

The Dorset Review

Campaign to Protect Rural England



In this issue

- Planning Overview
- Who Was The Best Local Historian of Dorset?
- CPRE's Green Clean
- District Group Updates
- Best Dorset Village Shop 2019

CONTENTS

- 2-3 Chair's Report & Contents
- 4 West Dorset Group
- 5 Best Dorset Village Shop Competition 2019
- 5 82nd AGM
- 6-7 Who was the best local historian of Dorset?
- 8 Purbeck and Poole Group
- 9 East Dorset Report
- 9 Dorset bus operator teams up with Litter-free Purbeck
- 10-11 North Dorset Group
- 11 National Garden Scheme (NGS)
- 12-13 The South Dorset Ridgeway
- 14 The Sherborne and District Society
- 15 Farm visit to Sherborne Castle Farm
- 16-17 Minerals and Waste in Dorset
- 18-19 A National Park for Dorset
- 20 CPRE's Green Clean
- 21 Trees our National Treasure
- 22 Leaving a Legacy
- 22 Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England
- 23 Dorset CPRE Membership
- 24 Contacts



The contents of this publication are intended as guidance and general interest. It does not constitute legal advice and can be no substitute for considered advice on specific problems. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information printed in this publication, Campaign to Protect Rural England cannot accept liability for errors and omissions. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of CPRE.



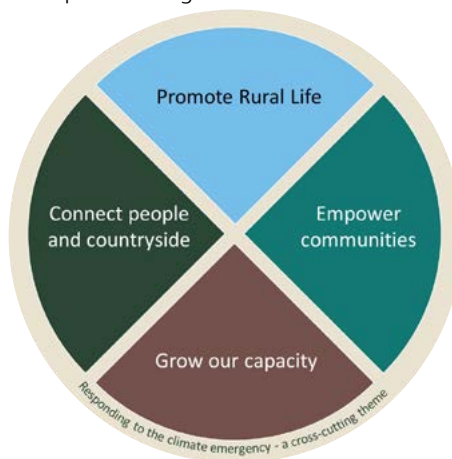
Front Cover image – Friesian herd going back for milking at Hilton, North Dorset, taken by Rupert Hardy

CHAIR'S REPORT



New strategy and Brand

Two years ago at our AGM, the new Chief Executive of CPRE, Crispin Truman, informed us about the review of the organisation to be known as the Purpose Project. During the period since then a new strategy for the organisation has been developed to take it to the 100th anniversary of its foundation in 2026, together with new branding and ways of working. Brief details of this were sent to all members a few months ago by Crispin. The key elements are as follows:



If you want to study the strategy and make you own minds up about its likely effect please visit www.cpre.org.uk where you will find it in detail. Please feel free to let me have your views when you have done so. Your Trustees, members of the Countryside Forum (CF) and the local groups will decide how the National Strategy will be implemented across the two Councils and locally. Indeed, the Sherborne and District Society, has already appointed a subcommittee to develop its own strategic plan and I am sure other groups will do likewise

The new strategy is then allied to a new brand identity:



The countryside charity

I would like to indicate to you some personal thoughts which don't necessarily represent the views of all the Trustees and Countryside Forum members. Organisations need to review their policies and practices on a regular basis. No organisation can remain static in an ever-changing world. However, that organisation has to ensure that it doesn't at the same time do potential harm to its existence. The CPRE project was

originally instigated to see how a decline in membership numbers and its finances could be addressed. The research undertaken, therefore, in my view was biased towards the non-member and external issues. I have been a critic of the consultation process within CPRE relating to the project and I won't go into all of the reasons why here. I contend that there are 4 types of individuals/organisations who are of interest to us; potential members, existing members, volunteers and those we wish to influence. *I am uncertain that the views of existing members and volunteers across the organisation have been adequately sought.* We have been, since our inception in 1926, a lobbying organisation, with particular expertise in planning. This is a key reason why we have been able to talk with the influencers (for example Government ministers) and get them to listen. Without this it is doubtful that we would have had the Town and County Planning Act 1947, The National Parks, The AONBs, The Green Belts and would have even worse planning regulations (NPPF) than we have now.

My personal concern, therefore, is that in order to attract new members we lose our unique selling proposition as upholders of the English countryside and rural areas, i.e. its Protector, which has been enshrined in our name since 1926. I find the strategy rather vague and for me quite 'wishy washy'. We seem to be in danger of viewing the countryside as a place for town and city dwellers to see as their playground and I fear that we are trying to be all things to all people and therefore maybe attractive to none. For me the strapline to the new brand 'The Countryside Charity' sums this up. I hope I am wrong and that we will attract a greater number of people who share the vision of a 'Beautiful and thriving countryside that enriches all our lives' and will fight to protect, enhance and promote it as many of us have over the years.

Climate Change

You will see that responding to the climate change emergency is a cross-cutting theme when implementing the CPRE National Strategy. To this end four Task and Finish groups have been meeting to look at: Transport, Land use-farming and forestry, Building/Planning and Energy. We expect the results to

be set out in a policy document by the end of the year. Clearly many of the issues within the four categories overlap. Existing greenfield land can be associated with all categories but its use could be more sustainable in one of them. E.g. in the recent report from the Climate Change Committee it appears that if one wishes to reduce carbon then planting trees on land is better than using the same land for installation of solar panels – but then that impacts on renewable energy targets. Such issues were noted by Tristram Hunt, leading historian and journalist, in his short history of CPRE which was published to coincide with our 80th anniversary in 2006. I quote: *'After Decades of dissimulation and dithering, planners and politicians are at last waking up to the significance of climate change. House building, road building, sprawl and airports are great drivers of increasing 'greenhouse gas' emissions which are causing global warming. The message which CPRE has been honing since the days Abercrombie and Chamberlain is now more important than ever. Sustainable development and co-ordinated strategy designed to limit the impact of the urban foot print, must be the basis for future planning policy. Yet some technologies which, according to their proponents, are strongly associated with sustainable development can in themselves pose challenges to a body trying to conserve the countryside – onshore wind farms are perhaps the most obvious example'*. Here we are some 14 years later looking at the sustainability arguments in detail. Let us hope we can help deliver some worthwhile solutions to a problem which seems simple but is very complex.

Housing issues

With all that has been going on in the National Political scene a number of issues appear to have been put on the back burner. The Branch had been fortunate to obtain a meeting with the then Housing Minister, Kit Malthouse, in September, but then of course he was moved elsewhere and this meeting had to be cancelled. Also, my understanding was that a further statement was to be made in the autumn on Sir Oliver Letwin's report which might have included something on land values. This doesn't now look like happening. So, we still therefore have Local Planning Authorities having to set and maintain local targets related to

the 300,000 houses per annum national target which continues to be government policy. *We have the continuing saga of the wrong type of houses being built in the wrong places whilst still not meeting the needs of some of the local population.* Indeed another report 'Building more new homes WON'T solve Britain's housing crisis' has just been published which queries whether we need this large number of houses anyway and is there a housing shortage at all (this view seems also to be supported by the Bank of England). Ian Mulheim, chief economist of Renewing the Centre at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, says there isn't one. Official figures show that since 1996 English housing stock has grown by 168,000 per year, while household numbers have increased by 147,000. We have a surplus of 1.1 million homes now, he estimates. Amended figures suggest that England needs only 160,000 homes a year, not the 300,000 which remains the government target.

Local Plans

Locally we are awaiting further indications of when discussions will start on the composite local plan for Dorset Council and a probable one also for BCP council. In order to prepare for these consultations we are undertaking some research into the real housing need in Dorset and will report back to you in due course on the findings. In addition we are holding meetings to try to get a rural strategy developed for Dorset as a counter (or adjunct) to the Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Industrial Strategy which they are producing.

Housing of course isn't just about numbers and location. It is also about good design and planning. This was in the early days of CPRE one of their mains reasons for our formation. As I have mentioned before we are therefore organising a Conference on Good Design and Master Planning. Roger White, a member and an eminent Georgian Architectural historian is planning this event for the 13th March 2020 in Cerne Abbas Village Hall. Speakers will include Ben Pentreath, Ben Bolgar, Kim Wilkie, Lord Moray, a representative of Hastoe Housing and others. Sir Roger Scruton hopes to be present (chairman). We are aiming this conference at planning officers, councillors, land owners etc. with the aim of influencing decisions they will make in the future.

Collaborations and Influencing

Sandra Brown and I recently met with the Manager of the Dorset AONB, Tom Munro and it has been agreed to meet on a regular basis ongoing. We have also requested a seat on the Partnership Board for the AONB and are awaiting the outcome of that request.

I had a meeting with Andrew Potter, CEO of Hastoe Housing, one of the key players in the affordable rural housing market and it was agreed that it would be useful to meet periodically to share views on the rural housing scene. As a result of this meeting Dr Guy Dickenson and I were invited to the official opening of one of their housing projects in Powerstock. At that meeting we were able to network with: Baroness Bakewell (Chair of the Community Land Trusts network), Lord Best (Rural Housing expert), several Hastoe Board Members including Andrew Wiseman a solicitor who specialised in environmental and planning law.

On the political front I have had a couple of meetings during the past 6 months with Sir Oliver Letwin on CPRE related matters. Also, the Branch was asked to send a representative to a round table discussion organised by the Liberal Democrats prospective parliamentary candidate, Edward Morello, on Rural matters. Including myself only the Director of the Country Land Owners Association for the SW and the Dorset NFU representative, were not there as Liberal Democrats. This indicates to me that we are being seen as a body from whom it is worth getting their views.

Postscript

After several months of deliberation I have decided not to stand at the AGM in November for re-election as a Trustee. This means of course also standing down as your Chairman. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to represent you. I am sure my successor will continue to uphold the good reputation of Dorset CPRE that has been built up over many years with many different chairs and Trustees. I will of course remain interested in all that we are doing within the Dorset and Nationally. I wish you all well.

Peter Neal
Chair of Trustees



Vearse Farm, Bridport

There are two large applications that still concern us greatly at present – Vearse Farm in Bridport and North of Dorchester. Richard Nicholls and I spent most of a day in Bridport in June with a reporter from BBC Spotlight and several members of ADVEARSE (the local protest group). There were extensive filmed interviews with us all. I was very disappointed that the finished product included rather peripheral points and left out the most vital arguments altogether about affordable housing and if the scheme goes ahead it will give the green light to allow planning authorities all over the country to build anywhere on Green Belt and AONB land. Also, those interviewed “randomly” in the streets seemed quite happy with the application which is far from our own experience. I contacted Spotlight but to absolutely no avail!

The Vearse Farm application went for Judicial Review (JR) in June after raising £34k (Dorset CPRE is match funding the JR application up to a maximum of £10,000) following the Outline planning permission given on May 2nd. This initial application was rejected.

We are pleased to report that, on October 3rd at a public oral hearing in Cardiff, a judge gave ADVEARSE the go ahead for a full judicial review against Dorset Council. Their case was put by Matthew Henderson of Landmark Chambers who faced barristers and QCs representing Dorset Council and the developer, Hallam Land Management. He argued that the decision to grant outline planning permission for an urban development of over 700 houses, industrial units and other mixed use was open to legal challenge. The main focus was on the fact that all of the development area of Vearse Farm, lies within the AONB which should only be built on under stipulated exceptional circumstances, and even then the scale of the development should be limited. The judge agreed that the case is ‘arguable’ and gave his permission for it to proceed to a full hearing. It was deemed to be a significant case in planning law and the JR is therefore likely to take place early in the new year.

North of Dorchester proposal

The North of Dorchester application for 3500 houses is static at present. STAND (Campaigning to Save The Area North of Dorchester) are very busy and active. Recently they produced a leaflet (supported significantly again by Dorset CPRE) which is being circulated including at the recent Dorset County Show. The government gave Dorset Council £150,000 towards developing a “North Dorchester Garden Village” – such grants are for developments of up to 10,000 houses. We are very disappointed to see Sir Oliver Letwin supporting this in his column in the Dorset Echo.

We must ensure that West Dorset has affordable rural housing that complements local character and of the right type to solve the “housing crisis”. It is extremely important that any houses which are built are of high quality, insulated and with solar panels and/or other systems (i.e. geothermal) to contribute towards zero carbon.

Other Housing Developments

Unfortunately the large Littlemoor application was passed despite its position in the AONB – as Vearse Farm is. We are also following a small development in

Bothenhampton, Bridport, which is likely to cause flooding and sewerage pollution in the local river.

Hastoe Housing Development

Peter Neal and I went to a very informative opening on 7th September of a small Hastoe housing association development of 8 affordable homes at Powerstock village. They are genuinely affordable rented properties – some with only one bedroom. One of the speakers was

Lord Richard Best whose father Walter was a former Chairman of Dorset CPRE.

Housing Needs Report

Meanwhile, as mentioned in Peter Neal’s report on page 3, we are taking steps to develop our own housing needs review as was done by CPRE Devon who found the actual need about half that claimed by central government. This I believe is an important way forward.

Dr Guy Dickinson
Group Chairman



Official opening of one Hastoe housing project in Powerstock, 7th September 2019, Forge Orchard residents. Photo by Samantha Cook Photography

BEST DORSET VILLAGE SHOP COMPETITION 2019

Dorset CPRE was very pleased to be sponsoring again a class of the Best Kept Village Competition, which we started six years ago. Village shops face relentless competition from the supermarket chains and discounters, but we can say the shops, for now, seem to be holding their own, with fewer closures than in recent years.

One trend has been for more shops to belong to a symbol group

One clear trend has been for more shops to belong to a symbol group, such as Spar, to help their buying and provide marketing support. Another has been the higher proportion of quality local produce on sale, which we wholly applaud, although it is not always clearly marked as such, which is a pity. We should add that three years ago we also started a campaign to promote quality local food and drink producers. Overall customers seem more ready to appreciate the local convenience and provenance, and pay for it, as long as the shops are inviting, with friendly staff and enough stock. More shops are offering tea rooms which boost footfall and generate higher margins. *You will be glad to hear the war on plastic has been taken on-board faster in village shops than in the supermarkets, with more produce sold without packaging.* Another factor has been the relative success of those located in south Dorset which see more tourists, with numbers boosted by sterling's decline since the Brexit Referendum and the recent heat waves.

Anyway this year we welcomed back Thorncombe Village Shop, and Chapel Lane Stores in Abbotsbury, as contenders as both were former prize winners. We would also like to praise the work done by the new managers of the Studland Stores, although the quality is not yet at the level of the others.

82ND AGM

Our AGM is on Saturday 16th November, 11am, at Cerne Abbas Village Hall. Our guest speaker is Sir Oliver Letwin, Member of Parliament for West Dorset since 1997. There will be an opportunity to hear about the Letwin Review: report on build out rate, his time in government, as well as a Q&A session.

Do come, meet some of your fellow members, and see what we are up to. Please return the enclosed A4 booking form.



Sir Oliver Letwin

Chapel Lane Stores, Abbotsbury

Chapel Lane Stores in this tourist honeypot village was bought by the current owners only five years ago. Initially trading as an art gallery, it was expanded in 2016 when the village postmistress retired, thus incorporating a Post Office counter and extending the range of products on offer.



Chapel Lane Stores, Abbotsbury

The owners this year decided the shop needed more investment and they turned to Spar to help them out, but they can still sell local food too. New features include a huge new chiller. Their primary goal is to supply the needs of locals, and they seem very happy with the bigger and cheaper range of products from Spar. Service is friendly and this is clearly a great asset to the village. It is well placed for tourists too with a coffee machine inside and hot pasties-to-go.

Thorncombe Village Shop

Thorncombe is a charming village of 700 but it is difficult to find down narrow twisting lanes so the community-run shop



Thorncombe Village Shop

has to try extra hard as there are fewer passers-by. It has an attractively painted frontage with a regularly changing seasonal window display. The café has recently been expanded. Everything

seems to happen at the shop with even church goes regularly drinking coffee there after communion and there is a pop-up restaurant once a week. A lot of the fresh food is made by ladies in the village, and everyone seems to get involved. There is an excellent website too www.thorncombe-village-shop.co.uk.

The judges declared them both Joint Winners. **Please do visit these shops. But do remember all Dorset village shops deserve your support!**

Rupert Hardy
(One of the judges)

WHO WAS THE BEST LOCAL HISTORIAN OF DORSET?

Most people are familiar with the writers, Thomas Hardy and William Barnes, who celebrated the rural culture and its people as well as the sublime countryside of Dorset with their verse and prose. However few know much about the historians who have written about the history, families and remarkable buildings of this beautiful county.

All over Dorset we are aware of the past. There are the Iron Age forts, most famous of which are Maiden Castle (see article on South Dorset Ridgeway on page 12), and Badbury Rings, where the 6th Century Romano-British leader Arthur may have won his major victory over the Saxons. There are the many remains of the Romans, particularly in Dorchester. Sherborne Abbey and Wimborne Minster were cradles of Saxon Christianity and there are wonderful churches all over Dorset. The first sighting of the Viking invaders was at Portland. Little remains of medieval Dorset save the churches, but there are dozens of charming mullioned Jacobean manor houses, built on the wealth that wool created in late Tudor times.

The Civil War affected Dorset brutally and it then became a backwater as its cottage industries, like button making, were destroyed by the Industrial Revolution. The barren heathlands and dry chalk downlands did not help farming then and as Thomas Hardy records 19th Century Dorset was a poor county, with labourers forced to commit awful deeds to survive. This is one of the reasons Dorset retains its charm as it has not been overdeveloped like the prosperous South East. Eccentric place names help too and few forget Betjeman's verse: "Rime Intrinsica, Fontmell Magna, Sturminster Newton & Melbury Bubb".

Hutchins' History and Antiquities of Dorset: Saved From The Fire



Portrait of John Hutchins
by Cantlo Bestland

The first historian of note was John Hutchins, born in Dorset in 1698. Before his time the recorded history of Dorset was random and fragmentary. His *History and Antiquities of Dorset* is a massive four-volume history of the natural history, ancient buildings, archaeological finds and

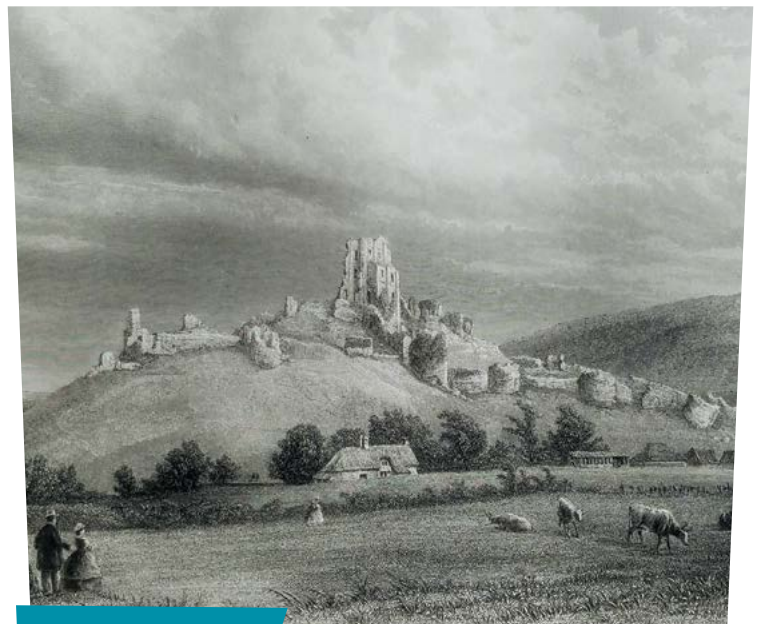
families of Dorset. It became the definitive archive for the county of his day. It was reprinted in 1973 and preloved copies can be found occasionally in bookshops.

He was the son and grandson of Dorset clergymen. Educated at Oxford, he was initially a curate at Milton Abbas. The owner Jacob Bancks suggested he should write a history

of the county and offered to fund the work. Bancks' friends then helped him secure the living of Wareham. As Robert Douch comments in his introduction to the 1973 reprint, "the History was written about, and for, the nobility and gentry". He nearly lost the manuscript in the 1762 fire that beset Wareham. His spirited wife snatched it from his desk and stood in the river until the worst was over. There was another later fire at his printers destroying a lot of the work but the generosity of his son-in-law, who was a senior officer in the East India Company, paid for the second edition. One of the more recent historians of Dorset, Richard Ollard, summed up the book thus: "it



Plaque on wall of the
former Rectory, Wareham,
commemorating Hutchins



Hutchins: Corfe Castle'

is the quintessence of Dorset. In its large unhurried, well-printed pages we catch the authentic flavour of the county: its quietness, its continuity, its unobtrusive but strong links with the wider history of the country and with England's development as a maritime and imperial power".

Sir Frederick Treves: Surgeon and Historian

Sir Frederick Treves was a prominent British surgeon and is credited with saving the life of King Edward VII. However he also wrote a very well regarded *Highways and Byways in Dorset* in 1906. It is an engaging guide book written in an inimitable Edwardian manner. To do it he cycled 2000 miles around the county. It is one of the most popular books ever written on Dorset and a great companion to have with you, as you compare the changes over the last century. He was one of the founders of the Society of Dorset Men.

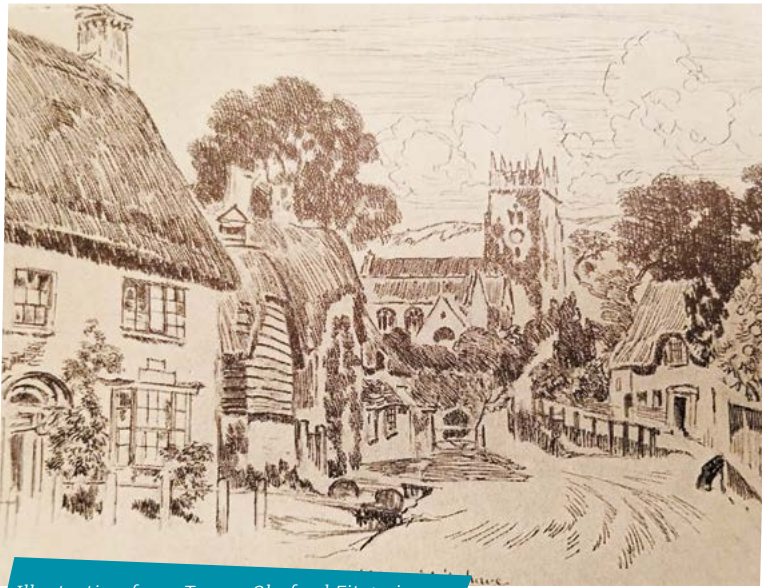


Illustration from Treves Okeford Fitzpaine

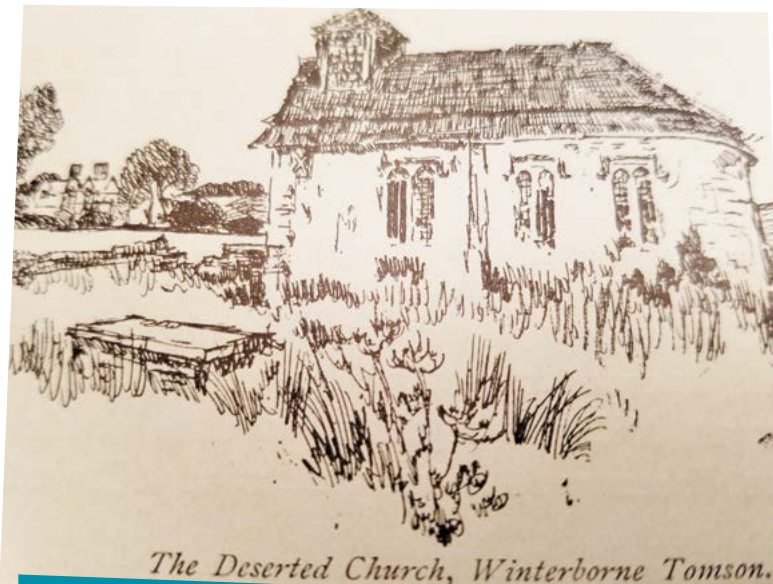
historian of the 17th Century. He wrote the riveting *Escape of Charles II* about his flight after the Battle of Worcester, an excellent biography of Pepys, and a humane overview of the Civil War, *This War Without An Enemy*. His approach was not to construct a narrative but to penetrate to the heart of the matter. He believed the reader goes to a historian not simply for his researches, but his judgement. His book on Dorset is beautifully written and agreeably short. Given his background he emphasises with authority the impact of the Civil War on Dorset. The county lay between the Royalist strongholds in the West Country and those of the Roundheads in the South East. Dorset was very divided with Sherborne and Blandford Royalist while Dorchester and Lyme Regis were strong supporters of Parliament. There were repeated clashes here and sieges, such as at Corfe Castle where the brave Lady Bankes held out for years. It took the county many decades to recover. Regarding his writing do enjoy this passage on Eggardon Hill: “It is still magically unspoilt. The tarmac of car parks, the roughcast of toilets, the assertive smell of burgers too richly garnished with fried onions, that so often certify the proximity of some jewel of the nation’s heritage are blessedly absent”. It is still available in bookshops.

Other Recent Guides and Local Histories

Other 20th Century guides and local histories of merit should include the *Hardy Guide to Dorset*, by Hermann Lea, first published in 1913, but republished since. He was a good photographer and friend of the great author, Thomas Hardy. *Dorset’s Best Churches* by Brendan Lehane with excellent photographs by David Bailey is praised. Anyone primarily interested in buildings will seek out John Newman and Nikolaus Pevsner’s *Dorset*, one of the series in Penguin’s *The Buildings of England*. First published to great acclaim in 1972 but splendidly republished in 2018. If you are interested in manor houses then you should read *The Manor Houses of Dorset* by Una Russell and Audrey Grindrod. Lord David Cecil’s book, *Some Dorset Country Houses: A Personal Selection* was

well reviewed when it came out in 1985, but it is clearly his personal selection! Fans of Paul Nash, the surrealist painter, should be aware that he wrote the first *Shell Guide to Dorset* in 1937. It is sadly only a collector’s item now. Finally there is *Dorset* in the Bradt Travel Series, which is now in its third edition and had been well reviewed. Alexandra Richards, the author, was brought up in the Blackmore Vale. Frankly it is hard to choose the best historian. Some may find the older books less accessible, but Hutchins wins prizes for his very comprehensive coverage. Personally I would buy both Jo Draper’s *Dorset: The Complete Guide* and Ollard’s *Dorset* as they complement each other so well. Please do remember though that many of the qualities these writers lauded are under serious threat from unneeded housing development!

Rupert Hardy



The Deserted Church, Winterborne Tomson.

Illustration from Treves Deserted Church at Winterborne Tomson

Jo Draper: Most Prolific Recent Historian

The most prolific of recent local historians was Jo Draper, who kept the Dovecote Press busy with her books on archaeology and Dorset’s past, before her recent death. Her best known books were probably *Thomas Hardy’s England*, produced with her mentor the writer John Fowles, and *Dorset: The Complete Guide*. Published in 1986 it took her three years of meticulous research, visiting every location twice. It was widely praised and updated more recently. Preloved copies can still be found easily. Jo was particularly interested in rural and working people. She was also an acknowledged museum curator and archaeologist, riding around on a bicycle which was never locked but never stolen.

Richard Ollard: Civil War Historian

Arguably the best recent history is that by Richard Ollard, *Dorset*, as part of the Pimlico series, written in 1995 when he lived near Lyme Regis. He was a publisher and eminent



Focussing Local Public Understandings through Planning

Many and various are the skills, knowledge, enthusiasms and needs of the residents of Purbeck and Poole. Consequently, our organisation does appreciate all the help and support it receives from those who wish to help our area flourish on its journey into the future.

We know (like The Cheshire Cat) that **“if you don’t know where you are going, any road will get you there”** and therefore agree that sound Local Planning must be about finding the optimum road to get us to the future environment that is needed and that should be attained.

As many of you are aware our Group has been making comments about local planning issues over many years to aid all Elected Decision-Makers in discharging their responsibilities to “accord with the good rules of government” (as required by the Royal Charters granted to Poole and more generally by “The Nolan Principles” adopted in public life). Such comments have ranged from protection of public open spaces, through thoughts about improving local plans, policies and procedures, to prompting quicker delivery of approved new facilities and to ensuring that individual aspirations do not necessarily compromise the public interest: all in the spirit of trying to work together with those concerned with shaping our future.

Great public participation

Recent changes in local governance have meant a new emphasis on public participation (fewer Councillors, serving an increasing population, now seem to be keener to tap local opinions) and our Group is impressed with the recent moves in Poole to make public engagement more effective and obvious. The moves have, so far, included:-

- 1: Publication of meeting dates, timings, venues and papers
- 2: publication of interesting forward plans
- 3: invitations to attend meetings

In general the impression is given that greater public participation is being

fostered in Poole by the urban ‘super council’ – for instance, Councillors are now able to raise matters across the conurbation (not necessarily in their own Wards and no doubt prompted by some in our communities), which seems a practical approach, if not the solution, to the problems of finding volunteers to create statutory Neighbourhood Forums or Parish Councils promptly – say “quicker than five years”.

In Purbeck, where Town and Parish Councils continue to exist, it is trusted that such public participation opportunities will be harnessed more effectively by the new rural ‘super council’. In any event, it is hoped that proper consultations will aid responses from all those concerned and that proposals will be refined on “public involvement” with particular reference to improving the understandings and support of the public locally.

Local Plans

Planning will now involve preparation of new and comprehensive Local Plans for our two ‘super councils’ in Dorset, which we would hope to ensure are even stronger versions of the adopted Local Plan for Poole and the current Local Plan proposals, now being examined, for Purbeck: strong enough to prevent us keeping ‘brownfield’ sites even longer whilst regrettably losing greener land (largely to unaffordable and unnecessary housing) that worsens existing ‘infrastructure difficulties’, amongst other things. We know the nation has a 25 year environmental plan but practical interim targets need to be included in local government thinking, for any such long-term plan to have credibility.

As most people know, nobody has total knowledge / wisdom in preparing local plans, so **if you can share some of your thoughts / concerns with us, please do not hesitate to let me know**. Such sharing will help us in our efforts to find the right road to the

future of our special area that all of us want to see, if possible. Please note that whilst our Group normally meets about once a quarter (for more formal reviews of issues), your responses to this request will be welcomed by me at any time.

AGM

We held our AGM on 30th September and are grateful to Jo Witherden, a professional planning consultant, for giving a very informative talk on **‘Rebuilding trust in Dorset’s planning systems’**. Around 50 people attended. There was also an opportunity



AGM and Open Evening 30th September 2019



Peter Webb, Cllr Bill Trite and Jo Witherden

to hear news concerning The Pan-Purbeck Action Campaign, and the proposed Dorset National Park.

Lastly, as Lewis Carroll also wrote, **“No good fish goes anywhere without a porpoise”**. You can help ensure we keep our local environmental and community protection purposes clear and helpful to our Elected Decision-Makers as they establish their shoal of approved strategies for providing local governance ‘as it should be’ and despite the constant movement of the ‘goal posts’ required by national politicians.

Gerald Rigler
Group Chairman

EAST DORSET GROUP



There have not been any large new developments coming forward, though some of the original 2014 Core Strategy ones are stirring. Cuthbury (see Spring 2019 article) still has not progressed, there has been a massive objection to plans (to suit the developer) to close some of the access footpaths to the river walk along the Stour. The development can't start until this has been settled.

Planning Application 3/17/3609/OUT land east of New Road, West Parley

West Parley is now stirring. There have been some amendments to the original plans, past amendments I have objected to, but not the latest.

This development was designed in the original Core Strategy to provide a link road from Christchurch Road to New Road through the estate. This will have to be designed so carefully in order to prevent a 'speeding rat run' through the middle of this development. We believe the Transport Assessment is being rather optimistic if they think the link road will relieve congestion, it will not take long, in busy times, before there is a backlog of cars waiting to access New Road from this link road which will in turn cause a backlog up New Road. I think it is a terrible design, how can you have a busy link road through a new housing estate?

PA/3/19/1512/OUT Land Off Blackfield Lane, West Moors

In September I sent in comments to the outline application for light industrial units, church and community hall and Residential Care Home on a site adjacent to a residential area and next to the supply depot. We believe this is an over development of the site. There is so much squeezed in that open space and parking facilities have been kept to a bare minimum. Access is poor and the surrounding land is environmentally sensitive consisting of heathland and various designated areas. A proper realistic transport assessment needs to be done, there are also concerns about air quality and road safety at the junction of The Avenue and Station Road. This is not a sustainable site.

I looked at a proposed development by Savills to develop some land in the AONB just outside the village envelope in Witchampton and provided general advice to the local councillor.

Four year plan for new Dorset Council

In September Dorset Council confirmed the publication of their draft Council Plan 2020 – 2024. The plan focuses on

five priorities: Economic Growth, Unique Environment, Suitable Housing, Strong, Healthy Communities and Staying Safe and Well. The new Local Plan will be completed by 2023 as a part of this plan.

It will be interesting when Dorset Council issue their Site Options for the new Local Plan. If they follow the one already produced by the old East Dorset District Council there will be howls of protest over East Dorset. It avoids development in the over developed areas surrounding the BCP Council and concentrates on more rural development. Whilst work is being progressed on a new Local Plan for Dorset Council, the adopted Local Plans will still apply to the areas they covered previously.

Janet Healy

Dorset bus operator teams up with Litter-free Purbeck – encouraging passengers to dispose of rubbish responsibly

Go-Ahead Group owned Morebus has thrown its weight behind an initiative designed to help keep Swanage, Wareham and Corfe Castle litter free.

The local bus operator has teamed up with Litter-free Purbeck to encourage more people to dispose of their rubbish properly – highlighting their campaign to reduce litter along the coast as well as in urban and rural areas. The buses offer a wonderful vantage point and showcase the very best Dorset has to offer. As a proud part of the local community, the company is committed to helping improve the environment around us as it's important for those who live here, and for attracting visitors to the area.

The buses are decorated with stickers to raise awareness of the campaign, and will also be carrying litter bins on-board the 40 and 50 Purbeck Breezers to encourage passengers to dispose of their rubbish whilst they are with us.

Litter-free Purbeck volunteer, Bridget Mayes, said: "We were delighted to find ourselves knocking on an open door when we approached Morebus with this idea – and we can't thank them enough for running with it and partnering with us."



Karin Forbes (Litter-free Purbeck), Lara Manningham-Buller (Litter-free Purbeck), Cllr. Caroline Finch (Chair, Tourism Committee, Swanage Town Council), Harold Forbes (Litter-free Purbeck), Bridget Mayes (Litter-free Purbeck), Andrew Wickham (Managing Director, Morebus), Mayor of Swanage, Cllr. Mike Bonfield, Graham Lee (Litter-free Purbeck), Cllr. Nicola Wiggins (Wareham Town Council)



Speculative Developers Still Have Free Rein

Ever since July 2017 when North Dorset District Council (NDDC) admitted that its housing land had fallen well below the government required five years supply, a spate of speculative schemes has been launched by housing developers.

In the year to end of April housing applications by dwelling were about 910 units compared to around 2,790 in the previous year. This is still high but at least we did not get the deluge that came in the immediate aftermath of the July 2017 revelation. Sadly we cannot relax as an application for 200 houses has recently gone in for Bay Road Gillingham, 80 dwellings at Charlton Marshall, and one for 700 in North Blandford/Pimperne is expected soon. The situation remains dire. However the local media is on our side (North Dorset CPRE got front page coverage in the June edition of the Gillingham & Shaftesbury News).

Existing Local Plans using the old LPA boundaries will prevail in the new unitary authority, Dorset Council, until a new Local Plan is adopted for all rural Dorset, but that does not have to be in place until 2024, but it may possibly get done earlier. This means that a deficit on Housing Land Supply in North Dorset is still likely for some years despite the large number of housing applications coming in. A major issue is the lack of progress being made in the huge developments planned for South Gillingham to meet housing targets, which is lamentable.

Northern Area Planning

Northern Area Planning, which includes North Dorset as well as Sherborne and Dorchester, had its inaugural planning hearing in May. It went better than might have been expected so full marks to Sherry Jespersen, who chairs the new Planning Committee. They voted unanimously to reject the Enmore Green housing development, even though the case officer inexplicably recommended approval, helped by Catherine Langham, who has joined our Planning Monitoring Group, speaking well against the application, as well as others. We had objected to the proposal and had been actively supporting the action group.

However it is clear there is still a major backlog of planning developments awaiting decisions, with many over a year old. It is to be hoped the Council will speed this up during the autumn.

We were unhappy that the Littledown Shaftesbury Reserved Matters Application for 170 houses was approved by delegation in June because of last minute shenanigans at Shaftesbury Town Council leading to their support. A major and contentious development like this should have gone to a planning hearing!

Planning Applications

We have been busy objecting to the most inappropriate of new planning applications. New applications that we are opposing include an 80 house proposal at Charlton Marshall, with the landowner also owning the few fields

that it exceeds the Neighbourhood Plan recommendations and has adverse impact on the AONB.

However it is all too easy for developers to appeal, and we are awaiting appeals on both Enmore Green and Cann Common housing developments.

Solar farm

We are fighting a huge 177-acre solar farm at Spetisbury, which would be one of the biggest in Dorset. It would be on best and most versatile agricultural land, and will be clearly visible from Spetisbury Rings, an Ancient Monument, and Badbury Rings, which lies within the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Further north at Fifehead Magdalen the solar farm proposed there this April is, we hope, likely to be rejected by planning as it would

ruin a very beautiful part of the Stour valley surrounded by arguably more listed buildings than anywhere else in Dorset, as well as the efforts of a determined action group. Further to North Dorset CPRE's objection, David Peacock wrote a strong rebuttal against the developer's attempt to rubbish our renewable energy projections.



Milton Abbas Street Fair 27th July 2019

separating Charlton Marshall from Blandford St Mary (2/2019/0626/OUT). We do not want continuous ribbon development to Blandford with Charlton Marshall losing its identity as a village. The much disliked Persimmon has just put in an application for 200 houses at Bay Road, Gillingham (2/2019/0739/FUL). We are supporting the action group there and Jane Westbrook wrote a strong objection.

At Milton Abbas we are supporting the parish council and local residents fight a damaging housing proposal for 58 houses within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Milton Abbas Conservation Area. At Pimperne there has been a proposal to build 30 houses, and Derek Gardiner has written an objection on grounds

Planning Monitoring Group revived

The Planning Monitoring Group, which is run by John Holiday and myself, has been revived thanks to more volunteers, particularly four ex-councillors whose experience of planning and local government we much appreciate. This should enable us to be a more effective group opposing inappropriate developments, particularly on the housing front.

Visit to George and Dougal Hosford's Farm

After the successful talk by George Hosford at our AGM we arranged a visit for nearly twenty members to his farm



Farm tour 11th June 2019

at Durweston in June. He is arguably the best known farmer in North Dorset with strong environmental credentials and a keen interest in showing groups around his mixed-use farm, whether they be school children or CPRE. Everyone enjoyed the chance to see round the farm, and talk to George about it. There were opportunities to admire wild flower margins, see hundreds of beautiful orchids in one of his fields, as well as some rather pretty Angus/ Hereford cross cattle, and also take in wonderful views over the Stour valley.

Summer Party

About sixty members and guests enjoyed a wonderful summer party at Chettle House on 5th September through the generosity of Tom and Rosamond Sweet-Escott. They have spent the last three years restoring Chettle, which was built by the famous architect Thomas

Archer, and its gardens to their former glory so it was wonderful to have the



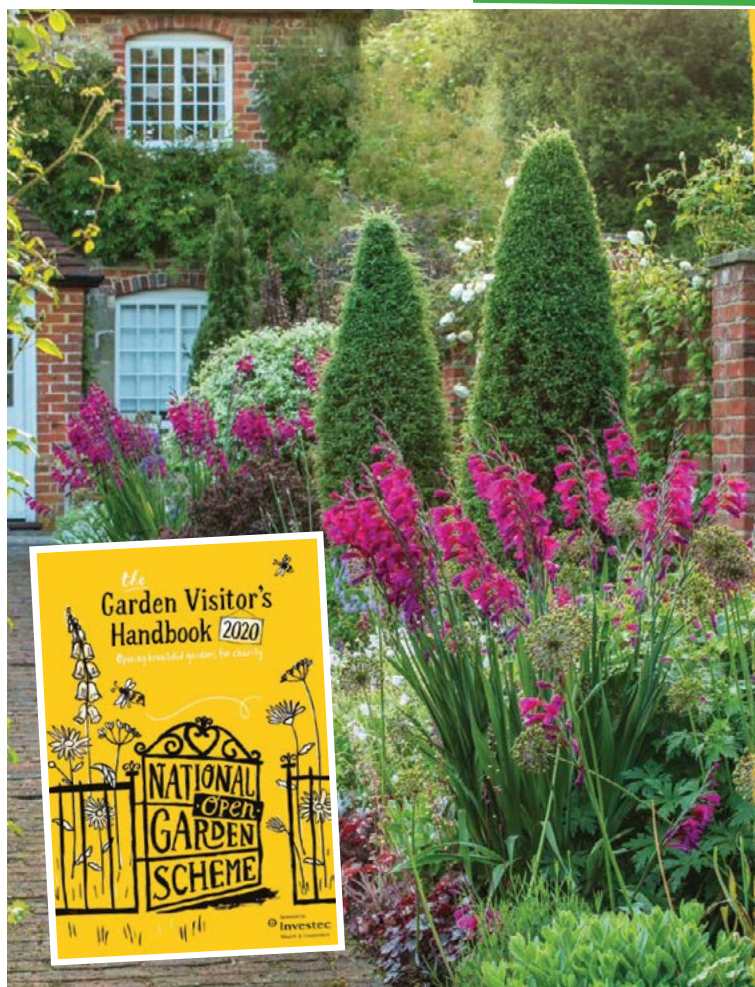
Summer Party, Steve O'Connell, John Holiday and Nick Parker



Summer Party, Melanie Burton and Sallie Orr

chance to visit on a balmy evening. Our hosts were very good to show us around, and they have very sensitively restored the house, and opened up marvellous vistas in the garden. Pevsner called it "the plum among Dorset houses of the early 18th century, and even nationally outstanding as a specimen of English Baroque".

Rupert Hardy
Group Chairman



Discover the nation's best gardens

From extensive country landscapes to romantic cottage gardens and urban hideaways, the National Garden Scheme opens the gates to a diverse range of exceptionally beautiful private gardens. Every year there are new gems to discover and we've thousands of gardens for you to choose from in 2020.

The Garden Visitor's Handbook makes the perfect gift - for yourself or friends. It's your essential garden-visiting guide with detailed descriptions of every garden, handy maps, and calendars to help you plan your garden visits.

Available for pre-order now:
ngs.org.uk/shop



THE SOUTH DORSET RIDGEWAY

This ancient ceremonial landscape has some of the most diverse Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeology in Europe. There are over 1000 Bronze Age round barrows; Maiden Castle at fifty acres is the largest and most important Iron Age fort in northern Europe; and there are the remains of several very large Neolithic timber henges. The South Dorset Ridgeway is considered by professional archaeologists to be as important as Stonehenge and Avebury for revealing the lives of our ancestors.

The high downland area between the English Channel coast and the Frome river valley extends from Abbotsbury in the west to Broadmayne in the east. Ancient pathways on the high ground have been used since Mesolithic times (8000 – 4000 BC) for moving people and animals across the countryside. The path along the top of the ridge is designated as the inland route of the South West Coast Path avoiding Weymouth town. The ridge path makes a splendid excursion of about seventeen miles with good views of the coastline all the way.

Monuments

The Neolithic causewayed enclosures, immense henge monuments, stone circles, Iron Age hillforts and indeed more modern monuments like the Hardy Tower were all built close to the ridge path where they can be readily seen from the settlements below and from each other. The recent National Mapping Program has identified more than 3400 ancient sites on the South Dorset Ridgeway.



Hardy's Tower

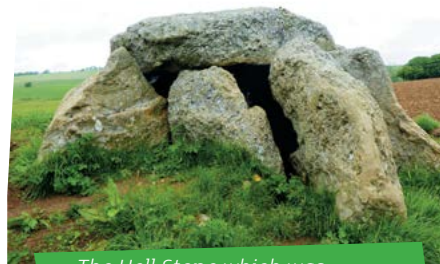
Chalk Ridges

A series of chalk grassland ridges and vales that run from east to west were formed at the end of the Cretaceous period between 65 and 95 million years ago. They were squashed up together about forty million years ago when Africa collided with Europe to form the Alps. A dome shaped fold called the Weymouth anticline was formed here but the middle part of that has since been eroded away. The chalk ridges were ideal places for early settlements on well drained high ground with freshwater springs, and flint nodules in the chalk for making tools. Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers left stone hand axes at Bincombe about 100,000 years ago.

The Neolithic Ridgeway

A tangled mass of woodland which developed here after the last Ice Age was partially cleared during the Stone Age but more widespread clearances were made by the first farmers in the Neolithic farming revolution between 4000 and 2000 BC. They built the causewayed enclosure at Maiden Castle in around 3500 BC with a massive bank barrow and further bank barrows at Long Bredy in the west and Broadmayne in the east. They also built very substantial circular timber henge monuments at Maumbury Rings in Dorchester; Mount Pleasant now ploughed out but the remains are visible from the air; and the massive henge monument in Greyhound Yard now buried

under Waitrose in Dorchester. The Grey Mare and her Colts is a well-preserved stone long barrow above Abbotsbury. The Hell Stone is a Neolithic chambered long barrow on Portesham Hill which was reconstructed in Victorian times.



The Hell Stone which was reconstructed in Victorian times

The Bronze Age

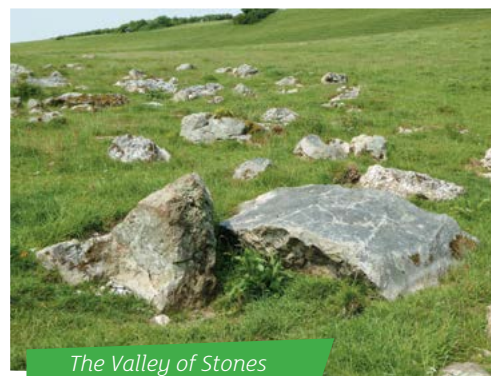
Metal working first began around 3000 BC but the Bronze Age is usually said to range from about 2000 to 800 BC. Large amounts of metal remains have been found in various parts of the Ridgeway. The many round barrows which dominate the hilltops were used for ceremonial and other events and contain inhumations, cremations and grave goods. The most spectacular group dominates the skyline at Bronkham Hill and runs for about a mile. On a clear day you can see the coastline all the way from The Needles to Start Point.

The barrow at Clandon Hill was excavated in 1883 and contained the famous gold lozenge which is presently on



The Grey Mare and her Colts'

display at Dorset County Museum. There are ceremonial stone circles at Winterbourne Abbas, and at Hampton Down. The one at Kingston Russell is thirty metres across and the largest in Dorset. The Ridgeway monuments have a great deal in common with those at Stonehenge and Avebury suggesting a shared heritage and purpose over fairly long distances.



The Valley of Stones

The Valley of the Stones is a National Nature Reserve with crowds of sarsen stones, conglomerates of flint and sandstone which were brought here by waters flowing from the glaciers at the end



Bronze Age Barrows

of the last ice age. They were used for the stone circles and standing stones and also in churches and houses in the region. The Devil's Nine Stones in the river valley near Winterborne Abbas also came from the Valley of Stones.

Bronze Age farmers lived in small round huts built of timbers with a thatched roof. They had granaries and the families cultivated the rectangular field systems mainly for grain crops. Some of the prehistoric celtic fields are now overlain by strip lynchets or ridge and furrow marks made by medieval farmers.

The Iron Age

The production of iron implements began at about 800 BC and the period until the Romans arrived is referred to as the Iron Age. The hillfort at Maiden Castle was packed with round houses and grain storage pits. Other hillforts were built at Abbotsbury Castle, Chalbury Hill, Eggardon and Poundbury and all of them had much deeper and steeper earthworks when first built. They glistened brightly with white chalk, were topped with timber palisades and had great timber gates.

The Whitcombe Warrior was buried with his sword and with food and drink for the after life and a woman found at Portesham was buried with a bronze mirror. The local population are known as Durotriges and used coins which are unique to Dorset.

The Roman Ridgeway

The Romans were the first to leave any written records. The Roman Legion II under Vespasian conquered the Durotriges. They established the town of Durnovaria (now Dorchester) and built a series of straight Roman roads for moving men and equipment around the countryside. The Roman army used Maumbury Rings as an amphitheatre. The Romano-British farmer grew rye, oats, plums and chickens, and fitted his plough with an iron tip for the heavier more fertile clay soils in the valleys. He lived in a Roman stone house with a tiled roof and plastered walls.

The Pit of Doom

The new Weymouth Relief Road follows the route of the old Roman road and avoids two barrows, but a disused quarry pit was found to contain the bodies of more than fifty young adult males most of whom came from Sweden. The burials date from about 1000 AD, all the bodies had been decapitated and they seem to have been a party of Viking raiders who may have been executed by the local Saxon militia.

Modern monuments

Abbotsbury tithe barn dates from 1300 AD and is one of the largest in England. Hardy's Tower was built in the nineteenth century and commands splendid views of the countryside. Most villages have a church and manor house often dating from 1100 or 1200 AD and funded by the growth of sheep farming. There are several large estates such as Brideshead with its landscaped park and model village of Littlebredy.

Stone from the Portesham Rocket Quarry was used to build Abbotsbury Abbey, the Hardy Monument and many other local buildings. There is a rather splendid recumbent fossil tree in



The fossil tree at Rocket Quarry

the quarry. Osmington White Horse which commemorates the visit of George III to Weymouth is surrounded by rich grassland which supports many butterflies including the Adonis blue and the Lulworth Skipper.

The South Winterbourne valley contains a number of villages, hamlets and abandoned villages and is home to some rare species of fish and mayfly that have adapted to survive both drought and flood. The chalk grassland on the Ridgeway supports a variety of wildflowers including knapweeds, pyramidal orchids, vetches, harebell and autumn lady's tresses. Butterflies include Adonis blue, small heath and wall brown.



Chesil Beach from the Ridgeway



Bee Orchid at Bincombe Bumps

Skylarks, meadow pipits and linnets are commonplace.

The South Dorset Ridgeway supports a great variety of wildlife. It is one of the richest and most important cultural landscapes in the Country. It has been populated and used since the earliest times and is still, today, a quite intensively farmed living landscape.

Dr John Larkin

THE SHERBORNE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

Paddock Project Development.

The Sherborne Arts Trust – SAT (formerly the Sherborne Community Arts Centre Trust) – had its initial Application for Planning Permission deferred in March because a last minute letter of objection from Heritage England was ignored. Now the revised plans approved on 20 June contain a degree of compromise from SAT. The building is located out of Paddock Gardens, the south wall is retained and best of all the building looks balanced and not like a supermarket! We feel pleased with a minor role in supporting this change and have withdrawn objections. If completed the rejuvenation and re-planting of Paddock Gardens will lead to a better Garden. But we have expressed severe concerns about the lack of a business case. The loss of parking in central Sherborne and the real problems Cheap Street (and Waitrose) will face during the construction phase. The letter to Dorset Council withdrawing our objection is available on the Dorset CPRE website. An onerous schedule of conditions were placed on SAT (for example traffic movement plans) but to date nothing has been filed.

Sherborne House

This has been bought as advised by a trust controlled by Mr & Mrs M Cannon. As yet no public plans have been promulgated but discussions have been held with Heritage England. There are plans for commercially letting some of the space, a restaurant and public spaces.

Barton Farm Barns

The conversion of the Barns at Barton Farm into an Art Farm was launching on 25 June in the Digby Hall, Sherborne. The aim here is to convert a series of barns and piggeries etc. into an auditorium for over a 100 plus studios and exhibition space. This would be a permanent home for Arts Link which needs space and has run successfully for 30+ years. Sherborne Castle Estate is being very generous over the lease and the group led by Joe Benjamin is actively progressing a very worthwhile concept. The Society has contributed to costs to get the project off the ground.

These three projects taken together

will project Sherborne into being an arts centre for the South West. Since Sherborne's major employer is education there is a natural fit enhanced by the facilities in local schools.

Sherborne Castle County Fair

At last year's fair the weather was good, there were record crowds and the stand was manned all day: but the response from the public was underwhelming. A working Group of 4 Committee members was formed to re-think with clarity the purpose of the stand and its message and refresh material. This year there were three distinct features of the stand – **the issue of local housing, the threat to farming, and a treasure hunt for children.**

The treasure hunt was extremely popular and brought many families to the tent. Children were required to mark a map of the Sherborne area with the place where they thought treasure had been buried. For the five lucky entrants out of nearly 250 there were £5 prizes, but every child got a small gift. Parents and everyone visiting the tent were asked about the countryside issues that concerned them most – inappropriate development and litter being easily the highest priorities. 40 membership application forms were handed out together with 110 copies of the latest Dorset Review.

This was an exercise to raise CPRE's profile locally and to increase awareness of the charity's role rather than a recruitment or fund-raising operation. Whilst the re-vamp of the stand was expensive the general consensus was that it was very worthwhile. Special thanks go to those who stewarded it throughout the day – and in particular to the preparatory work done by Ray Hartley both to co-ordinate the display and make several of the structures required to mount the powerful images that illustrated the main CPRE themes selected for this very popular event.

Farm Visit

Once again I am pleased to thank Shaun Leavey; apart from contributing on the agricultural interface and being at the Country Fair, he organised a highly successful and interesting visit to Home Farm at Sherborne Castle Estate (please see separate article on page 15).

Local Planning

We have endeavoured to keep an active eye on local developments but due to the advent of the new unitary authority there seems to be a lull in activity.

However our actions over the Paddock Project and the migration of WDDC's planning website to the new Dorset Council website have raised many issues on "due process" i.e. the conduct of Planning Applications and Appeals. Dorset CPRE collated feedback on 'best practice' following the Countryside Forum Meeting in June, with the aim to protest about delegated authority, enforcement action etc. A thank you letter was received from Mr John Sellgren, Executive Director of Place, at Dorset Council in July. Observations were also fed into the Response to Dorset Council Statement of Community Involvement.

Geography Award 2019

The Sherborne and District Society CPRE Award for Geography went to Jessica Poulton who was the highest performer in Geography A level at the Gryphon School. Jessica is taking a gap year, after which she plans to go to Exeter University to study Geography. We wish her well in the future.



Jessica Poulton this year's winner of the CPRE Geography Award with Peter Neal

Society Dinner

Our annual dinner will be held on 1st November, at Sherborne Golf Club, 7 for 7.30pm. Guest Speaker is Margaret Clark CBE, a CPRE Trustee and Chair of both the Plunkett Foundation and The Rural Coalition. Looking forward to meeting you then or at a later event.

John Newman
Chairman

CPRE FARM VISIT TO SHERBORNE CASTLE FARM



CPRE members had a fascinating insight into the complexities of managing a large farm based on a historic estate when they visited Sherborne Castle farm on 31st May. Paul Carter, the farm manager, gave an excellent commentary as members toured the farm on a large trailer towed by a tractor. For many the intricacies of “precision farming” (the use of satellite technology) to make spraying and fertiliser distribution as accurate – and cost-effective – as possible were a complete eye-opener. In the course of discussion it became apparent that this also provided significant environmental benefits as well. There was also much interest in the management of the herd of deer within the park area. The visit concluded with a very generous and much appreciated tea back in the estate office.

Dorset Council and its tenanted farms.

One piece of good local news amidst the general gloom affecting rural areas. Dorset Council is being widely commended both for retaining its farm estate and its recent policy of initiating a structure of starter and promotion units across its 2,500 hectares. Starter tenancies are for 10 years and promotion holdings are let for 15 to 20 years. With 41 farms it is significant that the Council has 60% of them in dairying and 40% in livestock production. Both sectors are of course especially vulnerable to a No Deal Brexit.

With so many large estates within the county my own view is that it would be good to see some of our private landlords giving consideration to offering tenancies to those who emerge from the promotion holdings at the conclusion of their Council tenancies. All of this has featured prominently and very favourably in a recent edition of Farmers Weekly with examples of individual tenants at varying stages through the Council estate structure. The 2018 farm visit (primarily for Sherborne members) had been based on just such a small dairy farm at Osborne, and had proved just as insightful as the latest – and contrasting – visit to the estate farm at the Castle.

If CPRE members are to play a constructive part in safeguarding the Dorset landscape it seems essential to me that they have a good understanding of the commercial factors that determine the way that the countryside is farmed, and these visits are designed to help with that.

Shaun Leavey OBE FRAGS

Farming Adviser to Dorset CPRE



CPRE Farm visit to Sherborne Castle Farm: Farm Manager Paul Carter explaining the complexities of grain handling and storage to CPRE members

MINERALS AND WASTE IN DORSET



This is a summary of our recent work on minerals and waste in Dorset together with a few other items of interest.

Pre Submission Draft Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Sites Plan

We await the publication of the final version of this Plan with interest.

Moreton

David Burton, a local resident, enquired about the several proposed sand and gravel extraction pits near Moreton which appear in the Mineral Sites Plan. I explained that we made representations when the Plan was out for consultation but we cannot now do anything more until the developers make a Planning Application.

Imerys Ball Clay Operations Dorset – Community Liaison Group

The next meeting of this Group will be in October and I will prepare a report on that meeting in due course.

Toll Bar Stream

Improvements to the Toll Bar Stream are being monitored by the several neighbouring Parish Councils who have recently been in discussions with the Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Wytch Farm Oilfield Consultative Committee

The next meeting of the Committee will be in November and I will prepare a report on that meeting in due course.

Geophysical Survey



The Vibrator Truck used for the Geophysical Survey

Perenco have contracted Geofizyka Torun, a Polish company, to conduct a geophysical survey throughout the Isle of Purbeck to map the deep geology of the Wytch Farm oilfield. Rather large so-called Vibrator Trucks drive along the roads and from time to time lower a pad on to the road and vibrate the ground immediately underneath the truck. I carefully watched this operation outside my house and there was no disturbance to residents or to the environment but some smaller roads will be closed, with proper notice, for a couple of hours. There have been similar surveys on the heathland

with very small explosive charges but, again, no damage to the environment. I have seen some of the immensely complicated three-dimensional maps generated by these surveys and marvel at the geophysicists who are able to interpret them.

Corralian Energy Drilling Operation

There is no recent news about this rather controversial exploration of the Colter Prospect oil reservoir deep beneath Poole Bay.

Pre Submission Draft Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Plan

We await the publication of the final version of this Plan with interest.

Litter Free Dorset

I attended a meeting of the Working Group at County Hall on 11 April where we heard about the High Street Cleanup Fund which has been used to purchase litter picking equipment at Ferndown, Weymouth and Wimborne. We also heard about the Great British Spring Clean and about the activities of the various litter picking groups throughout the County.

Much progress has been made with the deposit return scheme on plastic and metal drink containers. Marten Gregory, Dorset Waste Partnership, told us about a big campaign against fly-tipping in Dorset.

I also attended a meeting of the Group at Currenden Farm near Swanage on 17 July where we heard about the DWP waste transfer and recycling facilities. There was a report from each of the County litter picking groups and I reported on the present and continuing CPRE work.

The Group has just produced an excellent Annual Report which can be found on their website www.litterfreedorset.co.uk.

Sustainable Swanage

This new group, supported by Litter Free Dorset and Swanage Town Council, has been established to reduce single use plastics and help the marine environment. Plastic alternative events have been organised throughout the summer.

Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group

I attended a meeting of the Group at Winfrith Newburgh village hall on 15 May. Susan Adams, Magnox Winfrith, told us that the 67-ton SGHWR steam drum had been cut up and lowered to ground level. When the SGHWR and Dragon reactor cores have been dismantled and cut into pieces they will be encapsulated and sent to Harwell in about three years' time. The new site foul drainage system is now in use and the old system is being dismantled.

Andrew Davies, NDA, said that Gwen Parry-Jones had been appointed as the new CEO of Magnox. The total NDA budget for decommissioning in the UK is £3.1bn/year of which £2.1bn comes from the Government and £1bn from commercial income. The work on the SGHWR at Winfrith is unique: no other commercial nuclear reactor has been dismantled and decommissioned.

Paul Jenneson, ONR, said that the site licence for Tradebe-

Unitec has finally been granted, this is the first time that an NDA site licence has been sold to another body.

Simon Napper, RWM, told us about the new consent-led policy for establishing a Geological Disposal Facility for the long-term storage of higher activity radioactive waste.

Mrs Sandra Ellis who has been Chairman of the Group since it was founded about fifteen years ago announced that she will retire from that position at the next meeting in November of this year.

I also attended an Open Evening at Magnox Winfrith on 17 July when Andy Monroe the new Closure Director welcomed us. We toured the site where most of the buildings have been demolished and large parts of the site are gradually returning to the original heathland and grassland.

We saw a video presentation of the recent heavy engineering work with remote controlled machinery for the decommissioning of the highly radioactive parts of the SGHWR. We also saw the mock-up and tools for the imminent decommissioning of the Dragon reactor where they will use a 30 kilowatt laser to cut through one inch thicknesses of steel.

Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone

The Dorset Council, The Dorset LEP and the Home Communities Agency continue to advertise widely to attract new technological businesses to the Site.

Renewable Energy in Purbeck

I am grateful to Dr David Peacock who has told us that the official planning status of the Alaska proposed wind turbine installation at Masters Pit has reverted to "Awaiting Construction" having been previously "Under Construction".

Arne Moors Intertidal Nature Reserve

I attended the Stakeholders meeting at the Town Hall in Wareham on 12 July. Much of this area is designated as SAC, SPA, Ramsar and SSSI. The best use will be made of the existing embankments with three breaches in the north embankment to establish the proposed intertidal nature reserve. Alluvium, gravel and tidal deposits have been examined throughout the entire catchment area and will be carefully monitored before, during and after the necessary construction works. Future public access was described in some detail with improved parking facilities at Sunnyside.



Arne Moors which will be developed as an Intertidal Nature Reserve

Poole Harbour Shoreline Management Plan

I attended a meeting at Westport House on 25 June where we were given a detailed description of the proposed shoreline management in the Harbour and adjacent areas over the next 100 years. The tidal embankments of the Frome and Piddle rivers will be maintained and realigned, the present line will be held on the north side of the Harbour but the saltmarsh, mudflats and saline lagoons on the remote southern side will generally be left to more natural processes.

We were then taken on a very useful site visit to Hyde Heath and Arne Moors where we were shown how all this fits in with the local landscape.

Ospreys in Poole Harbour

Eight osprey chicks were translocated from northern Scotland to the southern side of Poole Harbour in 2017 and about sixty chicks will be translocated over a five-year period until 2022 (see Dorset Review Autumn 2018 page 9).

This project will re-establish breeding osprey on the south coast of the UK for the first time in 200 years. The ospreys imprint on the area where they grow up, they spend our winter time in Gambia or Senegal in Africa and then after two or more years fly back to their original nest site in this Country. I am delighted to report that two male birds of the 2017 cohort returned to Poole Harbour this summer and that one of them has been making friends with a female who had been hanging around in the Harbour for some time. They spent a lot of time "playing house" together at one of the many artificial nests which have been erected. The female is thought to be six years old next year and the male will be three years old and should be able to start breeding.

"Birds of Poole Harbour", the charity who organised the translocation, helped us to see the ospreys at Ham Common. Paul Morton and Mark Constantine led eleven separate boat trips each with fifty bird watchers to the Wareham Channel and Giggers Island where we had closer views of the young ospreys and of the many older birds who stop off here to feed up before they set off to the south.

This project has already gone better than expected and there is little doubt that ospreys will, indeed, breed extensively here before long to the benefit of the ospreys, of the many bird watchers and others in the area, and also to the local economy. Similar translocation projects led to big business at Rutland Water where the ospreys were translocated fifteen years ago and at rural locations in Portugal and Switzerland. Poole Harbour is the only place which has a large urban population nearby so we are expecting a great deal of interest. Watch this space!!

Dark Sky Parks

Large parts of rural Dorset have some of the darkest skies in the Country and the Dorset AONB would be an ideal site for designation as a Dark Sky Park. Cranborne Chase AONB is well advanced with their application for official designation as a Dark Sky Park but Dorset AONB say that they have been unable to devote the necessary resources to do the same.

Dr John Larkin

Minerals and Waste Adviser to Dorset CPRE

A NATIONAL PARK FOR DORSET



View of Corfe Castle taken by Rupert Hardy and featured on page 76 of the Glover Review of Designated Landscapes

Glover Landscapes Review: Report recommends assessment of Dorset for National Park designation

The report of the [Glover Review of Designated Landscapes](#) was published on 21 September. Julian Glover and the Review Panel were appointed by the Government in May 2018 following DEFRA's 25 Year Environment Plan. Their remit was to consider how the work of National Parks and AONBs could be further strengthened to meet 21st century needs, and to consider the case for possible new designated areas including a National Park for rural Dorset, first recommended in an official report in 1945 and long-overdue.

Dorset CPRE supports the proposal for a Dorset National Park which would work with our councils, communities and other stakeholders for a living, working, thriving and sustainable rural Dorset. We welcome the Glover Review's conclusion that **"The Cotswolds and the Dorset proposals are strong candidates alongside the Chilterns to be considered for National Park status. We suggest Natural England and ministers consider the case for each."** In reaching this conclusion, the Review recognises that our area "contains some of the greatest concentrations of biodiversity in Britain and opportunities for enjoyment. It includes the Jurassic Coast World Heritage site". The spectacular World Heritage Coast would indeed double the extent of coastline, which is currently under-represented in English National Parks. As English Heritage has said, Dorset also has "gold standard" heritage, with its ancient Ridgeways, Bronze Age barrows and Iron Age hillforts, its historic and beautiful countryside, towns and villages, and its major cultural and literary figures including Thomas Hardy, an early campaigner for English National Parks, and the current Chairman of the Thomas Hardy Society Julian (Lord) Fellowes, an enthusiastic supporter of the National Park proposal.



Evidence to support a National Park

We consider **Dorset the outstanding candidate to be England's next National Park**. This is supported by the wide-ranging evidence provided to Natural England (NE) since 2013 and then to the Glover Review. Dorset CPRE would wish the National Park, subject to assessment, to include as much as possible of rural Dorset. To assist the Glover Review and to facilitate further detailed assessment by Natural England, Dorset CPRE commissioned an experienced and respected Dorset planner, Jo Witherden, to review the evidence based on the key criteria for National Park designation.

This important report sets out the evidence to support a National Park for rural Dorset. When we published the report in May, it attracted much interest in the press. The wealth of evidence about Dorset's outstanding environment, wildlife and heritage makes this report a valuable resource for CPRE and others, including the Dorset Council in its work on the new Local Plan. The author sees scope for amplifying the evidence, with possible contributions by councils, communities, societies and individuals. For example, more attention has been given, over the years, to researching and documenting

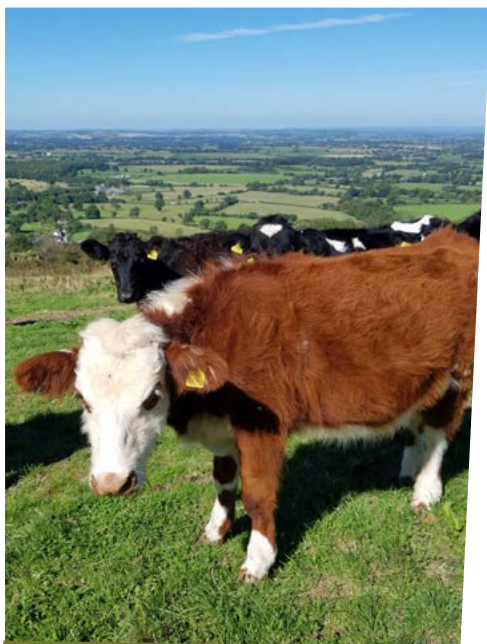
the landscape quality of the AONB areas than other parts of rural Dorset.

We look forward to Natural England undertaking their detailed assessment and consideration of the Dorset NP proposal as soon as possible. We have written to NE's Chairman Tony Juniper to say this, and to share Jo Witherden's report and the formidable and wide-ranging evidence which it provides to support the designation of a National Park for rural Dorset. We have told NE's Chairman that we do not share the view, in the Glover report, that development pressures are less strong in Dorset's inland farming areas. On the contrary, Dorset's outstanding environment and our internationally important biodiversity, noted by the Review and Dorset's greatest asset, are under serious and growing threat.

The proposed Dorset National Park should be central to a new and positive vision for rural Dorset's environment, biodiversity and heritage, and for communities, businesses, farmers and all who live and work in and visit the area. **We welcome the Glover Review's emphasis on the vital contributions which National Parks make to thriving and sustainable communities and rural economies and to health and wellbeing, and their vital role in Nature Recovery Networks.** We support their call for national funding for this vital work to be sustained and increased.

Our world class environment is Dorset's greatest asset

A National Park, core funded by central government, can help conserve and enhance this asset for the benefit of our communities and economy. A NP **would be a close, supportive partner for the Dorset Council and communities, working to a shared agenda and bringing additional resources and expertise.** It could be the delivery agent for much of the Dorset Council's work on the environment, heritage and tourism, and contribute to the delivery of key services. Together, the Dorset Council and the National Park can deliver a better planning service across all rural Dorset with a shared planning team and no duplication. We want to build on successes, including the positive



Hereford and Friesian beef cattle on top of Bulbarrow Hill looking down over Blackmore vale

approaches to planning characterised by the South Downs National Park (SDNP). This is, like Dorset, a living, working, farmed landscape with important towns and other communities. The SDNP works with communities for appropriate development of homes and workspaces, including

genuinely affordable homes. The NP

works closely with farmers and landowners, as custodians of the countryside, and helps them diversify their businesses and secure farm funding support. It wants to help them thrive and succeed.

One-in-a-lifetime opportunity

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to achieve a 21st century National Park partnership that is appropriate for Dorset – a well-resourced National Park which would work with and support the Dorset Council, communities and others to address the complex challenges that we face together and make a positive difference for our communities

and environment. A National Park would help us all to pass on our environment in a better state for future generations. In the 70th anniversary year of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, we look forward to working with councils and others locally, and with Natural England, to bring to fruition this long-overdue National Park for rural Dorset.

For more information visit www.dorsetnationalpark.com.

Climate Emergency

The Dorset Council declared a Climate Emergency at its first meeting in May and was urged to recognise that this is also an emergency

for Dorset's ecology and environment. The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council has made a similar declaration. Dorset's



View of land North of Dorchester

exceptional biodiversity, geodiversity and landscape diversity are spectacular and world class. They are a vital national as well as local asset. Yet Dorset's environment and wildlife continue to suffer degradation and remain under serious continuing pressure. Climate change makes them even more vulnerable. This emergency calls for fresh thinking about the linked challenges of climate change, the environment and ecology.

A National Park, as a close and supportive partner of the Dorset Council, communities and other stakeholders, would help all of Dorset to meet these linked challenges as well as contribute to fresh thinking on the opportunities a green and more sustainable economy can offer for our communities and businesses, including farmers. A National Park would work with all partners to reverse ecological decline and invest in and enhance our environment, natural capital and ecosystem services such as clean water and carbon capture in soils and woodlands. It would work with councils and others to develop sustainable, locally appropriate policies, for example for transport, energy and tourism.

Local Industrial Strategy

Our councils, businesses, Local Enterprise Partnership and Local Nature Partnership are considering the future direction of our economy in the context of a government requirement to produce a draft Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). A National Park would be a key player in such strategies for the future. Planning to capitalise on all that a National Park would offer should be factored into all thinking and plans, including an appropriate and relevant rural strategy as part of a Dorset-wide LIS.

Sandra Brown
Dorset National Park Team

CPRE'S GREEN CLEAN

CPRE's Green Clean returned for a second year during the month of September with people getting outside for litter picking sessions as part of an effort

to clean up the countryside. Litter picks were organised by local community groups across the county in Dorchester, Sherborne, Blandford, Wimborne, Wareham, Langton Matravers, Swanage and Beaminster. A big thank you to Litter Free Dorset for promoting and supporting the events.

CPRE's Green Clean also supports our national campaigning for a deposit return system for bottles and cans. We continued this impactful work with the 'citizen science' angle of CPRE's Green Clean by recording the litter collected. In Wareham, for example, 10 volunteers collected 6 bags of general litter and 2 bags containing 64 plastic bottles, 128 cans, 18 glass bottles and 4 cartons of all sizes. The general rubbish was mostly sweet/crisp wrappers plus food packaging with the odd hub cap and items of clothing.

Maddy Haughton-Boakes, Campaign Lead at CPRE, visited Damers First School in Dorchester on 26th September. Damers and The Thomas Hardy School did a combined litter pick in the afternoon.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who supported CPRE's Green Clean. CPRE will announce in October the total number of bottles, cans and tetra packs collected nationally. This crucial data will help us keep the pressure on the government to introduce an 'All-in' deposit return system, vital for a litter free future!

Please also see Dr John Larkin's report on page 16.

Single Use Plastic Policy

Many communities across Dorset are coming together to reduce single use plastic (SUP). Wimborne War On Waste are an amazing example of working with their local community and inspiring change long after achieving 'Plastic Free Status'. The Surfers Against Sewage initiative 'Plastic Free Communities' has encouraged many towns across Dorset to campaign together and urge businesses to reduce their SUPs by 3 items or more. Dorchester celebrated their 'Plastic Free' status in July, a campaign which has been led by Damers First School and supported by Litter Free Dorset and many others.



Wimborne War on Waste 15th September 2019



Damers First School and The Thomas Hardy School litter pick 26th September

'Don't Be A Tos53r' roadside litter

Litter Free Dorset (LFD) in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy continued this campaign over the summer months. The campaign aims to reduce roadside litter and engage with a wider audience to change littering behaviour in Dorset.

Litter-free Purbeck

In 2018 the group were pleased to receive a big donation for their activities from Swanage Carnival. Part of their funding

paid for a set of signs that are now out on tour and are moved to various roadside locations throughout Purbeck. The signs have been placed on the A351 at Woodyhyde to the west of Harmans Cross, and two pairs of signs



Litter-free Purbeck sign photo by Frank Roberts

near the Halfway Inn near Stoborough. This helps spread awareness on litter, and the work of Litter-free Purbeck.

Organising Litter Picks

Litter is a growing problem that affects countryside and urban areas alike. If you would like to organise a litter pick and join a network of like-minded people, please visit www.litterfreedorset.co.uk. You can contact Dorset Waste Partnership to borrow equipment and collection of bags of litter. The Dorset CPRE also have a supply of litter pickers and high visibility vests that can be provided on loan. Please contact Linda Williams, info@dorset-cpre.org.uk, to arrange collection.

TREES – OUR NATIONAL TREASURE

Look at any television or newspaper pictures of areas of, 'social deprivation, anti-social behaviour, high rates of under achievement', and what do you see? High rise social housing, poor housing and amenities. And no, or few trees.

Much has been said about causes of alienation, but I think it is all bound up with the lack of trees, greenery and quiet places for escape. Children need to engage with the world outside their door first, not with the unreal, ever more judgmental virtual world. Spending time outdoors boosts self-esteem and mental and physical health.

I have seen 'sophisticated' London children of nine and ten return to their joyful selves by spending a day in the trees. The dirtier they became, the happier. From this comes hours of identifying everything: insects, leaves, birds and burrows. Wonderful scrapbooks were built up; wet, dirty and smelly, yes, but loved for all that.

Watching children outside, it was heartwarming to see the interaction between a child and their chosen tree. Hugging it came first, then, of course, climbing, or not. Next, measuring, tree rubbing and producing art from the leaves and twigs. Naturally, poetry and prose were read and written.

The part trees play in our life cannot be overstated

The spring edition of the Woodland Trust's magazine, 'Broadleaf', was such a revelation. The government-backed Climate Change Commission stated that 'the UK needs to plant 50 million trees a year to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050'. That means trebling the size of our 'woeful' woodland creation. The fact that it takes only four



Children enjoying spending time outdoors

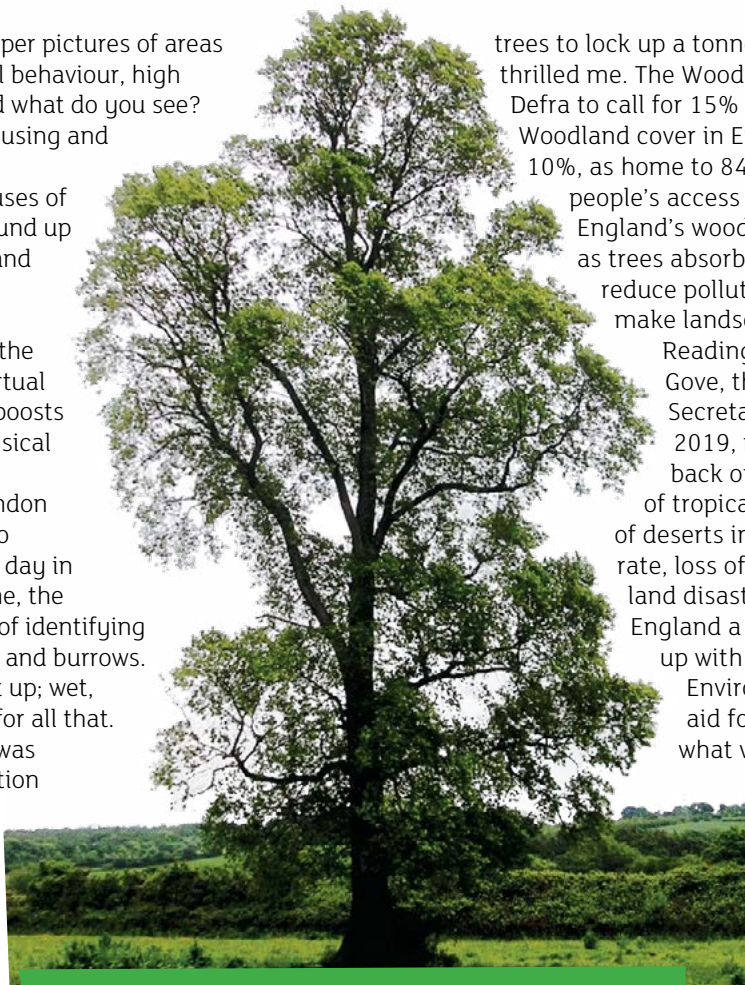


Photo taken by Ptelea of Elm (Ulmus minor) at East Coker

trees to lock up a tonne of carbon absolutely thrilled me. The Woodland Trust has written to Defra to call for 15% woodland cover by 2060. Woodland cover in England stands at just 10%, as home to 84% of the UK's population,

people's access to woodland is vital. England's woodland cover is important as trees absorb carbon, fight flooding, reduce pollution, nurture wildlife and make landscapes more resilient.

Reading the speech Michael Gove, the former Environment Secretary, gave at Kew in July 2019, made the hairs on the back of my neck stand up: loss of tropical trees catastrophic, size of deserts increasing at an alarming rate, loss of species in the sea and on land disastrous. He promised to give England a tree strategy, catching up with Scotland and Wales. The Environment Bill will detail aid for landowners to re plant what was ancient woodland

and punish those who break, what will be, environmental laws.

Tree clearing by rail lines

I am particularly incensed by the tree clearing undertaken by rail

lines, as they rid their track sides of trees. It appears from the article in 'Broadleaf, that Network rail companies have taken little notice of protests. That the trees were cleared from Spring (nesting) onwards has rendered me speechless.

Tree Charter Day #EveryTreeCounts

On November 30th, the Woodland Trust is throwing a nationwide tree party and want people to join in. They want to tap into the momentum from this year's explosion in climate-change awareness and hope to get a million Britons pledging to plant. Visit woodlandtrust.org.uk/bigclimatefightback for more details.

Oak Tree

Extracts from a poem I love

I knew I would transplant it down by the creek.
One day it will be a giant oak,
To shield me from the sun, a sheltering cloak.
Lovers will carve their initials into the bark.
An arrow through the heart, they will leave their mark...
...My oak tree for hundreds of years will live.
Perhaps the most important thing I had to give.

By George Bernard Shaw

Margaret Morgan

CPRE Member

LEAVING A LEGACY

A GIFT IN YOUR WILL CAN HELP PROTECT OUR GLORIOUS COUNTRYSIDE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

© Ian Dagnall/Alamy



If you share our beliefs about protecting our precious heritage of a beautiful countryside, please consider leaving a gift to CPRE in your will.

Your legacy, no matter what the amount, will help us ensure that developments are sensitive to the countryside, and that housing sprawl is kept in check. With your help, there will be a green, tranquil and beautiful England for tomorrow's children to enjoy.

"The English countryside is an exceptional creation – immensely old, full of surprises and nearly always pleasing to look at. For me, the countryside represents so much of what makes life worth living but how much of it will be left for future generations to enjoy?" Bill Bryson

3 Simple steps to leaving a legacy to CPRE

1. Find a solicitor or other qualified advisor
2. Decide what type of gift you'd like to leave CPRE – a share of your estate or a fixed sum.
3. Take our details with you – your solicitor or advisor will need our full name (Dorset CPRE), address and registered charity number 211974.

OUR WASTE, OUR RESOURCES: A STRATEGY FOR ENGLAND



This new Strategy was recently published by DEFRA. It builds on the Twenty-five Year Environment Plan about Natural Capital and our obligation to leave the environment in a better state than we found it.

The Strategy regards all kinds of waste as a valuable resource rather than just material to be disposed of. We must stop being a "throw-away" society and "reduce, reuse and recycle".

This comprehensive document runs to 146 pages and details how the government will require manufacturers to pay the full cost of recycling or disposing of their packaging waste.

We will ban the use of plastic materials wherever there is a

viable alternative and cut our reliance on single-use plastics. We will cut down on the waste of all sorts of food and make sure that food waste is collected from every family every week. We will end the widespread confusion over household recycling by ensuring a constant set of recyclable materials is collected at regular intervals from all households and businesses.

The Government is particularly concerned about fly tipping and other waste crimes. It will increase awareness of the laws and review the relevant penalties.

A deposit return scheme for single-use glass and plastic drink bottles and metal cans will shortly be introduced. The use of biodegradable plastics will be encouraged and Standards for bio-based and biodegradable plastics will be published. The problem of littering will be eased by reducing all forms of waste and showing how unwanted items are best disposed of.

This report contains a lot of good ideas and will be widely welcomed as Government policy published in writing. However, much of it lacks firm target dates, very little is said about how we are going to pay for all this, and it does seem to be dictating policy to future governments until the year 2035 and beyond.

Dr John Larkin

Minerals and Waste Adviser to Dorset CPRE

DORSET CPRE MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS — Since April 2019

North Dorset:

Mrs Jackie Stayt
Mrs Martha Allfrey
Mrs Jane Westbrook
Mr John Hepworth
Mr Mike Owen
Mrs Judith Hussey
Mrs Ana Hudson
Mr James Farnham

The Sherborne and District Society:

Mr Robert Edward
Mr Frank Skinner
Mrs Katharine Pike
Mrs Jane Colville

Purbeck & Poole:

Mr David Genese
Studland Parish Council
Mr Timothy Preece

East Dorset, Christchurch & Bournemouth:

Mr Mark Sellers

West Dorset:

Mrs Julia Handoll
Mr David Roberts
Mr David Everidge
Mr David Marriott

We also welcome members who have moved from other branches or re-joined during the year.

DECEASED MEMBERS

North Dorset:

Ms Patricia Lidsey

The Sherborne and District Society:

Mrs Bridgett Wilson

West Dorset:

Mr Peter Moverley
Mrs Sheila Talbot

Purbeck and Poole:

Mrs HA Carter
Mr Timothy Hamilton-Fletcher

DIARY DATES

1st November — Sherborne and District Society Dinner, at Sherborne Golf Club, 7 for 7.30pm. Guest Speaker, Margaret Clark CBE — A CPRE Trustee and Chair of both the Plunkett Foundation and The Rural Coalition.

16th November — 82nd Anniversary AGM, 11 am at Cerne Abbas Village Hall. Guest Speaker Sir Oliver Letwin MP. Please return enclosed booking form.

Please visit the Dorset CPRE website for meeting dates for the Countryside Forum and District Groups.

NOT ALREADY A MEMBER?

Joining is the single most effective way to stand up for the countryside. The more you can give, the more we can do to keep our countryside safe. You can join online via our website www.dorset-cpre.org.uk or contact our office on 0333 577 0360 to receive a copy of our membership form. As a member you'll receive our regular Countryside Voice magazine, and enjoy discounted entry to houses, gardens and other attractions around England. The following Dorset properties offer a discounted admission for CPRE Members:



- Athelhampton House & Gardens
- Edmonsham House
- Forde Abbey & Gardens
- Mapperton Gardens
- Serles House & Gardens
- Wolfeton House

Visitors are asked to check for individual opening times before setting out as many are seasonal.

Please visit our website for details on how to join or contact our office for a joining form. CPRE Membership also makes an ideal present.

Dorset CPRE Members also receive –

- Two Dorset CPRE reviews per year
- Fieldwork, our quarterly newsletter to help you campaign
- Membership of your local county branch
- Access to our Planning Hotline for advice from CPRE staff

CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND DORSET BRANCH



Registered Charity No. 211974

PO Box 9018, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 9GY.

Tel: 0333 577 0360

email: info@dorset-cpre.org.uk

website: www.dorset-cpre.org.uk

  @DorsetCPRE

BRANCH CONTACT

Mrs Linda Williams

Executive Committee & Trustees 2019

PRESIDENT

Mr Edward Fox OBE

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr Stephen G Howard **01747 828249**

Summer Pool Cottage, Donhead St Andrew, Shaftesbury SP7 9LQ

LIFE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr Alan H Kenyon **01305 250051**

2 Augustan Close, Dorchester DT1 2QU

Capt Dickie Bird, LVO, RN

01935 850576

Manor Farm House, Trent, Sherborne DT9 4SW

Rear Admiral Richard Heaslip, CB **01202 594982**

2 Longfield Drive, West Parley, Ferndown BH22 8TY

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Mr Peter Neal **01935 814801**

5 Abbeymead Court, Sherborne DT9 3AU

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr Richard H Norman **01258 472887**

Mngani, 15 Hillcrest Close, Glue Hill, Sturminster Newton DT10 2DL

ELECTED MEMBERS

Dr John A Larkin **01929 555366**

Lorien, Grange Road, Wareham BH20 5AL

Mr Peter Neal **01935 814801**

5 Abbeymead Court, Sherborne DT9 3AU

Mrs Sandra Brown **01929 551071**

Badgers Keep, Barnhill Road, Ridge, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5BG

Dr Guy Dickinson **07747 776580**

1 Beech Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5NP

Mr Peter Bowyer **01929 450291**

The Thatched Cottage, 24 The Green, Heathgreen Road, Studland
Dorset BH19 3BT

Group Chairmen

West Dorset:

Dr Guy Dickinson **07747 776580**

1 Beech Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 5NP

North Dorset:

Mr Rupert Hardy **0780 390 7711**

The Manor, Winterborne Tomson, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 9HA

The Sherborne and District Society:

Mr John Newman **01935 873159**

Thornford House, Church Road, Thornford, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6QE

Purbeck & Poole:

Mr Gerald Rigler **01202 601109**

9 Sundew Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 9NX

East Dorset, Bournemouth and Christchurch:

Contact Dorset CPRE Branch

Countryside Forum Chairman

The role is rotated between group Chairmen

Advisers to the Forum

Trees for Dorset

Mrs Rachel M Palmer **01929 462423**

Clouds, 14 Cologne Road, Bovington,
Wareham BH20 6NP

Environment Agency

Guy Parker **01258 483460**

Flood Resilience Advisor (Wessex)

Rivers House, Sunrise Business Park,

Higher Shaftesbury Road, Blandford Forum DT11 8ST

Email: guy.parker@environment-agency.gov.uk

Farming Adviser

Shaun Leavey OBE FRAGS

7 Hound Street, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3AB

CPRE SOUTH WEST

Regional Chairman:

Janette Ward

c/o 8 Rowdens Road, Wells, Somerset BA5 1TU

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in some of the articles do not, necessarily, represent the views of Dorset CPRE. Many of the articles have been written from a personal viewpoint.

EDITOR/DESIGNER: Linda Williams/Shawn Hodge

PRINTED BY: Remous Ltd, Milborne Port, Dorset DT9 5EP