

# Annual Review 2025



100  
YEARS



Campaign to Protect  
Rural England  
Gloucestershire

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## A message from our Chair

I am delighted to introduce this, my final Annual Review from CPRE Gloucestershire.

As I stand down from the Chair, I am delighted to reflect on our achievements over the last few years and particularly the wide range of activities we engaged in as an organisation during 2025. Whether its seeking to influence local and national planning policy, campaigning for the protection of wildlife or helping to restore our countryside by planting new hedgerows, our staff and volunteers have been active throughout the year doing what we can to make sure our beautiful Gloucestershire countryside is there for future generations to enjoy.



**Professor Patricia  
Broadfoot CBE FAcSS  
Chair  
CPRE Gloucestershire**

To support this work, we also ran several fund-raising activities – notably a splendid summer reception at the beautiful home of the Earl of Harrowby, one of our Vice Presidents, at Burnt Norton. Every cause needs its champions and we are always delighted when our annual Awards event comes round and we can celebrate some of the outstanding achievements of people across the County in protecting and enhancing our countryside. I hope you will enjoy reading about these different aspects of the Charity’s work in this Annual Review.

As I conclude my time in office, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the many volunteers who have supported me over the years and who have made these achievements possible especially my fellow trustees, Chairs and members of our District Committees, volunteer hedge planters and helpers at events. I know you would want me too, to thank our hard-working staff - Louise, Matilda and Eve – whose skill and commitment to CPRE Gloucestershire is evident in these pages. But I most especially want to thank you - our members and supporters - because it is your generosity and dedication that make all this possible.

I do hope you enjoy reading this Review. We always welcome feedback so please get in touch with your thoughts and suggestions about our work at [info@cpreglos.org.uk](mailto:info@cpreglos.org.uk).

# Our work



# Campaigns, planning & policy

Throughout 2025, we delivered constructive, expert and evidence-led work; shaping consultations, influencing decision-makers and working collaboratively to achieve positive outcomes for Gloucestershire's countryside.

Our work remained closely aligned with CPRE's national priorities, while responding to local challenges affecting Gloucestershire.

We maintained strong relationships with environmental groups, charities and other stakeholders across the CPRE network and beyond, recognising that collaboration strengthens our voice and impact.

## Planning & development

Throughout the year, we focused on local planning policy, contributing to consultations on emerging Local Plans in the Stroud and Cotswold Districts. In this, we advocated for countryside protection, landscape character and climate considerations.

We also continued our core work reviewing and responding to planning applications particularly major housing developments and solar farm proposals.

Through careful review, we sought to influence decisions in favour of sustainable development and countryside protection.

## Nature

We responded to the Western Forest initiative, welcoming its ambition and highlighting its potential to deliver significant environmental and landscape benefits across Gloucestershire.





## Transport

We contributed to consultations on transport and strategic planning, including a detailed response to the Western Gateway Sub-National Transport Body's draft Strategic Investment Plan.

## Major infrastructure

A standout focus from the year was engagement with the major infrastructure proposal affecting the Severn Estuary; Hinkley Point C. We raised concerns with EDF about environmental impacts, particularly fish mortality and the inadequacy of mitigation measures. We advocated for effective fish deterrent technologies and opposed the use of saltmarsh creation as an alternative form of mitigation.

## Parliament & local government

We considered proposals for local government reorganisation and devolution through our Policy Sub-Committee. We supported the principle of a single unitary authority option and submitted formal representations in 2026.

Across 2025, we also engaged with Gloucestershire's Members of Parliament on a range of issues central to our mission, including many of those highlighted in this section.

## National work

At a national level, we supported CPRE's coordinated advocacy on emerging government policy. This included contributing to responses to the Government's consultation on its vision for land use in England, and supporting work on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.

Through this, we championed key countryside priorities, including a brownfield-first approach to development, stronger protections for nature, and the importance of local voices in the planning system.

# Hedgerow Heroes Project

During 2025, we successfully completed Phase 4 of our Hedgerow Heroes Project and launched Phase 5 in the autumn.

The project continued to deliver hands-on countryside enhancement, engaging with volunteers, land owners and local communities across Gloucestershire.



Over the year, 2.8 kilometres of hedgerow were planted and laid, contributing to biodiversity, landscape character and climate resilience.

Alongside practical work, we provided advice and guidance to support long-term hedgerow management and protection.

The project continued to build a strong community of volunteers, offering opportunities for skills development, training and active involvement in countryside conservation. This remains a central part of our approach; combining practical environmental outcomes with community engagement.



## Looking forward

Building on the continued success of the Hedgerow Heroes Project, in December 2025 our Board of Trustees approved a new three-year Business Plan, marking a shift towards delivering clearly defined projects that directly support our charitable objectives.

# Communications & events

## Communications

During the year, bi-monthly e-newsletters and a digital Annual Review formed the foundation of communications with members and supporters. In December, new branding was rolled out, marking 100 years of CPRE.

## Events

We delivered our planned programme of events, including a flagship fundraising celebration at Burnt Norton.

Alongside this, member engagement and countryside activities took place; walks, talks and visits, often led by our passionate volunteers. We were delighted to meet many of our members and supporters in person throughout the year.



## Awards

We were delighted to once again deliver our annual Awards, recognising local projects that demonstrated excellence in environmental protection and enhancement, as well as meaningful contributions to their communities.

Our 2025 Awards Ceremony was held at Elmore Court for the second consecutive year, and we extend our sincere thanks to the Elmore Court team and Anselm Guise for generously hosting us.

We are also grateful to Loxley Solicitors for their continued sponsorship of our Awards scheme, which enables us to celebrate and showcase outstanding projects from across the county.



## Grants

Following the adoption of our new three-year Business Plan at the end of 2025, our work increasingly focused on project development and grant fundraising.

We secured a £2,576 restricted grant from The Summerfield Trust to support the development of a Brownfield Site Survey project, due to begin in April 2026.

We also received a £3,000 unrestricted grant from the PF Charitable Trust, strengthening our core funding and giving us greater flexibility to support our work.

### Looking forward to a special year

Towards the end of 2025 preparations took place for a significant milestone year; CPRE's centenary in 2026. As part of this, we secured a £5,000 grant from our national charity (received in early 2026) to support centenary activities and engagement.

## Partners

In 2025, we continued to work closely with organisations that share our commitment to Gloucestershire's countryside. We are grateful to all our partners for their support, which strengthens our impact and extends our reach.

# Membership

Our members continued to play a vital role at the heart of our work throughout the year. Their ongoing support enables us to protect and enhance Gloucestershire's countryside. In December 2025, we recorded a total of 580 members, reflecting a strong and committed community behind our mission.



# Volunteering

Volunteers are central to the success of our charity, and in 2025 we were delighted to benefit from the time, skills and enthusiasm of a wide range of individuals across our projects and activities. Their contribution is invaluable, and we extend our sincere thanks for their continued support.

You can read more about volunteer contributions in the 'Hedgerow Heroes Project' and in the 'Our team' parts of this review.

# Our team



# Board

Our Board comprised nine Trustees in 2025:

- Patricia Broadfoot - Chair
- Steve Smith - Vice Chair
- Claire Feehily - Treasurer
- David Crofts
- Colin Evers
- Richard Tyson
- Aimee Malcolm
- Bob Brown
- Heather Mackenzie

The Board also continued to benefit from the support of long-standing volunteers Prue Vernon and David Brooke.



## Richard Lloyd

In October, we were deeply saddened by the loss of our Vice Chair, and Chair of both our Policy Sub-Committee and Awards Scheme, Richard Lloyd. We shared an obituary at the time, expressing our gratitude for Richard's longstanding commitment to CPRE, which began in the 1970s. His dedication and leadership made a lasting impact, and he is greatly missed across our organisation.

# Honorary Officers

In 2025, the following individuals served as Honorary Officers. We thank them for their continued support of the charity:

President: Madeleine Bunting

Vice Presidents: Professor Adrian Phillips, Dame Fiona Reynolds, The Earl of Harrowby, The Earl of Wemyss & March

# Staff

In 2025, our the staff team comprised two full-time employees and two part-time contractors.

The Board delegates responsibility for the day-to-day management of CPRE Gloucestershire to its Director, Louise Chandler-Mullins, aided by the Business Support Group (comprised of the Chair, Treasurer and Vice Chair), and staff:

- Matilda Jones: Communications and Development Manager
- Eve Gilbert: Project Manager (replacing Millie Lawlor)

Fiona Meadley worked on contractual-basis supporting financial operations.





## Committee volunteers

We are grateful to all our volunteers, whose time, commitment and passion underpin the work of the charity. Their dedication makes a significant difference across all areas of our activity, and we thank them for their invaluable support throughout the year.

Volunteer contributions included our Policy Sub-Committee, which played a key role in shaping our policy work both locally in Gloucestershire and through engagement with the national CPRE team.

Our District Committees remained central to our work, undertaking planning casework and delivering engagement events across our six Districts: North Cotswolds; South Cotswolds & Tetbury; Berkeley Vale; Stroud; Cheltenham, Gloucester & Tewkesbury; and the Forest of Dean.

The Awards Committee led our scheme; identifying and celebrating projects that made a significant contribution to Gloucestershire's countryside and communities.

### Looking forward to a special year

At the end of 2025, a new Centenary Working Group was formed, bringing together Trustees, staff and volunteers to plan and deliver a programme of initiatives to mark CPRE's centenary in 2026.

# Treasurer's report





## A message from our Treasurer

The Annual Accounts for the charity are summarised on the following two pages (pgs 12-13).

The charity made a deficit of £23,467 on its operational activities in 2025. This was more than offset by an increase of £46,663 in the value of its investments. The charity's total reserves have increased to £276,030 as at 31 December 2025 (an increase of £23,196 for the year).

The reported CIO accounts include some items that relate to the predecessor organisation as follows: Income of £600 and Expenditure of £1,647.

The financial context continues to be a difficult one principally in terms of sources of income. During the year the Board took the decision to increase project management capacity in order to extend the charity's range of activities and improve its longer-term resilience.

My thanks to BK Plus for their independent examination of our financial statements for 2025.



Dr Claire Feehily  
Treasurer  
CPRE Gloucestershire

# Summarised statement of financial activities for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

	2025		2024	
<b>INCOME</b>				
Share of National Subscriptions	21,296		20,385	
Hedgerow Heroes Project (HH3&4&5)	45,674		17,458	
Investment Income & Interest	6,698		7,479	
Donations & Events	11,064		11,373	
Legacy	685		1,000	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>85,417</b>		<b>57,695</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staff Costs	49,037		40,801	
Postage & Telephone	3,444		1,257	
Office Rent	2,080		3,332	
Public Relations & Fundraising	3,074		700	
	-		3,133	
Reporting Accountant & AGM	1,250		1,018	
Professional Charges	1,820		1,685	
Insurance	645		630	
Travel & Meetings	1,119		1,041	
Awards Scheme	110		2,021	
Bank Charges & Interest	231		84	
Partnerships & Projects	2,756		2,625	
Hedgerow Heroes Project (HHP4&5)	45,488		17,458	
Contribution to Overheads (HHP3&4&5)	(2,170)		(11,344)	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>108,884</b>		<b>64,441</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(23,467)</b>	<b>(6,746)</b>	
Gain / (Loss) on Investments		46,663		8,500
Fund Balances Brought Forward		252,834		251,080
<b>FUND BALANCES AT 31st December</b>		<b>276,030</b>		<b>252,834</b>

# Balance sheet at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Investments	270,017	273,354
Debtors	5,818	5,066
Bank Accounts	53,091	42,015
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>328,926</b>	<b>320,435</b>
<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(52,896)</b>	<b>(67,601)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>276,030</b>	<b>252,834</b>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>		
General Fund	93,530	70,334
Fighting Fund	92,500	92,500
Development Fund	30,000	30,000
Districts' Fund	20,000	20,000
Partnership Fund	30,000	30,000
Training Funds	10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>276,030</b>	<b>252,834</b>

