Quaker Voluntary Action Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 12 September 2026 on Zoom

Present

Trustees
Jeff Beatty, Matthew Bittle, Sue Glover Frykman (Co-Clerk), Barry Jenkinson (Treasurer), Conor Jerram, Agnes Jones, Gordon Matthews (Co-Clerk), Jez Smith

QVA staff
Suzie Green (Communications Manager), Kit King (Coordinator)

Visitors/Members
Retha Adendorff, Paola Ariodante, Cariad Astles, Hilary Brazell, Helen Buckroyd, Gwen Clark, Sarah Coote, Mary Elliott, Daniel Clarke Flynn, Carry Gloyns, Sara Griffin, Helen Horton, Kasia Kaczmarkiewicz, Jennifer Kavanagh, Heather Kent, Jan Kim, Isaac Kofia, Alfred Mbai, Jackie McCleod-Bridge, Jayne Meadows, Jess Morgan, Lesley O'Connor, Lorraine O'Hanlon, Joseph Nhan O'Reilly, Kate Scott, Yurii Sheliazhenko, Malcolm Walters

Apologies

We have received apologies from Phoebe Spence, Kerstin Mangels, Sandie Foster, Marlies Tjallingii.

QVA 2026 01 Clerks' and Coordinator's welcome and opening worship

The Clerks and the Coordinator welcomed everyone to the AGM, outlined today's agenda and gave a brief description of QVA's work.

During the opening period of worship, passage 2.10 from Britain Yearly Meeting's Quaker Faith and Practice was read:

In this humanistic age we suppose man is the initiator and God is the responder. But the living Christ within us is the initiator and we are the responders. God the Lover,
the accuser, the revealer of light and darkness presses within us. 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' And all our apparent initiative is already a response, a testimonial to His secret presence and working within us. The basic response of the soul to the Light is internal adoration and joy, thanksgiving and worship, self-surrender and listening.

Thomas R Kelly, 1941

QVA 2026 02 Guest Speaker

Jennifer Kavanagh, our guest speaker, has spoken to QVA's 2026 theme of Pathways to Peace. Everything we do needs to be grounded in our faith. We work for peace in many ways. How are we patterns and examples, as George Fox encouraged us? Jennifer answered these questions by telling us about her personal experiences and perspectives of her own pathways to peace. Her work has included engaging with homeless people and people in need, learning about and teaching micro-credit, work in prisons through the Prison Reform Trust, and involvement in the Alternative to Violence project. Peace begins within us and, grounded in faith and discernment, can lead us along our own different paths. We learn from those who are more in touch with what matters.

We thank Jennifer for sharing her insights with us.

QVA 2026 03 Minutes of the AGM in 2025

We have received and accepted the minutes of the AGM held on 27 th July 2025.

QVA 2026 04 Nominations, Appointments and Retirement

A) Trustee appointments
The Annual General Meeting has accepted Quaker Voluntary Action's Trustees' nominations and hereby appoint the following in their various capacities:

- Jez Smith, to serve as Trustee/Director from the 2026 AGM to 9 April 2027
- Agnes Jones, to serve as Trustee/Director from the 2026 AGM until 31December 2029

- Sue Glover Frykman, to serve as Company Secretary and Co-Clerk from the 2026 AGM until 31 December 2029
- Gordon Matthews, to serve as Trustee/Director and Co-Clerk from the 2026 AGM until 31 December 2029
- Barry Jenkinson, to serve as Trustee/Director and Treasurer from the 2026 AGM until 31 December 2028
- Matthew Bittle, to serve as Trustee/Director from the 2026 AGM until 31December 2028
- Jeff Beatty, to serve as Trustee/Director from the 2026 AGM until 31 December 2028.

B) Release of a Trustee
Conor Jerram has come to the end of his service as a Trustee with QVA and is now released. Conor has been involved with QVA for many years and served as Assistant Clerk and Treasurer for a long period in the past. We thank Conor for his long and faithful service and wish him well.

C) Appointment of Independent Examiner for the 2026 accounts
The AGM appoints the following independent examiner for the 2026 accounts:

Padam Walburn Accounting Services, 80 Forest View Road, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0BY.

QVA 2026 05 Annual Report and Accounts for 2025

Kit King, Coordinator, has outlined some of the main points in the Annual Report. Barry Jenkinson, Treasurer, has spoken to the Accounts. We receive and approve the Trustees annual report and accounts for 2025.

QVA 2026 06 Closing remarks

Kit King, Coordinator, expressed thanks for attendance at the AGM and encouraged Friends to continue to contribute to QVA's growth, e.g. financially, as a Trustee or as a retreat facilitator. Kit also outlined the possible retreat opportunities for 2027.

QVA 2026 07 Closing worship

We ended the Annual General Meeting with a period of worship.

Signed,

Gordon Matthews
Co-Clerk

Sue Glover Frykman
Co-Clerk