

# CPC Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025 – Portfolio Report Yarningale Common & Surrounding Area, by Cllr Martin Fairlie

## Yarningale Common Update

**WCC David Cole, Senior Ecologist Site Visit:** On Friday 18 July, David Cole, Warwickshire County Council's Senior Ecologist, visited the Common and met with Friends of Yarningale Common (FoYC) and Cllr Fairlie to review progress on the **revised Biodiversity Offset Management Plan 2024/25** and assess **what further work should / could be carried out**.

The WCC's **Biodiversity Offset Management Plan funds to CPC** now stand at **£1,857.65**.

Over the next few dates, David Cole shall issue a belated Purchase Order for 2025/2026, Year 7, to CPC, to enable the Clerk to issue an invoice for **£1,608.00, Total = £3,465**.

**Overgrown Trees & Shrubs to Dovecote:** Delivery drivers, especially a recent heating fuel oil delivery, are refusing to come back until overgrown trees and shrubs on the Common along the access track are cut back. They are damaging wing mirrors and other equipment on the vehicles. Cllr Martin Fairlie is getting a quote from Adrian Whitehead for this work for Councillors' approval.

**Health & Safety Tree Survey:** Cllr Martin Fairlie will be arranging a tree **Health & Safety Tree Survey**, identifying unsafe or fallen trees near Public Footpaths, other commonly used paths and adjacent to roads / lanes passing through the Common. Cllr Martin Fairlie is arrange for existing known dangerous and fallen trees that are blocking footpaths to be removed.

**Health & Safety -Other Risks:** CPC is arranging a separate **Health & Safety Risk Assessment** on the Common. Looking at such things as:

- **Fire on the Common:** FoYC has raised the need for a much larger and more noticeable sign re no BBQs and no fires on the Common, and possibly the purchase of fire fighting equipment. With climate change and longer drier spells of weather there is an increased risk of fires.
- **Cars Parked at Owner's Risk** signs at the car park.
- **Ditch clearance assessment** and an ongoing Management H&S Plan for the Common

**Appointment of a Lengthsman:** At the last FoYC meeting the appointment of a Lengthsman was discussed, a paid position, to carry out, at recommended intervals, a H&S risk assessment for the Parish Council to act upon. This would allow for a more responsive and community driven approach to H&S on the Common. What is a Lengthsman?

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/community/lengthsman-scheme>

[WCCC-723747648-2295](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/community/lengthsman-scheme)

## Surrounding Area Update

### Replacement of the Wooden Post and Rail Fence at the Rugby Club Bend

On 27 June, Warwick County Council (WCC) Highway's sub-contractor, Balfour Beatty, finally replaced the damaged post and rail fence on the sharp bend at the Rugby Club and at the deep drop, down to the adjacent stream and headwall.

They also installed some reflector posts on the approach to the right-hand bend when travelling from the A4189.

However, reflector posts or a black and white chevron road sign, as previously requested by Cllr Fairlie, are really needed approaching this left-hand bend from the opposite direction, for vehicles, cyclists travelling at speed downhill. Cllr Fairlie shall again request some advance safety warning signs of this sharp left-hand bend for vehicles, cyclists travelling at speed downhill from Dylan White, WCC Highways Area Surveyor, e-mail: [highwaysbusinesssupport@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:highwaysbusinesssupport@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Shortly after the new post and rail fence was installed, one of the top rails had been displaced, possibly by someone leaning on it. Cllr Fairlie shall also bring this to the attention of Dylan White, WCC.

**WCC Ditch Clearance & Unblocking Road Gullies:** On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> & Friday 18<sup>th</sup> WCC sub-contractors, Balfour Beatty, were clearing ditches down Common Lane and unblocking gully pipes at Lye Green and down Common Lane.



**Unblocking gulley pipe at Lye Green**



**Unblocking gulley pipe at Lye Green**



**Unblocking gulley pipe at Common Lane**



**Ditch Clearing at Common Lane**