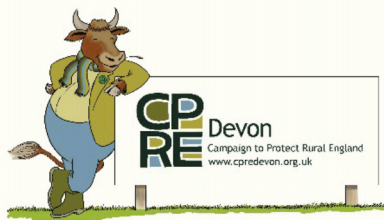


ANNUAL REPORT 2019





WHO WE ARE

President: Professor Nick Groom.

Vice Presidents: Sir Simon Day, Robin Hogg.

Trustees: Rebecca Bartleet (Chairman), Pete Finch (Vice Chairman), Mike Best (Treasurer), Phillip Bratby, Ivan Buxton, Dale Hall, Patricia Day, Steve Crowther.

Branch Director: Penny Mills.

The Voice for Devon's Countryside

The Devon branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE Devon), is the only local, independent charity working to protect Devon's precious countryside, green spaces and unique landscapes throughout the whole county - for the benefit of all.

We recognise the need to balance local development and a vibrant economy with a tranquil and beautiful environment. This is doubly important in a county that's so dependent on income from tourism. Thousands of new homes are planned to be built in Devon, putting our glorious countryside at great risk. We challenge inappropriate development and support sustainable homes, built in the right places, at prices local people can afford.

Together we can make a real difference to Devon.

The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England CIO
A charitable incorporated organisation with registered charity number 1175228



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

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DEVON BRANCH
OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND CIO**

Will be held on

THURSDAY 2nd APRIL 2020 at 2.30pm

at

**The Devon Suite
Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, EX6 7UX**

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th April 2019.
3. To receive and approve the Annual Report.
4. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2019.
5. To appoint the Independent Examiner.
6. Election of Officers (President and Vice President) Trustees / Executive Committee.
7. Any other Business.
8. **Guest Speaker: Anne Marie Morris MP, Newton Abbot.**

Refreshments

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman

Dear Members, welcome to our AGM.

I hope that most of you will already be aware of some of what we have achieved during this last year, thanks to the continued sterling work of our publicity manager, Sharon Goble, who has succeeded in gaining us unprecedented press coverage in the local media.

Following up on last year's report, Devon Housing Need Evidence, which analysed the real level of housing need in Devon, we began the year in Tavistock with a seminar to discuss concerns over the amount of new housing development across the whole county. Although organised at short notice, 125 people attended to hear Dr Phillip Bratby present the findings of our report, alongside a presentation from Tom Jones, Lead Planning Officer from West Devon Borough Council. The questions and discussion session afterwards brought forward an impressive number of suggestions and ideas of how the standard and quality of new development can be improved.

Our biggest event, attended by over 200 people at Sandy Park Exeter, was a visit from Housing Minister Kit Malthouse MP, thanks to an invitation on our behalf from Sir Hugo Swire MP. Disappointingly Mr Malthouse admitted that he had not actually read our housing report, and in later accounts of the meeting he attributed our criticism of the amount of new housing to nimbyism!

However, from our follow-up postcard campaign, in which 2000 of our *Greetings from Glorious Devon* postcards were filled in by you and sent to his office, I am sure that Mr Malthouse was left in no doubt as to the whole range of objections to much of what is currently being planned and built. The campaign had the most fantastic response on Facebook and was featured on BBC Spotlight. I would like to thank all of you who took the time and trouble to write and send in one of these postcards. We did hear through the grapevine that they made a distinct impression on the minister!

In October we held our first ever Planning Workshop at Hatherleigh, ably presented by Jo Widdecombe, our excellent planning consultant. Over 80 town and parish councillors representing councils from all over Devon attended. Jo had devised a clever series of exercises to demonstrate the difficulties parish councillors often face in judging how a large new development will look, and she gave some hugely valuable advice about how to comment on these big applications as well as other advice on the

preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. We received very positive feedback from those who attended, many saying how useful it had been to meet councillors from other parishes, most of whom are facing the same problems with local plans and applications for large developments.

A short film about this workshop is available to view on our website, along with a film about the visit of Kit Malthouse.

With Jo's help we have continued to comment on many planning applications which have been brought to our attention by members around the whole county.

On a lighter note, our Devon's Best Churchyard Competition saw a big increase in entries this year, with our judges finding it a difficult choice to choose a winner from so many excellent entries. The winner was announced in September at a lovely gathering at the Chapter House at Exeter Cathedral, and we were delighted that the Bishop of Exeter was able to join us to present the winners with their prize.

We were also pleased with the number of entries from our younger Devonians with a hugely impressive number of entries to our writing and art competitions, many of an impressively high standard. We were also pleased to begin the first year of our association with Devon Wildlife Trust's Wembury Marine Centre.

We were delighted to welcome three new Trustees to the team, and we thanked our retiring treasurer, Hedley Hunter, for all his work looking after our finances over the last few years.

We travelled far and wide throughout the year to give talks as guests of organisations around the county, including Alphington, Ashburton, Axminster, Budleigh Salterton, Tiverton, Sidmouth, and Crediton Town Council, as well as taking a stand at the Chagford Show and the Ashburton Food Festival (where our Guess the Place competition generated much interest and competitiveness!), and the Apple Festival weekend at RHS Rosemoor to promote the Devon Orchards book which we had sponsored.

Once again, this flurry of activity, much of which we are able to achieve thanks to the money from our two legacies from Andrew Mason and Wendy Lawrenson, resulted in more new members for the Devon branch; once again the best performance of all the county branches of CPRE!

I would like to thank all our members, both new and those of long standing, for all their support last year, and we hope to benefit from your valuable support for the next busy year.

Minutes of the AGM held on 16th April 2019

at The Manor House, Dawlish

The Chairman, Rebecca Bartleet, opened the AGM with a warm welcome to our many members who had joined us for the afternoon. The Chairman then explained that unfortunately our guest speaker, Anne Marie Morris MP (Newton Abbot) was now unable to join us, but we were pleased to welcome both our Planning Consultant, Jo Widdecombe, and our PR Consultant, Sharon Goble, who would be explaining their roles and answering questions.

Agenda Items

1. Apologies for absence

The Branch Director, Penny Mills, read out the apologies for absence and explained that in accordance with GDPR regulations names would no longer be recorded in the minutes unless express permission had been given.

2. 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. There being no questions from the floor, approval was proposed by Robin Hogg and seconded by Mike Sanderson and unanimously approved.

3. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018

The Hon Treasurer, Hedley Hunter, gave a short presentation on the accounts and asked for any questions from the floor. There being none, Robin Hogg gave the meeting a short explanation about the Andrew Mason legacy. And the Chairman briefly explained about the Wendy Lawrenson legacy. Hedley Hunter then explained that this would be his last AGM presenting the accounts as he was now stepping down from his role of Treasurer in accordance with our constitution. The Chairman asked for a vote of thanks to be shown and recorded to Hedley for all his work for the charity for several years, which was greatly appreciated. There being no further questions, acceptance was proposed by Pete Finch and seconded by Ivan Buxton and unanimously approved.

4. To appoint the Independent Examiner, Graham White

Graham White's acceptance for the period was gratefully acknowledged. Keith Pitt queried whether it was acceptable for a member of the charity to act as the Independent Examiner. Hedley Hunter confirmed that it was. Keith Pitt also queried the qualifications of Mr White. Hedley Hunter confirmed that Mr White was suitably qualified. As Keith Pitt still had

queries about this, the Chairman agreed to seek clarification after the meeting. Support for the appointment of Graham White was proposed by Hedley Hunter and seconded by Rosemary Jessel and unanimously approved.

5. Election of Officers

For the election of our President, Nick Groom. Proposed by Rosemary Jessel and seconded by Pete Finch. For the election of our Vice Presidents, Robin Hogg and Sir Simon Day. Proposed by Mike Sanderson and seconded by Dale Hall. For the election of the Trustees to be elected 'en bloc' – Rebecca Bartleet, Ivan Buxton, Phillip Bratby, Pete Finch, Rosemary Jessel, Roger Cashmore. Proposed by Peter Cleasby and seconded by Mariya Limerick and approved unanimously.

6. Any Other Business

There being no further formal business, the meeting closed and the Chairman introduced Sharon Goble, our PR Consultant, who gave a short presentation about her role and work with us. This included showing our film of the recent Sandy Park event and other examples of her work which has greatly raised our profile in the media. The Chairman thanked Sharon for the great impression she has made. The Chairman then introduced Jo Widdecombe, our Planning Consultant. Jo gave a brief presentation about the role she has undertaken for us, and highlighted a selection of planning applications which she has helped us with. She wanted to particularly highlight how Design of development is now particularly important and the steps we can take to try to influence that. Jo referred to several publications which are important in this regard including Building for Life and A Manual for Streets.

The Chairman asked for any questions from the floor. Elizabeth Dalton raised the issue of Reserved Matters, referring to a large development of new houses in Crediton. David Watts reiterated that it was the number of dwellings needed which the Government were quoting which was incorrect. Mervyn Seal spoke about the issues in Torbay, particularly regarding poor design of new dwellings. Peter Cleasby spoke about GESP (The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan) and said that planning now is being done to us not by us. Guy Fielding raised the issue of air quality and air pollution and said that more needs to be done to raise awareness. Much debate was had and the meeting ended with tea and cakes enjoyed by all. Thanks were given to all those who had helped with the arrangements.

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

**THE DEVON BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN
TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND
CPRE DEVON CIO**

Charity registered number 1175228

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2019**

Administrative address: PO Box 26, Beaworthy, EX21 5XN

The Trustees present their report and accounts
for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Administrative Information

The Trustees who served the Charity during the year were:

Rebecca Bartleet	Chairman
Peter Finch	Vice Chairman
Hedley Hunter	Honorary Treasurer
Rosemary Jessel	
Ivan Buxton	
Phillip Bratby	
Roger Cashmore	
Dale Hall	
Patricia Day	
Steve Crowther	

Rebecca Bartleet undertook 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 the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS).

The Charity has a web site www.cpredevon.org.uk which contains considerable information about its activities.

CPRE Devon CIO - Structure, governance and management

The board of Trustees of CPRE Devon CIO 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 comprise the following officers; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, 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 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.

Financial review

The Charity receives support from the National Office of CPRE (NO) 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 2019 the Charity's income includes the following;

• National Office support	£25.657
• Advances on the Mason bequest received from NO	£30.000
• Donations from supporters in Devon	£ 2.771

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.

CPRE Devon Branch

CPRE Devon Branch 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.

CPRE Devon Branch was set up as a charity in April 1996 but, following the change of its charitable status, ceased functioning as a Charity in April 2018. It now has no members other than the remaining trustees. It will continue to prepare annual accounts and hold an Annual General Meeting in accordance with its constitution until such time as the Trustees decide otherwise.

The Branch maintains its bank account with Barclays Bank which recorded donations received of £105 during the year ended December 31, 2019. The bank charged the account with commission leaving a balance at the year-end of £300.76.

The report and accounts were approved by the Trustees on January 23, 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2019

F

THE DEVON BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND CIO

Registered Charity No. 1175228

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

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 activities.

The National Office of CPRE holds an amount of £67,505.80 in Trust for CPRE Devon CIO. This represents the balance remaining of a bequest received in 2015 after accruing interest of £3,000 calculated at varying rates and deducting transfers to CPRE Devon CIO of £85,238.00. CPRE Devon CIO includes in its accounts the transfers received but not the accrued interest.

2 Investments and bank balances

£ Last year

Unrestricted funds

M&G Investments	16,257	16,257
Royal Bank of Scotland current account	32,227	17,322
Virgin Money deposit account	26,035	50,497
Total unrestricted investments and bank balances	74,519	84,076

Restricted funds

United Trust Bank Wendy Lawrenson deposit	70,828	69,712
Virgin Money Wendy Lawrenson deposit	143	6,771
RBS Andrew Mason bequest deposit	25,098	19,193
Total restricted bank balances	96,069	95,676

3 Receipts

Unrestricted funds

<i>Mason bequest</i>	-	50,000
Support from National Office; Share of national subscriptions	25,657	10,848
Donations and grants	2,771	3,927
Fund raising events	601	520
Sales	237	714
Investment income and interest	1,433	594
Total receipts of unrestricted funds	30,699	66,603

Restricted funds

Mason bequest	30,000	857
Interest on deposit accounts	1,134	56
Total receipts of restricted funds	31,134	913
Total receipts	61,833	67,516

4 Payments

Unrestricted funds

Charitable activities

Branch Director's fees	19,250	15,750
Production and distribution of annual report and newsletters	3,787	2,055
Mileage and travelling expenses	2,652	2,881
Website maintenance	470	1,685
Advertising and promotion	4,973	9,262
Competition prizes (Devon's Best Churchyard)	801	-
Other small expenses	735	516
Total payments for Charitable Activities	32,668	32,149

Governance

Meetings	2,700	1,355
Office expenses	1,430	1,562
Accounting assistance	1,360	-
Legal fees	438	-
Communications	1,093	729
Insurance	568	574
Total payments for Governance	7,589	4,220
Total payments from unrestricted funds	40,257	36,369

5 Restricted funds

Payments from Wendy Lawrenson bequest

Grant to Wembury Marine Centre	3,000	-
Contribution to FWAG SW Kingfisher Award Scheme	-	1,000
Competition prizes	3,647	2,008
Mileage and printing payments of £334.00 are included as admin costs		-
Total	6,647	3,008

Payments from the Mason bequest

Devon Housing Report	1,219	21,025
Technical documents; short films, videos, public relations	13,449	7,092
Seminars	5,024	2,532
Professional fees for planning consultancy	4,404	2,502
Total	24,096	33,151
Total payments from restricted funds	30,743	36,159

6 Registration of The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England C

It was decided at the AGM in 2016 that a new form of charity should be adopted known as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) as recommended by CPRE National Office.

As a result The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England CIO, in abbreviation CPRE Devon CIO, was registered in October 2017. In accordance with the Charity Commission's authorisation dated December 4, 2017 the assets of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, CPRE Devon Branch, were transferred to CPRE Devon CIO with the exception of a small bank balance which remains as the sole asset on the Balance Sheet of CPRE Devon Branch.

7 Restricted funds movements

	Transfer from CPRE Devon	Utilised in the year	Arising in the year	Balance at 31/12/2019
<i>Bequests from;</i>	£	£	£	£
Wendy Lawrenson	76,485	6,646	1,153	70,971
Andrew Mason	19,193	24,095	30,000	25,098
	<u>95,678</u>	<u>30,741</u>	<u>31,153</u>	<u>£ 96,069</u>

8 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.



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's report
on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Devon Branch of the Campaign to protect Rural England

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2019

**Charity no
(if any)**

1175228

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 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 no concerns and 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.

Signed:

Date:

17th February 2020

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, Dvon, EX39 4PY



Some of our Activities in 2019



Our very successful 'Greetings from Glorious Devon' postcard campaign



East Budleigh Church, winner of our Devon's Best Churchyard Competition 2019



Town and Parish Councillors Planning Workshop held at Hatherleigh



Sandy Park Seminar, Exeter



Painting Competition Winner 2019



Wembury Marine Centre



Tavistock Meeting



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Devon EX21 5XN

Telephone: 01392 966737

Email: info@cpredevon.org.uk

Website: www.cpredevon.org.uk

Twitter & Facebook: @cpredevon

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