

# INVITATION TO THE CLA DORSET BRANCH AGM

TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2024 AT 2.30PM  
*Registration, tea and coffee from 2pm*

ST GILES HOUSE, WIMBORNE ST GILES, BH21 5NA

By kind permission of Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury.  
Followed by a tour, drinks and canapes.



[WWW.CLA.ORG.UK](http://WWW.CLA.ORG.UK)



We are extremely fortunate to be able to hold the 2024 Dorset Branch AGM at St Giles House, by kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, on Tuesday 18 June.

CLA South West would like to thank Woolley & Wallis and Trethowans for their generous support.



TRETHOWANS

Law. As it should be.

## ST GILES HOUSE

St Giles has a long and rich history. It has been at the heart of politics, philosophy and social reform for generations.

Built in 1651, the Grade I listed house stands in a vast park through which the River Allen flows, feeding a seven-acre lake as it winds its way towards the small parish village of Wimborne St Giles.

In recent times an award-winning restoration has seen St Giles House brought back to life and become a family home once again. In 2010 The Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury embarked on a project to bring the house back to its original charm. What started as a simple plan to move the family back into the house developed into a 12-year restoration project that is still ongoing.

Now the house is home to events, workshops and conferences and celebrates life through music and art.

**Directions:** From the B3081 the turning for Wimbourne St Giles. Takes the first turning on your left for Park Lane. Continue on Park Lane past the house and once you have passed through a small gate you will see a sign for the Walled car park immediately on your right. Please use this car park for the Dorset AGM. **If you are using WHAT3words please use [shifting.tomato.improvise](https://www.what3words.com/shifting.tomato.improvise).**



### PROGRAMME

- 2.00pm Registration, tea and coffee
- 2.30pm AGM
- 2.50pm CLA Director of Membership and Regions Ben Underwood
- 3.25pm Nick Ashley-Cooper - Introduction to St Giles House
- 3.45pm Tour of St Giles House and Gardens
- 5.45pm Canapes & Drinks at St Giles House
- 6.30pm Depart

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Opening by Branch President
2. To receive apologies for absence
3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting, held on Monday 12 June 2023.
4. Matters Arising from Minutes
5. To receive and adopt the Annual Report
6. To elect Branch Officers and Council Representative
7. To elect new committee members
8. Any other business

Nominations for office or for membership of the Committee as given in Item 6, or any resolution a member may wish to propose, must reach Ann Maidment, Regional Director South West, in writing no less than seven days prior to the meeting.

### BOOKING YOUR PLACE AT THE AGM

To book your place at the AGM please login to your 'My CLA' account on [www.cla.org.uk](http://www.cla.org.uk) and click on Events. Tickets cost £35pp incl VAT. Attendance at the AGM only is free.

You can pay by card online or bank transfer following your booking. If you are having difficulties, please call the South West Office on 01249 700200 or email [southwest@cla.org.uk](mailto:southwest@cla.org.uk)

Bookings close Monday 10 June 2024.



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - DORSET BRANCH



By the time you read this I hope that the weather is improving and the land drying out, without it going to the other extreme.

Running rural businesses, whatever area you may be in is ramping up again in the challenges that it brings.

Whether it's the weather, the political climate, the commodity markets or the subsidy schemes, trying to keep your head above water and paddling in the right direction (assuming you know where you're going) has rarely been more challenging than at present.

My philosophy at times like this has always been to go back to basics. What have you got and what do you want to do with it. What makes you tick and what are your priorities. Are there enough areas of your business that mean you can take risks in some areas while knowing you are well backed up in others. What does your land/property best lend itself to and how can you best utilise that. Can you do it on your own or do you need help and potentially most importantly, what happens after you.

Only then can you really get into the ever-changing detail of what Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) options or tax planning might need to be done to help you fund and achieve it.

What has struck me most about the current lie of the land is how much we are realising the decisions we take now are impacting the next generation in terms of the environment, income, ownership, tax and time requirements.

It's reassuring to know that the CLA is there fighting our corner on the issues of the day.

It's an honour to be your county chairman which is allowing me to see under the bonnet of the organisation and the fast reacting and relentless progress that is being made on your behalf on so many fronts.

I am very grateful to my predecessor Sophie Alexander, as well as the current county committee, for helping keep Dorset's input into what the CLA does locally, regionally and nationally both meaningful and well informed.

Anyone wanting to join the committee would be warmly welcome and we are all very grateful to South West Director Ann Maidment and her able team for all they do for the county and the wider South West area.

**Paul Tory**  
*Chairman, Dorset Branch*



### Save the date – Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show.

We'll be returning to Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show for the CLA Show Breakfast on Wednesday 14 August 2024 (8am-10am). This event is free to attend and includes a full English breakfast. Full details can be found on the CLA website.

# MINUTES OF THE 2023 DORSET BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Held on Monday 12 June 2023 at 2.30pm at Etches Collection Museum (Smedmore House).**

Opening by the Branch President James Weld. James welcomed CLA President Mark Tufnell and attendees. Chairman Sophie Alexander thank all those involved in the CLA South West.

## 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jeremy Russell and members of the association.

## 2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday June 21 2022 were signed as a true and correct record. Proposed by James Weld and seconded by Christopher Lees.

## 3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

## 4. ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman, Sophie Alexander, thanked fellow officers, the Committee, those that sat on national committees and the regional staff for their work and support, and proposed the adoption of the report. Seconded by Richard Bond.

## 5. ELECTIONS

**President:** James Weld. Proposed by Sophie Alexander. Seconded by David Solly.

**Chairman:** Paul Tory. Proposed by James Weld. Seconded by Richard Bond.

**Vice Chairman:** David Chismon. Proposed by James Weld. Seconded by Paul Dunlop.

**Council Representatives:** As retiring Chairman Sophie Alexander holds the post of Chairman on a national committee, it was proposed that the following were elected to represent the county: Paul Tory and David Chismon. Proposed by James Weld. Seconded by Gavin Fauvel.

**Branch Committee:** The President James Weld explained that in accordance with the Branch Rules there was one retirement from the committee; David Solly. The President thanked him for his time and contribution to the committee.

There were no nominations for election to the Branch Committee.

## 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 15.28pm.

# DORSET BRANCH COMMITTEE

**President:** James Weld

**Chairman:** Paul Tory BSc MRICS

**Vice Chairman:** David Chismon

## Committee members:

Nat Bond, Richard Bond, Will Bond, Philip Colfox, Lord Henry Digby, Paul Dunlop, Gavin Fauvel, Alice Favre, Chris Jowett, Alice Kennard, Sir Christopher Lees, Lara Manningham-Buller, Luke Rake, Nick Stone, Adair Williams.



# CLA REGIONAL CONTACTS

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