

NHCV update Sept 2017

Sessions since the last R and A report have been devoted to wild flower planting , thinning of some dense new shots of Ash,clearing brambles around the Fen area in particular and generally cutting back vegetation in order to enable walkers to get through the pathways –removing some non-native species at the same time. The heavy rains and sun have caused quick growth of vegetation so clearance has had to take place on a regular basis .We have also dealt with several tree/shrub falls in July after heavy rain and wind.

Vandalism continues to be a problem. I have on several occasions asked children not to break branches off healthy trees.We constantly remove logs, cans, pencil cases, school books etc from the pond and we spent a lot of time getting a motor bike out of the pond ,which had clearly been set alight and then driven into the pond. The police found it extremely difficult to remove and it took about two hours to for our volunteers to remove all the charred bike parts and charred vegetation from the pond and surrounding area . We then put straw into the water to soak up the petrol. (This was a procedure recommended by Alan Stone and was extremely effective). There were ducks nesting in the pond at the time so we were anxious to make it safe for them as quickly as possible. This debris was really quite toxic so I arranged for Biffa to dispose of it.



The work done on the concrete path by Graham Stillman was a huge help –enabling us to spend out time on more interesting jobs .The concrete path really needs doing again if the budget can be released for that.

The following sessions with student help have been set for the autumn :
Saturdays 30 September, 4 November and 2 December-all starting at 1pm and meeting in the LM Car Park.

I am very grateful to our loyal volunteers who turn out in all sorts of weathers to help out with whatever needs doing .

Voirrey Carr NHCV Chair