

CPRE Norfolk

Trustees' Annual Report - Year ended 31 December 2025

CPRE Norfolk
15 Pigg Lane
Norwich
NR3 1RS
01603 761660
info@cprenorfolk.org.uk
www.cprenorfolk.org.uk

Registered charity no. 210706



The countryside charity
Norfolk

CPRE Norfolk

Trustees' Annual Report - Year ended 31 December 2025

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CPRE Norfolk

Report of the Executive Committee - Year ended 31 December 2025

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:

CPRE Norfolk

Charity Registration Number:

210706

Address of Charity:

15 Pigg Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR3 1RS

Further Contact Details of Charity:

Tel: (01603) 761660

Email: info@cprenorfolk.org.uk

Web: www.cprenorfolk.org.uk

Trustees of the Executive Committee during 2025:

Sir Nicholas Bacon Bt. OBE DL	(President, from 10th May)
Elliot Griffiths	(Chair from 10th May, resigned 17th September)
Kevin Jones	(Vice Chair)
George Ridgway	(Treasurer)
Thomas Snowdon	(co-opted as Secretary 22nd January, elected as trustee 10th May, resigned 14th July)
Nicholas Hancox	(co-opted 25th April, elected Secretary 10th May, resigned 2nd July)
Christopher Dady	(acting Chair to 10th May)
David Hook	
Pallavi Devulapalli	
Lisa-Marie Ashbury	
Joe Johnson	(co-opted 25th April, elected 10th May)
Lizette de Senna Fernandes	(elected 10th May, resigned 18th August)

Vice Presidents

Matthew Martin
Lady Laurel Walpole
Professor Tim O'Riordan
Dr Ian Shepherd (deceased July 2025)

Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Shawbrook Bank Limited
Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive, Great Warley
Brentwood, Essex
CM13 3BE

Reporting Accountants:

Make It Count Accountancy Services
3 Malleson Place
East Carleton
Norwich
NR14 8JA

CPRE Norfolk

Report of the Executive Committee - Year ended 31 December 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

CPRE Norfolk is governed by its Constitution and Rules which were adopted in 1933 and registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 210706) on 5 August 1964. The Constitution was last updated in 2019 and is reviewed annually.

A county tier of the national environmental organisation Campaign to Protect Rural England, CPRE Norfolk is part of and works alongside CPRE nationally and regionally but is a separate registered charity. It is a membership organisation with around 450 members and supporters who subscribe or give regular donations. They include individuals, families, parish and town councils and other local amenity bodies.

The charity has an Executive Committee of Trustees with a wide range of expertise, including planning, conservation, farming and landscape, as well as management and charity governance. Vacancies are advertised in our biannual newsletter, on our website and via our social media channels.

CPRE Norfolk has an office in Norwich and a staff of three part-time employees.

The branch has a Volunteers Policy and actively encourages the contribution and involvement of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds.

CPRE Norfolk

Report of the Executive Committee - Year ended 31 December 2025

Objectives and Activities

CPRE Norfolk (also known as The Norfolk branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England) exists to promote the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of rural Norfolk by encouraging the sustainable use of land and other natural resources in town and country. As an independent voice for the landscape, we monitor 'the big picture' of how the land, coast, skies and communities of Norfolk are being affected by development and we engage with decision-makers on a regular basis. In particular we encourage Norfolk MPs, councillors, planning departments and other decision makers to support the countryside, safeguard precious and protected areas, promote urban renewal, restrict development on greenfield sites, protect country lanes and footpaths, and preserve rural tranquillity and dark skies. We focus on promoting positive solutions to support the long-term future of Norfolk and its precious countryside.

We provide independent responses to large-scale planning issues, ensuring that development and growth proposals take into account the social, aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits of the countryside. Backed by in-depth research and many years of collective experience, we give evidence at Public Inquiries into complex and long-running Norfolk planning debates and we provide planning support to parish councils, conservation groups and individuals across the county, running seminars and conferences on planning and other issues affecting the countryside. Through the CPRE Awards we reward excellence in best practice of countryside conservation and architectural design which limits the carbon footprint and we work to highlight and improve public understanding of exemplary environmental projects.

Further information on the charity's history, objectives and current activities is available from our website www.cprenorfolk.org.uk

CPRE Norfolk

Report of the Executive Committee - Year ended 31 December 2025

Achievements and Performance

CPRE Norfolk continues to work to promote, enhance and protect the county's countryside for everyone's benefit. Throughout the year, the charity has delivered a range of projects and activities that have engaged local communities, raised awareness of key issues, and championed the landscapes and places that make Norfolk special.

2025 has been a significant and active year for CPRE Norfolk, with a strong focus on campaigning, public engagement and raising awareness of the pressures facing our countryside.

A central focus of the year has been our work on energy infrastructure and land use, particularly in relation to large-scale solar development. We have continued to advocate for a more strategic approach that prioritises rooftop solar and protects valuable agricultural land. This has included developing our solar mapping work, which attracted media attention, alongside wider engagement with both local and national policy discussions.

This work culminated in our Getting Solar Off the Land exhibition in Dereham, which proved to be a major highlight of the year. The exhibition brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including Members of Parliament, local authority representatives and members of the public, and generated significant media interest. It provided an important platform for informed discussion around the future of energy infrastructure in Norfolk and demonstrated the strength of public interest in these issues.

Our campaigning work has also extended to broader planning matters. During the year, we engaged with consultations such as the Planning and Infrastructure Bill and continued to raise concerns around large-scale development proposals affecting Norfolk's countryside. We supported public engagement through petitions, calls to action and collaboration with partner organisations and local alliances.

Alongside this, we have continued to strengthen our role in community engagement. Events such as A Creative Day at Martha's Meadow provided opportunities for people to experience and connect with the countryside in a positive and accessible way, while our AGM and other fundraising events helped to maintain and strengthen our supporter base.

We have also contributed to wider partnership activity, including supporting the launch of the Dark Skies Festival and engaging in research relating to farming, conservation and land use. These partnerships are an important part of extending our reach and impact.

Our communications and media profile have remained strong throughout the year. In addition to local and regional coverage, our work featured on BBC Radio 4's Farming Today, helping to bring the issues facing Norfolk's countryside to a national audience. Publications such as our Norfolk Voice newsletter, alongside our digital communications, continue to play a key role in informing and engaging our members and supporters.

We also marked important moments within the organisation. We were pleased to appoint Sir Nicholas Bacon as President of CPRE Norfolk, and we paid tribute to the life and contribution of Dr Ian Shepherd, including the planting of a memorial tree in his honour.

Challenges

As with many charities, CPRE Norfolk continues to operate with limited resources. While the dedication and commitment of our trustees, volunteers and staff remain a considerable strength, capacity is an ongoing challenge.

This requires us to prioritise our work carefully, focusing on areas where we can have the greatest impact while maintaining a sustainable and effective organisation.

Financially, the charity continues to manage its resources responsibly. However, there remains an ongoing need to grow income and membership in order to reduce reliance on reserves and support the long-term sustainability of our work.

People and Thanks

The trustees would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to the work of CPRE Norfolk. In particular, we recognise the contribution of Kevin Jones, whose leadership and commitment as Vice Chair have been invaluable.

We also extend our thanks to our trustees, volunteers and staff, whose dedication, professionalism and shared passion for the countryside enable CPRE Norfolk to continue its work.

We are also grateful to our members and supporters for their continued encouragement and involvement.

Looking ahead

Looking ahead, CPRE Norfolk will continue to build on its strengths in campaigning, community engagement and partnership working.

The charity will maintain its focus on protecting and enhancing Norfolk's countryside, while continuing to raise awareness of the challenges it faces and ensuring that more people are able to connect with and support our work.

The trustees remain committed to ensuring that CPRE Norfolk continues to play a strong and constructive role in shaping the future of the county's countryside.



Lisa-Marie Ashbury

On behalf of the Executive Committee of CPRE Norfolk, March 2026

CPRE Norfolk

Report of the Executive Committee - Year ended 31 December 2025

Financial Review

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025 indicate a deficit of £23,053 [2024 deficit - £29,406]

Income and Expenditure

CPRE Norfolk works to protect and enhance the county's countryside. It does this by a number of campaigns and projects, some of which are ongoing and some which are specific to current circumstances. The Trustees apply themselves to the pressures on the environment and very nature of Norfolk. There are campaigns that are solely initiated by CPRE Norfolk, some in conjunction with the National Charity and others where we work in harness with other groups and charities.

While we have unrestricted financial reserves, created from the past generosity of our supporters, the Trustees and volunteers pursue our medium- and longer-term objectives. But our income is insufficient to continue to support this level of activity unless we can raise more funds or increase the membership.

During 2025, we invested £47,488 directly into our charitable activities while minimising costs and still achieving important gains. However, income from members and fund-raising, although marginally more than the previous year was only £26,314. After other costs of fund raising and moderate governance costs, our unrestricted reserves fell by £23,053.

We recognise that there are calls on our supporters from many other causes but the Trustees of CPRE Norfolk have resolved to continue their key programmes while they are able to fund them. A key example of this process was the important Mega Solar Farms Exhibition that drew great publicity and support through hard work and moderate investment. A campaign that is still achieving high profile and support.

2026 marks the centenary of CPRE and the campaign to protect the countryside against the pressures of progress while encouraging sustainable forward-thinking policies. For this we need your help even more if we are recruit more members and volunteers to lend a hand by supporting our programme and particularly in influencing the way in which housing and business planning, sustainable infrastructure, lower carbon power is generated and the devastating impact of climate change can be addressed in Norfolk in a thoughtful and nature friendly manner.

Reserves

Our total charitable funds stand at £117,963 [2024 - £141,016]

Plans for future periods

It remains the Trustees' intention to maintain the current high-profile policies to safeguard and protect the countryside of Norfolk and our reserves policy, as indicated in the funds statement, is set to provide for continuing and longer-term support for those objectives.

Independent Examination of Accounts

The trustees are grateful to Shirley Webb, MAAT, of "Make It Count" who is the Independent Examiner. Shirley has also assisted with preparation of these Financial Statements and provided accountancy advice. The Trustees will seek to reappoint Shirley Webb as the Independent Examiner for 2026 and a resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.



George Ridgway FCA ACiM
Honorary Treasurer, March 2026

CPRE Norfolk

Independent Examiner's Report to the members - Year ended 31 December 2025

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

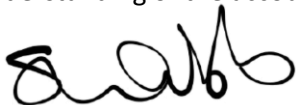
An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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



Date 30th March 2026

Shirley Webb MAAT Director
Make It Count (Accountancy Services) Ltd
3 Malleson Place
East Carleton
NR14 8JA

CPRE Norfolk

Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31st December 2025

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	4,988	19,461	19,461	23,999
Fundraising Income	2		1,015	1,015	4,205
Investment income	3		850	850	1,057
Other					
Total Income		<u>4,988</u>	<u>21,326</u>	<u>26,314</u>	<u>29,261</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities:	4	0	47,451	47,451	51,881
Raising Funds					
Fund-raising and publicity costs	5		639	639	5,443
Other					
Governance costs	6		1,392	1,392	1,343
Total Expenditure		<u>0</u>	<u>49,482</u>	<u>49,482</u>	<u>58,667</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		4,988	(28,156)	(23,168)	(29,406)
Transfers between funds					
Other Recognised Gains/Losses					
Net movement in funds		<u>4,988</u>	<u>(28,156)</u>	<u>(23,168)</u>	<u>(29,406)</u>
Reconciliation of Funds:					
Total Funds brought forward			141,016	141,016	170,422
Total Funds carried forward		<u>4,988</u>	<u>112,860</u>	<u>117,848</u>	<u>141,016</u>

CPRE Norfolk

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total Funds 2025 £	Prior year 2024 £
Fixed Assets					
Intangible Assets					
Tangible Assets	7		39,080	39,080	41,536
Heritage Assets				0	0
Investments				0	0
Total Fixed Assets		<u>0</u>	<u>39,080</u>	<u>39,080</u>	<u>41,536</u>
Current Assets	8				
Stocks					
Debtors & Prepayments			281	281	154
Investments:					
Cash at Bank and in hand		<u>0</u>	<u>79,238</u>	<u>79,238</u>	<u>99,889</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>0</u>	<u>79,519</u>	<u>79,519</u>	<u>152,828</u>
Current Liabilities	9				
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year					
Accrued Accounting fees			751	751	563
Other Accruals			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>54</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>0</u>	<u>751</u>	<u>751</u>	<u>563</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year				<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Net Assets or Liabilities		<u>0</u>	<u>117,848</u>	<u>117,848</u>	<u>141,016</u>
The Funds of The Charity					
Endowment Funds				0	0
Restricted Funds		4,988		4,988	0
Unrestricted Funds		<u>0</u>	<u>112,860</u>	<u>112,860</u>	<u>141,016</u>
Total Charity Funds		<u>4,988</u>	<u>112,860</u>	<u>117,848</u>	<u>170,422</u>

CPRE Norfolk

Notes to the Accounts - Year ended 31 December 2025

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
1 Donations and Legacies				
Membership:				
CPRE subscription		16121	16,121	15438
Legacies		0	0	0
Friends			0	0
Donations		3,340	3,340	2,791
Appeal / Awards			0	0
Grants	4,988		4,988	5,770
Miscellaneous			0	0
	<u>4,988</u>	<u>19,461</u>	<u>24,449</u>	<u>23,999</u>
2 Fundraising Income				
Sales of Goods		465	465	553
Events		550	550	80
	<u>0</u>	<u>1,015</u>	<u>1,015</u>	<u>4,205</u>
3 Investment Income				
Bank interest		850	850	1,057
	<u>0</u>	<u>850</u>	<u>850</u>	<u>1,057</u>
4 Charitable Activities				
Salaries		38,189	38,189	31,194
Rent/Rates & Utilities		2,093	2,093	2,167
Insurance		626	626	668
Repairs and renewals		0	0	65
Stationery / Computer costs		191	191	14
Postage		2	2	74
Telephone / Broadband		411	411	380
Bank Charges		62	62	66
Employee expenses		325	325	99
Volunteer expenses		43	43	93
Recruitment advertising		0	0	0
Other designated projects		100	100	0
Project Consultants Fees		0	0	4,000
Planning Consultant Fees		1,236	1,236	8,193
Planning Consultant Expenses		31	31	387
V4N Expenses		241	241	124
Light Pollution		19	19	13

Mega Solar Farms / Pylons		1,426	1,426	626
Depreciation/Amortisation		2,456	2,456	2,492
	<u>0</u>	<u>47,451</u>	<u>47,451</u>	<u>51,881</u>

5 Raising Funds

Meetings		365	365	630
Gifts & Prizes		22	22	406
Printing (Incl. communications)		182	182	679
Planning		0	0	0
Awards		0	0	0
Events		70	70	4,813
	<u>0</u>	<u>639</u>	<u>639</u>	<u>5,443</u>

6 Governance costs

Committee expenses inc Misc		300	300	296
AGM		462	462	417
Accountancy		630	630	630
Legal & Professional		0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>1,392</u>	<u>1,392</u>	<u>1,343</u>

CPRE Norfolk

Analysis of Opening and Carrying Amounts - Year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Freehold Land and Buildings	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Plant and Machinery	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Total
7 Tangible Fixed Assets		£	£	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation						
At beginning of the Year		58,712	0	0	4,427	63,139
Additions						0
Disposals						0
Revaluations						0
Transfers						0
At End of the Year		58,712	0	0	4,427	63,139
Depreciation and Impairment						
At beginning of the Year		17,607		0	3,996	21,603
Disposals						0
Depreciation		2,348			108	2,456
Impairment						0
Transfers						0
At End of the Year		19,955	0	0	4,104	24,059
Net book value at beginning of the year		41,105	0	0	431	41,536
Net book value at end of the year		38,757	0	0	323	39,080

8 Current Assets

Current Assets		
Debtors		0
		<u>0</u>
Cash and Bank Deposits		
		<u>79,238</u>
		<u>79,238</u>
Prepayments	Willows Insurance 15th September 2025	157
		<u>154</u>

9 Current Liabilities

Current Liabilities		
Accruals	Accounts & Independent Examiners Fee	630
	PAYE 2025	<u>121</u>
		<u>751</u>

CPRE Norfolk

Outline Summary of Fund Movements - Year ended 31 December 2025

Fund name	Fund balances brought forward	Income	(Expenditure)	Transfers	Gains and (Losses)	Fund Balances Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated for the operational offices and headquarters	41,105		(2,348)			38,757
V4N and project to 2027	12,631		(1,533)	(5,104)		5,994
Exceptional Fund	0					0
Restricted Fund for Centenary Project	0	4,988	0			4,988
All Other Unrestricted Funds	87,280	21,211	(45,486)	5,104		68,109
Total Funds	141,016	26,199	(49,367)	0	0	117,848

CPRE Norfolk

Acknowledgement of Donors, Patrons and Sponsors - Year ended 31 December 2025

CPRE Norfolk would like to thank all our members, friends, supporters and volunteers for their invaluable contribution to the charity's success in 2025.

Patrons 2025

Sir Nicholas Bacon Bt.
Charles Barratt
Ivor Braka
The Marquess of Cholmondeley
Thomas Cook
The Reverend Paul Gismondi
The Earl of Leicester
Sir Rupert Mann
Professor Timothy O'Riordan, OBE
Lady Walpole

Other Patrons have asked to remain anonymous.

Ambassadors 2025

Patrick Barkham
John Bullard
Kit Martin CBE
Gerard Stamp
Adrian Pope