

Greenmount Village Community (GVC)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2025 for the year 2024 to 2025

Wednesday 19 November 2025 7.30 pm in the Old School
13 people in attendance.

- **Opening and Welcome by Chairperson** Julie Southworth. Thanks were expressed to the Committee and to all volunteers for work done during this year.
- **Apologies** K. Dearden, M. Evans, I. Mayer, N. Carter.
- **Minutes of 2023 - 2024 AGM** Proposed acceptance of minutes. Proposed: Graham Lord. Seconded: John Southworth. Carried unanimously. Matters Arising: None.
- **Chairperson's Report for 1st April 2024 until 31st March 2025**

Phase one of the Island Lodge project was completed using the money awarded through the GARL Foundation. A compound was set up on the land now owned by Cormar Carpets down Mill Street, allowing access through the Cormar car park. This has been used for the delivery of stone and machinery for works taking place by our own contractors and that of the contractor who will be fixing the lodge wall.
- Footpaths leading to the lodge have been reinforced and drainage issues dealt with. Steps have been made joining the lower path to The Lines just before the viaduct. New benches have been installed and new signage indicating 'What 3 Words' for identifying location. Shrubs and bulbs have been planted as part of Phase 1.
- Greenmount Village volunteers continue to support Woodland Management in keeping these areas in good order. Thank you to Alistair for continuing to run this group.
- D-CaFF have taken members to the theatre for a second time and are grateful to their volunteers who have helped to support this event. Joani and Laura continue to provide help and guidance to those people in our community who are living with dementia and their carers, for which GVC are very grateful.
- Bob arranged for some of our funds to go into a short term account, due to the large amounts of funding raised. This is proving to be a good decision and is bringing in a sizable interest.
- A Village Green tidy up was arranged which resulted in dismantling one of the picnic tables from the playground. A donation was made by local residents to fund a composite bench.
- The GARL Foundation has also funded Holly Mount Orchard for a second time. This funding was for the sum of £41,000 to provide a seating and fire pit area for educational purposes, supporting a range of

children's groups from Young Carers, Mother and Toddler, Local Schools, etc., encouraging children to be interested in the outdoors. Thanks go to Lisa and her team from Wild Souls for all their hard work. New steps have been installed, drainage pipes and paths laid, a base for a storage shed, and bulb planting, all adding to a safe and aesthetic place to visit. Other projects as part of this funding will be completed in 2025/26.

- Greenmount Walking Group is still going strong and provided a wide selection of walks throughout the year including Friday evening summer walks and Festive Community Walk at Christmas, and much more. Thanks go to Christine Taylor and Brian Allan and their team for their commitment to provide this asset to our community.
- Members of the Rainbow Shed Group have been busy refurbishing donated benches with metal ends by replacing the wooden slats. These are being positioned on the village green to replace the old wooden benches. I am grateful to this team who have joined John and myself in maintaining the upkeep of this area.
- The Bury Greenwood Group continue to provide benches and other items for the council to distribute throughout the parks in Bury. Both shed groups continue to provide skills and friendship for several members in our community, thanks go to Alistair Waddell for the organisation and running of these groups.
- Thank you again to Tracey and Colin for their work in putting up Christmas Trees in the community. We were pleased that the church was able to dress the larger tree with lights again after an enormous response from the residents in Greenmount to a crowdfunding request. Christine Taylor switched on the lights as the community gathered together to sing carols.
- A new set of Policies have been written in preparation for the application to obtain charitable status. Other policies have been updated with guidance from the Bury VCFA (Voluntary Community Faith Alliance).
- The Village Party was back on its usual day of the first bank holiday in May 2024. Thanks go to Bob for taking ownership of this and to everyone involved in helping to make this a successful community event based around The Village Green, The Church, Old School and The Cricket Club.
- The shed groups, orchard and D-CaFF all had a presence at the annual Christmas Cracker, which is run by the church. A successful event which brings the whole community together.
- Tony Parnell has stood down from the committee, and we thank him for his time in volunteering for GVC.

- Two editions of The Voice were distributed to all homes in Greenmount. Thanks to John for co-ordinating all the news and events taking place throughout the year. Also, to him and Marcus for keeping everyone updated on the website and social media.
- Thanks go to Bob Judge who has continued to keep our finances in order, in what has been a difficult year for him.
- Thanks also to Joan for her continued support as secretary and all committee members who work quietly behind the scenes. It is much appreciated.

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

- **Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the period ending 31 March 2025**
Presented by our Treasurer Bob Judge. Once the GVC has CIO status it is likely the format of the Accounts will continue using a receipts and payments basis. Proposal: Acceptance of Report. Proposed: T. Hayhoe Seconded: J. Southworth. Carried unanimously.
Our thanks to the Treasurer for his continued hard work on behalf of GVC. Thanks also to Julie Lightfoot who kindly Examined our Accounts and will be invited to examine next year with the understanding that the format may change depending on the CIO status.
- **Election of Officers**
Committee members were happy to continue. Julie Southworth (Chairperson) and John Southworth (GVC Secretary with responsibility for Communications) continue working with the GVC Committee and Bury Council towards gaining CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) status. GVC Committee for 2025 to 2026: Chairperson - Julie Southworth; Treasurer - Bob Judge; Secretary - John Southworth: Minute Secretary - Joan Waddell. Committee Members - Brian Allan(Walking Group), Joani Beale (D-CaFF Rep), Neil Carter(Old School), Ken Dearden(Liaison with Police attending PACT meetings), Marcus Evans (Webmaster), Dorothy Gunther, Tracey Hayhoe, Graham Lord(Old School), Ian Mayer(Orchard), Laura Roberts (D-CaFF Rep), Christine Taylor(Walking Group etc), Alistair Waddell (Woodland Management & BGG).
- **A.O.B.**
Thanks to Julie for all her work over the last 6 years representing the GVC.

Date of next AGM

October/November 2026.

Joan Waddell – GVC Minute Secretary

30th November 2025

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