

CVs of Trustees
and those standing for appointment
or re-appointment as Trustees of the Charity

CPRE Sussex Countryside Trust

Michael Brown

I became a trustee in November 2012. I look after planning issues in Mid Sussex District.

I am 65, married with 3 grandchildren, and am a long-standing resident of East Grinstead. I am a retired solicitor having worked in the City of London throughout my professional career. But at heart I am a country boy. My love of the open air and nature was instilled and fostered in my formative years at school in the country near Uckfield, where I suspect that I learned rather more about the natural world than I achieved academically. I still live largely out of doors maintaining (with my wife) our own little tract of Sussex garden and woodland. My wife and I are also both keen and regular local countryside walkers.

For CPRE at branch level I hope that I have been an active, and professional, trustee involved both in the strategy review and in organising our incorporation.

At Mid Sussex District level I have been responsible for the Branch's detailed input to the consultation on the District Council's proposed District Plan, and for CPRE contributions to a depressing number of controversial developer planning applications up and down the District. This has included addressing the implications of potential shale gas extraction within the District, and (jointly with Horsham & District CPRE) fighting the threatened 10,000 home "Mayfields new town" development in the open country between Sayers Common and Henfield.

For CPRE National Office I undertook most of the research into the first year impact of the National Planning Policy Framework on planning appeal decision making – the subject of National Office's flagship report issued in March 2013. I have also been involved at National and County level in developing our fracking and shale gas exploration policy.

I have undertaken voluntary professional work for other charities, including the development of the detailed global governance and risk management arrangements of a very well know international children's charity.

Like all your other trustees, my time and work for CPRE is all undertaken as a volunteer out of concern that we should leave our grandchildren, and their grandchildren, with as wonderful a Sussex countryside as I have been privileged to enjoy since my own young childhood years in the county.

Rodney Chambers – Retired Chairman

Rodney Chambers spent his teenage years in rural Gloucestershire. He had a career in teaching (including a spell in Tanzania) and Community Education. On early retirement in 1992 he fulfilled a long-held ambition to move to Chichester – a characteristic Sussex town with a close relationship with its surrounding countryside.

He joined CPRE in 2006 and was very soon appointed Vice-Chairman for West Sussex. Then, when Roy Haycock was forced by ill-health to retire from the Chair, Rodney became acting Chair until confirmed in the post at the 2008 AGM.

During his time in office he did his best to guide the Branch through a period of considerable change, some of it internal but much of it as a result of changes in planning law and the advent of Localism.

Unfortunately his eyesight eventually deteriorated to such an extent that he decided to step down from the Chair but continues to serve the Branch as a Trustee.

30th April 2014

Justin French-Brooks

An environmentalist with a strong interest in the countryside, having grown up on a farm in Hampshire, in what is now part of the South Downs National Park. A CPRE Sussex Branch Trustee since 2010, and Chair of CPRE Mid Sussex group in 2012. Particularly keen to influence government policy on land-use planning to limit further loss of open space.

Employment History

Word to Dialogue 2010-ongoing

Consultant

- Independent sustainability consultant providing technical writing and editing services to improve the quality of clients' written communications and the effectiveness of their work
- Provides specialist project management services to the environmental sector based on strong technical skills and knowledge of UK and EU environmental policy
- Edited, restructured and revised over 100 technical documents in the field of energy and resource management, many aimed at corporate sector audiences

Environmental Services Association (ESA) 2007- 2009

Policy Advisor-Materials Recovery

- Delivered policy advice to ESA Members on all aspects of waste recovery, with a particular focus on legislative development and interaction of EU and UK regulation
- Responsible for understanding implications of key pieces of legislation, including EU Waste Framework Directive, Producer Responsibility Directives, and UK regulations

Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) 2001-2007

ROTATE Adviser

2004-2007

Recycling and Organics Technical Advisory Team

- Provided waste management advice to 27 local authorities across England, with particular focus on waste and recycling collection services

Business Analyst

2001-2004

Business and Procurement Team

- Devised, developed and launched new sources of market data for the waste sector, including a weekly web-based source of market intelligence on recyclables

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) 1999-2001

Policy Adviser

Producer Responsibility Unit, Environmental Protection Directorate

- Developed policy thinking on options for the implementation of producer responsibility law in the UK, particularly the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive

Education

1998-1999: MSc Environmental Technology (Distinction) Imperial College, London

1991-1994: MA Geography (2.1) University of Cambridge

Member of Chartered Institution of Wastes Management

Stephen Hardy, MBE

Stephen Hardy qualified as a solicitor in 1974 and spends his working time as legal and compliance director for the UK subsidiaries of an Irish plc, currently the only major construction company listed on the FTSE 100.

Connected with his work, Stephen set up, and acted as Chairman during its formative years of Istock Community Enterprises Limited, in the East Midlands, a very successful regeneration venture established in 1997, and still thriving, and for which Stephen was awarded the MBE in 1999. He has also been a director of various regeneration enterprises on Merseyside where his employer had factories. Since 2001 he has been Chairman of an environmental trust set up under the Landfill Communities Fund, which has now distributed just under £6m. He is also a trustee of his company's Pension Fund.

Outside work, Stephen has been active for many years in local politics, standing for Westminster four times, and being an elected district councillor in Rother from 1999 to 2003. He set up in his home village Robertsbridge Enterprise Group, a group of local businesses and community interests, in 2007 and is its chairman.

Being a keen allotment gardener, he set up Robertsbridge Allotment Association in 2007 and was its first chairman. He has been a committee member, and now trustee of Rother Environment Group since 2007.

Recently he has been chair of Hurst Green Community Shop Limited, which converted a redundant church with the aid of Lottery funding to be a shop, cafe and community centre.

He has been the Rother and Hastings planning adviser for CPRE since 2006, having joined CPRE with his wife in 2002, and was elected a trustee for CPRE Sussex in July 2012.

Penelope Hudd

Penelope studied Design at the Hornsey College of Art in London and Landscape Architecture at Harvard in the USA where she went on to practice as a designer for ten years, her clients included, among others The Architects Collaborative, Benjamin Thompson & Associates, the Boston Children's Hospital and MIT Libraries.

She then moved to live and work in Hong Kong where she worked with architects GMW, Prescott Stutely Design and for the Hong Kong Government. On her return to the UK she retained her design practice while moving into design education, initially as a senior lecturer at Norwich School of Art.

This was followed by a move to Scotland where she became Head of Graphic Design at Glasgow School of Art and latterly to London to take on the role of Head of the School of Design at Kingston University.

She has been an academic advisor and external examiner at many institutions in the UK including the Royal College of Art, Central St Martins at the University of the Arts London, the University of Central Lancashire and in Europe the Austrian Education Department.

Through out her career she has endeavored to build productive relationships, between industry and education and between art and design institutions around the world.

Recent work includes consultancy for the University of Brighton's Faculty of Art, Design & Architecture; External Examining for the Design and Craft Masters courses at the University of the Creative Arts and a role as a Governor of City College, Brighton & Hove. Penny has also been an active member of CPRE Sussex for five years and a Trustee for four.

Dr John Kay

I am Chair of Ringmer Parish Council and planning lead for the CPRE Sussex Lewes District group. My council produced a Village Plan in 2003, adding Employment and Housing Strategies in 2006 & 2009, and became a 'Vanguard' front-runner in the first wave of Neighbourhood Plans. Prior to retirement I was Associate Dean of the Brighton & Sussex Medical School and a Non-Executive Director of East Sussex Downs & Weald Primary Care Trust. I am a Trustee of King's Church, Lewes, and of the Ringmer Parish Almshouse Charity. I volunteer with the Lewes & Seaford Citizens Advice Bureau.

Dr Roger F Smith

Sussex-born activist who has campaigned since 1996 against development that is inappropriate and destructive of communities, countryside and the natural environment. Educated Jesus Oxford (DPhil) and the University of Southampton; variously a professional archaeologist, Royal Air Force Officer, arctic explorer and expedition leader and planner, farm worker, conservation officer, company secretary and Trustee CPRE Sussex. He is very concerned for the future of our precious countryside and landscapes.

28 May 14

Richard Shirley

Richard Shirley grew up in Central London and became a Chartered Accountant in 1972, since which time he has pursued a career in various finance-related positions within commerce.

His awareness and love of the countryside developed in the 1990's when he went to live in the Brendon Hills, on the northern edge of Exmoor. He returned to the South East in 2003 and currently works as Finance Bursar at a leading Sussex independent school. He and his wife live at Jevington on the South Downs where they spend much of their spare time outdoors, walking, gardening and attending to the demands of their flock of Red Sussex poultry.

Richard joined CPRE Sussex in November 2013 as Treasurer. His aspirations for the role are to ensure that all aspects of financial governance are administered effectively and to enable the finance function to support the charity in fulfilling its objectives to the maximum extent possible.

David Johnson

David Johnson was brought up on the edge of the Green Belt and North Downs, playing out on its commons and woods. Although going to school in central London he became a 'Young Farmer' and worked on a small farm's dairy, its horse drawn milk float and potato picking.

David's varied career led him to work with the Irish cheese and 'real' food producers, to develop effective public, health and welfare services and encourage equal opportunities across rural and urban settings. In recent years he has taught on international MBAs in China, Japan, South America and Europe on organisational and management development and led leadership programmes in the UK and Ireland.

In the 1990s David moved from Wimbledon to rural East Sussex where he kept horses on a few acres, and subsequently, to Shoreham where he lives beside the River Adur. David has worked with voluntary organisations since the 1980s, currently as a trustee for a Suffolk based carers' organisation, and as a secondary school governor in rural Kent; he helped set up Shoreham Wordfest, now in its fourth year, sings in a community choir and volunteers at the Ropetackle Arts Centre. He describes himself as 'semi-retired'.

A long time country lover and user, his anxiety at the Coalition's pressure for building at any cost, led him to join CPRE. He now seeks to build strong alliances with campaigners across Sussex, attract new volunteers and members from among both rural and urban country users and renew the sense of countryside stewardship in the wider society.