

CPRE Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

DRAFT

Annual General Meeting minutes

Wednesday 25th February 2026

Attendees: Christopher Vane Percy (President) Alan James
Jane Williams Barbara Richmond
Jo McGowan (Administrator) Sue Duma (Treasurer)
Ian Ralls (Trustee) Michael Monk
Ali Sargent Tom Davies
Susan Gregson David N

Apologies: Valerie Twiss Roger Burton
Tracey Hipson Tim Hoof
Jackie Greatorex Fiona Whitney
Sue Beel Ken Fergus

No.	Description	Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies	
	Christopher welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from eight members, listed above. Alan thanked Christopher for Chairing the meeting and for all his hard work while being CPRE President, a role he is now stepping down from.	
2.	Minutes of previous AGM	
	Minutes of the 2024 AGM were approved. No AGM was held in 2025.	
3.	Annual Report	
	The Annual Report was approved. Proposed by Michael Monk and seconded by Alan James.	
4.	Annual Accounts	
	The Annual Report contains an abridged version of the Annual Accounts, year ending 31 st March 2025, which were approved. Sue gave a brief summary of the accounts, which have been independently checked by external accountants. Subscriptions received are lower than the previous year due to national office changes with CRM system. This meant an overpayment in Q4 of 2024 and underpayment in Q1 of 2025, therefore the two figures should be added together and then divided by 2 to get an accurate figure. A legacy of £5,000 was also received. Payments have increased from 2024 due to salary to Administrator being paid solely by Branch rather than split between Branch	

	and Region. Unfortunately, there is a misprint and that the figures re FY2025 are in deficit and there should have been a minus printed before the net figure. (Sue was not sent a proof of the Annual Report prior to printing.) The return has already been sent to the Charity Commission. Proposed by Jane Williams and seconded by Ian Ralls.	
5.	To approve the appointment of the Independent Examiner of the Accounts – Staffords, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge CB21 5XE	
	Annual accounts have been reviewed by the independent Examiner, Staffords. Staffords are willing to continue as Independent Examiner. The continued appointment was approved. Proposed by Alan James and seconded by Michael Monk.	
6.	Election of the officers of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough branch	
	Officers are elected annually, with a limit of six years. The branch is actively trying to recruit a new Chair and Vice-Chair. This leaves the Officer appointments as follows: Chair: vacant Vice Chair: vacant Treasurer: Sue Duma Sue’s appointment as Treasurer was approved. Christopher Vane Percy (President) has stood down from the role.	
7.	Election of the members to serve on the branch committee.	
	The following Committee members were eligible for election:- Ian Ralls Alan James Jane Williams Tony McFarlane Tom Davies – withdrawn due to outstanding concern Proposed by Sue Duma and seconded by Michael Monk. All members were elected. Christopher thanked everyone for volunteering. A maximum of 12 members may be elected to the Committee. More people would be welcomed.	
8.	Update by Alan James	
	At the last AGM I stepped down as Chair, as I had served more than six years. However, I continued to act at Chair as no-one offered to take this on. The year has been extremely busy because of developments in this area and climate change. Sea level rise is increasing, which increases the risk of flooding to Cambridgeshire. Low rainfall has helped avoid this. Last month flooding occurred on the Washes and the road was closed at Earith.	

	<p>There is also a lack of water, due to over abstraction. Environment Agency can start issuing fines from next year. Anglian Water have proposed a reservoir north of Chatteris, the water would come from the Ouse Washes, which are tidal and therefore saline. They are now proposing that the water be extracted at Earith, which is also tidal. Councils continue to approve developments with no consideration to water availability.</p> <p>Cambridge has full employment re: healthcare, life sciences and IT. All of which do not have to be based in Cambridge, despite government suggestions otherwise. Ox-Cam Arc to be re-introduced by government. Levelling Up Act aimed for creating government preference for development outside of London, Oxford and Cambridge triangle, is no longer happening.</p> <p>2019 Environment Audit on food supply to UK, stated that the UK should be growing more food to replace imports.</p> <p>Branch are facing huge problems with government and national office need to be more involved.</p> <p>East-West Rail – southern route to Cambridge has been chosen, which is the Newmarket to Ipswich route. This route will cause big problems to farmland.</p> <p>Branch has managed to prevent some inappropriate planning applications, such as the warehouse development on farmland in Peterborough, however, this has now been re-submitted. The Warehouse Association has been asking government to remove the additional rates if solar panels are fitted to the roofs. CPRE support this.</p> <p>Alan requested that everyone help with writing to oppose inappropriate developments. Need to identify planning applications that have the biggest difficulties for local communities.</p> <p>The branch would like to raise their profile and need more articles to be written for press and social media. A spokesperson for TV and radio is also needed.</p>	