



The countryside charity
Cambridgeshire
and Peterborough

Trustee - CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is our local branch of CPRE, a national charity. It was set up over ninety years ago, to ensure the countryside is protected for all to enjoy for now and future generations. We speak up for the English countryside to protect it from the threats it faces, and to shape its future for the better.

We campaign nationally and locally for positive solutions to safeguard the long-term future of the countryside. Nationally, we produce in-depth research and sound arguments to press the government, Parliament and other decision-makers to support the countryside – by protecting precious green belts, promoting urban renewal and restricting development on greenfield sites, and campaigning for the protection of our most important national landscapes as well as the countryside on our doorstep.

We are looking for trustees to join our executive committee to help us carry out this important work.

The duties of our Trustees involve:

- contributing actively to the role of the Executive Committee in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets
- ensuring that we comply with our constitution, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- safeguarding and promoting our values
- ensuring the effective and efficient administration of our charity
- ensuring the financial stability of our charity
- assisting with the appointment of staff and monitoring their performance
- being an advocate for the charity at all times - asking people to join, giving out leaflets, gathering names of interested parties and talking about our work

In addition to their statutory duties, our Trustees often get involved in other activities and responsibilities according to their specific interests, knowledge experience and time (see list on page three).

What we need from you:

You will be home-based, carrying out activities around your other commitments and attending meetings online.

This is an excellent opportunity to play a senior role in a respected local environmental organisation, applying your management skills and experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly and passionate group.

All charity Trustees should have:

- a commitment to CPRE
- an understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to their duties as a trustee
- strategic vision
- good, independent judgement
- an ability to think creatively
- a willingness to speak their mind and participate fully in meetings

Ideally, we also hope that you could offer us:

- a strong interest in the countryside
- good computer literacy - the internet, e-mail and MS Word or equivalent

As a guide, we anticipate this voluntary role will take 2-3 hours per week, with attendance at six online meetings per year. In accordance with our constitution, our Trustees have the option to serve for up to 6 years.

What's in it for you?

CPRE volunteers are motivated to help for a range of reasons, but normally they have a strong interest in protecting and enhancing the environment, as well as encouraging people to enjoy the countryside and all it has to offer.

Benefits include:

- A great opportunity to use your existing experience and to develop new skills
- Working with others to make a difference both locally and nationally
- The potential to meet and discuss issues with a wide range of like-minded people
- Opportunities to attend local and national CPRE activities, events and workshops

The role is voluntary although we will pay all out-of-pocket expenses with prior agreement, in line with our Volunteers Policy.

How to Apply

If you are interested in this role, in the first instance please email the Branch Chair Alan James at chairman@cprecams.org.uk. For more information about the work of CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough other volunteering roles available, please contact us at office@cprecams.org.uk or visit our website www.cprecams.org.uk

The English countryside is wonderful - help us look after it.

NOTE: Useful specific skills and experience

In addition to the general qualities referred to above, the Executive Committee as a whole needs skill and experience in specific areas to ensure good governance. It is not expected that Committee members should have expertise in all the areas listed below, however the Committee as a whole is greatly helped in the decision making process if some members have particular skills and experience in the main range of issues which arise. These are:

Organisational Development

- organisational/project planning
- volunteer management and recruitment
- training/performance and quality standards

Fundraising

- trust applications
- corporate sponsorship
- donor targeting
- legacies
- fundraising events

Finance/Administration

- charity law
- general law
- financial management
- investments
- property management
- personnel management
- business planning
- performance evaluation
- computers and information technology

Connections

- business
- media
- national government
- local government

Policy Issues

- food and farming
- minerals and waste
- energy
- planning policy
- hedgerows
- light pollution
- transport