

DEVON CPRE

The Voice for Devon's Countryside

ANNUAL REPORT 2020





WHO WE ARE

President: Professor Nick Groom.

Vice President: Robin Hogg.

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

Branch Director: Penny Mills.

The Voice for Devon's Countryside

The Devon branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (Devon CPRE), 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

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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

Will be held virtually via Zoom*

THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2021 at 2.30pm

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th October 2020.
3. To receive and approve the Annual Report.
4. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020.
5. To appoint the Independent Examiner.
6. Election of Officers (President and Vice President), Trustees/Executive Committee.
7. Any other business.

*** The link to the Zoom meeting will be emailed on request**

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman

Dear Members

Welcome to our Annual Report for 2020. I suspect that this is a year that will never be forgotten in the years to come, due to the totally unprecedented and unforeseen consequences of the global pandemic. Like many other organisations, Devon CPRE had to cancel all of the many events, meetings, and other appearances we had planned for the year, and to turn to our computers to keep in touch.

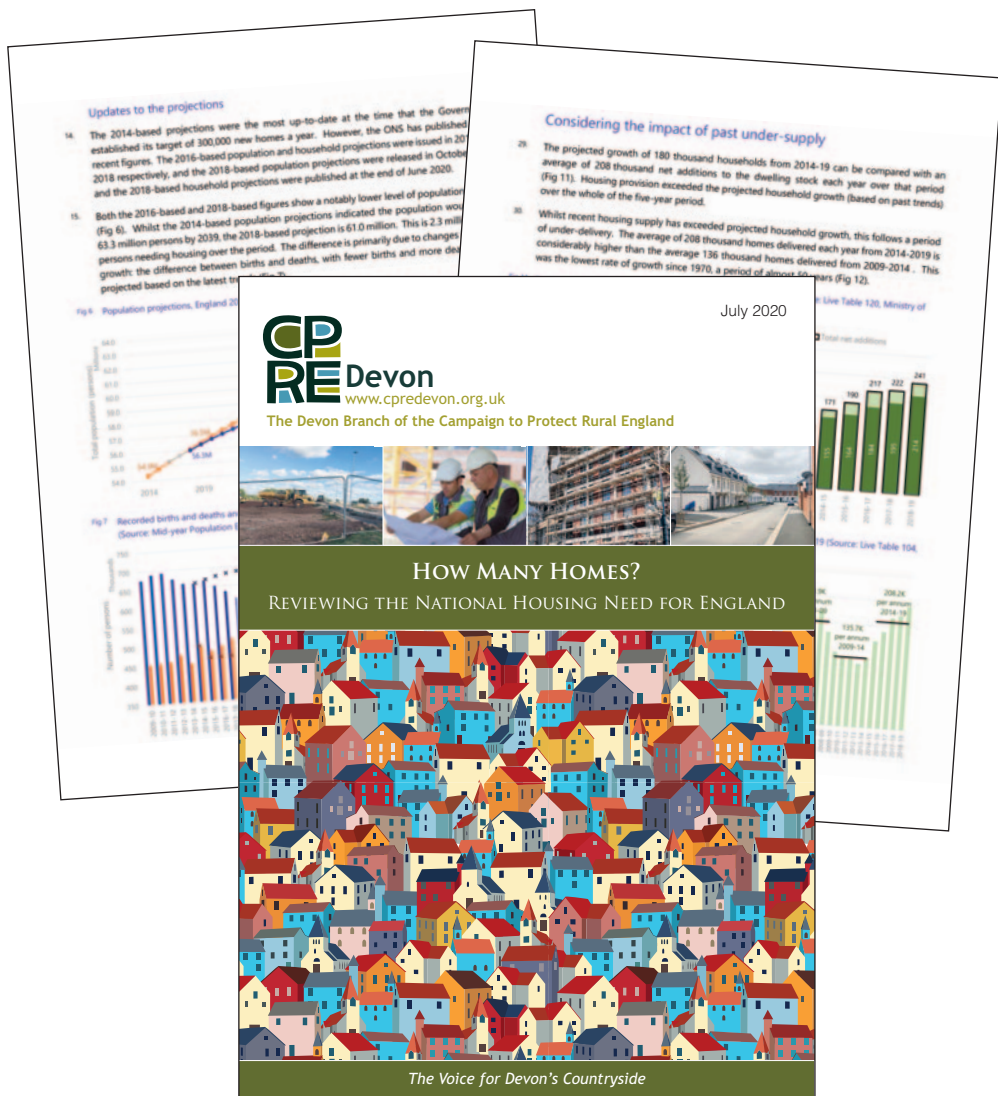
We held our trustees' meetings online, as well as our AGM, which was very well attended. We also organised several online surgeries with our planning consultant Jo Widdecombe, as well as attending several sessions with other CPRE branches around the country. We were also delighted to take part in the Devon Dark Skies week programme of on-line events, where we gave a presentation on light pollution in Devon. Luckily the judges of our Best Churchyard Competition were able to travel around to visit all our entrants, and Devon parents also did the most fantastic job of encouraging their children to enter our art competition, both the number and standard of entries was the highest we have ever seen, and the top entries made the most appealing calendar.

Although there were periods during the year when we were all deprived of our ability to go out into the

countryside, our open green spaces were also a source of great consolation to us during this difficult time. However, we also saw that many people still fail to understand and appreciate how easily our environment can be harmed by thoughtless behaviour. As such we were delighted to join the Clean Devon campaign as a partner organisation. This initiative aims to tackle litter and fly tipping across the county, which has sadly increased greatly during lockdown.

As ever, our biggest challenge continues to be preventing new build housing developments from destroying too much of our precious countryside. I am sure that many of you will be aware of more and more new developments springing up all around them and sure enough, our latest research in our How Many Homes report confirms that throughout Devon the amount of new housing being delivered exceeds the formal target figures set by central government, despite which we continue to see planning applications for yet more housing pour in.

In spite of the major restrictions we faced I am pleased to report that the Devon branch of CPRE continues to attract new members, in fact we are the most successful branch at doing so in the whole network, and I thank all of our members for their continued support of our work over this particularly difficult year for us all.



Our new report in 2020, produced for us by ORS, which reviewed national housing need figures.

This is available to all members. If you would like a copy, please contact us.

A follow up to our important report on

real housing need in Devon, this essential and comprehensive report shows, compiled from their own official statistics, that the Government wants to build nearly twice as many homes than are genuinely needed.

Minutes of the AGM held on 29th October 2020

Because of the Covid pandemic, the AGM originally planned for 2nd April 2020 at the Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, was postponed and was instead held on line via Zoom.

The Chairman, Rebecca Bartleet, opened the meeting with a warm welcome to our many members who had joined us on line and explained a few 'housekeeping' rules regarding Zoom meetings.

Agenda Items

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th April 2019

There being no questions, approval of the minutes was proposed by Robin Hogg and seconded by Ivan Buxton and unanimously approved.

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. There being no questions, approval was proposed by Dale Hall and seconded by Mike Best and unanimously approved.

4. To receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2019

The Hon Treasurer, Mike Best, gave a short presentation on the accounts and asked for any questions. Keith Pitt asked for clarification regarding the PR expenditure figure and the Hon Treasurer responded. There being no further questions, acceptance was proposed by Steve Crowther and seconded by Phillip Bratby and unanimously approved.

5. To appoint the Independent Examiner

The Hon Treasurer, Mike Best, explained that he had been in discussions with Ian Barrett FCA FCIE of Barretts, Newton Abbot, regarding undertaking this work and proposed his appointment as Independent Examiner. Seconded by Ivan Buxton and unanimously approved.

6. Election of Officers - President and Vice President, Trustees/Executive Committee

For the election of our President, Nick Groom, and our Vice President, Robin Hogg, and for the election of the Trustees to be elected 'en bloc' - Rebecca Bartleet, Ivan Buxton, Phillip Bratby, Steve Crowther, Dale Hall, Mike Best. Proposed by Peter Cleasby and seconded by Pat Day and unanimously approved.

7. Any Other Business

Sharon Goble addressed the meeting providing an update on the PR work which she has undertaken for the charity in the past year. Steve Crowther commented that Sharon's work is brilliant and thanks was given to Sharon for all her hard work.

Mike Sanderson raised the issue of keeping the pressure on our MPs regarding local planning issues and the wider issue of house building targets nationally. David Morgans commented that local district and county elections are a good time for people to let their feelings be known and said that it was the Devon County Council election in 2021. Peter Cleasby commented that there is a need for all campaigning organisations like ours to be proactive not just reactive and praised the work that we have been doing particularly regarding housing figures. Eirene Williams asked whether there is anything more we can do to try to attract younger people to become members and support our work and a discussion took place. James Lindsay, a national CPRE Trustee, and who currently works at Exeter University, said that in his experience most young people just don't have the time or spare cash to join organisations like ours and he acknowledged that we have a very high profile locally in the media and attracting many new members.

The meeting closed with the Chairman thanking everybody who had managed to join us on line and was glad that the meeting had worked without any problems.

In accordance with the constitution, there was a brief on line meeting of the Trustees in which Rebecca Bartleet was confirmed as 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 2020**

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

The Trustees present their report and accounts
for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Administrative Information

The Trustees who served the Charity during the year were:

Rebecca Bartleet	Chairman
Michael Best	Honorary Treasurer (appointed 7th Feb 2020)
Phillip Bratby	
Ivan Buxton	
Stephen Crowther	
Dale Hall	
Nicholas Whitsun-Jones	(appointed 12th Nov 2020, resigned 28th May 2021)
Peter Finch	(resigned 9th July 2020)
Rosemary Jessel	(resigned 9th Nov 2019)
Patricia Day	(resigned 9th July 2020)

Penny Mills 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 Ian Barrett FCA FCIE of Barretts, 22, Union Street, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 2JS.

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

The Charity's bankers were the Royal Bank of Scotland.

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 comprises the following officers; Chairman, Honorary Treasurer 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 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 where members 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 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 2020 the Charity's income includes the following:

• National Office support	£24,594
• Advances on the Mason bequest received from National Office	£24,400
• Donations from supporters in Devon	£ 1,800

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. It was agreed by the Trustees that the Mason bequest be treated as unrestricted funds.

The Trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

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.

The Branch maintains its bank account with Barclays which recorded donations received of £121 during the year ended December 31, 2020. The bank charged the account with commission which left a balance at the year-end of £365.

The report and accounts were approved by the Trustees on 16th June 2021 and signed on their behalf by;

Rebecca Bartleet, Chairman.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

THE DEVON BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN TO
PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND CIO

1175228

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	1st JANUARY 2020	To	31st DECEMBER 2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Share of Subscriptions	24,594	-	-	24,594	25,657
Donations and grants	1,800	-	-	1,800	2,771
Fund raising events	-	-	-	-	601
Sales	934	-	-	934	237
Investment income and interest	930	1,399	-	2,329	2,567
Mason bequest held at National Office	24,400	-	-	24,400	30,000
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	52,658	1,399	-	54,057	61,833
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	52,658	1,399	-	54,057	61,833
A3 Payments					
Branch Director fees	18,000	1,750	-	19,750	19,250
Newsletters including Annual Report	6,536	-	-	6,536	3,787
Planning consultancy fees	5,380	-	-	5,380	4,404
Technical documents and videos	939	-	-	939	6,857
Seminars	-	-	-	-	5,024
Public relations	7,953	200	-	8,153	7,811
Advertising and Promotion	2,823	-	-	2,823	4,973
Grant to Wembury Marina	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Childrens competition prizes	-	5,050	-	5,050	3,647
Best Churchyard competition prizes	1,008	-	-	1,008	801
Travelling expenses	1,736	-	-	1,736	2,652
Website maintenance	626	-	-	626	470
Other sundry expenses	48	-	-	48	732
Governance:	-	-	-	-	-
Meetings	132	-	-	132	2,700
Office expenses	1,700	-	-	1,700	1,430
Accounting assistance	1,600	-	-	1,600	1,360
Legal and Professional fees	606	-	-	606	438
Communications	1,093	-	-	1,093	1,093
Insurance	592	-	-	592	568
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	50,772	10,000	-	60,772	70,997
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	50,772	10,000	-	60,772	70,997
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,886	- 8,601	-	- 6,715	- 9,164
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	83,360	70,971	-	154,331	163,495
Cash funds this year end	85,246	62,370	-	147,616	154,331

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Royal Bank of Scotland	59,068	-	-
	Virgin Money	26,178	148	-
	United Trust Bank	-	62,222	-
	Total cash funds	85,246	62,370	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Mason bequest held at National Office	18,231	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	M & G Investments	Unrestricted	16,257	21,799
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Various equipment	Unrestricted	2,391	1,500
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Directors fees	Unrestricted	4,000	paid
	Suppliers and expenses	Unrestricted	1,374	paid
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf
of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Michael Best

16th June 2021

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Devon Branch Of The
Campaign To Protect Rural England CIO
Charity number 1175228**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England CIO for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Ian Barrett FCA FCIE
Barretts Chartered Accountants and Chartered Tax Advisers
22 Union Street
Newton Abbot TQ12 2JS

Dated: 16th June 2021

Some of our Activities during 2020



Supporting the Clean Devon Partnership



Credit: Lucy Flatman

Supporting Wembury Marine Centre



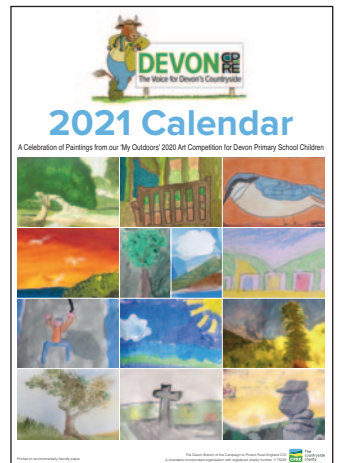
Supporting the
Devon Ancient Woodland Inventory



Supporting the reinstatement of the
Okehampton to Exeter passenger rail service



Supporting Devon's Dark Skies Week



Our 2021 Calendar

Children's Painting Competition



KS1 Winner: Betsy Salt (Age 6)
Seaside Scene

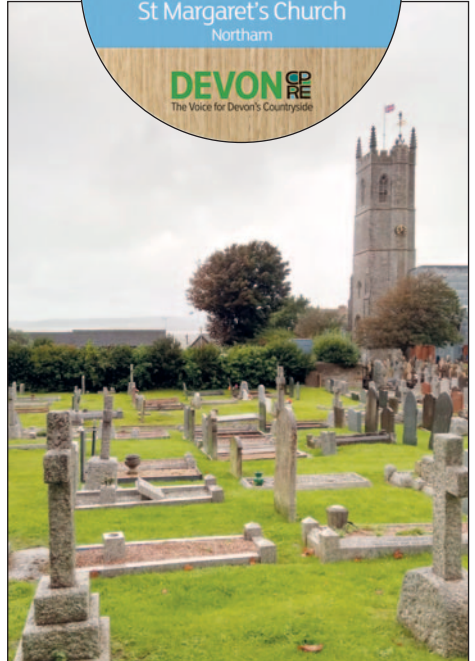


KS2 Joint Winner:
Graciella Sillence-Dreyer (Age 11)
Mannings Pit



KS2 Joint Winner:
Thomasin Manley-Frost (Age 10)
Bowermans Nose - Dartmoor

Devon's Best Churchyard Competition



Winner: St Margaret's Church, Northam



Runner Up: St Swithun's Church, Sandford

Councils are 'ravaging the countryside' with houses

THE GROWING IMPACT OF ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS

Devon CPRE takes an active role in all matters relating to the environment and the countryside in East Devon. Anaerobic Digesters (ADs) have

meet household growth and provide for past under-supply, an average of 250,000 each year, NOT the 300,00 which the government claims."

The CPRE wants local planning authorities, their officials and elected councillors to put countryside and green spaces first, before permitting any more unnecessary developments.

Rural campaign lauds planners' no to houses

House building will far exceed real need - CPRE

Committee, has recently announced his voice to the debate about the environmental impact of ADs and the damage they're causing to our countryside. We understand that he expressed his concern about the number and vast size of anaerobic digesters in the district and the huge quantities of material being moved around by road

Councils exceed targets for new homes in Devon

Rural West at risk in building boom



PO Box 26, Beaworthy,
Devon EX21 5XN

Telephone: 01392 966737

Email: info@cpredevon.org.uk

Website: www.devoncpre.org.uk

Twitter & Facebook: @cpredevon

Devon CPRE
is a member of the
CPRE network



The
countryside
charity