



**Clerk to the Council**  
Greenham Control Tower,  
Bury's Bank Road, Thatcham  
Berkshire, RG19 8BZ

[clerk@greenham.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greenham.gov.uk)  
[www.greenham.gov.uk](http://www.greenham.gov.uk)

01635 43534

## **Minutes of Greenham Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – St Mary's Church**

### **Present:**

Cllr Martin Griffiths (MG)  
Cllr Steve Jones (SJ)  
Cllr Chris Austin (CA)  
Cllr Adrian Abbs (AA)  
Cllr Alison Blackborow (AB)  
Cllr Sally-Ann Jay (SAJ)  
Cllr Phil Barnett (PB)  
Cllr Gary Puffett (GP)  
Cllr Billy Drummond (BD)

### **In attendance:**

Clerk: Not present  
Chaired by: Steve Jones

Meeting began at: 7:30 pm

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### **GPC (Greenham Parish Council) Full Council meeting 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

#### **44 Public Session – Neighbourhood Plan**

**At 7.31 Cllr Jones proposed** that standing orders were suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

**Proposed:** SJ

**Seconded:** BD

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve that the Greenham Parish council standing orders are suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

#### **There were three representative groups in the public session:**

1. Fraser Harding from Newbury Park Run. Mr Harding explained some background for the request for grant funding from the council. For some time the equipment required for the Park run was stored at the control tower. The trustees of the control tower were no longer able to make storage space available and so Mr Harding had arranged for storage space to be made available behind Estovers but he required funding for a secure storage unit. The

councillors thanked Mr Harding for his explanation and explained that he was welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting including the discussion of whether to make the grant but he decided to leave at this point.

2. There were two representatives from Greenham and Cookham golf club who wish to talk about the planning application which Greenham Parish Council had objected to. There was a long discussion about this application and the council reiterated the reasons for their objection. The planning consultant for the golf club explained that in their view the requirement for 40% affordable housing was not applicable to this development. Councillor Jones said that if this was a point of law that was being argued, as opposed to West Berkshire Council's policy this was the wrong forum to have the discussion and suggested that this would have to be taken up directly with West Berkshire Council. Despite the objections of Greenham Parish Council to certain elements of the proposed development, Councillor Jones reiterated that the golf club was a valued facility in the community.
3. **Councillors were grateful for the briefing document on the neighbourhood plan that had been circulated by Councillor Abbs.** Bryan Little from West Berkshire Council gave some further background on the thinking and practicalities of constructing a neighbourhood plan. One of the key issues is that the plan has to be driven by the community - not the council. Councillors felt that there was sufficient interest and energy in the local community to have an input into the development of the area. The councillors thanked Mr Little and agreed to add this as an agenda item for the next council meeting.

At 8.18 Councillor Jones proposed that standing orders were reinstated.

**Proposed:** SJ

**Seconded:** CA

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve that the Greenham Parish council standing orders are reinstated

#### 45 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Ken Neal (KN)

Cllr Julian Swift-Hook (JSH)

#### 46 Declarations of Interest, Statements of Position and Dispensations

*To receive any Declarations of Interest and Statements of Position by Councillors.*

AA - Member of West Berkshire District Council (Wash Common Ward), Shadow Executive Member for the Environment, Western Area Planning Committee, Environmental Advisory Group, Licensing Committee, Personnel Committee, Planning (Sub), Governance and Ethics Committee (Sub). Trustee for Stroke Care Newbury & West Berkshire. Director of TEEC

SJ – Greenham Parish Council representative for Greenham Control Tower, interest in 7e

BD – Trustee of Greenham and Common Trust, Commoners Commission, Newbury Town Council, West Berkshire Council

PB - Commoners Commission, Newbury Town Council, West Berkshire Council

TV - Commoners Commission, Newbury Town Council, West Berkshire Council

#### 47 Approval of Minutes

- a) **To Approve** Minutes of GPC Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Proposed:** BD

**Seconded:** AA

**Abstentions:** 2



b) **To approve** GPC Reconciliation statements 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

**Proposed:** MG

**Seconded:** GP

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve GPC Reconciliation statements 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

c) **To consider** a commemoration for the Platinum Jubilee within Greenham Parish

After much discussion it was proposed that the Council would provide a bench with a small plaque on it for the project. Councillor Drummond is working on this project.

**Proposed:** AB

**Seconded:** BD

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** 2

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve a commemoration bench within Greenham Parish for the Platinum Jubilee within Greenham Parish

d) **To consider** a grant request from Newbury Park Run of £800

**Proposed:** BD

**Seconded:** SJ

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve a grant request from Newbury Park Run of £800

## **51 Planning**

a) **To provide** an update on the Diamond Playing field building

The situation with the Diamond playing field building is ongoing, and the councillors asked that the Clerk should make an official request for an update to John Winstanley.

Councillor Barnett asked that, in future on our minutes that regard to planning applications we make it clear (as they are matter of public record) that we are not the ultimate decision maker and are merely a consultee, to avoid any confusion with our constituents.

## **52 GPC Environment**

b) **To consider** quotes for Air Source heat Pump systems

After much discussion Councillors agreed that in view of the uncertainty around energy pricing, now would not be a good time to take this decision in view of the size of the investment. Councillor Abbs said that Air source heat pumps are currently about twice as expensive to run as oil fired heating and four times as expensive to run as gas heating. Councillors agreed that it was important to do whatever we could to reduce our environmental impact and it was proposed that we review this decision on a quarterly basis.

**Proposed:** SAJ

**Seconded:** AA

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve to delay the Air Source heat pump project

c) **To consider** Waste disposal on Greenham Common

The councillors requested that the Clerk writes to

- 1) Paul Hendry about the possibility of a waste bin at the car park at the top of Pyle Hill
- 2) West Berkshire Council about cutting back the gorse along Bury's Bank Road

### **53 Governance**

d) **To approve** GPC Financial Regulations 2022

**Proposed:** SJ

**Seconded:** CA

**Abstentions:** None

**Against:** None

**Resolved:** To unanimously approve GPC Financial Regulations 2022

### **54 Health and Safety**

The councillors requested that the clerk writes to

- 1) in view of the dry spell could we ask BBOWT about their fire risk assessment for the common
- 2) West Berkshire Council about cutting back the gorse along Bury's Bank Road which is causing a visual hazard for road users

The councillors would also like an update about the lighting in the car park at St Mary's Church. Could the Clerk confirm when this was approved and the current status please?

### **55 Other items for information or for possible inclusion on a future Agenda**

None

Meeting ended at 9.20pm