

## **MINUTES OF DORSET AGM HELD AT THE CERNE ABBAS VILLAGE HALL, CERNE ABBAS ON SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2010**

### **1. President's Welcome.**

The President opened the Meeting at 12.00 and warmly welcomed members. He paid tribute to the magnificent individual work undertaken by individuals including Dr John Larkin, referring to his articles for the Review Magazine, and Janet Healy's research work on the Green Belt in East Dorset. The President summarised Robin Bawtree's achievements in his role as Director and said Robin's extraordinary efforts and hard work had made a huge difference making Dorset CPRE the 2<sup>nd</sup> most successful branch for recruitment. Robin was presented with the CPRE National Countryside Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution. Robin received a leaving present and said it was a great honour to receive the award and hoped more members would join the group committees to continue CPRE's work. Peter Chance's long support and special achievements for Dorset CPRE were also acknowledged and he too received the Countryside Medal. Simon King, a retired Army Officer, was introduced as the new Director. The President summarised two key campaigns he is working on namely windfarms at East Stoke and the proposed re-development of Poole's historic port.

### **2. Apologies**

Mrs Eve Wilkinson, Mr F. J. Earle, Mr Reg Wood, Dr & Mrs J. Larkin, Mr & Mrs H. Thomas, Mr Reg Hanbury, Mrs Gilly Gibbons, Mr Tony Milton, Mr & Mrs B. Welch, Mrs T. Silk, Mr John Green, Cllr Margaret Stone and Mrs Pippa Burnette.

### **3. Minutes of the 2009 AGM.**

The President asked if there were any amendments to these minutes. There were none. He then signed them as an accurate record. Proposer Stephen Howard, Seconder Paul Badcock. All in favour, none against.

### **4. Matters Arising.** There were none.

### **5. Chairman's Report.** Richard Nicholl's welcomed guests Mr & Mrs C. Chope and gave his Report to the meeting. He said the Branch is financially sound and thanks to generous donations we can now employ a Director for 3 days a week. The Chairman talked about the radical changes to the planning system and the introduction of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs). He said Dorset CPRE is in favour of Localism, allowing residents a greater say in what happens locally, however, we need to look at how we work directly with residents regarding planning matters, and the issue of planning enforcement. The lack of affordable housing for young people was raised as well as the issue of road infrastructure to cope with the increased traffic that comes with housing development. The Chairman said new housing should be built on Brown Field sites and the Green Belt should be defended, but recognised that at the same time "the countryside has to be a living and sustainable environment". Under the Planning Structure, Councils will be offered incentives to approve schemes, so in order to win campaigns we need to highlight the facts against a certain development and the council will have to listen. The Chairman expressed his appreciation for Robin's help and support over the past two years and also thanked the branch secretaries and Branch Executive Committee members for their sterling work. The Chairman reported that CPRE is well known at government level but only 10% of the general public know of CPRE, and to that end a new CPRE logo has been created to introduce us to a younger audience including those at school. The Chairman concluded by saying how much he was enjoying the role, and by also encouraging all members to each seek to recruit 1 or 2 new members.

6. **Treasurer's Report.** The Director summarised the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010 that were published in the centre pages of the Autumn Review. The annual accounts came in £2,241 under budget. Richard Norman is taking over the Treasurer role as Jackie Taylor has stood down for health reasons. The President asked for questions on the Accounts. There were none. The Accounts were accepted. Proposer Judith Spelman, Seconder Nick Heape. All in favour, none against.

7. **Election of Officers:**

Terry Stewart was elected President. Proposer Richard Norman, Seconder Nick Heape.

The following were duly proposed and elected:

| <b>Position</b>        | <b>Proposed</b>  | <b>Proposer</b>  | <b>Seconder</b>   |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Vice-President</b>  | Paul Badcock     | Terry Stewart    | Dr John Larkin    |
|                        | Dickie Bird      | Gilly Gibbons    | Elizabeth R. Bell |
|                        |                  |                  |                   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>       | Richard Norman   | Robin Bawtree    | Richard Nicholls  |
|                        |                  |                  |                   |
| <b>Elected Members</b> | Richard Nicholls | Robin Bawtree    | Terry Stewart     |
|                        | David Gargrave   | Richard Nicholls | Robin Bawtree     |
|                        | Richard Heaslip  | Richard Nicholls | Terry Stewart     |
|                        | Janet Healy      | Paul Timberlake  | Robin Bawtree     |
|                        | David Peacock    | Richard Nicholls | Robin Bawtree     |
|                        | Dr John Larkin   | Terry Stewart    | Eve Wilkinson     |
|                        | Robert Murray    | Richard Nicholls | Robin Bawtree     |
| <b>Examiners</b>       | Scott Vevers     | Richard Nicholls | Richard Norman    |

8. **Election of Examiners.**

The Fund examiners, Scott Vevers, were unanimously elected.

9. **Any Other Business.**

Dorset CPRE will write a letter to Julian Fellows, a CPRE member, to congratulate him on his elevation to the House of Lords.

Director, Robin Bawtree, drew attention to the merchandise on display. The President thanked everyone for coming and declared the 2010 AGM closed at 1.15 p.m.

The meeting was followed with a presentation given by Christopher Chope, OBE, and MP for Christchurch.