



## Colney Heath Parish Council

### **EXAMPLE POSTER - Hawthorn Control Trial**

This area known as Warren Field is part of Colney Heath Common. All the Common forms Colney Heath Local Nature Reserve.

This part of the common is locally rare due to the acidic soil and only two other sites exist in Hertfordshire of this type.

Over the years the growth of Hawthorn has been a problem, the Parish Council has tried the use of conservation cattle grazing with limited success.

If left untreated much of this area will be lost to both residents and the unique wildlife currently here.

The proposal is to leave some areas of Hawthorn but to keep the main areas open to provide a habitat for the widest range of flora and fauna.

The objective is to find a cost-effective control of the Hawthorn while protecting the wildlife.

This trial contains 4 groups of plots

Plot	Treatment
1 Control	No treatment
2 Winter pruning	Winter-early spring cutting down of the Hawthorn by machine (strimmer)
3 Summer pruning	Summer cutting down of the Hawthorn by machine (strimmer)
4 Summer pruning	Hand cutting down of the Hawthorn

The summer pruning will be carried in July this year (2019).

The evaluation will be carried out during the summer 2020.