Meeting for Sufferings 4 December 2021, AM Representative Kathy Hindle

The [minutes of Meeting for Sufferings](https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-organisation/meeting-for-sufferings/papers-and-minutes) are now available online. There is so much going on that I have put together the main points, aware that this does not do justice to the complexity of the ongoing work. If you have the time, follow up the links to give the fuller picture.

 ·       The **Book of Discipline Revision Committee** reported on their work - there is still a long way to go, and it is difficult to say how long the work will take. It is a challenging process. You may read [the principles underlying the work](https://www.quaker.org.uk/resources/quaker-faith-and-practice/revising-quaker-faith-practice) or check the [MfS papers](https://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/mfs-2021-12-calling-letter-agenda--papers) (page 14) for ways in which Friends can support the committee and contribute ideas to the process. If you wish to contribute or comment, you can contact Michael Booth by e-mail [qfp@quaker.org.uk](mailto:qfp@quaker.org.uk) or by writing to Friends House.

·       [Quaker World Relations Committee](https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-organisation/our-structures/quaker-world-relations-committee) (**QWRC**) and the [Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations](https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-organisation/our-structures/quaker-committee-for-christian-and-interfaith-relations) (**QCCIR**), shared news of their activities and future plans. Both committees create a bridge between Quakers in Britain and other groups; QWRC connects us with the global family of Friends and QCCIR with ecumenical and interfaith groups. The terms of reference of both committees are currently under review and it is possible that their reporting arrangements may change in future – reporting to MfS rather than Trustees.

 ·       Quakers in Britain belong to the [European and Middle-East Section](https://fwccemes.org/) (EMES) of [Friends World Committee for Consultation](https://fwcc.world/) (FWCC). **EMES has drafted a new Sustainable Travel, Events and Communications Policy** (page 18 of the [MfS papers](https://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/mfs-2021-12-calling-letter-agenda--papers)). If you have any comment to make about this, please contact QWRC directly via the Committee Secretary Michael S Booth [michaelsb@quaker.org.uk](mailto:michaelsb@quaker.org.uk), before the end of January 2022.

·     The **Sustainability** Monitoring Group (SMG) presented its annual report (also in the MfS papers – paper 10 page 46 onwards), and drew particular attention to the progress made by the [Quiet Company](https://quietcompany.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Strategic-Environmental-and-Sustainability-Plan-v2.pdf).  At the moment, AMs are asked to report on your sustainability actions through your AM’s annual report (prepared by AM trustees) – this isn’t always simple, and it’s not a timely way to share information, so we may see a change in future.

·     It seems like a long time since COP26, but much work is continuing.  The MfS minute records the power of working in partnership with so many other communities of faith, and the leading role Quakers played in organising the Global Day of Action. Civil society groups had a huge presence outside the negotiations. We were reminded of QUNO’s role on the ‘inside’ and the long-term work of quiet diplomacy. Friends in your meetings may be interested in page 78 of the [meeting papers](https://www.quaker.org.uk/documents/mfs-2021-12-calling-letter-agenda--papers), with many links to information about the conference.

·        **Junior Yearly Meeting** – Please send your AM’s [nominations](https://www.quaker.org.uk/events/junior-yearly-meeting-2022) by Monday 28 February 2022