

The Magog Trust

A prime aim of the Trust is to conserve the chalk grassland of Magog Down, promote its associated flora and fauna and offer a space for public access and quiet recreation.

This not without its challenges. In the past year or so, the Trustees have had to deal with a serious incident of fly-tipping and a long period of graffiti vandalism. Security has been enhanced and CCTV implemented. It is sad that such measures have been necessary but we are hopeful they will prove sufficient.

Progress has been made on Chalk Hill, the new countryside park to be established in accordance with the planning permission granted for the Strawberry Fields retirement village. The first tranche of land has been sown with a chalk downland seed mix in line with the management plan agreed with South Cambridgeshire Council. We are encouraged by the way this is greening up nicely. All being well, we hope that public access may be possible sometime in 2027.

There remains a degree of uncertainty over the second tranche of land which has been held back for the proposed busway (Cambridgeshire South East Transport Scheme - CSET). The Trustees are opposed to CSET, principally on the grounds that it will despoil an attractive part of the greenbelt, mean a loss of potential chalk downland and impair the view of the landscape from Magog Down. They are not opposed to better public transport and so, together with other parties (Better Ways than Busways) the Trust will oppose CSET at any future public enquiry and support an alternative route along the A1307 road.

Chris Bow
Chairman
24/04/2025