

Greenham & Crookham Commons Commission Meeting
Thursday 29th April 2021 6:30pm

Meeting to be held by Zoom (C-19 restrictions in force): Invite to follow

Commissioners	Rebecca Hart (Natural England & Chairman), Ken Neale (Commoner and Vice Chairman), Derek Cutt (Commoner), Michael Williams (Commoner), Nicole Rorie (Commoner), Claudia Sievers (Commoner), Frank Huxtable (Commoner), Chris Austin (Commoner), John Thorogood (Commoner), Mel Gatward (Commoner), Derek Emes (Commoner) Tony Ferguson (Greenham Trust), Julian Swift-Hook (GPC), Roger Hunneman (NTC), Richard Foster (TTC), Billy Drummond (WBDC), Steve Ardagh-Walter (WBDC), Laurence Parker (GCCV)
WBDC Appointed Officer	Paul Hendry (WBDC)
Secretary	Lisa Blake (GPC Clerk)
Advisors	Tom Hayward (BBOWT), Roger Stace (BBOWT), Tony Vickers (LAF), Sue Ellis (WB Heritage Forum)

Agenda

1. Public session
2. Apologies
3. Declaration of Interest
4. Presentation of G&CCC accounts for the financial year 2020/21
5. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising
 - o Page 5 Item 9: Gorse cutting along the highway – Paul Hendry
 - o Page 5 Item 11: Governance committee to review byelaws
 - o Update on Greenham and Crookham Common Commission Regulations
 - o Update on the Golf Club land swap deal – Paul Hendry
 - o Update on Commission's website www.greenhamcommoncommission.org.uk – Sue Ellis
 - o Update on the beagle people and continual disregard of ground nesting bird restrictions - Tom Hayward
 - o Update on Park Run and Saturn running event – Tom Hayward

Matters for decision and presentation

6. To review and agree additional signatories for the bank account
7. To review the Greenham Common Footpath – to receive further details from Tom Hayward
8. To discuss the lack of cover from WBDC & BBOWT at night and weekends with Commoners & Graziers being used to cover out of hours calls – Ken Neal
9. To discuss the public leaving glass on the common – Ken Neal

10. To discuss horse riders using the grass areas for gallops rather than remaining on the paths and the lack of enforcement – Ken Neal
11. Registering Greenham as a no drone fly zone
12. To review managing public speakers at Commission meetings – Rebecca Hart

Additional papers and reports

13. For information: A review of the condition of the rare and scarce plants at Greenham (page 10 – 85)
14. Overgrazing Observations by Natural England (Page 86-93)
15. BBOWT Report and Governance Committee Report (Page 94 -97)
16. AOB

Minutes of a Meeting of the Greenham and Crookham Commons Commission held on Thursday 28^h January 2021 (via Zoom)

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), Tony Ferguson (Greenham Trust), Julian Swift-Hook (GPC), Roger Hunneman (NTC), Richard Foster (TTC), Laurence Parker (GCCV), Tony Vickers (LAF, Commissioner)

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

		Action
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Frank Huxtable (Commoner) Sue Ellis (WB Heritage Forum) Billy Drummond (WBDC) Chris Austin (Commoner) John Thorogood (Commoner) Mel Gatward (Commoner)	No actions
2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST None	
3	TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING Minutes approved from the last meeting Bank Statements now received and will be presented at the next meeting	LB – To download form from Nat West Bank to add signatories

	Action
<p>Meeting dates have been agreed for the next two years</p> <p>Lisa Blake to check signatories for Nat West Bank – form can be downloaded online</p> <p>Paul Hendry confirmed that speed checks are in progress for Bury's bank road</p> <p>Clerk to add page numbers against the item on the agenda for the next meeting</p> <p>Greenham Common Footpath (Tom Hayward)</p> <p>Simon Pike (Chair of the Local Access Forum) has produced a report regarding footpath extension for an existing footpath on Greenham Common</p> <p>Ken Neal– Access to the Common should be made as easy as possible</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Confirmed that GPC have discussed this issue previously</p> <p>Laurence Parker– Questioned if the pathway could be made wheelchair friendly</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Explained that it wouldn't be possible due to the terrain</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Confirmed ownership of the land</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Local access forum would like approval in principle from the Commission for the proposed pathway (Green line on the map)</p> <p>Rebecca Hart– Confirmed the two options, Green route A to B, or improve the existing route as A to B currently is. Asked Commissioners if they were willing to approve.</p> <p>The Commission would like more information on the project before the Commission can make a decision</p> <p>Update on Greenham and Crookham Common Commission Regulations</p> <p>Paul Hendry – Sue Ellis hasn't received any feedback regarding the regulations. Sue Ellis will chase this up</p> <p>Update from Paul Hendry /WBDC on the Golf club land swap deal</p> <p>Paul Hendry – Hasn't received an update from the Golf Club regarding the land swap deal.</p> <p>GCCC Financial Position – funding (Rebecca Hart)</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Confirmed funding for the Commission from Newbury Town Council, Thatcham Parish Council, Greenham Parish Council, West Berkshire District Council and Natural England.</p> <p>Newbury Town Council would like a yearly report to provide an update on their contribution</p>	<p>to the bank account</p> <p>LB – Add page numbers on the agenda to cross reference the meeting pack for the next meeting</p> <p>TV – To provide more information on Greenham Common Footpath</p>

	Action
<p>Roger Hunneman – Asked for confirmation of how the donated funds will be spent</p> <p>Rebecca Hart– Confirmed that funds will be spent on administration support</p>	
<p>4 TO APPROVE ‘OUR COMMON FUTURE VISION DOCUMENT’ BBOWT</p> <p>Tom Hayward presented this document</p> <p>Paul Hendry – Outlined that the document is a ‘vision’ document</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook- Asked if the Control tower picture could be changed on the document.</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Likes the document and found it useful</p> <p>Tony Ferguson – Is happy to Propose the document is adopted</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook – Seconded</p> <p>Voted and approved by the Commission</p> <p>Derek Cutts – Asked if the date could be changed on the report</p> <p>Tom Hayward – To provide an updated Control Tower image</p>	
<p>5 GREENHAM PEACE CAMP EVENT – EXTERNAL PRESENTER (CEINWEN LALLYS)</p> <p>Ceinwen Lallys joined the meeting to talk about the Greenham Peace camp event</p> <p>40th Anniversary of the women arriving at the Common</p> <p>4th and 5th September 2021 is the anniversary date</p> <p>Dr Meg Thomas is also working on this event</p> <p>Greenham Women Everywhere are another group who are involved in this event.</p> <p>Walk from Cardiff to Greenham is planned to arrive on the Anniversary date.</p> <p>There will hopefully be some events to welcome the walkers at the common. Ceinwen Lallys is involved in arranging these events. Would like to find out who the key people are within the Commission to work with on this event</p> <p>Michael Williams joined the meeting at 19:27</p> <p>Tony Ferguson – Asked for confirmation of how the Commission can help</p>	

	Action
<p>Julian Swift-Hook – Walk originally involved men and women and JSH asked if that would be reflected in the re-enactment. Also mentioned that ROSA productions have applied for funding to create podcasts for this event.</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Thinks the event will attract media publicity. Would like a procedure in place to manage national publicity</p> <p>Ceinwen Lallys – Is monitoring the event in her capacity of involvement with the Control Tower.</p> <p>Roger Hunneman – Would also like some management of the event put in place</p> <p>Claudia Sievers – Suggested ticketing for the event to gauge numbers</p> <p>Rebeca Hart – The main concern is the number of visitors crossing the common</p> <p>Commission contacts were confirmed as Rebecca Hart and Tom Hayward</p> <p>Ceinwen Lallys left the meeting 19:42</p>	
<p>6 WEBSITE</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Read out a website update from Sue Ellis</p> <p>Outlined the procedure for the new website.</p> <p>Website is very close to going live</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook – Asked if the new domain name could be simpler than the current domain name</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Asked for suggestions for new domain names from the Commission</p> <p>Roger Hunneman – Likes GreenhamCommission.org</p>	
<p>7 MANAGING PUBLIC SPEAKERS</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Explained the document</p> <p>The Commons Act outlines how members of the public can speak at a Commission meeting.</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook – Agrees in principle with the proposal but would like to add that members of the public can speake on ‘an item by item basis’.</p> <p>Also suggested issuing a Press release announcing the commission meeting and after the meeting. Also suggested that Parish Councils could publicise Commission meetings in the future.</p> <p>Tony Ferguson – Is supportive of JSH’s comments but questioned how members of the public would speak at the meeting.</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – The Act confirms that members of the public are entitled to speak at Commission meetings</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Local access forum has an item at the start of the agenda for Public contributions and also has a procedure whereby members of the public</p>	

		Action
	<p>get in touch with the Chair prior to the meeting and express an interest in speaking in a particular section on the agenda.</p> <p>Ken Neal – Suggested that people could register an interest at the start of the meeting so they can speak</p> <p>Roger Hunneman – Supports Tony Vickers suggestion for Public attendance</p> <p>Claudia Sievers – Would like to limit the public speaking time to 5 minutes per person but not longer than 20 minutes for the whole public session</p> <p>Michael Williams – Suggested members of the public using the Commission website to contact the commission prior to the meeting</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook– Would like to allow a free time limited public session at the start of the meeting. Also suggested that decision to allow speakers on individual items should be delegated to the Chairperson.</p> <p>Ken Neal – Would like people to encourage members of the public to comment through a Commissioner.</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Will present a revised document to Commissioners at the next Commission meeting</p>	<p>RH – Will send a revised document to Commissioners prior to the next meeting</p>
8	<p>A REVIEW OF THE CONDITION OF THE RARE AND SCARCE PLANTS AT GREENHAM</p> <p>Report to be included in the next meeting</p>	
9	<p>LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT</p> <p>Ken Neal – Enquired about Gorse burning on the Common</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Confirmed that due to the Covid situation this hasn't happened this year.</p> <p>Roger Hunneman – Asked if Gorse cutting on the common will continue and if West Berkshire District Council would carry this out.</p> <p>Paul Hendry– Couldn't confirm if the gorse cutting would continue on a regular basis but will investigate</p> <p>Roger Hunneman – Enquired about pot holes in the surface of the Control Tower Car park</p> <p>Tom Hayward – BBOWT is checking the car park regularly for damage</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Enquired if Greenham Parish Council would be able to contribute any CIL funds towards the car park.</p> <p>Tom Hayward – There is an action on BBOWT to look at the cost to repair the car park further and speak to parishes regarding the costings</p>	<p>PH – To speak to WBDC regarding cutting Gorse on the side of the Highway</p>
10	<p>SECRETARY ROLE</p>	

	Action
<p>The Admin role has been worked on by the Clerk and the Chair Task now complete</p>	
<p>11 DRAFT BYELAWS</p> <p>Tom Hayward – Confirmed that there has been an issue with model aircraft use on Greenham Common.</p> <p>Derek Cutts – Model aircraft aren't mentioned in the 1983 Byelaws or 1982 Countryside and Rights of Way Act The only procedures in place, is advice from the Civil Aviation authority. There is a concern about bird nesting season. There is nothing in place to prevent model aircraft use, on the common, currently,</p> <p>Rebecca Hart – Confirmed that Natural England is in the process of compiling byelaws but isn't sure if these will be applicable to model aircraft use</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook– Thinks there is power to the act to create a byelaw connected to this issue</p> <p>PH – This is an issue for the Governance Committee to take forward, investigate and speak to WBDC regarding making byelaws to control undesirable activities on the common</p>	<p>Governance committee to look at byelaws to control undesirable activities</p>
<p>12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>VE AND BJ DAY -</p> <p>Sue Ellis has asked this to be included</p> <p>Paul Hendry – Does not see it as a Commission function. There are specialist groups that will be arranging these events.</p> <p>Ken Neal– Asked if the Commission should promote its assistance in any events and willingness to facilitate</p> <p>Julian Swift-Hook – Also doesn't think this is a Commission function due to limited funds and resources</p> <p>Paul Hendry – Definitely does not think the Commission should be involved</p> <p>Tony Vickers – Also doesn't think the Commission should be involved in this event.</p> <p>Tony Ferguson – Supports the views of the other Commissioners and non-involvement</p> <p>The commission are happy to allow the use of the common in certain circumstances for commemorative events, subject to specific permission from the Commission</p>	

	Action
<p data-bbox="331 273 389 304">AOB</p> <p data-bbox="331 327 1246 465">Richard Foster – Highlighted an issue with double yellow lines being painted near Greenham Common. Old Thornford road and Crookham Common Hill have been included in an application to potentially paint double yellow lines in these locations. This issue will be monitored</p> <p data-bbox="331 533 576 564">Meeting ended 20:53</p>	