

The Dorset Review

Campaign to Protect Rural England



In this issue

- Consultations
- Forde Abbey House Tour and Gardens
- District Group updates
- Dorset Local Food Producers
- Litter Campaigns

CONTENTS

- 2–3 Chair's Report
- 3 80th Anniversary AGM
- 4–5 The Wonders of Forde Abbey
- 6–7 The Sherborne and District Society
- 8–9 Hops Away: How Dorset Craft Brewing Took Off
- 10 Purbeck and Poole Group
- 11 Homes for Rural Working People
- 12 West Dorset Group
- 13 Useful Appeal and High Court Decisions
- 14–15 North Dorset Group
- 16 East Dorset Group
- 17 Decommissioning the Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor, SGHWR, at Winfrith
- 18–19 Annual Accounts
- 20–21 Minerals and Waste in Dorset
 - 22 From Stalbridge to Siberia book by Hiliary Townsend
 - 22 Stephen Howard's Retirement
 - 23 Litter Campaigns
 - 24 CPRE Recent Publications
 - 25 CPRE Awards
 - 26 Obituary – Rev John Schofield
 - 27 Dorset CPRE Membership
 - 28 Contacts



Protecting Dorset
Campaign to Protect Rural England

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 – Walking east towards Durdle Door on Jurassic Coast

CHAIR'S REPORT



At last year's AGM Richard Nicholls stood down as a trustee. I was honoured to be elected to take his place as Chairman of the Dorset Branch. Richard will be a hard act to follow, but I am delighted to say he has agreed to continue to represent us at external events. He brings a wealth of experience to the Branch and it is good that we are not losing his input. Thank you, Richard, for all you have and are continuing to do for CPRE.

Housing & NPPF

In the last two editions of this Review, Richard in the chair's report commented on the Housing White Paper and the lack of affordable housing position. I want to come back to these issues now. Following on from the White Paper, in March the Government published a new revised version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), on which it will consult before agreeing the final version. As I write, CPRE, at National Level, are analysing the content and will then produce, after discussion with Branches, a response to the proposals.

Initially CPRE gave a cautious welcome to some of the measures in the NPPF revision document. Director of Campaigns and Policy, Tom Fyans saying: *The review has some positive steps to accelerating the build-out rate and reassures that Green Belt protection will be maintained. AONBs and National Parks could benefit from better protections, especially against 'major' development proposals.*

'We welcome the much stronger emphasis on developer accountability. Measures to tackle slow build-outs rates and stop developers undercutting affordable housing requirements through the viability loophole are important steps in guaranteeing that communities get what they need.'

'It is also encouraging to hear the government reiterate its commitment to protecting the countryside, specifically Green Belt and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty protections. A stronger promotion of prioritising brownfield land and increasing density is to be welcomed and reflects CPRE's long campaigning on these issues. But the proof will be in the implementation and whether people's aspiration, expressed through local plans, are fulfilled in real life.'

Whilst I personally welcome some of the aspects to which Tom refers I feel we will still have some fundamental

problems with the new NPPF as proposed. The 'Golden Thread' of presumption in favour of sustainable development still remains. Whilst the definition of sustainable has been adjusted slightly (and could take more account of infrastructure issues) it still seems to me to be a developer's charter.

Housing numbers

In its proposals the Government has confirmed a new formula for housing numbers, requiring a greater number of houses to be built in those areas where 'affordability' is an issue i.e. adjusting demographic projects upwards. We are all aware that Dorset is such an area, with high house prices and low wages. We can expect therefore that housing numbers in many local plans will then need to be adjusted upwards and I am aware that for most of us the current numbers in local plans already seem to be too high. I have to say it is questionable if the approach of setting high housing targets will actually achieve a drop in house prices, so that more people will be able to afford to buy, as the Government expects. The market is very much dominated by a handful of large companies and it isn't in their business interests to build more at lower prices and therefore reduced profits. We will be faced therefore with councils not meeting their five-year land supply figures (which most are not doing now anyway) and therefore leaving the door open for further speculative development which we have already experienced across the County. Whilst the Government wishes to put pressure on developers to deliver the housing numbers it is unclear exactly how they will do this and it is hoped that Oliver Letwin's Review on land banking and related issues, due to be published before the next budget, might give a steer on this.

Concern about developments, of course, isn't just restricted to the housing numbers. Often there is an issue of design, both of the houses and the layout of the land in which they are set that is out of keeping with the local area. Whilst the NPPF does have mention of good design, in practice this aspect is rarely an issue when plans are approved. Indeed, it is very difficult to influence the major house builders on producing bespoke designs for each area. Hence the housing estates they build looking very much the same wherever in the Country they

appear. However, I do think that we have to be more active in trying to influence design and layout. We should look for opportunities to work with, landowners, developers and planners to that effect. In the Sherborne and District Society Group report one such initiative is described.

Agriculture

The Government is consulting on its proposed direction on future agricultural policy published in February. There have been concerns previously expressed by CPRE on the position of smaller farmers and they will be indicating such concerns in their response. We have a very strong farming tradition in Dorset and the future of our farms is vital to our economy and of the countryside which we cherish. Our farming adviser, Shaun Leavey, will have input to the CPRE response.

CPRE National

Some of you will have met our new Chief Executive, Crispin Truman, and heard him speak at the AGM last November. He has now been in post for several months and has recently produced a paper for Trustees relating to 'Shaping the Future'. Representatives from various parts of our organisation are meeting to discuss this paper and more will be communicated to you as these ideas progress.

One of the key aspects of such work is how do we recruit more members and volunteers to keep our work going. This is an ongoing issue for us in Dorset. We have some very active groups but for example we don't have a committee now covering East Dorset and if there are members there reading this Review who could be instrumental in establishing one I would be delighted to hear from you.

Unitary Authorities

You will be aware that the Government has confirmed that the Councils in Dorset will be re-configured, with one authority covering Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch and the other for Rural Dorset. These bodies will replace the Dorset County Council and all the District Councils. What is as yet unclear is how this will affect the way planning is organised. For example, will there be just one Local Plan for each authority or will the current boundaries relating to Local Plans be maintained? It is to be hoped that we don't lose even more local democracy with such a move and that for example Town and Parish Councils will have a greater say on local decisions. I intend, with Group Chairs, to hold discussions, as appropriate with council officials to gain awareness of the future arrangements.

Peter Neal
Chair of Trustees

CPRE 80th Anniversary AGM



Edward Fox at Dorset CPRE AGM

We welcomed our new CEO, Crispin Truman, as well as Edward Fox, our President, to the 80th Anniversary Annual General Meeting held in November. Edward read some wonderful poems, including *Dorset* by John Betjeman, celebrating the county and its countryside to the audience of about a hundred.

Crispin, spoke of the challenges facing the CPRE as it campaigns on many fronts to protect the countryside, particularly the need to protect Green Belts and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) from inappropriate housing developments. He wants to see "a more bottom-up community-led sensitive

approach to housing from government, rather than the current adversarial top-down one". CPRE would also encourage the government to adopt a land-use strategy for England, which currently does not exist unlike Scotland.

He stressed there will be three key themes in 2018. The first is to broaden the appeal of CPRE and present it better. Secondly, CPRE will focus on fewer but bigger campaigns, with the intention to give a more positive image and concentrate on solutions. One of these will be the drive to provide more affordable rural housing, which the government and developers have singly failed to achieve. Thirdly, it will strive to collaborate more effectively with both local county branches as well as other campaigning organisations.

Richard Nicholls, the Chairman of Dorset CPRE's Trustees, spoke of the problems facing Dorset in particular. The countryside, Green Belts and AONBs are under threat from development while little provision was being made for infrastructure, such as public transport, doctors' surgeries and improved roads. There was far too little affordable housing. He said "there should be the

right housing in the right places, for the right people in particular young people". He was also very concerned over the loss of subsidies to farmers, resulting from Brexit, with the threat of the industrialisation of farming and the adverse impact on the countryside.



Richard Nicholls at Dorset CPRE AGM

In essence Dorset CPRE stands for the same things now as when the branch was opened in 1937 – to retain a beautiful, diverse countryside for the benefit of everyone, wherever they live.

THE WONDERS OF FORDE ABBEY



Cattle House and Lawn

One of the undoubted heritage gems of Dorset is the house and award-winning gardens of Forde Abbey, tucked away in the north west corner of the county. 45,000 people every year visit the thirty acres of gardens which include topiary lined vistas, colourful herbaceous borders, an arboretum, a bog garden, which together with swathes of early spring bulbs and camellias provide all year round interest. Rupert Hardy from Dorset CPRE recently visited and spoke to Alice Kennard about Forde.

History

Home to the stunning Mortlake tapestries, woven from the internationally famous Raphael cartoons, now housed in the V&A, the Abbey has a rich and varied history spanning 900 years. Through the centuries, it has played host to Cistercian monks at prayer, 19th-century philosophers and politicians, by misfortune implicated in the Monmouth Rebellion and more recently, the backdrop to the Hollywood adaptation of Thomas Hardy's 'Far From the Madding Crowd,' starring Carey Mulligan, Michael Sheen and Tom Sturridge.

If any of Forde Abbey's 12th-century Cistercian monks were to return today they might well recognise their quarters, their kitchen and refectories, and their chapter house. It is rare to see so much of a medieval monastery preserved as an integral part of a private dwelling.

Responsibility for this wonderful home was inherited by the Ropers in 1905. Elizabeth Roper died in 1943 and the house passed into the care of her son, Geoffrey and his wife Diana. Geoffrey devoted his whole life to the Abbey and its gardens. He added the arboretum and planted many of the woods that are a feature of the estate. In the 1970s Geoffrey's son Mark and his wife Lisa took on the responsibility, modernising the house, developing a fruit farm on the estate, establishing the acclaimed herd of Forde Abbey Devon Cattle and turning Forde Abbey into a successful tourist attraction.

In 2009, another generation became stewards of this beautiful place with Mark and Lisa's eldest daughter and son-in law Alice and Julian Kennard, taking their turn to maintain it.



The Saloon



Alice and Julian Kennard with family



Bog Garden

Gardens

The early Cistercian monks would have farmed the land and grown seasonal fruit and vegetables in accordance with a strict vegetarian diet. Today, the only monastic structure that remains in the garden is the Great Pond. Sir Francis Gwyn created the beginnings of the modern garden during the early 18th-century. Gwyn used the water from the Great Pond to create the connecting three lower ponds while also laying out the lawns and drives and, in keeping with the design principles of the day, incorporating great yews and limes to lead the eye along significant views and vistas. The Evans family bought the Abbey in 1864 and under their stewardship the garden at Forde Abbey was of typical Victorian design, with the extensive walled garden to the north and dark shrubberies to the South. Summer bedding provided the colour to frame the house but the garden was very labour intensive and even at the outbreak of the First World War required ten full time gardeners to maintain it.

Using the legacy of the eighteenth-century landscape and the nineteenth-century trees, three generations of the Roper family were responsible for establishing the Bog Garden, Park Garden and Rock Garden and during his lifetime, Geoffrey Roper planted more than 350,000 trees on the estate. Designed to incorporate both the formal and informal aspects of garden design, the straight lines give way to meandering pathways the further you head away from the house, with plenty of benches and seating to admire the views along the way.



Sweet Peas

Recent Developments

The majestic Centenary Fountain was installed in 2005 to celebrate 100 years of the Roper family at Forde Abbey. Powered by a pump from the strawberry farm on the estate, it reaches a height of 160 feet and is the highest powered fountain in England.

The Kennards have been busy too, restoring borders and the arboretum, as well as building new features. The tulips have now become a major draw with 40,000 planted there. Last year they built a Spiral Garden, which is based on the design of a monastic penitentiary spiral. It is full of wild flowers and tulips lasting from July to October. They also installed a Willow Den in the arboretum for children to play in. Alice loves particularly the beautiful Rock Garden.



Grange Goats

Events at Forde

Every week there seem to be garden-themed events at Forde. In particular there is the Summer Fair in July, Toby's Garden and Harvest Festival in September, and Halloween in October with pumpkin rolling for children. In 2017 they started Christmas Winter Illuminations covering the house and gardens with LED lights, which has been successful. Surprisingly as Alice says, "lighting the whole garden took less energy than boiling a kettle".

Other Developments

Besides the long-established Pick-Your-Own Fruit Farm and the prize-winning Devon Cattle on the estate, Forde Abbey is now home to 2,500 milking goats. They are the UK's second biggest goat milk producer. They have also reduced their carbon footprint by installing wood chip boilers and solar panels (400KW) on the goat shed roofs, which we thoroughly commend.

The Future

Alice says "the biggest problem is keeping the roof on". Their repair bill alone is £100,000 a year so they look to take any opportunity to develop the garden and boost visitor numbers, yet still keep Forde in family ownership.

Opening Times

Dorset CPRE are holding their Summer Open Day there on 5th July so do come then (see enclosed booking form) but do also consider visiting any time of the year to take advantage of the half price entry to the gardens for members (don't forget your card). There is also an excellent cafe. The gardens are open 10–4.30pm daily while the house opens 12–4pm from 27th March to 31st October, but not on Saturdays and Mondays (www.fordeabbey.co.uk). It really is a fantastic place! Do go!

Rupert Hardy

THE SHERBORNE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY



Past Chairman David Smith accepted a Community Service Award on behalf of the Sherborne Good Neighbours at the 9th March AGM

Some six years ago I took over as Chairman of the Society for one year; little did I know that it would be 2018 before I stood down! Early on in my tenure we were plunged into two major campaigns— namely the Tesco proposal and the Local Plan development. On both counts we were successful in achieving our objectives. However, the Local Plan is currently under revision and I doubt we will be able to hold back the push for more development as we did last time. Ever since these campaigns were concluded there has been vigilance and action on many fronts in Sherborne and the local villages; with both successes and failures, on which I have reported regularly at the AGM and in the Dorset CPRE Review magazine.

Trying to be more pro-active

One of the major features that has changed during my time as Chairman is how we are trying to be more pro-active. Looking for opportunities to find solutions to projects that we are opposed to if we can or to influence proposals before they become issues to oppose. Examples of this have been developing relationships with the District Council's Strategic Planners, The Town Council, Sherborne Castle Estates and Sir Oliver

Letwin MP. In addition, as you are aware we have been working with developers to have input into the designs etc. on their sites. We don't always achieve what we want but with the exception of Persimmon (where I am afraid they will leave behind a very poor legacy to the town), I believe we have achieved some success in this; for example, on the Bovis site, the Hotel site with Quantum, The Girls School Arts / Music Centre and Bradfords new facility at Barton Farm. I am sure that this policy will continue under the new Chairman.

Paddock Project

As I implied earlier we are seeking to be seen as a forward thinking and positive Society, not always being seen as against projects. Incidentally at a National Level CPRE is, under its new CEO Crispin Truman, looking 'At Shaping the Future' of the organisation and we shall contribute to this review. The problem we face is that quite often in principle we should support a proposal but the detail makes this difficult to do. A perfect example of this is the Paddock Project. Which I would like to expand on a wee bit further. To obtain an investment in the area of £4m for an Arts Centre should be a good thing. However, the proposal involves taking over the Paddock Garden, altering its concept, and from what we have seen erecting a building more in keeping with that on a provincial airport than facing a Grade 1 listed building. We have been trying to get the scheme amended and recently have been in

correspondence with the Foundation, who are providing the finances, in an attempt to get back to considering Sherborne House as a location for the Gallery. This has been unsuccessful but we are still trying to find a way forward. What concerns your committee is that there has been no real market research evidence for the proposals, no reasons of why an alternative build on the site isn't feasible (without touching the garden) and no business plan forthcoming to indicate the viability of such a project. Unfortunately, it appears that there is no appetite for compromise with the proponents of the scheme; there is a take it or leave it attitude, which is a pity. However, we will still remain hopeful that such a compromise can be achieved and everyone can then get 100% behind it.

Local Plan and housing numbers

Moving on to give an example of pro-activity. We foresee that in the local Plan review Sherborne will be asked to absorb many more houses. Whilst we will strive to keep this number down, the Government earlier this week made it clear that a national formula will be in place to determine housing numbers. As far as we can judge, that will mean that the level of housing in the District of around 780 houses per annum will be that minimum. If this is the case then as we saw last year we could be faced with at least 600 more houses locally. Apart from infrastructure issues, one reason that many of us are so against development is because it doesn't fit into the vernacular of the town or village in which it is placed and



Paddock Project - Artist's Impression of Gallery

that not enough of what we might see as really affordable houses are being built. Our aim therefore is to influence the development before it takes place and to this end as I have said before we have been trying to get Sherborne Castle Estates to take an interest on what is built on their land (99.8% of any greenfield sites locally) and control it as far as possible. John Newman, Roger White and myself recently had a meeting with Aldred Drummond, a land owner in Hampshire and the developer of the Fawley Waterside scheme, which is adjacent to his estate. In addition Roger has had meetings with the distinguished landscape architect Kim Wilkie and Ben Pentreath, one of the original architects of Poundbury. From these discussions we hope that we might be able to suggest some valid ideas as a way forward to the Estates here and maybe to the planners too.

Committee Members

As I leave the position of Chairman of the Society I do so in the knowledge that we have put together a fine team on the Committee. Unfortunately, Robin Bawtree decided not to seek re-election and I wish to thank Robin for all the work he has done for CPRE, when its Dorset Director, and more recently looking

after matters for us in the Somerset part of our patch. My thanks also to all the hard work the Committee has put in, not only during the past year but over the whole of my time as Chairman. Dickie Bird, David Gould and Kate Pike have been constants during that time and John West, Paul Austin and Malcolm Saunders for much of it and I thank them all for their support. Latterly John Newman has provided ongoing support and advice and I am delighted that he has agreed and was approved to be my successor. The Society will be in safe hands. Finally, my gratitude to you as members; without whom we don't have a Society. Your commitment to our aims is much appreciated, as are the comments that I receive when I bump into you and have a chat in Cheap Street. Thank you.

AGM March 2018

We held our AGM on Friday 9th March around 40 members present. Resolutions were passed to establish the position of Life Vice-president(s) and to elect a President annually at the AGM. The following were elected:

Life Vice-President: Captain Lionel Bird
President: Peter Neal
Chairman: John Newman
Vice-chairman: David Gould
Secretary: Fiona Hartley

Treasurer: John West

Membership Secretary: Ray Hartley

Committee Members: Paul Austin, Air Marshal Sir Christopher Colville, Revd. Richard Kirlew, Shaun Leavey, Malcolm Saunders, Roger White, Douglas Rice (Yetminster PC Rep.) and Kate Pike (Town Council Rep.)

A **Community Service Award** was presented to the **Sherborne Good Neighbours** in recognition of their valuable contribution to the community over the last 30 years. The past Chairman David Smith accepted the award on their behalf.

After the business side of the AGM Roger White gave a fascinating talk on Cottages Orne.

Dates for the Diary (for further information contact) Peter Neal

30th May – visit to The Dairy Farm at Osborne (DT9 4LB) commencing at 11.00. We will only be able to accommodate 20 members on the visit.

2nd November – dinner at Sherborne Golf Club 19.30 – Guest Speaker (theatre work permitting) Edward Fox

Peter Neal

Outgoing Group Chairman

£2m funding for rural communities to restore historic buildings

The Historic Building Restoration Grant is being piloted in Dartmoor, Lake District, Northumberland, Peak District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks with £2 million of funding available.

The aim of the scheme is to help save the iconic historic farm buildings in the English National Parks from falling out of use. Owners of these buildings from today can apply for a grant offering 80% towards the cost of restoration. This can include replacing the roof, weatherproofing the exterior, or other restoration works so that the building can be used again for farming purposes.

The scheme is open for applications until 31 January 2019 and, once approved, agreement holders will have two years to complete the works.

Keeping in touch

From May 2018, the laws governing the way charities communicate with their members will be overhauled as the EU's General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) supersedes the 1998 Data Protection Act. Happily, this won't have a significant impact on our members, as the new legislation's definition of 'legitimate interest' will allow us to keep you informed of our work without requiring you to 'opt in'. Most importantly, the new regulations will not weaken our pledge to never sell your data or share it with anyone outside of CPRE.

In the wake of all the news about plastics pollution you'll be pleased to hear that CPRE are now going to replace the plastic wrapping used for sending out Countryside Voice with a compostable starch polywrap. They have been monitoring this for some time and the cost until now has been prohibitive. It's still more expensive than plastic but decided it's worth it and we are sure our members will agree it's the right thing to do.

HOPS AWAY: HOW DORSET CRAFT BREWING TOOK OFF

Fifty years ago Britain was undergoing a wave of efficiency-led mergers and takeovers with small local breweries going to the wall. The popularity of imported continental lagers that were lighter and fizzier than traditional British beer added to the trend to make beers of a sad uniformity. Typical was the infamous pasteurised keg beer, Watney's Red Barrel. A band of passionate drinkers got together in 1971 to form CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, and they raised consciousness about our brewing heritage. Britons were then starting to travel abroad in large numbers and tasting superior beers on the continent so demand changed as a result, with drinkers wanting more variety, better flavour and higher quality beers.

However the revival of craft brewing only really took off after 2002 when micro brewers were given a major tax break so they could compete with the giants. This explosion has taken the number of UK breweries to exceed 2,000, more per head than anywhere else in the world. Dorset was slow off the mark, with Palmers and Hall & Woodhouse virtually the only brewers left in the county in 2003 when Eldridge Pope closed their doors. However in the last decade more than a dozen real ale artisan breweries have opened up to compete with Hall & Woodhouse's Badger and Palmers Tally ho! Even Guy Ritchie, the film director, has started his own brewery this year. The growth of tourism in Dorset has helped too with a lot of the brewers based near the coast not surprisingly. Together these new breweries are making about 260 different beers with catchy names like Fossil Fuel, Grockles and Slasher. The greatest growth has come from hoppy, hazy Gold beers more often drunk in summer. Micropubs specialising in craft beer have sprung up too, especially in Bournemouth and Wimborne, where the award-winning Taphouse does roaring trade.

We are not going to write about Palmers and Hall & Woodhouse, which still produce some good beer, but the new craft breweries that have sprung up and who need your custom to prosper, especially those who are winning lots of awards for their very fine brews.

Sixpenny Brewery

This is the brewery that has won more awards than any other, and was given the Taste of Dorset "Best Brewer" accolade several years running. It was started by Scott Wayland who began in 2007 in Surrey, before moving to Sixpenny Handley in 2009 and Cranborne in 2016 as he outgrew the earlier sites. He and his brewer, Lyall Dew, now produce over 350,000 pints a year of rather traditional but superlative beers with a more mature clientele in mind. Their casks go out to pubs in Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire while the bottles sell well in farm shops and village stores. They have a taproom which is open every evening, and can attract up to a hundred drinkers on a balmy summer night. Their bestsellers are Sixpenny Best, Sixpenny



Sixpenny Brewery, Lyall Dew, the Brewer pulling pints



Beer from Sixpenny Brewery

Gold and Rushmore Gold. A very distinctive tittle is their Marley's Ghost which is best described as Christmas pudding in a bottle. They try to use English hops and barley, but for their IPA use American hops for a more distinctive flavour (www.sixpennybrewery.co.uk).

Cerne Abbas Brewery

Cerne Abbas has a long history of brewing, going back to the monks of Cerne Abbey. In the 18th century Bishop Pococke described Cerne as "more famous for its beer than in any other place in the country" with the green sand geology of the area making the water ideal for beer making. Vic Irvine and Jodie Moore started this brewery in 2014 with the belief that "beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy". They produce 180,000 pints a year in bottle and cask, using local barley grown in the adjoining village of Godmanstone, all featuring the logo of the notorious chalk giant carved in the chalk above the village. Their beers are delicious and tasty, and mostly well balanced in their use of hops and barley, with names like Legless Jester and Tiger Tom. They have won lots of prizes at the CAMRA and Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA) beer awards, and sell mostly to pubs in Dorset.



Vic Irvine stirring the hops in at Cerne Abbas Brewery



Selection of Beer from Cerne Abbas Brewery

They famously debuted at the Stranger's Bar in the Houses of Parliament with the distinctive giant clothed with a fig leaf to protect his modesty. They have recently got together with The Watercress Co. to produce a beer, Watercress Warrior, using watercress seeds. Watercress is not just a superfood but is also believed to increase virility. They plan to expand and move the brewery into the village in 2018 so they can also open a taproom for visitors (www.cerneabbasbrewery.com).

Eight Arch Brewing

Steve Farrell opened the brewery in 2015, naming it after the eight arches in nearby Julian's bridge in Wimborne. He is a self confessed hop-head. They produce 156,000 pints a year now but plan to double this in 2018. Their beers are quite non-traditional, using more hops than barley, i.e. "hop-forward", and many taste of tropical and other fruit flavours. Their Imperial Stout uses cherries for example. They focus on India Pale Ale (IPA), which was originally conceived to survive the stormy passage out to imperial India, and also add flavour by using old whisky barrels. Their best sellers are Corbel, which has won countless awards, as well as the very fruity Square Logic which is sold in a pink can! They sell both to local pubs but also to micropubs in London. They received their first export order to Sweden a few months ago. Their Bowstring beer also debuted at the Stranger's Bar in the Houses of Parliament. You can visit as well their own taproom on Friday evenings (www.8archbrewing.co.uk).



Steve Farrell from Eight Arch Brewing

Southbourne Brewery

Southbourne has just opened its brewery in Bournemouth thanks to crowdfunding and hopes to produce 288,000 pints a year. It will have a taproom and visitor centre. Owner Jennifer Tingay started brewing her own beers at the micro brewery in Lyme Regis using their spare capacity. She has not only won prizes for her fine beers, such as Stroller, an oatmeal stout, but also praise for her label designs which take inspiration from the 1920s British Rail postcards of holiday destinations as well as birds (www.southbourneales.co.uk).

Dorset Brewing Co.

Located in Crossways, the brewery is arguably the biggest craft brewery in Dorset with capacity of 1.5million pints a year. It was founded in 1996 by Giles Smeath in Weymouth before relocating. Their Jurassic Coast brands, which include Chesil Beach and Dorset Knob, sell well in Dorset and beyond (www.dbcales.com).

Piddle Brewery

Based in Piddlehinton, Piddle are one of the longer established craft breweries in Dorset. It is currently run by Ian Siddall and Jon Lavers. They sell their cask and bottle beers under catchy sounding names such as Slasher and Cocky, and now sell cider too (www.piddlebrewery.co.uk).

Other Micro Breweries

Other craft breweries include the **Lyme Regis Brewery**. They are based at the historic old Town Mill. In the summer tourist season they make 48 firkins (or 3,450 pints) a week, and now supply 200 outlets around Lyme (www.lymeregisbrewery.com). On the Somerset border at Sodbrow **Gyle 59** started brewing in 2013. They do not use Isinglass, which is made from the swim bladders of fish, so will suit vegans as well as carnivores, but is intended to enhance flavour (www.gyle59.co.uk). In Stalbridge is the **Wriggle Valley Brewery** and they make 6 regular beers and 4 seasonal ones (www.wrigglevalleybrewery.co.uk).

In Purbeck is the **Isle of Purbeck Brewery** located next to the Bankes Arms pub in Studland. This was set up in 2003 by Jack and Pippa Lightbown, and they organise the Bankes Arms Beer Festival every year. They have a particular reputation for supplying music festivals (www.isleofpurbeckbrewery.com). Over in Wimborne is the **Brew Shack** producing 1300pints a week (www.thebrewshack.co.uk). Further east in Christchurch is **Drop the Anchor Brewery** (www.droptheanchorbrewery.co.uk). In Poole is the **Bournemouth Brewing Company** who started in 2012 and now have a weekly production capacity of 1788 pints. They run two pubs as well (www.bournemouthbrewery.com). **Hattie Brown** brews in Swanage (www.hattiebrownsbrewery.co.uk). Guy Ritchie, the film director, started the **Gritchie Brewing Co.** this year on his estate on the Wiltshire border. He is using Marris Otter barley grown on the estate and water from his own aquifer (www.gritchiebrewingcompany.co.uk). Finally is **The Way Outback Brewing** company who started only in 2017 in Southbourne (www.thewayoutback.co.uk). There are also a few micropubs not selling beyond their own premises.

All these breweries deserve to quench your thirst so please do try them out, and remember local pubs are quite good now at serving guest beers from craft brewers. If not, ask them why not? Cheers!

Rupert Hardy



View West from Knowle Hill towards Corfe Castle taken by Rupert Hardy

PROTECTING OUR INHERITANCE

All of us in Purbeck and Poole have inherited so much from the actions and industry of our predecessors that is of tremendous value to us today. That inheritance needs protection for future generations to experience and enjoy during all the tomorrows, irrespective of whether it is access to either of the markedly different and evolving urban or rural environments / facilities.

All right there is too much fly-tipping / littering disfiguring our environment and Poole has not sought to enhance its Green Belt Zone but, instead, disappointingly approved the concept of over 300 new houses (not necessarily truly affordable!) on some previously respected green and open spaces, in the face of earlier enlightened ministerial guidance.

However, Local Plans for the next twenty years are being progressed, hopefully to ensure: -

- the needs of Poole are limited by its Green Belt Zone,
- that Purbeck is not converted into any sort of dormitory area serving other areas (irrespective of increasingly damaging and greedy demands),
- that a wildlife corridor is maintained between The New Forest National Park and points West, and
- that the inherited relationship between our local urban areas and rural areas remains substantially symbiotic (rather than allowed to decay into parasitic opportunism).

Poole Local Plan

Previously I have emphasized the need for more effective consulting to ensure such local plans can be considered to be

not only legal but 'sound': suitable for the future real needs of our locality.

Poole has issued its proposed Local Plan and the Appointed Planning Inspector has just now completed an extensive 'Examination in Public' to clarify the many issues that he has identified. The initial process has taken many days of 'hearings' for him to receive oral representations supplementing the written statements. It is understood that months are now likely to elapse before all the issues that have concerned him can be suitably clarified / rectified. It is obvious that many useful lessons about the application of planning law and 'guidance' material will become available to Purbeck – particularly as governmental guidance seems to be in a constant state of flux and our farmers need land to feed us and, not forgetting that the 'Examination in Public' would have been much easier in Poole if effective two-way consultation had been fostered by the authorities in Poole.

Purbeck Local Plan

Purbeck District Council has yet to issue their proposed Local Plan but have already generated real concerns over the nature and quality of their alleged 'consultations' to the point where we have had to submit a list of significant representations which, being unresolved, prevented any agreement with any aspect of the proposals outlined in "New homes for Purbeck". Copies of such representations are available from the writer, on request.

Both our local planning authorities have much to protect and do need to ensure the positive satisfaction of their electorates, let alone the Planning Inspectorate, but apparently Purbeck District Council continues not to understand the benefits of effective

/ well publicised two-way courteous communication. Let us hope this will change soon and well before the scheduled date (currently, late 2018) for the issue of a proposed final draft Local Plan: any reliance on public acquiescence could be unsafe/unsound in view of the long-term significance of the required planning documents.



Cattle on Knowle Hill, Purbeck, taken by Rupert Hardy

No doubt all our local readers will continue to lobby their Councillors (their elected representatives) to reinforce the efforts of our Group. It is confirmed that the whole of CPRE has a strong interest in ensuring real priority is given, on this small island, to protecting the countryside and open spaces and affected communities including the provision of adequate truly affordable housing through sound and evidence-based **local** planning – not just planning to conform with any blinkered Whitehall perceptions. Obviously "one size does not fit all." Purbeck and much of rural Dorset merits National Park status and we look forward to Natural England's further evaluation of the proposal.

Gerald Rigler
Group Chairman

HOUSES FOR RURAL WORKING PEOPLE



Completed Huff Puff House

Am I the only person to be amazed at Britain's inability to provide homes for working people? As someone who grew up on a small country estate, I remember the farm cottages attached to our farm. Like us, in the farmhouse, there were no indoor amenities, power or water, but families lived in them.

When mechanisation increased and money became tight for some landowners, post war, the cottages were sold. This short-sighted attitude has led to cottages being sold off on many farms, never to return. Today, we have farmers needing help and no one, except visiting Europeans, wanting the work. A recent poll identified less than 8% of pickers were UK nationals.

In part, I blame the education system and its short sightedness. At my 1960's secondary school, children would be punished for taking some time off for crop picking. Surely this should have been incorporated into the curriculum, not frowned upon. Farm work was not seen as a choice, but a job to do if you could get nothing else. As someone who has lambed ewes, planted corn and tended to every problem, it is not a job for the disinterested dullard. At Harper Adams University, in Shropshire, Dr Richard Byrne spoke of the need, now, to make agriculture a more attractive career. Decent housing, on site toilets and a warm staff room would be a start.

I have, since starting this article, made notes of the prices and types of non-traditional homes. The variation of house building materials I cannot believe.

Mobile homes, kit homes, wooden cabin styles and straw bale houses are truly lovely. Prices compare very favourably to brick-built houses. The stumbling block is finding a plot, which means paying a hefty premium.



Construction of the Huff Puff House

Self Build

Self Build is a fine idea. Although research at Sussex and York Universities suggests that the majority of self builders are middle aged and earn in excess of £60k. Hollow laughter from young rural couples; but couldn't they be helped quickly, before they leave the countryside forever.

The success of many housing cooperatives around the country has to be applauded. Perhaps we don't do enough cooperating in the countryside? The cooperative 'buy back' of unwanted houses seems eminently sensible. The help now available to people who can get together and self build is heartwarming. Two excellent websites that provide details on grants and assistance are:

'Self Build Portal' www.selfbuildportal.org.uk and

'Collective Custom Build' www.collectivecustombuild.org.

Straw bale house

I have, for this article, obtained photographs of a straw bale house under construction. In future articles I'll show photos of other quickly erected, superb homes. The images are from the wonderfully named, Huff Puff House, of Wareham, who design and manufacture a kit that makes it simpler for people to build their own home. More details can be found on www.huffpuffhouse.com.



The Huff Puff House uses straw as its main form of insulation, which is a sustainable, local and cheaply available material

Lack of Affordable housing

What I find reprehensible is the swallowing of fields to build huge estates of houses for those in higher income brackets. In a recent newspaper article I read that councils are not allowed to borrow money for house building. Anyone can see that private developers are not interested in anything but the bottom line. There is an ongoing problem of houses designated for lower income buyers being mysteriously spirited away for sale to the highest bidder. This is currently being investigated at a high level. Excellent farming land covered with neo Georgian (!) brick houses makes my blood boil. To call farm land, 'building land', renders me catatonic. Time for an aspirin, a weak Earl Grey and a rest!

Margaret Morgan

CPRE Member

WEST DORSET GROUP



Tractor with sticker 'STOP, Concreting the Countryside, join now, Campaign to Protect Rural England'

Our membership continues to be a worrying statistic. Because of this, in February, four of us attended "Making the Media Work for You" organized by CPRE South West Region in Taunton. It was an excellent day's presentation by Jim Hardcastle who is manager of the Mendip Hills AONB and also an expert on communications and media. He described the various tools available in some detail such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and so on; and also in which stage to use each in the process of recruiting and then retaining new members. We will be applying what we have learnt as soon as possible. Would all members please try and recruit as many new members as possible please.

Pressure on house building

These are increasingly dangerous times for the countryside. The pressure on building is immense. In March there was an annual property conference in Cannes called the Marché International des Professionnels d'Immobilier (MIPIM) where thousands of public officials from all over Europe are plied with food and drink for 4 days by property developers eager to get their hands on publicly owned assets. At last year's conference the then housing minister Gavin Barwell told the world's house builders there that, if they couldn't find enough land to build on, they could come and see him and he would try to help. He said he was there because he wanted hundreds of thousands of houses to be built. These developers have vast resources and are happy to pay expensive lawyers to fight appeals. Many councils try and avoid fighting them by passing their applications without a whimper. We have seen that here.

We do recognise the need for enough homes – but affordable ones and on non-green sites – initially at least. The problem is, as we all know, there aren't enough affordable houses being built – the main reason being that builders find them less profitable and will try to avoid building them by using so called Viability Agreements with the council – using the iniquitous Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act.

Developments

The major development on the horizon is the Littlemoor Urban Extension with 500 houses including a car showroom and a hotel amongst others – whose developer once told me that their plans would *improve* the AONB! We will be fighting this although it will be difficult. Regrettably since the last edition of the Review the Vearse Farm battle was lost despite a valiant effort by Richard Nicholls (and the group ADVEARSE). Incidentally it seems clear that the infrastructure of many of these developments is very inadequate – as a retired doctor I can see the medical services will not cope, South West Rail want to cut their services and bus services are poor to many of these places too.

Meanwhile we have been contesting various applications. These include small applications at Batcombe, Bothenhampton and Waytown (Bridport). We await the subsequent hearing concerning the proposed development of 120 houses at Charminster which was outside the

defined development boundary in a rural area. Paul attended the first meeting when the decision was deferred because the councillors wanted a site visit. We are delighted to report that the WDDC planning committee voted in April to refuse the planning application affecting Wolfeton. Simon Hickman of Historic England, made it clear that he didn't think the application in its present state was not acceptable because of its effect on the setting of Wolfeton House. We are also monitoring developments in the problem of heavy farm traffic moving huge amounts slurry around country lanes from large 'factory farms' in Dorset – damaging hedgerows and being disruptive to local people.

Paul Kelly attended the Dorset Local Nature Partnership Forum in Poole in February where he was able to network and maintain or raise awareness of CPRE amongst other attendees including the Health and Wellbeing Board, the South West Coast Path Association, and others.

AGM

The West Dorset AGM was held on March 17th at Charlton Down Village Hall and thank you very much to all who attended. However, it was clear that there is a membership crisis. We had an excellent talk from Penny Mills who works for Devon CPRE and has tremendous enthusiasm as well as some very good ideas in recruiting new members and these have worked. For example, her group have several items for sale which advertise CPRE – such as CPRE bags to use instead of plastic in supermarkets, book marks, pens and so on.



Penny Mills guest speaker at AGM held on 17th March

Guy Dickinson
Group Chairman

USEFUL APPEAL AND HIGH COURT DECISIONS

I have come across some very useful appeal and High Court decisions lately, on the location of housing developments.

In July 2017 the Court of Appeal upheld and strengthened the NPPF's Para. 14 presumption *against* sustainable development where the local planning authority could demonstrate a five-year supply and there was no other relevant deficiency in the development plan (i.e. it was not absent, silent and relevant policies were not out of date for any other reason). Full article is available on website short link <http://bit.ly/2IerSvB>.

Courts Clarify what is 'isolated' under NPPF

In November there was a High Court ruling on what is meant by "isolated" developments. The judgement distinguishes between "rural villages", "settlements" on the one hand and "the countryside" on the other. "isolated" should be given its ordinary objective meaning of "far away from other places, buildings or people; remote". Planning committees often argue that claimed economic benefits trump countryside considerations, for instance, this could have been useful in a recent Wiltshire case of a holiday homes development. More details available on website <http://bit.ly/2oZfmaq>.

Better still, especially for North Dorset, in May 2017 another appeal heard in the Supreme Court, involving Richborough Homes (see below) was heard in a case where the authority was short of a five-year supply of housing. "If the policies for the supply of housing are not to be considered as being up to date, they retain their statutory force, but the focus shifts to other material considerations. That is the point at which the wider view of the development plan policies has to be taken." Hence, the final paragraph 85 in the judgement rules that the presumption in favour of sustainable development running throughout the NPPF does not overrule general planning policy outside the NPPF, in this case, policy protecting green belts. More details available on website <http://bit.ly/2oYzpWI>.

The new NPPF has been published for consultation, please read Peter Neal's article on page 2.

Land Promoters

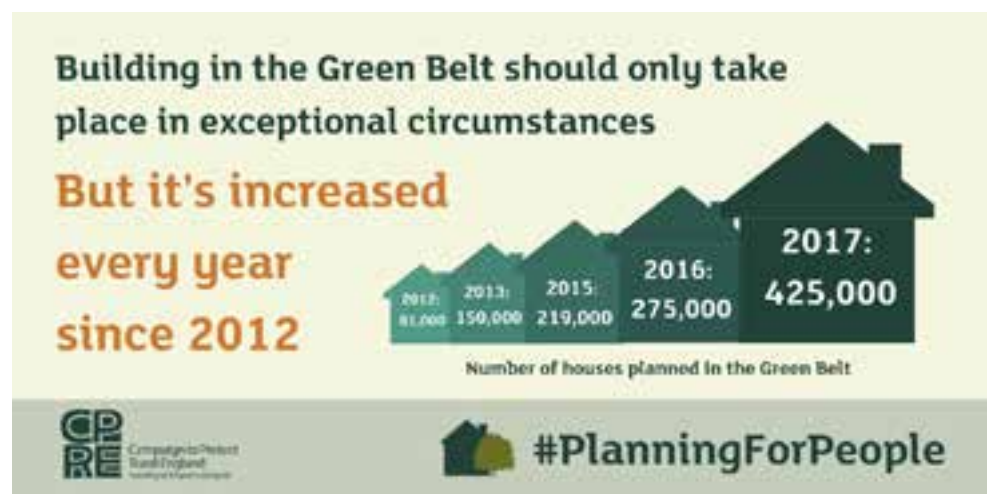
Also, the CPRE National Office has developed a briefing on "land promoters". These are businesses that "exist solely to profit from a perfect storm of a widely acknowledged housing shortage; political pressure for housebuilding of any kind; the massive unearned financial rewards landowners receive as a result of gaining planning permission; and weaknesses in the planning system." CPRE researched appeal decisions concerning four land promoters: Gallagher Estates (5 cases), Gladman Developments (140 cases),

Richborough Estates (10 cases) and Welbeck Land (9 cases). All sounds familiar? Cases were identified by searching for land promoters as appellants in the Planning Resource Compass database. Please see page 24 for more details.

Issue of openness in the Green Belt

Martin Edwards, Planning Barrister of Cornerstone Chambers, has posted this on LinkedIn about a new Green Belt case: "There is a really helpful Court of Appeal decision on the issue of openness in the Green Belt in the context of a mineral extraction site - see Samuel Smith Old Brewery (Tadcaster) v North Yorkshire CC and Darrington Quarries [2018] EWCA Civ 489. It builds on Sales LJ's ruling in Turner [2016] EWCA Civ 466 that the concept of 'openness of the Green Belt' is not narrowly limited to a volumetric approach. Lindblom LJ held that where paragraph 90 of the NPPF development is involved and is likely to have visual effects within the Green Belt, the policy implicitly requires the decision-maker to consider how those visual effects bear on the question of whether the development would 'preserve the openness of the Green Belt.' He also preferred interpreting 'preserve' to mean 'keep safe from harm' rather than merely 'maintain a state of things'. A judgment that is welcome as one of the successful appellant's pints of beer IMHO...."

Dr Suzanne Keene



Reasons we should use BROWNFIELD FIRST

2 Recycling is good!

Repurposing land is as important as recycling household waste

CPRE Campaign to Protect Rural England
#PlanningForPeople



Lavinia Phillips, Stephen Howard and Richard Norman



Cllr David Walsh who gave a talk on planning at recent North Dorset Group AGM

Five-year housing land supply

In the autumn I reported that 'The Council (North Dorset) will now have to apply the national presumption in favour of *sustainable* development', which will allow more development to take place. The change will be applied to all planning applications with immediate effect'. The Council stated that the slip in the five-year supply of housing land was beyond its control, which CPRE accepted. Housing construction and completions are driven by the market, which is depressed as a result of a sluggish national economy and uncertainty, and not by the action or inaction of the Council.

The authority no longer has the essential five-year housing land supply for controlling planning applications that are not in line with its adopted Local Plan; it now has a housing land supply of only 3.42 years. The dip in supply is attributed in part to a slow rate of housing development over recent years with only 142 homes completed last year against the annual target of 285. Unhelpfully the government has recently increased the annual housing completions target from 285 to 366 houses per annum, using a new allocation formula. This will most likely increase the annual housing shortfall unless the market picks up quickly.

Planning applications

So, what has this 'presumption' meant in practice so far and what may we expect? Two early tests have arisen in Shillingstone and in Shaftesbury. In Shillingstone an application for 10 houses on **Hine Town Lane** was refused, as being contrary to the Neighbourhood

Plan. While in Shaftesbury, a proposal for 20 houses at **Langdale Farm**, on the east of the town along Mampitts Lane, affecting the AONB on the Wiltshire border, was also refused although it has subsequently been resubmitted. These decisions were significant, suggesting that if proposals were sufficiently damaging to landscape or amenity they would still be refused. The Shillingstone refusal also demonstrated the efficacy of an adopted neighbourhood plan. That too was important as these plans take much effort to prepare and some have questioned their validity. Many people have said to me 'Is it worth all the effort?' Hopefully, yes! Presently two neighbourhood plans have been adopted so far, with 8 in the course of preparation including Gillingham.

But that is not unfortunately the end of the story. A much more significant and less favourable foretaste of the future planning outlook has recently occurred at **Stalbridge**. Three outline applications for 278 houses overall were recently considered at the Council's Development Committee and two of these were approved. In recommending approval the planning officer stated that in view of the 'presumption in favour of *sustainable* development' the proposed developments should be approved 'unless any adverse effects of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits when assessed against policies in the National Planning Framework (NPPF)'. She also said that Local Plan Policies, 2.6 and 20 were now out of date and para 14 of the NPPF would apply; these important policies covered core spatial housing strategy, housing distribution and landscape

reflectively. This effectively opens up the whole district to development with some protection remaining for AONB and settings of heritage buildings.

Outline approval covered houses at 120 **Lower Road** and 60 at **Thornhill Rd** with a requirement for a financial contribution to infrastructure and provision for 40% affordable housing. **Barrow Hill**, providing 98 houses was refused on account of its impact on neighbours and the conservation area. Concerns of town residents over road & other infrastructure inadequacies were dismissed. Interestingly a large application at Henstridge, nearby but in Somerset, had previously been refused over broadly similar concerns!

Subsequently two applications have arisen at **Fontmell Magna** for 3 and 29 houses respectively east of the A350, outside the settlement boundary and adversely affecting the Melbury to Blandford scarp and AONB. At the same time the Neighbourhood Plan has identified suitable development land elsewhere in the village. We await Council consideration of these applications with some concern.

“The presumption in favour of sustainable development will continue until the Council overcomes the shortfall in its five-year housing land supply for controlling planning applications, now of the order of 700; this will not be lightly or easily achieved.”

In Shaftesbury concerns continue over excessive housing development in and around the town. This is understandable given the sensitive setting of the town, with most areas proposed in the Local Plan for development being considered unsuitable. There is particular concern over land south of the A30 that is close to the AONB and Melbury/Cann being developed for housing.

Gillingham Southern Extension project

The Council must be commended for its imaginative Gillingham Southern Extension project for 1600 houses at Newhouse and Ham Farms, 961 houses are being proposed by Welbeck Land & 634 houses from CG Fry. This project enjoys the support of the town council and local groups following much consultation and of CPRE. The Council has achieved a £4 m government grant towards infrastructure, which is helpful; local towns generally lack adequate health, educational and transport infrastructures. However, the initial take-up by developers, and subsequent sales, have been slow and there is little the Council can do but continue to facilitate development while market conditions remain weak.

Solar Farm

A solar farm has recently been proposed at Fifehead Magdalene/Stour Provost close to the Stour, affecting sensitive locations; interestingly NDDC have decided an EIA is not required. A further possible proposal has emerged in same area at West Stour close to A30. Both developments are relatively



Garden Party on Wednesday 4 April at The Manor, Fifehead Neville

large. Motivation is not clear as viability is marginal following withdrawal of subsidies.

Local Plan

The Local Plan, following an Examination in Public (EiP) in March 2017, was last year submitted for a final round of consultation in which we contributed comments.

We shall continue to closely monitor planning applications in the villages, distinguishing between large villages, where some development is appropriate, and small villages, where only 'infill' is desirable, looking particularly at applications for larger developments, more than 5 houses.

Parties

Our parties continue and are greatly enjoyed. In September we visited the Old Rectory Ibberton through the courtesy of members, Christopher and Clare McCann, exploring and admiring their beautiful garden with its superb views of the hills. We held our Spring party at The Manor, Fifehead Neville in early April through the courtesy of Nicholas van Eek. Sadly John Schofield, who did so much to make our parties a success, providing delicious home-cooked food, died at the end of last year, more on that in a separate obituary on page 26. We owe him a great debt and will much miss his company. Fortunately and kindly Pam Rees-Boughton has stepped into the breach and provided excellent food and drinks at our autumn and spring party.

Chairman

I am stepping down as chairman after 15 years. I have been much honoured to be chairman and have hugely enjoyed it but am now feeling and looking my age! I am delighted that Rupert Hardy has consented to take over. Knowing him as I do, I can say that he has all the qualities required and more. I wish him well.

Stephen Howard
Group Chairman



Gardens at The Manor, Fifehead Neville



The Local Plan Review

Christchurch Borough Council and East Dorset District Council have begun work on a review of the Local Plan, the document which helps shape the nature of future growth and development in our local area.

The table below sets out the main stages of production for Part 2 of the Local Plan, the timetable is due to be changed soon:

Production Stage	Provisional Timetable
Initial Scoping publicity	September/October 2016
Evidence gathering and targeted consultations	September 2016 – August 2017
Public consultation on draft options	October/November 2017
Public consultation on Pre-Submission draft plan	October/November 2018
Submission of Plan to Secretary of State	January 2019
Public Examination	May – July 2019
Adoption	September 2019

The latest information we have is that this review will be of both Part 1 and Part 2, it will be part options/part draft. The Council hope to produce it in June/July. The change is due to the split from Christchurch. The Schedule will not be updated until they are more certain of dates, the old Schedule (see table above) is now obsolete.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

I responded to a consultation on the 2018 SHLAA for East Dorset. It was interesting to see that Christchurch and East Dorset had separated into their individual District/Borough. Or at least that is how I understood it. It appeared to be very thorough, we hope it is approved and adopted. The final Review is expected in May or June but I suspect that date will be pushed back. At the moment the SHLAA shows an adequate supply of land without any additional Green Belt, but that is before we have the required number of houses thrust on us. The housing numbers at the moment are based on existing Housing Market Assessments.

Planning applications

We sent a comment about proposals for change of use for The Churchill Arms in Sturminster Marshall application 3/18/0351/FUL. We believe it should remain as a public house for the local community.

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

We raised concerns about the office space. The original policy in the Core Strategy did not stipulate office space. We feel there are industrial estates at Bournemouth Airport and Ferndown with plenty of opportunities for this space. Why provide additional space when housing, or even a First School, is urgently required?

The 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. The full application must have pedestrian and cycle routes that are safe for children and families as they cross over this busy road to access green space and the SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace).

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.

The Transport Assessment recognises that the predominance of vehicles makes West Parley an unattractive place for pedestrians. They will try to alleviate this by increased pedestrian and cycle infrastructure in the new development and they will divert the bus service through it.

Cuthbury 3/16/0002/FUL: Land adjacent to Julian's Road, Cowgrove and the River Stour

I visited Wimborne Town Council in December to look at the hard copies of the amended plans.

Although the central building has been reduced in height and bulk, and also some of the other buildings too, there are still some criticisms. We raised the following objections:

The café and offices still overwhelm the frontage onto the Stour

We can understand the café being located in that position, it should serve both locals and tourists which will enhance the SANG along the Stour. It is the offices occupying such a central location which is unsightly. They could have been apartments for the local elderly and the offices buried further into the housing development where they would not be so noticeable, somewhere in the vicinity of flats 65-74 maybe.

No details on house sizes or affordable houses will be given until the viability negotiations take place

The Response to Local Planning Authority (LPA) comments raised a couple of worrying points.

It was in point 9 that the mix of size and number of bedrooms was raised. This was again approached in point 17. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Mix/Affordable Mix will also be dealt with once the viability assessment is completed and submitted to the LPA.

This is most unsatisfactory. We realise that the developer has to make a profit and his greatest profit comes from the larger 'executive housing'. However, the SHMA should reflect what is needed locally in housing sizes, and so too, the number of Affordable homes to rent (or shared equity). This housing is supposedly being built to meet local need, not just to meet the Government's housing numbers regardless of need.

Janet Healy

DECOMMISSIONING THE STEAM GENERATING HEAVY WATER REACTOR, SGHWR, AT WINFRITH



The Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor at Winfrith

The SGHWR at Magnox Winfrith is in the very large pale blue building visible from the main road between Wool and Dorchester. It has a distinctive mural with abstract curved patterns of red, yellow, white and black on its north face.

The SGHWR was built between 1963 and 1967 as a prototype power-producing water-cooled reactor to demonstrate the viability of the system. It was used primarily for research into the design and development of reactors for atomic power but it also contributed up to 100 MW to the National Grid for twenty-three years until it finally closed in 1990. Some people will remember that the adjacent cooling towers and 120 feet high ventilation stack were demolished in 1991.

Winfrith is a "Lead and Learn Site" and will be the first nuclear licensed site to be fully decommissioned and returned to an End State just as it was before the UKAEA developed the site beginning in 1957. The methods and final End State will then be used as an example for Sellafield, Dounreay and other sites to follow.

Workshop

I recently attended an all-day workshop about the decommissioning of the SGHWR at the Springfield Hotel in Wareham. Most of the SGHWR equipment has now been decommissioned and removed from the site leaving just the reactor core itself. The core is underground and is still highly radioactive and constitutes by far the greatest contribution to the Winfrith site radioactive inventory. It will be safely decommissioned and demolished inside the present building using fully remote robotic technology, and leaving a void partly filled with very low-level waste concrete about one hectare in extent and 30 metres deep.

Several speakers told us about all the technical details but it is proposed to leave most of the very low-level material where it is and to fill in the voids with rock and soil removed from the ground during the original construction together with clean building rubble from other parts of the site. The whole will be covered with an impermeable membrane and then landscaped with a generous layer of heathland soil.

There were many questions from stakeholders and others present at the meeting. We were told that it would be much more expensive to remove all the very low waste and that such a large engineering operation would have inherent safety concerns for the personnel involved.

Heathland

The site is located on Winfrith Heath, Thomas Hardy's Egdon Heath, and designated as an SSSI with a huge variety of flora and fauna ranging from rare orchids to Dartford Warblers. It will be returned to heathland with open access to the public in 2023 but radiation will be carefully monitored for many years after that. Indeed the radiation will be well below the recommended and legal limits and comparable with the natural background radiation for rural Dorset.

Dr John Larkin

Minerals and Waste Adviser to Dorset CPRE

CPRE backs 'best shop' award

Dorset CPRE is sponsoring for the fifth year the 'Best Village Shop' category in this year's Dorset Community Action Best Village Competition. Cattistock Stores won Best Dorset Village Shop 2017, but Okeford Village Shop at Okeford Fitzpaine came in as a worthy runner-up. Communities are asked to nominate the village shop which serves them best, closing date is Monday 18th June 2018. Application forms are available from www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk/dorsets-best-village-2018.



Cattistock Stores, Best Dorset Village Shop 2017

Objectives

The objects of the Branch shall be seek to improve, protect and preserve for the benefit of the public, the countryside and the market towns and rural villages of the County of Dorset. To meet this objective the charity seeks charitable donations and subscriptions from the public. The Charity is regulated by a Constitution dated 2014 and approved at the Branch AGM on 21st November 2015 and is constituted as an un-incorporated association.

Grants totalling £5,470 were paid out for the following projects:

Dorset Branch

Best Village Shop Prizes	£200
ADVEARSE Bridport Campaign	£100
Mapperton Solar Park Appeal	£2,220
Three Bird Surveys in Wool area	£300
Trees for Dorset	£200
Dorset Devils Litter Group in Bournemouth	£100
Pan Purbeck Action Campaign (PPAC)	£400

The Sherborne and District Society

Yetminster Parish Council ref development at Ryne Road	£1,000
Gryphon School Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Activities	£100
Sherborne Area Youth & Community Centre (Tinney's Youth Club) £500	
West End Community Hall, rebuild	£250

North Dorset Group

ACA A 350/A 36 alliance	£100
-------------------------	------

We set aside up to £20k per year for grants and fund requests.

Need funds for a project?

Dorset CPRE provides grants for a variety of projects. We will consider giving money to causes other than campaigns that oppose something. Suggestions include arts & crafts and replacing fingerpost signage (between £100 and £200 per request).

In the financial year 2017/18 we have paid out almost £5,000 to parish councils to assist with restoring damaged fingerpost signs. An important criterion is that the funding requests must meet our charitable objectives which are seek to improve, protect and preserve for the benefit of the public, the countryside and the market towns and rural villages of the County of Dorset.

The request may be emailed to info@dorset-cpre.org.uk or contact your local group representative listed on the back page.

A newly restored fingerpost in the Village of Melbury Abbas, North Dorset, complete with a roundel made to the original specification details. The work was carried out by craftsmen in a local forge and aided by a grant given by CPRE (North Dorset Branch) as part of their commitment to restoring traditional character to the local environment.



Melbury Abbas newly restored fingerpost



Volunteers refurbishing fingerposts in Char Valley Parish Council area

Campaign to Protect Rural England Dorset Branch

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2017

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2017 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		28,551	28,551
Activities for generating funds		2,693	2,693
Investment income	4	<u>5,983</u>	<u>5,983</u>
Total Income		<u>37,227</u>	<u>37,227</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		(21,600)	(21,600)
Other expenditure	6	<u>(10,412)</u>	<u>(10,412)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(32,012)</u>	<u>(32,012)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>4,998</u>	<u>4,998</u>
Net movement in funds		10,213	10,213
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>258,112</u>	<u>258,112</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>268,325</u></u>	<u><u>268,325</u></u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2016 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		27,059	27,059
Activities for generating funds		6,747	6,747
Investment income	4	<u>5,165</u>	<u>5,165</u>
Total Income		<u>38,971</u>	<u>38,971</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		(20,556)	(20,556)
Other expenditure	6	<u>(6,495)</u>	<u>(6,495)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(27,051)</u>	<u>(27,051)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>12,089</u>	<u>12,089</u>
Net movement in funds		24,009	24,009
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>234,103</u>	<u>234,103</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>258,112</u></u>	<u><u>258,112</u></u>

A detailed set of accounts including the Trustees Report can be found on our website and are also available on application to Linda Williams or Richard Norman.

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

The final formal public consultation on the Plan, restricted to matters of soundness and legal compliance, took place between 1 December 2017 and 31 January 2018.

We await the publication of the definitive version of the Plan and submission to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination.

Imerys Ball Clay Operations Dorset – Community Liaison Group

I attended a meeting of the Group at the Springfield Hotel in Wareham on 4 December. Imerys carried out quality monitoring in June of the Toll Bar Stream which runs from Steeple through Church Knowle and Stoborough to the River Frome. Bournemouth University did an annual survey of invertebrates in October. Imerys have made a voluntary donation of £70,000 for environmental improvements to the Stream and the general area and this work will be overseen by a Steering Group from the Dorset Wildlife Trust and the local Parish Councils.

Landscaping and planting has been completed at Old Doreys Pit and the western extension at Furzeyground will be opened up shortly. New excavations of ball clay at Trigon will require the relocation of part of the drive to Trigon House.

Six separate areas at Creech Heath managed by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, ARC, were recently enhanced and rhododendron, birch and pine trees were removed. The Furzebrook Restoration Project continues to develop rather slowly, as was expected. Arne Lagoon, the worked-out ball clay pit at Russell Quay, continues to naturalise in keeping with its surroundings.

Wytch Farm Oilfield Consultative Committee

I attended a meeting of this Committee at the Council Chamber in Westport House on 3 October. Paul Duffy has taken over from Laurent Guillon as operations manager at Wytch Farm. Production of oil and gas presently averages 15,000 boed which is rather less than last year, as expected. Perenco are trying to do more work inhouse and they have purchased a new portable drilling rig mounted on a long lorry for use at various wells as needed. A series of seismic surveys will take place later this year using new technology with less disturbance than previously to the countryside and to the local residents. Tree felling around the Gathering Station has continued and the felled areas have been mulched prior to recreating the heathland habitat.

There has been no fracking at any time at Wytch Farm and none is planned for the foreseeable future. The oil and gas here are situated in a type of rock where water injection and other methods are used for extraction but any sort of fracking is unnecessary.

Wytch Farm Landscape and Access Enhancement Fund

Funds totalling £1.7 million have been allocated to improve the environment around the Purbeck oilfield. Applications are now invited from landowners, conservation and community groups and individuals for projects which enhance the landscape, biodiversity or access within the boundaries of the scheme. For more information contact Alison Turnock at Purbeck District Council.

Pre Submission Draft Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Plan

The final formal public consultation on the Plan, restricted to matters of soundness and legal compliance, took place between 1 December 2017 and 31 January 2018.

We await the publication of the definitive version of the Plan and submission to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination.

Slim Your Bins

Dorset Waste Partnership are presently running a campaign to reduce waste. Their Handy Guide shows a variety of ways to reduce waste by buying less, wasting less food, composting more, and especially by buying all sorts of things with less packaging.

Litter Free Dorset

I attended a meeting of the Litter Free Dorset Working Group at West Moors Middle School on 20 September. I spoke about the work of a variety of CPRE groups who are involved in litter collections in various parts of Dorset. We also heard from Bridget Mayes who has organised litter picking throughout the Isle of Purbeck and from several other groups in different parts of the County.

The Bin Your Butt campaign with portable stubby bins, provided by CPRE, for cigarette butts has taken place in Dorchester, Ferndown, Swanage and elsewhere. Details on current projects, community groups and organised events are available on their new website www.litterfreedorset.co.uk.

Winfrith Site Stakeholder Group

I attended a meeting of the Group at Winfrith Newburgh village hall on 2 November. The revised Parent Body Contract for the twelve Magnox sites will end on 31 August 2019. After that there will be different milestones and incentive agreements with the new Parent Body but it is expected that the Interim End State of the Winfrith site will still be achieved in 2023. The Active Liquid Effluent System, ALES, which deals with all the active and non-active wastes will be disconnected shortly prior to decommissioning and a new foul water drain will be connected to Wessex Water's system.

We were given a detailed description of the imminent decommissioning of the SGHWR reactor. The dismantling of the highly radioactive components will involve heavy engineering entirely under remote control. They will be cut into pieces and stowed in six-cubic-metre stainless steel boxes which will then be filled with cement. Each box will weigh about 35 tons and will be sent to Harwell for transmission to Cumbria and eventually to the Geological Underground Storage Facility.

Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone

The Dorset Innovation Park at Winfrith Newburgh was formally launched at the beginning of February. Businesses locating to the new Park will benefit from five years business rate relief, access to ultrafast broadband, and simplified planning processes. The wider Dorset Green site is being marketed for employment purposes by the Home Communities Agency. QinetiQ and Atlas Electronic UK have been there for some while and it is hoped to attract new businesses and eventually up to 2000 workers to the Park.

iCoast

This is an interactive website for visitors to the Dorset coast with information about a variety of coastal activities, shops, tides, weather and car parks. I attended a Workshop on 7 February at the National Sailing Academy at Portland to discuss how this could be upgraded and expanded over a wider area to meet the needs of local businesses. We had detailed discussions about the website, about how to cater for customers and about how to look after the businesses.

Renewable Energy in Purbeck

There is no further news about the proposed Alaska wind turbines in Puddletown Road.

The 25 Year Environment Plan

The CPRE is delighted at the Government's commitment to improving the environment shown in the 25 Year Plan which was launched on 11 January. The Plan will see the Government taking measures to improve National Parks, Green Belts and the wider landscape, and much else. However, the present Government does seem to be telling future Governments what to do. There are few firm dates for the proposals and even less discussion about the necessary funding.



Dorset and East Devon World Heritage Site (WHS)

I attended an excellent talk at the Dorset County Museum on 13 September where Dr Sam Rose, CEO of the Jurassic Coast Trust (JCT), told how he and his team from Dorset County Council have moved to the Trust to continue to run the WHS. Dorset County Council will provide the necessary funds for the first three years but then the JCT will obtain most of its money from the Heritage Lottery Fund and elsewhere. Dr Rose described some of the present and future plans for extending the work of the WHS and its involvement with the communities all along the coast.

The Journey

The Jurassic team has joined with biodiversity project MEMO to create a new museum at the Albion stone mine on the Isle of Portland to celebrate the geological heritage of the Jurassic Coast. The Project has received £50,000 in funding from Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Dorset LEP, Dorset County Council, and private benefactors. It will be led by Sir Tim Smit from the Eden Project in Cornwall. A planning application for this new venture is expected shortly.

Dorset Local Nature Partnership

I was unable to attend the Annual Forum of the Partnership on 21 February where six speakers talked about "Delivering the 25 Year Environment Plan in Dorset". Dr Paul Kelly, Dorset CPRE Vice-Chair of Trustees, attended.

Keep Brittan Tidy

Many Great British Spring Clean events, due to take place on 2 to 4 March, had to be re-scheduled due to the adverse weather.

The Great Dorset Beach Clean

This took place on 21 to 22 April this year. Volunteer groups assembled at nearly all the public beaches in Dorset

Dorset AONB Annual Forum: Views on Your Landscape

I attended this meeting at Wareham on 21 March which reviewed and refreshed the Five Year Dorset AONB Management Plan. There will be a formal twelve-week consultation on the draft Plan from mid-August to mid-October.

Dorset and East Devon World Heritage Site

Sleepovers at the Dorset County Museum on 17 February and 7 April with "Dippy" the diplodocus from the Natural History Museum raised funds for the Jurassic Coast Trust who now manage the World Heritage Site.

Arne Moors Intertidal Nature Reserve

This proposed Reserve at RSPB Arne will provide much improved facilities for many species of wading birds and marshland flora. The present sea wall near the River Frome will be breached to establish an extensive intertidal reserve with a new sea wall adjacent to the Arne Road. The Environment Agency, the RSPB and Natural England will carry out a detailed hydrological survey of the area with double high tides and a high water table. They have promised not to proceed with the Project if there is a risk of increased water levels in Ridge or elsewhere.

Dr John Larkin

Minerals and Waste Adviser to Dorset CPRE

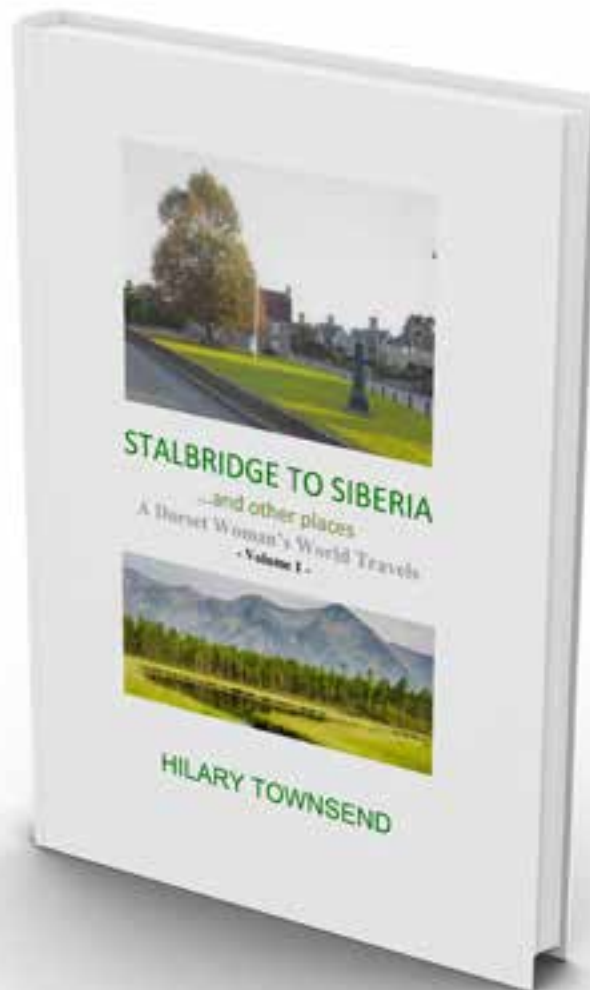
FROM STALBRIDGE TO SIBERIA BY HILARY TOWNSEND

Hilary Townsend, from an old Dorset family of yeoman farmers, was born and brought up in the Blackmore Vale. She longed to travel, and her school at Gillingham inspired her; but she had no opportunities. Then, suddenly, she was asked to join a school party to France in 1948. From that time the world was open to her. Friends were recruited as travel companions –and she also made friends worldwide.

From the years when two young women travelling alone was somewhat unusual, to more modern times, she has travelled extensively. Initially, this was around Europe, then to New Zealand and Brunei before achieving a lifelong dream of crossing Siberia, going on to Beijing. Her latest book 'From Stalbridge to Siberia' (ISBN 978-0-9505048-0-3) recounts the memories and the joy she has found in her travels over the course of some 70 years.

For many years now, she has set off on her travels from her unusual home in the town of Stalbridge. The long struggle to restore and maintain her acclaimed mediaeval-Elizabethan house is entertainingly described in her previous book *Silk Hay: One Woman's Fight for Architectural Heritage*. Hilary, a long standing CPRE member, is also the author of two other books about the area that she loves – *The Blackmore Vale* and *A Blackmore Vale Childhood*.

A second volume of her travels – including expeditions to Pitcairn Island, Ester Island St Helena, Nepal and Antarctica – is now planned.



STEPHEN HOWARD'S RETIREMENT

Stephen's retirement marks the end of 15 years at the helm of the North Dorset Group of CPRE. He leaves behind a strong record of success, and that excludes his major contribution to the Dorset Branch.

We have been lucky to have him at North Dorset as he actually lives just over the border in Wiltshire. He has always been interested in transport from his days working at British Rail. Notable planning successes included stopping the Lower Winterborne and Blandford Hill wind farms, as well as the Crown Meadows housing development in Blandford, working with strong action groups. In other cases North Dorset's submissions may not have won the day but they undoubtedly

were actively considered when the council set out to mitigate a development's adverse impact. Anyway campaign successes are only part of the role.

Stephen has had a very good working relationship with North Dorset District Council, providing sage advice, as well as input on the Local Plans. He is a great networker and tireless enthusiast for CPRE, happily talking to the media. He has brought in many new members and volunteers, by dint of his enthusiasm and gentle persuasion. One important innovation was to set up a Planning Monitoring Group to cover all the villages. He enjoys the social side and has organised many memorable parties over the years.

Anyway he has always shown a huge love for North Dorset and walking over its magical and still relatively unspoilt countryside. We thank and wish him well, but he is not really leaving us as he has promised to stay on as President.

Rupert Hardy



Crown Meadows party

LITTER CAMPAIGNS

Litter Free Dorset

We attended the recent working group meeting. Following the success of the #BinyourButt campaign, LFD have been working hard putting together the next Litter Free Dorset campaign that focuses on roadside litter.

Local Bridport artist Claire Nuttall, has created 3 cut out creatures. With the help of Dorset County Council's Landscape team, they have erected three signs around the county – a giant heart, an over-sized stag beetle, and a larger than life hedgehog. You may have spotted the sign along the Weymouth relief road – the amazing Hedgehog. The fierce Stag beetle was on the A354 heading up towards Blandford Forum and the Beautiful Red Heart with flowers & bees on the West Moors Road at Ferndown. These giant creatures will be moved around the county to remind people to take their litter home as part of the #loveYourVerge campaign – see picture below.

LFD work with a number of different community groups across the county. They run preventative campaigns, helping their communities learn how to stop waste becoming litter in the first place. Some work in a group, others work individually on a specific project, fitting in their volunteering around their other work, study or home commitments.

Whatever your situation, there are aspects of volunteering you can take part in to support the Litter Free Dorset cause, and they are very grateful for all that these community groups and volunteers do.

You can find Litter Free Dorset and a litter pick calendar on social media:

- Twitter @LitterFreeDrst
- Facebook Litter Free Dorset
- Website www.litterfreedorset.co.uk



West Stafford Bypass with Hedgehog

CPRE delighted by deposit return announcement

CPRE wholeheartedly congratulates the Government on its decision to introduce a nationwide deposit return system (DRS) for plastic and glass bottles, as well as aluminium cans. The introduction will help boost recycling rates and combat the plague of litter blighting our countryside. This is a watershed moment for recycling in the UK, given that similar systems around the world produce extremely high results.



Nathan and Noah with Peter Ryan, Dorset Devils, after receiving their litter pickers

The long-awaited decision came following a call for evidence in October last year which investigated how the littering of plastic, metal and glass drinks containers could be reduced, as well as the recycling of them increased. The evidence submitted was examined by retail giants such as Coca-Cola and Tesco, alongside other members of the Voluntary and Economic Incentives Working Group, for which CPRE provided the Secretariat.

CPRE has campaigned for the introduction of a DRS for 10 years, and are absolutely delighted by the announcement. There has been increasing pressure from environmental organisations, the media and the public for more action to be taken against the tide of waste that is polluting our natural environments – with single-use drinks containers being a huge contributor.

Bill Bryson, author and former President of the CPRE said: "I wholeheartedly congratulate Michael Gove for his wisdom in finally accepting the case for a deposit return system in the UK – I never thought I would see this in my lifetime. Future generations will look back on this decision as a piece of supremely enlightened policymaking, and one that raises the prospect of the world's most beautiful country becoming free from drinks container litter at last. My most profound gratitude goes to the tireless campaigners and heroic litter pickers of CPRE who, for the past decade, have kept the issue alive in the minds of our politicians, press and public."



Bill Bryson, author and former President of the CPRE

Sky Lantern and Balloon Release Charter

Dorset CPRE have signed up the Dorset Sky Lanterns and Balloon Release Charter. We are committed to encouraging Dorset communities to switch to alternative ways of celebrating and commemorating events, rather than using balloon or lantern releases. You can find more details on www.litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/sky-lantern-and-balloon-release-charter.

Councillors at Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, West Dorset District Council and North Dorset District Council recently voted to ban the release of balloons and lanterns from council property and land.

CPRE RECENT PUBLICATIONS

CPRE National Office publishes a number of reports based on detailed research. Here is a summary of the most recent reports that can be found on CPRE Resources webpage www.cpre.org.uk/resources:

How 'land promoters' exploit legal loopholes at the expense of communities and the countryside

This short briefing sheds some light onto how self-styled 'land promoters' make lucrative profits by exploiting the planning system and working against local wishes.

Land promoters persuade landowners to allow them to pursue planning permission on their land for a share in the profits once it is sold on for development.

Communities welcome good development that follows local and neighbourhood plans, but land promoters actively work against local wishes for the sake of their own profit. National planning policy allows and even encourages land promoters to do this through loopholes in the NPPF.

CPRE undertook analysis of appeal decisions concerning four land promoters, between 1 April 2012 and 31 August 2017. It shows that even in cases where local authorities had an up to date five-year housing land supply, one in three cases are approved.

In the majority of these cases, land promoters sought to undermine authorities further by openly challenging authorities' housing land supply. This, and other forms of speculative development, have lost communities' faith in the planning system.

State of Brownfield 2018

An analysis demonstrating the potential of brownfield land for housing

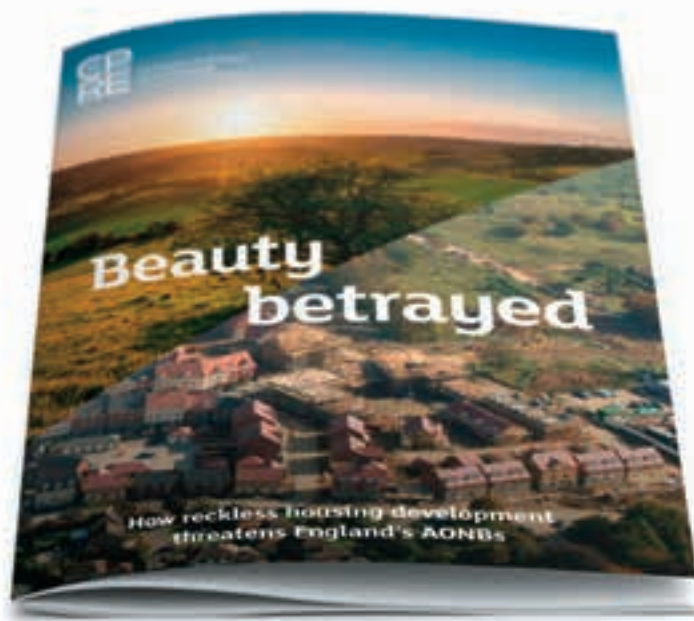
We have long campaigned for prioritising the use of brownfield land for housing because we believe it stops the waste of precious countryside.

This research examines new brownfield registers, published by 320 local planning authorities in England.

It follows previous work from CPRE, including "From Wasted Space to Living Spaces" in 2014 and brownfield housing capacity research in 2016, which has consistently demonstrated that there is sufficient suitable brownfield land currently available for more than 1 million homes.

This report shows that local planning authorities have identified more brownfield land with space for more than 1 million homes, and that there is brownfield land in places where people want to live.

If this land is used more efficiently, the sites could deliver even more homes – preventing the unnecessary loss of countryside and green spaces.



Beauty betrayed

How reckless housing development threatens England's AONBs

This research has been carried out by a group of independent consultants commissioned by CPRE to investigate the impact of major housing development on England's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty since the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework in 2012. Using data from planning consultants Glenigan on applications for developments of ten or more houses within and near to AONBs, the findings show that such schemes pose a significant threat to the beauty and character of our finest landscapes.

Beauty betrayed is CPRE's summary of the full research report *An Independent Review of Housing In England's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty 2012-2017* prepared by David Dixon, Neil Sinden and Tim Crabtree.

Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places consultation

In November CPRE published its response to the Department for Communities and Local Government consultation on Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places.

Raynsford Review's Call for Evidence

The Raynsford Review is carrying out an appraisal of the kind of planning system that England needs. It aims to identify how the Government can reform the English planning system to make it fairer, better resourced and capable of producing quality outcomes, while still encouraging the production of new homes.

CPRE have responded to a call of evidence and submitted a response to each of the six themes. Evidence will continue to be collected and examined, with a report presented at all major party conferences in autumn 2018.



CPRE AWARDS

At Dorset CPRE we are fortunate to have fantastic volunteers who help us with completing consultations, respond to planning applications, assist with recruitment and campaigning to name a few.

On 26th January Peter Neal and John Larkin visited Mrs Jean King to present to her the CPRE Outstanding Contribution award for David King, her late husband. David passed away before he could receive the award for his long standing commitment to the Branch, including his years as a Waste Adviser, and his role as Chair of the Purbeck and Poole Group Committee. David's countryside medal and award certificate are now on display at the Corfe Castle Museum.

Types of award

Name of Award	What is it?	Who's it for?	Examples
Positive Contribution	Certificate – individually signed by CPRE NO Chair of Trustees, Su Sayer	Anyone who has made a positive contribution to Dorset CPRE	For any effort or task that has helped Dorset CPRE from envelope stuffing, assisting at events and committee meetings.
Made a Difference	Certificate – individually signed by CPRE NO Chair of Trustees, Su Sayer	Anyone who has enhanced Dorset CPRE for the long-term	For any effort or task that has been implemented and has a long-term benefit to the Branch.
Length of Service	CPRE Medal (engraved by national office) (plus certificate) <i>10 years = Medal + Certificate</i>	Anyone who has volunteered with Dorset CPRE for 10 years and over.	Time dependent but it can be over a continuous stretch of time or for those volunteers who have been helping on-off for a longer period.
Outstanding Contribution	CPRE Medal (engraved by national office) plus certificate	Anyone within Dorset CPRE who has made an outstanding contribution – with a tangible outcome – to the overall cause of CPRE	This would be a one-off award to the person being nominated and is open to anyone who has made an impact in campaigning for a beautiful and living countryside. They could have single-handedly fought off a potentially-devastating planning application or they could be a keen campaigner etc. The contribution needs to be measurable in some way.
Lifetime Achievement	CPRE Medal (engraved by national office) plus certificate	A one-off award for someone who has worked tirelessly for CPRE over many years.	This is similar to the Outstanding Contribution but is an opportunity to recognise someone whose outstanding contribution has been stretched over years of dedicated service to CPRE.

The process

Please provide the name of the volunteer(s), which type of award you would like them to receive and the reasons for the award.

The closing date for nominations is 2nd September 2018. They can be made through your local district group or direct to Dorset CPRE by email info@dorset-cpre.org.uk. The Trustees will review all nominations received when they meet on 7th September. The awards will be presented on 17th November at the Branch AGM.

DORSET COAST FORUM ANNUAL MEETING

I attended the Annual Meeting at the Poole Harbour Commissioners on 9 November. A number of speakers told us about a wide variety of activities along the Dorset coast but I will just describe some of the highlights.

Portland Harbour

Ian McQuade talked about the cruise tourism at Portland. The harbour has a good depth for large cruise ships and is readily accessible from the English Channel. There were 26 visits in 2017 with 35,000 passengers and these numbers are expected to increase substantially in the next few years. The passengers are welcomed by the Town Crier and by a three gun salute from Nothe Fort and they then visit Stonehenge, Bath, Salisbury Cathedral or local attractions such as Lulworth, Charmouth or Steve Etches museum.

South West Coast Path

Esther Pearson briefly described the development of the old coastguards watch path to the present National Trail from Poole Harbour to Minehead. The bad weather during the 2012/3

and 2013/4 winters caused much damage and closure of the Path in fifty different places but this has now all been repaired. The Path will be improved again with more space and better access as part of the All England Coast Path by 2020. Visitors presently spend £500 million/year and support 11,000 jobs.

Colter Drilling Operation

Donal O'Driscoll said that his Company proposed to do some test drilling for oil and gas in the Spring of 2018 six kilometres west of Old Harry Rocks and seven kilometres south of Bournemouth. This work will last about 45 days and the drilling rig will be 90 – 120 metres high.

The day ended with a site visit where we saw some of the new developments at the Poole Harbour Port. A new 200 metre quay was under construction and will be able to accommodate the 25 big cruise ships which are expected during the season later this year.

Dr John Larkin

Dorset CPRE Representative at the Dorset Coast Forum

OBITUARY

The Rev John Schofield (1929–2017)

John was my predecessor as chairman of North Dorset CPRE and a familiar figure at our parties but he was much more than that, being at the centre of village life in Cann/Melbury Abbas and indeed far beyond. He read history and then theology at university, where he was a keen oarsman, subsequently training for the priesthood. His ministry was long and varied, commencing in Blaydon on Tyne, it took him to East Africa and Australia. He taught for many years at St Paul's Boys School in London and retired to Foots Hill, Cann, where sadly his wife died soon after their arrival in Dorset. In retirement he was Chairman of the Friends of the Elderly and other local charities and importantly continued to take services in churches around Shaftesbury, where the quality of his sermons was legendary. He made many friends who appreciated his wit and wisdom. The church of St Mary's, Compton Abbas was full and overflowing at his funeral in late December.

John had written an 'Apologia' for his ministry. Despite its self-deprecating humour which all present knew so well, he reflected on questions of ministry, faith and our purpose on this earth. It demonstrated John's profound belief that (to quote), 'as St Paul said, nothing we do for God is ever lost or ever wasted'.

He will be very much missed.

Stephen Howard



LEAVING A LEGACY

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



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.

DORSET CPRE MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS — Since September 2017

North Dorset:

Mrs Anna Grant
Dr Richard Tippins
Mr William Kenealy
Mr Christopher Gale

Purbeck & Poole:

Mr Nick Boulter

The Sherborne and District Society:

Mrs Janet Hummer
Mr S Crozier and Dr L Grainger
Mr Fisher & Lord Allen of Kensington
Mrs Fiona Smythe
Mrs & Mr Selby
Mr Michael Neale
Esq. & Mrs Jaggard

West Dorset:

Ms Jane Smallman
Mr Glenn Bishop

Outside Dorset:

Mr Tom Flood

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

DECEASED MEMBERS

North Dorset:

Mrs Fiona Felton
Reverend John Schofield (see obituary)

The Sherborne and District Society:

Ms Margaret Chambers
Mr Charles Barker Bennett
Mr J A Nutt

West Dorset:

Ms Elma Wyatt
Sir David Ford
Mr A Buck
Ms EK Goodchild
Reverend G Blacktop
Mr James Harding

Outside Dorset:

Mr Mike Longstaffe

DIARY DATES

30th May –

Visit to The Dairy Farm at Osborne, Sherborne, commencing at 11.00 am.

5th July –

Forde Abbey, House Tour and Gardens, please return enclosed booking form

2nd November –

Dinner at Sherborne Golf Club, 7.30 pm – Guest Speaker (theatre work permitting) Edward Fox.

17th November –

AGM, 11 am at Cerne Abbas Village Hall.
Please visit the Dorset CPRE website for 2018 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. 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 (see article on page 4)
- 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 SECRETARY

Mrs Linda Williams

Executive Committee & Trustees 2018

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 Paul Kelly

01305 814711

8 Stottingway Street, Upwey, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5QA

Dr Guy Dickinson

07747 776580

1 Beech Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5NP

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

CHAIR OF COUNTRYSIDE FORUM

John Holiday

01258 817796

Hill Farm, Woolland, Blandford Forum DT11 0ER

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

01258 483460

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 CPRE Dorset. 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