

Trustees

CVs of candidates for election

CPRE Sussex Countryside Trust

AGM July 10 2013

Michael Brown

I was co-opted as a trustee in November 2012 and stand for election for the first time. I chair the CPRE Mid Sussex District committee.

I am 64, 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 leading our proposed incorporation.

At Mid Sussex District level I have been responsible for the Branch's detailed input to the recent consultation on the District Council's District Plan that will be the subject of a public examination in the coming months, and for CPRE contributions to a depressing number of controversial developer planning applications up and down the District. We are also gearing up to address the implications of potential shale gas extraction within the District, and (jointly with Horsham & District CPRE) to oppose a threatened 10,000 home new town development in the open country between Sayers Green 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.

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 - 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.

He has done 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 has deteriorated to such an extent that he is ready to resign the Chair as soon as a successor can be found, but he is happy to continue as a Trustee.

16th June 2013

Justin French-Brooks

Profile

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 director and company secretary, responsible for legal and property management for the UK subsidiaries of an Irish plc, currently the only major construction company listed on the FTSE 100. He is also Head of Compliance for the group.

Connected with his work, Stephen set up, acted as Chairman during its formative years and still is a director of Ibstock Community Enterprises Limited, in the East Midlands, a very successful regeneration venture, established in 1997, 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 distributed in excess of £5m.

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.

He is currently chair of Hurst Green Community Shop Limited, hoping to convert a redundant church with the aid of Lottery funding to be a shop, café and community centre. He has been the Rother and Hastings planning adviser for CPRE since 2006, having joined CPRE with his wife in 2002.

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.