



Teens turn tables on litter louts

Teenage boys are often blamed as the main culprits for dropping litter, apparently throwing down an endless stream of fast food containers and drinks cans with casual disregard for their local surroundings. But brothers Ed and Will Morley from Runhall, are turning this notion on its head by regularly picking up roadside litter as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Will (15) and Ed (13), both pupils at Wymondham High School, are assisting the litter warden of their local parish by patrolling three major lanes in the villages of Runhall and Coston.



Picture by Terry Stanford

The Duke of Edinburgh should be proud. Litter-picking brothers Ed and Will Morley (L and R) tackle the verges as part of their Bronze DoE Award scheme.

The community aspect of the Bronze Level Duke of Edinburgh Award requires the boys to volunteer for one hour a week for three months and this they are easily achieving as they cover their route. In the winter months they travel by bike, stopping when they see litter to be collected, and have cleverly designed a litter carrier, made from an old sack barrow, to attach to their bikes. Will Morley has even developed a technique for litter-picking whilst cycling, swooping down on litter, grabber in hand, like an environmentally-minded polo-player. Litter picking in the spring and summer months takes longer though, as all litter-pickers know, as verges and hedges become

overgrown, hiding the litter and requiring more poking about.

"The areas near the main road are the worst bit because there are lots more cars," explains Ed. "If one car in twenty drops litter then there is bound to be more litter in areas with more traffic". His brother Will also believes that it is people travelling through the countryside that drop litter, not people who live in it. "If you live in the countryside you appreciate it more and wouldn't want to mess it up" he adds.

Cigarette cartons and plastic bottles are the most prolific finds on their litter picking journeys, although a large desk and piles of tyres have also been found dumped on the roadside. The partially burnt-out remains of sky lantern frames have also been found, a relatively new form of litter.

Their mum Kaye Morley is of course delighted with what her boys are doing. "It is the perfect volunteering role for the boys. They are both too young to work in many charity shops, and also it is not easy for them to get to other volunteer activities because we are so isolated. Litter picking can be done at a time that suits them."

It is always interesting to consider why some people drop litter and why others, such as Ed and Will, are keen and willing to pick it up. Certainly the message of 'Don't Drop Litter' is taught regularly in primary schools as Kaye, herself a teacher, knows. But at high school level the message seems to weaken, included, if at all, as part of citizenship studies. And of course, children only imitate the grown-ups around them, so if adults stopped dropping litter, the next generation would do it automatically. If only.

See page 4 for more on CPRE Norfolk's litter wardens.

Notification - CPRE Norfolk 2011 AGM

Monday July 18th, 2pm

Voluntary Norfolk, 83 - 87 Pottergate, Norwich, NR2 1DZ

Followed by a talk by Matt Wood of architects Lucas Hickman Smith on the Community Right to Build

See page 10 for more details



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
NORFOLK

Who we are

CPRE Norfolk is the Norfolk Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Our aim is to promote the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of rural Norfolk by encouraging the sustainable use of land and other natural resources in town and country. Set up in 1933, we are one of the longest-running environmental charities in the county. We have 1,500 members and supporters, made up of individuals, families, parish councils, local businesses and other conservation groups.

Support us

We are supported and funded solely by people who care about the Norfolk countryside. We depend on membership, donations and legacies to run our campaigns. If you would like to make a donation, become a member or would like further information about remembering CPRE Norfolk in your Will, please contact Katy Jones, Membership and Events Manager. Your generosity will help us protect the Norfolk countryside for future generations.

CPRE Norfolk is a registered charity, no. 210706 and is registered for Gift Aid.

Work with us

CPRE Norfolk is a voluntary organisation, with almost all our activities carried out by volunteers and supporters. Opportunities to get involved range from litter picking, event management, research, graphics design, trusteeships and planning. Current opportunities and placements are posted regularly on our website and if you would like to discuss them further, please contact James Frost, Director.

Win with us

All CPRE Norfolk members are eligible to enter the 100 Club, a fundraising venture that works on the basis of a lottery. For £12 annually, members can choose a number and enter into two prize draws in June and December. The lottery is fully licensed and prizes range from £20 to £50. The winners of the December 2010 draw were Mrs C J Smith (£50), Mrs M Scrivenor Buckell and Mr J M B Taylor (both winning £25) and Mr T M & Mrs N J Ball, Mr P W C Forrest, Mr C K Smith, The Ludham Society and Mr J B Porter who each won £20.

Planning Help

Every year, through its network of local committees and planning caseworkers, CPRE Norfolk responds to hundreds of planning applications and gives informal planning guidance to individuals and local councils across the county. Although we are not able to personally follow up every case, we are always ready to hear about local planning and countryside issues, which inform our wider work. Contact our office to be put in touch with someone in your area.

CPRE also has an excellent Planning Help website for advice on all aspects of the planning system - www.cpre.org.uk/planninghelp

Contact us

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Tel: 01603 761660
info@cprenorfolk.org.uk
www.cprenorfolk.org.uk

Website - www.cprenorfolk.org.uk

The CPRE Norfolk website has sections on all aspects of our campaigning work. You will find details of Norfolk's greenest buildings; information on CPRE Norfolk Award-winning projects from around the county; copies of our latest planning responses; back issues of this newsletter; and biographies of the people running the charity. Log on to the site at www.cprenorfolk.org.uk and find out more about events near you, current volunteering opportunities, our history, and more...

Norfolk Voice

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Pass it on...

Please pass on this copy of Norfolk Voice to a friend or colleague, or take it to your local doctors, dentists or library, to help spread the word about CPRE.

Cley-next-the-Sea, in memory of Mary Norwak who died last year. Mary was Secretary to the North Norfolk District committee of CPRE Norfolk for over 25 years, relinquishing the post four years ago in the face of a declining mobility, but still attending meetings up to 18 months ago.



Chairman's view

First the forests, then the countryside

As Harold Wilson famously quipped, "A week is a long time in politics", and many lesser politicians have felt the chilling truth of his words. No one more so perhaps than Caroline Spelman, Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, who famously came unstuck recently in her hapless scramble to flog off the nation's forests. One week she was busy explaining the Government's commitment to her policy, the next she was partaking of humble pie in the House of Commons and announcing a giant redwood of a U-turn.

Ms Spelman's undoing was not so much the sheer volume of opposition to her proposals but its source. Not only did she face a torrent of criticism from highly respected groups, from the National Trust to the Ramblers (and, of course, CPRE) but an online petition against the sell-off attracted over 500,000 signatures. Many of those who signed were not typical "anti" types. They were a cross-section of Middle England, people who value their countryside and were uneasy about the prospect of whole swathes of it being shunted off into private hands. Many of them were doubtless Government supporters of one hue or another and, rather belatedly, the Government realised that it risked upsetting them at its peril.

This was an interesting spectacle, and one that may yet prove to be instructional in the next battle that is brewing – the reform of the planning system. Finally we are seeing some shape forming from the Government's initially vague proposals for change. And it's not looking good. At CPRE we had high hopes that the "top-down" attitude of the last Labour administration would be revised in favour of a more democratic approach with greater community participation. Early words from the Coalition Government gave grounds for cautious optimism, especially as the Prime Minister has repeatedly stated his commitment to the concept of "localism".

Then came George Osborne's budget speech on 23 March, in which he affirmed that he saw the planning system as "the enemy of economic growth". This is clearly over-simplistic nonsense, but at least we now know where we stand. The fact that the planning system has actually helped protect many of the features in our countryside and wider environment that people value, seems to have passed Mr Osborne by. And whilst CPRE – and other organisations that deal with the planning system on a daily basis – know that there are many aspects of it that need improvement, the idea that essential safeguards might be axed in favour of a "developers' charter" is profoundly worrying.



For a start, it flies in the face of the Prime Minister's professed support for localism. We saw just how meaningful this might be in practice with the recent fiasco over the proposed incinerator at King's Lynn, where – in what one Norfolk MP described as "a very dark day for democracy" – Norfolk councillors ignored the clear results of their own public consultation process to give the green light to a deeply unpopular scheme (see more on this on pages 6 and 7). Lest we forget, democracy is only as good as the people that run it.

Where this might leave Mr Osborne's clarion call to dismantle the planning system remains to be seen. But if it means – as it surely will – more top-down development being forced on local people, then he and the Government risk provoking a similar backlash to that provoked by the Spelman forest sell-off. Middle England will mobilise again, and therein lies political danger for the Government. Local people are prepared to stand up and be counted when the protection of their local countryside is concerned, and CPRE will be supporting them wherever possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Parry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 'y'.

James Parry
CPRE Norfolk Chairman
Jamesp@cprenorfolk.org.uk

Dates for your diary

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|-------------------------------|---|
| 9 July | Summer Baroque. Fundraising concert at Houghton Hall. See p12 for details. |
| 18 July | CPRE Norfolk AGM. See page 10 for details. |
| 21 July | Norfolk at Work and Play, East Anglian Film Archive Show. Hunstanton Town Hall. See page 12. |
| 17/18, 24/25 September | Green Buildings Open Days. See page 9. |
| 17 November | CPRE Norfolk Awards ceremony. The Assembly House Norwich. Please contact the branch office if you would like to attend. |

Campaign news

More Litter Wardens for Norfolk

CPRE Norfolk have secured funding from Keep Britain Tidy, May Gurney, Virgin Money and Breckland Council to establish a litter warden scheme in the county. To date, 33 wardens have been appointed in places such as Bodham, Castle Acre, Dersingham, Great Snoring, Gresham, Hingham, Honingham, Narborough, Oxborough, Reedham and Runhall.

Parish litter wardens are individuals working in a local area to reduce litter. They are nominated and supported by a parish or town council, or local community group. They undertake a regular (weekly or fortnightly) litter pick of the village/town and act as a point of contact on litter/flytipping issues for the whole community. They may organise and advertise clean-up days in the area and encourage other members of the community to join in on a public litter pick.

The scheme has been developed in partnership by CPRE National Office with the aim of recruiting and supporting local volunteers who want to take action against litter in their community. A small honorarium for expenses of £100 is paid to each warden and a full litterpicking kit provided (branded high-visibility vest,



professional litterpicking stick, safety gloves and bags).

There has been plenty of media interest in the scheme. Some of the Norfolk litter wardens featured with Bill Bryson, CPRE President, on BBC's Countryfile in March, undertaking a spontaneous litter pick in South Norfolk. Norfolk County Council's Spring edition of 'Your Norfolk' magazine, that goes to every household in the county, features our litter wardens from Wymondham in a special article. Sue

Baxter, Litter Warden for Narborough, was also interviewed by Woman's Weekly, on her experience of litter picking in her community.

Councils or groups that are interested in appointing a CPRE litter warden for their area should download an application form from the CPRE Norfolk website (www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/litter) or contact Mark Kenney (right) for further details.

Businesses get involved

Set-up funding for the first round of litter wardens was provided nationally by Keep Britain Tidy. More recently, local businesses have been sponsoring the scheme, providing funding and equipment for new litter wardens in local areas. This exchange is a highly visible way of a sponsor supporting community efforts on an ongoing regular basis. In return, the sponsor's logo is printed on the back of the litter warden's jacket and acknowledged in media work.

For example, May Gurney are funding two litter wardens in Wymondham. The grant is from the May Gurney Environmental Services Fund which awards grants to

community organisations local to its five reuse shops at the Caister, Coltishall (Mayton Wood), Fakenham (Hempton), Ketteringham (south of Norwich) and King's Lynn recycling centres. Virgin Money are also funding one litter warden over three years and Breckland Council have given a grant of £750 to expand the scheme in the Breckland area.

Any businesses interested in sponsorship should contact James Frost, Director, on 01603 761660.

Litter wardens tackle a hedgerow in Wymondham



Campaign news

Wardens' stories from around the county

Many of the Norfolk litter wardens are coming to the end of their first year of regular litter picking and have written in with their stories and experiences. Here are some examples:

Mark Kenney, Honingham

"About three years ago, I started walking regularly along our (single track) local country lane, one which links the villages of the Ringland Hills to the busy A47. It's a popular commuter 'rat run' and the



roadside was in an awful state. It was a dump, completely neglected. I found it increasingly impossible to fully enjoy the beautiful skies and countryside without my eyes being distracted by the enormous quantities of litter. (I wonder whether this 'call to arms' at this time was also prompted by the bleak imagery of the film 'Wall-e'!).

So, in late 2008, assisted by my trusty sons, we litter picked a single mile of the lane – and accumulated 20 full large sack loads. It was a heroic – and smelly – achievement! Disposing of this litter haul led me, via Broadland Council's Street Scene officer, to CPRE's 'Stop the Drop' campaign and the associated local Litter Warden initiative. I was encouraged to establish contact with the local Parish Council of Honingham, which enthusiastically endorsed the idea of a village warden and has since provided support and insurance.

Many locals already cleared selective parts of the village but the appointment of a Litter Warden has provided a focus for a regular co-ordinated scour of the entire village for a couple of hours every other month, supported by at least 10 villagers on each occasion. We never collect less than a sack load each.

I continue a weekly solo walk along our country lane, maintaining a regular haul of

about half a sack. Apart from the usual detritus, some more unusual items stick in the mind. I'd love to know whether the abandoned bag of (at least 8) fresh uncooked fish and the white sliced loaf of bread had any religious connection, and I speculate on the image and health of the cigar smoker who regularly deposits 5 or 6 empty cigar tins at numerous sites on the road between the villages!

It astonishes me that significant numbers of people continue to find it acceptable to trash their towns and countryside with no apparent awareness or care as to the consequences. It is almost embarrassing at times when visitors to our wonderful county witness how little respect is paid to protecting the appreciation of its beauty. It looks like it will take generations to bring a change of heart. I persist with the litter collections though, knowing that if everybody just looked after no more than a small area close to their home, our county would look so much better for it".

As well as litter picking in Honingham, Mark is also co-ordinating the Litter Warden Scheme for CPRE Norfolk. To apply or for further information, individuals or groups can contact Mark at litterwarden@cprenorfolk.org.uk or by telephone 01603 881242.

DATE	ROUTE	TIME	BAG NOS.
23 Jan	B	12:30-1300	1 Sains.
29 Jan	B	1430-1525	1 sack
30 Jan	A	15:00-1600	3 Sains
05 Feb	B	1400-1500	½ sack
20 Feb	A+B	1200-1400	1 sack
28 Feb	B	11-1215	1 sack
6 Mar	A+B	11-13:30	9 sacks!
14 Mar	B	9:30-10:30	½ sack
20 Mar	HONINGHAM VILLAGE	10-12:00	12 sacks
20 Mar	A	12-12:30	½ sack
26 Mar	B	2:15-3:15	1 sack
LITTER TO HONINGHAM PC ON 27 MARCH 2011			
09 April	A+B	11:00-1300	1 sack

A litter picker's diary, showing a busy, varied and valuable role

Sue Baxter, Narborough

Sue calls herself the 'Bag Lady of Narborough' and is regularly seen out with her dog and litter-picker in hand. After an initial clean up of the village in April 2010, Sue zoned her village into ten manageable areas and litter picks them daily in succession. She has put in well over 200 hours of volunteer time over the last year. She has noticed that the time taken to eat food from the nearby McDonalds and Kentucky Fried Chicken on the stretch of old A47, coincides with their arrival as litter in the village along the public roads, which are the main hotspots. Nevertheless, there has been a marked improvement over the last year and has received a commendation in the parish magazine. She says "Many people comment on how much better the village is looking. I take pleasure in removing the unnatural from the natural and cannot now pass by litter without my fingers twitching to retrieve it!"

Harry Bruford, Bodham

As Chairman of the Parish Council, Harry Bruford takes pride in his community and stepped forward to be the Bodham Litter Warden in April 2010. He goes out once a week to litter pick his village and estimates he has collected over 40 sacks of rubbish over the last year. Every six months he also organises a community litter pick, the last one being on 12 March when 18 volunteers collected twelve bags of rubbish, a disowned number plate and half a wheelbarrow!



Campaign news

Local Democracy counts

The recent adoption of the Joint Core Strategy for Greater Norwich and the proposals for the Energy-from-Waste plant (or Incinerator) in King's Lynn, has brought the issue of local democracy sharply into focus. CPRE Norfolk has been looking closely at the cases and reminding decision-makers of their responsibilities...

Although Government Ministers talk up 'The Big Society' and stress the importance of the Localism Bill passing through Parliament, here on the ground in Norfolk there is a distinct feeling of 'business-as-usual'. Despite the Coalition Government claiming to want local people to get involved in a localised planning system, the recent evidence doesn't stack up. In fact, in the two biggest issues that this county has faced in the last five years, it seems clear that the prevalent view of local people has not made a jot of difference to the outcome, thus far.

In the case of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS), over 3000 people in towns and villages to the North East of Norwich signed a petition objecting to their local council's plans for housing. Most of the parish councils affected also objected to the plans, and even the council's own consultation responses showed that more people were against it than for it. Yet the plans have now been signed off as 'sound' by a Government Inspector and our elected councillors voted to adopt them on 22nd March.

Then, there is the case of the proposed Energy-from-Waste (E-f-W) plant in King's Lynn, which will collect waste from all areas of the county. In a public referendum over 65,000 people voted against the idea, a 93% share of the vote. And yet Norfolk County Council still decided to award the contract and progress the plans. The planning application will now be drawn up by Norfolk County Council's contractor and

be decided by ... Norfolk County Council.

CPRE Norfolk believes that it's not too late to influence the outcomes of these proposals and ensure our elected councillors and MPs listen to the views of local people. The County Council's plans to award the contract for the E-f-W are being challenged by the Borough Council and the local MP Henry Bellingham is threatening to call-in the proposals for Judicial Review. The planning application itself, will give all parties and individuals a further chance to make their views heard.

Similarly, although the Joint Core Strategy for Greater Norwich is now part of the binding planning framework for the area, it will have to be reviewed regularly and the Localism Bill should give elected councillors more chance to speak out and councils the option to lower overall housing numbers.

CPRE Norfolk's views on the Joint Core Strategy

These plans propose a rapid expansion of the urban area into the rural area, with the majority of all new development on greenfield land. By 2026, Norwich will expand to the size of Nottingham with a planned inward migration of 50,000 extra people into the districts surrounding the city. In our view, all those things that locals and visitors cherish about Norfolk will suffer a serious negative impact. Tranquillity will reduce; light and noise pollution will increase; agricultural land will be lost; and the rural character of market towns and villages will be changed forever.

Nottingham from the air. Do we want Norwich to get this big?



CPRE Norfolk's views on the Energy-from-Waste plant

In principle, CPRE Norfolk could accept the immediate visual impact of the site on the surrounding landscape. It is an area designated for industrial development, near other industries and a major road - it is not a deeply rural setting. However, its strategic location, seems questionable. As the Plant would deal with waste from all around Norfolk, a location nearer to the centre of population in Norwich would help reduce traffic movements and resulting carbon emissions.

CPRE believes that any new proposals for incinerators or landfill sites should only follow after waste minimisation, recycling and composting options have been fully exploited. Although some progress has been made in these areas in recent years, it is clear that a lot more could be achieved. In addition, CPRE believes that there are more environmentally friendly processes to treat waste, such as Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) or anaerobic digestion. It is still not clear to us why these technologies were discarded at such an early stage.



Picture: Lynn News

Campaign news

What we say

"The question is, how does the Government expect to engage local people in planning (and indeed politics) when their recent experience confirms the long-held view that the decision-makers will do what suits them? And how can we continue this charade of local consultation when all the evidence suggests that the views of local people canvassed in consultation responses and referendums do not change a single thing?" - James Frost, Director, CPRE Norfolk.



CPRE Norfolk Director James Frost, at land under threat in the North East of Norwich

What they say

"The planning system has over a number of years become increasingly centralised and remote from the communities that it should serve, leaving people angry and disenfranchised. We've seen countless examples of that in Norfolk, with high profile supermarkets seemingly able to railroad through applications against the wishes of the public. As a former councillor who has served on planning committees, I have experienced for myself the frustration of a system which doesn't even fully allow elected representatives to speak out on behalf of the communities they are there to serve. This has to change." - Simon Wright MP for Norwich South

"I share many of the ideals that your organisation seeks to achieve and I sympathise greatly with your concerns in relation to these two projects and the larger implications for local democracy. ... Consultations, where the public's wishes are clearly ignored, are a waste of time and money, and serve only to infuriate those who have been 'consulted'. We must be careful to avoid any such devices when reforming and redesigning our planning system in the future."

George Freeman MP for Mid Norfolk

"I believe that the strong message given by the public on the waste-to-energy plant should be heeded. On a turnout of 61%, 92% voted against, which is an overwhelming result. I believe we could save money instead by having a pan-Norfolk waste authority which would increase recycling rates and efficiency. I am working with Henry Bellingham MP to call on the Government to step in to ensure local opinion is heeded."

Elizabeth Truss MP for South West Norfolk

"I am very concerned indeed about the County Council's wholly cavalier and unacceptable attitude towards the democratic wishes of my constituents in North West Norfolk. To openly defy that number of people just sets a really appalling example and people in future are just going to say 'why on earth should we bother to vote'. In my judgement, if Norfolk pushed up their recycling rate to over 75%, then the business case for an incinerator would simply disappear out of the window"

Henry Bellingham MP for North West Norfolk

What CPRE Norfolk is doing

CPRE Norfolk has taken steps to address the balance, writing to MPs and leafleting local communities asking people to consider their vote in the recent elections. It's the countryside that will be most affected by the plans. and it's the voices of the people that live there that need to be heard more than ever. We have:

- Written to the Leader of Norfolk County Council, Derrick Murphy, setting out our concerns with the proposed E-f-W plant.
- Written to all Norfolk MPs (see above) on the issue of local democracy. Many have responded (see quotes above) and we have had meetings with Chloe Smith MP on the plans for Greater Norwich.
- Written to all elected councillors in the Greater Norwich area asking them to consider their actions in voting to adopt the Joint Core Strategy and reminding them of the views of their electorate.
- Leafleted the areas set for major growth in the Joint Core Strategy for Greater Norwich, areas like Long Stratton, Wymondham, Hethersett, Rackheath and Blofield, encouraging people to consider their vote in the local elections.
- Met with the Public Affairs correspondent at the EDP to explain our views on housing targets and had letters published in the paper.

For news, updates and CPRE Norfolk's views on both these controversial planning issues, please see www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/planning

Leading the Way with our Open Days

CPRE Norfolk's 'Green Buildings in Norfolk Open Days' event was the focus of a national summit on exemplar homes, co-ordinated recently by the Energy Saving Trust. CPRE Norfolk Director, James Frost, joined speakers from the Old Homes SuperHomes network, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), Forum for the Future and the Master Builders Federation to discuss how the Open Days model could be rolled out across the country, linking with the supply chain and the Government's Green Deal. Here, he discusses the outcomes...



"Open eco-home events give public access to private homes which have been eco-refurbished or have had renewable energy technologies installed. Visitors get the chance to hear firsthand how homeowners have made their homes warmer and reduced their carbon footprint, while saving money on their fuel bills. Visitors ask questions, get referrals, compare costs, study plans and see the work in a real-life setting. As we know from our event in Norfolk, it's an invaluable experience

Although the Green Buildings in Norfolk – Open Days was the first of these 'open eco-home' style events in the country, similar schemes have sprung up in recent years, in places such as Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Oxford, North London and Stroud. In fact, last year, Suffolk County Council started a Green Buildings in Suffolk Open Days event, based on our own, and I am currently advising another

CPRE branch, CPRE Cheshire, in planning for a new event this year.

Surveys from around the country show time and again that these events lead to action, giving people that extra bit of confidence to spend money or do things differently to save energy. To quote a statistic, 83% of visitors said that after attending events in Norfolk, they then went on to apply measures to their own home or to change their energy usage habits. It is this kind of evidence that made representatives from Government departments, local authorities, retailers and manufacturers sit up and take notice of open eco-homes events and then come together at the summit to discuss their potential.

Presentations from the organisers of the Bristol Green Doors and Brighton & Hove Open Eco Houses events, as well as from myself, affirmed the shared positive experience of homeowners, volunteers,

The audience also heard from DECC about the launch of the Coalition's Green Deal next year, where all householders in Britain will be able to access up to £6000 to apply energy-efficiency measures to their own homes. These measures could include cavity or loft insulation, solid wall insulation, replacement or secondary glazing, an energy-efficient boiler, draft proofing or renewable energy technologies. Savings that result from the householder's energy bills will then be returned to the finance providers, meaning that the householders are no worse off but are living in a warmer, greener home.

The Government knows that the Green Deal will only work if people feel confident in the technologies it advocates. While leaflets, advice lines and conversations with assessors and installers will play a part, the opportunity to see measures in real-life settings, will be vital in giving reassurance to homeowners. The



visitors and local traders who have taken part. Cross-event evaluation work conducted by the Energy Saving Trust (EST) gave a national perspective on how these events can contribute to the long term reduction of carbon emissions, a key Government objective.

Summit agreed that there is no greater giver of confidence than talking to people in the neighbourhood who've already done the research and are living with the results and reaping the benefits. Local installers, product suppliers and traders of eco-technologies will of course also

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benefit from the Green Deal, as the local green economy is stimulated.

There is now a national impetus to create access to energy saving homes throughout the country. The Sustainable Energy Academy (SEA) has launched a network of SuperHomes - existing homes which have already reduced their carbon emissions by 60% and will be regularly open for visits. I have also worked with EST to produce a guide which will support community groups to start new open eco-home events, like ours in Norfolk. And SEA, EST and all event organisers will soon be asked to participate in a national

steering group for the open homes model, to co-ordinate evaluation work, grant funding and publicity.

Having sown the seeds of our event in Norfolk some years ago, it is heartening to now see it being recognised on a national platform, with major stakeholders looking seriously at its benefits."

Tours at Horseshoe Cottage (far left), Itteringham Mill (left) and Straw Cottage (right). Visits to properties such as these motivate people to take action on greening their own homes.



Green Buildings in Norfolk – Open Days 2011

This year's Green Buildings in Norfolk - Open Days will take place over two weekends, on the 17th/18th and 24th/25th September. CPRE members will receive the event brochure in early August and wider publicity will begin shortly afterwards. If you are not a CPRE member and would like to be on the public mailing list, then please send your details to info@cprenorfolk.org.uk.

As usual, we will be working with the

Energy Saving Trust to provide a bookings system, and all visits must be pre-booked.

Featured properties will include an off-grid smallholding in Bunwell, a refurbished Victorian terraced house in Norwich, a renovated pub in Corpusty and the Itteringham watermill. Together, the homes will showcase basic measures that everyone can apply such as insulation, secondary glazing and rainwater capture, through to

renewable technologies such as photovoltaic panels and air source heat pumps. There will also be a natural swimming pond, an electric car and a micro hydro-turbine, for the more ambitious. Look out for the advertising later in the year.

Galloway House and The Vineyard, two of the participating properties in this year's Open Days featuring retro-fitted technologies and low energy living.



CPRE Norfolk AGM

Architect calls on communities to 'Build Right with your Right to Build'

The government's Localism Bill which is grinding its way through the parliamentary process will potentially have far-reaching effects on the future of the Norfolk countryside.

A key part of the Bill is the Community Right to Build (CRTB) which may make it easier for local communities to get together and facilitate development for their area, whether they want affordable homes, business spaces, community facilities or even open-market housing. If there is a majority of community support for the development (50% of those voting in a formal referendum), and minimum criteria are met, it will be allowed to proceed without the need to file a planning application, although Building Regulations approval will still be required.

CPRE has reservations about the CRTB as it effectively bypasses the planning system and it is unclear how third parties such as CPRE or other interest groups could get involved in any decision. Instead CPRE would like to see a stronger, more transparent and more accessible planning process with greater weight given to the proposed new Neighbourhood Plans. Architect Matt Wood, of Wymondham based practice Lucas Hickman Smith, shares these concerns but also sees the CRTB as a real opportunity to improve the Norfolk countryside. Matt is the founder of Ruralise, (www.ruralise.co.uk) an on-line website and forum, which aims to gather and disseminate information, and to encourage debate about rural development and CRTB.

Matt was raised in Norfolk but spent the first half of his career working in London for Conran & Partners architectural practice. His urban outlook reflected the political and economic development priorities of the time which focused primarily on the regeneration of major



The Pennoyer Centre, Pulham St Mary. A project, led by the local community, which has provided a centre for education, recreation, business and community activities in the village.

cities. His move back to Norfolk last year coincided with what he sees as a shift in government emphasis to rural and countryside matters and he believes that CRTB brings with it both challenges and opportunities.

"For many years the architectural fraternity has not had much opportunity to shape development in the countryside. The planning system has tended to restrict rural development for small scale housing projects, and where larger schemes were given the go-ahead, they were often carried out by volume housebuilders whose priorities are not always about good design. Because there has not been much precedent of sensitive well-thought out and considerate design in rural areas, the public tend to react negatively towards proposed new housing schemes."

Matt believes that CRTB can help to change that and encourage new ideas on

how one might build in the countryside in a contemporary yet sensitive manner. He is not an idealist though and recognises that many of the schemes built under CRTB may well be done by the usual housebuilders, but he is keen to encourage parish councils, parishioners and campaign groups to consider the alternatives and influence the debate about what will be built in their area. "This is an opportunity to really think about rural development and to demand better standards".

So what does Matt want to see? "I'm keen on developing an awareness and demand for regional architecture. Just as the Local Food movement has gained a momentum, we would like to see developers and parish councils demand architecture that is distinctive to the county or region; a contemporary interpretation of the settlement patterns and vernacular materials found in Norfolk, such as 'farmstead' settlements, with buildings grouped around a central courtyard." Matt's views are echoed by Housing Minister Grant Shapps who recently called on housebuilders to "think outside the identikit Legoland box" and make sure new developments reflect the identity of the local area. With local and national views in such accord, is it too early to hope that the days of monotonous housing estates are numbered?

Matt Wood will be speaking about Ruralise and the Community Right to Build at the CPRE Norfolk AGM at 2pm on Monday July 18th at Voluntary Norfolk, 83-87 Pottergate, Norwich, NR2 1DZ. All CPRE members are invited to attend. In addition, members of the public and parish councils who have an interest in the issue, can contact Katy Jones at CPRE Norfolk on 01603 761660 or katyj@cprenorfolk.org.uk, to reserve a place.



CPRE Norfolk Financial Statements

Charity faces challenging times

The financial year that has just ended showed a small operating deficit in CPRE Norfolk's funds (see table right) but the year ahead is likely to be far more challenging, explains Finance & Admin Officer Dinah Berry.

"People new to CPRE often assume that we receive some sort of government funding, but that is not the case. We rely on our core income of membership subscriptions and donations to sustain our work, so the support of our members and donors is hugely important to us. We always hope to produce a small financial surplus but there was a small deficit in 2010 and our budget for 2011 shows a shortfall of a much more worrying £30,000.

This potential deficit is due to the fluid and unpredictable nature of our sources of funding, combined with our increasing scope of activity. Last year we were still receiving funding from a significant donor, Targetfollow, and also received a

substantial grant from Awards for All. Two legacies received during 2010 gave a further welcome boost to our resources. Income such as this is hard to plan for, and this year we have no such expectations on the horizon.

We are working hard at fundraising, through events and approaching Charitable Trusts, making every effort to keep the charity as active as it is at present. We are seeking more regular and guaranteed sources of income, to allow us to continue to plan future campaigning work, and would welcome any offers of financial support. As it is, we are just managing to keep about level with our outgoings, but hope that in the future we can base our income on more regular sources".

Full copies of the accounts will be available at the AGM on July 18th (see details left), or by request from our office.

Table of 2010 accounts:

Income	(£)
• Voluntary Income:	
Membership	13,995
Legacies	21,119
Donations	20,873
Grants	13,800
• Fundraising activities:	
Events & sales	4,611
100 Club (gross figure, incl. prizes)	982
• Bank interest:	26
Total Income	75,405
Expenditure	
• Direct Charitable Exp: incl salaries, volunteer expenses, rent, insurance and stationery	53,943
• Fundraising/publicity: incl promotion, campaigns and events	18,829
• Governance costs: incl committees, AGM, accountancy	2,115
• Other payments, incl purchase of equipment	600
Total Expenditure	75,487
Surplus/deficit for year:	- 82
Funds b.f. 31/12/2009:	22,517
Cash & bank balances at 31/12/2010:	22,435

How you can help

Give now...

Spring Raffle

CPRE Members will have received raffle tickets from National Office and we would encourage you to buy these if you can, or sell them to your friends and family. 75p of every £1 ticket sold comes directly to the Norfolk branch so it is an excellent and easy way to raise funds, support your local charity and the Norfolk countryside. The deadline for ticket stubs is fast approaching though – all stubs must be submitted by Tuesday June 7th.

100 Club

The 100 club raises over £600 each year for CPRE Norfolk so provides a steady and welcome income stream, whilst remaining a bit of fun for participants.

Our target this year is to 'get a full house' with all 100 numbers having an owner, so have a look at the numbers below and see whether one of these could be your lucky number. Call Dinah Berry, CPRE Norfolk's Finance and Administration Officer to 'buy' your special number or for further details. The numbers still available for the 100 Club are 16, 43, 44, 52, 53, 65, 68, 69, 74, 78, 93.

Give later...

Legacies

Legacies can make a huge difference to the long term financial security of CPRE Norfolk – in the past 5 years we received legacies totalling over £30,000, without which we would not have been able to continue our campaigns. Many of those who have left gifts to CPRE Norfolk were not members but simply shared our love

of the Norfolk countryside and valued the work we do. We have now produced a leaflet to make it easier to leave money to the charity, even if you have already made a Will. The new leaflet includes a codicil form, which can be signed, witnessed and sent to your solicitor who will keep the form and the details of your wishes with your existing Will. If you would like a copy of the form, contact the Branch office on 01603 761660 or visit the CPRE Norfolk website.

Others such as Cecil Ray Waters choose to help the charity in another way after their death. Mr Waters who died earlier this year aged 96, requested that donations be given to CPRE Norfolk, instead of sending flowers at his funeral. His generous friends and family donated almost £300 to the charity.

Out and about

Summer Baroque at Houghton Hall

Following on from the successful fundraising event at Holkham Hall in February, CPRE Norfolk have arranged another recital this summer in the glorious setting of Houghton Hall, home of our patron Lord Cholmondeley. Again, all proceeds from this event will support the work of the charity, as we campaign to protect our beautiful Norfolk countryside.

We are delighted that tenor Andrés Hernández-Salazar will once again be singing, this time accompanied by the extremely talented and exciting harpist Joy Smith. They will be performing a selection of songs, dances and airs from

the Baroque era, including works by Monteverdi, Purcell and Lully, plus other captivating works by lesser-known Italian composers.

The date of the event is Saturday July 9th, with wine served at 6pm and the concert starting at 7pm. However Lord Cholmondeley has kindly agreed that all those attending the event will be able to picnic on the splendid lawns at Houghton before the event, so those wishing to make the most of the evening should arrive beforehand with a picnic and blanket to enjoy the summer setting. Gates will open at 5.30pm.

Tickets for this event cost £25, are strictly limited and selling fast. Please contact Katy Jones at CPRE Norfolk to reserve your tickets and/or send a cheque, payable to

CPRE Norfolk for the appropriate amount, together with a SAE to the branch office (address at the bottom of the page).



A summery Andrés Hernández-Salazar

Norfolk at Work and Play

With technology affecting so many areas of our life it is always fascinating to be reminded of earlier times, when entertainment for children involved a funfair, not a computer game, and farming, not financial services, dominated the Norfolk economy. A film show capturing how Norfolk people enjoyed themselves and also how they earned their crust takes place on July 21st at Hunstanton Town Hall. Organised by CPRE West Norfolk District as part of the Hunstanton Festival, Norfolk at Work and Play includes footage from the East Anglian Film Archive and is presented by Geoff Osborne. Tickets cost £5 and are available on the door on the night or in advance from Hunstanton Tourist Information Centre, Cherry Tree

Chocolates on Hunstanton High Street or from Rosemary Bryan on 01553 760166. The show starts at 7pm and will finish at approximately 9pm

Fisherwomen from Yarmouth. The one on the right may be smiling, but look at her bandages!



Stop Press! Kevin Crossley-Holland guest speaker at autumn supper

Award winning poet, translator and children's author Kevin Crossley-Holland will be guest speaker this year at CPRE's West Norfolk District's perennially popular Autumn Supper, with a talk entitled, Let There Be Light – Authors and Artists in

West Norfolk. Kevin Crossley-Holland is the author of the bestselling Arthur trilogy, Gatty's Tale and The Penguin Book of Norse Myths. His new and selected poems, The Mountains of Norfolk, are due to be published later this year. This year's

Supper takes place on Thursday 15th September at Dersingham Church Hall, starting at 6.30 for 7.00 pm. Details of ticketing arrangements will be posted on the CPRE Norfolk website www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/newsevents/diary

CPRE Norfolk, 86 St. Benedict's Street, Norwich, NR2 4AB. Telephone 01603 761660