

We are seeking Area Meeting's support to begin holding monthly Quaker meetings in Hoddesdon, starting this June. The question we are asking is simple: **is Area Meeting happy for us to go ahead?**

We also warmly invite any support Quakers may be able to offer—**especially financial support** for consumables such as lunch and advertising, with donations to Area Meeting with Peace Cottage as the reference. Support in creating a worshipful environment from experienced Friends is also welcome.

Our plans and vision:

We propose to meet on the **second Sunday of each month from June to October** (hoping to extend this through the winter if all goes well and we can get heating in the building). Meetings will begin with a **shared lunch at 12:00**, followed by **all-age, semi-programmed worship at 13:00**, lasting around 30–45 minutes.

We aim to create a spiritually nourishing space, rooted in Quaker values and open to all. We both have young children and are keen to ensure it is suitable for all ages. Our hope is to serve the wider Hoddesdon community by offering a place of welcome, connection, reflection, and learning.

Worship will be grounded in silence but full of life—guided at times by readings, queries, creativity, music. The aim is to create a rhythm that is both deepening for long-time Friends and accessible to newcomers, with clear explanations and warm hospitality. We hope to nurture a culture in which ministry arises naturally and is shared often, as a sign of a spiritually healthy group.

Community and friendship will be central. Shared meals will be part of each gathering, helping us build relationships across generations. We'll embrace the meeting house and eco garden not just as a venue, but as part of our spiritual expression—gardening together, caring for nature, and perhaps worshipping outdoors when possible.

We would be very glad of Area Meeting's support to proceed—and grateful for any offers of help or funding to get us started.