

Campaigning to protect our rural county

# Planning Volunteers - Bicester Area

CPRE Oxfordshire is passionate about making the countryside a better place for everyone to enjoy. Our team of volunteers inspire people to care for and enjoy the benefits of the countryside wherever they live.

Volunteering with us is a fantastic opportunity to be involved with a dynamic organisation championing environmental issues such as biodiversity, sustainable transport, water quality and access to green space.

With your support we can do even more!

This role involves being aware of factors affecting the countryside or green spaces in your local area through the planning system and helping us to suggest solutions and improvements.

Our friendly team will provide you with training and support to develop in your role. You'll gain valuable skills and experience in the planning process for a range of different developments.

#### Why we want you

By volunteering with us you'll be helping to find positive solutions for the issues facing the countryside and the environment. By applying your skills and experience you can make a real difference and be a central part of a friendly and passionate charity.

In this role you'll keep an eye on local planning applications and developments and alert us to them. You'll also help to investigate them further to gather the facts so we can respond appropriately.

#### What will you be doing?

- Investigating planning applications which have an impact on the countryside
- Reviewing plans, applications and other consultations on the internet
- Visiting proposed development sites (where appropriate and circumstances permit)
- Sharing information with other CPRE planning volunteers
- Helping to draft letters to the local planning authority
- Assisting in the preparation of responses to consultations, including planning appeals

 Helping to share the information with local communities and encouraging them to make their voices heard

### The skills you need

- An interest in countryside and environmental issues
- An eye for detail and an interest in investigative work
- Comfortable carrying out tasks independently and as part of a team
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Access to a computer and the internet at home
- Be able to commit to a couple of hours of volunteering a week, with occasional attendance at meetings
- A basic knowledge of the planning system would be helpful but not essential

## What's in it for you?

- Use your skills and experience to contribute to the success of our charity and make a positive difference to the countryside
- Meet like-minded people and enjoy being part of a team
- Enhance your CV by developing new skills and gaining valuable experience
- We'll support you to develop in your volunteering role and provide you with relevant training
- Get involved with social events and workshops on a local and national level
- We can provide out-of-pocket travel expenses.

Contact: Helen Marshall, Director of CPRE Oxfordshire call 07791 376365 or email director@cpreoxon.org.uk