



**W**ELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER.

We aim to bring you news and updates, tell you more about our work, and encourage you to get involved. We will include both local and national CPRE news. In this edition we round up what's been happening on social media, explain who's who in the former Ox-Cam Arc, introduce our guide to landscape designation and celebrate a local campaign win.

## Website and Social Media News

Last year we completely revamped our website – <https://www.cprecambs.org.uk>. It's updated every week, with news, local events, campaigns, volunteering opportunities and resources. There's also a directory of rural businesses, information about local food producers, details of the support available during the cost of living crisis and our Awaydays will give you plenty of ideas for a day out in our Cambridgeshire and Peterborough countryside. So please take a look if you haven't done so recently – we're always keen to have your feedback and suggestions.

We're also active on both Twitter (@CPRECambs) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/CPRECambridgeshireAndPeterborough>), so why not join the conversation?

## Lizzie Bannister's Blog

Lizzie is passionate about the countryside – she shares her thoughts and opinions in her blog, which is published on our website. Subjects Lizzie has blogged about include hedgerows, peat, the rural economy, and archaeology and the country-side. To read more go to <https://www.cprecambs.org.uk/cpre-blog/>



Lizzie and Patrick

## Friends of the Cam



We've been working with the Friends of the Cam to protect the chalk stream from over abstraction and sewage pollution. Friends of the Cam are a Cambridge based campaigning group committed to restoring the health of the river Cam and its tributaries for the benefit of nature – you can find out more about them at <https://www.friendsofthecam.org/>. Their next declaration of the rights of the river is on 21st June.

## Protecting Our Green Spaces

We've produced a brief guide to landscape designations which we think may be of use to local community and amenity groups – so please feel free to share it. The guide explains four specific land designations: Local Green Spaces, Assets of Community Value, Village Greens, and Local Nature Reserves. We explain what the different designations mean legally under planning policy; the implications of one form of designation

versus another; and how local communities can achieve one of these designations. The guide is available at

<https://www.cprecambs.org.uk/cpre-news/2023/04/05/how-local-communities-can-protect-green-spaces/>.

For a PDF copy of the guide or for more information about CPRE please contact Tracey Hipson at

[administrator2@cprecambs.org.uk](mailto:administrator2@cprecambs.org.uk)



© Simon Stirrup [www.simonstirrup.co.uk](http://www.simonstirrup.co.uk)

## The Ox-Cam Arc

The Ox-Cam Arc started as a government-supported large multi-regional project with lots of bodies involved in its development. The Ox-Cam Arc included proposals for 1 million new homes, East-West Rail, and the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway road scheme. CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has long been concerned about this project and has campaigned against it, along with colleagues in other affected CPREs – Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire.

Despite being dropped by central government the threat has not gone away – it has now been re-badged the Ox-Cam Pan Regional Partnership, Ox-Cam PRP, with reduced government funding. In this explainer, CPRE Bedfordshire delves into who's who, decodes all those abbreviations and outlines the roles they play <https://www.cprebeds.org.uk/stories/whos-who-in-the-oxford-cambridge-arc/>

The Stop the Arc Group (STARC) is calling for an end to the Ox-Cam PRP while supporting fair, democratic and local development. Find out more about their work here <https://stopthearc.org/>



© <https://stopthearc.org/>

## Rooftop Revolution

CPRE is running a campaign to urge the government to fully realise the potential of solar on rooftops. A major new CPRE report has found that over half the solar panels needed to hit national net zero targets could be fitted on rooftops and in car parks.



The report's publication marks the launch of CPRE's new campaign for rooftop renewables and a petition calling on the government to ensure all suitable new buildings have rooftop solar. We're calling on the government to set a national rooftop solar target of at least 40GW by 2035. To read more and get involved go to <https://www.cpre.org.uk/what-we-care-about/climate-change-and-energy/renewable-energy/our-rooftop-solar-campaign/>

📷 Dunnock D

## Victory for Commonsense

Along with other local campaigners we welcomed the decision by Cambridgeshire County Councillors to refuse permission to build a medical waste incinerator at Woodhurst near St Ives.

We opposed the proposal on a number of grounds, most importantly the significant negative impact on the local landscape. We were also concerned about the effects on the provision of drainage, and the health, safety and environmental risks to the community and risks to surrounding crops. You can read our objection letter in full here <https://www.cprecambs.org.uk/downloads/CPRE-Camb-Somersham-ENVAR-CCC-21-088-FUL.pdf>.

## Easy Fundraising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with easyfundraising?

Easyfundraising is a free fundraising platform that allows us to earn money when our supporters shop online – and it doesn't cost you – or us – a penny.

It's easy to sign up. All you need is your e-mail address; you won't be asked for any personal or financial information. Once signed up all you need to do is start shopping using the easyfundraising website and the brands you shop with will send us a donation based on how much you spend. So please support us today by signing up at [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cprecambbridgeshire/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cprecambbridgeshire/?utm_campaign=raise-more). For more information about easyfundraising, including answers to Frequently Asked Questions, please go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. Anyone can support us by using Easyfundraising, so please share with your family and friends.



## Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the important work we do. Does this sound like you?

We need planning volunteers to help us monitor and respond to planning applications and consultations. We are also looking to appoint trustees to join our Branch Committee, and we're particularly looking for people with experience of fundraising, finance and planning. For further information go to <https://www.cprecambs.org.uk/volunteer-roles.html>, or contact us at [office@cprecambs.org.uk](mailto:office@cprecambs.org.uk).

To find out what our volunteers say about volunteering for CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have a look at

<https://www.cprecambs.org.uk/volunteer-voices.html>.



📷 Goldcrest - Holt Island, Cambs, copyright Tracey Hipson



📷 Folly river - looking south towards Werrington, copyright Nicholas Jackson