

**CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND**  
**CPRE Gloucestershire**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 29 June 2022 at the  
Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester**

1. Welcome. The President of CPRE Gloucestershire, Charles Martell, welcomed members and their guests to the Annual General Meeting. Mr Martell thanked the Vice Chancellor of the RAU and his staff for providing such an ideal venue for the meeting. The formal business of the AGM was then chaired by Professor Patricia Broadfoot CBE.
2. Apologies for absence. Apologies from a number of members were noted.
3. Minutes of the AGM held on 3 November 2021 and matters arising. The Minutes were approved without amendment. There were no matters arising.
4. Report and accounts. Members received the Annual Reports of the Chair, Professor Patricia Broadfoot; and of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr Julian Oxley.
  - 4a. Chair's Report. Professor Broadfoot outlined a series of CPRE campaigns that had prospered in 2021 despite of the difficulties of Covid-19 restrictions. Of particular note were the successful improvements to the design of the A417 alterations at Crickley Hill, and the start of a fruitful partnership with the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) and others in a programme of hedgerow planting and maintenance. A local disappointment had been the findings of the government's Glover Review that had not recommended AONB status for the Forest of Dean, despite our persuasive lobbying over a number of years.

Professor Broadfoot also noted our continuing 'bread and butter' involvement in local plan preparation and planning applications and appeals. This work is a major commitment for our CPRE Districts. We had run a series of well-attended seminars on the planning policy and procedures for parish councils and other local groups. Five high quality developments had received a CPRE Gloucestershire Award.

Our Director, Louise Williams and our Marketing and Communications Officer, Lesley Painter had both left during the year and members had wished them well in their new endeavours. We welcomed Gill Raikes as our fund-raising consultant
  - 4b. Hon. Treasurer's Report. Julian Oxley advised that day-to-day balances had remained fairly unchanged, with a small increase in expenditure being matched by greater success with fund-raising. An operating deficit of about £2000 had been planned and was acceptable. Of more concern was a drop in the value of our investments because of the economic difficulties caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - 4c. Adoption of the Hon. Treasurer's Report and Accounts. The 2021 Accounts were adopted unanimously by the meeting.

4d. Appointment of Reporting Accountants. Members unanimously approved the re-appointment of Andorran Ltd, Chartered Accountants of Manor Park Business Centre, Cheltenham as the CPRE Gloucestershire Reporting Accountants.

5. Progress on establishing CPRE Gloucestershire as a CIO. David Brooke, Vice Chair advised members that the transfer of CPRE Gloucestershire from an unincorporated charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was 'nearly there'. All requirements of the Charity Commission had been met and a CIO had been registered. The actual move from the 'old' charity to the 'new' charity awaited the confirmation of a new current account from Lloyds Bank, who had been very slow in providing one.

*Note. CPRE Gloucestershire became a CIO later in the year.*

6. Election of Officers. The following officers were approved unanimously.

President	Charles Martell
Vice Presidents	The Earl of Harrowby, Professor Adrian Phillips, Dame Fiona Reynolds, and the Earl of Wemyss and March
Chair	Patricia Broadfoot
Vice Chairs	David Brooke and Richard Lloyd (Vice Chair but not a Trustee)
Hon. Treasurer	Julian Oxley

7. Election of Trustees. The Chair, Vice Chair and Hon. Treasurer are all Trustees *ex officio*. In addition, the following were happy to seek re-election and all were elected. Ashley Smith, a former Trustee, had not sought re-election.

Bob Brown	Miranda Chalk
David Crofts	Colin Evers
Steve Smith	

*Note. Changes took place later in the year under Section 14 of the Constitution. Steve Smith became a Vice Chair; David Brooke (whose term of office as a trustee had expired) resigned as a Vice Chair; and Heather Mackenzie and Richard Tyson were co-opted as Trustees*

8. Any other business. There was none.

### **'Trees eat carbon for breakfast'**

After the completion of the AGM and a refreshing tea provided by the RAU, CPRE members joined colleagues from the Honourable Company of Gloucestershire for what has become an annual joint lecture. Baroness Young of Old Scone, Chair of the Woodland Trust mesmerised her audience with an incisive, lively and entertaining discourse on the importance of trees and woodlands to the future of society: 'Trees eat carbon for breakfast'. The breadth and persuasiveness of her talk was reflected in the extent of debate that followed. Both organisations thanked Barbara Young for her undoubted *tour de force*.