

CPRE NORFOLK AWARDS - GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS

The CPRE Norfolk Awards is the Awards scheme of the Norfolk Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE Norfolk). CPRE Norfolk is a registered charity and a membership organisation, which campaigns for the protection and enhancement of the Norfolk countryside.

The CPRE Norfolk Awards scheme was launched in 1979 to recognise significant achievements in buildings and landscape. It is one of the longest running Awards schemes in the county and over 300 projects have been awarded to date.

Who Can Apply

The scheme welcomes applications from all sections of the community and from projects of all types, big and small. Restoration projects, building conversions, innovative new building design, landscape management projects, historical research and school's environmental work are all considered. The CPRE Norfolk Awards does not normally consider projects within the City Council boundary lines but all other parts of Norfolk are included. We ask that projects have been completed within the past 3 years.

The judges give Awards to projects which they feel meet CPRE's objectives as a campaigning organisation seeking to protect and enhance the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of the English countryside. It is not a competition and projects are not compared when they are being judged. Rather, Awards are given on merit and more than twenty Awards may be given in a single year.

The Judging Process

As applications are received they are considered by all judges. If the application is considered worthy, the project will be shortlisted and then visited by members of the judging panel. All applications must be received by 11th June and all site visits to be conducted by the end of August. A final list of winners is then determined. All applicants will be notified of the judges' decision and winners will be invited to an Awards Ceremony in November.

The Judging Panel

A judging panel is appointed by the governing board of CPRE Norfolk and authorised to make Awards on behalf of the branch. There are normally 4 to 5 judges that sit on the judging panel who bring a mixture of personal expertise and professional experience. The judges' backgrounds are commonly in environmental conservation, architecture or the historic landscape. At least one trustee of CPRE Norfolk will sit on the judging panel. Information on the current CPRE Norfolk Awards Judging Panel is available on request.

Prizes

All people that have played a significant role in the project will be given a framed certificate and the project itself will receive a bronze plaque for display at the site location. If project members cannot attend the Awards Ceremony, prizes will be sent in the post.

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR JUDGING CRITERIA

Judging Criteria

Applications are welcomed from all sources and a great variety of projects are considered. The judges give Awards to projects which they feel meet CPRE Norfolk's objectives as a campaigning organisation seeking to protect and enhance the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of the Norfolk countryside.

With this in mind, the criteria below will give a guide as to what the judges are looking for. Please note that these are for guidance only, and fulfilling some, or all, of the criteria does not necessarily guarantee an Award.

Buildings

- Local distinctiveness of design and build / repair and adaptation
- A coherent response to the setting and wider landscape
- Conservation and alteration that respect the inherent qualities of original fabric and design
- Uncompromising standards of design and workmanship
- Use of materials chosen with consideration of their environmental impact
- Projects that offer local, sustainable and low-impact solutions
- An integrated approach to energy saving measures
- Buildings which serve communities and/or support the local rural economy

(for example: historic building restorations, monument restorations, barn conversions, refurbishments, extensions, contemporary new architecture)

Landscape Projects

- Changes that enhance visual and ecological value
- Creative responses which restore and revitalise settings
- Landscape design that understands the relationship between different landscape components
- Landscape management that respects locally distinct landscape character
- Projects that improve access to the countryside for all

(for example: new parkland, meadow restoration, creation of walks/trails, new nature reserves, creation or restoration of village ponds, the work of artists in the landscape)

Educational Projects

- Landscape used as an opportunity for education, training or community involvement
- Curriculum learning that makes use of school grounds
- School environmental projects with high levels of pupil involvement
- Gardening schemes that engage children and/or adults in local food issues
- Involvement of volunteers and disadvantaged groups

(for example: vernacular building research, leaflets/information packs for walkers, school wildlife gardens and recycling schemes, cross-curriculum environmental education)

Contact

Please send application forms and all correspondence marked 'CPRE Norfolk Awards' to:
Katy Jones, CPRE Norfolk, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich, NR2 1NR or to katyj@cprenorfolk.org.uk