

## **BRISTOL AREA QUAKER MEETING (No 1175435)**

### **POLICY ON DONATIONS & GRANTS (Revised 11/5/18)**

#### **1. Purpose**

This policy is to set out the procedure for supporting Area Meeting's discernment of how to use its funds and is based on the Objects of the charity set out at Paragraph 3 of its Constitution:

*To that end, the CIO's income and property are used solely to further the area meeting's object by work such as:*

- (1) strengthening the life and witness of Quaker meetings both in the area of Bristol Area Meeting and beyond;*
- (2) spreading the message of Quakers and interpreting and developing the thought and practice of the Religious Society;*
- (3) undertaking Quaker service for the relief of suffering at home and abroad;*
- (4) funding the concerns that Quaker meetings in the area of Bristol Area Meeting or beyond have adopted or agreed to support;*
- (5) providing for the pastoral care of individual members and Attenders including assistance to those in need and for education;*
- (6) maintaining and developing Quaker meeting houses as places for public worship and from which to carry our witness into the world*
- (7) administering and maintaining the organisation of Bristol Area Meeting and contributing to the support of Britain Yearly Meeting.*

#### **2. Concerns**

Quaker Faith and Practice (Q&FP) paragraphs 13.02 to 13.13 give helpful advice about discerning and testing a Concern. In effect QF&P defines 'concern' more narrowly than common usage.

3. Trustees are keen to support Friends who have a tested Concern.
4. The application of funds under 3 (5) of the Constitution is dealt with by Weekly Committee and is subject to the policies and procedures governing Weekly Committee's work.
5. Area Meeting funds may be used only as permitted by the Constitution, as above, and in accordance with guidance from Quaker Stewardship Committee. (The clerk to Finance Committee has details.) Area Meeting funds are not available for redistribution to other good causes.
6. We should beware of treating Quaker money as if it were there to do our charitable giving for us. Many Friends give generously to other good causes and should be encouraged to do so alongside their donations to Local, Area, and Yearly Meetings. *Quaker Peace and*

*Social Witness and Quaker Life* undertake work in our name funded by Britain Yearly Meeting.

7. Requests for funding under 3(1)-(4)
  - a. Requests from the Area Meeting, its members, attenders or constituent parts or the wider Religious Society of Friends should be referred directly to Finance Committee.
  - b. Finance Committee may determine funding for applications which fall within 3(1)-(4) above or may refer them to Trustees.
  - c. Requests for over £500 should always be referred to Trustees and in urgent cases may be agreed by email.
  - d. All donations and grants should be reported to Trustees.

*Revisions – MT/5/11/14, SP/18/10/16, PCW 01/03/18*

*Comments or suggestions about this Policy should be forwarded to the Policy Owner.*

Policy/Revision Agreed by;	Date / Minute
Finance Committee (Owner)	16/03/18 (4)
Trustees	11/05/18 (35/18c)

Policy to be reviewed (Year): 2021