 as well as donations raised from local meetings to support the ongoing work of these branches.

8. Staff details and analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses

The charity does not employ a chief executive and the Trustees previously considered the key management personnel to be the Trustees. However during 2022 the Trustees appointed a Principal Officer to undertake much of the day to day management on their behalf.

The Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity or its subsidiary in the year (2021: £Nil). No Trustees received reimbursement of travelling expenses in 2022 (2021: £Nil). No trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £Nil).

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more (2021: £Nil). Pension costs are incurred directly by the cost centre where staff are employed and allocated to the various funds accordingly.

There are 7 statutory directors of the subsidiary (2021: 8) who receive no remuneration or benefits.

The average number of employees during the year analysed by function was:

	2022	2021
Conference facilities	11	13
Other Branches and projects	5	5
Wardens, caretakers and gardeners	5	5
Administration	1	1
	<u>22</u>	<u>24</u>

The total staff costs for the year were:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries – conference facilities	211,944	238,629
Wages and salaries – other	182,266	170,686
National insurance	22,144	29,570
Pension costs	20,019	21,037
	<u>436,373</u>	<u>459,922</u>

All conference facilities staff are employed by the subsidiary company, Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited. These costs are included in costs of raising funds.

9. Net gains/(losses) on investments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted	(30,020)	224,457
Designated	(152,029)	134,693
Restricted	(128,148)	94,159
Total net gains	<u>(310,197)</u>	<u>453,309</u>

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

10. Related party transactions

Included within donations to the charity is an aggregate amount of £10,031 (2021: £8,584) received from the Trustees.

11. Tangible fixed assets

Group	Refurbishment of Meeting House £	Conference centre etc. £	Furniture & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 January 2022	854,667	2,015,647	248,496	35,683	3,154,493
Additions	-	-	5,118	-	5,118
At 31 December 2022	854,667	2,015,647	253,614	35,683	3,159,611
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	650,255	719,468	228,807	33,901	1,632,431
Charge for year	57,413	40,313	13,787	866	112,379
At 31 December 2022	707,668	759,781	242,594	34,767	1,744,810
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2022	146,999	1,255,866	11,020	916	1,414,801
At 31 December 2021	204,412	1,296,179	19,689	1,782	1,522,062
Charity					
	Refurbishment of Meeting House £	Conference centre etc. £	Furniture & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 January 2022	854,667	2,015,647	10,262	-	2,880,576
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	854,667	2,015,647	10,262	-	2,880,576
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	650,255	719,468	10,262	-	1,379,985
Charge for year	57,413	40,313	-	-	97,726
At 31 December 2022	707,669	759,781	10,262	-	1,477,711
Net book amounts					
At 31 December 2022	146,999	1,255,866	-	-	1,402,865
At 31 December 2021	204,412	1,296,179	-	-	1,500,591

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

11. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

All Group tangible assets are classified as unrestricted funds as they are held as part of the Trustees Fund where all assets are used for whatever is deemed appropriate to further the charity's objectives.

Conference Centre

The centre consists of a conference suite and ground level refreshment area for the use of the charity and other Quaker and charitable bodies together with significant commercial use. The operation of the centre is managed by the charity's subsidiary company, Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited. The conference centre is being depreciated at 2% per annum from 1 January 2004.

Heritage assets

As described in the accounting policies note, there is a cost and accumulated depreciation of £nil for the Meeting Houses and wardens' accommodation owned and used by the charity and group for Worship and charity activities. The buildings are maintained by the charity for their contribution to knowledge and culture of the Quaker faith. It would be impracticable and an inefficient use of the charity's funds to obtain market valuations for such unique assets and their contents. A description is given of each of the assets below and the year in which the Meeting Houses were constructed. On the basis of the age of the properties, had the original cost been capitalised, the Trustees are of the view that the assets would be fully depreciated at the balance sheet date. No reliable information exists to include original cost and accumulated depreciation amounts.

The charity is the beneficial owner of the following heritage asset properties:

Type of property	Year	Address
Freehold		
Meeting House	1969	6 Sandhills Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NR
Meeting House and wardens' bungalow	1964	23 Watford Road, Cotteridge, Birmingham, B30 1JB
Meeting House	1930	Church Road, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2LB
Meeting House and Conference Centre	1931	40 Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF
CEQ Peace Hub	1931	41 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AF
Meeting House	1953	Hill Street, Coventry, CV1 4AN
Meeting House	1892	George Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 1JP
Meeting House	1927	Hamlet Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 9BG
Meeting House and wardens' flat	1972	112 Castle Road, Hartshill, CV10 0SG
Meeting House	1983	17 Colmore Row, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7PE
Meeting House and wardens' flat	1695	39 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AX
Meeting House	1939	Kenelm Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6HD
Woodlands Quaker Home	1945	434 Penn Road, Penn, Wolverhampton, WV4 4DH
Long leasehold		
Meeting House	1689	Scotts Road, Stourbridge, DY8 1UR
Meeting House	1905	65 Linden Road, Bournville, Birmingham, B30 1JT
Short leasehold		
Meeting House	1926	930 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6NP

The heritage asset contents of the above properties for which there is no recorded cost are classified into the following categories: organs, pianos, Quaker artwork, library books and other contents. The Trustees preserve these assets by keeping a register of assets held at each Branch and insuring the assets appropriately to protect them from damage or loss.

The titles to all of the properties owned by the charity and group are held by Friends Trusts Ltd as Nominee with strict restrictions on disposition of the freehold which requires authorisation by an order of the court.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

12. Fixed asset investments

Group investments:

	2022		2021	
	Freehold properties £	Listed securities £	Freehold properties £	Listed securities £
Market value brought forward	4,465,650	2,360,235	4,270,650	2,192,338
Net additions/(sales)	-	(47,479)	195,000	(269,985)
Revaluation	-	(310,197)	-	437,882
Total Group investments	4,465,650	2,002,559	4,465,650	2,360,235

Group fixed asset investments are held between funds as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Unrestricted	4,682,685	4,712,702
Restricted	742,447	869,979
Designated	1,043,077	1,243,204
Total Group investments	6,468,209	6,825,885

Charity investments:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Market value		
Freehold properties	4,465,650	4,465,650
Listed securities	2,002,559	2,360,235
Total Charity investments	6,468,209	6,825,885

Freehold Properties

The charity and group own the following freehold investment properties held by Friends Trusts Ltd as Nominee:

Two bungalows adjacent to Barnt Green Meeting House at 6a & 6b Sandhills Road, Barnt Green. The 6a property was valued on an open market basis at £180,000 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020. The 6b property, formerly a warden's bungalow, was converted to private rented accommodation and reclassified as an investment property in May 2021, and both properties are subject to shorthold tenancies. The 6b property was valued on an open market basis at £195,000 by Lawrence and Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 30 March 2022.

The property known as Redditch Meeting House, Matchborough, Redditch, B98 0ER. Following the termination of a lease to Worcester County Council (from 2009 to 2015), the property was let on short lease from 1 November 2015 to Latham School of Dance and from 1 August 2018 to Amelia's Dance Academy. The property was revalued on an open market basis at £67,000 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

12. Fixed asset investments (continued)

Private flat and community cafe at 39 High Street Warwick CV34 4AX. The property was valued on an open market basis at £120,000 by Lawrence and Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020. The property has been let to private tenant(s) since June 2016.

Office accommodation at 51 Church Road, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2LB. This property was valued on an open market basis at £116,000 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020. It is leased to Oulsnam and a renewed ten year lease from 25 December 2013 was signed in August 2014.

Office accommodation at 53 Church Road, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2LB. It was valued on an open market basis at £80,500 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020. It is leased to ecobirmingham, and a five year lease was signed on 2 July 2018.

A bungalow adjacent to the Meeting House in Selly Oak was formerly warden's accommodation and treated as a functional property but during 2014 it was adapted for commercial letting, and was reclassified as an investment property. The property was valued on an open market basis at £27,150 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020.

A flat within the Hartshill Meeting House has been converted into private rented accommodation and was reclassified as an investment property for 2019. The flat was valued at £65,000 on an open market basis by Lawrence & Wightman on 31 December 2020.

An office development on land owned by the Area Meeting at 1 Colmore Square, Birmingham. The land is let on a 250 years lease from 29 September 1999 and was valued on an open market basis at £3,615,000 by Lawrence & Wightman, Chartered Surveyors on 31 December 2020.

The types of investment held at 31 December 2022 and their market values were:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Listed investments (incl. loan stocks)	211,623	241,644
Investment properties	4,465,650	4,465,650
Social investments	5,409	5,409
Other investments (Unit Trusts, Branch & Trustee Reserves)	1,785,527	2,113,182
Total Group investments	6,468,209	6,825,885

Unlisted investments

The charity owns 100% of the Ordinary share capital of Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited (company number: 05129631). There is no investment cost included for the subsidiary in the charity's balance sheet, with all profit is donated back to the parent entity to support with the charitable objectives of Central England Quakers.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves	205,275	126,422
Profit for the year after taxation	78,853	(110,166)

There has been no donations made by Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited to the parent charity in 2022 or for the 2 years prior to that, due to the performance of the trading subsidiary following various closures in the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

12. Fixed asset investments (continued)

The following is a summary of the profit for the year after taxation in Priory Rooms (Bull Street) Limited.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sales of conference facilities	569,925	169,694
Cost of sales	(97,199)	(15,499)
Distribution costs	(3,418)	(284)
Administrative expenses	(376,121)	(372,410)
Other operating income	4,000	82,630
Management charge to parent charity	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating profit/(loss)	97,187	(135,869)
Income and realised gains from investments	-	255
Gain on financial assets at fair value	-	780
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit before taxation	97,187	(134,834)
Provision for deferred taxation (note 17)	(18,334)	24,668
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit after taxation	78,853	(110,166)

The company paid a dividend of £Nil to the parent charity during the year (2021: £nil).

13. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Group		
Trade debtors	97,091	19,321
Other debtors	46,459	39,058
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	143,550	58,379
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2022	2021
	£	£
Charity		
Trade Debtors	-	-
Other debtors	23,890	21,917
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,890	21,917
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Group		
Trade creditors	6,773	3,993
Social security and other taxes	44,293	27,166
Accruals	36,569	40,829
Other creditors	18,061	10,757
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	105,696	82,745
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2022	2021
	£	£
Charity		
Social security and other taxes	12,592	10,679
Accruals	25,555	20,640
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38,147	31,319
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Group		
Corporation Tax (in Subsidiary)	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

15. Secured assets

Freehold land and buildings at Penn Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV4 4DH, have been given as security for loan finance obtained in the Charity's name from Triodos Bank NV and in turn made available to Woodlands Quaker Home in respect of expenditure on new buildings. The amount of loan finance outstanding at 31 December 2022 was £60,707 (2021: £63,832). The loan is not included in these financial statements as the charity does not expect to have to meet any part of the debt. The last relevant market valuation for the secured property was £1,450,000 in May 2019.

Friends Trusts Ltd, as nominee for land, is a party to the leases (excluding tenancy agreements) pertaining to CEQ investment properties, which are 1 Colmore Square, Redditch Meeting House, 51 Church Road, 53 Church Road and the Woodlands.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

16. Provision for liabilities

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred tax		
Accelerated capital allowances	(6,793)	(25,127)
	_____	_____
		Deferred tax £
Balance at 1 January 2022		(25,127)
Provided during year		18,334

At 31 December 2022		(6,793)

The provision for deferred taxation arises in the charity's subsidiary company. The provision relates to unrestricted funds in 2022 and 2021.

17. Restricted funds (Charity and Group)

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains/(losses)	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Local Meetings	143,905	47,650	(46,517)	(12,230)	937	133,745
Other Branches	176,082	157,097	(195,350)	(3,007)	48,887	183,709
Building Fund	524,000	8,282	(4,250)	(82,142)	(8,184)	437,706
Trustees Reserves	247,678	-	-	(30,769)	-	216,909
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Restricted funds	1,091,665	213,029	(246,117)	(128,148)	41,640	972,069
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Local Meetings funds are for the purpose of the respective Meetings and are raised from their members or from letting their premises to third parties. These funds are needed for the repair and maintenance of premises, to meet various administrative costs and to support committees and charitable activities. Local Meetings also organise collections after Meeting for Worship for a variety of bodies, some of which are Quaker and others not. These monies pass through the Local Meetings on to the bodies concerned. The Local Meetings may also choose to add to a collection or make a special grant from funds for charitable purposes.

Other Branches consist of those bodies set up by the Area Meeting for particular purposes and identified in the Trustees Report. The definition of a Branch is a committee or project that has its own bank account.

As described in the Trustees Report, branches of note are West Midlands Quaker Peace Education Project (known as "Peacemakers") and Peace Hub.

Building Fund Investments (previously classified as designated) comprise of investments held to support the maintenance, repair and improvement of the charity's Meeting Houses. The income from the investments is applied to a designated "Building Fund" bank account from which grants and loans are made to individual Local Meetings.

In **Trustees' Reserve Funds**, there are four Reserve Funds which consist of investments held by Trustees, derived from the sale of previous Meeting Houses together with some bequests, where the income is applied to the benefit of some Local Meetings. The two Funds which remain restricted are the proceeds of Atherstone Meeting House with income applied to Hartshill Local Meeting and the proceeds of Cotteridge Land Sale with income applied to Cotteridge Local Meeting.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

18. Designated funds (Charity and Group)

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Investment gains/(losses)	Transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Local Meetings	1,090,334	324,014	(365,101)	(95,845)	(9,328)	944,074
Redditch	15,471	3	(14)	-	(15,460)	-
Bull Street	117,666	-	(27,141)	-	(90,525)	-
Building Fund	98,693	60	(95)	-	(28,552)	70,106
Black Country	21,080	6,154	(2,000)	-	(10,045)	15,189
Trustees Reserves	486,945	1,960	-	(56,184)	(31,960)	400,761
Designated funds	1,830,189	332,191	(394,351)	(152,029)	(185,870)	1,430,130

Local Meetings funds are for the purpose of the respective Meetings and are raised from their members or from letting their premises to third parties. These funds are needed for the repair and maintenance of premises, to meet various administrative costs and to support committees and charitable activities. Local Meetings also organise collections after Meeting for Worship for a variety of bodies, some of which are Quaker and others not. These monies pass through the Local Meetings on to the bodies concerned. The Local Meetings may also choose to add to a collection or make a special grant from funds for charitable purposes.

Redditch Building Fund is held in respect of the Redditch Meeting House. The Meeting House at Redditch is no longer used by the Local Meeting and is leased to a Dance School. The landlord's responsibilities therefore lie with the Trustees and the previous sinking fund is held in a CAF Gold Account entitled 'Redditch Building Fund' to cover those items that are defined in the lease as being the responsibility of the landlord. Part of the fund was used in 2015 to make property 'fit for purpose' for the new tenant.

In 2009 a separate **Bull Street fund** was established to provide for the future refurbishment of the 40 Bull Street property (including Priory Rooms Conference Centre). The fund was used between 2014 and 2016 to support the refurbishment of Bull Street Meeting House (and Priory Rooms) and the conversion of the adjacent 41 Bull Street property for Quaker use as a Peace and Justice Centre (Peace Hub). Since 2016 the Fund has been used for annual repairs, maintenance and improvements to both properties. The principal source of income is transfers from the Trustee Fund. The Bull Street Investments were merged with the Building Fund Investments on 1 January 2019. From 2023 this will be merged with the Trustee Fund as it has no income source and will reduce the number of internal transfers.

The Building Fund receives income from Building Fund Investments (see Restricted Funds) and provides loans or grants to assist Local Meetings to maintain their properties if a major repair is beyond their means and to carry out agreed improvements to premises.

The Black Country Fund is a designated fund established by area meeting in June 2015 to support the development of Quakerism in the Black Country. The fund comprises the residual assets of the former Dudley Local Meeting, which was laid down on 31 December 2015, and receives the dividend income from one of the Trustee Reserve Funds known as "Dudley Meeting Houses" (see below).

In **Trustees' Reserve Funds**, there are four Reserve Funds which consist of investments held by Trustees, derived from the sale of previous Meeting Houses together with some bequests, where the income is applied to the benefit of some Local Meetings. Previously classified as Restricted, two of the four funds have been reclassified as designated; Dudley Meeting Houses with income applied to the Black Country Fund and Proceeds of Church Road Properties Northfield with income applied to the Northfield Development Committee. A fifth Reserve Fund, Trustee General Reserve, was formerly known as Sellywood House Fund but was re-designated in 2021. In May 2022 £30,000 of the Fund was sold to provide a (budgeted) transfer from reserves.

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

19. Analysis of Group assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Fixed Asset Investments	Net Current Assets	Creditors due after one year	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	1,414,801	4,682,684	305,536	6,793	6,409,814
Restricted funds					
Local Meetings	-	92,719	41,027	-	133,746
Other Branches	-	21,200	162,509	-	183,709
Building Fund	-	411,619	26,086	-	437,705
Trustees Reserves	-	216,909	-	-	216,909
Designated funds					
Local Meetings	-	642,318	314,256	-	956,574
Redditch	-	-	-	-	-
Bull Street	-	-	-	-	-
Building Fund	-	-	57,605	-	57,605
Black Country	-	-	15,191	-	15,191
Trustee Reserves	-	400,760	-	-	400,760
	1,414,801	6,468,209	922,210	6,793	8,812,013

THE CENTRAL ENGLAND AREA QUAKER MEETING CHARITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2022

20. Consolidated (Group) Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies		98,774	87,077	185,851	290,948
Charitable activities		192,444	30,283	222,727	79,951
Other trading activities		110,094	-	110,094	188,942
Investment Income		264,389	10,377	274,766	274,465
Other Income		120,628	5,584	126,212	189,356
Total income	4	786,329	133,322	919,650	1,023,661
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds	5	(350,068)	(3,125)	(353,193)	(412,405)
Charitable activities	6	(576,394)	(195,869)	(772,263)	(1,079,281)
Total expenditure		(926,462)	(198,994)	(1,125,456)	(1,491,686)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	359,150	94,159	453,309	90,796
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		219,016	28,487	247,504	(377,229)
Transfers between funds	7	(40,532)	40,532	-	-
Net movement in funds		178,485	69,020	247,504	(377,229)
Total funds brought forward		7,993,782	1,022,646	9,016,428	9,393,658
Total funds carried forward		8,172,268	1,091,666	9,263,934	9,016,428

21. Capital commitments

There was no future capital expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements at 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021.