



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



## WHO WE ARE

**President:** Professor Nick Groom.

**Vice Presidents:** Sir Simon Day, Robin Hogg.

**Trustees:** Rebecca Bartleet, (Chairman); Pete Finch (Vice Chairman), Hedley Hunter (Treasurer), Phillip Bratby, Rosemary Jessel, Ivan Buxton, Mike Scott.

**Branch Director:** Penny Mills.

### Around the County

<b>South Hams:</b>	Justin Haque	Tel: 01548 580400
<b>Torbay:</b>	Carole Box	Tel: 07770 623785
<b>Mid Devon:</b>	Mike Scott	Tel: 01398 331999
<b>West Devon:</b>	Rebecca Bartleet	Tel: 01822 832275
<b>Teignbridge:</b>	Pete Finch	Tel: 01626 863390
<b>North Devon/Torridge:</b>	Penny Mills	Tel: 01392 966737
<b>East Devon &amp; Exeter:</b>	Penny Mills	Tel: 01392 966737

**Email:** [info@cpredevon.org.uk](mailto:info@cpredevon.org.uk)

Registered charity number 245317

*The Voice for Devon's Countryside*



The Devon Branch of the Campaign  
to Protect Rural England

## ANNUAL REPORT 2017

**The 53rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CPRE DEVON BRANCH**

**Will be held On**

**THURSDAY 5TH JULY 2018 at 2.30pm**

**at**

**Hatherleigh Community Centre  
Bowling Green Lane, Hatherleigh EX20 3HB**

### **AGENDA**

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st July 2017.
3. To receive and approve the Annual Report.
4. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017.
5. To appoint the Independent Examiner.
6. Election of Officers (President and Vice President) Trustees/Executive Committee.
7. Any other Business.
8. Address: 'Plastic Flowers, Plastic Birds'. Professor Nick Groom.

**Refreshments**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

### **Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman**

CPRE Devon have had a very busy year, we have been working hard to expand our operations and communications over the last year. We have engaged the professional services of Dartmoor film maker, Philippa Waddell of Wildhorse Films, who has made a series of short films about our work, which can be seen on our website and our Youtube channel. We also now have a PR consultant, Sharon Goble and a digital marketing consultant, Cath Harris. These have helped raise our press and social media profiles considerably, and we would like to thank them for the difference their input has made to us.

Undoubtedly the biggest challenge facing us all in Devon is the very large amount of new housing which is being proposed. Our well-attended housing seminar in Ivybridge, clearly demonstrated the level of local concern at the numbers and type of housing which is being planned, especially that destined for green spaces and on agricultural land.

The increasingly complicated language of planning strategy is not an easy matter for the lay person to tackle alone, and so we now have available to us the services of a professional planning expert, Jo Widdecombe. She has prepared some excellent comments for us to submit, on a wide variety of proposed development throughout the County, and her detailed and knowledgeable objections and advice have raised the impact of our input considerably. Two notable successes have been the rejection of the proposed developments at Ludwell Valley, Exeter, and Mount Kelly in Tavistock. Due to the slowness of much planning, there are many other applications which are still being decided or are at appeal.

Jo's services are available free of charge to our members, and we have been very pleased to welcome several town and parish councils as new members, who have been able to call on her expertise.

The changes to our constitution and the change of our status to a CIO, which members voted for at last year's AGM, have finally been completed and fully accepted by the Charity Commission. I would like to thank all the Trustees for the months of hard work it took to make sure that this was undertaken properly.

On a lighter note, I am delighted to welcome Professor Nick Groom as our President. A long-time member of CPRE, and hugely knowledgeable on the subject of folklore and rural traditions, his articles have been a welcome addition to our newsletter. Nick is very active in all manner of local fairs and events, and I hope that you will have the opportunity to attend and support some of his activities, or read about them in the press.

We have also arranged several trips and outings for our members, hopefully

to provide an interesting day out, but also to meet our members and for them to meet us. A list is included elsewhere in this report, please keep an eye out for any upcoming events on our website and in our newsletter.

Although we are delighted to have seen a large increase in our membership in recent months (more than any other county branch!) the battle continues to campaign for development that will benefit our precious countryside, not damage it irreparably. Please help us by joining us, by spreading the word about our work, and supporting our campaigns. We welcome the assistance of any members who would like to be more actively involved.

---

## **Minutes of the AGM held on 31st July 2017 At Hatherleigh Community Centre, Hatherleigh**



The Chairman, Rosemary Jessel, opened the AGM with a warm welcome to the CPRE members who had joined us for the afternoon.

These were: Robin Hogg, Sir Simon Day, Carol Hughes, Penny Mills, Rosemary Jessel, Rebecca Bartleet, Hedley Hunter, Justin Haque, Phillip Bratby, Pete Finch, Mariya Limerick, Lise Hunter, Andrea Wood, Keith Pitt, Dale Hall, Barbara Holroyd, Sally Vick, Pat Thompson, Bob Hodgson, Diane Buxton, Ivan Buxton, Helen Hazlewood, Lavinia Thorpe, Jill Stewart-Ratray, Martin Taylor, Bob Rush, Jim Egan, Jayne Egan, Derek Bradshaw, Chris Hassall, Sarah Childs, David Cocks, Mary Piper, Peter Maynard, Cathy Lamb, Nick Groom, Simon Thompson.

The Chairman then introduced The President, Sir Simon Day, who would be chairing the meeting.

## AGENDA ITEMS

**1. Apologies for absence.** Mike Scott, Mike Sanderson, Carole Box, Peter Cleasby, David Morgans, Wendy Skae King, Sally Ingram, John Ingram, Diane Jackson, Brenda Hazelton, Sonja Andrews, Selina Mann, Ralph Nicholson, Lynn Wilkinson, Pamela Raven, Heather Blease, Alan Wright, Paul Hervey, Keith Blake, Andy Woo, Collette Woo, David Luggar, Rowena Cotton, Tony Dustan-Smith, Barbara Dustan-Smith, Janette Ward, Reg Howe, Suzanne Howe, Andrew Peacock, Hazel Bratby, John Wilson, John Allen, Jenny Allen, Elizabeth Woodd-Walker, Christopher Woodd-Walker, Angela Hogg, Peter Stevens, Sue Stevens, Mike Hulme, Roland Smith, Teresa Fenner, Roy Fenner, Graham White, Rosemary Horton, Kate Wood.

**2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th August 2016.** Acceptance of these was proposed by Carol Hughes and seconded by Robin Hogg.

**3. To receive and approve the Annual Report.** The report had been sent by post to all members and had also been posted on the website. Keith Pitt raised several queries regarding the location and content of the Report on the website, but Sir Simon Day assured the meeting that the Report had been correctly filed and was visible. There being no further questions from the floor, approval was proposed by Rebecca Bartleet and seconded by Pete Finch.

**4. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2016.** The Hon Treasurer, Hedley Hunter, gave a short presentation on the accounts and asked for any questions from the floor. Keith Pitt queried whether the accounts should be audited. Hedley Hunter explained that there was currently no requirement for them to be audited. Bob Hodgson asked about the increase in 'grants and campaigning costs' and Carol Hughes queried the 'Advertising and promotion' cost which had increased. Hedley Hunter explained in detail how these costs had occurred. There being no further questions, acceptance was proposed by Ivan Buxton and seconded by Phillip Bratby.

**5. To appoint the Independent Examiner.** Graham White. Graham White's acceptance for the period was gratefully acknowledged. Support for his appointment was proposed by Hedley Hunter and seconded by Robin Hogg.

**6. Election of Officers.** For the election of our President. The Chairman, Rosemary Jessel, explained that Sir Simon Day's tenure as President was coming to an end, but he was happy to continue as our interim President until such time as a new President is appointed. Proposed by Rosemary Jessel and seconded by Ivan Buxton. For the election of our Vice President, Robin Hogg. Proposed by Hedley Hunter and seconded by Rebecca Bartleet. For the election of the Trustees to be elected 'en bloc'. Rosemary Jessel, Hedley Hunter, Pete Finch, Rebecca Bartleet, Phillip Bratby, Ivan Buxton, Mike Scott.

Rosemary Jessel informed the meeting that she would be stepping down as Chairman. Proposed by Carol Hughes and seconded by Bob Hodgson.

## **7. Resolutions**

**i)** To approve the Trustees' proposal to:

**a.** Establish a Charitable Incorporated Organisation to be called 'The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England' (the 'CIO') having a constitution, including objects in substance in the form of the draft signed by the Chair, available for viewing on the website of the Branch and laid before the meeting, but subject to such amendments as may be required by the Charity Commission [and/or agreed between the Trustees and the Trustee Board of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (registered charity number 1089685)].

**b.** Apply to the Charity Commission to register the CIO as a registered charity. This was proposed by Robin Hogg and seconded by Hedley Hunter. Approved.

**ii)** To authorise the Trustees to make such arrangements as may be appropriate for the transfer of assets and liabilities and the continuity of governance from the Branch to the CIO, to effect an orderly transition to CIO status. This was proposed by Robin Hogg and seconded by Rosemary Jessel. Approved.

**iii)** Thereafter to retain the Branch on the Register of Charities (with its constitution amended in the terms available for viewing on the website of the Branch or in a hard copy upon request by members and to be laid before the meeting) solely for the purpose of ensuring that any legacies bequeathed to the Branch do not fail and instead can be transferred to the CIO. This was proposed by Robin Hogg and seconded by Pete Finch. Approved.

The President then introduced our special guest speaker and CPRE member, Professor Nick Groom, who began by informing the meeting that it was Lammas Eve (31st July) and that Lammas Day was 1st August, which was historically an important day in the calendar as it was a time to celebrate the harvest. Saint Sidwell was an English saint from Devon and St Sidwell's feast day is also at this time 31st July/1st August. Professor Groom then gave a fascinating illustrated talk entitled 'I long for soft English rain'.

The meeting closed and a cream tea was served and enjoyed by all. Thanks were given to all those who helped with the refreshments.

In accordance with the constitution, there was a brief meeting of the Trustees at which Rebecca Bartleet was confirmed as the Chairman, Pete Finch as Vice Chairman and Hedley Hunter as Treasurer.

# **CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND DEVON BRANCH**

## **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Administrative address: PO Box 26, Beaworthy, EX21 5XN  
Registered charity number 245317

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 2017.

### **References and administrative information**

The Trustees who served the Charity during the year were:

Rebecca Bartleet	Elected as Chairman July 31, 2017
Peter Finch	Vice Chairman
Hedley Hunter	Honorary treasurer
Rosemary Jessel	Resigned as Chairman July 31, 2017
Ivan Buxton	
Michael Scott	
Philip Bratby	

Rosemary Jessel and Rebecca Bartleet undertook, in turn, the day to day management of the Charity, as delegated by the Trustees.

The independent examiner of the accounts of the Charity is Mr Graham White FMCA of Bulworthy Cottage, Stony Cross, Bideford, Devon EX39 4PY.

The Charity's bankers are Barclays, Exeter Branch.

The Charity has a web site [www.cpredevon.org.uk](http://www.cpredevon.org.uk) which contains considerable information about its activities.

### **Structure, governance and management**

Campaign to Protect Rural England – Devon Branch (CPRE Devon), was set up as a charity in April 1996. The board of Trustees is drawn from interested individuals who are able to contribute their knowledge and expertise to carrying out the various activities of the Charity. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees.

The Charity is managed by an Executive Committee which comprises the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Secretary (currently a vacant position) and Branch Director. The Trustees sit on the Executive Committee as well as the officers.



## **Objects and activities**

The objects of the Charity are “to promote and encourage for the benefit of the nation the improvement, protection and preservation of the countryside of Devon and its towns and villages and the better development of the rural environment”.

The Charity fulfils its obligation to enjoy charitable status by delivering the following benefits to the various communities in Devon:

- By considering applications presented to the local planning authorities to ensure that the benefits are enjoyed by the wider community.
- By holding meetings at both District and Branch levels that are open to members, local government councillors or similar, and representatives of other relevant interest groups throughout the County.
- By being available to members as a source of advice on how to respond to proposed developments that might affect them.
- By providing the Charity’s website [www.cpredevon.org.uk](http://www.cpredevon.org.uk) which has become a key enabler for the membership, the media and other visitors to the site to understand some of the key problem areas in Devon.
- The CPRE Devon website has thus become a repository of the work undertaken by the Charity, and also provides each District with a Home Page of its own where visitors to the site can discover what may interest them and the wider implications for Devon as a whole.
- Funds bequeathed to the Charity are being used in accordance with the terms of the bequests; in 2013 for the further education of children of all ages in Devon on countryside matters of all types, and in 2017 for other projects exclusively in the county of Devon.

## **Creation of “The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England CIO” (CPRE Devon CIO)**

It was unanimously agreed at the meeting of Trustees on April 20, 2017 at which all trustees were present, that the charitable status of CPRE Devon should change to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This decision was subsequently approved by the members in AGM on July 31, 2017, the National Trustee Board of CPRE and by the Charity Commission, who all agreed that CPRE Devon should transfer its assets, apart from a very small bank balance, to CPRE Devon CIO.

CPRE Devon CIO was registered with the Charity Commission on October 19, 2017 under the number 1175228. CPRE Devon will remain on the Charity Commission register as a “shell” charity with nominal assets purely as a precaution to preserve any future legacies that might otherwise fail.

## Financial review

The Charity's principal source of income is support from the National Office of CPRE of approximately 50% of the subscriptions it receives from members resident in Devon. The Charity also receives grants, bequests, donations and gifts from supporters in Devon. In 2017 this income includes the following;

- National Office support £22,657
- Advances on the Mason bequest received from NO £29,381
- Donations from supporters in Devon £ 494

The M&G investments were transferred to CPRE Devon CIO on December 20, 2017, the remaining assets are being transferred in 2018.

## Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Trustees to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves, at a level sufficient to provide services and equipment in compliance with its objects for a period of at least 12 months. Restricted funds are set aside of such amounts as are appropriate to provide specialised services and equipment in accordance with the restrictions attached to the funds by the respective donors.

Approved by the Trustees on April 24, 2018 and signed on their behalf by;

*Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman.*





The Devon Branch of the Campaign  
to Protect Rural England

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2017



**CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND DEVON BRANCH**

Registered Charity No. 245317

**BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 2017**

	£	£
	2017	2016
Investments and bank balances		
Unrestricted funds	94,447	128,587
Restricted funds	99,991	79,704
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>194,438</u>	<u>208,291</u>
The funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted funds	94,446	128,587
Restricted funds	99,991	79,704
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>194,437</u>	<u>208,291</u>

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	2016
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Mason bequest	Note 3	-	29,381	29,381	-
Voluntary income	Note 3	22,632	1,299	23,931	33,815
		<u>22,632</u>	<u>30,680</u>	<u>53,312</u>	<u>33,815</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Charitable activities	Note 4	33,703	10,393	44,096	41,678
Governance	Note 5	6,813	-	6,813	3,633
Total payments		<u>40,516</u>	<u>10,393</u>	<u>50,909</u>	<u>45,311</u>
Transfer of assets to the CIO	Note 7	16,257	0	16,257	0
Excess / deficit for the year	-	34,141	20,287	- 13,854	- 11,496
Balances January 1, 2017		128,587	79,704	208,291	219,787
Balances December 31, 2017	Note 8	94,446	99,991	194,437	208,291

# CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND DEVON BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 245317

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

DECEMBER 31, 2017

### 1 Accounting policies

#### *Basis of the accounts*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005).

The trustees have decided that a receipts and payments account is the most appropriate form in which to present the charity's operations.

	£	£
	2017	2016
<b>2 Investments and bank balances</b>		
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>		
M&G Investments - at cost	-	16,257
	-	27,534
Barclays current account	44,076	33,262
Virgin Money deposit account	50,371	50,120
District bank accounts were closed during the year	-	1,834
Total unrestricted investments and bank balances	<u>94,447</u>	<u>129,007</u>
<i>Restricted funds</i>		
Barclays Wendy Lawrenson current account	6,805	9,389
United Trust Bank Wendy Lawrenson deposit account	68,682	67,397
Virgin Money Wendy Lawrenson deposit account	2,932	2,918
Barclays Andrew Mason bequest deposit account	21,572	-
Total restricted bank balances	<u>99,991</u>	<u>79,704</u>

### 3 Receipts

Receipts are made up of the following:

#### *Unrestricted funds*

Share of national subscriptions	20,788	22,287
Donations, grants and bequests	469	8,450
Fund raising activities	109	416
Investment income	1,266	1,161
Total receipts of unrestricted funds	<u>22,632</u>	<u>32,314</u>

#### *Restricted funds*

Donations and bequests	25,000	-
Interest on deposit accounts	1,299	1,501
Bequests from Mason bequest	4,381	-
	<u>30,680</u>	<u>1,501</u>
Total receipts	<u>53,312</u>	<u>33,815</u>

	£	£
	2017	2016
<b>4 Charitable activities</b>		
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Branch Director's fees	21,000	13,000
Grants and campaigning costs	1,592	10,093
Production and distribution of annual report and newsletters	3,500	597
Mileage and travelling expenses	937	938
Website maintenance	2,001	716
Advertising and promotion	4,042	4,120
Other small expenses	631	210
<b>Total payments from unrestricted funds</b>	<u>33,703</u>	<u>29,674</u>
<b>5 Restricted funds</b>		
Payments from Wendy Lawrenson bequest:		
Contribution to Naturally Healthy Schools project	-	7,500
Prizes for MyOutdoors competition	1,533	1,048
Grant to Kingfisher SWAG	1,000	-
Small expenses	52	-
Payments from the Mason bequest		
Technical documents; short films, videos	5,881	3,038
Technical consultant's fees	1,927	-
<b>Total payments from restricted funds</b>	<u>10,393</u>	<u>11,586</u>
<b>Total payments for Charitable activities</b>	<u>44,096</u>	<u>41,260</u>
<b>6 Governance</b>		
Meetings	795	946
Office expenses	1,519	1,380
Communications	997	884
Insurance	436	422
Professional fees for creation of CIO	3,066	-
	<u>6,813</u>	<u>3,632</u>
<b>7 Transfer of assets to CPRE Devon CIO</b>		£
<b>M&amp;G Investments transferred to CPRE Devon CIO at net book value</b>		<u><b>16,256.53</b></u>

## 8 Restricted funds

	Balance 01/01/2017	Utilised in the year	Arising in the year £	Balance 31/12/2017 £
Wendy Lawrenson bequest;	79,705	2,585	1,299	78,419
Andrew Mason bequest	-	7,808	29,381	21,573
	<u>79,705</u>	<u>10,393</u>	<u>30,680</u>	<u>99,992</u>

No contribution was made in 2017 to the Naturally Healthy Devon Schools project. There remains £7.500 to pay on completion of the project.

Interest of £1298.99 was received during the year on bank deposit accounts holding unused funds from the bequest.

## 9 Trustees and employees

No trustee received any remuneration from the Charity although mileage and other out of pocket expenses incurred on the Charity business were refunded in certain cases.

The Charity has no employees.





**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Campaign to Protect Rural England Devon Branch

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

**Charity no  
(if any)**

245317

**Set out on pages**

1 & 2

**Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. [The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**Name:**

Graham Dudley White

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

**Address:**

Bulworthy Cottage

Stony Cross, Bideford, Devon

EX39 4PY



**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

Whilst I can find no cause to qualify the accounts as presented to me, I note that the Mason bequest account is effectively held by the London Office.

As this is a restricted account specifically for use on Devon projects, I find it strange that this should be the case, on the basis that London cannot access this money directly. <sup>Devon</sup>

I can therefore see no reason why these funds should not be transferred to the Devon Branch, unless there are further conditions under the terms of the will which necessitates such an arrangement.



## Some of our Activities in 2017

**January:** Members' visit to Lupton House, Brixham.

**February:** New Housing and the Plymouth & SW Devon Joint Local Plan seminar, Ivybridge.

**March:** The Great British Spring Clean – our volunteers took part in the national litter picking weekend.

**April:** Campaigning evening at Dartington Hall, Totnes.

**May:** Members' visit to BBC Studios, Plymouth.

**July:** Kingfisher Award Picnic, Newton St Cyres.

**August:** Chagford Show, Hatherleigh Fun Day, William Pengelly Caves Open Day.

### Two Competitions:

Our Outdoors – for communities – won by Offwell Woodland & Wildlife Trust, East Devon.

My Outdoors – Painting competition for primary school children.

Joint Winners - Willowbrook School, Exeter & Bishops Nympton School.







**The Devon Branch of the Campaign  
to Protect Rural England**



PO Box 26, Beaworthy, Devon EX21 5XN

Telephone: 01392 966737

Email: [info@cpredevon.org.uk](mailto:info@cpredevon.org.uk) Website: [www.cpredevon.org.uk](http://www.cpredevon.org.uk)