

CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ESSEX

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2023

Reference and Administration details

The Campaign to Protect Rural Essex also operates under the abbreviated name "CPREssex".

CPREssex' registered **Charity Number** is 1094178 and registered **Company Number** is 4536412

The Registered Address is

RCCE House, Threshelfords Business Park, Inworth Rd, Feering, Colchester, CO5 9SE.

The Trustees (who also are the directors of the Company) during the period since 1 April 2022 were:

Mr D N Knight - Chairman

Mrs P Moxey - Vice Chairman (appointed at the AGM on 1 October 2022)

Mr J R Bloxsome

Mr R H Haynes

Mrs J I Hinds

Mr J Palombi (retired at the AGM on 1 October 2022)

Mrs R M Turner (retired at the AGM on 1 October 2022)

Mrs T Petra Ward (appointed at the AGM on 1 October 2022)

Mr Richard P Ward

The Trustees are the members of the elected Executive Committee and are appointed or re-appointed at each Annual General Meeting of CPREssex.

During the year £600 has been paid to Trustees in reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of CPREssex.

The Volunteer Operations Manager is Liz Lucas and the Executive is extremely grateful for her support during the year.

Bankers

CAF Bank, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA

National Westminster Bank plc, 8 The Vineyards, Great Baddow, Essex, CM2 7QR

Nationwide Building Society, Moulton Park, Northampton, NN3 6NW

Independent Examiner

Mrs Janet E Stobart FCCA, 19, Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex, CO6 1PU.

Structure, Governance and Management

CPREssex is constituted as a Company limited by guarantee and is governed under Articles of Association adopted on 3 October 2020.

CPREssex is the Essex branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England – CPRE - (registered Charity number 1089685).

Trustees are selected by the members of the Executive Committee, after seeking volunteers, and appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Objectives and Activities

The **objectives** of CPREssex are to promote and encourage, for the benefit of the public, the improvement and protection of the Essex countryside and its towns and villages, and the better development of the rural environment.

How CPREsex operates

The members of CPREsex are those members of CPRE who live in Essex. CPREsex has approximately 650 individual members and also about 100 corporate members (parish councils and local amenity groups).

Many of CPREsex' activities are carried out by District Groups. Our aim is to have such Groups based in each of the local authority districts in the county - Basildon, Braintree, Brentwood, Chelmsford and Castle Point, Colchester, Epping Forest, Harlow, Rochford, Southend, Tendring, Thurrock and Uttlesford.

In order to fulfil its objectives, CPREsex is actively involved in monitoring planning applications, including local authority Development Plans, proposals for new roads including a further Thames Crossing, mineral extractions and waste management. It also engages in discussions with officers of District and County Council planning departments who seek the views of CPREsex.

The trustees, in making decisions about CPREsex activities, have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

CPREsex is one of the county branches which together form CPRE East of England Regional Group, the others being Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Review of Financial Activity.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows net deficit before investment gains or losses of £8,217, compared with a deficit of £1,462 in 2021-22. There was an overall fall in the value of investments of £3,120. (In 2021-22 investments increased in value by £5,249.)

Donations of £2,000 were made from the Mill Fund during the year: two donations of £1,000 were made for repairs to the mills at Stansted Mountfitchet and Thaxted.

No further investments were made in the year.

At 31 March 2023 there was a balance of £160,202 on the General Fund, including investments of £67,859. The Mill Fund had a balance of £9,208.

The reserves (the General Fund) are used to fund any excess of expenditure over income (incurred by the employment of staff, or otherwise). This practice will be continued until the General Fund seems likely to fall to the equivalent of 9 months expenditure within the following 6 months. At this point steps must be taken by the Executive to cut costs to a level that ensures that expenditure can be met from cash receipts, so that no further demands are made on the General Fund.

This policy will be reviewed by the Executive Committee from time to time.

CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ESSEX
Registered Charity no : 1094178
Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England no: 4536412

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
INCOME					
From voluntary sources					
Subscriptions		15,209	0	15,209	16,537
Donations					
Patrons Club		2,500	0	2,500	2,500
Other donations		1,144	0	1,144	1,610
Other Income		0	0	0	470
From assets					
Bank interest		586	0	586	35
Total Income		19,439	0	19,439	21,152
EXPENDITURE					
Promotional activities					
Communications advice		14,980	0	14,980	13,824
Solar Panels Booklet		0	0	0	512
Member communications & Website		974	0	974	606
Other expenditure					
Planning Advice		5,153	0	5,153	3,837
Premises & Insurance		1,278	0	1,278	1,273
Computer Support & Telecomms		761	0	761	1,212
Copying, Postage & Stationery		136	0	136	155
Trustees' Expenses		600	0	600	100
Room Hire and Meetings		778	0	778	260
Other payments					
Regulatory & Financial Fees		690	0	690	720
Subscriptions & Donationss		135	2,000	2,135	85
Sundry		171		171	30
Total Payments		25,656	2,000	27,656	£22,614
Net Income before investment gains and losses		-6,217	-2,000	-8,217	-1,462
Decrease or Increase in the					
Value of Investments	2	-2,967	-153	-3,120	5,249
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		169,386	11,361	180,747	176,960
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£160,202	£9,208	£169,410	£180,747

CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ESSEX
Registered Charity no : 1094178
Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England no: 4536412

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Note	31 March 2023		31 March 2022	
		£	£	£	£
INVESTMENTS	2		79,067		82,665
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at Bank					
CafCash cheque account			1,526		3,661
CafCash Gold account			37,891		42,674
Nationwide account			56,062		55,745
Nat West			108		47
Prepayments and receivables			<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
			95,587		102,127
LESS CREDITORS					
Amounts due within one year			<u>5,244</u>		<u>4,045</u>
			90,343		98,082
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>£169,410</u>		<u>£180,747</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted			160,202		169,386
Restricted	3		9,208		11,361
			<u>£169,410</u>		<u>£180,747</u>

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies regime.

Signature 10 August 2023

DN Knight
Chairman

Signature 10 August 2023

JR Bloxsome
Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report
to the Trustees and Directors of Campaign to Protect Rural Essex
Registered Charity N0. 1094178 **Company Number 4536412**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 the 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 examiner's statement

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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006, or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102),
- 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.

Mrs JE Stobart, FCCA
19 Westfield Drive, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PU
10 July 2023

CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ESSEX
Registered Charity no : 1094178
Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England no: 4536412

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation of Accounts

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments measured at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities and the requirements of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (SORP 2015)

Cash Flow Statement

The trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the company is small

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets costing at least £250 are capitalised on the following basis

Rates of depreciation:

Office Equipment	20% straight line basis
IT Equipment	written off in year of purchase

A full year's depreciation is charged in the year of purchase

Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted Funds	These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted Funds	These funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Income

Income and donations are accounted for as received by the charity.

Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity and, as such, is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

2 INVESTMENTS

The charity holds two investments:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Accumulation units in the Equities Investment Fund for Charities (Charifund) managed by M&G Investments	29,786	9,208	38,994
Accumulation units in the Vanguard Life Strategy 40% Equity Fund	40,073	0	40,073
	£69,859	£9,208	£79,067
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Value at 31st March 2022	71,304	11,361	£82,665
Purchases (Sales) in the year	2,000	-2,000	£0
Fes paid by sale of units	-478		-£478
Decrease in market value	-2,967	-153	-£3,120
Value at 31 March 2023	£69,859	£9,208	£79,067

3 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Restricted Fund is for donations to support mills in Essex. Donations of £2,000 were made during the year (2021-22 - £nil).