

**MINUTES OF DORSET CPRE AGM HELD AT THE CERNE ABBAS VILLAGE HALL,
CERNE ABBAS ON FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2013**

1. Vice-President's Welcome

Dickie Bird, Vice-President Dorset CPRE, opened the Meeting at 12 noon and warmly welcomed members and their guests.

2. Apologies

Mr Julien Turner, Mr Richard Brown, Mr Simon King, Mr Gerald Rigler, Ms Kate Geraghty, Mr & Mrs K. Harding, Mr & Mrs D Dodge, Mrs Barbara Bird, Mrs Rosemary Briggs and Mr Edward Fox.

3. Minutes of the 2012 AGM

The Vice-President asked if there were any amendments to these minutes. There were none. Proposer Stephen Howard, all in favour, none against.

4. Matters Arising

Richard Nicholls gave an update on the proposed changes of use at Golden Cap Holiday Park in Chideock and the West Dorset Group AGM during his Chairman's report.

5. Chairman's Report

Richard Nicholls said that CPRE has been increasingly drawn into the political arena in its attempt to protect the countryside and that planning has increasingly disconnected from people's lives because it no longer deals with issues people care about. CPRE National Office launched the charter to save our countryside in 2013. It says clearly that whatever the Governments' original intentions, the reformed planning system is not working. Local people are being disregarded, open countryside is being developed while suitable brownfield land is left unused, and still too few homes are being built.

Richard Nicholls also spoke about the proposed reorganisation of the branch structure with a new Countryside Forum and Focus Groups covering a variety of topics. He supports the concept of Localism, emphasising the importance of local CPRE Groups and the work they do with local communities and campaign groups. He said it had been a busy year for campaigning against inappropriate wind and solar farms. Richard gave an update on the West Dorset Wind Farm, Alaska Wind Farm and planning applications for a solar farm at Mapperton and Rampisham. He said that Dorset CPRE were now speaking to and advising local action groups at the beginning of the consultation stage rather than reacting after an application has been submitted.

He expressed thanks to Trevor Bevins, who stood down as Branch Director but continues to help us with publicity, for the continued press coverage for our campaigns. Rupert Hardy's efforts have helped to introduce new members to Dorset CPRE. Linda Williams was thanked for running the Branch Office. He also acknowledged the contribution made by Sandra Brown, Suzanne Keene, Colin Brixton, John Holiday, Peter Neal, Janet Healy, Dr David Peacock, Dr John Larkin, Terry Stewart and Gerald Rigler.

This was Richard Nicholls last Chairman's report and Dickie Bird thanked him most warmly for all the work he had done over the past five years in the role of Branch Chairman.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

Richard Norman summarised the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2013. Copies of the audited accounts can be found on the website. Richard mentioned that legacy donations, no matter what the amount, are always welcome. The Vice-President asked for questions on the Accounts. There were none. The Accounts were accepted. Proposer John Holiday, Seconder John Larkin. All in favour, none against

7. **Election of Officers:**

The following were duly proposed and elected:

Position	Proposed	Proposer	Seconder
President	Edward Fox	Terry Stewart	Richard Nicholls
Vice-President	Dickie Bird	Dr David Peacock	Gerald Rigler
Treasurer	Richard Norman	Richard Nicholls	John Holiday
Elected Members	Richard Nicholls	Richard Norman	John Holiday
	Dr John Larkin	Richard Nicholls	Richard Heaslip
	Richard Heaslip	Richard Nicholls	Linda Williams
	Stephen Howard	Richard Norman	Richard Nicholls
	Peter Neal	L.A. Bird	Richard Nicholls

8. **Election of Examiners.**

The Fund examiners, Scott Vevers, were unanimously elected.

9. **Any Other Business.**

No resolutions were tabled this year. CPRE Members were encouraged to propose some in advance of next year's AGM.

A member raised concerns about litter and heavy lorries on rural roads. The work of Dorset Campaign Against Litter, chaired by Dorset CPRE, was mentioned. Richard Nicholls spoke about CPRE's successful campaigning where local authorities are able to designate country lanes as 'Quiet Lanes' in rural areas, under the Transport Act 2000. A guide to quiet lanes can be found on the CPRE National Office website.

Another member recommended that developers should design larger homes so they can be divided in future. The issue of BOATS (Byways Open to All Traffic) was raised, bikers and 4x4 off-road vehicle drivers want to open up Dorset's 'green lanes' to all traffic. Reg Hanbury mentioned a group who recently won a judicial review challenge at the Appeal Court to force Dorset County Council to reconsider its classification of the routes. Farmers are concerned about poaching and have installed gates with keys.

Two members mentioned the importance of access to knowledge on the Countryside Forum and active learning. The list of Focus Groups and contact names will be made available on the website and future editions of The Dorset Review.

The meeting was followed with a presentation on the proposed East Devon and Dorset National Park given by Sandra Brown, Dorset & East Devon National Park Group.