

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH & POOLE GREEN PARTY CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE AND STATUS

- 1.1 The name of the local party shall be Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Green Party, hereafter referred to as BCPGP.
- 1.2 BCPGP is a constituent part of The Green Party of England & Wales (hereafter referred to as GPEW) and is subject to its rules and constitution.
- 1.3 The geographical area of BCPGP is Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, with the boundaries of the Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council area.
- 1.4 BCPGP is also part of the South West Green Party, hereafter referred to as SWGP.

2. AIMS

- 2.1 The object of BCPGP is to promote the aims of The Green Party as stated in its Constitution:
 - (a) to develop and implement ecological policies consistent with the Philosophical Basis of The Green Party as expressed in the Manifesto for a Sustainable Society;
 - (b) to that end to win seats at all levels of government;
 - (c) to organise any non-violent activity which will publicise and further these aims.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The membership consists of all national Green Party members resident within the geographical area of BCPGP.
- 3.2 Members may not be a member of another political party (other than Green Parties abroad) at the same time. Should a member join another political party then they immediately cease to be a member of BCPGP.

Disputes

- 3.3 BCPGP will seek to resolve any disputes between members through discussion and conciliation. However BCPGP has the right and responsibility to take disciplinary action (including suspension or expulsion from the party, from any of its groups and/or workstreams, or temporary or permanent removal of eligibility to be nominated for all or certain positions) against any local member who has acted against the aims and agreed policies of the group or brought it into disrepute, or breached the GPEW Code of Conduct. An initial decision, and action if deemed necessary, on a dispute should be made where possible by BCPGP Disputes Resolution Panel. GPEW Dispute Resolution Committee could then be consulted and may be involved if considered appropriate. Decisions may be referred for final resolution at a properly constituted, in quorum BCPGP General Meeting where advance notice of the matter

has been given. The national disciplinary procedures shall be used for national members.

4. OFFICERS OF BCPGP

- 4.1 BCPGP shall elect its Officers at the AGM. These must include a Local Party Contact, a Coordinator, a Chair, a Treasurer, a Nominating Officer and other officers as specified in the Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Green Party Job Descriptions.
- 4.2 Nominations shall be proposed and seconded, and won by a simple majority vote. Any member can ask for a secret ballot.
- 4.3 From 2021 officer nominations shall only be valid if the individual(s) nominated has attended a total of at least three meetings of those BCPGP working group(s) and/or steering group(s) which are directly relevant to the officer role. The returning officer shall have discretion to reduce this threshold if the relevant working/steering group(s) has met on average less than once every two months over the preceding year, or to waive it if the group has been minimally active or inactive.
- 4.4 The AGM has the discretion not to fill posts other than the four named above if no suitable nominations are forthcoming or to propose the merging of posts or the creation of other posts with the agreement of a simple majority.
- 4.5 Should any officers fail to attend three consecutive monthly meetings without good reason or apology, BCPGP may co-opt another person to act in their place.
- 4.6 In the event of a vacancy an officer may be co-opted at the next monthly meeting.
- 4.7 Officers may be de-selected at an AGM or EGM.
- 4.8 Brief job descriptions are to be scripted for the key posts outlining responsibilities and powers.

5. REFERENDUMS

- 5.1 The sovereign decision-making mechanism on proposals for BCPGP to adopt, significantly amend or scrap substantive external policies shall be all-member referendums. These shall be carried by a simple majority of valid votes cast.
- 5.2 The returning officer for referendums shall be the Secretary and/or other member(s) of Admin & Governance Working Group as agreed. The returning officer may schedule periodic dates when referendum votes are to take place, with non-urgent policy proposals received in each period grouped into one combined voting exercise.
- 5.3 The referendum procedure shall be as follows:
 - (i) Motions should be proposed and seconded by BCPGP members and submitted to the Secretary.

- (ii) If the policy proposal is deemed urgent and needed by a specific date, this should be specified in the submission. The returning officer may choose to grant the proposed condensed timeframe, or may decline it with the agreement of the Chair (subject to call-in by General Meeting).
- (iii) The returning officer shall post each motion received prominently on the intranet, providing a specified period of time for any member to post (a) comments and questions, (b) points for and against, or (c) a statement of proposition or opposition offered for formal inclusion in the referendum mailing.
- (iv) At the end of the specified initial discussion period, the proposer and seconder shall be asked (a) to review the discussion and confirm they wish to proceed with an all-member vote on their proposal, and if so (b) confirm the text of the supporting statement they wish to be circulated with the referendum mailing.
- (v) A statement against the motion, if any have been made on or via the intranet posting, shall also be included in the referendum mailing. If multiple non-repetitive statements have been made both for and against the proposal, further pairs of 'for' and 'against' statements may also be included.
- (vi) An open discussion session, in-person and/or by video, on the proposal should be arranged if this is specifically requested by 5 or more members and if suitable impartial hosting can be arranged. An objective report of any such session shall be included in the referendum's covering information for members.
- (vii) Voting shall be conducted predominantly on an online system, with ballots sent to the primary email address registered on the record of each paid-up BCPGP member. The deadline shall be clearly stated, and shall not be extended except in the event of (a) substantive technical disruption to the casting of votes, or (b) an exceptional public emergency.
- (viii) The returning officer shall take proportionate and affordable steps to offer enfranchisement in referendums to those members whom BCPGP cannot contact by bulk email.
- (ix) A designated intranet discussion space for the referendum topic should be provided until the end of the voting period, with joining instructions provided in the referendum mailing.

5.4 Referendums need not be held on proposals which are (in a BCPGP membership context) objectively of markedly narrow interest or highly technocratic. Such proposals could be combined where appropriate into any wider or more engaging forthcoming policy proposals, or else referred to the next available General Meeting.

6. GENERAL MEETINGS

6.1 Except where otherwise specified in this constitution or by binding GPEW rules, ultimate decision-making authority in BCPGP shall reside with General Meetings open to all members and invited guests. General Meetings shall have general power of call-in over decisions made by groups as specified in sections 10-15. The chair should be advised 48 hours in advance of guests attending a General Meeting, but in any case reserves the right to decide which parts of the meeting are appropriate for the guest to attend.

6.2 Motions should be proposed and seconded, and will be carried by a simple majority vote of members present.

- 6.3 Members should be notified of any motions relating to policy at least one week before the meeting to discuss the issue.
- 6.4 Only members of BCPGP will be entitled to vote. Those unable to attend may make their views known to the meeting, either in writing or through representation by another member, but only those in attendance will be entitled to vote. At the chair's discretion proxy votes may be acceptable for specific items if notice is given in advance to this effect. Members may not vote on motions of direct personal or financial interest to themselves.
- 6.5 The monthly business meeting will be deemed to be in quorum if there are five or more paid up members in attendance.
- 6.6 Attendance and business conducted at meetings shall be recorded in minutes to be approved by the next meeting.
- 6.7 A draft agenda will be circulated to all members at least one week in advance of each meeting, together with the minutes of the previous meeting. Anyone can suggest additional items for the agenda in advance of or at the start of the meeting.
- 6.8 An item will be included early on every agenda of a meeting of the BCPGP – "Declarations of Interest"
- 6.9 In the event of any member having a pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting of the Group that member shall leave the room during the discussion and any voting on the matter unless those present resolve that such interest is 'insignificant'.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- 7.1 Every September an AGM shall be held for the purposes of:
 - (a) Presentation of a report of work which has been carried out over the year
 - (b) Presentation of a financial statement for the year
 - (c) Election of the Officers
 - (d) Agreeing the cheque signatories
 - (e) Reviewing strategy and setting goals for the following year and beyond.
 - (f) Agree an outline budget for the following year
 - (g) Agree the provisional schedule of all-member meetings for the following year.
 - (h) Any other business on the agenda (to be determined in the same way as for a monthly meeting)
- 7.2 The Chair shall be taken by a nominated person as agreed by members attending the monthly business meeting prior to the AGM.
- 7.3 All members of BCPGP who are present have one vote each, and resolutions must have the support of a simple majority. Proxy votes can only be cast if a letter from an absent member is produced.

- 7.4 Notice of the AGM shall be given at least one month prior to the meeting and any motions for consideration shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
- 7.5 The Agenda will be circulated in advance at least one week prior to the meeting.
- 7.6 The Chair has the right to rule on the admissibility of any emergency motions put forward.
- 7.7 The quorum of an AGM shall be five members including officers or 25% of members of BCPGP (whichever is the smaller).
- 7.8 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on a particular agenda may be called on the request of the monthly meeting or at least five members of BCPGP.
- 7.9 Minutes of AGMs and monthly meetings shall be maintained in an archive.

The same general rules apply to EGMs as to AGMs.

8. OTHER ALL-MEMBER MEETINGS

- 8.1 In months other than the month of the AGM or any EGM with substantive business of salience to the general membership, BCPGP shall hold either (a) a facilitated members' meeting or (b) local group meetings, with exceptions allowable in August and December.
- 8.2 Facilitated meetings shall be dedicated to one or two of the following all-member workstreams:
 - Policy
 - Activism
 - Politics
 - Elections
 - Strategy
- 8.3 Facilitated meetings shall be designated either workshops or open spaces:
 - (a) "Workshop" meetings shall be able to accommodate plenary debate and voting on formally tabled proposals relevant to the designated workstream(s), with the same notice required to members of meeting date and tabled business as for a General Meeting. This decision-making power shall be equivalent to that of a General Meeting and not requiring General Meeting ratification.
 - (b) Open space meetings shall not have formal decision-making power.
- 8.4 A proposed month-by-month schedule for all-member meetings should be proposed by Facilitation Group and/or Coordination Group to each AGM. Changes may be agreed by any General Meeting or by Coordination Group.
- 8.5 Facilitation Group shall have the discretion to structure facilitated meetings as needed towards achieving BCPGP's aims in the workstream, subject to call-in.

9. ACCESS TO PARTICIPATION AND INFORMATION

- 9.1 For the duration of restrictions on indoor gatherings resulting from the Covid-19 outbreak affecting a significant proportion of the local population, live online participation by members shall be permitted and facilitated in all meetings and ballots provided for by this constitution, on an equal basis to any in-person participation offered.
- 9.2 Admin & Governance Working Group shall bring constitutional proposals on the ongoing place of online participation in all-member BCPGP meetings to the AGM after the end of Covid-19 restrictions is announced, or to an earlier General Meeting.
- 9.3 Groups shall generally be open for all BCPGP members (or all members in a group's local area) to attend, subject to exclusion procedures specified in this constitution.
- 9.4 Groups as defined in sections 10-15 may choose to transact their business by digital means accessible to all members of that group, and shall provide records of decisions and/or reports and details of their next meeting on the intranet.

10. LOCAL GROUPS

- 10.1 Members may form a local group covering one town, one council ward, or (by mutual consent) a "neighbourhood" grouping of wards within the geographical area, or one Parliamentary constituency for which BCPGP holds responsibility or lead responsibility.
- 10.2 Members of BCPGP resident in the area covered by a local group may vote in that group. For a constituency group extending into the geographical area of Dorset Green Party, members of the latter resident in the constituency may also vote.
- 10.3 Meeting notices and minutes of local groups shall be circulated to BCPGP members resident in the local group's area.
- 10.4 The quorum for town and constituency group meetings shall be five members, for neighbourhood meetings four members, and for ward meetings three members.
- 10.5 Local groups may formally adopt their own rules, subject to approval by the next BCPGP General Meeting, and/or elect their own officers. Wherever no local alternative has been formally adopted and approved, decision-making meetings of local groups shall follow BCPGP General Meeting procedures.
- 10.6 Local groups shall not be obliged to follow any BCPGP whip. However, in their activities the decisions and conduct of local groups shall be subject to call-in and block by Coordination Group or General Meeting in the event of objective concerns about unjustified negative impact on BCPGP's reputational, legal, financial or organisational good standing.

- 10.7 Arrangements for the respective discussion of town business and constituency business should be scheduled and notified in a manner which does not disadvantage participation:
- (a) in Borough of Poole discussion by members resident in parts of the borough outside Poole constituency;
 - (b) in Bournemouth West constituency discussion by members resident in that constituency but in the Borough of Poole;
 - (c) in Christchurch constituency discussion by Dorset Green Party members resident in that constituency;
 - (d) in Mid Dorset & North Poole constituency discussion by (i) members resident in North Poole who may also wish to attend Borough of Poole discussions, or (ii) Dorset Green Party members resident in that constituency.
- 10.8 Where one or more towns has no local group operating, Coordination Group and/or Facilitation Group shall attempt to provide a suitable local meeting space for that town in months designated for local group meetings in the all-member meeting schedule.

11. WORKING GROUPS AND STEERING GROUPS

- 11.1 Substantive management and delivery of organisational workstreams shall normally be devolved to and conducted by working groups, subject to call-in by Coordination Group or General Meeting.
- 11.2 The working groups should always include Admin & Governance, Media & Communications, Membership, and Finance & Fundraising (or an altered configuration of these functions as agreed by Coordination Group). Further working groups may be created as deemed appropriate. Coordination Group should approve Terms of Reference for working groups.
- 11.3 When any working group has been formed or reformed in the previous year, the working group's voting members should be approved by the next AGM.
- 11.4 Once an initial voting membership has been thus approved, the working group's voting membership may approve new voting members or (by two-thirds majority) removal of membership, subject always to call-in by General Meeting.
- 11.5 Steering groups may also be formed to steer and develop all-member workstreams (as defined in 8.2) between the corresponding all-member meetings. Membership procedures shall be the same as for working groups, except that initial membership of such groups may alternatively be approved by an all-member workshop for the corresponding workstream.
- 11.6 Working groups are a different kind of environment to all-member meetings, often performing functions undertaken by paid staff in larger Green Party organisations. Working group membership, and/or access to working group meetings or collaboration spaces, may be denied on grounds of unsuitability defined in terms of impact on the group's effective functioning. Respectful learners shall always be welcome.

11.7 Non-granting or removal of working group membership and/or access should be referred to HR & Due Diligence Panel and may be referred by either side to the Disputes process.

12. TOPIC GROUPS

12.1 Two or more members may form a topic group to campaign and/or lobby on any given external subject within BCPGP's work remit.

12.2 The initial membership and general remit of a topic group should be approved by a General Meeting, or on an interim basis until the next suitable General Meeting, by Coordination Group.

12.3 Topic groups should not promote a message in the name of BCPGP which substantively conflicts with BCPGP or GPEW policy or aims. If a minority of topic group content is to reflect a genuine diversity of views on a contested policy, Coordination Group should be consulted and non-alignment with Green Party policy should be made explicitly clear.

13. SPEAKERS GROUP

13.1 There shall be a Speakers Group which shall coordinate and develop external speaking opportunities for BCPGP.

13.2 Speakers Group's members shall be:

- the BCPGP Chair;
- elected Green Party BCP councillors;
- selected target ward candidates;
- selected Prospective Parliamentary candidates;
- designated lead speakers of each local group;
- designated speakers of each active topic group.

14. FACILITATION GROUP

14.1 There shall be a Facilitation Group which shall have collaborative and preferably rotating responsibility for the facilitation of all-member meetings other than General Meetings, as set out in Section 8.

14.2 Members of Facilitation Group shall be elected, or removed, by General Meeting or all-member workshop. The Group shall have no maximum size.

15. COORDINATION GROUP

15.1 There shall be a Coordination Group which shall:

- (a) receive reports from each group in BCPGP ;
- (b) take management overview (operational and strategic) of the organisation's activities;
- (c) progress constructive joining-up of activity streams;
- (d) identify organisational gaps and make attempts to address them; and

- (e) have general power of call-in over the decisions or health of working groups, steering groups and topic groups, plus powers of call-in over local groups as limited by 10.5 and 10.6.

15.2 The voting membership of Coordination Group shall be the BCPGP Coordinator plus up to two representatives from each:

- organisational working group
- steering group
- town and/or constituency group,
- target or development ward group (or neighbourhood group containing a target or development ward), and
- active topic group.

15.3 No individual shall hold more than one vote on Coordination Group.

16. PANELS

16.1 There shall be a HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) & DUE DILIGENCE PANEL which shall:

- (a) scrutinise the suitability of applicants for positions as candidates, BCPGP officers, or (when proportionate) local group officers;
- (b) decide on the suitability in principle of BCP Council candidate applications, prior to their progression to the membership's selection processes;
- (c) report any concerns about any candidates for BCPGP (or local group) officer posts, to be included in the information provided to members voting; and
- (d) be available for consultation by any member performing a role for BCPGP who is encountering concerns about the appropriateness of a colleague's role and/or conduct.

16.2 HR & Due Diligence Panel's membership shall be an opt-in basis from the following:

- BCPGP officers with more than one year's Green Party officer experience;
- Elected Green Party BCP councillors;
- Former BCPGP Chairs/Coordinators and Secretaries with more than one year's Green Party officer experience who are still BCPGP members and still in good standing and engaged with BCPGP;
- Selected target ward candidates
- BCPGP's Prospective Parliamentary Candidates (PPCs), or where not in place, the most recent previous PPCs who are still GPEW members, still in good standing and actively engaged with BCPGP.

16.3 Any General Meeting may choose to directly elect further members to HR & Due Diligence Panel. The panel members may co-opt further members.

16.4 A General Meeting may pass a resolution that a named former PPC, former Chair/Coordinator or former Secretary, or any internally co-opted panel member, is not in good standing to be a member of HR & Due Diligence Panel.

- 16.5 A separate procedure may be adopted, with Admin & Governance Working Group approval, for due diligence cases, including the number of panel members to hear them.
- 16.6 There shall be a DISPUTES RESOLUTION PANEL directly elected by AGM (with co-options to vacant posts possible at any other General Meeting).
- 16.7 Disputes Resolution Panel shall have up to six members, who shall not be current officers nor members of HR & Due Diligence Panel. The panel's members shall elect one of their number as panel chair.
- 16.8 When a dispute is referred to Dispute Resolution Panel, the panel chair shall convene three suitable panel members, with attention to balance, to consider and rule upon the dispute.
- 16.9 No dispute shall be referred to a BCPGP General Meeting before Disputes Resolution Panel has had the chance to consider the matter.
- 16.10 Disputes Resolution Panel shall not formally operate if it does not have three members available to hear a case. In this event the dispute should where appropriate be referred straight to SWGP.

17. FINANCE

- 17.1 The Treasurer shall collect or arrange the collection of all money due to BCPGP and shall receive all donations to BCPGP and shall be the custodian thereof.
- 17.2 The Treasurer will arrange payment of any bills incurred by BCPGP, and will notify the group if it is in danger of becoming overdrawn.
- 17.3 All money drawn from BCPGP's bank account shall be signed by two authorised persons from a list of three, to be agreed at the AGM.
- 17.4 Wherever possible, funds will be held by a banking organisation with a policy of ethical investment acceptable to the membership (such as Triodos, Cooperative Bank, Ecological Building Society).
- 17.5 General Meetings shall agree and revise as required a budget for BCPGP, including a breakdown of funding allocations to different local groups, plus any allocations to working groups, steering groups or topic groups.
- 17.6 Local groups, working groups, steering groups and topic groups may incur expenditure on behalf of the party up to the budget they have been allocated.
- 17.7 Members may incur expenditure on behalf of the party provided prior approval is obtained from a constitutionally defined group with budgeted funds available, or else by a General Meeting, or this expenditure may be subject to certification by the Treasurer that there are sufficient funds to cover it. Where expenditure is for material which is legally required to bear an imprint the named promoter must also

have approved it for publication. (Promoter approval is also required for material requiring an imprint which incurs no cost.)

- 17.8 The Treasurer may spend up to £50 without consulting the monthly meeting, but may spend more in exceptional circumstances with the authority of two other officers.
- 17.9 Any affiliation fees to another organisation or donations to another group must have the approval of a monthly meeting.
- 17.10 All members must endeavour to help build up and maintain a healthy balance in the BCPGP bank account to enable the branch to function effectively.

18. SELECTION OF ELECTION CANDIDATES

- 18.1 For selection of parliamentary candidates national rules must be followed. For each constituency's selection, the selectorate shall be paid-up GPEW members resident in that constituency.
- 18.2 For local election candidates, the party will delegate the task of recruiting suitable active candidates and non-active candidates to Admin & Governance Working Group, with support and overview from Coordination Group. The Nominating Officers (or other Admin & Governance Working Group member) will provide a General Meeting or Elections Workshop with details of recruited candidates and wards, to be approved by the meeting. Active candidates will be invited to the meeting for an informal hustings prior to approval. If, for any ward, there are more members seeking selection than there are vacancies in the ward, then a formal hustings and secret ballot will be conducted for that ward. If any members seek selection for whom the Nominating Officer (or other officer or member fulfilling this role) has concerns regarding suitability, then such members will be invited to a hustings to be questioned as to their suitability and a secret ballot held. A discussion may be held for the deselection of a prospective candidate if three members write to the Chair or Vice Chair with grounds of grievance.
- 18.3 Selections for one or more specified individual wards may be brought forward to a specified earlier meeting, by vote of a General Meeting or Elections Workshop.

19. AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution can only be altered by an AGM or EGM of BCPGP. Amendments to this constitution require advance notice.

20. CRISIS MODE

- 20.1 In the event that it has become unviable to operate facilitated all-member meetings or local group meetings parallel to a Coordination Group (or adequate equivalent arrangements), BCPGP may temporarily declare "crisis mode", replacing Coordination Group and facilitated/local meetings with one BCPGP "monthly [business] meeting" as defined in the pre-2020 constitution.

- 20.2 A General Meeting should be called to agree "crisis mode" operation, with advance notice given of the proposal, and reasonable efforts should be made for the vote to be quorate.
- 20.3 SWGP shall be asked to provide assistance in reviving BCPGP's capacity to bring it out of crisis mode.

21. WINDING UP

BCPGP may cease to exist or join with other local Green Parties, only by agreement of an EGM or AGM. In the event of BCPGP being wound up, the balance of funds shall be transferred to GPEW, or to Regional Party, or to a specified neighbouring green party. In the event of BCPGP becoming defunct, national rules apply.

22. DEFINITIONS

Advance notice: Some business requires advance notice. This is written notification to the entire membership eligible to vote at the meeting. For an AGM or EGM it shall be posted 15 days before the meeting. For a monthly meeting it shall be 8 days. Motions requiring advance notice may not be substantially amended at the meeting.

Intranet: One or more closed communications systems provided by BCPGP and/or GPEW for information sharing among local members, accessible by any BCPGP member, and as agreed by General Meeting. Where there is a practical reason for the intranet to encompass multiple separate systems, any given type of constitutionally mandated information should be posted in a consistent and agreed manner to at least one system.

Amended 24th February 2016, 25th September 2019, 24th June 2020

APPENDIX 1

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH & POOLE GREEN PARTY CODE OF CONDUCT

(based on the model provided by the Green Party of England and Wales)

As a Green Party of England and Wales (GPEW) member I agree to:

1. Treat other GPEW members, supporters and members of the public with respect at all times.
2. Uphold the ethical principles of the GPEW and avoid bringing the GPEW into disrepute. High profile members, such as office holders in local parties and election candidates, should be mindful that their private, as well as public, lives have the potential to affect BCPGP's reputation.
3. Welcome diversity in the GPEW and strive to accommodate the different needs of members wherever possible.
4. Ensure that all members are encouraged to contribute to the discussion and decision-making at meetings, and that everyone is listened to properly, without being interrupted unnecessarily. Members should refrain from shouting, and using offensive or intimidating language and behaviour at meetings. Any member who does not comply with this could be asked to leave the meeting, or at the discretion of the Chair, receive a warning.
5. Respect the decisions made by my local party through democratic process. Any members who dissent from a decision should ensure that they make it clear that they are expressing disagreement as an individual and not as a representative of the local party or GPEW.
6. Abide by e-communication protocols agreed by GPEW and the local party.
7. Check drafts of written communications on behalf of the GPEW or local party (such as press releases, letters to the paper, and consultation responses) before sending them. This may include checking with at least two experienced local party members, such as the chair and the press officer, as agreed by the local party.
8. Refrain from criticising other party members publicly, including any situations where non-members may be present. If criticism is felt to be necessary, it should be done sensitively and constructively.
9. Only visit or phone people to discuss GPEW business between the hours of 8.30am and 9.30pm, unless by prior arrangement. Always ask if it is a convenient time to talk whenever phoning another member, and offer to ring back at a mutually convenient time if not.
10. Remember to show appreciation to other members who give their time and talents to support GPEW.

APPENDIX 2

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH & POOLE GREEN PARTY EXCLUSION PROCEDURE

(based on the model provided by the Green Party of England and Wales)

Should a situation arise in which a member is in such conflict with the branch that a ruling, where available, from BCPGP's Disputes Resolution Panel is not mutually accepted and outside agencies such as GPEW Disputes Resolution Committee are unable to resolve the situation, then a vote may be taken to exclude that member wholly or partly. Full exclusion means they would be unbranched and thus unable to attend local party meetings. This action could take place at either an EGM or the AGM.

- The local membership will be notified
- The member involved will be notified of the hearing with a minimum of 21 days notice
- The hearing will take place at a quorate meeting
- The member will be notified of the right to be accompanied by a representative/friend
- Consideration will be given to having a member of the regional committee or GPRC representative present
- A two-thirds majority vote will be required to exclude
- A decision will be made as to the length of suspension – temporary or permanent
- The maximum procedure available will be unbranching, ie the member will remain a member of the national Green Party but will not take part in any local party meetings or events.