

**MINUTES OF 82ND ANNIVERSARY DORSET CPRE AGM HELD AT THE
CERNE ABBAS VILLAGE HALL, CERNE ABBAS, ON SATURDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2019**

1. Welcome

Dickie Bird, Life Vice-President, opened the Meeting at 11 am and warmly welcomed nearly 70 members and guests.

2. Apologies

Mr Rupert Hardy, Mr John Holiday, Mr Edward Fox, Mr Colin Brixton, Mr & Mrs Clevely, Mr Gerald Rigler, Mr & Mrs Gueterbock, Mrs F Gardener, Mrs Angela Peebles, Mr Stephen Howard, Mrs Pat Atkinson, Mr Bob Reid, Mrs Kathryn Ballisat, Mr Roger White, Mr John Boodle, Mr Tim Hale, Mr John Newman, Mr & Mrs J Larkin, Mrs Susan Jones, Mrs J Harding-Rolls, Major Reginald Hanbury.

3. Minutes of the 2018 AGM

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to these minutes. There were none. Proposer Richard Brown, seconder Richard Nicholls, all in favour, none against.

4. Matters arising and not on the agenda

At an oral hearing in Cardiff on 3rd October 2019 the judge gave ADVEARSE the go ahead for a full judicial review against Dorset Council's approval for the Vearse Farm Bridport urban extension – the biggest ever development in an AONB. The judge agreed that the case is 'arguable' and gave his permission for it to proceed to a full hearing and it is likely to take place early in the New Year.

5. Chair of Trustees' Report

Peter Neal spoke about the new CPRE Strategy. There are four elements to the strategy: Promote rural life, Connect people and the countryside, Empower communities and Grow our capacity, with responding to the Climate Emergency being a cross-cutting theme. Dorset CPRE have been critical of the process of how this strategy and the new branding that goes with it were derived, although our CEO, Crispin Truman, assures us that issues we have raised, particularly about ensuring that farming and rural perspectives are prominent in our thinking, have influenced him and the team as they plan future work.

The Climate 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. The first conclusions from these discussions are now under review and policy will likely follow in the New Year. We have contributed to these consultations. Of course, issues within each of the Groups overlap.

Peter went on to say that we need to have our own evidence to try to convince our councils to make a stand and maybe also affect government policy over housing numbers. To this end ORS (Opinion Research Services) consultants have been briefed

to commence work on determining the real housing need in Dorset. We hope to have this available early in the New Year.

Peter talked about the Dorset Council's Plan 2020 – 2024. Some of our Trustees and Group Chairmen met recently with the Strategic Planners, who will be producing the composite plan for the Dorset Council over the next three years or so, and more detail will emerge during the consultation period, in which we will be heavily involved.

Roger White, a member and an eminent Georgian Architectural historian is planning a conference on 'The way forward – Better Design and Better Planning for Dorset's Housing' for the 13th March 2020 in Cerne Abbas Village Hall. Speakers will include, CPRE President, Emma Bridgewater, Ben Pentreath, Ben Bolgar, Kim Wilkie, Lord Moray, Cllr David Walsh (Dorset Council), and short presentations from Paul Miner on CPRE's housing design audit report, Ben Murphy (Duchy of Cornwall Head of Estates) and others. This conference is aimed at planning officers, councillors, land owners and their agents, with the aim of influencing decisions they will make in the future. It will also be open to Dorset CPRE members who might wish to attend.

Peter also summarised some facts on 'Problems & Opportunities facing rural areas', courtesy of Margaret Clark – Chair of the Rural Alliance, who gave a talk at the Sherborne and District Society dinner on 1st November.

We joined the Dorset National Park Team in making representation to the Glover Review and were delighted that in its report it indicated that Natural England and Ministers should consider the case for a National Park for Dorset.

In conclusion Peter said we continue to do our best to influence policy and developments at local and to some extent at national level. All of the elected trustees, group committee chairs and other volunteers work very hard at doing their best to represent members interests and views. Peter thanked everyone for the support provided over the time he has been involved as a trustee, particularly his fellow trustees, Richard Nicholls and Linda Williams.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

Richard Norman summarised the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2019. Copies of the audited accounts will be made available to view and download from the Charity Commission Website.

Richard explained we are spending more on our magazine 'The Dorset Review' by printing extra copies for distribution. Income from membership is down, however, we made a surplus due to an increase in income from investments. We have paid out £6k to support the ADVEARSE Judicial Review out of a maximum of £10k. Richard thanked Peter Neal for his hard work. Peter has decided not to stand as a Trustee again but will remain active and be around to guide us.

Richard said he is available for questions on the Accounts but there were none. The Accounts were accepted. Proposer Peter Neal, Seconder Jackie Stayt, all in favour, none against.

7. **Election of Officers:**

The following were duly proposed and elected en bloc:

Position	Proposed	Proposer	Seconder
President	Edward Fox	Dr John Larkin	Gerald Rigler
Vice-Presidents	Richard Nicholls	Gerald Rigler	Sandra Brown
	Peter Neal	Capt Dickie Bird	Peter Bowyer
Elected Trustees	Richard Norman (Treasurer)	Peter Neal	Steve O' Connell
	Dr John Larkin	Gerald Rigler	Richard Nicholls
	Sandra Brown	Gerald Rigler	Peter Bowyer
	Dr Guy Dickinson	Richard Nicholls	Sandra Brown
	Peter Bowyer	Sandra Brown	Gerald Rigler
	Steve O' Connell	Peter Neal	Rupert Hardy
	Jane Westbrook	Rupert Hardy	Peter Neal
Examiners	Scott Ververs		

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the next Trustees Meeting on 13th December.

8. **Election of Examiners**

Our Examiners, Scott Ververs in Bridport, were proposed by Richard Norman and unanimously re-elected for the next financial year.

9. **Resolution:**

No resolutions were tabled this year.

10. **Any Other Business**

Members referred to articles in our Autumn Review magazine regarding a geophysical survey on the Isle of Purbeck, landscapes, tree planting, the North of Dorchester housing proposal and the Dorset Council Local Plan.

The meeting was followed with a talk from Cathy Bakewell, Chair of the National Community Land Trust Network.