

Summer 2021 Newsletter



The countryside charity
Staffordshire

CPRE Staffordshire Summer 2021 Newsletter

*1936-2021: 85 years
of standing up for
Staffordshire's
countryside*

AUTUMN NEWS FROM CPRE STAFFORDSHIRE

WWW.CPRESTAFFORDSHIRE.ORG.UK

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Hello and welcome to our summer newsletter. If you've received this newsletter in the post, that either means that we don't have an email address for you, or that because of the GDPR, we haven't had confirmation that you wish to continue receiving emails from CPRE. If this applies, please email **Supporter Services**

supporterservices@cpre.org.uk to confirm that you are happy to receive CPRE emails.

As well as reducing our printing costs, signing up for e-mail newsletters means you will get your news earlier. We will never pass your email

address on to anyone else. Please also let us know if you do NOT wish to continue receiving the newsletter or other communications from us.

Please let us know if you would like a large-print copy of the newsletter.

**Wednesday 25th and
Thursday 26th August**

Stall at the Staffordshire County Show

Early September (date TBC):
Group walk on parts of the Staffordshire Way

Saturday 11th September

Edingale Summer Show, 2pm

Tuesday 21 September

AGM, Haling Dene Centre, Penkridge, where the summer draw will take place.

Above photo credit: Field of Gold, Rob Cannell.

Chairman's Report

From 1936 to 2021 - 85 years of campaigning for the countryside of Staffordshire

In the spring newsletter I wrote about some of the early history of CPRE Staffordshire. Here is another instalment, with some events of significance in our past. In 1937 Lord Harrowby (whose appeal had led to the founding of CPRE Staffordshire) informed the Branch's Council that Lord Anglesey had offered to give 130 acres of land at Beaudesert 'for the use of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, provided a trust could be set up to control it.' This was done, and to this day the Chairman of CPRE Staffordshire is a Trustee of the Beaudesert Trust.

I have told you something in the last newsletter about the history of our charity up to the start of the Second World War in 1939. Meetings recommenced after a gap of six years in 1945 and the following year efforts were made to reactivate and re-constitute the committee. The minimum annual subscription was still 5 shillings, unchanged since 1936! In those days the County Branch was to pay annually 10% of its subscriptions and donations (except those donations earmarked for special purposes) to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. These days it is the national CPRE which collects subscriptions and returns a

proportion to local groups like ours.

The 1948 Town and Country Planning Act offered hope for greater protection of the countryside and appeared to bring to fruition the aspirations of the pioneers like Clough Williams-Ellis and Professor Abercrombie who founded CPRE. Green Belts were set up around Staffordshire's two main conurbations, as well as the Peak District National Park and Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty being established. Buildings could be 'listed' for architectural or historic interest and conservation areas designated. However the case for the countryside was a balancing act, as it is now.

I acknowledge with thanks the work of Bill Gee and Bob Bray in compiling the booklet about our first 70 years as a charity.

Could you be our new chairman?

I have enjoyed being Chairman of CPRE Staffordshire for three years, a normal term of office for a chair within the organisation. However due to personal circumstances I shall not be seeking election again at the AGM in September for a further period of office. I am willing to continue on the committee as a trustee, with less active involvement.

So a new Chairman is being sought. If you are interested, please contact the office, or if

you know someone who might be suitable and willing. I know that there will be plenty of support for anyone taking on the role, from our dedicated trustees and officers, both honorary and paid, as I have been lucky enough to have had over the years.

Mary Booth

AGM 2021

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 6:30pm - we've moved to an evening meeting which will hopefully allow more people to attend.

It will once again be held at the Haling Dene Centre in Penkridge from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. All members are invited to attend (non-members are also welcome to attend but are not able to vote).

Complimentary refreshments (donations welcome), supplied by Beaudesert Park Farm, will be provided.

Our guest speaker will be Simon Leather, emeritus professor of entomology at Harper Adams University, who will give a short talk on biodiversity and conservation, followed by a Q&A.

The full venue address is Haling Dene Centre, Cannock Road, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5DT. Home to Penkridge Parish Council, the centre is a

Grade II listed building built in 1841 for a retired Colonial Bishop. Its extensive grounds have ample parking, including disabled spaces.

Penkridge has a rail station and is also serviced by Arriva buses. Local taxi operators are Pegasus of Penkridge (01785 712 982) and ABA (01785 636 363) and should be booked in advance if required.

Please have a look at the agenda (middle pages) and send in any nominations for the committee by no later than Friday 17 September. Please note that you may nominate yourself and we would be happy to welcome new committee members.

Please do attend if you possibly can: this is an important event in your local CPRE calendar offering opportunity to participate in the nomination process and influence the direction of your CPRE group. This year we are asking people to book via Eventbrite:

<https://bit.ly/3irlu7s>

If you don't have Internet access, please call us on 01785 277890.

FUTURE EVENTS

We will have a stall at the Staffordshire County Show on Wednesday 25th and Thursday

26th August and a stall at the Edingale Summer Show, near Tamworth, on Saturday 11th September from 2pm.

LOCAL NEWS

Grand Summer Draw 2021

Our top prize for this year's Grand Summer Draw is a one day canal boat excursion courtesy of Norbury Wharf. We also have an afternoon tea for two voucher kindly donated by The Ramblers Retreat, Dimmingsdale, a day out for two at Trentham Monkey Forest, a £40 gift voucher for Jacksons Nursery, Bagnall and afternoon tea at Cakes-a-Daisy, Cheslyn Hay plus many runner-up prizes.

Winners will be drawn at our AGM on Tuesday 21st September. A book of tickets is enclosed. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a book, unless you have expressed a preference not to receive raffle tickets.

To purchase further tickets, please use the enclosed order form or visit our online webshop.

Good luck in the draw!

Staffordshire Way

Following on from the last newsletter, our initiative to breathe some new life into the Staffordshire Way has been moving on very well.

By way of a brief reminder, the Staffordshire Way is a 92-mile route that has been in existence for over 50 years and captures some of the most iconic Staffordshire landscapes as winds its way between Mow Cop in the north and Kinver Edge at the south of the county.



We have been able to recruit a small but enthusiastic army of volunteers, who have been out and about surveying sections of the Staffordshire Way. What is clear is that most of the route is still quite good, some sections need some TLC, and in a few cases it has become almost impossible to follow the route.

Our volunteers have also been helping to build up a rich picture of information that hasn't previously been collated, such as, connections with public transport, places to park, useful businesses for walkers to use along the route, and sections that could be suitable for people with reduced mobility or buggies.

Possibly the most exciting development is that the County Council is getting behind the initiative and are hoping to promote the Staffordshire Way as a tourist

attraction in its own right and to use much of the information we are collecting to create a new online resource for anyone wanting to explore the route, and possibly even a new printed guidebook. The rights of way team are prioritising repairs to the way, and we even have a promise from the lead Councillor - Victoria Wilson to walk the entire length in early September.

There's still a way to go, but things are certainly looking promising. Watch this space!

Steve Anderson (Trustee)

A new use for an old golf course



Local people are calling for a former golf course to be transformed into 'Silverdale Common' - for the benefit of both people and nature - rather than sold off for development.

Located in Silverdale and Keele in north Staffordshire, the former municipal golf course comprises 200 acres of pristine undeveloped woods, ponds and open grassland. It's hugely popular for local recreation and its central

location gives it the potential to become a side of national interest.

However, as landowner and planning authority, NULBC is determined to sell off its land to the highest bidder for a market-led 'executive' housing estate of between 1,200-1,800 houses as part of its Keele University Growth Corridor. This is despite the fact that the council has a 5-year land supply, local house prices are some of the lowest nationally, and there are many nearby brownfield sites that would benefit from regeneration instead.

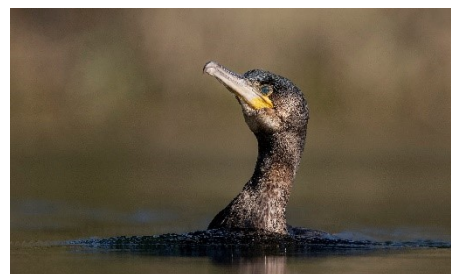
Silverdale and Keele Parish councils' joint application to have the area accepted as an Asset of Community Value was rejected by NULBC with a key reason being that the site was already 'earmarked' for development. Given that the council has yet to begin consultation on its new Local Plan and the site is legally protected Green Belt land, it is alarming that its mind appears to be already made up.

Duncan Hindmarch has written an article for our website with more information about the golf course and what you can do to help protect it. If you have completed Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's survey on open space, thank you - the results will be used to set an action plan for green infrastructure. You can still sign the petition

at Change.org, link on our website at:

<https://www.cprestaffordshire.org.uk/stories/a-new-use-for-an-old-golf-course/>

85th Anniversary Spring & Summer Greetings Cards



Above is a snapshot of our beautiful Staffordshire Countryside on Camera 85th anniversary spring and summer greetings cards. We have eight designs, all from the top photos from our celebratory competition.

The cards are printed by Prints Plus of Great Haywood and are produced on top quality, FSC approved, card using plastic free

inks. All are blank inside for your own message and come in two sizes - large (A5) and small (A6). To order cards, please use the enclosed order form or visit our online webshop: <https://cpref-staffordshire.onlineweb.shop/>

Village life in Great Haywood

I used to think, coming from Birmingham, that Great Haywood was in the country, but after living here for more than 25 years, sadly this is not the case, because the size of Great Haywood and surrounding villages has increased tremendously. We still see green fields, riverbanks, canal towpaths and narrow lanes, (turned into narrow roads), but our population has increased dramatically.

Fortunately we still have our local Haywoods Flower and Vegetable Show, the Great Haywood W. I, the Haywood Society, very good local church schools, good local pubs, hairdressers, and two post offices. Country life as in the past has vanished, although we still have a farm, and farm animals, with horse-riding on our roads.

The Colwich Parish in Bloom has a great team of helpers, as Great Haywood, Little Haywood with Colwich, have both been awarded Gold Medals and we are entering Great Haywood again this year in the Large Village section, and several It's Your Neighbourhood groups.

The Flower and Vegetable Show is on Sunday 19th September, at

Colwich & Little Haywood village Hall.

Unfortunately we get a great deal of litter. As a result, the In Bloom team have got together with the Sustainability in Colwich and Haywoods group, and we join together on set dates to have a joint litter pick, as well as going out individually to litter pick.

Anne Clendon, Vice-Chair

CPRE NATIONAL NEWS

Six Tests for Planning

CPRE and other charities including RSPB and the Wildlife Trusts have released six tests that new planning rules must pass to put people and nature first.

The six tests provide a scorecard that uses the government's own wording, from its Planning White Paper, to critically assess whether its vision for planning will become a reality in the Planning Bill.

The tests include measures across six key areas: local democracy, affordable homes, the climate emergency, nature, heritage and health.

Community Planning Alliance

The CPA is a recently formed network of over 400 grassroots

campaign groups and activists tackling concerns in their local area. CPA's aims are to lobby on planning related issues on behalf of their members, and to support them with their environmental or planning campaigns. The key issues for their members include unsustainable housing, local plans, roads and incinerators. Their three areas of focus are environment and biodiversity, community engagement and evidence-based need/affordability.

Hedgerows: 40by50

CPRE has launched its #40by50 campaign, calling on ministers to commit to extending the hedgerow network by 40% by 2050, as recommended by the independent Climate Change Committee.

This will mean adding over 4,000 miles of new and restored hedgerows per year - starting now.

You can support the #40by50 campaign by signing and sharing the petition:

<https://bit.ly/2VcU9xN>

CPRE will be launching its hedgerow research in the Terrace of the House of Commons on Monday 6 September from 4 - 6pm. We've written to all Staffordshire MPs inviting them to attend.

Haling Dene Centre

Penkridge
ST19 5DT

You are cordially invited to a talk and Q&A on:

Biodiversity and Conservation: What Do They Mean?

**By Simon Leather, Professor of Entomology at
Harper Adams University**

7pm, Tuesday 21st September 2021.

Complimentary refreshments will be served before the talk at 6:30pm, and we hope that everyone will stay for the AGM.

AGM AGENDA (at approx. 7:30pm):

1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2020
4. Presentation and adoption of the 2020-21 Annual Report
5. Presentation and adoption of the 2020-21 Statement of Accounts
6. Chairman's address
7. Election of President and Vice President(s)
8. Election of Officers and Executive Committee
9. Update on Local Plans around the County
10. Closing remarks

We aim to finish by 8:30pm.

Nominations

Nominations from CPRE members are invited for election as Branch Officers or Members of the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting on 21 September 2021. Officers of the Branch and Executive Committee Members are elected annually and any member of the branch may seek election. Should nominations exceed vacancies election shall be by ballot of those present at the meeting. You may nominate yourself. Please note that nominations need to be received by no later than **5pm on Friday 17 September**.

I/Wehereby nominate the under mentioned person to serve *As a Branch Officer in the position of/*as a member of the Executive Committee. (*Delete as necessary)

Nominee: Name.....

Address.....

.....

Signed:

Proposer..... Nominee

Please send this form to our postal address:

CPRE Staffordshire, 2 Staffordshire Place, Stafford ST16 2DH

Or email to protect@cprestaffordshire.org.uk

Government statement on Glover Review

Natural England has announced proposals for new protected areas across England following the Glover Review of protected landscapes. Under these proposals, four areas will be considered for greater protections, with potential to deliver over 40% of the additional 4,000km² required to meet the Prime Minister's commitment to protect 30% of the UK by 2030 for nature. Two existing AONBs, in the Surrey Hills and Chilterns, will be extended, and Natural England will consider the possibility of two whole new AONBs in the Yorkshire Wolds and Cheshire.

The Defra-funded Farming in Protected Landscapes programme runs from 2021 to 2024. The first application window is open from 1 July 2021 to 31 January 2022. The programme supports activity on any land within Cannock Chase AONB. It can also support activity on land outside the AONB where projects can demonstrate benefit to Cannock Chase, or the AONB Partnership's objectives or partnership initiatives. Expressions of Interest are now invited:

Deposit Return Scheme

CPRE is keeping up the pressure on the government to introduce a DRS, sending a

message to the Prime Minister on his birthday that it wants to see an all-in Deposit Return Scheme by 2023.

Rural Affordable Housing

The Rural Services Network has published a Parish Councillor's Guide to Affordable Housing. The guide sets out a wide range of information, useful to Parish Councillors considering their local areas. It answers question from everything such as 'what is affordable housing' and 'what planning routes are available' to more detailed guidance on Rural Exception Sites and how to deliver affordable rural housing.

National Food Strategy

A major new report for the government published in July has made a number of recommendations about what we eat and how we produce it. Its recommendations include guaranteeing the budget for agricultural payments until at least 2029 to help farmers transition to more sustainable land use and the creation of a Rural Land Use Framework.

<https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/>

LOCAL PLANNING ROUND-UP

Stafford Borough Council

21/33718/OUT: Land Northeast of Dingle Lane Farm Dingle Lane Hilderstone Stone Staffordshire. Proposed outline application for the development of land to include the erection of a single dwelling - All matters reserved. Objected on the grounds of inappropriate development in the green belt.

East Staffordshire Borough Council

P/2021/00062: Outline application for the siting of 40 holiday chalets with all matters reserved. Objected on the grounds of being contrary to adopted Local Plan policy.

Stafford Borough Council

21/34279/POTH | Proposed extension of the existing building by way of a vertical extension to create one additional floor containing multiple residential apartments | Victoria Park House 2 - 9 Victoria Road Stafford Staffordshire ST16 2AF. Submitted short response in support.

Lichfield District Council

Lichfield District local plan 2040 regulation 19 consultation: Lichfield District Council is holding a public consultation on the soundness and legal compliance of the pre-submission (publication) version of the Lichfield District local plan. The closing date is 30 August.

Staffordshire Needs Trees!

CPRE Staffordshire is encouraging parish councils, community groups and landowners to take advantage of the Woodland Trust's Free Trees scheme. We can apply for free trees from the Woodland Trust on your behalf. The area must have some community involvement or be publicly accessible.

All you need is an area to plant, which can accommodate the number of trees on offer within your chosen pack, a group of willing volunteers (we will happily pitch in!) and some shovels!

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/free-trees/>

Volunteers' Corner

We are pleased to welcome two new volunteers, **Lisa and Gary Salt**.

Lisa and Gary are both relatively new volunteers for CPRE who live in the picturesque village of Cheddleton, situated in the heart of the Staffordshire Moorlands. Their love of the countryside meant that they wanted to live somewhere surrounded by fields, woodland and plenty of walking routes.



Situated on the Caudon Canal and part of the Staffordshire Way, Cheddleton is an excellent location for walkers and ramblers as it has over 80 footpaths and various circular walks, including Deep Hayes Country Park, and is only a few miles from the Peak District.

Both Lisa and Gary are parish councillors for Cheddleton and became aware of the work of the CPRE through the newsletter sent to their parish council.

Gary is now assisting on checking planning applications for the Staffordshire Moorlands and Stoke-on-Trent districts and Lisa is helping with fundraising.



Gary has a professional background in adult education, primarily focusing on life skills and employability skills. In his free time Gary likes to investigate the history and heritage of areas around the Staffordshire Moorlands. He also has a more adventurous side to his character and enjoys white water rafting, caving and gyrocopter flying.

Lisa also has a background in teaching and has taught at several schools in Staffordshire. Lisa spends a lot of her leisure time tending to her allotment or walking her border collie, Bryn. Her other interests include clay pigeon/target shooting and wine making using the produce from the allotment.

Recycle for CPRE Staffordshire!

Yes Please

- ✓ Gold or Silver Jewellery
- ✓ Watches
- ✓ Stamps
- ✓ Costume Jewellery
- ✓ Banknotes & coins
- ✓ First Day Covers

The ONLY electrical devices we accept are:

- ✓ Mobile Phones
- ✓ Cameras
- ✓ Video Cameras
- ✓ Sat Navs
- ✓ Electronic gaming devices
- ✓ Ipods/MP3 players
- ✓ Tablet Computers

No Thank you

- ✗ Laptops
- ✗ Home phones
- ✗ Fax machines
- ✗ DVD players
- ✗ Printers
- ✗ Modems or routers
- ✗ Kitchen appliances
- ✗ Porcelain or glass items
- ✗ Personal Grooming items (straighteners razors, hair dryers, etc.)

We continue to collect a variety of electronics, including mobile phones and gaming devices, jewelry, used stamps and foreign and old coins and banknotes to raise funds through Recycling for Good Causes. Please see the list above for what is and isn't accepted. Unfortunately, laptops are no longer accepted but tablet computers are. We have now raised a grand total of £159.70 since last October..

Aroma Tranquility, based Castlefields, Newport Road, Stafford ST16 1BQ and neighbour Roots Larder (plastic-free shopping), have a box for collecting the items which is now back indoors. You can take items for recycling between 9am and 4pm on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday (look for the big Shoe Shed sign). Hand gel is available and face masks are encouraged.

If you are not able to take your items to Aroma Tranquility, they can either be dropped in to the Stafford office (by arrangement only - please call [01785 277890](tel:01785277890) or email protect@cprestaffordshire.org.uk) or post to us or, if small items, post to the Freepost address below in a no larger than A5 envelope:

FREEPOST RSXA-GJBY-ARRZ

Charity Name: CPRE Staffordshire

Unit 14

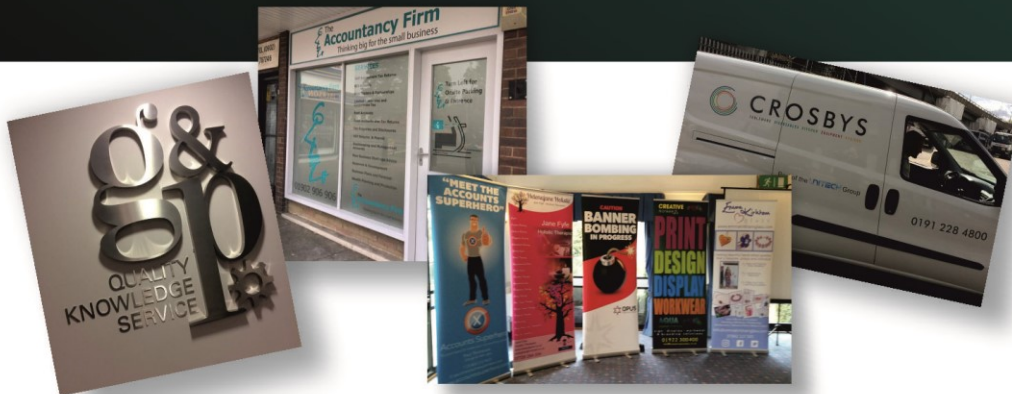
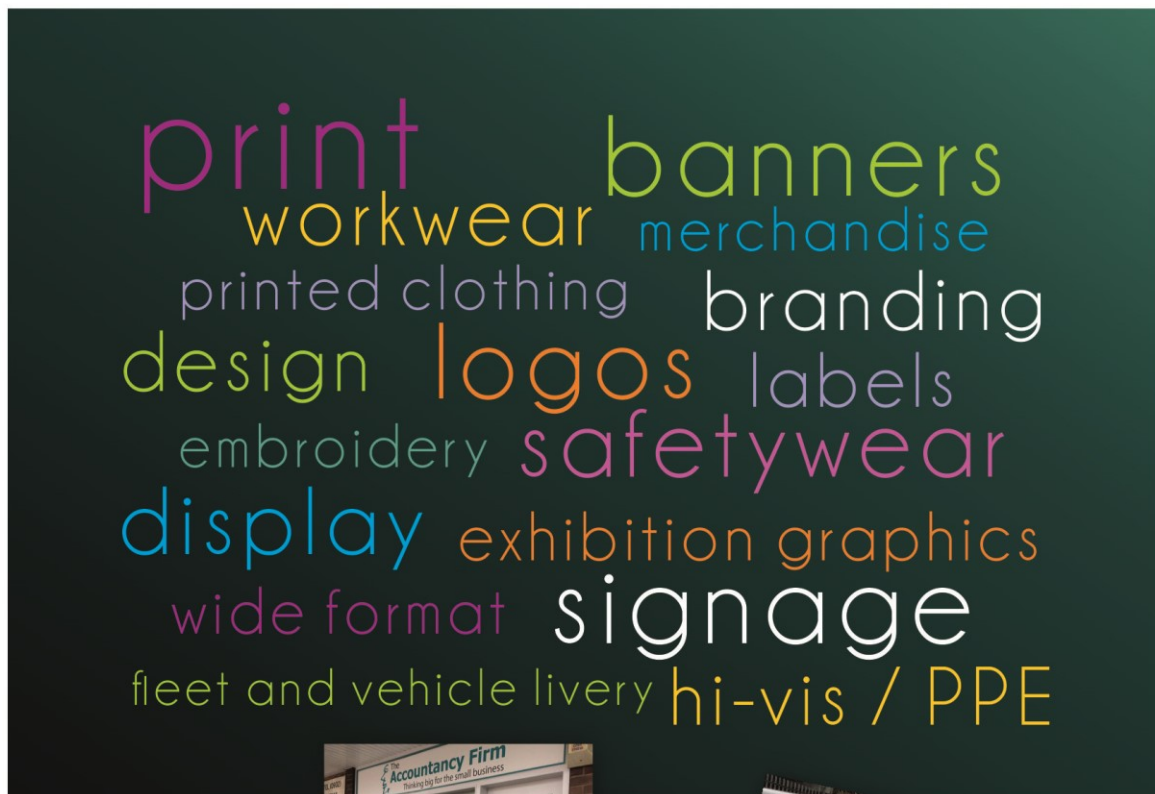
Amber Business Village

Amber Close

Tamworth

B77 4RP

If you have large amounts, please either contact us directly or call Recycling for Good Causes on [0800 633 5323](tel:08006335323) (they are based in Tamworth).



AQUA 
creative branding

tel: 01543 720300 / 01922 300400
neil@creativemonkeeprint.com

CPRE Staffordshire is a registered charity, number 219443. It promotes and encourages the protection and improvement of the countryside of Staffordshire: its towns, villages and rural environment. Anyone who values the Staffordshire countryside is invited to join us, either as a supporter of our work, or as an active participant.

<https://www.cprestaffordshire.org.uk>

*Copyright © 2021 CPRE Staffordshire.
All rights reserved.*

Mailing Address:

c/o Staffordshire County Council
2 Staffordshire Place
Stafford
ST16 2DH
01785 277890

protect@cprestaffordshire.org.uk



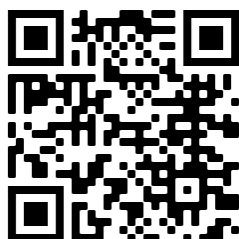
Facebook CPREStaffsPage



Twitter @StaffsCPRE



Instagram @cprestaffs



Current CPRE Staffordshire Executive Committee Officers:

Chairman: Mrs Mary Booth BA Hons MSc

President: Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire Mr Ian Dudson, CBE KStJ

Vice President: Philip Atkins OBE

Vice Chair & Social Secretary: Mrs Anne Clendon BEM

Executive Committee Members: Steve Hopkins and Steve Anderson

Join Us!

If you would like to join CPRE, please go to:

<http://www.cprestaffordshire.org.uk/how-you-can-help/join-or-donate/join-us>

As a member you will receive discount to attractions nationwide, 15% off Cotswold Outdoor store and national and local news about events, your local countryside and future planning.

Please remember to state **Staffordshire** as the local group or branch you are joining through.