

Date 7th October 2018

Objective

Complete the improvements to the capacity of the Ebridge spillway. Establish 'dry' path at site of bank raising to allow completion of trial from the water, make exiting the car parking at Ebridge safer, start to make Briggate lock/mill pond a little more 'visible'.

The Plan

Use hand tools to remove remainder of bund above water next to spillway and also manually distribute spoil at trial area for bank raising. Remove roadside vegetation to east of Ebridge lock. Move to Briggate and commence work on the reinstatement.

Work Achievement

There were 11 volunteers in total. The remaining 'island' was reduced to below water level at the spillway and the vegetation affecting site lines at the the exits was cut down and burnt. A considerable pile of cut reed and weed was also removed from beside the lock. After a nice lunchtime session (including birthday cake for CB's 70th) some volunteers moved onto Briggate. Others spent time levelling the spoil at the trial bank raising before also moving onto Briggate.

Following the method statement prepared after the earlier visit to the site the position of the stand of upright sedge (or stump grass) was located and carefully cut around. Thereafter a line was cut in a northerly direction from the west end of the site beside the pill box to meet up with a line running westerly from the top of the lock. The area between these lines and the road will be the first to be tackled. This will allow the lock to be seen as well as a small part of the mill pond/island and the pill box. (nb the overhanging roadside vegetation had been removed by a flail by others)

A lot of vegetation and dead wood was cut, cleared up and some was burnt but a considerable amount more needs to be done. The regrowth has been extensive in the last three years and there are two large fallen trees. The mill pond varies in depth and a plan is needed to efficiently remove the reed in the water. The use of a large mower is suggested for the island and to the west of the mill pond once the initial clearance of the 'dry' land has been undertaken.



After - Ebridge spillway without the island



Before - Briggate mill pond with vegetation

The weather was excellent for the time of year. TW was work party leader