

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at Spa Common.
Date: Sunday 20th Mar 2016.
From: Chris Black, NW&DCT.

THE PLAN:

- To clear NE bank of canal of remaining brash to allow machine access.
- To retrieve any useful timber.
- To clear and burn all detritus.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was cool but dry. 16 volunteers turned out and once appraised of the work, set about lighting a bonfire to burn the brash. Two safety throw-lines were located on site as we were working on the bank beside the mill race.

Again mindful of the time of year the brash and saplings were inspected closely for signs of nest building. None was found in the bushes or brash but we were made aware of a swan's nest and a moorhen's nest in the mill race. The swans were working on their nest but the pair eventually went to sleep together - totally un-phased by the work taking place a few feet away from them. Some work was also carried out on the Mill side of the road with suitable traffic watch being carried out for the safety of all concerned. Nothing could be removed from the mill race here due to a number of frogs being present together with a large amount of spawn.

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.30

After lunch we continued the clearance of the bank. The area was raked clear and the fire was rounded up and left to safely burn itself out.

Work ceased at 15.30 approx.

Chris Black, work-party leader