

# THE SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND

England & Wales · Charity number 1100860

## Details

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**Other names** CPRE - SOMERSET BRANCH, CPRE SOMERSET

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [04755482](#)

**Registered** 2003-11-24

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 8 Rowdens Road  
Wells  
Somerset  
BA5 1TU

**Phone** 07553501437

**Email** [admin@cpresomerset.org.uk](mailto:admin@cpresomerset.org.uk)

**Website** [www.cpresomerset.org.uk](http://www.cpresomerset.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE AND IN PARTICULAR THAT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF SOMERSET AND ITS TOWNS AND VILLAGES AND FOR THE BETTER DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT.

**Activities:** The Charity is established for the promotion and encouragement for the benefit of the public the improvement and protection of the English countryside and in particular that of the Administrative County of Somerset and its towns and villages and for the better development of the rural environment.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF SOMERSET AND ITS TOWNS AND VILLAGES
- Somerset

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£36,896	£39,436	-	-
2023-12-31	£22,511	£23,208	-	-
2022-12-31	£23,787	£25,496	-	-
2021-12-31	£29,465	£23,973	-	-
2020-12-31	£29,465	£23,793	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Hugh Williams</b>	Chair	2018-11-15
Auberon James Purkiss		2025-11-21
ELIZABETH MARY PARFITT		2025-11-21
Fletcher Freeland Robinson		2017-03-28
Ian Robertson Cooper		2026-01-09
Janette Ward		2021-10-01
Jenny Raggett		2023-12-01
Sarah Hutchinson		2022-02-04
Vernon Phillip Hughes		2021-02-16

**THE SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1100860

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# Accounts

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## **Trustees Annual Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England

### **Objects and Activities**

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England (The Charity) is established for the promotion and encouragement for the benefit of the public the improvement and protection of the English countryside and in particular that of the Administrative County of Somerset and its towns and villages and for the better development of the rural environment.

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

### **Achievement and Performance**

The charity has 10 Trustees through the year, one of which is paid as the charity's planning consultant. The charity also pays for the services of a freelance administrator.

Our planner advises the Trustees, reviews planning applications which may affect the Somerset countryside, liaises with members of CPRE Somerset and members of the public. Our planner submits comments and objections to the local authority and attends and speaks at planning committees and public inquiries. There has been some notable success in the past year.

The charity supports sustainable initiatives to reduce global warming including solar but is concerned with the growing number of commercial solar farms which are being introduced and which impair the enjoyment of the countryside and reduces the land available for food production. It however supports the installation of solar on brownfield sites such as the roofs of commercial buildings.

The introduction of biomass digesters has been of particular concern in Somerset causing traffic problems due to material being imported from long distances and problems with enforcement.

The charity seeks avenues of funding from public bodies and from donations from members.

In 2024 the charity continued with its successful Litter Pick Project which has now supplied Litter Pick kits to over 300 volunteers, the Fingerpost project which continues to support Parish Councils in the refurbishment of traditional, cast-iron fingerposts across Somerset and the annual photo competition.

In 2024 we organized several events for CPRE members and the public, often in partnership with other organisations, local and national. These included a stargazing event, a talk about West Country Myths & Legends, a guided walk in the Quantock Hills and a seminar about how to design better housing developments.

### **Financial Review**

The approved accounts for 2024 follow and have been verified by an independent examiner.

**SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

A company limited by guarantee, registered in England number 04705462 and registered charity number 1300960

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024			BALANCE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024	
	2024	2023	CURRENT ASSETS	
Share of subscriptions etc	14119	15436	Fixed Assets	0
Finger Posts	0	0	Cash in Bank at 31st December	1804
Branch Appeal	0	0	Less unrepresented cheques	0
Interest received Redwood Deposit Acct	1563	1364	Cash	0
Giftaid	742	0	Postage stamps	0
Donations	2711	2127	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1804</b>
Litter pick 2 project	0	2000		<b>2907</b>
Lottery	1385	898		
AGM and events	1030	686		
Shudrick Valley Reserved Account	2214			
Specialist Advice	13132			
	<b>36896</b>	<b>22511</b>		
			Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank)	46852
			Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank)	0.00
			Restricted funds Finger Post	
			<b>Total</b>	<b>£48,656</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£36,896</b>	<b>£22,511</b>		<b>£51,196</b>
			<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>OVERHEADS</b>			<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£48,656</b>
Administrator	16797	13695	<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-£2,540.29</b>
Events	371	220		
Finger Posts 2 project	498	554		
Insurance	296	293		
Miscellaneous	344	1257		
Planner	4900	5000		
Postage	760	331		
Printing	336	417		
Room hire and premises	52	168		
Stationary	58	203		
Travel	189	179		
Lottery	229	292		
Litter pick 2 project	72	57		
AGM	414	160		
Office equipment (includes storage rack)	751	382		
Specialist Advice	13370	0		
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	<b>£39,436</b>	<b>£23,208</b>		
<b>TOTAL OVERHEADS</b>	<b>£39,436</b>	<b>£23,208</b>		
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-£2,540.29</b>			

For the year ending 31/12/2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Director's responsibilities:  
 •The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,  
 •The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for the complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 14/7/2025  
 and signed on their behalf by

*J. Roberts*

John Roberts, Treasurer and Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Somerset Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England.**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out above.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and Independent Examiner.

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the independent examiner's report.**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts kept with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement.**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, and

b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Phil Michael  
 Auditor Address  
 Wistena House  
 West Pennard  
 Somerset  
 BA6 8NL

*Phil Michael*

Dated 1/7/2025

Income has increased this year mainly through Specialist Planning Advice to local groups who campaigns against planning applications from developers for housing projects and commercial solar farms

Overheads have grown to mirror the increase in Planning Advice but these have been offset by crowd funding activities which have received very positive results covering in the main the increases expenditure.

The finances of the charity are in good order going into 2025 and will enable us to continue supporting our efforts to protect Somerset's countryside.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a Memorandum of Association and is a company limited by guarantee.

Trustees are selected by invite after having discussions with the chair and having attended a committee meeting(s). They are nominated and elected at each AGM.

## Reference and Administrative Details

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England

Charity Registration No: 1100860

Sanctuary Cottage West Pennard Glastonbury BA6 8NL

Trustees

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Hugh Williams	Chair		CPRE Somerset
Gerhard Hattingh			CPRE Somerset
Vernon Hughes			CPRE Somerset
David Julian			CPRE Somerset
John Roberts	Treasurer		CPRE Somerset
Fletcher Robinson		Until 28/11/24	CPRE Somerset
Janette Ward			CPRE Somerset
Sarah Hutchison			CPRE Somerset
Jan Owen		Until 14/11/2024	CPRE Somerset
Jenny Raggett			CPRE Somerset

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Date

**THE SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1100860

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# Accounts

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## **Trustees Annual Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England

### **Objects and Activities**

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England (The Charity) is established for the promotion and encouragement for the benefit of the public the improvement and protection of the English countryside and in particular that of the Administrative County of Somerset and its towns and villages and for the better development of the rural environment.

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

### **Achievement and Performance**

The charity has 10 Trustees through the year, one of which is paid as the charities planning consultant and a freelance administrator

Our planner advises the Trustees, reviews planning applications which may affect the Somerset countryside, liaises with members of CPRE South West and members of the public. Our planner submits comments and objections to the local authorities and attends and speaks at local enquiries. There has been some notable success in the past year.

The charity supports sustainable initiatives to reduce global warming including solar but is concerned with the growing number of commercial solar farms which are being introduced and which impair the enjoyment of the countryside and reduces the land available for food production. It however supports the installation of solar on brownfield sites such as the roofs of commercial buildings.

The introduction of biomass digesters has been of particular concern in Somerset causing traffic problems due to material being imported from long distances and problems with enforcement.

The charity seeks avenues of funding from public bodies and from donations from members.

In 2021 the charity continued with its successful Litter Pick Project which has now supplied Litter Pick kits to over 100 volunteers and, the Finger Post project carried out in conjunction with the Hinckley Point and the annual photo competition which this year included an Under 18 category.

### **Financial Review**

The approved accounts for 2021 are shown above and have been verified by an independent examiner.

**SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England number 04755482 and registered charity number 1100960

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

INCOME	2021 £	2020 £
Share of subscriptions etc	14662	13759
Finger Posts (Restricted funds)	(1286)	(3250)
Branch Appeal	0	2328
Interest received	378	433
Virgin/Redwood Acct	0	392
Donations	7706	1967
Litter Pick Project	180	9254
Lottery	1260	1332
Rewilding/Agm	2393	0
Merchandise	134	0

**LESS COST OF SUPPORT TO SW REGIONAL GROUP CPMR**

Donation to SW region	0	0
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**TOTAL £26,714 £29,465**

**OVERHEADS**

Administrator	10922	10522
Events	0	50
Finger Posts (Restricted funds)	1964	1300
Insurance	301	301
Miscellaneous	665	510
Planner	5000	5878
Postage	399	735
Printing	344	500
Room hire and premises	0	90
Shows	0	12
Stationary	49	71
Travel	96	35
Lottery	290	280
Litter pick 1 project	2137	4991
Litter pick 2 project	1843	0
Rewilding/AGM	1034	0

**OVERHEADS £25,043 £25,273**

**Finger Posts (Restricted funds) £1,964 £1,300**

**TOTAL OVERHEADS £23,079 £23,973**

**NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT £3,635 £5,492**

**BALANCE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

CURRENT ASSETS	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets	0	0
Cash in Bank @ 31st December	4067	2775
Less unrepresented cheques	0	0
Cash	0	0
Postage stamps	0	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4067</b>	<b>2775</b>

**Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank) Includes £5000 restricted funds Finger Post 50820 50442**

**Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank) Restricted funds Finger Post -1286 -3250**

**TOTAL £53,602 £49,967**

**LIABILITIES £0 £0**

**NET ASSETS £53,602 £49,967**

**NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT £3,635 £5,492**

For the year ending 31/12/2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 407 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

**Director's responsibilities:**

"The directors have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,  
"the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for the company with the requirements of the Act with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of accounts.  
"The accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime."

Approved by the Board of Directors on and signed on their behalf by

*J Roberts*  
John Roberts, Treasurer and Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Somerset Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England.**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out above.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and Independent Examiner.

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirement Section 40(2) of the Charities Act 2003 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 40(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Notes of the independent examiner's report.**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts kept with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement.**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, and

b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Dated

*P Michael* 20/3/2022.

Waters House Newtown Lane  
West Pennard Somerset BA6  
9NL

Income has decreased slightly but due mainly to the completion of the first phase of the Litter Pick project but we have been fortunate to have received some considerable donations from members.

Overheads are in line with 2020 and the reserves have increased marginally.

The finances of the charity are in good order going into 2022 and will enable us to continue supporting our efforts to protect Somersets countryside.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a Memorandum of Association and is a company limited by guarantee.

Trustees are selected by invite after having discussions with the chair and having attended a committee meeting(s)

## Reference and Administrative Details

The Somerset Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England

Charity Registration No: 1100860

Sanctuary Cottage West Pennard Glastonbury BA6 8NL

Trustees

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Hugh Williams	Chair		CPRE Southwest
Janette Ward			CPRE Southwest
John Roberts	Treasurer	24/2/2021	CPRE Southwest
Vernon Phillip Hughes		16/02/2021	CPRE Southwest
David Julian			CPRE Southwest
Fletcher Freeland Robinson			CPRE Southwest
Don Parkinson			CPRE Southwest
Professor Christopher Lewis			CPRE Southwest

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

--	--

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

--	--

Date

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**THE SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1100860

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# Accounts

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**SOMERSET BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**

A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England number 04755482 and registered charity number 1100860

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020			BALANCE AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020			
INCOME	2020	2019	+/-	CURRENT ASSETS	2020	2019
	£	£			£	£
Share of subscriptions etc	13759	14197	-438	Fixed Assets	0	0
Finger Posts (Restricted funds)	(3250)	(4550)				
Branch Appeal	2328		2328	Cash in Bank at 31st December	2775	4015
Interest received Virgin/Redwood Acct	433	504	-71	Less unrepresented cheques	0	0
Giftaid	392		392	Cash	0	0
Donations	1967	1534	433	Postage stamps	0	0
Litter Pick Project	9254		9254			
Lottery	1332	0	1332			
Shows	0	164	-164	Sub Total	2775	4015
<b>LESS COST OF SUPPORT TO SW REGIONAL GROUP CPRE</b>				Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank) Includes £5000 restricted funds Finger Post	50442	45009
Donation to SW region	0	0		Savings Deposit Account (Redwood Bank) Restricted funds Finger Post	-3250	-4550
				<b>Total</b>	<b>£49,967</b>	<b>£44,474</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£29,465</b>	<b>£16,399</b>	13066	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>OVERHEADS</b>				<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£49,967</b>	<b>£44,474</b>
Administrator	10522	10437	85	<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>£5,492.19</b>	<b>-£4,844.00</b>
Events	50	35	15			
Finger Posts (Restricted funds)	1300	450	850			
Insurance	301	301	0			
Miscellaneous	495	423	71			
Planner	5878	7064	-1187			
Postage	735	583	152			
Printing	500	300	199			
Room hire and premises	90	272	-182			
Shows	12	19	-7			
Stationary	71	118	-47			
Travel	35	1689	-1654			
branch share	15	0	15			
Lottery	280	0	280			
Litter pick project	4991	0	4991			
<b>OVERHEADS</b>	<b>£25,273</b>	<b>£21,693</b>	£3,582			
<b>Finger Posts (Restricted funds)</b>	<b>£1,300</b>	<b>£450</b>				
<b>TOTAL OVERHEADS</b>	<b>£23,973</b>	<b>£21,243</b>				
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>£5,492.19</b>	<b>-£4,844</b>				

For the year ending 31/12/2015 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2008 relating to small companies.

Director's responsibilities;

•The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,

•The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for the complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

"The accounts have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime."

Approved by the Board of Directors on and signed on their behalf by

John Roberts, Treasurer and Trustee

I have prepared the draft accounts for 2020 which are shown above

Assets (Cash in the NatWest and Redwood savings accounts) increased by over £10000.

Income has increased considerably due to the funds received for the Litter Pick project, the appeal and the lottery.

The successful bid of £9254 for the Litter Pick Project included staff costs and overheads recovery of £3432 of which £708 has been taken in staff costs in 2020 - it is expected that the remainder of the staff costs (£1452) will be used in 2021, present circumstances permitting.

The appeal raised over £2700 including gift Aid and the lottery saw a profit of over £1000.

Overheads increased mainly due to the Litter Pick Project but not surprisingly expenses were down and this will probably continue during 2021 as online meetings become the norm.

It is anticipated that there will be no branch appeal this year and that the Finger Posts and Litter Pick projects will be completed and we will see a reduction in our reserves by about £4500 at the end of 2021 (dependent on income from the lottery)

It is important that opportunities continue to be taken to maintain our income and Becky must be congratulated for her excellent work in securing funding for the Litter Pick Project.