



Overview

The Grade II* listed Quaker Meeting House was inaccessible to wheelchair users, with steps to the front entrance, a narrow doorway at the back and stone steps up to a small toilet.

Accessibility

A first priority of the new trustees of the Rookhow charity was to make the Meeting House accessible to wheelchair users and those with mobility issues.



Challenge

The challenge was to make the necessary alterations whilst keeping the character of the property with its original features, such as the plank and muntin wall paneling in the Friends Room and the original stone floors.

Collaboration

By working with conservation builder, Stephen Grindrod of Roots of Nature Building, Paul Crosby conservation architect and Rose Lord, Lake District National Park planner, we were able to install a fully accessible toilet and ambulant shower, widen the external side doorway and make a new door out of the original Friends Room paneling.

Impact

This development means that we can welcome guests and visitors with mobility issues for training days, away days and our regular Historic England Open days on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. The volunteers are making sure the paths into the woodland and up to the campfire are accessible throughout the seasons so everyone can enjoy Rookhow's beautiful woodland and peaceful setting.

Funders

With many thanks to our funders for this project:

- ∞ Southall Trust
- ∞ Inlight Trust
- ∞ Lakeland Disability Support
- ∞ Beatrice Laing Trust
- ∞ All Churches Trust
- ∞ Roselands Trust Fund (Cumbria Community Foundation)
- ∞ Lancaster Quaker Meeting

