

CMAG End of Year 2025 Statement

CMAG's thanks go out to all of you who have involved yourselves with the campaign by signing the petition, spreading the latest news and generally supporting us with your comments on Social Media. Your support can make a difference - keep it up in 2026.

This is a good time to express my personal thanks and hopefully those of yourselves as supporters of the Save the Corbett Meadow campaign, to my colleagues in CMAG who remain unwavering in their enthusiasm and efforts to deliver the right result for the people of Stourbridge and the local area by honouring John Corbett's legacy and safeguarding the meadow in perpetuity. 2025, I have to say, has been extremely busy both behind the scenes and in front of them in engaging with the Dudley NHS Trust, the Examination of the Dudley Local Plan and the community through various communication channels.

Despite every effort, the stance of the Dudley NHS Trust remains unchanged - they are still committed to progress housing development on this so special green space in the heart of Amblecote.

We eagerly await the outcome of the Examination of the Dudley Local Plan, which if approved, will designate the Corbett Meadow as a Local Green Space [LGS], adding to its Site of Importance for Nature Conservation [SINC] status, thus making it more difficult, though not impossible, for developers to gain approval of an aggressive Planning Application.

THE THREAT TO CORBETT MEADOW REMAINS REAL AND PRESENT!

As Christmas and the New Year approaches it is a good time to reflect on what CMAG has been involved in and importantly achieved as the campaign to Save the Corbett Meadow continues its course. The most significant activities that CMAG have driven in 2025 include:

- Researched John Corbett's legacy in Worcester and Dudley Archives and retained close relationship with his family
- Lobbying and maintaining the full support of local and leading Councillors and of the Stourbridge MP.
- Submitting Public Questions to the Dudley NHS Trust Board challenging its intentions as a result of their claimed options study on the future of the meadow.
- Making a Freedom of Information [FoI] request to the Dudley NHS Trust seeking detailed information about the openness and accountability of the process it has followed in making their decision to continue to progress development.
- Submitting a follow-up request to review their initial response to the FoI as it was felt to be insufficient.
- Complaining formally to the Information Commissioner to register CMAG's dissatisfaction with its responses.

- Promoting and administering an ePetition, signed by over 2000+ members of the public and presented by hand to the Chair of the NHS Trust Board (Sir David Nicholson) at a Board meeting and to the Trust's Governors later that month.
- Worked with the local press, Express & Star / Stourbridge News, to raise the awareness of the plight of the Corbett Meadow to the public, many of whom think it is saved - it is not!
- CMAG has held 6 formal meetings this year with countless sub-meetings in local cafes and other hostelries (all at the participants own expense). Our next meeting is scheduled for 9th January 2026!
- CMAG has liaised with and gained support from the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust.
- CMAG submitted various Hearings Statements and supported the Council's team in promoting the designation of Corbett Meadow as a Local Green Space at the Dudley Local Plan Examination Hearings in Dudley Council House.

CMAG remains vigilant and willing to fight any further threat to Corbett Meadow and to promote its use and management in line with the legacy of John Corbett.

“Save the Corbett Meadow! Once it's Gone, it's Gone Forever”.

Finally, CMAG would like to wish all of our supporters a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous & Healthy New Year.