

**Campaign to Protect Rural England,
Sussex Branch CIO**

Registered Charity No: 1156568

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

Chairman's Report for the year ended 31st December 2022

This has been a very busy year for all involved with CPRE Sussex. Members, supporters, project partners and a band of dedicated volunteers have once again helped us shape a greener future for Sussex and protect our precious countryside and urban green spaces.

Fighting development pressures

Development pressures seem never ending but 2022 saw us continue to fight to protect Sussex from inappropriate and unsustainable development. We opposed the expansion of Gatwick Airport, fought a Center Parcs bid for a large holiday park near Crawley and objected to applications for new homes on greenfield land, including some that would damage Ancient Woodland.

As always, this was a collaborative effort. We worked with partners including the Sussex Wildlife Trust, The Woodland Trust, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Sussex Ornithological Society and Buglife, as well as passionate local campaign groups and our dedicated members, supporters and volunteers.

A co-ordinated response to the Center Parcs proposal attracted national attention. We challenged the company to find an alternative location and plant a new woodland rather than building in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, on Ancient Woodland, right next to a Site of Special Scientific interest. We now know Center Parcs has withdrawn its interest in the site. Thank you to everyone who made this outcome possible.

This year also saw us raise concerns over a Planning Inspectorate demand for a map of ancient woodland in East Sussex from a time in the 1600s when no maps of the kind required existed. CPRE Sussex put together evidence from a variety of sources, including those who originated the Ancient Woodland approach, and, with the Woodland Trust, campaigned to have the existing law respected. Common sense prevailed and the Inspectorate decision was effectively quashed.

Our work to ensure a large Homes England development north of Burgess Hill is as green as possible continues. Thanks to arguments put forward by the Sussex Ornithological Society, the Master Plan for the site has been changed. Two pieces of Ancient Woodland will now only be separated by a cycle and footway instead of a busy road. We are also campaigning for new homes to be fitted with solar panels.

We have challenged District Plans and the Government's method of calculating housing numbers that does nothing other than suck development into the over-heated south-east of the UK. This approach is designed to profit developers rather than providing genuinely affordable housing for local people, supported by appropriate infrastructure.

Several inappropriate developments have been opposed and we were pleased to see the concerns of local groups recognised in decisions to refuse permissions. In West Sussex, Planning Inspectorate permission for 475 homes within a designated Local Green Gap was overturned at the High Court. The collective efforts of the community to oppose this development were strongly supported by CPRE Sussex.

2022 also saw us give our inputs to the development of estate-wide plans to protect valuable resources, including the Brighton Downland Estate Plan.

Planting urban trees

CPRE Sussex began a Plant Your Postcode tree and hedge planting project some years ago. In 2022, the Forgotten Places project continued that theme. Working closely with local communities and the city council, we planted more than 100 trees across Brighton and Hove.

We have also been supporting local groups across the city who want to increase green space in their urban areas. We await the outcome of some exciting new developments in street engineering that may make this more of a possibility.

Chairman's Report for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

Informing environmental matters

In 2022 we have represented members' views in responses to a wide range of government and private-sector consultations on environmental matters, including water and aviation.

We are keeping more than a watching brief on the water quantity and quality issues affecting parts of Horsham and Chichester districts where the need to protect Sussex's globally important chalk streams means a hold has been put on new planning permissions. Demand for water is also an issue for Mid-Sussex but the cause here may be demand outstripping the capacity to supply in hot weather.

We are campaigning with Sussex MPs, county-level authorities and district councils on several pieces of legislation threatening to remove environmental legislation or weaken protections. These include the Bill aimed at scrapping EU legislation and that on Levelling-Up.

Despite assurances received from MPs we, and many members of the House of Lords, remain very concerned that government commitments to environmental protection are not what they should be. We fear the quality of the environment and our access to it will decline in future without a real change of direction. The dreadful situation on sewage shows what is really happening on the ground in Sussex. We will campaign more on this in the coming year and look forward to successes.

Shaping a greener future for Sussex

Guided by Interim Director Brian Kilkelly, we completed a review of our operational strategic direction in the context of our overall charitable purposes. This led us to a forward-looking view that, to protect and promote the countryside and urban green spaces, CPRE Sussex must shape a greener future for Sussex. This thinking will allow us to seek opportunities for Sussex's diverse communities to be more sustainable, as well as acting to protect the countryside and our valued heritage.

We will be increasingly using this thinking to challenge and oppose inappropriate overdevelopment of Sussex and respond to government policy changes that are, sadly, threatening the integrity of our environment on which health, wealth and wellbeing depends.

Thanks to those who make our work possible

I would like to thank our staff, volunteers, members, supporters and Trustees for your invaluable contribution to our work. Without your efforts and expertise, the charity could not exist and our victories would not be possible.

I would also like to thank the Trustees and volunteers who, after serving the communities of Sussex for many years, are stepping back from their roles. Stephen Hardy and Bill Freeman have been active and valuable Trustees. Michael Brown, who was the planning lead for Mid-Sussex, led our recent inputs to the emerging District Plan consultation and supported campaigns by local groups against the large number of new developments proposed in the southern part of the district. Vic lent, who has been a main mover in our work with the South Downs National Park, is also stepping back a good deal and I thank him and wish him well for the future.

Finally, we have now recruited a new permanent part-time Director, Paul Steedman. Paul has extensive experience of working with member-based environment organisations so we are much looking forward to working with him. Many thanks to Brian Kilkelly for his inputs to many of the projects undertaken this past year; we wish him well for the future.

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Branch's governing document.

Working Names

CPRE Sussex and CPRE Sussex Countryside Trust

Constitution, objectives and activities

CPRE Sussex is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and its governing document is "The Constitution of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO" registered with the Charity Commission on 8th April 2014, charity number 1156568. The Branch is restricted by its Constitution from undertaking any substantial permanent trading activities.

The objects of the CIO are to promote and encourage for the benefit of the public the improvement, protection and preservation of the countryside of Sussex and its towns and villages and the environmentally better development of the same.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and at the date of the Report were:

William Freeman (resigned 1st October 2022)

Stephen Hardy MBE (resigned 1st October 2022)

Julian Hill

Penny Hudd

David Johnson

John Kay

Professor Daniel Osborn

Sally Pavey

Dr Roger Smith

Jeanette Towey (resigned 1st October 2022)

New trustees are appointed after a review of the skills required and are drawn from individuals who have relevant backgrounds. When appropriate the trustees consult other relevant organisations for nominations to the committee. New trustees are provided with an introduction to the Charity.

Registered address:

Brownings Farm, Blackboys, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 5HG

Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd, PO Box 289, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA

Independent Examiner:

Mr M Partridge, FCA, Chariot House Ltd, 44 Grand Parade, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 9QA

Investment adviser and nominee company:

Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, 55 Bishopsgate London EC2N 3AS

Public benefit reporting

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Financial review and reserves

The Chairman's report included in these accounts gives a full description of the activities and results for the year ended 31st December 2022. The Trustees consider that the level of reserves is adequate to support current activities for the next three to four years and are actively reviewing future funding to ensure that CPRE Sussex will continue to be an effective voice for the future (please refer to the reserves policy in the Notes). The Trustees review financial and other risks on a regular basis.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution, requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate that the charity will continue business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Committee of Trustees on 21st April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor Daniel Osborn, Chair

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE
CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND, SUSSEX BRANCH CIO**

I report on the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

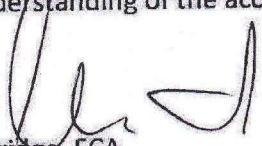
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 requirements that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr M Partridge, FCA
Chariot House Limited
Chartered Accountants
44 Grand Parade
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 9QA

Date: 19/6/2023

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31st December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	2021 £
Incoming Resources					
Membership Subscriptions *		36,045	-	36,045	37,046
Investment Income		1,533	-	1,533	1,080
Legacies		2	-	2	7,293
Donations		13,682	-	13,682	15,427
Chalk Cliff Trust		4,750	-	4,750	-
Forgotten Places Grant		-	124,272	124,272	6,209
Dark Skies		-	-	-	5,116
Plant Your Postcode Brighton		-	999	999	1,856
Southern Water		-	6,000	6,000	-
Brighton Resilience Fund		-	6,000	6,000	-
Gift Aid on Donations		1,140	-	1,140	1,071
Other Income		2,794	-	2,794	5,357
Total Incoming Resources	3	59,946	137,271	197,217	80,455
Expenditure					
Raising Funds		9,876	-	9,876	6,947
Charitable activities		57,244	129,239	186,483	84,217
Total Resources Expended	4 & 5	67,120	129,239	196,359	91,164
Net (Outgoing) / Incoming Resources		(7,174)	8,032	858	(10,709)
Gains (Losses) on investment assets	7	(11,700)	-	(11,700)	2,151
Net Movements in Funds		(18,874)	8,032	(10,842)	(8,558)
		(18,874)	8,032	(10,842)	(8,558)
Fund Balances at 1st January 2022		153,480	7,901	161,381	169,939
Fund Balances at 31st December 2022		134,606	15,933	150,539	161,381

* Includes Gift Aid claimed by National Office

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2022

	Note	31st December 2022 £	31st December 2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	6	1,231	1,111
Investments	7	112,508	123,973
		<u>113,739</u>	<u>125,084</u>
Current Assets			
Stocks	8	233	436
Debtors	9	38,958	21,788
Short term deposits	10	6,995	10,963
Cash at bank and in hand		13,518	11,309
		<u>59,704</u>	<u>44,496</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(22,904)	(8,199)
Net Current Assets		<u>36,800</u>	<u>36,297</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>150,539</u>	<u>161,381</u>
Income Funds			
Restricted Funds	12	15,933	7,901
Unrestricted Funds		134,606	153,480
Total Income Funds		<u>150,539</u>	<u>161,381</u>

Approved by the Committee of Trustees on 21st April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Julian Hill
Honorary Treasurer

1. Principal Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Charities Act 2011'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost conventions modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its charitable activities under section 505(1) of the income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources are accounted for as follows:-

Donations - on a receivable basis

Legacies - on a basis when they fulfill the criteria of entitlement, measurement and receipt is probable.

Grants and Investments - on a receivable basis

Incoming Resources marked * - on a net receivable basis.

Resources Expended

Resources expended, including irrecoverable VAT, are accounted for on the accruals basis.

Expenditure is directly allocated to activities when possible.

Fixed assets and Depreciation

The charity operates a capitalisation policy whereby only assets with a cost in excess of £350 are capitalised. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives of three or four years on a straight-line basis.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value and both realised and unrealised gains and losses are reflected through the Statement of Financial Activities.

Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value

Reserves

CPRE Sussex Trustees recognise the need to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level appropriate to the needs of the charity. The level of reserves are reviewed quarterly in line with the monitoring and budgetary reporting process. Currently CPRE Sussex records an annual deficit in our unrestricted funds activities and the Trustees policy is to have unrestricted reserves greater than 4 times the annual deficit in the previous financial year. If the unrestricted financial reserves are less than this amount every endeavour should be made to either reduce overheads or increase the level of income. Once there is a regular surplus in the annual unrestricted funds activities the unrestricted reserves should be greater than 6 months operating overheads

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

2. Statement of Financial Activities for the period ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021
	£	£	£
Incoming Resources			
Membership Subscriptions	37,046	-	37,046
Legacies	7,293	-	7,293
General Donations	15,427	-	15,427
Gift Aid	1,071	-	1,071
Forgotten Places Grant	-	6,209	6,209
Dark Skies	-	5,116	5,116
Plant Your Postcode Brighton	-	1,856	1,856
500 Club*, Events* and Merchandise*	5,357	-	5,357
Investment Income	1,080	-	1,080
Total Incoming Resources	67,274	13,181	80,455
Expenditure			
Raising Funds	6,947	-	6,947
Charitable Activities	57,792	26,425	84,217
Total Resources Expended	64,739	26,425	91,164
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources	2,535	(13,244)	(10,709)
Gains on Investment Assets	2,151	-	2,151
Net Movement in Funds	4,686	(13,244)	(8,558)
Fund Balance at 1st January 2021	148,794	21,145	169,939
Fund Balances at 31st December 2021	153,480	7,901	161,381

3. Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	36,045	-	36,045	37,046
Legacies	2	-	2	7,293
General Donations	13,682	-	13,682	15,427
Gift Aid	1,140	-	1,140	1,071
Chalk Cliff Trust	4,750	-	4,750	-
Forgotten Places Grant	-	124,272	124,272	6,209
Dark Skies	-	-	-	5,116
Plant Your Postcode Brighton	-	999	999	1,856
Southern Water	-	6,000	6,000	-
Brighton Resilience Fund	-	6,000	6,000	-
500 Club*, Events* and Merchandise*	2,794	-	2,794	5,357
Investment Income	1,533	-	1,533	1,080
	59,946	137,271	197,217	80,455

4. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Raising Funds				
Fundraising Projects	4,084	-	4,084	3,604
Autumn Appeal Mailing	897	-	897	997
Publicity	3,649	-	3,649	1,015
Investment Management Fee	1,246	-	1,246	1,331
	<u>9,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,876</u>	<u>6,947</u>

Charitable Activities

Sussex County Planning matters	-	-	-	238
Sussex Review and Newsletter	5,460	-	5,460	3,566
Website	1,000	-	1,000	3,000
SDN Park and GACC Subscriptions	100	-	100	-
Planning Magazine	2,100	-	2,100	2,430
Forgotten Places Grant	-	124,272	124,272	6,209
Plant Your Postcode Brighton	-	1,977	1,977	6,642
Southern Water	-	2,990	2,990	-
Plant Your Postcode Eastbourne	-	-	-	8,458
Dark Skies	-	-	-	5,116
Staff Costs (Note 5)	36,612	-	36,612	37,948
Premises Costs (Including all Insurances)	5,529	-	5,529	5,665
Office Costs	2,938	-	2,938	2,725
Depreciation	769	-	769	329
Trustee and Strategy Meetings	48	-	48	-
Trustees' Expenses	151	-	151	57
AGM*	1,431	-	1,431	752
Chariot House Accountants	1,106	-	1,106	1,082
	<u>57,244</u>	<u>129,239</u>	<u>186,483</u>	<u>84,217</u>

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

5. Staff Costs

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Staff Salaries	17,498	-	17,498	35,621
Staff Salaries Recovered As Part Of The Forgotten Places and Southern Water Grants	(16,090)	-	(16,090)	(2,175)
Staff Expenses	865	-	865	649
Employer National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Employer People's Pension	-	-	-	429
Consultant	34,000	-	34,000	3,000
Staff Recruitment	339	-	339	424
	<u>36,612</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,612</u>	<u>37,948</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more. The average number of part-time employees was two. Amounts totalling £151 were paid to 2 Trustees in respect of travel and other expenses. No Trustee received any remuneration in the year.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £0 (2021 : £18,892). The Director post in 2022 was covered by a consultant acting as temporary Director.

6. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

	Office Equipment 2022 £
Cost	
At 1st January 2022	8,793
Additions	889
Disposals	-
At 31st December 2022	9,682
Depreciation	
At 1st January 2022	7,682
Charge for the year	769
Disposals	-
At 31st December 2022	8,451
Net book value	
At 1st January 2022	1,111
At 31st December 2022	1,231

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

7.	Investments	2022	2021
		£	£
	Market Value at 1st January	123,973	122,075
	Sale of Investments	-	-
	Management Charges	(1,246)	(1,331)
	Investment Income	1,481	1,078
	(Losses)/Gains on Investment Assets	(11,700)	2,151
	At 31st December	<u>112,508</u>	<u>123,973</u>
	All assets are listed on the UK Stock Market		
8.	Stocks	2022	2021
		£	£
	Merchandising	<u>233</u>	<u>436</u>
9.	Debtors	2022	2021
		£	£
	Prepayments	315	-
	Other Debtors	38,643	21,788
		<u>38,958</u>	<u>21,788</u>
10.	Short Term Deposits	2022	2021
		£	£
	CAF Gold	6,495	10,463
	National Savings and Investments Bank Income Bond	500	500
		<u>6,995</u>	<u>10,963</u>
11.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
		£	£
	Creditors	6,233	2,715
	Accruals	16,671	5,484
		<u>22,904</u>	<u>8,199</u>

12. Restricted Funds

Cuckmere Valley Fund

The Cuckmere Valley Fund was established in 2010 following the dissolution of the Cuckmere Valley Society and is subject to restrictions requiring the fund to be used for purposes similar to those of CPRE Sussex within the Cuckmere Valley.

	£
Balance at 1st January and 31st December 2022	<u>5,727</u>

New Monks farm Transport Assessment

A consultant has been hired to do a transport assessment for New Monks Farm. The work is not yet completed.

	£
Balance at 1st January and 31st December 2022	<u>200</u>

Awards 2020

A celebration event planned for 2022 deferred until 2023.

	£
Balance at 1st January and 31st December 2022	<u>538</u>

Forgotten Places

We were awarded a grant in association with Trees for Cities and the Green Recovery Challenge Fund for tree planting in Brighton. The project is timetabled to continue to March 2023

	£
Balance at 1st January 2022	-
Tree Planting and maintenance	(78,340)
Project Manager and Other Staff Costs	(22,379)
Opportunity mapping	(20,958)
Other Costs	(2,595)
Cost recovery grant income claimed in arrears	124,272
Balance at 31st December 2022	<u>-</u>

Campaign to Protect Rural England, Sussex Branch CIO

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

12. Restricted Funds (continued)

Plant Your Postcode Brighton

We received a mix of grants and donations to support the increase in tree cover across the whole of the Greater Brighton area.

	£
Balance at 1st January 2022	1,436
Donations	999
Trees	(672)
Other Costs	(1,305)
Balance at 31st December 2022	458

Southern Water

Grant received from Southern Water for research activities

	£
Grant received 2022	6,000
staff costs	(2,990)
Balance at 31st December 2022	3,010

Brighton Resilience Fund

We were awarded a grant from Brighton & Hove City Council for continuing support for tree planting in the city

	£
Grant received 2022	6,000
costs	-
Balance at 31st December 2022	6,000

13. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Fixed Assets	Investments	Current Assets	2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,231	112,508	20,867	134,606
Restricted Funds	-	-	15,933	15,933
	1,231	112,508	36,800	150,539

14. Dissolution

If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.