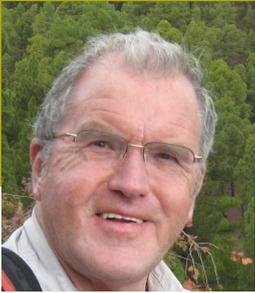


The newsletter of the Cornwall branch of
the Campaign to Protect Rural England March 2015



Chair's Welcome

Welcome to the spring edition of the CPRE Cornwall newsletter, included in this edition is news of our recently employed Branch Director as well as updates on the Local Plan, Housing report and our involvement with action group 'Cornwall for Change'.

The trustee team continues to work hard on behalf of the membership and we thank you for your support. The team is always looking for ways to reduce our outgoings and one way is to help keep postage costs down, if you received this newsletter by post but could receive it by email please let us know your email address so this can happen.

Kind regards,

Harold Tinworth
Chair, CPRE Cornwall

General Election 2015

Many of you will be attending hustings and be speaking to prospective parliamentary candidates in the weeks leading up to the election so we've put together some reminders of what the key issues are for CPRE. These can be found in the document **Stand up for the countryside: A manifesto for the 2015 General Election** (available to download on our website or telephone for a hardcopy)

As well as the manifesto, the website also has links to briefing documents explaining what CPRE wants a new Government to commit to and why we think those issues are important:

The right housing in the right places – a detailed manifesto briefing on housing

The right infrastructure for the right reasons - detailed manifesto briefings on energy and transport

A beautiful countryside to sustain us all - detailed manifesto briefings on eradicating litter, food and farming



New Branch Director Appointed

As many of you know our Branch Coordinator, Kate is expecting her second child in May and is subsequently leaving CPRE Cornwall. We have taken this opportunity to review the structure here at CPRE Cornwall and have consequently recently appointed a Branch Director, Anita Grice-Goldsmith. Anita brings with her an enormous wealth of knowledge and experience having worked as a campaign and communications specialist, mainly in the non-profit and public sectors including Greenpeace and WWF. She is also experienced in deploying public engagement, media, public affairs and social media strategies to great effect. Anita lives in Stithians with her husband, she enjoys walking the Cornish countryside with her dogs and hopes this summer to further her interest in watersports.

Discount with Cotswold Outdoor

In recognition of your valued support, CPRE has negotiated a special discount for you to use at Cotswold Outdoor Ltd. We are delighted to offer you 10% off* the full retail value of current season's product ranges and this discount is available for use both in Cotswold stores and Online through the Cotswold Outdoor website.

Your unique code is: **AF-CPRE-M7**

Online – Visit www.cotswoldoutdoor.com, when ready to checkout, key in the code in the Promotional Code box (not case sensitive).

Click & Collect – the Click and Collect services are available for use from most stores (stores in Truro, Plymouth and Exeter), visit www.cotswoldoutdoor.com/clickandcollect

Mail Order – Quote the Affiliation Code when ordering.

Instore – Discount is also available (stores in Truro, Plymouth and Exeter) contact us so we can send you the voucher to use.

* All orders placed using the mail order and online services for delivery within the UK will be subject to the promotional carriage charges that apply at point of order (FOC over £30.00) or incur our standard carriage charge of £4.95.

STANDING UP FOR CORNWALL'S COUNTRYSIDE

Working Together - Cornwall for Change

Back in July Chacewater Parish Council wrote a letter to all the other parish councils declaring Cornwall Council "not fit for purpose". Dismissed by a few as "a rambling, incoherent and grammatically incorrect rant," the contents resonated with the many and so meetings began being held to further discuss and debate the issues raised. Through the Autumn and Winter parish councillors and representatives from across the county have formalised these discussions into the action group 'Cornwall for Change' with the following claims against Cornwall Council:

- An overwhelming number of housing and other developments, without regard to either infrastructure provision or the employment capacity of the area
- Inaccurate use of Homechoice Housing Register figures as a basis for housing development
- The inappropriate delegation of power of determination to unelected planning officers
- The disregard of true sustainability as a value for development, as long as a project is financially expedient, thus bringing the planning system into a state of serious disrepute
- A lack of democratic process in public meetings
- A lack of transparency over the accounts of the Council and other wholly or partially owned companies

Obviously a number of these views are shared by CPRE Cornwall, particularly with reference to housing numbers. CPRE Cornwall is supporting these efforts for improved mutual understanding by facilitating area meetings across the county.

Membership

Membership remains fairly static and so we once again ask you to share the CPRE name far and wide – a spare membership form is enclosed for you to circulate (please ask for more if you require them). I am pleased to report that a volunteer has come forward to help us on membership promotion. As soon as Branch Director Anita has settled in they will start working on a strategy to increase membership in the county.



Spring arrives at Bedruthan Steps (c) www.natures-desktop.com

Cornwall's Local Plan

Cornwall Council's Draft Local Plan: Strategic Policies document was submitted to the Secretary of State on Friday 6 February 2015. Inspector Simon Emerson BSc DipTP MRTPI has been appointed to conduct the examination into the compliance and soundness of the Plan. This will inevitably lead to a public hearing which we expect we will be invited to participate in – the process is to inform the Inspector, not create counter-arguments and rebuttals – and we may be asked to provide papers or responses on specific issues highlighted by the Inspector. This piece of work is one of the first projects that we have asked Anita to look at.

CPRE Cornwall's Housing Report

Our 6-part Housing report is beginning to come to an end with Part 5 and Part 6 (Conclusions) following shortly. All published reports can be found on our website:

- Part One: The spiral of population and housing growth
- Part Two: Meeting the 'need' to accommodate demographic change
- Part Three: Meeting the need to compensate for the open market and deliver affordable housing
- Part Four: Meeting the needs of government and developers
- Part Five: Meeting the 'need' for jobs and economic growth
- Part Six: Conclusions



Cornwall

Campaign to Protect Rural England

CPRE Cornwall

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