

## **SUMMARY REPORT OF INCIDENTS FROM PARK RANGER, MATT SMITH**

In past 12 months, fires at Vicar Water Country Park have:

- Devastating for breeding birds, nests destroyed.
- Rare important lowland heath destroyed.
- Plants/trees destroyed
- Invertebrates killed
- Slower moving animals e.g. lizards killed.
- Fencing damaged.
- Risk if a fire got out of hand there are houses nearby and it could pose a danger to them.

### **Incident of May 2020 – damage caused by BBQ**





### Incident of 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 – Fireworks

Photographs 1, 2 and 3 – aftermath of fire damage from an incident on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020; Fire Service reported: multiple seats of grass fire, undergrowth and gorse approximately 25 x 30 metres. Fire in attendance at scene for 1 hour. Fire was as a result of local adult males setting off fireworks to commemorate a local male who had died. A video has been shared on Facebook by a local lady with 28,000 views, more than 600 shares and more than 300 comments in the hours after the Fire.

Photo 1



Photo 2





Photo 3



### Incident of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Adult males congregated on Park and set off fireworks – although it could not be proved they caused the damage, citing to Police that they had set off fireworks but all was in order and no damage when they left the Park but had noted a group of teenagers heading into the Park with what was believed to be fireworks. The males were identified through the Police investigation and were found to be local to the Clipstone area. Again, local people provided evidence/names to Council and Police.

Photos 1, 2 and 3 show the damage caused to the heritage sign and complete destruction of a bench. Fire Service update was that this was a suspected deliberate ignition.

Photo 1





Photo 2



Photo 3

