

Bucklebury Commoners Association - Update

Dear Commoners,

Thank you to all of you who have replied to our emails and letters and we now have a substantial data base of most of the Commoners whose holdings were registered in 1979, and hence, you are a recipient of this email.

One item that the committee is trying to address is communication between the Estate and the parish, and in particular, to the Commoners. There has been a lot of recent activity, predominantly due to the access funding that was time critical, and as a result many of the gates and fences around entrances to the common appeared rather suddenly in the last two weeks.

The fencing and gates were installed to prevent the intrusion of 4 x 4's and unauthorised vehicle access as well as to give some sense of ownership to the Estate. These new gates will supersede the very unpopular Herras fencing and precast concrete blocks previously placed on the byways during the Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders. Apart from their unsightliness, one of the many problems with the previous restrictions is that they did not provide 24/7 hour access to SSE to provide critical electrical works and are restrictive to fire engine and other appliances.

As mentioned during the Vision public meetings the first part of this scope of works was the implementation of a cycle track from Chapel Row to Upper Bucklebury. For most of the route this is upgrading the existing track cut by SSE to provide access to the overhead powerlines. The last section was the small part from Angels Corner to Upper Bucklebury and this it would seem has been the most controversial. While we do not encourage the creation of more tracks on the common, there are more than sufficient this is just a small link to make the route viable. It must be noted that this is a cycle track and that no motorised vehicles are permitted and we need your support and vigilance to report any abuse.

There has also been comment about the other proposed routes that are illustrated on the map on Sundew's web site. <https://www.sundewecology.co.uk/post/funding-for-access-improvements>

We have assurances that these are all footpaths and their routes will be discussed before implementation.

We are very pleased to report that a contractor has carried out at least eleven days of removing the birch saplings and more importantly their roots from the heathland. This is ongoing heathland restoration work but this has already made a big difference in these areas. The waste piles are to be removed when conditions allow.

We have also taken the opportunity of attaching a copy of the signed constitution.

Yours sincerely

Jason Allum

Bucklebury Commoners Association



Which do you prefer?

