

**The Constitution of
Guildford Greenbelt Group party**

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Key objectives:

Supporters have come together to support our 5 key objectives:

- Existing legal protection for the Green Belt and the AONB should stand
- The Metropolitan Green Belt is for the benefit of all
- Green fields matter - they are not just building land
- Brownfield land should be used for building before any green fields
- Housing numbers must reflect real local need, not developers' wishes

We believe in sustainability, equal opportunity, democracy and free speech, and uphold the principles of individualism and social justice.

Article 1 – Name and purpose

The name of the Party shall be Guildford Greenbelt Group, referred to in this document as “the party”.

The party shall seek to achieve the key objectives set out in this constitution, by seeking to secure election of members of the party as members of parliament, UK members of the European Parliament and members of local and other elected public authorities.

Article 2 – Equal opportunities

All members shall have equal opportunity of participating in the party in accordance with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

This constitution may be altered by a simple majority (greater than 50%) of those voting in general meeting, and a general meeting can be called by a group of any 5 members with four week’s notice, or by the committee.

Article 3 - Membership

Membership of the party is open to all persons who agree with its key objectives without discrimination as to age, ethnic origin, religion, disability, gender, or sexual orientation. Members who infringe in any way, the Party’s commitment to equal opportunities or who in any other way bring the Party into possible disrepute will be subject to investigation and possible disciplinary action by the Party Conduct Committee. The Conduct Committee has the power , following investigation to suspend for a set period or to expel the member.

Annual subscription will be determined by the committee and approved in general meeting.

A register of members will be maintained.

In becoming a Member/Supporter of GGG, any individual is thereby committing themselves to the five key objectives described in the Constitution

Article 4 – Policy

Policy will be determined by a simple majority of the members in a general meeting. The committee will prepare statements as to policy from time to time which will be subject to the approval of members in a general meeting. Voting by proxy vote will be permitted in the event of absence from the meeting. Such proxy votes must be

documented in writing and lodged with the Secretary prior to the meeting. Email notifications are acceptable.

Article 5 – Administration

The party officers approved by the membership shall include:

Chairman
Secretary
Nominations Officer
Treasurer

The party officers will be approved by the membership in a general meeting and will be subject to vote by a simple majority. Offices will be held until further notice but subject to renewal after a 2 year term,. All positions can be subject to challenge by the membership with six weeks' notice and can be subject to reselection by vote by simple majority in general meeting.

Article 6 – Candidates

Candidates shall be subject to the approval of the Nominations Officer and one other officer. In deciding whether to accept candidates, the officers shall take into account the support shown for the key objectives of the party and such other considerations as may be relevant. Names may be withdrawn if the officers have reason to believe that candidates do not support the key objectives or has behaved in such a way as to be unsuitable.

Article 7 – Resolution of disputes

Disputes shall be resolved by a simple majority of the Committee. In the event that the committee is unable to reach a view or feel that the matter is of fundamental significance, disputes will be resolved by a simple majority of the membership in general meeting.

Article 8 – links to other parties

Support may be given for the actions or proposals of any other parties that support the key objectives.

Article 9 – other matters

Decisions on other administrative matters will be determined by the committee or if the committee so determine by the members in a general meeting.