

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council Report (March 2017)

Appendix Ref:	
Topic:	CPRE Conference Shrewsbury Football Ground March 3 rd
Prepared By:	Andrew Beavan

This was a very interesting and well attended conference with over 200 people present to hear a number of speakers.

The conference looked at the future for Upland Farming in England and specifically Shropshire. The main thrust was to look at how Government Policy might be influenced after we leave the European Union.

A recognition of the environmental benefit to the whole country and its population from a sustainable and profitable farming economy was a common theme.

Simon Latter an NFU regional secretary explained that generally farming in Shropshire was becoming more industrialised with larger farms and machines at work on the land.

Mark Measures spoke about the need for support to be linked to good agricultural practice relating to building soil organic matter and carbon levels. He also reminded us of the benefit to health of nutritious locally produced food.

Joy Greenall from Cow Hall, Newcastle, probably gave the best received presentation, when she spoke about the importance of, but also frailty of small family farms in this part of the country, She showed many slides of the small fields bounded by ancient hedgerows, and the native breeds of cattle and sheep that she keeps .

It was impressive to see how the Campaign for the protection of Rural England works to promote best practice in our countryside. . If anyone would like more information on the Charity or would like to become a member our Clerk Sarah Jamieson, is the Administrator for the Shropshire Branch.