



The countryside charity
North and East Yorkshire

Local CPRE newsletter

Newsletter | Annual 2023



Looking Back on 2022 - 2023

CPRE is 'The countryside charity' that campaigns to promote, enhance and protect the countryside for everyone's benefit, wherever they live.

Welcome to our annual newsletter! 2023 has been an exciting year for our charity, with changes to our team locally and at the National Charity. These changes have enabled the overall charity to consider the future direction and focus of the charity for the next few years.

Earlier this year, we unfortunately lost two of our valued Trustees to new professional opportunities which meant their capacity for voluntary contributions became understandably much reduced. We thank both Christian Mackintosh and Rosy Easton for all their hard work for the charity and wish them well with their respective careers in Germany and at the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

We are delighted, however, to welcome Sally Learoyd, Julie Chapman and Charles Rowett to the Trustee team, all of whom widen our existing skillset bringing years of professionalism and experience between them to the governance and running of the charity. You can read more about them on our Trustees page.

We have been able to continue with our aim of protecting and enhancing the countryside of our precious area through our planning work and have responded to circa 60 planning consultations (including policy, applications and appeals) and requests for help from our members since our last AGM.

We have seen a huge increase in large-scale solar farm applications across our area, particularly on our most valuable agricultural land. For clarity, CPRENEY does not object to the generation of renewable energy by solar arrays and consider that the generation and supply of low carbon energy will be core to achieving the UK goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 or earlier. However, we will only support solar developments which have local community support, minimise their impact on agricultural land/heritage assets/landscapes, are on rooftops and/or previously developed land, or suitable commercial sites.

Our extended area of benefit has brought us into contact with more of our members in East Riding and Teeside as we have worked together to campaign for appropriate development in the most appropriate places and we look forward to meeting more of you in the coming year.

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continued support which allows us to continue our vital work on behalf of the charity.

Chairman's Report

It's my pleasure to welcome all our old and new members to our annual newsletter. I do hope you can get along to our AGM, which this year is being held in York, a great excuse to get out and about and catch up with the movement and meet everyone.

These years seem to be passing more quickly than they used to! Its difficult to believe we are more than a year into the reign of King Charles and we still havent resolved who will be our new Patron since the sad loss of Queen Elizabeth. Hopefully this will be finalised in time to celebrate our centenary in a couple of years time.

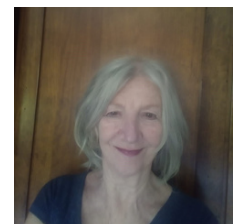
This year has been a challenging one for everyone, and second guessing what new challenges are lurking around the corner is impossible to attempt. At least we are lucky to live in this wonderful part of Britain, with the North Yorkshire Moors and the Yorkshire Dales National Parks and the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Nidderdale and the Howardian Hills (not forgetting those sneaky corners of the Forest of Bowland and the North Pennines) all still safe as Protected Landscapes. We have no progress to report on the designation of the Yorkshire Wolds as yet, but that is hardly surprising given the varying economics and political desire.

We continue to try to influence just how important nature is, and how we all need to be able to access and enjoy it. We are doing our best to place location, and scale and size at the heart of future developments, in our ever growing world. Into that mix the cost of living crisis, new licences for fossil fuel sites, relaxing the rules for housebuilders on nutrient neutrality for water courses, ongoing water quality issues and sheer numbers of out spills recorded, the

Levelling Up programme and the state of the crumbling infrastructure according to RAAC leaves few options for positivity.

However, we are ever hopeful, so its great to see the Climate Change Agenda being raised and to be able to report that we have some positive developments to report, later in this update. Fantastic news that the Hedgerow Campaign has been so well received and the Solar Rooftop Campaign is gaining traction. Wouldn't it be great to see all new housing estates and massive Big Sheds, as standard, having solar panels? We are delighted that the House of Lords has voted through the amendment to ensure the new National Development Management Strategies have both public and parliamentary input into new national planning policies, so local democracy still has a voice.

I hope you have all seen some of the amazing illuminations of the Aurora recently, so many people have been able to see this phenomena close to home. Lots of people have contributed to this years Star Count, the Dark Skies Campaign, we know how important these natural phenomena are to our health and well being. Have a great autumn, make the most of our colourful leafy countryside and fading heathery moorlands. Stay healthy and safe.



Jan Arger
Chairman of
CPRENEY

Keeping you informed

As a member, are you receiving out quarterly e-Newsletter?

Our e-Newsletters provide the latest updates on our campaigns throughout North and East Yorkshire. If you're not currently receiving these newsletters, please reach out to Fran by sending an email with your email address to info@cpreney.org.uk. Alternatively, you can sign up for our newsletters on our website or by scanning the QR code.

Remember, you can easily unsubscribe at any time if you no longer wish to receive our updates. Thank you for your interest in staying informed about our work in North and East Yorkshire.



Just what do trustees do?

Our Trustee Board continues to meet every three months to ensure all decisions taken by the charity fulfil or work towards our charitable objectives.

Trustees manage the day-to-day operations and future plans of the charity. Trustees liaise with other interested groups and the public to ensure help is given when needed. All Trustees are volunteers who give freely of their time to manage this outstanding charity.

It's a full-time job without the financial reward, however, just one letter from a member of the public who writes thanking us for helping them makes it all worthwhile.

Therefore, a large and heartfelt 'thank you' to all the people who've taken the time to write to us this past year.

Our charitable objectives are: to protect and enhance North and East Yorkshire's landscape and countryside.

To meet this objective, our work often includes campaigning for the right development in the right locations, objecting when necessary and supporting well-thought out and sustainable designs.

Our particular areas of focus include protecting and enhancing our nationally designated and equally important non-designated landscapes; sites of nature conservation interest – including ones of local, national and international importance; sites of historical and cultural importance; our beautiful coastline; the setting and character of settlements; areas of dark skies; tranquil areas; farming and forestry; rural communities; village greens and local greenspace; grass verges and hedgerows; and open spaces within built-up areas.

CPRE North and East Yorkshire administration covers the areas of North and East Yorkshire boundaries – all 5366 square miles – from South of the River Tees to Goole, to Bentham, to Flamborough Headland.

We are the only part of the CPRE Network to have 2 National Parks, 4 AONBs, 3 Greenbelts and 3 Heritage Coast to protect and enhance!

Our Area of Benefit extends to:

National Parks:

North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB): Howardian Hills AONB; Nidderdale AONB; Forest of Bowland AONB; 2.6km of North Pennines AONB (which extends to 2 fields and trees – but they're still ours!)

Heritage Coast:

North Yorkshire and Cleveland, Flamborough Head, Spurn Point.

Green Belts:

Harrogate, York and parts of the South and West Yorkshire Local Authority Areas:

City of York; East Riding of Yorkshire; Kingston upon Hull, Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire Council (all former district council areas - apart from York City) Redcar & Cleveland; Stockton on Tees (south of the River)

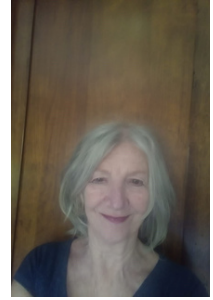
Plus 'North Yorkshire' and 'Hull and East Riding' Minerals and Waste Authorities



Our Trustees

Jan Arger, Chairman

Jan has been involved with CPRE for many years in the Northeast, at branch and regional level and nationally as a Board Member, with a specific interest in Green Belt, Dark Skies and Tranquility. Jan appreciates wild spaces and good quality-built environments and understands rural isolation and inner-city problems. She also has a passion for reading Terry Pratchett books, heritage, travel and cheese.



Katie Atkinson, Vice- Chairman and Planning Lead

Katie used to work for the old regional structure of CPRE in Yorkshire & Humber and was employed by the National Charity, so knows our organisation well. We were fortunate to persuade her to become a trustee in 2018 when we restructured as Katie brings a wealth of planning expertise to the Board. Katie lived in the Ryedale area for 10 years before moving to our beautiful coastline. She has two young boys and manages to balance trustee work with a busy schedule!

Clair Jones, Treasurer

Clair grew up in the North East of England. Trained as an accountant, she has spent most of her career overseas, working with various humanitarian international organisations. She is now looking forward to re-discovering the North Yorkshire countryside from Richmond where she has made her permanent home – and also exploring how she can contribute to CPRENY's financial management and strategic plans for the future.



Ron Healey, Infrastructure Lead

Ron has forty years of experience and commitment to CPRE North and Yorkshire in various guises. Ron's knowledge of rural transport, minerals and waste and all issues York & Selby is second to none. Ron is our voice of reason, common sense and fair play. Ron was awarded a national CPRE award in 2019 for outstanding commitment to CPRE

Dr Morris Charlton – Dark Skies Lead

Morris is a new Trustee for the Charity with his focus area being Dark Skies, although he knows a bit about everything! When he moved back to Yorkshire he settled in the West of the County near Skipton. Great access to Malham and the Dales. Morris spent a number of years with the military as a regular and also as a specialist reservist. On leaving the military, he became a Headteacher focussed on SEMH as it is now called, moving through to work in Inspectorate. He now has his own business carrying out specialist ecological / environmental / safety taskings. Morris is currently contracted to a number of government departments working on C-19 and Brexit issues. His principal areas of academic study and lecturing are specialist ecology, history and crisis management. He is attached to and lectures at a number of universities. Morris is a Trustee of a number of military and environmental charities. He hopes to bring his experience and what expertise he has to support CPRENY over the next few what are likely to be challenging years



Our Trustees



Charles Rowett - Membership Lead

Charles has enjoyed a successful career as a professional CEO and director of various businesses and charities across the UK. Having recently settled back in North Yorkshire, he has taken on various charitable and voluntary roles including becoming a new trustee for CPRENEY. Charles has a keen interest in the countryside and rural life and is looking forward to using his experience to further develop our strategic plans and help expand our reach and membership throughout the region.

Julie Chapman - Events Lead

Julie grew up on the outskirts of North Yorkshire and worked in Local Government for a number of years before moving into the Private Sector in several Executive positions. In 2019 Julie finally started her life long ambition of working within nature and our countryside. Julie embarked on a business venture with a like minded colleague called 'Nature to your Home' to provide a precious connection to our natural world everyday and to develop a greater love for our Countryside.

Julie has a wealth of experience in organisational and project management, retail and craft events. We look forward to working with Julie and supporting her to organise events to help make our countryside a better place for everyone to live, work and enjoy.



Sally Learoyd - Climate Change Lead



Sally grew up in East Yorkshire and, after a number of years working in the South and London, has recently returned to her home county to live and work from her new base in Richmond, North Yorkshire. Sally enjoyed a 20-year employed career as Human Resources Director, successfully delivering change programmes in organisations and strengthening employer engagement with staff. She now runs a coaching services business focused on helping managers develop their leadership skills and confidence. Sally is a keen walker and loves nothing more than a walk in the Dales with her husband. And she relishes a challenge having taken on the Coast to Coast walk on her own in 2022, with more solo walking challenges in the offing! Sally is a passionate believer in our capacity as human beings for change including to slow the progress of climate change so people can once again live in harmony with nature. So we are delighted that Sally has chosen to bring her skills and energy to the climate change agenda for CPRE



Our Volunteers

Every volunteer makes a difference to the countryside we feel so passionate about, and we value their contribution enormously. We couldn't do what we do without the support of our amazing trustees and volunteers. Our Trustees and volunteers have been instrumental to our success and with your support we can achieve even more.

Together, with your continued support, we can pave the way for even greater achievements on behalf of our beloved landscape.

Our volunteers are the heartbeat of our organization, and their contributions are nothing short of invaluable. Their enthusiasm is infectious, inspiring more people to become stewards of our rural landscapes.

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of their work. Their contributions remind us that positive change begins with the collective efforts of individuals who believe in a cause and are willing to take action.

Today and every day, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers. Together, we are not just preserving our countryside; we are shaping a brighter future for all who call it home. For that, we thank you.

Our volunteers are:

- John Bleakley - Photographer
- Teresa Andow - Community Engagement Co-ordinator
- Marshall Best - Assistant Planning Volunteer
- Aniket Shinde - Assistant Planning Volunteer
- Rumana Yasmin - Specialist Advisor
- Illiya Vjestica - Specialist Advisor
- Gill Sullivan - Volunteer Helper
- Hannah Murphy - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Frances Meegan - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Kirsten Matthews - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Carolina De la Torre Martinez - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Jenny Pollex - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Milly Metcalfe - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Sarah Hewison - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer
- Rosalind Cooper - Climate Change Researcher Volunteer

Join our team

Trustee

If you are interested in being a charitable trustee, then we would love to hear from you as we are keen to diversify and rejuvenate our team at CPRE North and East Yorkshire.

Contact info@cpreney.org.uk

Volunteers

By becoming a volunteer with us you'll be part of a friendly team of like-minded people. You'll gain new skills, and we'll give you the training you may need for your volunteering role. You can join in with our social events, attend workshops and take part in our annual national conference. We have several roles that you could join in with or even create your own role if you think it may benefit the charity – pitch us the idea! See our website for more information on voluntary roles



Unique, Beautiful, Essential, Precious [t

Thank you for helping to
protect it!

As a member of CPRE North and East Yorkshire, you're strengthening our fight for a better future for the English countryside.

Every year a little more of our beloved countryside is lost forever to urban sprawl, new roads, new housing and other developments. Rural shops are closing and increasingly intensive farming practices are changing the character of the landscape. But by acting together we can save it!

Your support helps us to stand up for the countryside: to protect it from the threats it faces and to shape its future for the better. It's what CPRE have been doing nationally for nearly 100 years (indeed it is our centenary in 2026 so look out for future celebratory events) and we're proud of what we have achieved.

Thanks in no small part to CPRE, ten of England's most outstanding landscapes are conserved as National Parks (The Yorkshire Dales and The North York Moors within our patch!); Green Belts provide vital breathing space around towns and cities, and countless special places the length and breadth of the country have retained their beauty, tranquillity and character.

None of this could have happened without the support of our members. As a member of CPRE you're joining thousands of others who share a vision of a beautiful, thriving countryside that's valued and enjoyed by everyone.



As a member of CPRE in North and East Yorkshire, we respond to the issues that matter on your own doorstep; as a member, you're increasing the influence of your local branch. We're a powerful voice, helping to shape the policies, legislation and attitudes that affect the countryside.

How you are helping us to achieve our vision

We want to see a countryside that's more beautiful, tranquil and full of life than it is today. Where country and city dwellers alike enjoy green, open spaces. Where better planning allows villages to thrive and urban centres to regenerate while green fields remain unspoilt. Where farmers are valued for growing the food we eat and maintaining the landscapes and biodiversity we love. Where efforts to combat climate change haven't harmed the landscape, but have given a boost to wildlife and the rural economy.

Our vision is achievable – but it won't happen overnight. That's why we rely on the continuing support of our members. We don't own land or represent any special interests – it's people like you who make us what we are.

By being a member, you are already making a real difference. Thank you!



Unleashing the Power of Rooftop Solar

A Sustainable Solution for the Future

As the world grapples with the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change, the potential of rooftop solar panels shines brighter than ever. In North and East Yorkshire, a rooftop revolution is brewing, poised to generate clean electricity while preserving precious land for food, farming, and nature. But how do we harness this energy source effectively, benefitting both people and the planet?

Government's Ambitious Targets

The Climate Change Committee (CCC), an independent body of experts advising the UK government, recommends a solar capacity of 54GW by 2035. However, the government has recently set an even more ambitious target of 70GW of solar energy by 2035. CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) supports these targets but emphasizes four key criteria: energy efficiency, minimizing impacts on the countryside, community involvement, and ethical sourcing. Unfortunately, the government, the planning system, and the solar industry are currently falling short of meeting these criteria.

The Untapped Potential of Rooftop Solar

CPRE advocates a 'fabric first' approach that prioritizes energy efficiency in new buildings. However, retrofitting existing buildings, particularly industrial and commercial structures, with solar panels presents a tremendous opportunity. The government estimates that there are approximately 250,000 hectares of south-facing, industrial roof space across the UK, equivalent to an area larger than London and Manchester combined. Even with a conservative estimate, this commercial roof space could generate around 25GW of energy, nearly half of the CCC's recommended capacity.

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A Unified Approach

CPRE is actively campaigning for the government to unlock the full potential of rooftop solar and other 'grey' spaces. From warehouses to schools, car parks, and farm buildings, we can rapidly expand renewable energy without harming wildlife, food security, or landscapes. Our research, conducted in collaboration with the UCL Energy Institute, demonstrates the public's near-universal support for installing solar panels on existing buildings and car parks, reducing objections to large solar farms in the countryside.

What CPRE Advocates For:

1. Developing a "land-use framework" to manage the impacts of solar energy schemes on the countryside, addressing competing land demands.
2. Implementing roof-first planning policies that prioritize solar energy generation on existing built areas.
3. Changing regulations to make rooftop solar a standard requirement for new buildings.
4. Ensuring slavery-free supply chains for solar energy.
5. Providing financial support, including government-backed low-cost loans.
6. Investing in the electrical grid to enable quick and affordable connections for rooftop solar projects.
7. Empowering rural communities to determine where and how new renewable energy schemes can be incorporated into the countryside.

How You Can Get Involved:

1. Sign our petition to support rooftop solar.
2. Stay updated on our campaign by subscribing to our e-newsletter.
3. Share our rooftop renewable content with friends and family to raise awareness.
4. Donate to CPRENEy to strengthen our campaign for solar panels on rooftops across the country.
5. Together, we can unleash the potential of rooftop solar, addressing the climate emergency while safeguarding our countryside and future generations.



6 Steps to a rooftop solar revolution

CPRE North and East Yorkshire urges the government to take action in the following areas:

1

DEVELOP A NATIONAL ROOFTOP SOLAR TARGET

As part of its broader objective to achieve a total solar power capacity of 70GW, the government should target the installation of solar panels on 40GW of rooftops by the year 2035.



PROTECT LANDSCAPES

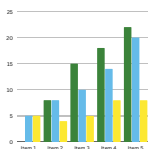
The government should strategically plan to strike a balance among diverse land uses, including agriculture, conservation of natural habitats, and energy production. It should prioritize the careful selection of suitable land for solar farms, ensuring that they do not negatively impact the countryside, while simultaneously delivering benefits for both wildlife and local communities.

2

3

DEVELOP A NATIONAL ROOFTOP SOLAR TARGET

The government should consider revising regulations to empower local authorities to identify suitable rooftops and other spaces for solar panel installations. Additionally, it should introduce mandatory requirements for new constructions, conversions, and parking facilities to incorporate solar panels on their roofs. This proactive approach would promote the widespread adoption of solar energy generation across various sectors of urban and rural development.



OFFER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The government should introduce low-cost loan programs and provide higher tariffs for homeowners, landlords, small businesses, and community groups interested in installing rooftop solar panels and selling surplus electricity to the grid. These incentives would encourage widespread adoption of rooftop solar energy systems, benefiting both individuals and communities while promoting renewable energy generation.

4

5

ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY ENERGY

The government should revise its policies to actively encourage greater involvement and input from rural communities in determining how and where renewable energy projects can be developed in their respective areas. This collaborative approach would foster a sense of ownership and ensure that renewable energy initiatives align with the unique needs and aspirations of rural communities.



INVEST IN GRID CONNECTION

The government should collaborate with electricity network operators to invest in local grid capacity, thereby simplifying and reducing the cost of connecting rooftop solar generators to the grid. This approach would facilitate the integration of distributed solar energy sources into the electricity network, promoting renewable energy adoption and grid resilience.

6

The Profound Impact of Growing Up in the Countryside

I consider myself very fortunate to have spent my teenage years and early adulthood surrounded by rolling hills, and open green countryside.

It's amazing the feeling that nature can provide.

The fresh air in my lungs, the tranquillity, and sense of being part of something greater than myself.

Whenever my mind was caught up with too many worries or overthinking the countryside was my place of sanctuary. Each step I took along rural roads and across fields felt like shedding a weight off my shoulders.

In John Muir's words, "In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks." Have you ever felt that sense of calm after a long walk-in nature?

That feeling of clarity, where your problems felt less small than before you put your shoes on and stepped out your front door. And our green spaces are not just beneficial to our mental wellbeing but also the physical exercise we get is great too! The landscape, the sights, sounds, and even the smells play a part in making us feel alive.

These things come to together to ground us, reminding us of who we are and what truly matters to us. Our nature is precious to us. It's our teacher, our guide and our healer. We're blessed in the North of England to have some world-renowned national parks, stunning landscapes and beautiful sprawling coastline.

Yet, the stark reality is that nature in the UK is on the decline. The UK remains one of the most nature depleted countries in Europe and bottom of the G7.



Here's some stats for you:

- Since 1970, 41% of our species have seen their numbers shrink, as per the 2019 State of Nature report.
- A staggering 73 million birds have disappeared from our skies in just 50 years, data from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) reveals.
- Our airborne insects have seen a 60% decline in a mere 20 years, reports from Buglife & Kent Wildlife Trust highlight.
- And our once sprawling Ancient Woodlands? They now occupy a mere 2.5% of the UK, the Woodland Trust tells us.
- All of us have a shared social responsibility to protect what we have for future generations.

We can all play our own part by sharing photos from our local area and talking about the issues that are happening there. Nature gives us hope. And there is hope, thanks to the wonderful efforts of the volunteers and members of CPRE.

If I leave you with one thought for the rest of your day.

It's let nature guide you.

Written by Illiya Vjestica
Volunteer helping CPRENEY to raise awareness and engagement through visual storytelling and design.
www.linkedin.com/in/illiyavjestica



Schoolchildren learn about climate change through poetry and verse

CHILDREN at a Middlesbrough school finished their term learning how climate change is affecting pupils in other countries and summing up their feelings in poems. Youngsters at Breckon Hill Primary School in Middlesbrough met Rumana Yasmin, founder of Bok Bok Books, who told them how pupils in her homeland of Bangladesh were now taught in school rooms that float because so many have previously been swept away by flooding and lost.

Rumana is the publisher of Floating Words – an anthology of poetry by leading writers – and says the children, aged seven and eight-year-old, were fascinated by the poems and loved writing their own.

She said: “It was wonderful to go into the school and teach the children about different environments and how we can all grow up looking at ways we might look after the planet.

“I was amazed at how receptive they were to what we were talking about and how good some of the poetry was that they produced.

“The children also learned origami in order to make their own floating boats which was a real icebreaker. They really enjoyed it.”



Rumana and CPRE, the Countryside Charity's Gill Sullivan with pupils from Breckon Hill Primary School, Middlesbrough

Breckon Hill Year 3 teacher Katie Maloney, said:

“The children were all from different classes and were intrigued by what they learned and how they learned it. It was great for them to hear different voices talking to them about this subject and looking at it from an interesting perspective.”

Rumana, whose company is based in Middlesbrough, said: “I grew up in Bangladesh, but I am raising my two children in the north of England and reading is a big part of my life with them.

“So I needed books to become the bridge between our worlds, and a place where they could see themselves, their cultures and interests represented.

“I started Bok Bok Books to create those books.

“I believe a better future for our children is possible through making connections to create, exchange stories and leave a positive message for them.

“Climate change can be a difficult subject for young children to relate to but poetry is a great way to get into the subject.

“Each child also got a plant pot with an acorn in it so they can watch it grow as a lasting reminder.”



Rumana was in Breckon Hill school as part of the The Poetry for Climate Change, Primary School Project launched by the North and East Yorkshire branch of CPRE, the countryside charity.

Jan Arger, chair of the branch, said: “We’re hoping to roll this project out to schools across the region – a simple class-learning situation but one which might stick in the minds of young children and give them an awareness of the world around them and the challenges it faces.

“It’s done in an affirmative and thoughtful way in order to inspire young children.”

You can learn more about BokBok Books here:

<https://www.bokbokbooks.co.uk/shop> and CPRE North and East Yorkshire here: <https://www.cpreney.org.uk/>.

Written by Graeme Anderson
GSA Media - PR, marketing & copywriting

CPRE, the Countryside Charity Welcomes Roger Mortlock as CEO

CPRE, the countryside charity, was delighted to announce the appointment of Roger Mortlock as its new CEO. Roger Mortlock brought a wealth of experience in the conservation and environmental sector to CPRE.

Over the past nine years, he served as the CEO of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT), where he steered the organisation through a period of substantial growth and transformation. During his time at GWT, Roger played a pivotal role in elevating the trust's programs and successfully doubling its income. His leadership was characterized by a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and conservation initiatives.

Roger Mortlock was also a seasoned campaigner on the national stage. He also led various national agricultural policy projects for the Wildlife Trusts, demonstrating his dedication to shaping policies that benefitted the environment.

Before his tenure at GWT, Roger held the position of Deputy Director of the Soil Association, an organization dedicated to promoting organic farming and sustainable agriculture. Prior to that, he served as Director of Communications with the Royal Shakespeare Company, showcasing his versatility and ability to navigate diverse sectors.

Simon Murray, Chair of CPRE, the countryside charity, expressed his enthusiasm for Roger Mortlock's appointment, saying,

"Roger brought a special blend of skills and experience to the CPRE movement at that crucial time, both for the organisation and the countryside. The Trustees and I were genuinely excited about this appointment..."

Roger's appointment marks an exciting new chapter for CPRE, and his experience and dedication are expected to contribute significantly to the charity's ongoing efforts to protect and preserve the countryside for future generations.



Rodger Mortlock
CPRE CEO

CPRE secures several 'Wins' in the House of Lords

In support of local communities, the House of Lords have voted through an amendment that ensures both the public and parliament have a say on any new national planning policy created by the Government's proposed Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill ('LURB').

This new type of national planning policy – National Development Management Policies ('NDMP's) – has caused major concerns since its introduction. Left unchecked, NDMPs represented a possible threat to local democracy. This centralisation of power had the potential to strip local communities of their say on major planning issues that affect all of us, from housing and wildlife to the Green Belt.

Thanks to the support and pressure of thousands of CPRE members, a new amendment in the LURB has been passed which includes public and parliamentary scrutiny in the process of creating any new NDMPs. This means local communities as well as politicians will be able to have their say and challenge top-down decisions. When the Levelling Up Bill returns to the Commons, there will be a chance to ensure this scrutiny amendment becomes part of the final legislation. However, for now, CPRE considers this to be a significant step forward.



Further successes

In addition, the Better Planning Coalition, which CPRE is a part of, has had other amendments of huge importance to the countryside successfully voted through in the Lords recently. These include:

- An amendment to ensure that all new homes support the health of their residents.
- An amendment requiring 'for sufficient social rent housing' in every local area.
- An amendment that ensures planning decision-takers (from the Secretary of State to a local planning committee) have special regard to the UK's legally binding net-zero emissions target.

Pushing the boundaries on the Coast to Coast walk

Executive & Careers Coach Sally Learoyd who joined CPRENEY as Trustee and Climate Change Lead earlier this year, tells us about taking on the solo challenge of walking the 190 miles of England's Coast to Coast path.

When I first thought of doing the Coast to Coast walk back in the autumn on 2021 it wasn't the physical challenge which interested me. As a regular hiker of hills with my husband I was pretty certain I could do the mileage. Instead, it was the decision to do it on my own that captured my imagination.

I think we all have an idea of the type of person we would like to be if only we could break free of whatever holds us back. I really wanted to be an outdoor-adventurous type person, but I also wanted to plan and anticipate for all scenarios which can be pretty adventure-limiting! I wanted to be self-sufficient, but to that date my husband has done all the map-reading. And I really wanted to walk alone but there were all the voices in my head saying that for a woman that's not "sensible". And at the time I hadn't actually walked beyond the end of our lane on my own let alone 190 miles across hills and moors...

So there followed a number of weeks of training that were much more mental than physical.

I read inspiring stories of women who have taken on independent challenges far beyond what I had in mind ('Wild' by Cheryl Strayed is a great read). I sought out advice from other solo women walkers. I planned what I could including fitness, personal security measures, walking gear, navigational aids etc... And I told friends and family about my plans, so conversation by conversation the plan in my head became real.

With the walking itself, I started small, but bit by bit did ever longer solo walks. All the while I was getting ever more comfortable with being on my own and realising that I can find the path (and lose and re-find it!) without needing a constant companion and guide.

By January 2022 I had reached the 11-mile point in my solo training and I knew I could safely sign-up for the Coast to Coast. So I booked my trip and four months later on 21st May I set off, solo, from St Bees Head in Cumbria on my Coast to Coast adventure.



The Coast to Coast (C2C) path travels west to east through three national parks, The Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and The North Yorkshire Moors and with over 6,000 metres of ascent across the route (the equivalent of three-quarters of the way up Everest) it's hilly!



So – did I make it? Do I feel more adventurous?

Yes I did make it ... eventually! The weather in Cumbria was VERY wet and involved a number of detours to avoid high paths that had become invisible or dangerous in low cloud. And frustratingly I got Covid half way through the walk and had to pull out. But I immediately re-booked to complete the second half of the walk over the summer and set off again from Kirby Stephen on 19th August and arrived at Robin Hoods Bay seven days later.

And if 'adventurous' means being willing to go where you've not been before and try new ways to get there – then yes I think I'm more capable of that. The butterflies in the tummy never completely disappear but the rewards – in this case the wonderful views of Yorkshire's moors and rivers and dales – are immense.



Embracing October

A Celebration of Nature's Transformative Beauty

October is a month that engages all the senses. It's a time when trees begin their spectacular transformation, displaying a kaleidoscope of colours as leaves rustle on branches and gracefully descend on windy days. The air is filled with the earthy scents of dampness and decay as plants prepare for the winter. The woods emanate the fragrance of fungi, and the forest floor is adorned with damp moss and vibrant ferns.

Hedgerows and woodlands burst forth with ripe fruits such as crab apples, brambles, and damsons, providing nourishment for both birds and foragers alike.

As wildlife hurries to stock up before winter's chill sets in, we find ourselves in close encounters with garden birds and butterflies, savouring the late blooms that cling to my borders.

Here are five delightful ways to connect with nature this October:

1. Gather Seeds of Life:

The magic of seeds that hold the promise of new life has always fascinated me. I recall as a child marvelling at conkers from our horse chestnut tree germinating in the leafy compost bin. The sight of a chunky white root snaking its way down and the emergence of the first leaves, signalling the potential for a new tree, still fills me with wonder. This time of year, I collect an array of seeds from my garden, storing them in paper bags throughout winter, ready for planting next spring. The diversity of shapes, sizes, colours, and textures among these seeds is a source of pure delight.

2. Slow Down and Savour Sloes:

Another cherished autumn tradition is harvesting sloes from the blackthorn bushes. These tart, dark-purple fruits are used to steep in gin and sugar, creating a seasonal drink that's saved for the Christmas festivities. Passing on the knowledge and stories of plants, such as the blackthorn and its mouth-puckering fruits, to my children feels like an important tradition. Picking sloes, however, requires caution, as the bushes are armed with spiky thorns. The fruits should be gathered once the frost has softened them, but for those who can wait, the longer you leave the liqueur, the more exquisite the flavour becomes.



3. Marvel at Nature's Artistry in Fungi:

The fields near our homes, are a haven for a spectrum of fungi, particularly the resplendent waxcaps. These fungi derive their name from their gleaming caps, resembling they've been meticulously glazed. Waxcaps come in a range of colors, from white and yellow to orange and red, and their vibrant hues contrast beautifully with the fading green of autumn fields. Northumberland National Park, located to the north of my residence, is internationally renowned for its waxcap-rich grasslands, making it one of western Europe's prime habitats for these fungi.

4. Immerse Yourself in the Artistry of Autumn Leaves:

Autumn strolls offer the chance to witness the awe-inspiring transformation of deciduous trees as their green chlorophyll fades away, revealing previously hidden pigments. Native rowans turn yellow and orange, English oaks adopt hues of yellow or red, and hazel takes on a gentle buttery yellow. In parks, ornamental trees like Japanese maples are renowned for their fiery autumn colours. If you're fortunate, you may catch a whiff of caramel while passing by the Katsura tree, which boasts heart-shaped leaves that turn golden and emit a delightful scent.



Turning Controversy into Clean Energy: Yorkshire Fracking Site Transformed

In a remarkable turnaround, a once-controversial fracking site in North Yorkshire is poised to become a pioneering geothermal energy extraction facility. Third Energy, previously embroiled in heated debates over fracking in the former Ryedale district, is joining forces with CeraPhi Energy2 to launch the UK's inaugural geothermal well. This innovative initiative aims to extract clean, renewable energy from deep underground without disturbing the region's geology.

From Fracking Site to Geothermal Pioneer:

The Kirby Misperton KM8 well site, formerly granted approval by North Yorkshire County Council for hydraulic fracturing in 2016, will transition into an operational test site for geothermal energy production. CPRENEY welcomes this planned transition away from fracking which we fought hard to oppose both at the KM8 site locally but also with colleagues across the country in our successful campaign which resulted in the national moratorium against the controversial extraction technique.



CeraPhi's Innovative Approach:

CeraPhi Energy2 brings patented technologies to the table. These innovations enable the conversion of aging wells by sealing their bottoms and employing a closed-tube system with circulating fluids to harness subterranean heat. Importantly, this method preserves rock formations, subsurface systems, and fluids, making it an eco-friendly alternative. Often likened to a refrigerator's reverse process, this technique operates without emitting carbon dioxide.

Unlocking the Potential:

The project has the potential to convert approximately 680 oil and gas wells across the UK, including over 200 in Lincolnshire and the North-East, with a dozen in Kirby Misperton alone.

Geothermal Energy's Versatile Applications: Initial tests at the KM8 well site reveal temperatures of around 110°C at its 3-kilometer-deep bottom. When transferred to the surface via liquid, temperatures are expected to reach up to 90°C. This heat source can provide energy to heat around 400 homes for approximately four decades. Additionally, the potential applications extend to large-scale agricultural projects in controlled environments, powering distilleries, and supporting agricultural crop drying.

Exploring Opportunities:

Feasibility studies are underway to determine the viability of using the KM8 well's heat for a local swimming pool, but could also be used for alcohol distillation, or to power anaerobic digesters.

Community Support and Environmental Impact: Steve Mason, a director at Third Energy, influential anti-fracking campaigner and member of CPRENEY highlights the overwhelming community support for this shift in direction.

"The geothermal plans received approximately 80% approval in a Ryedale District Council poll last year. This initiative has not only mended community divisions as a result of the proposed fracking but also aligns with the broader goals of rural decarbonization and sustainable energy solutions."

The transformation of the Kirby Misperton KM8 well site from a symbol of controversy to a hub of clean, renewable geothermal energy signifies innovation and sustainability in the face of environmental challenges. This project showcases the potential of technology and community support in creating a more sustainable and greener future, particularly in rural areas. It represents a significant step toward decarbonization and sustainable energy in the UK's evolving energy landscape.

Local Plan Status – North and East Yorkshire

North Yorkshire Council

As you will be aware North Yorkshire Council came into being on 1st April 2023. As such the former County Council and the District Councils of Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmond, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby merged into one local authority. At this time, all of the existing district Local Plans remain in force until such time that the new Council produce a single Local Plan covering the entire of the new administrative area.

Following a meeting with the new Director of Place and Head of Planning for North Yorkshire Council, CPRENEY's Planning Lead Trustee, Katie Atkinson, can confirm that the Council hope to have a new Local Plan in place by 2028 (their statutory deadline) and also, that CPRENEY will be directly involved with the emerging Local Plan's production via a series of stakeholder events and workshops run alongside their mandatory public consultation phases. We will update members accordingly but intend to use the opportunity to fight for the preservation and protection of the countryside whilst ensuring that the Local Plan has appropriate and tangible measures in place to combat the impacts of climate change.

Prior to the 1st April, we have responded to a number of policy evidence base consultations across the former district area, all of which will be utilized by the new Council when progressing their emerging Local Plan

City of York

The City of York is still progressing towards its first ever Local Plan – The Council submitted their draft Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination in May 2018 and whilst all parts of the proposal have been through examination in public, the Inspectors are currently consulting on a number of issues that have come to light since the hearings were held. It is hoped that once the consultation period has ended the Inspectors will be in a position to make their recommendations to the Council as to whether they can adopt the Local Plan subject to any key modifications the Inspectors propose to overcome any soundness issues. – Fingers Crossed!

East Riding of Yorkshire

The East Riding Local Plan is the name for the suite of planning documents that together provide the long-term development plan for the East Riding. The Council have submitted a partial Local Plan Review to the Secretary of State for independent examination in March 2023 with hearings scheduled to commence on 31st October and run for a month. CPRENEY commented in full on all stages of the emerging Local Plan which seeks to combine various existing documents into a single plan whilst updating specific sections on housing allocations. The Council will undertake to a full Plan Review in due course.

Kingston upon Hull:

The Hull Local Plan was adopted in November 2017 and is to be used to guide new development in the city up to 2032. The Local Plan provides a vision and strategic priorities for the city, and policies with supporting text based around key themes and sets out a minimum requirement of 9,920 (net) new homes during the period 2016 to 2032 (620 dwellings per year) across the City area. Amongst other things, the Local Plan sets a vision for the Port of Hull area which is a world-class port and a gateway to international trade, operating as one of the UK's leading foreign trade ports. It is the stated intention of Associated British Ports (ABP), who own and operate a large majority of it) to continue to invest in the future growth and development of the Port, responding to market trends and demand. The Port estate within Hull is extensive covering a large part of the city's frontage with the Humber Estuary. It is vital that the economic needs of the city and port are balanced with appropriate protections for the environment and unique landscape/waterscape of this unique location.

Middlesbrough:

The Local Plan consists of a series of Development Plan Documents setting policies and proposals for the use of land in Middlesbrough. It includes the Housing Local Plan (adopted 2014), a Core Strategy (adopted 2008), and Regeneration DPD (adopted 2009).

The Council have committed to preparing a new Local Plan which will set out a vision for the future development of Middlesbrough, up to 2037. The Council has however recently announced it has abandoned its draft Local Plan and have committed to 'starting the process again'. CPRENEY intend to fully participate in the process as soon as possible.

In the meantime, the existing Development Plan remains in force which sets out the need for circa 410 dwellings per annum or 6,970 net new dwellings over the plan period.

Redcar and Cleveland

The development plan currently consists of the Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan (adopted May 2018) and the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents.

The plan sets out that there will be a minimum of 234 net new dwellings per annum, or 3,978 for the period 2016 -2032.

Local Plan Status – North and East Yorkshire

Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNPA)

In 2016 the YDNPA boundary was extended and the NPA inherited policies previously prepared by other planning authorities. The policies were all prepared at different times and in different contexts so include a number of differences in approach. The YDNPA are in the process of preparing a new Local Plan which will ensure that any development proposal within the National Park will be determined in the same way. CPRENEY has responded to a number of different thematic consultations and have commented on their Preferred Options draft Local Plan. The next stage in the process will be for the preparation of the Draft 'Publication Plan' expected to be subject to a formal period of consultation in late 2023/early 2024 before being submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

Stockton:

The area of interest for CPRENEY extends to the southern edge of the River Tees, therefore, incorporates the southern area of Stockton on Tees. The northern area is looked after by CPRE Durham.

The Stockton on Tees Local Plan was adopted in 2019 and sets out policies and proposals to guide planning decisions and establishes a framework for sustainable economic growth and development in the Borough until 2032.

The Local Plan requires that to meet housing need a minimum of 10,150 new homes will be delivered across the district area

North York Moors National Park (NYMNPA)

The NYMNPA adopted their Local Plan in July 2020. Their development plan consists of the Local Plan, the Helmsley Plan (adopted 2015 and reviewed in 2022 - shared with Ryedale) and the Whitby Business Park Area Action Plan (adopted 2014). The Local Plan policies have been designed to serve and enhance the National Park's natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage, and protects special areas and features within it from harmful development including by: protecting and encouraging the understanding and enjoyment of the National Park's 'Special Qualities'; identifying where development can and cannot take place; encouraging redevelopment of vacant buildings or land; and helping to reduce the National Park's contribution to climate change. The NYMNPA are currently preparing a Design Code to set out the expected Design principles and standards for all new development within the National Park

Howardian Hills AONB:

The Howardian Hills AONB covers 204sq. km (79sq. miles) of the North Yorkshire countryside, nestled between the NYM National Park, the Yorkshire Wolds and the Vale of York. It is a unique landscape with its well-wooded rolling countryside, patchwork of arable and pasture fields, scenic villages and historic country houses with classic parkland landscapes. The AONB designation was confirmed in 1987 in recognition of its national landscape importance. Planning is determined by the policies in the Ryedale District Plan and Hambleton District Plan. The Management Plan has recently been adopted and covers the period from 2019-2024

Nidderdale AONB

Nidderdale AONB is an area of 600sq. km (233sq. miles) located on the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Pennines stretching from the high moorland of Great Whernside south and east towards the edge of the Vale of York. Designated as an AONB in 1994, it is renowned for its farming heritage which has shaped many of its landscapes and includes tranquil expanses of water, open heather moorlands and rolling pastures, to stone walls, farm buildings and villages. Policies in the Harrogate, Hambleton and Richmondshire Local Plans determine planning matters. The Management Plan has been adopted for the 2019-2024 period and CPRENEY is a member of the Joint Advisory Committee for this AONB which advise local authorities and other organisations about how to best achieve AONB objectives.

Forest of Bowland AONB

The Forest of Bowland AONB is situated in North West England, covering 803sq. km (312sq. miles) of rural land in the counties of Lancashire (730sq. km) and North Yorkshire (73sq. miles). Designated as an AONB in 1964 for its important heather moorland, blanket bog and rare birds. In North Yorkshire, planning matters are dealt with by Craven District Local Plan. The Management Plan has recently been reviewed and the 2019-2024 version and has been adopted.

Planning Campaigns of Note for 2022 -2023

This section highlights a very small snapshot of some of the proposals the CPRENEY Trustee Planning Lead has had involvement in since the last AGM, which may be of interest to members.

To re-open and extract sandstone from Gayles Quarry, Richmond

In December 2022, CPRENEY objected to the proposal to re-open Gayle Quarry in Richmondshire for the extraction of sandstone. The site was originally quarried in the 18th to early 20th centuries and has since been returned to natural vegetation, home to a diverse number of species which would be detrimentally impacted should the proposal become operational. The applicants sought to quarry a surface footprint of 5 Hectares, extracting up to 225,000 tonnes of block sandstone over a 15-year period, all to be transported off-site to be worked at Stainton Quarry – up to 6 large HGV movements daily on roads which were originally constructed for horse and wagon. Furthermore, there is a much-frequented public right of way network which traverses the site and would impact access to the locally valued landscape. The Council has still not reached a decision on the proposal yet and the applicant has recently submitted further information in relation to landscape harm.

Change of use from agricultural land to holiday park extension, Tosside, Skipton

CPRENEY objected to proposal to extend an existing holiday park into an area of agricultural land to host 49 static caravans and holiday lodges. Including the extension, the holiday park would total 398 static caravans alongside ancillary facilities including an indoor pool, public house, restaurant and children's play area. We were of the opinion that the extension and overall scale of the park would have significant detrimental impacts on the open countryside due to the scale of the site, including to the setting of the Forest of Bowland AONB – only 1km from the site and the surrounding footpath network. We also thought that the applicant did not provide sufficient information relating to the protection of dark skies and also with regard to providing net gains for biodiversity. We were pleased that the applicant withdrew the application following a number of likeminded objections.

Construction of an Asphalt Plant, Catfoss, East Riding

CPRENEY were asked to support a local campaign to prevent a new asphalt plant being constructed at a site in Catfoss, near Brandesburton. The commercial estate on which the site was located consisted of storage facilities and a large successful kennels business. The site was not allocated and no evidence of 'need' for the plant was submitted by the applicant to support the proposals. CPRENEY strongly objected to the proposal on the grounds that the site would introduce significant air and noise pollution from the plant activities which would harm existing businesses and nearby residential properties. Furthermore, the hours of operation and proposed number of heavy vehicles associated with the proposal were not suitable for the surrounding businesses and road network. CPRENEY were delighted when the Council Members refused the application

74-bed hotel, drive-through restaurant, and multiple large warehouses, Thirsk

CPRENEY joined a large quantity of local campaigners and community groups in strongly objecting to a proposal to site a large hotel, drive through restaurant and several large warehouses (1x 40,000sqft 2x 10,000 sqft and 4x 3,500 sqft) at land on the outskirts of Thirsk. CPRENEY recently objected to a large new lorry park, service station and restaurant at the adjacent site on the grounds that the proposals were unsustainable, would not help mitigate climate change, nor protect and enhance the nearby Sowerby Conservation Area and Cod Beck. In our opinion, this is an example of 'salami slicing' where a developer submits a large site in several phases for development in order to avoid undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment. We argued the case with the local authority but were disappointed that the Council members approved the site which was not allocated for development, in the interests of economic development.

Passive house' Hotel, Runswick Bay, North York Moors

CPRENEY were delighted to support the demolition of an existing dilapidated hotel and the construction of a replacement hotel on the same site which, if approved, would become the first hotel in the country to be designed and built to Passive House standards, incorporating a green roof canopy, showcasing modern design and energy efficient technologies. The applicant aims to make this a landmark hotel in a protected landscape on the footprint of a poorer quality building. CPRE support this approach and welcomes the fact that the applicant also proposes to incorporate a community facility into the development to support local residents. At the time of writing, the National Park Authority have yet to determine the application

Planning Campaigns of Note for 2022 -2023

53Hectare Solar Farm and Battery Storage Facility, Old Malton

CPRENEY strongly objected to a large scale solar farm just outside Old Malton (near Eden Camp Museum) in the former Ryedale district. Our objection was for a number of grounds, not least, the significant loss of agricultural land and impact on soils; the detrimental impact on users of the footpath network; the loss of existing biodiversity and the potential impact on an existing visitor attraction. Notwithstanding the above, the agricultural land is currently farmed by a tenant farmer whose livelihood would be drastically altered as a result of the landlords decision to lease the land to the developer, rendering the agricultural enterprise economically unviable. This is one of a many proposals for large-scale solar farms CPRENEY has commented upon this year (spread throughout our large area of benefit). At the time of writing, the Officers report had just been published with a recommendation of approval and a committee date set. We watch with bated breath!

10.24Ha development of TV and film studios, Scotch Corner

CPRENEY again joined with local campaigners to object to a further large scale development at Scotch Corner. There have been a large number of proposals spanning several years for development adjacent to Scotch corner in the open countryside. Whilst we recognise the fact that the site is adjacent to the A1 and the A66, it is not sustainable in that any employee of the site would have to rely on private vehicles to commute to and from the site as there is no public transport to the area, adding to congestion already experienced at peak times on the strategic road network. Furthermore, the greenfield 'land grab' occurring at this location is significant, not only taking large swathes of land out of agricultural production but the sheer scale of the site removes a sizeable area of soil which is beneficial for carbon sequestration. Pls note the below image demonstrates current activities and proposals at the site, albeit was produced in 2022 it is up-to-date. We await the Council's decision.



151 Dwellings, Hemingbrough, Selby

CPRENEY was asked by local members to support them in objecting to a large scale residential development on unallocated land in Hemingbrough. We strongly objected to the proposals for 151 dwellings and a community centre largely due to the loss of good quality agricultural land, the site would be contradictory to both the adopted and emerging Settlement Hierarchy proposed by the Council for development and did not propose sufficient quantities of genuine affordable housing. The site would also have a detrimental impact on the Hagg Lane Green Site of Importance for Nature Conservation and altogether the proposals are contrary to local and national planning policy. The applicant withdrew their application in the face of strong opposition.

215 dwellings, Yarm, Stockton on Tees

CPRENEY objected to the major application for 215 new dwellings at a site previously allocated for and previously approved as the 'Mount Leven Retirement Village' for over-55s. The Council had previously set out the need for this particular type of housing and had actually allocated a sizeable site for such within their adopted Local Plan. Having received planning approval for a development of suitable accommodation on the site, the developer reapplied for full residential development, effectively removing the requirement for the site to be a retirement village. There was no evidence presented as to why the developer sought to do this, especially as the Council still claimed a specific need for this type of development. We were delighted that the Council refused the application and even more so when the Planning Inspectorate dismissed a subsequent appeal by the applicant.

800 dwellings, Haxby, York

CPRENEY objected to a major application for 800 residential dwellings on the outskirts of Haxby consisting of 33Ha including 14 individual agricultural fields within the York Green Belt. The proposal was submitted in 'outline' meaning that if approved, any future developer could effectively apply to the Council for completely different scale of scheme or landscaping or even the type of dwelling to be provided across the site as the principle of developing the site would have already been established. We objected to the loss of Green Belt at this location, that the applicants did not prove that vehicular access to the site was safe or suitable in terms of the national requirements including potential detrimental impact on vulnerable road users, the detrimental impact on users of the public footpath through the site, the lack of proposed net gain for biodiversity and the potential impact on the Strensall Common SAC and SSSI which were both adjacent to the site. Despite having submitted this proposal in January 2023, the Council still have not determined the application and have asked the applicant to provide more information on a number of topics.

Member Updates – North and East Yorkshire

Yorkshire Wolds AONB Designation

Following our report in the 2022 Annual Newsletter regarding the woeful proposed area for the Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Beauty ('AONB') designation, we have not much else to report at this stage!

Following the response we sent in to Natural England's ('NE') consultants, setting out our overall support for a designation of this wonderful landscape but setting out verbosely our disappointment at the size and scale of the candidate areas to be considered, the external consultants for NE have been busy evaluating all the responses submitted from private individuals, to community groups, parish councils, organizations like ourselves and other statutory consultees. The outcome of this process was a proposed Candidate Area and a supporting report which has been presented to NE. Following this, NE must make a judgement as to whether it is desirable that a proposed Candidate Area should become an AONB in order to achieve the AONB's statutory purpose, which is to conserve and enhance natural beauty. To establish whether it is desirable to designate an area as an AONB, the following five questions are considered:

- Is there an area which satisfies AONB technical criterion?
- Is the area of such significance that the AONB purpose should apply to it?
- What are the issues affecting the area's special qualities and what effect might designation have on these issues?
- Can the AONB statutory purpose be best pursued through the management mechanisms, powers and duties which comes with AONB designation?
- Are there other relevant factors which tend to suggest whether or not it is desirable to designate the area?

Future stages

The following stages happen after engagement activities have stopped, but don't worry because there are other opportunities to be engaged in the process during the formal consultation and the Notice Period.

The case for designating an AONB boundary will be presented in detailed reports, which bring together all the evaluation work and sets out the evidence in accordance with the legislation. For example, the reports will provide detailed information for each of the factors which contribute to natural beauty in each Evaluation Area, in order to identify a proposed Candidate Area and assess the desirability of designating the qualifying area as a new AONB. Issues which will need to be addressed when defining a boundary, at a later stage, will also be highlighted. Having considered these reports and relevant evidence, it is for Natural England to decide whether or not, a particular area is of such national significance that it should be designated as an AONB and managed to achieve the statutory purpose. There will be an opportunity for you to comment on any future proposed AONB, including the boundary, during the Statutory and Public Consultation.

Richmond Under Threat

In our previous e-newsletters, CPRENEY proudly announced its support for the "Richmond Development Threat" grassroots initiative, a collective effort to safeguard the historic integrity of Richmond by opposing a proposed housing development that threatened to compromise the town's unique character.

Planning Officers at North Yorkshire Council recommended approval for the scheme, despite strong objections from CPRENEY, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the Ripon Civic Society, and numerous concerned members of the public. The proposal was heard recently by the Planning Committee, who were swayed by the objections and public presentations, unanimously refusing the proposal against Officer advice for all the reasons we set out for them in our representations.

The proposed site lies entirely within the pristine expanse of untouched countryside, situated beyond Richmond's established development boundaries. This land, previously dedicated to equestrian activities and does not meet the criteria for 'previously developed land'. Consequently, it retains the characteristics of a greenfield area, and if permitted, would have been a stark contrast to both local and national planning policies.

The proposal represented an unwelcome intrusion into the tranquil rural ambiance that graces the western edge of Richmond, requiring the removal of venerable trees and well-established hedgerows, sacrificing integral elements of the landscape and detrimentally impacting biodiversity. Furthermore, the proposal would impact the historic gateway and setting to Richmond and due to topography, be entirely unsuitable for anything other than reliance on private vehicles.

Whilst this is indeed a time for celebration, we will wait to find out if the developer will appeal and will be ready to respond as necessary.



Member Updates – continued...

Barn conversion proposals threaten National Parks

CPRE alongside 13 other organisations have written to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, raising strong concerns over proposals to remove planning protections in Protected Landscapes.

The Government published recent plans that would allow barns and other rural buildings in National Parks to be converted into dwellings without the need for planning permission. We're concerned that if these proposals go ahead, they will lead to the growth of isolated residential units in unsustainable locations and will undermine National Park Authority's policies to ensure local people are given priority when new housing is built. A proliferation of new dwellings could also add significant pressures in terms of water pollution and traffic without any requirement to contribute to the supporting infrastructure needed to address such issues.

Furthermore the impact of permitted barn conversions without the need for planning permission would totally alter the unique and iconic landscapes of National Parks, particularly in the Yorkshire Dales – which is synonymous with dry stone walls and field barns. The field barns in the image below have been highlighted to emphasise how many isolated new residential dwellings could be delivered through this policy, with residential extensions and paraphernalia completely altering the protected landscapes.



We've written to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove, (see below) raising our strong opposition to the proposals and seeking assurance that the Government will retain the exemptions which currently apply in Protected Landscapes and which we campaigned hard for when the barn conversion proposals were first put forward a decade ago and have responded in full to the consultation on Permitted Development Rights

Dear Secretary of State

We were deeply disappointed to learn of the Government's plans to extend the permitted development rights for converting agricultural and other rural buildings to residential use to Protected Landscapes (National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)). There is a long-established practice of not applying certain permitted development rights in these areas in line with national planning policy which emphasises the importance of protecting these areas from inappropriate development.

We campaigned to secure the exemption for National Parks and AONBs and welcomed this exemption when the rights for barn conversions were first introduced in 2014. The case for not applying these and other rights in these areas is even stronger now than it was then. Indeed, the Glover Review of Designated

Landscapes, which you commissioned when at Defra, called for a review of the current system of Permitted Development Rights with a view to potentially identifying further rights to be added to the exemptions list. What Government is proposing now is directly contrary to this and would have disastrous consequences across Protected Landscapes.

National Parks and AONBs are living landscapes which must adapt over time. There is clear evidence that the planning policies which apply in these areas enable progress while ensuring additional protections apply and they do a difficult job well. Where there is a need for the appropriate change of use of existing buildings, for example where this can provide much needed affordable housing or ensure the future upkeep of traditional buildings, such changes must be carefully managed and monitored to ensure that they are not harming the unique character of an area. National Parks and AONBs are our finest landscapes with the highest level of protection and even small changes can have a disproportionate impact in these areas.

The need to limit the use of certain rights in Protected Landscapes to ensure that development is of an appropriate scale is acknowledged in the same consultation which proposes removing the exemptions for barn conversions. But yet the Government is proposing to apply new rights in Protected Landscapes which will make it easier to convert a wide range of rural buildings including those used for forestry and equestrian purposes as well as increasing the number of dwellings allowed per conversion.

Inspiring Positive Change through Responsible Energy Initiative

At CPRENEY, our mission is clear and unwavering: we are staunch advocates for renewable energy projects that coexist harmoniously with our communities, cherished landscapes, and the rich tapestry of our rural heritage.

The Climate Emergency: A Dire Threat to Our Countryside

We wholeheartedly acknowledge that the climate emergency stands as the single most significant threat to our countryside today. Whether it manifests as flooded agricultural land or the heart-breaking loss of precious wildlife and landscapes, taking immediate action to cut carbon emissions is crucial to safeguard rural life.

The repercussions of our heavy reliance on fossil fuels for daily energy consumption are becoming increasingly evident. Global warming accelerates, leading to the unsettling disruption of seasons, catastrophic floods, rampant wildfires, and the grim prospect of wildlife teetering on the brink of extinction.

A Proactive Approach: Embracing Renewable Energy

Our conviction remains unyielding: a proactive approach is the essential compass to guide rural communities toward a substantial reliance on renewable energy sources like solar and wind. Embracing renewable energy translates into expanding these projects across the countryside, seamlessly weaving them into our historic towns and villages.

Preserving Local Landscapes and Communities

We deeply comprehend the profound importance of local landscapes to rural communities, recognising that the countryside holds equal significance for people across our great nation.

Our primary goal is to illuminate and celebrate responsible, meticulously planned renewable energy initiatives throughout North and East Yorkshire. We cordially invite you to share your photos and tag us in your posts so that we may illuminate these inspiring examples and kindle the flames of inspiration in others.

A Call to Action: #cpreneyrenewablesdonewell

By actively participating in this discourse and using the hashtag #cpreneyrenewablesdonewell, you can be a vital contributor to a constructive impact on our environment. Together, let us labour tirelessly towards a future that is both sustainable and harmonious.

A Repository of Inspiration

We are committed to showcasing all exemplary instances of renewables done well on our website to provide inspiration for all those who visit. Join us in our mission to champion renewable energy projects that not only combat climate change but also preserve the beauty and vitality of our rural communities. Together, we can create a brighter, cleaner future for all.

Calling All Conservation Enthusiasts: Become an Eyes & Ears Volunteer!

Do you have a deep passion for preserving the countryside and green spaces in your local area? Are you concerned about the impact of development proposals on your community? If so, we invite you to join us as an Eyes & Ears Volunteer at CPRENEY.

What's the Role?

As an Eyes & Ears Volunteer, your mission is simple but crucial: keep an eye out for development proposals in your local area. You don't need to be a planning expert; all it takes is a computer, a spare hour or two each week, and a dedication to safeguarding the beauty of our countryside.

Why Your Help Matters

We cover a wide area, including 14 Planning Authorities and 2 National Park Authorities. Each district has its own unique schedule for publishing planning application lists and consultations.

Missing these deadlines can have significant consequences, from Green Wedge deletions to inappropriate housing schemes and industrial-scale solar array fields being approved. Our aim is not to halt development but to ensure it's the right development, appropriately scaled, and in the right location. With your vigilance and commitment, we can make a meaningful difference in our communities.

How to Get Involved

If you're interested in learning more about this role or ready to apply, please reach out to us via email at info@cpreney.org.uk or contact us at 07983 088120 to schedule a chat. We believe there's no one better than our own members to help us identify concerns or highlight commendable projects that deserve our support.

Together, we can work towards making our region even more beautiful and sustainable.

Join us in protecting the countryside for future generations.

Celebrating Young Voices: CPRENEY's Primary School Writing Competition 2022-2023

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the schools and children who embraced the spirit of creativity and conservation by participating in our 2022-2023 Primary School Writing Competition. Each year, we eagerly anticipate this opportunity to engage with the young minds of North and East Yorkshire, and this year's entries were nothing short of extraordinary.

Fostering Connection with Nature

Our primary school writing competition is an annual tradition where we invite all Primary Schools in North and East Yorkshire to join us in celebrating the natural beauty that surrounds us. We encourage children to explore the wonders of our North and East Yorkshire countryside and coastline with their families during the summer. This immersion in nature inspires their entries, which they craft upon their return to formal lessons, either as a class or through home-learning, before submitting them collectively to us.



**North York Moors
National Park**

Gratitude to Our Esteemed Judges

This year, we were fortunate to have Rachael Poole and Ian Nicholls from the North York Moors National Park Authority as our judges. Their expertise and dedication were instrumental in making this competition a resounding success.

"It was inspiring to see so many children really thinking deeply about their connection with the countryside and sharing what it means to them. We really enjoyed looking through all the entries and the standard was wonderful. We certainly had a difficult decision to make in choosing the winners! Congratulations to every child who took part."

Announcing the Remarkable Winners

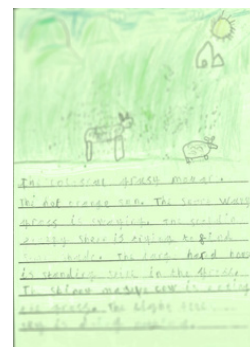
It is with great pleasure that we announce the winners of the CPRENEY Primary School Writing Competition 2022-2023:

Overall School Winner: St Stephen's Catholic Primary



1st Place: Arthur from St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School

"Arthur's vivid prose painted a picture of the countryside: "The colossal grassy moors. The hot, orange sun. The short wavy grass is swaying. The scolding, fluffy sheep is trying to find some shelter. The large rural house is standing still in the grass..."



2nd Place: Florence – Pickering Community Infant and Nursery School

"Florence's heartfelt words captured the essence of her connection with nature: "I like looking out at the sheep. I like going on a walk. I like to look at the flowers."



Explore Their Beautiful Entries

We invite you to delve into the creative minds of these talented young writers and artists, by reading all the incredible entries on our website. Their words and drawings vividly bring to life the beauty and wonder of our countryside.

Looking to the Future

Congratulations to all the participants! Your passion for nature and your creativity are truly commendable. As we move forward, please keep an eye out for our 2023-2024 Primary School Writing Competition, launched in May 2023. Together, we will continue nurturing a love for the countryside in the hearts and minds of our young generation.

Social Media Photography Competition 2022-2023

The CPRENY Photography Social Media Competition 2022-2023 has been an absolute delight, and we're thrilled to announce the winners!

This year, we received an astounding entries, each month, capturing the breath-taking essence of North and East Yorkshire.

A Heartfelt Thank You

First and foremost, we want to express our deep appreciation to everyone who participated in the contest. Whether you submitted your remarkable photographs, your active involvement made this year's event truly exceptional. Your enthusiasm for showcasing the natural wonders of our region was nothing short of inspiring.

The submissions we received beautifully captured the stunning landscapes and wildlife that grace our region. From the vibrant, fiery sunsets that adorned the North Yorkshire skies to the serene coastal vistas mirroring the ocean's splendour, and even the tiniest creatures, each photograph stood as a testament to the remarkable beauty that surround us.

And now, the moment you've eagerly awaited, let's introduce the winners of the CPRENY Photography Social Media Competition for 2022-2023

1st place:

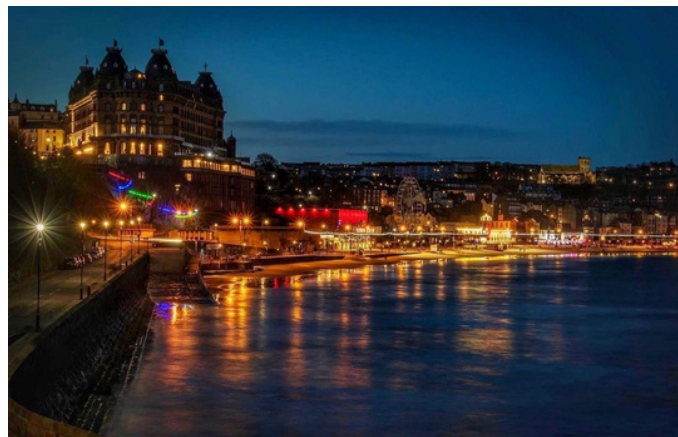
Am I brave enough and quick enough to take the food on offer ? If I stretch just a little nearer I can make my quick get away !!!

An adorable red squirrel encountering a whole new adventure.



Red Squirrel – Christine Hainsworth - [tink2764](#)

2nd place:



Night Time in Scarborough - Sally Ann Johnson
[@sallyannjohnston](#)

3rd place:



Gorgeous white deer - Marion Hayhurst
[@capturedbymarion](#)

We invite you to explore all the incredible images on our website, where you can witness the skill and creativity of our talented community members

Celebrating North and East Yorkshire's Best Churchyards: A Glimpse into the Competition

Nestled in the serene landscapes of North and East Yorkshire, a competition unlike any other has been quietly blossoming – the Best Churchyard Competition. This heartwarming contest has captured the hearts of locals and visitors alike, celebrating the natural beauty and community spirit that flourish in the churchyards of this picturesque region.

Community Unity and Pride

The Best Churchyard Competition has brought communities closer together. From planting wildflower meadows to restoring ancient gravestones, local residents have rolled up their sleeves and embraced the opportunity to showcase their churchyards' hidden gems. The competition encourages people of all ages to participate, instilling a sense of pride and belonging in their local heritage.

Open to All Denominations and Communities

One of the remarkable aspects of this competition is its inclusivity. It welcomes entries from churchyards of all denominations, recognizing that each holds a unique place in the tapestry of North and East Yorkshire's landscape. These churchyards, irrespective of their faith, tell stories of centuries past and provide spaces for quiet contemplation and enjoyment of nature.

Benefits Beyond the Competition

The positive impacts of the competition extend far beyond the winners' podium. The increased attention on churchyards has encouraged tourism and visitation, bringing economic benefits to local businesses and communities. Moreover, the competition has stimulated a greater interest in gardening, conservation, and local history among residents, fostering a deeper connection with their surroundings.

And Now, The Moment You've Been Waiting For
Without further ado, let's meet our CPRENEY Best Churchyard 2023:

St. Oswald's - Newton Under Roseberry.



“St. Oswald's - Newton Under Roseberry: A testament to enduring beauty, community dedication, and our natural heritage. “

Conclusion

North and East Yorkshire's Best Churchyard Competition is not merely a contest; it is a testament to the enduring beauty of these sacred spaces and the unwavering dedication of the communities that care for them. These churchyards, with their lush gardens, rich history, and vibrant biodiversity, serve as reminders of the intrinsic link between the natural world and our collective heritage. The competition is a heartwarming celebration of unity, tradition, and the boundless potential of communities to nurture and preserve the treasures in their midst.

Best Churchyard 2022



Best Churchyard 2022 - St. Catherine's Barmby Moor

We were honoured to be able to present St. Catherine's, in Barmby Moor with their award for Best Churchyard in North and East Yorkshire 2022.

St Catherine's, in Barmby Moor, is said to be the largest churchyard in East Yorkshire - the churchyard has a range of mowing regimes to allow the wildflowers to continue to thrive and provide a habitat for small mammals, insects and other small creatures.



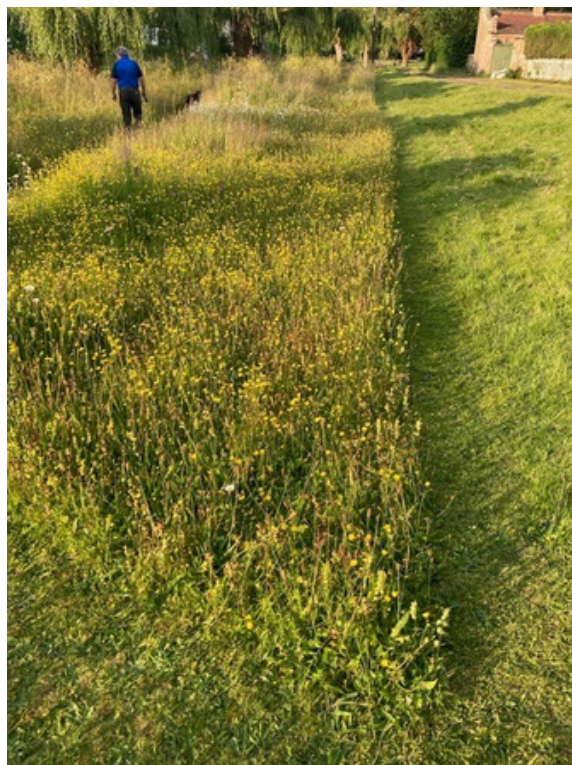
Barmby Moor Green Hay Transplants

Background

Barmby Moor is a small village, about 12 miles from York, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Back in 2011, the county council, using funding from the EU as part of its Leader rural development project, set up a community initiative called the Country Mile Project. The idea was to leave sections of roadside verges unmown through most of the summer and then local people, acting as guardians of these stretches of verge, would mow and remove the cuttings. The funding ran until 2013. These were also the years of the wildflowers grown around the London Olympic site – a trial run in 2011 and the real thing in 2012. My neighbour was inspired by this and similar planting she had seen of wildflower annuals around Bridlington.

Consequently, the people on Becksides in Barmby Moor joined the Country Mile Project with permission from the parish council to use a small section of the village green for this purpose. St Catherine's churchyard in Barmby Moor also had its own project running, as a member of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Living Churchyards.

Wildflowers were allowed to flower and set seed before they were mown in late summer, early autumn. The churchyard had a much better showing than the Becksides site, having been very much ahead of the trend, starting this style of management in the early nineties.



Development

The first summer, 2012, was poor on Becksides, lots and lots of false oat and cocksfoot grass grew, four feet tall. This was not surprising as the amenity grasses there had been roughly mown for decades with the cuttings left to rot down. Early on, we joined forces with the church to create two wildflower areas with the same cutting regime and volunteers.

Over the years we have managed to establish yellow rattle and eyebright as the fertility declined and flowers grew, including three species of orchid, common spotted, pyramidal and Northern marsh. In 2023, 41 common spotted orchids flowered, a tenfold increase from the four that flowered in 2018, our first year of orchids. I cannot over emphasise how much this thrills me. Our method has changed very little – one cut in late summer followed by regular mowing through the autumn. No mowing from spring onwards - the grass is very short going into winter. We have mechanically scarified areas to establish yellow rattle and eyebright - this is an ongoing project as we are all volunteers and not particularly young ones at that!



Green Hay Transplants

In 2019 we did our first transplant of green hay, to a community group called Down2Earth (D2E) in Hull, together with a jam jar of yellow rattle seed I had collected. D2E are converting a disused tree nursery into a meadow area. They spread the hay, having scarified by hand, and overseeded the seed. In 2020 and subsequent years, the meadow has been filled with yellow rattle.

In 2022, hay was transplanted to Madhyamaka Buddhist centre at Kilnwick Hall near Pocklington, only three or four miles away. Hay, containing yellow rattle, eyebright, cowslip and primrose seed, amongst others, was cut and raked up then taken by van to the Buddhist centre. It was spread by the Green Buddies gardening volunteers that work there regularly. At the Barmby end, there were volunteers from the village and from Greener Pocklington, another community group that does practical environmental work around the area such as planting trees, though not limited to that. The hay was cut and raked up at the donor site and spread out at the receiver site within three hours to ensure the integrity of the seeds was not damaged by heat being generated in the gathered arisings. One square metre's worth of green hay was spread over two square metres of newly scarified ground. A year on and yellow rattle proliferated in the part of the grounds that was seeded. Most of other seeds are perennials so they will become more apparent next year.

In 2023, two areas in Molescroft, Beverley were seeded, using the same method as above, in a collaboration with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Molescroft Wildlife Network. It will be exciting to see the progress on these sites over the coming years.

By Jackie Jeffery
Barmby Moor Wildlife Group

A story to tell?

Have you, or someone you know (individual or group), initiated or completed a project – regardless of scale, which benefits the countryside environment that is worth shouting about?

If so, please get in touch so we can share more widely the successes and inform our members 'how it was achieved' – Our 'Countryside Champions' across North and East Yorkshire, often inspire others to invest their time and efforts in to something rewarding Remember, you read it here first!

Join the National CPRE's Centenary Circle now

We're approaching our national centenary in 2026 – it will mark a century of CPRE campaigning to promote, enhance and protect the countryside, the communities who live there and those who cherish it.

Since we were created, we've helped make sure there are iconic landscapes for everyone to enjoy, and countryside to provide space for us to work and play. But now we are responding to the biggest challenge yet – the climate emergency. Already our country is feeling the impact of the climate breakdown, as extreme weather becomes more common. The countryside right on our doorstep is one of our mightiest allies in tackling this crisis. So many of the answers are at our fingertips and by pushing for nature-based solutions we can make a real difference.

Your support as a Centenary Circle member will help us to empower local communities and drive change in the countryside we all love so much.

'The countryside is where I grew up and where I live today – it's part of who I am. As a successful entrepreneur and investor I know the countryside can provide many of the solutions we need to tackle the biggest problem facing our planet: climate change'

Deborah Meaden, CPRE Centenary Circle member.

Our movement

At CPRE, we know people power makes a difference. Our campaigning and lobbying successes are underpinned by our dedicated research and strong partnerships with organisations, such as Greenpeace, Shelter and the Woodland Trust, to have real impact on government decision-making. CPRE's national network of local groups provide an ideal route through which activities to resist climate change can be promoted and rolled out.

What to expect

As part of the Centenary Circle, you'll support a range of initiatives, from planting new hedgerows, sustaining soils and restoring peatlands, to delivering renewable energy projects that put communities first, creating a countryside for everyone.

Benefits of joining include:

- Receiving regular updates about our projects
- Invitations to attend exclusive events
- Acknowledgement of your support on our website and in our annual review
- Priority access to our ground-breaking reports before they launch

Making a difference

Over the past century, we have championed the countryside and the communities within it, becoming well known as effective campaigners and advocates. We believe in countryside and green spaces that are accessible to all, rich in nature and playing a crucial role in responding to the climate emergency. We stand for a countryside that enriches all of our lives, regenerating our wellbeing, and that we in turn regenerate, protect and celebrate. Without you, our work simply wouldn't be possible.

Your support as a Centenary Circle member can help us in many ways, recent examples of our campaign successes include:

In 2019, after our hard-hitting campaign, the government dropped plans to fast-track the planning process for fracking – and then halted fracking altogether.

In 2021, CPRE launched #40by50 to get government commitment to a target of 40% more hedgerows by 2050. We've already planted or restored 18 kilometres of hedgerows, with five CPRE local groups mobilising 500 volunteers, 17 schools and colleges as part of our Hedgerow Heroes project. In 2022, a further ten CPRE local groups are set to restore even more hedgerows as part of this project.

Most recently, our campaign calling on the government to give communities the power to shape their future – and drop plans to deregulate planning — has gained huge support. But there's so much more to do . . .

Delivering a brighter, better future

- We need your help to continue with this work, including:
- Ensuring commitment to tackling climate change is featured in any future planning reforms
- Confirmed commitment from government to make sure we have 40% more hedgerows by 2050
- Support and protection of our soils and appreciation of their vital role in carbon sequestering

Act now

We hope you're inspired to join our Centenary Circle and champion nature-based solutions to the climate crisis. A commitment of at least £5,000 per year will help fund our continued effort to tackle this emergency, while putting local people front and centre, and protecting our countryside for generations to come.

For more information, or to become a member, please contact: centenarycircle@cpre.org.uk or call: 020 7981 2800



The countryside charity
North and East Yorkshire

You are invited to attend
CPRE North and East Yorkshire's Annual General Meeting
On Saturday 25th November 2022 at
11:00 at the Friargate Quaker Meeting House, York, YO1 9RL

Agenda

10:30 Doors Open: Registration and Refreshments

11:00 Welcome - Fran Evans

11:05 CPRE North Yorkshire

The Chairman – Jan Arger

The Chairman will ask each trustee to introduce themselves to Members

Acceptance of Minutes of last AGM 12 November 2022

Vote to endorse current trustee board 2023-2024

11:35 Financial Report 2022

Clair Jones

11:45 Planning Update

Katie Atkinson

12:10 A tour around North Yorkshire's Churchyards

Dr Morris Charlton

Close and Thanks

Jan Arger

12:40 Questions from Members

12:55 Presentation of Photography Awards, Best Churchyard Competition, Recognition Awards

1:00 Lunch

Please note booking is required to ensure catering and seats are limited.
All reservations should be received by 1st November 2023 by email or letter.

Financial Overview for 2022

Our income totalled £45,773.

Our expenditure totalled £62,928.

This included donations of £18,248 from our members and other supporters and other income of £22,965 from the former CPRE East Yorkshire.

We spent £33,670 on activities to connect people and countryside, specifically through our planning work, and £11,805 on other activities to promote rural life.

In 2021, our total income was £21,113.

In 2021, our total expenditure was £64,941.

At the end of the year, we held funds totalling £226,319. These included £141,744 of unrestricted funds and £84,574 of restricted funds.

We held total funds of £243,605 at the end of 2021.

Our planning work in 2022



Governance

The last stages of the Governance review, completed in 2018, ensured compliance with the charity commission - the body to whom we are accountable. Whilst not compulsory, it is advisable to have clear risk assessment policies and complaints procedures in place. CPRE North and East Yorkshire now produces risk assessments each quarter and has a clear complaints policy.

Accountants

CPRE North and East Yorkshire has continued to work hard to ensure transparent and professional accounting remains in place. In 2022 we moved to EA Independent Ltd to produce our annual accounts and file them with the charity commission on our behalf to ensure full accountability.

Copies may be obtained at a cost of £2.50 to cover postage and printing costs. Contact admin: info@cpreney.org.uk

Administratiton

All CPRE North and East Yorkshire correspondence is now on headed paper with ONE emailing address which can be handed on from management board to management board. This ensures continuity, clarity and reduces confusion. Contact Fran Evans on info@cpreney.org.uk

Legal

Robert Nieri, our lawyer, moved to head Shoosmiths. Robert has always provided support to CPRE North and East Yorkshire and guided us through the transition period. Robert was also legal counsel for the national CPRE charity, therefore, fully understands our remit. We have continued to retain Shoosmiths and Robert in particular, to continue to advise us when required.

Planning

Our improved finances ensure we can comment professionally on planning issues - our bank of professional planners includes: One Voyage Limited of Helmsley who specialise in Heritage and Conservation impacts of applications and KVA Planning Consultancy of Bridlington who provide us with professional planning advice to deal with specific planning matters.

Social Media and Website

Our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages remains a vibrant and effective platform for keeping residents informed, sharing important updates, and showcasing images of our beautiful region.

Our website has become a reliable reference point for journalists across the county, who regularly seek our opinions and reach out to us for information.

Gifting Options to Support CPRE North and East Yorkshire

1. Become/Gift a CPRENEY Member(ship): Looking for a meaningful gift idea? Consider becoming or gifting a CPRE North and East Yorkshire membership. Membership offers various perks, including discounted entry to national venues and shops, access to planning and campaigning specialists, quarterly member updates, and National CPRE publications. By becoming a member, you support the independent charity dedicated to protecting the beautiful countryside of North and East Yorkshire.
2. Leaving a Legacy: Leaving a gift in your will to 'CPRE North and East Yorkshire' is a significant way to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the countryside for future generations. If you share our passion for protecting our natural heritage, please consider discussing the possibility of leaving a gift with us. Your legacy, regardless of the amount, will help us ensure that future developments are considerate of the countryside, preventing unchecked housing sprawl. CPRENEY relies on memberships, donations, and legacies as an independent charity.

To learn more, please contact Fran at info@cpreney.org.uk or call 07983 088120.

Your support is crucial in safeguarding the green, tranquil, and beautiful landscapes of North and East Yorkshire for our grandchildren to cherish. (Note: We operate as an independent charity under a different charity number while working under the umbrella of the National Charity.)



Join in
cpreney.org.uk

Webpage: www.cpreney.org.uk

Email: info@cpreney.org.uk

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LinkedIn: CPRE North and East Yorkshire

TikTok: cpre_ney



The countryside charity
North and East Yorkshire