

CPC Meeting 24th Sept 2024 –Portfolio Report Yarningale Common, by Cllr Martin Fairlie

Friends of Yarningale Common Activity:

- Purchased yellow rattle seeds (*Rhinanthus Minor*) and native British general purpose wildflower seed mix, to cover an area of 600m², to be spread on the King's Meadow, the area to the south of the car park, opposite Chapel House, after the area has had its late Sep early Oct 2024 second grass cut and scarify.
- Applied for a charity donation of 50 dead hedging stakes for ongoing dead hedging work on the Common and timber / sleepers to build some more benches for visitors near the car park and build some foot bridges across ditches.
- Shall be walking the Common to locate and mark unsafe trees, trees blocking footpaths, etc. that need removing and to see how footpaths can be better signposted.
- Shall contact Henley High School re Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.
- Shall liaise with Claverdon Youth Club re a 2nd visit to the Common and volunteer work.
- Held a FoYC volunteer morning on Saturday 21st September. Cleared fallen trees blocking footpaths, one near Well House and one up from the post box, reinstated marker posts for footpaths, general scrub and invasive holly clearance and creation of dead hedges.
- Future FoYC volunteer Saturday mornings are:
 - **Saturday 26th October.**
 - **Saturday 16th November.**
 - Meet at the Common car park, 10:00am to 12:00pm, refreshments provided. Everyone welcome, all ages. More information on Claverdon Matters.

Yarningale Common News:

- In May 2024 I asked Warwickshire County Council, with the help of Cllr Shenton, if the totally blocked gullies from Lye Green, down Common Lane, Yarningale Lane and Ossetts Hole Lane, could be cleared to stop rainwater flooding down the lanes and freezing in winter.
- Dylan White, WCC, has confirmed that Ossetts Hole Lane will be closed for gully clearing between Mon 28th Oct and Fri 1st Nov 2024.
- WCC has advised that gullies down Common Lane will not be cleared as they are not completely blocked, albeit there is silt at the bottom, but that is normal. WCC will however monitor these and can arrange for works should it become required.

[Yellow rattle is a semi-parasitic annual that taps into the roots of grasses, drawing nutrients from the grasses, considerably reducing their vigor and thereby creating space for wildflowers. Once established by sowing, it will spread naturally in subsequent years from self-set seed, as long as the grassland is not cut until after seed has been set, usually from mid-July onwards.]