

## Meeting for Worship at Winchmore Hill

Elders feel we need to do all we can to deepen our meeting for worship. We hope the following will help us all.

- Every meeting for worship is a new and different holy experiment. We are all part of the meeting, whether it is our first time or our five hundredth.
- Come in quietly, remembering the meeting starts as soon as one person sits down, usually about 10.15 am.
- The meeting begins with silent waiting on the Spirit. Please switch mobiles etc to silent or off. (If you do arrive late, listen and, if someone is speaking, please wait outside until they have finished.)
- Avoid speaking too close to the start of the meeting. Let the meeting come together.
- If you feel led to speak (minister) consider why. Is it a message from God / the Spirit / the Divine for you personally or for everybody present? How does it link with what has already been said? Please stand if you can, speaking clearly, audibly and concisely.
- Remember the ministry of silence can be as important as words spoken out loud. Sometimes there will be no spoken ministry.
- Leave a suitable gap after someone has spoken so that the previous ministry can be fully heard and absorbed.
- It is our custom to speak only once. Avoid hurtful and provocative ministry.
- Try to avoid naming other people in your ministry as this can exclude those who don't know who you are talking about
- Consider whether prolonged reading is contributing to the meeting.
- In the last part of the meeting (the final 5-10 minutes) we settle into silence. This helps to draw the threads of the meeting for worship together.

The meeting closes when the duty elder shakes hands with the person next to them.