

SISTON COMMON

Your questions answered

Will cattle be on site all year?

No. Signage on site will show when cattle are present.

Are dogs safe around the cattle?

Yes - if handled responsibly.

Dogs are welcome but must be kept **on a short lead** when cattle are present. Always give cattle plenty of space and remain calm.

- Never approach them or walk between animals.
- If cattle seem interested or begin following you, move away slowly.
- In the unlikely event that the cattle chase your dog, **release the lead immediately** - dogs can outrun cattle. Call your dog back once safely clear and put their lead back on.

Am I safe around the cattle?

Yes. The cattle selected for the Common are **docile**, and importantly **there will be no cows with calves**, which is when protective behaviour is more common. Always **give them plenty of space**, stay calm, avoid approaching or feeding them, and never stand between cattle. If unsure, take a wider route around the herd.

What are Nofence collars?

The **GPS-based virtual fencing devices being explored for use** guide cattle to remain within designated areas without the need for additional physical fencing.

Will there be cattle-free areas?

Yes: Grazing is planned for Siston Common West only. You can access: Felicity Park, Siston Common North and Warmley Forest Park.

Can horse riders, pedestrians and cyclists still enter the site?

Yes. Access remains unchanged. Gates and cattle grids will be added at key points. Please reduce speed, stay aware, and be mindful that cattle may be present.



Cattle on Siston Common (1980s)

Whose cattle will be grazed?

Cattle from a local grazer who rear their animals **ethically and organically**.

How many animals will be grazing, and what impact will this have?

A maximum of **15 cows**. Low density conservation grazing of hardy breeds improves habitat quality, encourages wildflowers, and naturally controls scrub. Nofence collars help manage their movement if needed.

Will the cattle have access to water?

Yes. A water trough will be installed near the Kingsmeadow at MadeForever entrance.

Can I get involved?

Absolutely! Residents can volunteer as **stock watchers**. If you're interested, or for any other questions, contact the Common Connections Team at: **commonconnections@southglos.gov.uk** or visit **www.southglos.gov.uk/common-connections**