



The countryside charity
Oxfordshire

Campaigning to protect our rural county

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A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England
number 04443278. Registered charity number 1093081.

Papers for the 2022 Annual General Meeting

2.00pm, Saturday 25 June 2022

Enstone Parish Hall, The Paddocks,
Enstone OX7 4AZ

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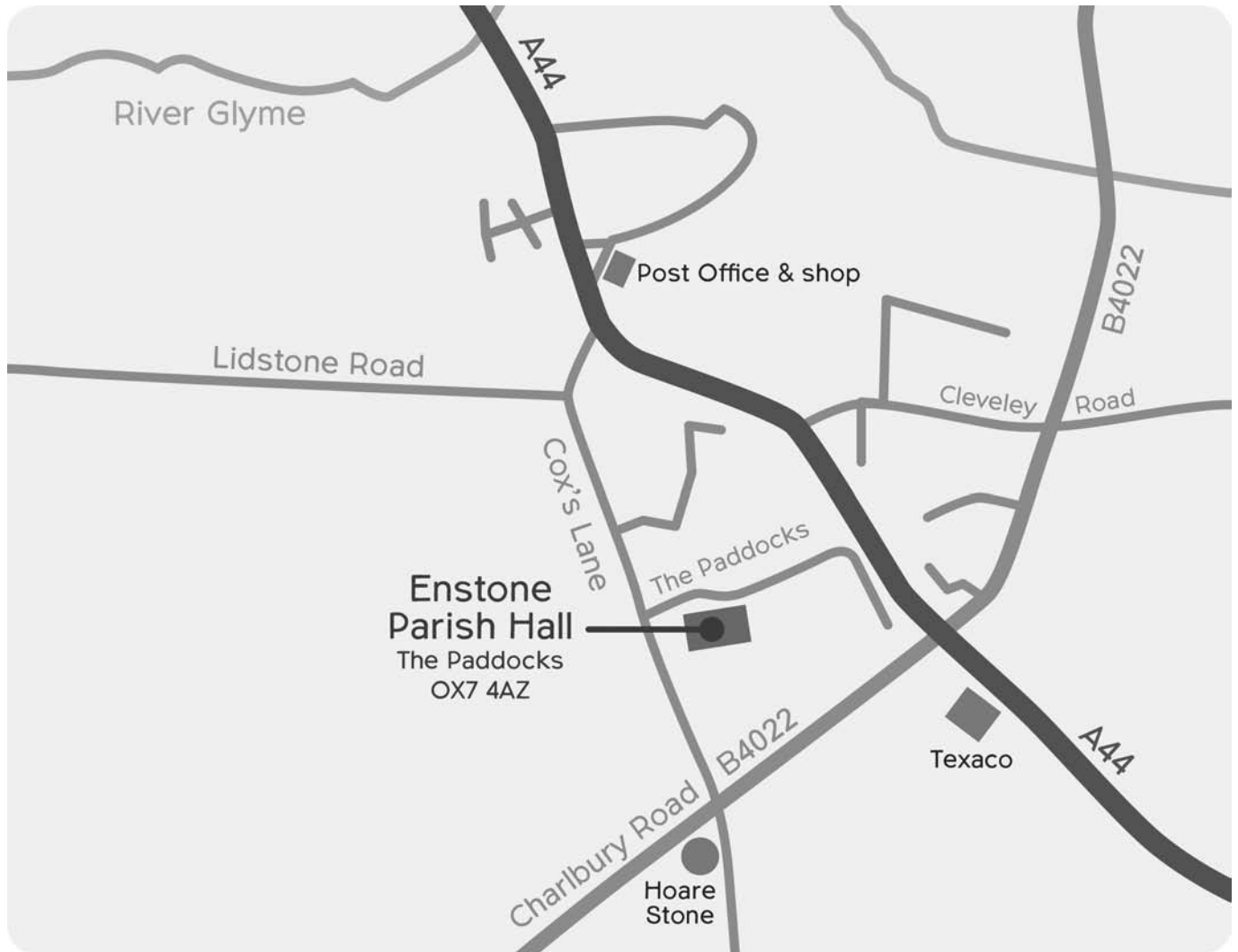
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Directions to Enstone Parish Hall

From Oxford A44: Turn left after Worthy's Texaco garage, take next right onto Cox's Lane – the Parish Hall (signposted) is on the right at the entrance to The Paddocks.

From Chipping Norton A44: Turn right after Adams Stores on left, Primary School on right and Enstone House care home in front, onto Cox's Lane – the Parish Hall (signposted) is the second turning on the left at the entrance to The Paddocks.

From Great Tew / The Bartons B4022: Head towards Charlbury, at A44 junction continue across junction, with Worthy's Texaco garage on left, take next right onto Cox's Lane – the Parish Hall (signposted) is on the right at the entrance to The Paddocks.

From Charlbury B4022: Approximately 400m before A44 junction, turn left onto Cox's Lane – the Parish Hall (signposted) is on the right at the entrance to The Paddocks.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England, Oxfordshire (CPRE Oxfordshire Branch)

Trustees' annual report for the year end 31 December 2021 (Incorporating the Directors' Report)

This information is extracted from the Full Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts for the year end 31 December 2021, copies of which are available via the Branch Office T: 01491 612079 E: administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk

Activities in 2021

2021 saw our 90th birthday celebrations. Despite the Covid restrictions we celebrated with style, with a garden party (socially distanced), in the garden of one of our founders, and a fascinating four part webinar series on the future of the English Countryside. Our 90th birthday appeal exceeded our expectations (raising over £16,000) and will secure our finances in the coming years. Thank you for everyone who contributed to our appeal and our activities throughout the year.

It's been a busy year, with many successes and setbacks. Of our many successes our Hedgerow Project stands out. Hedgerows are important for carbon storage, flood prevention and to provide wildlife refuges and corridors, but, perhaps most importantly, they are a

quintessential part of our modern landscape and add considerably to the beauty of our countryside. CPRE and Wild Oxfordshire have been working with the community groups and parish councils of Kidlington, Watlington and Eynsham to plant new hedgerows and rejuvenate ancient ones. This is a real community effort to protect and enhance our environment. I don't know whether it is a 'success' but our report on flooding and sewerage pollution (<https://www.cpreoxon.org.uk/care/water-matters/>) invoked a lot of interest. CPRE Oxfordshire sent a survey to the 235 Parish Councils, 15 Town Councils and 68 Parish Meetings in Oxfordshire. The report showed that at least 17% of towns & parishes in Oxfordshire experience flooding problems and at least 20% of towns & parishes experience issues with sewage/sewerage infrastructure. This is a shocking conclusion and there is a growing demand that our rivers need cleaning up. In many ways the River Thames and tributaries define the Oxfordshire countryside. Throughout Covid times many people discovered our rivers, for swimming, boating, walking and nature, and there is an increasing demand that they be made 'fit for purpose' and, practically, sewerage discharges should be stopped and our rivers have designated bathing water status. Through 2021 the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan has been developed and consulted on. We welcome strategic planning, but it is vital it is got right! We have made robust representations, covering, for example, the growth forecasts and the need to protect our existing designated landscapes (the Green Belt and AONBs) and expand this protection to the Nature Recovery Networks. We have serious reservations about the methodologies used to project future populations and the decision making processes. Who decides what growth Oxfordshire will aim for in the future? Is it the communities

or developers? We will be following the plan very closely in 2022. A major concern across the county is the rash of applications to build solar farms in our open countryside. These are big developments, typically exceeding 100ha. Most worrying is a recent application at the Baldons, South Oxfordshire, which was approved at site in the Oxford Green Belt. The 2021 Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire report (<https://www.eci.ox.ac.uk/publications/downloads/PazCo-final.pdf>) suggests we might need 60 such farms across Oxfordshire. The same report suggests we might have to reduce the amount of food we grow as land is diverted to other purposes. I should emphasise we are not against renewable energy but there are other ways (one is to put solar panels on all the industrial warehouses popping up over the county). What we do need is a detailed land use plan and a public debate on how to use and nurture our countryside. Many of us have developed a new appreciation of our green spaces and countryside in last two years. Despite the gathering storms (both real and metaphorical) I would encourage everyone to step back and marvel at our woods, hedgerows, rivers and vistas. They are worth protecting. As part of longer term planning, the Branch will be organising a Strategy Day to take place in early 2022 to enable trustees and District committee members to consider the priorities for campaigning and resources.

Professor Richard Harding, Chairman

Financial Review

CPRE Oxfordshire has continued to manage its investments to provide funds in the pursuit of its objectives.

The 2021 accounts have been reformatted in line with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). This has meant a restatement of the prior year accounts (2020) to enable a meaningful comparison to be made between the 2020 and 2021 accounts.

There was a net excess of income over expenditure before gains/losses on investments on unrestricted funds of £4,880 (net expenditure of £14,922 in 2020) and net income of £40,876 on restricted funds (net income of £67,854 in 2020). After adjustments for transfers between funds and the unrealised increase in value of investments, there was a net gain in unrestricted funds of £56,014 (net gain of £3,669 in 2020) and a net gain of £40,056 in restricted funds (net gain of £70,612 in 2020). Total unrestricted funds as at 31 December were £455,249 (£399,234 in 2020) and restricted funds were £126,726 (£86,670 in 2020). Total funds were represented by investments and bank and building society accounts and other assets totalled £581,975 (£485,905 in 2020).

The trustees have determined that a reserves policy is not required at the present time. The Charity is in receipt of a regular income and holds an accumulated fund which is sufficient to meet all identified present and future commitments.

The Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2021

(including Income and Expenditure Account)

Notes	Restricted Fund 2021 £	Unrestricted Fund 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Restricted Fund 2020 £	Unrestricted Fund 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies						
National subscriptions - branch share		25,934	25,934	-	24,934	24,934
Donations grants and local support	89,818	49,405	139,223	107,575	15,306	122,882
Other Trading Activities						
Sale of books		2,376	2,376	-	1,638	1,638
Sundry		1,749	1,749			
Investments						
Dividends COIFCharities Investment Funds - Income Units		11,391	11,391	-	11,107	11,107
Bank Deposit interest		238	238	-	93	93
Total income	89,818	91,093	180,911	107,575	53,079	160,654
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds				-	0	0
Direct Costs of Fundraising		612	612			0
Indirect Costs		1,572	1,572			
Charitable Activities	1	48,941	84,029	132,970	39,721	68,001
Total expenditure		48,941	86,213	135,154	39,721	107,722
Net gains(losses) on investments			50,314	50,314	-	21,349
Net Income/(expenditure)	40,876	55,194	96,071	67,854	6,427	74,281
Transfers between funds	(820)	820	0	2,758	(2,758)	0
Net Movement in Funds	40,056	56,014	96,071	70,612	3,669	74,281
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 2020	86,670	399,234	485,904	16,058	395,565	411,623
Fund balances at 31 December 2021	126,726	455,249	581,975	86,670	399,234	485,904

The Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2021

		Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Investments at valuation			
COIF Charities Investment Fund	422,737	372,423	
COIF Charities Deposit Accounts	42,954	31,559	
		465,691	403,982
Current assets			
Barclays Bank - Branch	106,325	69,402	
Banks & Building Societies - Districts	4,420	5,375	
Debtors	7,295	7,146	
Less : Creditors	(1,755)	0	
Net current assets		116,285	81,923
Total net assets		<u>581,976</u>	<u>485,905</u>
Total Funds			
Unrestricted Fund	167,800	162,100	
Revaluation Reserve	287,448	237,134	
		455,248	399,234
Restricted Funds			
Need not Greed	8,468	7,001	
GARD	53,000	11,750	
Donation in Memory of Margot Collins	62,500	62,500	
CDWA	0	2,661	
Vale District	2,760	2,760	
		126,728	86,672
		<u>581,976</u>	<u>485,905</u>

The Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Note 1: Expenditure on charitable activities

	Restricted 2021 £	Unrestricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Restricted 2020 £	Unrestricted 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Campaign Costs						
Staff Salaries		57,277	57,277	9,600	45,149	54,749
Projects		5,434	5,434	-	10,105	10,105
Subscriptions and donations	18,761	1,490	20,251	30,121	429	30,550
Bank Charges		260	260	-	177	177
Travel/Expenses		274	274	-	479	479
Telephone/Internet		1,109	1,109	-	1,207	1,207
Stationary/Office Expenses		1,147	1,147	-	901	901
Web/Email Expenses		3,667	3,667	-	57	57
Rent Insurance		5,295	5,295	-	5,250	5,250
Sundry		1,290	1,290	-	80	80
Contractors Costs	30,180		30,180			-
	48,941	77,242	126,184	39,721	63,833	103,554
Allocated to expenditure on raising funds		(1,572)	(1,572)			
	48,941	75,671	124,612	39,721	63,833	103,554
Members newsletters		98	98	-	573	573
Governance						
AGM and Annual Report		7,361	7,361	-	3,594	3,594
Independent Examination Fees		900	900			-
	0	8,261	8,261	-	3,594	3,594
Total Expenditure on charitable activities	48,941	84,029	132,970	39,721	68,001	107,722

Independent Examiner's Statement to the Trustees of the Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England for the year ended 31 December 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England for the year ended 31 December 2021.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Kelvin Barnes FCCA
Barnes4Business Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
12 Murdock Road
Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX26 4PP

Date: 31 March 2022

NB: The accounts information presented here is a summarised version. This audit certificate is based on the audit of the full CPRE Oxfordshire 2021 accounts which are available via the CPRE Oxfordshire Branch Office.
T: 01491 612079 E: administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk

Annual General Meeting 2.00pm, Saturday 25 June 2022, Enstone Parish Hall

Welcome by the Branch President, John Harwood DL
Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2021 AGM, which took place via Zoom
3. Report by the Chairman of the Branch Executive Committee

4. Finance:

Treasurer's Report
Adoption of the Annual Report & Accounts 2021

5a. Election of Honorary Officers and Members of the Executive Committee:

President: John Harwood

Vice Presidents:

David Astor
Dr Peter Collins
Gordon Garraway
Gill Salway
Bruce Tremayne

Chairman: Professor Richard Harding

Vice-Chairs: Peter Emery / Olivia Field

Treasurer: Nick Dolden

Secretary: Dorian Grier

Ordinary Members:

Lisa Buchan
Susie Mather
Simon Warr

District Chairmen:

Robin Oliver, CPRE Cherwell District
Heneage Legge-Bourke, CPRE Vale of White Horse District
Geoff Botting, CPRE South Oxfordshire District
Philippa Phelan, CPRE West Oxfordshire District

5b. Honorary Consultants (as appointed by the Branch Executive Committee)

Angus Dart: Farming
Jim Fletcher: Transport
Richard Harding: Water
Gordon Garraway/Nick Moon: Footpaths/ Rights of Way
George Lambrick: Archaeology and Historic Buildings
Martin Harris: Oxford Green Belt Network
Michael Tyce: Without Portfolio

5c. The following are employees of the Branch:

Director Helen Marshall
Administrator Becky Crockett
Communications Manager Julia Benning
Planning Co-ordinator Lynda Moore

6. Any Other Business

Oxfordshire's Hedgerow Heroes – Roselle Chapman, Wild Oxfordshire

After the business of the meeting is concluded, we are delighted to welcome Roselle Chapman, Community Ecologist, with Wild Oxfordshire who will talk to us about the wonders of Oxfordshire's hedgerows. Did you know that Oxfordshire currently has around 13,000km of hedgerow, approximately 50% less than in the 1940s?

Over the last year, CPRE and Wild Oxfordshire have run a joint project working with a number of communities to restore old hedgerows and plant new ones, and there's now lots of knowledge to pass on to other communities interested in getting involved.

Followed by refreshments, kindly provided by the CPRE West Oxfordshire District.

CPRE Oxfordshire Branch

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held by videoconference on Saturday 19th June 2021

CPRE Oxfordshire President, John Harwood, welcomed members to “this rather unusual AGM”.

He paid tribute to all the members of the BEC for their sterling work and utmost dedication over the last year, in particular thanking the four retiring members who were being proposed for VPs at the AGM.

He noted that one could forgive our colleagues on the BEC and district committees if campaign weariness had become apparent but this was far from the case.

Now however, there are signs that a wider view is gaining ground; the Oxford – Cambridge motorway has been taken off the hob, although the ARC remains, and concerns about proposed planning reforms are increasingly being aired.

The fight is not yet won – but at least we can think seriously that it might be winnable.

In all of this the determination of the BEC and the district committees has been exemplary.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence: Gordon Garraway, David Gilmour, Shirley Leach, Ticia Lever, Sarah Potter, Mike and Maria Rosa Fulton, Elaine Steane, Colin Thomas, Pat Toms

2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM, which took place by post, were accepted as a correct record and will be signed in due course.

3. Report by the Chairman of the Branch Executive Committee: Our Chairman, Dr Peter Collins, imparted the sad news that Peter Clare, a former Branch Treasurer, died last week. He expressed the groups’ condolences to Sue Clare and paid a moving tribute, including Bruce Tremayne’s reflection that he regarded Peter as “a wise and trusted colleague but it is the memory of his gentle charm which will remain with me most”.

Peter referred to his written report which the members have received in the AGM pack. Since he wrote, the Queen’s Speech has threatened England with a planning bill which will contain major development zones, unlikely to allow much local participation in decision making. He asked whether CPRE could convince a sufficient number of Tory MPs, whether they are levellers up or in the Shires, to be rebellious, to counteract their party’s majority. In our 90th year, he welcomed our new Trustees and Honorary Consultants, forming a BEC which is balanced with the continuing experience of those who remain. He paid tribute to those who have been proposed as VPs, two former Chairmen of note, Gill Salway and Bruce Tremayne as well as Gordon Garraway, who created the Oxford Green Belt Way. A celebration will take place when we

can. We do have one notable success in that the money has arrived to provide a substantial grant to join with Wild Oxfordshire in delivering a community hedgerow project, the aim to reshape and enhance Oxfordshire’s landscapes. We hope this will become an exemplar, the influence of which will extend far beyond the county’s boundaries

The Chairman finished by thanking the membership for the opportunity to contribute to our activities as Chairman over the past few years and wished his successor good fortune.

Questions: John Broad noted that due to the local council elections, Oxfordshire is no longer completely Conservative. The Chairman remembered that Layla Moran Lib Dem had achieved an even greater majority than the Amersham candidate.

The President asked that the Chairman’s Report be formally received, which was agreed.

4. Finance: Treasurer’s Report and Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts 2020:

Our Treasurer, Nick Dolden, expressed his thanks to Becky Crockett for keeping such excellent and clear records, to his predecessor Brian Wood and to the Chairman for their assistance.

The accounts have been approved by our Independent Examiner, Richard Broadbent.

On his recommendation, there are two additional notes in the accounts. 1) We do not currently have a reserves policy and the Trustees felt that one was not necessary in the past year. 2) We have adhered to the duty in relation to public benefit and the accounts do reflect that we are keeping within our overall objectives.

Overall, we have reported a surplus of £3k after the unrealised increase in the value of our investments.

JH thanked ND for taking over as Treasurer and for presenting the Accounts so well. The members agreed the reception of the Treasurer’s Report and the adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts.

5a. Election of Honorary Officers and Members of the Executive Committee:

(Peter Collins stood in as Chair for the opening item,)

PC put forward the name of John Harwood, to be re-elected as President and this gained overwhelming support. PC asked JH to return and congratulated him on his reappointment.

President: John Harwood

Regarding the Vice Presidents, David Astor has agreed to serve for another year. There were four nominations for further Vice Presidents as put forward by the BEC. The president put to the vote the nominations for Peter Collins, Gordon Garraway, Gill Salway and Bruce Tremayne to be duly elected as Vice Presidents and this was agreed enthusiastically.

Vice Presidents:

David Astor
Dr Peter Collins
Gordon Garraway
Gill Salway
Bruce Tremayne

The Chair moved the appointment of the following:

Chairman: Professor Richard Harding
Vice Chairman: Brian Wood
Treasurer: Nick Dolden
Secretary: Dorian Grier

Ordinary Members:

Geoff Botting
Lisa Buchan
Peter Emery
Olivia Field
Colin Thomas

District Chairmen:

Sir David Gilmour, CPRE Cherwell
Heneage Legge-Bourke,
CPRE Vale of White Horse
Richard Harding,
CPRE South Oxfordshire
Philippa Phelan,
CPRE West Oxfordshire

These were duly elected and appointed to the Branch Executive Committee.

5b. Honorary Consultants (as appointed by the Branch Executive Committee)

Lisa Cheung – Planning
Angus Dart – Farming
Jim Fletcher – Transport
Gordon Garraway/Nick Moon
– Footpaths/ Rights of Way
Richard Harding – Water
Martin Harris – Oxford Green
Belt Network
George Lambrick – Archaeology
and Historic Buildings
Michael Tyce – Without Portfolio

5c. The following are employees of the Branch:

Director – Helen Marshall
Administrator – Becky Crockett
Communications Manager
– Julia Benning

Finally, JH invited Richard Harding, as incoming Chairman to say a few words.

RH thanked the membership for the honour of being elected as Chairman of the Branch and thanked trustees old and new. It is a great achievement in our 90th year to have such a vibrant community of people to help us move forward and continue being effective.

Our next big campaign will be Oxfordshire 2050. The hints that we have had are good and bad; there will be increased pressure for development and house building but we keep being promised that we will see protection for nature and the environment. We will need to hold our politicians to these promises. RH is a climate activist, but recognises that this is only one element of CPRE's core task of protecting the countryside.

JH thanked RH and then proposed a formal vote of thanks to Peter Collins, on his stepping down as Chairman of the BEC, for his service to CPRE and to record our appreciation, which garnered an enthusiastic and grateful response and this was resolved accordingly.

6. Any Other Business:

There was no AOB.

JH gave thanks to all in attendance and hoped that we might meet in person next year

CPRE Oxfordshire

Annual General Meeting 2022

25 June 2022 – Proxy notice

This form is for the use of members who are unable to attend the AGM and wish to nominate a proxy to vote on their behalf. Please complete and return the form by post to The Administrator, CPRE Oxfordshire, 20 High Street, Watlington, Oxfordshire OX49 5PY, or by email to administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk to arrive no later than Monday 20 June 2022.

Your name.....

Your address.....

.....

.....

I appoint the following as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the above meeting or any adjournment thereof as he/she sees fit (please select ONE of the options below):
the Chairman of the meeting

OR

the following person..... (name of your proxy)

Signed..... Date.....



