

# **NEWSLETTER SPRING 2021**Standing up for Hertfordshire's Countryside



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#### WHO'S WHO AT CPRE HERTS:

President: Sir Simon Bowes Lyon, KCVO Chairman: Richard Bullen Hon Treasurer: John Newbury Office Manager: Gill Bryant Planning Manager: Chris Berry Planning Assistant: Linda Brookes Newsletter/Website: Paul Munns

CPRE Hertfordshire is a Charitable **Incorporated Organisation** Registration no. 1162419

#### How to contact us:

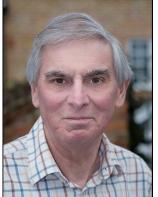
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#### Office Hours:

Currently no regular opening hours due to covid-19, please contact us by email

Image on front page: **Towards Berkhamsted** Photo: Elizabeth Hamilton

### A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



Welcome to our Spring 2021 members' newsletter. Despite all of the difficulties placed on everyone by the pandemic, we've had 40 new members join CPRE Hertfordshire over the past year. A big 'thank you' to each of you for helping us to protect, promote and enhance the Hertfordshire countryside.

In addition to new members, we also have some changes in our team. Read more about these on page 3.

And our team has been busy. The Examinations in Public of the Welwyn Hatfield Borough and North Hertfordshire District Local Plans have continued. We have participated at these hearings and made the case against the huge amount of Green Belt land that will be lost to housing development if these Plans go through.

Dacorum Borough's "Emerging Strategy for Growth 2020 – 2038", as its draft Local Plan is styled, also contains proposals for massive numbers of homes, at least 16,000, a majority of which will be built on 750 hectares of Green Belt land.

As part of our campaigning in Dacorum, in January we completed an initial analysis of the issues and then emailed the details of our objections to our members. We hope that this helped members formulate and submit their own responses before the consultation closed at the end of February.

Unfortunately a large number of our members have not yet given us consent to communicate via email. We can't post information on campaigning issues as these are usually on a tight timeline, and posting is expensive.

Of the ten districts and boroughs in the county, only three have adopted Local Plans. These are East Hertfordshire, Broxbourne and Stevenage. The other seven Local Plans are all in various stages of preparation – Dacorum, Hertsmere, North Hertfordshire, St Albans City & District, Three Rivers, Watford and Welwyn Hatfield.

If you haven't already given us your consent to communicate via email, and if you live in any of these seven local authority areas and would like to hear from us when it is possible to influence these plans, then please email us at office@cpreherts.org.uk and we will email the required GDPR form for you to complete.

Finally, any new housing development needs clean water supply and waste water removal. Water companies have a statutory obligation to supply both. Quite where the water is coming from is a huge issue. Waste water removal is a challenge as well and may involve sewage tanks and frequent visits by tanker lorries to take away the contents of these tanks. This is not speculation: this is happening in Oxfordshire. So, before you buy a new home on one of the new or proposed developments, find out what happens when you flush the loo!

Richard Bullen

### **GROWING OUR CAPACITY**

#### WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A NUMBER OF CHANGES TO OUR TEAM

We're delighted to welcome our new CPRE Hertfordshire Chief Executive, Martin Varco. Originally from Cornwall, after receiving his degree in geology Martin worked in the oil industry, living and working in a number of countries during his career. He retired from BP in 2020 and started volunteering with our Planning team last summer. Martin lives in Welwyn with his wife Maggie and enjoys walking, running and cycling in the countryside and woods nearby. Martin says "I'm looking forward to taking on the role of Chief Executive as it's an exciting time for the charity, with a lot going on behind the scenes to modernise our operations, while at the same time the countryside around us is facing unprecedented challenges."





We're also delighted to welcome **Chris Berry** as our new Planning Manager. Chris brings extensive professional experience in planning including recent chief planning officer positions in several local authorities around greater London and the Home Counties, and prior to that as a planning consultant in both the UK and overseas. He moved into Hertfordshire just over a year ago, and is looking forward to getting involved in local affairs as well as the challenging agenda of CPRE Hertfordshire's activities.

Chris takes over from **Tim Hagyard**, who has stood down as Planning Manager in order to spend more time writing his book, and focusing on his passion for climate and sustainability issues, and urban design and place making. We're pleased that Tim will

continue with CPRE as a volunteer, and he says "I look forward to staying in touch with a fine group of people working in the cause of the countryside."

Over the past 12 months we've been fortunate in having a number of new part-time volunteers join us in a variety of roles. Two of them, **Moira Whittle** and **Nick Hassell**, have joined as "Walks Volunteers" helping make our self-guided walks more engaging and more accessible to everyone. You can read more about their work on page 7.

#### **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

We are currently seeking a volunteer to join our team as **Communications Manager**. This person will oversee and coordinate our various external communications activities to bring greater coherence across all our channels including both traditional and digital media. The role is home-based and highly flexible, but will need to be available for an hour or two on several days per week, as our communications sometimes need a quick turnaround.



Our **Planning Volunteers** help with reviewing the council lists of planning applications, and recommending those where we should respond. This too is a highly flexible home-based role requiring only an hour or two each week, and training is available. It is a crucial task which raises CPRE's profile and we would be delighted to talk to anyone, especially in the south and east of the county, who may be able to join our friendly team.

Looking ahead, we will soon have a couple of **Trustee** vacancies arise as current Trustees come to the end of their terms of office. Our Trustees play a crucial role in providing strategic direction and ensuring the charity remains on a firm footing.

We would particularly welcome a conversation with any of our members and supporters who might be interested. Why not get in touch and find out more? Please drop us a line at <a href="mailto:office@cpreherts.org.uk">office@cpreherts.org.uk</a>

### **LOCAL PLAN OVERVIEW**

#### **HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICTS FEB 2021**

District Plan	Jan - Mar 2021	Apr - Jun 2021	Jul - Sept 2021	Oct - Dec 2021	Potential Adoption
Broxbourne Local Plan 2018-2033					Adopted June 2020
Dacorum* Local Plan 2020 - 2036	Reg 18 Growth Strategy consul- tation ends 28 Feb				2023
East Herts Dis- trict Plan 2011-2033					Adopted Oct 2018
Hertsmere* Local Plan 2020-2036		Reg 19 Pre- Submission Plan consulta- tion			2022/23
North Herts Local Plan 2011-2031	EIP still in pro- gress - Main modifications				2021
St Albans* Local Plan 2020-2036	Submission Plan withdrawn from EIP. New call for sites in progress.				2023 Regulation 18 expected Jan/ Feb 2022
Stevenage Lo- cal Plan 2011- 2031					Adopted May 2019
Three Rivers* Local Plan 2021 -2036		Additional Reg 18 consultation		Reg 19 Pre- Sub Plan consultation	2023
Watford* Local Plan 2018-2036	Reg 19 Pre- Sub Plan consultation ends 18 Mar				2022
Welwyn Hat- field Local Plan 2017-2032	EIP still in pro- gress				2021
South West * Herts Joint Strategic Plan			Regulation 18: Issues and Op- tions Consulta- tion		2024
Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review			Submission for Examination		2022
Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan Review	Draft Plan Con- sultation in pro- gress - ends 19 Mar				2024

<sup>\*</sup> Five district councils working on **South West Joint Strategic Plan**.

Reg 18 Public Consultation: Early stage consultation - may include Issues and Options, Preferred Options and first draft plan.

**Reg 19 Public Consultation**: Pre-submission draft plan - views sought as to whether the plan is legally compliant and meets the test of soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework NPPF.

**Examination in Public (EIP)**: Public hearing held by independent Planning Inspector to assess merits of Submitted Local Plan Policies and their soundness.

#### DO YOU LIVE IN THREE RIVERS OR HERTSMERE?

Over the coming months, we expect both Three Rivers District and Hertsmere Borough to commence public consultations on their respective draft Local Plans (see Table above). If you would be interested in engaging with the Local Plan process with us, please get in touch. No experience needed, and there is no specific time commitment expected. It's your local "on the ground" knowledge that will be most helpful.

Please contact Richard Bullen at office@cpreherts.org.uk if you'd like to find out more.

# **PLANNING REPORT**

#### The national planning story so far...

Public consultation on the Planning White Paper, discussed in our Winter newsletter, finished before Christmas, but the debate continues as the Government received well over 40,000 responses from the public and interested bodies including CPRE. There are several useful critiques available of the White Paper and its proposals, and particular opposition is building to the lack of local and democratic accountability, both in Local Plan preparation and in the consideration of planning applications.

Political opposition to the changes is cross-party, and at a recent Hertford Civic Society meeting addressed by our chairman Richard Bullen, the local MP Julie Marson said that there is a long way to go yet – and a Government response to the consultation is not expected until Spring at the earliest.

Related to the need to promote a positive alternative to the White Paper, CPRE has nationally promoted "Our Vision for Planning" with seventeen other environmentally related interest groups and bodies, and the vision document was launched in January at a Zoom session attended by the Minister for Housing, Chris Pincher; the new MHCLG Chief Planner, Joanna Averley; Emma Marsh, Director of RSPB England and our own Paul Miner. There is a useful two page summary document which identifies eight requirements for planning reform as the basis for "Our Vision" and the full document is available from the national CPRE website and worth a read.

We are challenging the removal of democratic accountability or even involvement by local communities in the local planning process, both for Local Plans themselves and at the applications stage. These are critical activities for us in CPRE as we face a full-blown attack on a planning system which is even more necessary now as environmental issues climb up the political agenda. On a rather more technical subject, the debate also continues on how to calculate future housing need following the Government's disastrous publication of a new algorithm for use by local authorities in their Local Plans in June last year (known as the Standard Method). This was roundly criticised by virtually everyone including CPRE, and a revised version was issued which attempted to correct some of the more obvious errors, but still provides difficulties for areas like Herts which has extensive Green Belt and high land and property values, and the arguments rumble on. CPRE both locally and nationally will continue to challenge these very blunt inaccurate instruments for forecasting housing figures and we have recently written to national

CPRE to temper any enthusiasm for the new calculations.

Another potentially very damaging proposal is for the further extension of Permitted Development Rights (known as PDR) allowing a range of high street commercial uses to convert to housing as from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021. This extension of PDR will allow extra stories on buildings without needing to apply for permission and a whole raft of changes of use without prior consent being required. One of the dangers is that without consent being required, the local authority cannot insist on benefits through planning agreements so developers get off without having to provide necessary services and facilities related to their developments in many cases. Although this could be seen as affecting mainly larger towns, rural centres are just as vulnerable to another attack on the planning system which will reduce local authority planning controls significantly in favour of national edict.

#### Lots of Local Plans in Herts...

A great deal has been happening on the Local Plans front, where CPRE Hertfordshire makes representations and promotes local involvement and participation to protect the countryside which is often under threat by local plan proposals. Two Hertfordshire Local Plans are at the Examination in Public (EiP) stage; for Welwyn-Hatfield and North Herts District Councils, and CPRE Herts has been heavily involved in both sets of hearings.

We have made significant representations to the Welwyn Hatfield LP inquiry where the Inspector surprised everyone including the Council by adding consideration of sites previously rejected, and making alterations to the inquiry process with very little notice. A major issue has been the population figures on which the Local Plan is based and by the time of publication the inquiry will have concluded but the debate concerning population changes in the County continues, as will our representations. CPRE Herts asked Jed Griffiths to submit comments on the Council's new calculation of housing need and their consultant's report and appear at the inquiry on our behalf. His report with an appendix by demographic expert Alan Wenban-Smith was submitted to the Inspector.

North Herts Local Plan had its final hearings last year and the Inspector's direction on housing numbers is anticipated but has not yet been received. We will continue to monitor the situation as the LP has major implications for the potential release of land, particularly east of Luton.

We also have a very active team, convened by Martin Varco, responding to the Dacorum Local Plan Emerging Strategy for **Growth** which is at the first stage of the Local Plan preparation process. The Strategy proposes completely unsupportable figures for new houses all over the Borough, including significant areas of Green Belt and sensitive

designated areas and we are helping to mobilise opposition to these damaging plans.

CPRE Herts is leading the objections to the lack of a sustainable vision and has already shared its initial assessment with local members and groups, councillors and MPs. The plan includes the Hemel Garden Communities expansion on the north and east of Hemel Hempstead and overall the release of 850 hectares of mostly Green Belt. As I noted above, it pays no regard to the latest greatly reduced household projections and this is an issue of national significance which will arise again.

Following the forced withdrawal of the **St Albans Local Plan** last year, the Council restarted the process with a new "Call for Sites" in January which is a common approach to finding what are regarded as deliverable sites for inclusion in the plan. This of course leads to developers promoting large areas of countryside for development, whether appropriate or not. Consultation on the draft **Watford Local Plan** took place in Feb/March and **Hertsmere** and **Three Rivers Local Plans** are expected later this year. As ever, we will be keeping an eagle eye on the proceedings.

The Herts Waste Local Plan was out for consultation between 11<sup>th</sup> January to 19<sup>th</sup> March and this will replace various Development Plan Documents (DPD) on the subject published in 2012, 2014 and 2015. There will also be a Waste Facilities Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD – apologies for the jargon!) and the consultation covers both documents. This is a specialist area with potentially significant impacts on the countryside and we are fortunate to be able to utilise Steve Baker's expertise in this area, as well as in our responses to Local Plans more generally.

The table on page 4 shows the present status of all the Local Plans in the County and as you can see, we have a busy time ahead to ensure that these plans protect the countryside as they should.

#### Planning applications coming out of our ears...

We continue to make representations to our borough and district councils on planning applications which show no sign of abating despite what could be seen as apparently unpromising conditions for new development. There has been no shortage of issues to raise and our dedicated team of volunteers scan the weekly lists of applications from the councils and we object where appropriate. All our responses are posted on our website and I can perhaps highlight one or two recent cases where we have responded as an indication of the breadth of issues and concerns.

There has been a rash of proposals for former glasshouse sites in the south-east of the county on the

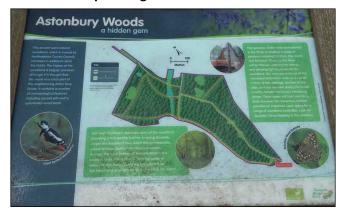
urban fringe in the Cheshunt and Goffs Oak area, and huge proposals for housing north of Harlow, around Gilston. Local Plan policies sometimes permit a certain amount of development in the Green Belt and we are often in the position of emphasising to local authorities the controls that are present in their own plan policies to ensure quality and reduce the impact on open countryside.

We have objected to a massive new solar farm proposal in Aldenham and proposals to the north of St Albans, and we also respond to smaller but significant issues such as the proposed de-registration of common land in Woodcock Hill. Often these responses are in support and conjunction with local community organisations and we are keen to increase local cooperation wherever possible.

#### Climate Change strategies...

As climate change moves up the political agenda, and councils declare Climate Emergencies, it is clear that climate change needs to be taken into account in Local Plans and policies, and it is a key element of the CPRE "Our Vision of Planning" mentioned earlier. To date, there have been two climate strategy documents produced, by Welwyn Hatfield and Herts County, and there are likely to be more in the future. Our former Planning Manager Tim Hagyard, for whom this area is a major interest, has prepared critiques which we have submitted as representations and it is fair to say that a great deal of work needs to be done for these strategies to be more than mere words. Tim's submissions are on our website and we will be doing lots more on this vital topic.

#### And in other planning news.....



Herts County Council has put **Astonbury Wood** up for sale and the local Parish Council launched a petition at the beginning of the year to ensure that any future purchaser maintains the current high level of public access to the wood.. Several members have been involved together with the local Wildlife Trust and others and there are moves for local people to raise sufficient funds to purchase the woodland which lies

immediately south of Astonbury Manor, south east of Stevenage.

An enquiry has also been received from a community group in **Sandon** regarding a possible **re-wilding** project on 360 hectares of farmland in the north of the county. This would be the first such proposal in Hertfordshire and could have major implications for the countryside and I will be following this up with regard to possible planning issues. Natural England and the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust are already involved and I would be grateful if anyone has specific knowledge or interest in this area to get in touch via planning@cpreherts.org.uk

**Chris Berry** 

## **WALKS**

The CPRE Hertfordshire Walks support one of our principal objectives of connecting people with the countryside. Our volunteers have devised nearly 40 self-guided walking routes throughout the county, which are posted on our website. Early in 2020 we added a new walk in the Ver valley downstream from St Albans, starting and finishing at stations on the Abbey railway line. During lockdown we paused our promotion of the walks and exploration of new routes while travel was restricted.

In the summer I walked one of the routes devised by our former Chairman David Irving. This visits Kings Langley in the Gade valley and heads southwest to Chipperfield Common. Just before the Second World War the writer Arthur Mee described the area as 'a wide and lovely stretch of Hertfordshire' and 'one of the best bits of country within easy reach



In the Sopwell Nunnery Green Space, just to the south of St Albans on our Ver Valley and Bricket Wood walk Photo: Elizabeth Hamilton

of London'. It remains largely peaceful today. Kings Langley is the site of a former royal palace built by Eleanor of Castile, the wife of Edward I. The parish church contains many features of historic interest, while the final part of the route runs alongside the Grand Union canal. Some revisions to our original route now link it to Kings Langley railway station, making it more accessible for railway users.

Two new volunteers have joined the Walks team. They are revising the format and improving the reach and accessibility of the walks. Moira Whittle has a background in corporate communications following earlier experience in journalism. Nick Hassell has recently retired from a long career in IT. They are both keen walkers and enjoy exploring the Hertfordshire countryside. Travel restrictions and gloomy weather have restricted opportunities to explore and photograph new routes. Moira and Nick are looking forward to spring and a relaxation of restrictions to allow this work to continue.

Looking further ahead we would love to resume offering guided walks, which were once a regular feature in the CPRE Hertfordshire timetable. When restrictions allow we plan to explore possible partnerships with established walking groups in the county. Another idea is to link up with our CPRE colleagues in London, to help groups they are in contact with to connect with the Hertfordshire countryside.

Once we can all travel freely again, do try one of our walks; you may find one on our website which is local to you. They vary in length from three to seven miles, and some of the route descriptions of the longer walks include details of shorter alternatives. We would love to have your feedback and photographs. You can reach us on office@cpreherts.org.uk

All of our walks are available to view and download on our website www.cpreherts.org.uk

Elizabeth Hamilton

### **CPRE HERTFORDSHIRE AWARDS**

Pandemic restrictions impacted how we were able to conduct our Awards programme last year, and we've decided not to run the Awards in 2021. Although we were able to judge the nominations remotely in 2020, this was not without difficulties. The pause is giving us a chance to review the Awards and consider how we can align them better to our aims and objectives. We plan to announce the outcome of the review in the autumn.

We told you very briefly about the Award recipients in the winter newsletter. Here we are pleased to share more information about two of the outstanding projects we've recognised. We are so proud of these exceptional volunteers and what they have accomplished. Details of all the nominees can be found on our website.

#### THE PETERKIN AWARD

For an individual who has done the most for the environment or their community



Kevin Glogner of Hare Street, near Buntingford.

We've recognised Kevin for his work on the Hormeads Recreational Grounds known as The Meads. He is a Parish Councillor and Gardener but care of The Meads is his voluntary contribution to the community. He has completely transformed the area with regular grass cutting and he organised a community daffodil planting day in 2019. His other activities have included encouraging volunteers to plant wild flower seed along the river banks and restore the machinery shed. He has also donated a bench and three flowering trees and refurbished the play area. He organised a working party to paint the

pavilion and complete other maintenance jobs. All of these improvements have transformed The Meads into a thriving public green space and given a much needed lift to the community in these difficult times.

Upon receiving the CPRE Hertfordshire Award, Kevin said:

'Hopefully it will encourage and incentivise others to become more involved. Not only are we creating a much nicer environment for us all to live in, but also building a stronger community base as well.'

#### THE ENVIRONMENT AWARD

For a group that has improved their local environment



The Friends of Halsey Field. The Chairman and her husband, Chris and Mike Ridley, are keen walkers, and one day they spotted rare flowers in the Council-run Halsey Field on the northern edge of Hemel Hempstead. They persuaded Dacorum to leave the grass cutting on this 11 acre site and then made contact with the Boxmoor Trust, The Chiltern Society and Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust to seek advice and enlist support. Once a month volunteers work on site. The scale of the work is daunting, but they have triumphed. The wildflowers are many and varied, encouraging greater numbers of birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and invasive species and bram-

bles are kept at bay. Narrow paths weave through the site and they have received benches from the Council which were destined for the dump; these have been repaired and placed carefully for visitors to enjoy this special place. The Friends have helped nature make a delightful habitat and this is an exceptional conservation project.

When notified of the Award, Chris Ridley, Chairman of The Friends of Halsey Field said:

'I think it will help secure its future. It will show the council what a wonderful place it is and that it needs to be preserved.'

Gill Bryant

### CHILDRENS ART COMPETITION



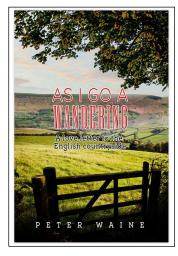
Through our annual Children's Art Competition we aim to encourage primary school aged children and their families to connect in a personal way with the Hertfordshire countryside. For 2021 we are reviewing the format to see if we can better align it with the academic school year. This means that we will be looking to launch the 2021 Competition in September.

The winter edition of our Newsletter gave details of our 2020 winners and here are a couple of them looking pleased to receive their certificates.



A beautiful short video of the winning artwork was produced and circulated on social media. A link can be found on our website. If you have the emailed version of our newsletter you can watch the YouTube Video here.

### AS I GO A WANDERING



Peter Waine, Honorary Vice President of CPRE Hertfordshire and former National Chairman of CPRE, has written a new book "As I Go A Wandering". Peter lives locally and his charming book features his prose, poetry and paintings about the local walks from his doorstep. He urges readers to get outdoors and discover the countryside right around the corner from where they live. And we're delighted that Peter's book helps to publicise CPRE's ongoing work to protect, promote and enhance the Hertfordshire countryside for everyone to enjoy.

"As I Go A Wandering" is an excellent addition to any book collection and makes a thoughtful gift. Available to buy (£9.99 regular retail price) from bookstores and online.

## **WEBSITE UPGRADE**

CPRE Hertfordshire is pleased to announce we will be upgrading our website in the near future. This new website brings a fresh modern look with far more functionality to give you a better experience when using it. This functionality will enable us to do much more with our website in the future.

We are hoping to "go live" mid-April so please do a search for us online and bookmark our new URL so you can easily find us when you need us.

# A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Our 2021 AGM will be held on Saturday 11 September.

Details of the format will follow once they are known, we very much hope to be able to see you all in person this year.

# CONCERNS ABOUT DACORUM'S PROPOSED LOCAL PLAN ARE APPLICABLE ELSEWHERE IN COUNTY



Empowering communities to protect and improve their local environment

On our website we recently published our concerns about Dacorum Borough Council's proposed local plan, titled "Emerging Strategy for Growth 2020 -2038".

Many of these concerns are broadly applicable elsewhere in Hertfordshire. We've summarised them below for our members' use and reference, as appropriate, for areas outside Dacorum.

Unnecessary impact on Green Belt, the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Chilterns Beechwoods Special Areas of Conservation. 85% of the borough is rural, 60% is Green Belt, and 33% of the countryside is in the AONB. Yet the proposed plan prioritises growth and development regardless of the impact and harm on the environment and on these special places.

Over-provision of housing. Whilst there is an undeniable need for more housing, in particular for more genuinely affordable housing for local people, we have concerns about the sheer scale of the proposed development. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) allows local authorities to restrict the scale of development due to other planning constraints including impacts on the Green Belt and AONB, but the proposed plan doesn't factor this in. It also uses outdated 2014 Office of National Statistics based housing projections to calculate housing need, rather than using up-to-date figures.

Failure to address climate emergency issues. The proposed local plan fails to demonstrate a pathway to local carbon reductions. This is a requirement of the NPPF and the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. An evidence based carbon reduction plan is also required to meet the national climate obligations of net zero by 2050.

Impact on infrastructure. The proposed level of development along with pending development in neighbouring districts would place an unacceptable burden on all types of infrastructure services and facilities and the plan doesn't address the necessary capacity increases.

Water supply and wastewater treatment. The proposals will put a severe strain on water resources. Until new water supplies are available from elsewhere in England, which will not be until the 2030s, the only option would be to extract more water from the chalk aquifer which in turn would damage the county's chalk rivers which are classified as priority habitats under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. The proposed increase in housing will also require substantial investment in waste water and sewerage infrastructure but the plan makes no mention of how this will be funded or accomplished.

Underestimating potential brownfield regeneration opportunities. The proposed plan fails to take into account the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and recently expanded permitted development rights, both of which are likely to result in much greater conversion of commercial space (especially office and retail) to residential use. The potential for such windfall provision of housing is likely to be much higher than that identified in the proposed plan. As a result, many of the proposals for development on Green Belt and greenfield sites outside of existing towns and villages are likely to be unnecessary.

# **CPRE HERTFORDSHIRE 100 CLUB**

The last 12 months have shown how much we all value our countryside. We work to keep it open and accessible to everyone. We are not against building new homes. We support development but only in the right places and with homes that are genuinely affordable for local people.

Your CPRE Hertfordshire membership helps us continue our work, and we're grateful for your continued support. Another way of supporting us is our 100 Club. By joining this, and anyone can, you make a monthly payment of £1 to £5 to us. For each £1 you will be assigned a number. Then, each month we draw two numbers at random and the holders of these numbers are paid between them just under 50% of the total monthly payments. You make the payments by standing order and so can cancel at any time.

Our website has more details about our 100 Club, and the application form and bank standing order form are downloadable. Or get in touch with us via email and we'll be happy to answer any questions.

# JOIN US



Snowdrops, a harbinger of spring Photo: Richard Bullen

Your membership helps us to work towards our aim to protect, promote and enhance Hertfordshire's countryside for everyone's benefit. Membership is from £3 per month, but giving at a higher level will enable us do more.

Details of how to join can be found on our website or you can email the office and we will send you a membership application form.

Email: office@cpreherts.org.uk

Thank you.

# TOM DAVIDSON COUNTRYSIDE CAMPAIGNER

In our Spring 2019 Newsletter we reported on the sad death of Tom Davidson. Tom was a long standing CPRE Hertfordshire member and a former Trustee of the charity. He and his wife Jenny, who predeceased him, together volunteered for many years, serving as judges in the Village of the Year competition and helping out at events. Tom was a founding member of the Marketing group and also served on our Planning team.

Soon after his death we were notified that his family had arranged for CPRE Hertfordshire to receive the donations from an 'in memorium' collection. And we were recently notified that Tom left a bequest to CPRE Hertfordshire in his Will. He loved the Hertfordshire countryside and did all he could to protect it for the future, including these last, most generous acts of kindness. His bequest is hugely appreciated and will help us continue our work to protect, promote and enhance the Hertfordshire countryside for everyone.



# **CPRE HERTFORDSHIRE BRANDED MERCHANDISE**

Our Blank Greetings Cards are perfect for every occasion.

### £8 per pack of 8 or £15 for any two packs + p&p

Each pack of 8 cards contains 4 each of two exclusive Hertfordshire scenes. Between them the two packs cover the four seasons:





Pack A:

Summer

Meadows

and Autumn

Mists

or Pack B:

Spring
Bluebells and
Winter Sunset





To order please visit our website or send us an email giving details of how many and which packs you would like to order together with your full name and delivery address.

Please remember to add £3 p&p per order

You can then either make a direct transfer using BACS, our bank details are:

Account Name: CPRE Hertfordshire

Sort code 20-92-54

Account number 60469335

Reference: "Merchandise and your surname"

Or alternatively you could send us a cheque, made payable to "CPRE Hertfordshire"

Merchandise will be despatched once payment is confirmed.

All photos by Chris Howe.