



The countryside charity
Sussex

CPRE Sussex Annual General Meeting 2020, 26th September 2020

Trustees & Officers Standing for appointment/re-appointment

Re-appointment of the President - Lord Egremont

Max Egremont has been a supporter and President of CPRE Sussex for nearly 40 years. To many, Max is a well-known landowner, whose name you will have doubtless heard mentioned if you have ever visited Petworth House his 17th-century ancestral home, now managed by the National Trust and immortalised in Turner's paintings.

But to history buffs, he is Max Egremont, the acclaimed novelist and biographer, best known for his biography of the First World War poet Siegfried Sassoon. His latest book, 'Forgotten Land', is an atmospheric work chronicling the changing fortunes of the region formerly known as East Prussia.

After reading Modern History at Christchurch College, Oxford, he worked in publishing and was planning a writing career when his father's premature death called him home to live at Petworth and to manage the 700 acre estate. The National Trust is responsible for the immediate parkland, but Lord Egremont manages the rest of the estate where he has met the challenge of striking the balance between preserving the countryside and making a living from it.

He takes a very keen interest country life and along side his lasting commitment to CPRE Sussex he is also the President of Sussex Heritage Trust. He has always been engaged with the life of the town and is closely involved with his parish church, St Mary's, as well as the annual Petworth Arts Festival.

Re-appointment of Vice President and as Trustee – Rodney Chambers

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, Rodney's eyesight eventually deteriorated to such an extent that he decided to step down from the Chair but continues to serve the Branch as Vice President.

Rodney is a member of the Executive Committee of the Chichester Society which works to protect the urban environment of Chichester.



The countryside charity
Sussex

Re-appointment of Vice President – Margaret Moore

Margaret's career was spent in the education of the deaf, in England and in India, ending with the Headship of Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Children in Brighton.

Following retirement in 1995, Margaret took the three year Diploma in Landscape Studies in the Extra Mural Department of Sussex University. Here she met Dr Peter Brandon and Dr Geoffrey Mead, both leaders in all matters of the countryside and, under their inspiring influence, she gravitated to the CPRE, where she became the editor of the Sussex Review for nine years. Since then she has been privileged to be one of the judges in the CPRE Award Scheme.

Re-appointment of Chair – Prof Dan Osborn

Dan is Professor of Human Ecology at University College London (UCL).

He is co-Chair of UCL's Environment Domain, maintaining an overview of the different aspects of environmental research. His own interests concern how people's wellbeing relates to their environment and its natural resources.

Dan works closely with the Sussex Community Development Association to encourage people who do not make use of green space to do so to benefit their wellbeing.

He co-led the chapter on 'People and the Built Environment' in the Evidence Report for the 2nd UK Climate Risk Assessment published in 2016, contributing sections on flooding and the risks coastal communities face from a changing climate.

Before joining UCL, Dan had several roles with the Research Council including the cross-government research initiative Living With Environmental Change. As Chair of the British Ecological Society's Policy Committee, he helped initiate discussions between ecologists and economists that led to the National Ecosystem Assessment published in 2011 and 2014.

Dan has worked with businesses, charities, national and local government in the UK, with the European Commission and various Parliamentary groups on a range of legislative and best practice issues. Much of his work has involved protecting the health and wellbeing of people and the environment and ensuring that resources are used more sustainably.

Re-appointment of Vice Chair – 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



The countryside charity
Sussex

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. David has worked with voluntary organisations since the 1980s, currently as a school governor in Brighton; he helped set up Shoreham Wordfest.

A long-time country lover and user, his anxiety at the Government's pressure for building at any cost, led him to join CPRE Sussex as chair. Having served his maximum term as Chair, in 2019 he took on a new role as Vice Chair. He continues to seek 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.

Appointment of new Trustee – Grainne Woodvine

Having grown up on an equestrian farm in West Sussex, Grainne has always had a passion for agriculture, wildlife and the great outdoors. She balances her professional life in the City of London, working for a financial services firm, with time spent outside exploring her local area near Hayward's Heath.

Grainne has worked in the Investment industry for almost a decade, where she specialises in leading large scale, strategic change programmes. She recognises how important it is to have access to the outdoors for positive mental wellbeing and believes strongly in championing the intrinsic value of all green spaces from a people, wildlife and ecosystem perspective.

She was co-opted to CPRE Sussex as a Trustee in 2020.

Re-appointment of Trustee - William Freeman

Bill Freeman, a retiree now for 13 years, Bill's background was predominantly in marketing and marketing communications. He has worked with major international companies in various marketing related roles, in the Sixties as industrial products advertising officer with Singer Sewing Machine Company, was Group Publicity manager for the Roneo Vickers Office Eqt Group for 10 years, product manager for Gestetner the reprographics company, supplies manager for OEM the Triumph Adler distributor and Dealer Channel marketing manager for Riso, the Japanese digital printer company. Until 6 years ago he continued to do freelance consultancy work with that company.

Educated in London, he has lived in both Kent and Sussex, finally settling on the south coast where he is very actively involved with community work.

He established Adur Floodwatch Group to support the concerns there are across Adur around drainage and runs a residents' network addressing local issues. He sits on the Adur Conservation Advisory Group, an independent committee for the community advising on planning matters in conservation areas and the West Sussex Flood Action Forum, which brings together all the flood action groups in the county under the stewardship of the National Flood Forum.



The countryside charity
Sussex

A passionate lover of the countryside, he has been an active member with CPRE Adur District for a number of years with a particular emphasis on preserving the green spaces proposed for development in the Adur Plan.

Re-appointment of Trustee – Dr Roger Smith

A Sussex-born activist, Dr Roger Smith has campaigned since 1996 against inappropriate development - development that is destructive of communities, countryside and the natural environment.

Educated at Jesus College, Oxford (DPhil) and the University of Southampton he has been variously a professional archaeologist, Royal Air Force Officer, an arctic explorer and expedition leader and planner, farm worker, conservation officer, company secretary.

Roger is a Trustee of CPRE Sussex, Chair of its Protect Sussex Group and leader of the CPRE Sussex Horsham District Group.

He is very concerned for the future of our precious countryside and landscapes.