

CPRE2010

N O R F O L K A W A R D S



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
NORFOLK



INTRODUCTION FROM THE JUDGES

The CPRE Norfolk Awards is one of the longest running awards scheme in the county having been established in 1979. The scheme has a wide remit, recognising exemplar projects in landscape management, architecture, (both new buildings and restorations), and education. Our policy is to applaud projects on individual merit, meaning that we do not choose an overall winner or limit the number of awards in a given year. For 2010, there has been no shortage of quality, with a record number of applications and 31 projects being recognised, some of which are highlighted below.

The judges were again pleased to see projects which demonstrate good environmental practice and design in contemporary architecture. These include public buildings such as the new village hall at Neatishead, built using straw bales, and also the Jubilee 3 building at Easton College with its large sedum roof. We also applaud private dwellings such as the very exciting charred timber extension at Hunsett Mill Cottage and the pre-fabricated and energy efficient design of Victory House in Fakenham.

Large scale restoration projects feature this year too, many of which have not only rescued neglected buildings, but also given them important social futures. The Aspire Young Persons Centre and The Ship Inn, both of which are in Great Yarmouth and the Pennoyer Centre at Pulham St Mary have all successfully managed to provide new community uses for buildings under threat.

The importance of innovation is also recognised, with the inclusion of the anaerobic digester at Wighton which generates electricity from farm waste and the County Council's street lighting renewal scheme, pioneered at Cawston, which shows a commitment to protecting Norfolk's dark skies and dark landscapes from light pollution.

The importance of managing our landscape for the benefit of wildlife and people is always important to CPRE Norfolk and this has been achieved by a number of awards to rural stewardship projects including the Litcham Common Grazing Project, Pensthorpe Nature Reserve, Gallow Hill Bronze Age Cemetery, and Howes Meadow in Blofield.

Alongside, there are some excellent projects which widen knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the countryside and its history. These include a fascinating study of the Warrens of Breckland by the Breckland Society, and the Discovery Quest project, which encourages people with mental health issues to experience and value the health-giving properties of the countryside.

The number and variety of the projects receiving Awards this year is incredibly heartening and I would like to praise all those involved for their commitment, effort and vision. In addition I would like to thank our sponsors Targetfollow for their support and of course my fellow judges for their time, expertise and sound opinions.

Yours,

Martin Walton
Chair of Judges



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NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

NEW VICTORY HALL, NEATISHEAD



Surely one of the most environmentally-friendly village halls in Britain! Constructed primarily from a timber frame and locally harvested straw bales, it also features many other energy efficient measures. The project was built, in part, by the local community and there is a strong sense of ownership of the building.

Project Managers: New Victory Hall Management Committee
Long-term Fundraiser: Dolly Newcombe

PLOWRIGHT MEDICAL CENTRE, SWAFFHAM



This welcoming, modern and environmentally sustainable medical centre is a landmark building in Swaffham's Ecotech Park. The building is constructed primarily from natural, renewable materials and the use of natural ventilation, daylight and natural finishes has created a light, airy and calming interior for staff and patients.

Architect: Gitte Kjeldsen, Chaplin Farrant Ltd
Project Managers: Norlife
Client: David Cockayne

SWANTON NOVERS VILLAGE HALL



A new timber clad village hall with pantile roof designed to sit comfortably in its surroundings on the village playing field. It is highly insulated and has a ground source heat pump to minimise its energy use. The hall was built in part by volunteers from the village.

Project Managers: Swanton Novers Village Hall Management Committee

JUBILEE 3, EASTON COLLEGE, NORWICH



Seen as the 'jewel in the crown' of the new teaching facilities at Norfolk's agricultural college, Jubilee 3 comprises 3,000m² of teaching and ancillary space. It has achieved a BREEAM Excellent rating for its environmental features and the design enables the building and its planted spaces to provide learning opportunities for the students at Easton College.

Client: Easton College
Architect: LSI Architects LLP
Contractor: R G Carter Ltd

RESTORATION PROJECTS

INGOLDISTHORPE HALL, KING'S LYNN



The restoration of a Grade II* listed country house and ancillary buildings which was previously identified by English Heritage as a Building at Risk. The owner has carried out extensive and meticulous repairs, together with internal alterations and renewals, giving the Hall and outbuildings a new lease of life.

Owner: Ben Marten
Architect: Marks Ashurst, A Squared Architects Ltd

ST MARY'S CHURCH, FORNCETT ST MARY



A project to restore the Grade I listed St Mary's Church and its churchyard, which was closed in the 1980s and had become subject to vandalism and neglect. An extensive programme of works, including roof repairs, has taken place and the church is now once again being used for community activities.

Project Manager: Graham Prior

HARDLEY MILL



A derelict and vandalised 1874 wind tower which has been restored, initially almost single-handedly by the applicant, and then with help and funding from the Norfolk Windmills Trust. It is now the only mill in Norfolk which has its sails turning regularly and at length, a restored dynamic in the landscape, not seen for sixty years.

Leaseholder/Architect/Project Manager: Peter Grix
Project Team: The Hardley Mill Restoration Team
Apprentice Millwrights: Stephen Pulfer, Paul Able, Peter Goulding, Luke Harold and Jake Wilder

HISTORIC BUILDING REFURBISHMENTS

THE SHIP RESOURCE CENTRE, GREAT YARMOUTH



The restoration and extension of the Grade II listed 17th century Ship Inn, to provide a health facility and resource centre. The development has also maintained and restored the integrity of the neighbouring Row 84, one of Great Yarmouth's famous and historically important system of Row Houses.

Architect: Gitte Kjeldsen, Chaplin Farrant Ltd
Owner: NHS Great Yarmouth & Waveney
Historian: Geoffrey Kelly



ASPIRE YOUNG PERSONS CENTRE, GREAT YARMOUTH

A multi-strand project to restore a derelict 19th century merchant's house, a 17th century Row Cottage and a former Victorian public house, whilst developing new housing and community facilities geared to the needs of young homeless people in the town.

Owner/Project Manager: Great Yarmouth Borough Council
(Conservation Department)
Project manager: Stephen Earl MBE
Architect: Jeremy Stacey
Contractor: Paul Quinn, Quinn Construction
Project Administrator: Bridget Heriz-Smith



ITTERINGHAM MILL

A stylish family home and B&B which combines traditional and contemporary styles and maximises the use of renewable energy, through a variety of sources including a hydro-turbine. The refurbishment has enabled the beautiful surroundings of the Mill to be more visible from inside the building and has improved the penetration of natural light.

Owners: Peter and Lis Downs
Lead Contractor: Robert Bacon
Architectural Drawings and Building Specification: Mike Coe



LYNN MUSEUM, KING'S LYNN

The upgrading and restoration of Lynn Museum with additional displays, including the 4,000 year old oak stump of the Seahenge circle. The restoration of the building uncovered original architectural features which haven't been seen for many years. The original Victorian display cases have also been refurbished and relit.

Owners: Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service
Project Manager: Hannah Jackson



THE PENNOYER CENTRE, PULHAM ST MARY

The restoration and extension of a collection of Grade II listed buildings on a very small triangular village centre site. The buildings now provide a new focus for village activities with a multi-use hall and facilities. The project also demanded meticulous restoration of the Guild Chapel which is important both historically and architecturally.

Architect: Terry Hickman Smith, Lucas Hickman Smith Architects
Chair of Trustees: Sheila King
Trustee: Pat Whiteside
Contractor: Kevin Church, Blackburns Construction



CONSERVATION AND LANDSCAPE PROJECTS

LITCHAM COMMON GRAZING PROJECT



This project aimed to increase the area of open heathland and reduce areas of scrub, whilst retaining significant areas of woodland. These measures have encouraged a wide variety of wildlife habitats and enabled the re-introduction of grazing by cattle and ponies.

Project Managers: Litcham Common Management Committee
Freeholder: Neil Foster, Lexham Hall Estate
Funding and Support: Norfolk County Council

PENSTHORPE CONSERVATION PROJECTS



Pensthorpe's commitment to conservation, education and local employment has been implemented through numerous conservation projects on the reserve. The use of sustainable and environmentally friendly products, initiatives to reduce energy and waste and conservation activities through wildlife friendly farming, have all played an important part.

Owners: Bill & Deb Jordan

GALLOW HILL BRONZE AGE CEMETERY, SALTHOUSE



A project to locate, uncover, protect and raise awareness of Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Salthouse Heath, believed to contain the largest Bronze Age Cemetery in East Anglia. Bracken and birch were carefully removed to give protection to the archaeological remains and the site has been fenced off to make grazing possible on the wider heath.

Ecologist: Ed Stocker, Norfolk County Council
Project Managers: Henry Cordeaux and the Trustees of Salthouse Heath
Contractor: Kevin Jones
Archaeological Advisor: David Robertson

HOWES MEADOW, BLOFIELD



Howes Meadow is a 2.4 acre wet meadow, close to the A47 Blofield bypass, and actively managed by volunteers to encourage biodiversity. Over the years a greater diversity of species have begun to flourish. Orchids in particular have risen steadily in numbers, initially moderately but then, in the past 5 years, quite dramatically.

Project Co-ordinator: Blofield & District Conservation Group (BADCOG)

SCHOOLS PROJECTS

THURTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



A project which successfully blends modern and traditional forms, to provide light, airy classrooms and an external environment suitable for young children. The scheme also recognises and resonates with the existing architectural styles in its vicinity.

Architect: NPS (South East) Ltd
Contractor: Mansell Construction Services Ltd
Headteacher: Cassandra Williams

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL



A project to remove temporary mobile classrooms and portacabins to provide modern education facilities for pupils and staff within one building. The design and materials used reflects that of the existing buildings and, sympathetically, the nearby St Mary's Church.

Architect: NPS (South East) Ltd
Contractor: T Gill & Sons (Norwich) Ltd
Headteacher: Chris Gibson

HAPPISBURGH PRIMARY SCHOOL



A programme of improvements to the school grounds including construction of a sensory garden, allotment, orchard and forest school area. The design and planting reflects the school's coastal location and uses large timbers, shingle and pebbles together with drought resistant plants.

Landscape Officer: David Yates
Headteacher: Linda Clayton

CONSERVING LIGHT AND ENERGY



COPYS GREEN FARM ANAEROBIC DIGESTER, WIGHTON

An exceptional and innovative project which uses farm waste and effluent to produce energy and heat for the owner's farm, dairy and ancillary buildings, as well as supplying energy back into the grid. 200 heritage fruit trees have also been planted to minimise the landscape impact of the digester.

Owners: Stephen and Catherine Temple



REENERGY HEADQUARTERS, BLOFIELD HEATH

A showroom, offices and learning environment for the provision of low carbon technologies. The building has been designed to fit in with the rural environment, using a hand cut oak roof frame and finished with a copper roof.

Owner: Damian Baker

Architect: Tim Warnes

Main Contractor: Tony Baker

Company Directors: Graham & Doug Johnson



STREET LIGHTING PROJECT, CAWSTON

This project is representative of Norfolk County Council's on-going programme to replace 28,000 of Norfolk's old street lights. The new lights dramatically reduce the upward spread of light which causes sky glow. Collectively the new lighting schemes will make a significant and positive impact on the dark skies and dark landscapes of Norfolk.

Project Co-ordinator: Norfolk County Council Street Lighting PFI

Contractor: Amey Lighting (Norfolk) Ltd

MODERN HOMES



22 THE STREET, WEST RAYNHAM

This link between an existing house and a recently constructed guest house, which provides additional accommodation and a new entrance, whilst maximising the views of the open countryside. Although the materials used in the project are all traditional, the link is entirely modern in spirit and arrangement.

Owners: Mr and Mrs Hickman

Architect: Jeremy Stacey



VICTORY HOUSE, FAKENHAM

A pre-fabricated, highly energy-efficient building, designed in Norfolk, built in Bavaria and erected on site in just 30 hours. Because heating costs are so low, the owners were able to incorporate four large skylights into the design, enabling them to stand in the heart of the house and 'watch the clouds flying by'.

Owner: Colin & Susan Vogel



LAMMAS, CLEY

A clever extension to a 1960s two-storey house, in keeping with the existing building and surroundings. The extension provides new guest accommodation and there have been additional improvements to the internal spatial configuration.

Architect: Hudson Architects

Contractor: R J Bacon Builders



GREENGAUGE HOMES, HORSTEAD

A scheme of eight affordable homes, designed to high energy efficient standards. The footprint of the site is small, and the houses are cleverly designed around a tight courtyard with primary living areas at the rear. As such, the design increases privacy for occupants and maximises views of the countryside.

Architect: Barefoot & Gilles

Owners: Victory Housing Trust



HUNSETT MILL

The reinstatement and modern extension of a traditional 19th century millkeeper's cottage. The new extension is conceived as a shadow of the existing house, retreating behind the listed setting of the Mill, while the pitched roof and dark timber boards reference the historic vernacular of the Broads.

Architect: Stevano DalPiva, ACME

Owners: Catriona & John Dodsworth, Jonathan & Joanna Emery



RESEARCH AND WIDENING UNDERSTANDING

THE TALCONESTON PROJECT



This project examines a uniquely rich collection of over 40 timber-framed buildings in Talconeston and its surrounding parishes. It has provided genuine and important insights into the surviving vernacular buildings in this part of the county and its historic building traditions.

Project Co-ordinators: Norfolk Historic Buildings Group

THE WARRENS OF BRECKLAND



A research project into the area's commercial rabbit warrens, a highly important aspect of the Brecks' heritage, from medieval times until the twentieth century. The project has successfully raised awareness of the significance of the warrens on the landscape and the social and economic history of the Brecks.

Project Co-ordinators: The Breckland Society

PUTTING LOCAL WILDLIFE ON THE MAP



A project designed to inspire more people in Norfolk to record and enjoy local wildlife. By submitting wildlife records to Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service, individuals can add to the overall knowledge and understanding of Norfolk's biodiversity.

Project Co-ordinators: Norfolk Wildlife Trust

DISCOVERY QUEST



An innovative health and educational project that uses the Norfolk countryside to support adults who have a severe mental health diagnosis. Through walks and activities, by engaging in environmental and conservation work and by visiting SSSIs and attending workshops, the groups improve their feeling of well-being, while extending their knowledge and understanding of the landscape

Project Co-ordinators: Julian Housing Support

Targetfollow are extremely proud to support the work of the Norfolk branch of CPRE in protecting and enhancing our local environment.

Founded in 1992, Targetfollow is a leading property investment, development and management company specialising in city centre opportunities. Since its formation, the Company has grown by acquiring and upgrading its city centre portfolio, with the help of its affiliated companies of RCP Parking and Targetspace.

Targetfollow are based in Norwich and has a staff of over 250 people. The Group owns and manages an international portfolio of over 60 properties in the UK, Germany and France, including Centre Point, Portman Towers and St Mary Axe in London, Grand Central in Stockport, The Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells, and Baskerville House in Birmingham.

Targetfollow has recently gained planning permission for two new schemes in Norwich. The Duke's Wharf project will regenerate the former Eastern Electricity site into a vibrant mixed use scheme comprising offices, restaurants and cafes together with a new riverside walk, public courtyard and sculpture garden. Consent has also been achieved for Harford Place in Hall Road which will include new shops, restaurants, cafes, a food store and offices. There will also be a community arts centre, leisure facilities and a new public square.

We are delighted to sponsor the 2010 CPRE Norfolk Awards and we congratulate all those entries who have been nominated for delivering their outstanding projects. All these schemes will help to preserve and enhance the unique character and heritage of Norfolk. Targetfollow is delighted to be associated with the CPRE and in supporting the hard working Norfolk branch in their drive to protect our local environment.

The Norfolk branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE Norfolk) is a registered charity, a membership network and a voluntary organisation. The branch was founded in 1933 and has almost 1500 members and supporters in the county.

CPRE campaigns for a sustainable future for the English countryside; a vital but undervalued environmental, economic and social asset to the nation. We highlight threats and promote positive solutions. Our in-depth research supports active campaigning, and through reasoned argument and lobbying we seek to influence public opinion and decision-makers at every level. CPRE led the campaign to create the town and country planning system, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and Green Belts.

The CPRE Norfolk Awards scheme is one of Norfolk's longest running Awards schemes, founded in 1979, and provides an opportunity for CPRE to highlight examples of best practice in the countryside and be forward looking. Awards are given on merit for environmental and architectural projects that have made a significant contribution to the quality of the landscape and rural life over the past year. The scheme is very broad based with entries coming from a variety of sources. Historic restoration projects, barn conversions, innovative new building design, landscape management projects and countryside access improvements are all considered. Awards are also given to schools that engage children with the natural environment.

In 2010, the judging panel was Martin Walton, Nancy Legg, Michael Reynolds, Caroline Davison and Tony Leech. For more information about this year's winning projects, or to enter a project for consideration in future years please visit www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/awards

CPRE Norfolk gives sincere thanks to Targetfollow for their ongoing support of the CPRE Norfolk Awards scheme.



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