

# No bei dir.



Gréiwemaacher







## OUR CANDIDATES FOR THE CITY OF GREVENMACHER

Lëscht

2



 **MAT EECH AM GESPRÉICH AM OSBOURG-HAUS**

-  Wahl-Informationsabend
-  Soirée d'information électorale
-  Electoral information evening
-  Noite de informação sobre as eleições

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# No bei dir.

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# 1. WE WANT TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!

Today is not an easy time and it is likely to remain so for some time to come.

The pandemic remains fresh in our minds and despite a new togetherness, we remain constraint by conflict and moderate economic outlook. Social activities, culture and sport are reviving however things are not as before the pandemic.

The current political and economic situation has brought the world and our community concerns, high prices, high interest rates, low economic growth and an increasingly visible climate crisis.

During the pandemic, energy consumption reduced, construction slowed down whereas today and driven by high material costs, increasing interest and depressing economic outlook are causing problems for state, municipalities and its citizens.

The state and the municipality, with the active leadership of the DP have helped to ease hardship; all of us and business in general remains confronted with insecurities and fears of what the future will bring.

Post Covid energy consumption remains low whereby driven by high cost of energy, we are forced to be more energy conscious and energy efficient.

What applies for private household, applies to our communities: we can not just assume that problems and issues will simply disappear and everything will be the same as before.

We will not bury our heads in the sand. On the contrary, **We want to get down to business!** There are big and small tasks to be tackled:

- **Concentrate on the really important challenges in the community.** This means: Shaping urban development in a responsible way, invest only in necessary infrastructure, promoting affordable housing. Protecting the environment and nature and keeping an eye on municipal finances - The time for expensive projects and make-overs are over.
- **Plan the municipality's investments on an as need basis, in a sustainable fashion and properly executed.** The Board of Aldermen still has a lot of catching up to do here.
- **Strengthen the social cohesion in the community,** by supporting and facilitating community life for associations, for young and old and to promote transparency, information and dialogue with citizens. This approach should again be brought into practice by the future Board of Aldermen.





## 2. FOR INFORMATION, DIALOGUE AND TRANSPARENCY!!!

We want to develop coherent solutions. Create well thought-through concepts and projects.

Structured thinking is needed, as well as the knowledge and experience of our fellow citizens.

We trust our fellow citizens and as such we want to maintain open dialogue and transparency; poorly informed citizen makes the wrong judgement whereas an informed citizen is likely to engage in dialogue.

To us as DP Grevenmacher these are not mere slogans to make us look good ('sech de schéine Männchen maën') but part of our norms and values. When it comes to explaining things and informing objectively even our mayor has to be reminded of this from time to time (<https://www.dp.lu/maacher/die-relativierten-tatsachen-des-burgermeisters/>).



Information, dialogue and transparency. These are and remain the guidelines for the realization of our program.

**We do not want to do everything differently, just much better**





## 3. ERRORS AND OMISSIONS!

Most of the ideas that the CSV/Di Gréng Green Board of Alderman set out to implement had already been considered or put on paper by DP/LSAP some 12 years ago.

The CSV/Di Green Board of aldermen have achieved many things, however one could question whether these investments appropriate and necessary?

Meanwhile the CSV/Di Gréng Board of Alderman have frequently communicated however frequently did not establish their right connection with its citizens hence creating reasonable doubt.

➤ The sports hall 'op Flohr' is too small and a parking problem was 'forgotten'. How expensive would it be to rectify these mistakes? Not to mention the visual obstruction caused by 2 columns in the middle of the spectator's field of view.

➤ The renovation of the Osbourg House got delayed beyond expectations and by far exceeded set budgets whereas the building itself turned out to be not functional enough and without options to further expand the music school at this location.

➤ The costs of the new slide in the swimming pool (around 500,000 euros) is disproportionate to its benefits.

➤ The original plan by the Board of Aldermen for construction of the new 'Centre culturel' did not foresee the demolition of the old building nor a public underground car parking. **On the DP's initiative, both were changed** resulting in more design possibilities in the building itself and more parking spaces in the centre of town, avoiding a costly underground car parking under the market square.

➤ The Board of Aldermen plan to redesign the bus station envisaging an elaborate roof against a wickedly expensive 3.6 million euros. The vote in the municipal council took place only recently looking to rush for a decision potentially creating facts ahead of the elections?

➤ Road works became a never-ending story for the affected residents as works dragged on endlessly ('Kellereistrooss') not corresponding at all to what was announced beforehand in the 'dialogue' with the citizens ('rue Boland').

Mistakes and dissatisfied fellow citizens could have been easily avoided, **If one had taken the necessary time to ask the right questions** so that urban development and citizens would not have been forgotten.





## 4. THE RIGHT QUESTIONS!

If our town looks the way it does today, it has a lot to do with the work of the former aldermen under Mayor Roby Stahl (DP); **the foundations for harmonious urban development were laid back then**, with which the growth of population on the one hand and building, transport and leisure infrastructures on the other hand could have been shaped prosperously.

This was achieved because the **right questions were asked**:

What should the infrastructures that are suitable for a growing number of inhabitants and that are to be provided by the municipality look like? And vice versa: What kind of growth can our infrastructures cope with without bottlenecks and undesirable developments?

How can the flow of traffic in our community be managed and calmed down in a sensible way in the face of growing traffic volumes? And how can safety be improved? How many parking spaces will actually be needed in the town centre in the future?

Are there enough classrooms to accommodate a growing number of pupils? Do the facilities meet the (pedagogical) needs?

What about the infrastructures needed by the associations and clubs? What additional leisure, tourism and administrative infrastructures are to be provided and where?

**The Question remain relevant.** Thanks to the urban development and traffic concept developed at the time, the general development plan and the old town concept had been thought through laying the basis for current solutions with a steadily rising number of inhabitants.

But also independent of future growth: new demands and habits will continue to arise, which then require new answers to the the same questions..





## 5. OUR ANSWERS!

### URBAN DEVELOPMENT

➤ Currently, the municipality has about 5'100 inhabitants. If existing land reserves for housing construction and building gaps are developed, the town offers space for 7,000 inhabitants, according to the current general development plan.

With growth similar to previous years, Grevenmacher would reach 7000 inhabitants in ca. 20 years leaving sufficient time to adapt infrastructures where necessary - what can be and should be in 10 or 20 years must be **addressed today**.

➤ **The city centre with its pedestrian zone** deserves increased attention as shops are closing for a number of reasons and increasingly difficult to find successors in time

The pedestrian zone is not only a business zone but also a residential zone and as such we have to make sure that the pedestrian zone becomes more attractive for businesses and residents alike as otherwise we risk a thinning of the town center to the outskirts (donut effect)

In this context, shaping means not to allow a development by addressing the issue and taking adequate measures and to stop this trend respectively reversing a gradual process - Inactivity only promotes vacancy.



There will not be a single solution as many facets and individual building blocks are to be considered:

- Modern traffic concept(s) for the old town: this is where the public underground car parking proposed by the DP in the new 'Centre culturel' will be useful, where parking spaces for long-term tenants should also be available.
- Concepts for urban living which respects and continues the delicate structure of the old town.
- City marketing concept which primarily aims at strengthening the center with its historic old town and there with secure and expand the range of services and retail outlets here. Why not considering pop-up shops in which business people offer their goods for a short time and/or well as smaller repair businesses in the spirit of sustainability - AA new logo alone does not yet provide a concept.

Future concepts for the town centre should also include the post office building and the 'Schiltzenplatz'.

- "Moart": after completion of the underground car parking 'Réngmauer', the way is finally clear for a pedestrian-friendly **redesign of the 'Market' "Moart" (Town Market Square)** which would increase the attractiveness of the old town and the pedestrian zone, regulate a more effective traffic flow.

"Kleene Moart": the terrain above the new 'Stadhaus' (City hall) as well as "Kleene Moart" (Small Market) should also be included in the design. The latter had been repaired at great expense yet the bar proved to be and remain inadequate.

Citizens, associations and the business association must continue to be involved in the design of these projects.

- "Schweinsmoart" and "Bus station": in the course of the completion of the new 'Centre culturel', the **'Schweinsmoart'** car park and the **Bus station** are to be redesigned as soon as they can be financed with a shelter for passengers at the bus stops but without an expensive street canopy.

- Technical Services: the building in the 'Rue Schaffmill' is too small for the **technical services of the Municipality**; a new home must be created.
- **Sports Hall 'op Flohr'** is to be extended. So that the needs of the clubs can be adequately taken into account along with addressing the parking problem..
- **'Parking Résidentiel'** (residents' parking) must be simplified by reducing the different sectors to a single zone which would be a simpler and fairer approach.
- Commercial, Industrial Sites and Co-Working spaces: **Commercial and industrial sites** as well as **Co-working spaces** must be created **on Potaschberg** as well as in **City Area** whilst maintaining the flow and fluidity of traffic.
- Cycle Path Network: the **cycle path network** is to be expanded amongst others reinforcing the connections to the interior.
- Moselle Promenade: the **Moselle promenade** is to be completed by the still missing section between the playground 'Laangwiss' and the open-air swimming pool along with the redesign of the 'Piscine' car park.
- Tourist Attractions: the concept of **Tourist Offering** should be thought of in the long term. Recreation, swimming pools, culture, camping and other overnight accommodation should become more attractive adding value for users, citizens and the business community.
- Municipal Merger: a **municipal merger** remains an option worthwhile considering; even if the final decision would lie with the citizens; not addressing this would be short-sighted, as larger municipalities could emerge all around which would reduce the political weight of our municipality in decisions in the municipal syndicates.
- Forest Cemetery: similar to other communities, a **forest cemetery** should be established.





## SCHOOL AND 'MAISON RELAIS

➤ **School Infrastructure and Capacity:** according to the current Board of Aldermen, the existing **School Infrastructure** should be able to accommodate up to 6,500 inhabitants; the fact of which remains unsubstantiated and unsupported throughout those involved. Though efforts are being made to expand the infrastructure in the medium term; plans should be revised as demands including Pedagogical demands are and will continue to change.

Possibilities for further expansion are given at the existing site of the 'Précoce' (early education) building as well as on the area reserved for public buildings between 'rue St.Catherine' and 'rue du Centenaire' where land was already purchased during previous legislations under Mayor Roby Stahl (DP).

Conversations are to be continued in an objective manner aiming to reach an amicable solution between all parties concerned.

➤ **Inclusion:** in the context of **School Inclusion**, it is essential to accompany all school children on their way through pre-school and primary school individually and according to their individual needs and whenever possible and necessary, we will create a supportive framework for teachers and school children.

➤ The '**Maison Relais**' has to meet the social and family related challenges every day and with our population growing further expansion is unavoidable and as such opportunities for synergies between the School and the 'Maison Relais' should be looked for and implemented.

➤ **Indoor Swimming Pool:** we support the state construction of an indoor swimming pool for public as well as school children for **swimming lessons**.

➤ **Safety:** every child deserves a **safe journey to school** be it by foot bicycle or by bus.





# HOUSING

- Permitting and Approval Procedures: **approval procedures** are necessary in **housing construction** however citizen must not feel troubled along the process; currently, all too often processes and procedures are too complex, slow and tedious resulting in unwanted delays, cost and expenses. We want to change that by making the administrative work of the technical municipal service more efficient and reorganizing where necessary.
- Affordable Housing: Affordable housing is a major problem for many; housing and development sites owned by the municipality should therefore primarily be made available to **families and households from their own municipality** (or corresponding **building cooperatives**) on a leasehold or rental basis.
- Youth Housing: small furnished studios, provided by the municipality at an affordable rent, are intended to facilitate **young people's** path to an independent adult life.
- Growth and Development: in order to ensure orderly growth in the municipality, the **Urbanization Project 'op Flohr'** should be driven forward.
- Alternative Housing: the municipal building code is to be adapted to allow alternative forms of housing, such as **shared flats** or the construction of **'tiny houses'**.
- Multi-Generation Houses: we want to help create **multi-generation houses** where young and old can live together at affordable prices and support each other.
- Assisted Living: we will continue to support **assisted living for senior citizens** as well as **social housing**.





## TOGETHERNESS

➤ Valuable and especially youth work is being done in the **Clubs** deserving not only recognition but also our full support.

The municipality should provide associations with cheaper access to **special digital tools** in order to facilitate their own administration (members, communication, etc.) as well as to facilitate the procedures for the **organization of events** along with furniture and other necessary material .

**Benevolat** (voluntary work) is the valuable backbone of our associations; those who work for the community should be rewarded.

We support the introduction of a volunteer card which would offer discounts for cultural and sporting events in the municipality along with a certificate and a reference which for instance could be used by those seeking work as part of their curriculum vitae.

We want **people of all Nationalities and different Generations** to **find each other**.

The 'Centre de Rencontre, d'Information et d'Animation pour Jeunes' (**CRIAJ**) Meeting, Information and Entertainment Center for Youth is an important building block in the daily work with young people and is an important cornerstone to strengthen and develop social inclusion.

Similar **Municipal Commissions** for youth, school, integration, 3rd age, sport, culture and twinning of towns/districts form elements to strengthen and develop social inclusion and Cohesion

These should organize discussion forums to promote **joint initiatives** where people can meet together with CRIAJ, CIPA, Maacher Lycée, Maacher Youth and others similar to '**SmartStuff**' created by CRIAJ

➤ Multis Sports Field(s): we support **Multi-Sports Field** for Children and young people.

➤ Youth Community Council: Young people should be able to participate in decision-making, we support to establish a **Youth Community Council** as an approach to jointly determine what services are missing in the community and where improvements are needed.

➤ Integration and Re-Integration of Unemployed: we support and promote the integration of the unemployed into the world of work in cooperation with **CIGR-EST**.





## SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental protection and nature conservation are becoming increasingly urgent; the municipality of Grevenmacher should be a role model.

In cooperation with the environmental commission, a **local climate citizens' council** is to work out concrete climate policy measures. Also with the aim of increasing energy efficiency.

The municipal buildings are to be supplied with locally produced electricity from **renewable energies**.

The community-owned **springs** on 'Geyershof' are to be better protected and recontoured; works should be pushed ahead.

The specifications for **public tenders** should take greater account of sustainability criteria.

In future construction projects, the municipality should pay special attention to **environmentally friendly building materials**.

The municipality should gradually convert the municipal vehicle fleet to **CO2-neutral vehicles**.

The number of **charging stations** for electric vehicles should be regularly adapted to the growth of electromobility.

The municipality should support **building and roof greening** wherever possible.

The cooperation with and between the actors such as '**Antigaspi**' and '**Foodsharing**' should be promoted to counteract food waste as demonstrated in various pilot projects together with canteen operators.

The wastewater of several households does not yet reach the central sewage **treatment plant**; the necessary work is to be initiated as soon as possible

Sustainable building should also be possible **in the old town centre**; sustainability and aesthetics must not be mutually exclusive.





## MUNICIPALITY/ FINANCE/ COMMISSIONS

➤ For others, **municipal commissions** are perhaps just an annoying accessory, not for us: on the one hand, they fulfil the purpose of advising the council of lay assessors and on the other hand, encourages and supports the council of lay assessors to be transparent.

In past years in particular the transport and finance commissions were ignored when it came to important decisions. In addition, when it comes to finances, the Board of Aldermen trusts a financial manager hired by the board itself more than the judgement of the commission members.

Unfortunately, we note the complete inaction of the Youth Commission; it has only existed on paper for years.

How can we trust the citizens and not trust the municipal commissions at the same time? It is impossible. We need both: trust in the citizen and trust in the appointed commissions for transparency and out of respect for those appointed - **that is where we have to go again.**

➤ The **municipality finances**, with increasing interest rates, with already high debts and upcoming operating cost of the Centre Culturel, are risking to get under additional pressure, The current Board of Aldermen wanted too much at once, unable to control cost and budgets all the while when are likely to be further reduced.

The signs are clear: it is time for a prudent financial policy; in future, investments will have to be geared to finances, Not the other way round.

➤ **The budget** adopted by the municipal council is the most important 'law'. Every citizen should therefore be able to access it online in its entirety.







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