

Minutes of a Meeting of the Greenham and Crookham Commons Commission held on Thursday 15th October 2020

Commissioners Present: Rebecca Hart (Natural England & Chairman), Ken Neal (Commoner and Vice Chairman), Derek Cutt (Commoner), Michael Williams (Commoner), Nicole Rorie (Commoner), Claudia Sievers (Commoner), Frank Huxtable (Commoner), Tony Ferguson (Greenham Trust), Julian Swift-Hook (GPC), Roger Hunneman (NTC), Richard Foster (TTC).

Also present: Paul Hendry (WBDC), Tom Hayward (BBOWT), Tony Vickers (LAF)
Secretary: Lisa Blake (GPC Clerk)

	Action
1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Billy Drummond (WBDC) Chris Austin (Commoner) John Thorogood (Commoner) Mel Gatward (Commoner) Steve Ardagh-Walter (WBDC) Derek Emes (Volunteers/Planning) (non Commissioner) Roger Stace (BBOWT) (non Commissioner) Sue Ellis (WB Heritage Forum) (non Commissioner)	
2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST none declared	
3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING The minutes of the meeting held on 16 th July 2020 were approved. The minutes will be amended to reflect they are finalised and then signed by Rebecca in due course. Item 4: Letter written to Helen Williams in response to cattle on the common. Item 5: admin support will be provided by Clerk and Deputy Clerk	RH to draft admin job

	Action
<p>of Greenham Parish Council up to the cost of £500 per year. This is GPC's contribution to the Commission. Julian Swift Hook (JSH) requested a job spec for the admin support.</p> <p>Regarding contributions from Newbury Town Council (NTC) and Thatcham Town Council (TTC): Roger Hunnerman (RHu) gave an update on contributions from NTC before the start of the meeting as he had to leave at 7pm. NTC will consider our request for funding at their December meeting to which they will invite Rebecca Hart to represent the Commission. Richard Foster confirmed that a contribution will be made by TTC if NTC agrees to contribute. This was clarified post meeting via email exchange between PH and TTC Clerk.</p> <p>Item 6 Good Exchange Funding application: written report requested</p> <p>Item 8 Regulations update: Sue Ellis will progress the next stages of Regulations.</p> <p>Item 11 Commoners rights – Property on the common: Paul Hendry (PH) and Derek Cutts (DC) discussed.</p> <p>Ken Neal (KN) – Declared an interest in this item</p> <p>Any other business Heritage Features on the Commons – Tom Hayward (TH) confirmed that Simon Barnett (BBOWT) has been in touch with the WBDC Heritage Team.</p> <p>Tony Vickers (TV) – Would like Greenham Control Tower Ltd informed when BBOWT contact the WBDC Heritage Team.</p>	<p>description</p> <p>RH to request written report from Sue</p> <p>Matter to be taken forward by Governance committee</p>
<p>4 WEBSITE</p> <p>SE has progressed the new website for GCCC. She is now looking at back office functions and IT functions.</p> <p>A trial of the website has been circulated to the group. If there are no comments, the website will be published.</p> <p>DC– Asked if SE had taken on board comments made regarding the first iteration of the website.</p> <p>PH – Has spoken to SE and thinks the comments and maps, etc</p>	<p>JSH to make contact with Greenham Trust to see if they have account and password.</p>

		Action
	<p>have been included.</p> <p>Asked DC to email SE directly to check maps, etc have been included on the website.</p> <p>JSH – Raised a question regarding ongoing updates to the website. Asked if the Clerk or Deputy Clerk (GPC) could be involved in updating the GCCC website.</p> <p>RH – Asked if anyone can remember who maintained the website originally.</p> <p>It was confirmed that Greenham Trust have previously maintained the GCCC website.</p>	
5	<p>VISION</p> <p>PH – Greenham Vision document drafted by GCCC. Asked if this vision document was ever signed off.</p> <p>RH – Confirmed the purpose of the document.</p> <p>DC – Thinks that the document was never finalised and is still in a draft format.</p> <p>PH – 3rd December 2018 was the last amendment date for this document. Thinks a vision document would be a useful addition to the new website.</p> <p>RH – Checked with other members that they are happy with the Vision document. AGM will be part of the next meeting (next quarter)</p> <p>JSH – Would like the document formally reviewed as a draft before this document is placed on the website.</p> <p>PH – Would like a review the Vision Document to be added to the first agenda in 2021</p>	<p>Add Vision document to first meeting of 2021</p>
6	<p>PARK RUN – NEIL GERMAIN</p> <p>Neil Germain, Events Director at Park Run, joined the meeting.</p> <p>PH – has spoken to Neil previously. It is hard to put a ‘ceiling’ on the number of attendees.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Agreed that there is a numbers issue and would like to make sure that Runners stick to footpaths and reduce impact on other common users</p> <p>Volunteers are made aware of any procedures for Park run prior to the run.</p> <p>There is encouragement to travel to the site by other methods, for example walking, running, cycling.</p> <p>Questions from Commissioners:</p> <p>KN – Attended a run before lockdown, 600 people in attendance. Impressed by the organisation but was concerned by the use of</p>	<p>Add as Agenda for first meeting in 2021</p> <p>NG to enquire about how to cap numbers.</p>

	Action
<p>the car park.</p> <p>DC – Conversation Management Committee have discussed the impact of Park Run on the Common and the effect on other users of Greenham Common.</p> <p>CS – Commented on the number of marshals on the race to limit runners running on the grass. Is in favour of the Park Run on Greenham Common.</p> <p>TF – Is not concerned about the numbers currently but is concerned that the run may become bigger than it currently is.</p> <p>MW – Agrees on a cap on numbers for the run.</p> <p>KN – Asked if a notice could be posted in the car park warning people of the Park Run times and possibly add a notice to the GCCC website outlining the times of the race.</p> <p>PH – Declared an interest as he was involved in setting up the Park Run at Greenham Common.</p> <p>JSH – Enquired about car park marshals and what number would the runners be limited to.</p> <p><i>Frank Huxtable left the meeting 7:50pm</i></p> <p>TV – Enquired about toilet facilities for the Park Run. Would like investigation about limiting numbers and toilet facilities.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Would prefer additional marshalling on the points of the course where there could be potential issues with the paths.</p> <p>RH – confirmed that there is a general desire to control numbers, mixed messages around parking, Question regarding the timing of the events. The principles of maintaining a ‘quiet and peaceful place for nature’ need to be maintained.</p> <p>Neil Germain – Would like to invite the Commissioners to be visit the Park Run when it is running again.</p> <p>Park Run does engage with users of the Common and tries to promote the local businesses, i.e. the Control Tower café and The Base café.</p> <p>Can check with Park Run HQ about how numbers can be limited</p> <p>PH – Is very supportive of Park Run.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – BBOWT receives other requests for running events and wanted to check if the Commission would be happy with other events.</p> <p>TF – Wants to clarify other ad hoc runs on the Common.</p> <p>JSH – Would like to give ‘reasonable weight’ to organisations</p>	

	Action
<p>facilitating exercise on the Common.</p> <p>Neil Germain left the meeting 8:32pm and gave Tom Hayward the opportunity to contact him.</p> <p>TF – Would like more transparency with Park Run events.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Is planning to produce an events calendar.</p> <p>PH – Referred to gaining consent between Park Run and WBDC.</p>	
<p>7 SEASON WARDEN REPORT</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Produced this report. Commissioners were asked for comments on the report.</p> <p>TV – Was keen on the idea of a friends group for the common to educate the public about the Common. Agreed with the extension of a Green Zone around the Control Tower.</p> <p>KN – Could notices be posted on the Common re anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Outlined anti-social behaviour across BBOWT sites.</p> <p>MW – Would like Commons volunteers to be increased on the Common.</p> <p>DC – Supports a simpler solution instead of Red and Green Zones.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Confirmed that Wardens are seasonal and funded by WBDC S106 money (developers' contributions).</p>	
<p>8 FULL SEASONABLE WARDEN REPORT</p> <p>RH – Thanked BBOWT for supplying this information to the Commission.</p>	
<p>9 LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT</p> <p>RH – Thanked BBOWT for supplying this information to the Commission.</p>	
<p>10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Tuberculosis</p> <p>KN- Two animals tested positive for tuberculosis at the last test</p> <p>Cattle numbers</p> <p>RH – Enquired about numbers of cattle over the Winter</p> <p>Tom Hayward – To determine the numbers of cattle over the Winter</p> <p>Face to face meetings</p> <p>Item raised by Chris Austin (not present) – Would like to return to</p>	<p>PH to send zoom invitation for 26th November</p>

	Action
<p>face to face meetings</p> <p>RH – Is not able to join face to face meetings as a member of Natural England</p> <p>KN – Also highlighted the lack of a venue for a meeting</p> <p>TF – Government advice is advising to work from home</p> <p>PH – Pointed out that meetings are restricted to 6 due to Government restrictions in place currently</p> <p>JSH – Does not think it is appropriate to resume face to face meetings currently. Zoom meetings potentially increases the number of people who can access and attend these meetings.</p> <p>Agreed to hold meeting by zoom until safer to resume face to face meetings.</p> <p>Liaison with local councils</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Asked if WBDC representatives are involved with the Common. BBOWT are developing a nature recovery strategy and they would like to liaise with local Councils regarding the strategy PH – asked Tom to contact him on Friday 16th October to speak to a WBDC support officer.</p> <p>AGM</p> <p>RH – Raised the issue of a GCCC AGM. Thursday 26th November for the AGM meeting.</p> <p>Clerk to check with Deputy Clerk if she can take the minutes at this meeting.</p>	
<p>Meeting finished at 9:09pm</p>	