



The Blackley Centre

Peace Movement Membership

(Individuals)

Information for individuals interested in becoming members

The Blackley Centre is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (C.I.O No. 1184714) with a membership because it aims to be accountable to those it serves and encourages supportive people and organisations to be involved in developing its work.

The work of the Blackley Centre can broadly be described as:

- Enabling Christians and those of other faiths and beliefs to relate well
- Working for peace between people and groups experiencing conflict
- Providing a place of welcome, hospitality, retreat and peace

The Centre welcomes applications for membership from those who would like to support this work. Please read through the following information and complete the *Individual Membership Application Form* if you would like to support the Centre in this way.

The work of the Blackley Centre is described formally in its CIO constitution, where the objects are:

‘(1) To advance education for the benefit of the public in the promotion of reconciliation and peace, religious and racial harmony and equality and diversity, by the provision of facilities and retreat opportunities for Christians and people of all religions and beliefs and to advance religion, and particularly the Christian religion in such activity.

(2) The provision of independent mediation services for individuals, organisations and groups experiencing or threatened by dispute or conflict, such as, but not limited to, neighbour nuisance, anti-social behaviour, harassment, bullying, family or community conflict with a view to the preservation of public order and for the preservation and protection of the well-being of such individuals, organisations and groups.’

Liability

‘If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.’

Membership

Membership of the Blackley Centre CIO is open to anyone who is:

- i. interested in furthering its purposes; and
- ii. is in sympathy with the general Christian ethos albeit such person need not be Christian and may belong to another religion or belief; and
- iii. who, by applying for membership, has indicated his or her agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members.’ The duty of each member of the CIO is to exercise his or her powers as a member in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO.

Peace Movement Membership Benefits for Individuals

- Receive the Centre newsletter by email
- Enjoy a member's discount of 10% on Centre event fees
- Opportunity to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting, receive the annual report and accounts and elect trustees.
- Opportunity to attend and vote at general meetings that may be called by the trustees

For Personal Members

The Centre encourages all personal members to contribute to and participate in its life and activities. This includes encouraging members to make a financial contribution. The level of this contribution is for personal members to decide for themselves, but the Centre suggests not less than £30 per year. Personal members who are able to make a larger financial contribution are encouraged to do so, and their generosity is greatly appreciated.

For Personal Members who are members of the Blackley Baptist Church

The exception to the above is for members of the congregation of Blackley Baptist Church. The congregation established the Blackley Centre in 1993 and in 2017 agreed to support the additional Centre work of peace-making and interfaith relationships, and to establish the Centre as a charity. Blackley Baptist Church is also formally the founding member of the Centre charity. Members of the congregation have supported and continue to support the Centre in many ways. Without their support, the Centre would never have existed. As members of the congregation already financially contribute to the Church, there is no expectation that members of the Blackley congregation will directly contribute financially to the Centre. However, if they wish to do so, any additional support will be greatly appreciated.

Constitution

If you would like to see the constitution of the Blackley Centre CIO, please ask.

Becoming a member

If you would like to become a member of our Peace Movement, please complete the Individual Membership Application Form and return it to the Blackley Centre office at office@blackeycentre.co.uk