

Green Party Women

CONSTITUTION & RULES Adopted September 7, 2008

1. Green Party Women is a subgroup of the Green Party of England & Wales, (hereinafter GPEW), set up under the rules of GPEW on the same basis as its other sub-groups (e.g.: Animal Rights, Education, Economics, Trade Union Group etc)

2 The aims of Green Party Women shall be to further good relations between GPEW and women's groups and organisations nationally and internationally, to promote the women-friendly policies and approach of the party, and to work generally to promote women's rights.

It shall do this by putting forward relevant policy and campaign proposals to GPEW and promoting GPEW policies to women's groups.

It shall campaign on behalf of GPEW by participating in women's and other political and cultural events and by drafting and distributing appropriate publicity materials.

3 **Membership** of Green Party Women shall be open to any current female member of GPEW. The usual method of joining will be to join the Green Party Women email list, but GPEW members can also join by contacting Green Party Women committee members.

Associate membership shall be open to men who support the objectives of Green Party Women. Associate members will be allowed to attend meetings, although will not have a vote at any meetings. Associate members are welcome as members of the email list, and encouraged to attend actions such as marches etc.

The equality and diversity coordinator on GPex should be invited to all meetings, regardless of their gender. A GPRC friend, as chosen by GPRC, will also be invited.

4 The Green Party Women **Committee** shall comprise Chair or Co-Chairs, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and up to three other members who shall take on such roles as judged necessary. Other Committee posts may be created by the Committee as necessary subject to ratification by a meeting of Green Party Women. The Committee shall normally be elected at the **AGM**, which will take place at the **autumn national Green Party conference**. A quorum for that meeting shall consist of a minimum of 10 voting members. A quorum for a committee meeting will be four.

5 An **ordinary meeting** of Green party Women shall normally take place at the **spring conference**, with the chair having responsibility of ensuring that a fringe event is booked for the purpose (also for the autumn AGM). Other meetings may be called by the committee as required.

Every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. In the absence of consensus, decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote. Contentious or tied issues may be decided by a poll of all Green Party Women members.

Extra Ordinary General Meetings can be called by petition of 25% of Green Party Women members or 10 Green party Women members (whichever is the larger). EGMs can consider and enact motions to re-elect the Committee.

Committee meetings shall take place if necessary between other meetings; usually they shall be open to all Green Party Women.

6. Decisions at Green Party Women meetings shall be by majority vote where necessary. Contentious or tied issues may be decided by a poll of all Green Party Women members.

Committee members may take decisions or communicate on behalf of Green Party Women between ordinary meetings of Green Party Women on matters that arise during these times (usually after consultation with members through the email list); their decisions and communications shall be subject to ratification by a meeting of Green Party Women.

7. Green Party Women may raise funds on its own behalf or for GPEW or for campaigns in line with GPEW policy.