



Stoke Common gives Green Arc a head start in Bucks.

Stoke Common Site of Special Scientific interest sits between the villages of Stoke Poges and Fulmer in South Buckinghamshire. The 205 acre heathland site has been recently transferred into the hands of the City of London to ensure its protection as a public open space and place for nature conservation, 'in perpetuity'.

The transfer of the ownership of Stoke Common from South Buckinghamshire District Council to the City of London is a first big step in the plan to develop a Green Arc vision for the Counties immediately to the North West of London. The 'North West (NW) Green Arc' aims to provide a large swathe of healthy connected green spaces, rich in biodiversity with functioning ecosystems stretching from London to the Chilterns.

The City of London has a long track record of managing top class open spaces. "They have owned Burnham Beeches National Nature Reserve in South Bucks for 127 years' says Andy Barnard the Superintendent of Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common'. 'The City of London fully supports the Green Arc initiative and the transfer of Stoke Common into our ownership is a very exciting development".

Mike Woods, Chairman of the NW Green Arc steering group said; "The NW Green Arc region has many areas of land that are of huge value both for recreation and as wildlife reserves. In isolation this land is very vulnerable to development and once this happens it is lost forever. The Green Arc is a partnership initiative that aims to ensure the protection and enhancement of the established green spaces and wherever possible, link them together with 'green corridors'. This will not only help wildlife and people but also provide fresh opportunities for rural businesses and farmers".