

# Religious Society of Friends East Cheshire Quaker Meeting

## The new website

At a recent meeting on 10 June of some of the Friends posting material on the new Area Meeting website it was agreed to report to Area Meeting on progress so far with some suggestions of how to take things forward.

The new website was introduced to the Area Meeting by Taylor Giacoma who built it in November 2015. Taylor had provided training to Friends from each local meeting on how to use the website and the minute (15.11.13) read in part

'We are reminded that if the website is to serve its purpose it is essential that it is kept up to date. Also that as all of the content is available to the public, photographs and articles should not be placed on the website without the permission of the people involved. The clerk will circulate a protocol to ensure good practice to local meetings.'

Since November the use of the website has been a little patchy. Friends might recognize that if someone comes across the website and sees little material and what is there is out of date then this gives a very bad impression of us. In fact there is a lot going on in our Area Meeting. You can see what is posted as going on in each meeting by going to the meeting's part of the website and using the link to the diary at the bottom of the page. For each local meeting there is now the (default) option of also including the events which are on the Area Meeting diary. Each event on the diary provides a link to further information. It is also possible to post minutes and reports.

Here are some recommendations for Area Meeting.

1. Each local meeting (and Area Meeting itself) should have a website editor who is responsible for seeking out material to be posted on that meeting's part of the website. This person should be known to people in the meeting so that anyone can provide material to the editor posting. Training has been and can in future be provided for editors. It is also planned to provide a short document describing for editors the facilities of the website and how they can be used and also the protocol referred to in the above minute.
2. Friends should be encouraged to use the website by posting information there rather than by emailing it round. For example, if an event is planned then all that need be emailed is the existence of the event with a link to the website page for more information. This information can then be kept up to date. (In any communication by email it is important to remember Friends who make little or no use of computers and to ensure that they are kept informed.)

Peter J. Eccles, July 2016.