

National Gas – West Winch Gas Pipeline Diversion

Update for West Winch Parish Council – March 2026

1. Purpose of this update

National Gas is committed to keeping the Parish Council informed about activity relating to the West Winch Gas Pipeline Diversion project. This report provides an overview of early environmental preparation works recently undertaken within the project area and outlines next steps.

2. Early environmental preparation work

A small piece of precautionary environmental work was completed in early February on private land within the project area, with the full agreement of the landowner.

The work involved:

- Minor pruning of ivy on a single tree; and
- Installation of bird-deterrence measures.

These steps are standard ecological precautions carried out ahead of potential vegetation management later in the year. They help ensure birds do not nest in the tree during the statutory nesting season, enabling safe access should construction proceed.

3. Relationship to planning

- These measures were undertaken **on a precautionary basis only**, to ensure ecological compliance *if* planning permission for the diversion is granted.
- They **do not form part of construction activity**.
- They **do not influence**, anticipate, or predetermine any planning decisions.
- If planning consent is not granted, the measures taken will have **no lasting impact**.

4. Land and environmental considerations

- The work took place **entirely on private land** with the landowner's full consent.
- No public trees, public land, or public rights of way were affected.
- The activity was low-impact and consistent with recognised ecological good practice.

5. About the project

National Gas is responsible for the safe diversion of two high-pressure National Transmission System pipelines in the area. This diversion is being considered as part of wider local infrastructure activity.

We will continue to engage with the Parish Council throughout the process, ahead of any more visible works or activity.



6. Ongoing engagement

National Gas welcomes any questions from councillors or residents. Queries can be directed to:

Community Relations Team, National Gas
Email: box.community@nationalgas.com

We will continue to provide timely updates to support the Council in keeping the community informed.