

**Greenmount Village Community (GVC)**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024 for the year 2023 to 2024**

Monday 4 November 2024 7.30 pm in the Old School; 14 people in attendance.

1. **Opening and Welcome by Chairperson** Julie Southworth. Thanks were expressed to the Committee and to all volunteers for work done and all that has been achieved this year.
2. **Apologies** C. Taylor, A. Waddell, J. Beale.
3. **Minutes of 2022 - 2023 AGM** Proposed acceptance of minutes. Proposed: John Southworth. Seconded: Graham Lord. Carried unanimously. Matters Arising: AGM minutes to be circulated to the Committee for approval soon after the AGM before being placed on the GVC website.
4. **Chairperson's Report for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**
  - An anonymous donation of £5000 was made to Greenmount Village Community.
  - A vote was taken to pursue the possibility of GVC becoming of Charitable Status.
  - Helen Tomlinson was invited to attend our committee meeting to explain the process of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The committee agreed that we should move forward by adopting the foundation model of a CIO.
  - Safeguarding Policies were updated with guidance from VCFA.
  - The Village Party was back on its usual day of the first bank holiday in May, despite the King's Coronation in June. Thanks go to Bob Judge for the organisation of this event. Another successful community event based around The Village Green, The Church, Old School and The Cricket Club.
  - Alistair and Joan Waddell were invited to attend the King's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace for their work in setting up Greenmount Village Community in 2010 and their commitment to the local community. A well-deserved treat.
  - Funding was awarded from Forever Manchester for the sum of £875 to upgrade the Incredible Edible Garden alongside the church. A great team of volunteers helped to install new beds, compost and stones, members of the Rainbow Shed managed the whole project, and plants were donated from the RHS Show once again. A new sign has also been installed with the garden now being known as Greenmount Village Community Garden. A new page has also been set up for the garden on the GVC website. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way and a special thanks to Bea Wainwright for maintaining the upkeep of this area.
  - Bury Greenwood Group have worked hard to support Bury Council with projects throughout the borough, particularly the making of benches for local parks. Likewise, the Rainbow Shed has been making bird and owl boxes. Both shed groups also made items for the Village Christmas Fair.
  - Greenmount was lit up once again by Christmas trees being displayed outside the local shops. Thanks go to Tracey, Colin and Bob for organising this.
  - D-CaFF changed its venue and is now held at Canon Lewis Hall, Longsight Road giving better access to its members. This continues to be a great success and is well

## Greenmount Village Community

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supported by dedicated volunteers. Thank you to Joani, Laura and all the volunteers for all their hard work.

- All funding from the Co-op Community Fund has been spent with the final two benches made by Bury Greenwood Group being positioned on The Lines near Tottington St. John's Cricket Club.
- Woodland Management have concentrated on removing Ash die back from the local area and trees damaged through the storms. Some sessions have been cancelled in the past year due to poor weather creating a risk to volunteers.
- The footpath from Belvedere Avenue to Nabbs Way has been fully restored through funding by GVC from the 'Let's Do It' fund and Public Rights of Way Fund.
- Holly Mount Orchard has seen an increase in their monthly volunteer sessions. They have had a presence at the Village Christmas Cracker and Village Party as well as selling their own apple juice from apples harvest at the orchard. The cabin is well used on volunteer days. The volunteers also offered an apple day at Guardian Angels Primary School.
- Greenmount Village Community Walking Group continues to be popular with 8 qualified leaders providing a range of different walks over the past year. They are pleased that 67 new people have joined the group. The Walking Group provide 2 special community walks to celebrate the festive season. They continue to get support from Bury MBC and work closely with David Chadwick on Public Rights of Way, providing a safe footpath into Redisher Woods.
- Cuppa and Chat celebrated its 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary and continues to be well attended by an increasing number of residents in the community who value the support received from all our volunteers.
- D-CaFF took their members to the theatre for the first time. This took a great deal of organising and created different challenges but was well received and appreciated by its members. A wonderful achievement by Joani, Laura and the team with plans to do this again next year.
- Additional funding has also been sourced from a private funder to assist in the development and improvement of Island Lodge. £76,000 has been donated for the first phase of the project. Proffitts – Investing in Communities, are managing this project with GVC. Work commenced in March 2024.
- In the past year, Sue Parnell stood down from the committee, we would like to thank her for her support over the past couple of years.
- We welcome Brian Allan who has joined the committee.
- Bob Judge has continued to keep our financial books in order, for which I am truly grateful.
- I would also like to thank Joan for all her work and advice as secretary, and all committee members who continue in their roles to support Greenmount Village Community.

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Thanks to the Chairperson for all activity on behalf of the GVC.

### **5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2024**

Presented by our Treasurer Bob Judge. The Orchard came under the umbrella of GVC in March 2024 and £6900 was transferred from Incredible Edible into our bank account.

Once the GVC has CIO status the format of the Accounts may change.

Proposal: Acceptance of Report. Proposed :Laura Roberts Seconded: Julie Southworth. Carried unanimously.

Our thanks to the Treasurer for his continued hard work keeping track of all monies for each group under the umbrella of the GVC.

Thanks also to Julie Lightfoot who kindly Examined our Accounts and will be invited to examine next year with the understanding that this may change depending on the CIO.

### **6. Election of Officers and future organisation of the GVC**

Most Committee members were happy to continue. Julie Southworth (Chairperson) and John Southworth (GVC Secretary with responsibility for Communications) are working with the GVC Committee and Bury Council towards gaining CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) status. GVC Committee for 2024 to 2025: Chairperson - Julie Southworth; Treasurer – Bob Judge; Secretary – John Southworth: Minute Secretary: Joan Waddell. Committee Members - Brian Allen, Joani Beale (D-CaFF Rep), Neil Carter, Ken Dearden, Marcus Evans (Webmaster), Dorothy Gunther, Tracey Hayhoe, Graham Lord, Ian Mayer(Orchard), Laura Roberts (D-CaFF Rep), Christine Taylor, Alistair Waddell (Woodland Management & BGG).

### **7. A.O.B.**

Thanks to Julie for all her hard work over the last 5 years on behalf of GVC. Thanks to John for his excellent work with Communications.

### **Date of next AGM**

October/November 2025.

Joan Waddell – GVC Minute Secretary

20/11/2024

Final minutes agreed by email with all Committee Members who attended.