



January 5th - Hand Brush cutter (green) under repair so not available. DR mower (to fit on trailer, back mower on) and tools put on trailer and towed by IC. Note comments emailed by IC about trailer road lights – faults varied during journey (I was following him). DR mower taken over Paston Way bridge (it fits!) and width of canal bank west cut to side arm at Swafield end (apart from a couple of areas with excess material piled up). Two fires burned some of the material cut, but fires not hot enough to ignite

alders cut on previous visit. Ground uneven in places but DR mower coped easily. DR mower used to cut area twice. Kevin used his brush cutter to trim edge, along with hand cutting by others (one slasher broke, TW took for possible repair). Top of bank has rounded edge, which CH examined but was happy to bring his digger along at future WP to make access for tractor/digger at Paston Way, and remove alders from line along this part of canal.

Returned to Unit by about 1430 and then four of us used 5/6 stakes to do a first mark-out of proposed ownership change at BWL. Used substantial tree growing out of bank just south of bund as a guide to being in line with canal bank below lock. Marked line passes over water south of lower wing wall, and is just a few feet clear of both ends of the wing walls. N end staked by Chris H on bank as best we could match plan. We used volunteers with hand up to get end to end line, but worthwhile mowing to make it easier to see alignment, particular alongside lock. (Alan Bertram, WP Leader)



Thursday 9th - Chris kindly brought his digger to the site and used it to widen and consolidate the path under the old Railway bridge from material previously left by Laurie. Frank, John and Ross supported this work by moving, raking, levelling and consolidating this material by hand. The tractor was then used to further consolidate this path by running it back and forth over it

Chris moved on to clear the path into the area north of the bridge by removing soil, stones and bits of tree so that both the tractor and digger could move freely

over the whole area.

The digger was then used to extract the remaining self seeded saplings from the bank with Ross, John and Frank cleaning and stacking the arisings for later burning.

The tractors winch was used to try to pull saplings out but had insufficient power and using it as a static line, the tractor had insufficient traction, ending up jamming the cable on the drum again. (Mark Shopland, WP Leader)



Saturday 18th - Work party was attended by Trevor the bricklayer, Johnathan P, Frank B. All the outer skin of the bricks were laid finishing off the culvert, sacking was put over the brickwork to keep any frost off. (Terry Willoughby, WP Leader)



Sunday 19th - Group split into two work parties with John, Jonathan, Charles and Kevin cutting up the willow trees and burning them on location. Larger logs left for later collection. Finished at 2pm leaving the fire in a safe condition.

Laurie, Graham, Terry, Frank and Ralph jacked up the front of Weasel onto wooden blocks. Clean waste water was pumped out with cleared weeds and debris removed from the rear, more clearance will be needed on another

work party. Anti pollution socks were placed for containment. (Jonathan Parke, WP Leader)



Thursday 23rd - Chris and Charles re-connected the Swingtrim hydraulic drain pipe after cutting out the distorted section and re-filled the reservoir. System was run up to check basic operation and then taken outside to exercise all functions and check for leaks. The rig tends to droop to the cutter side depending on how far it is extended and it is planned to investigate the use of a second bottle screw on the draft link without one and/or the fitting of the currently unused bracing stay. Tractor/scythe tried out on the section above Bacton

Wood lock with a very similar reach and effect as Laurie's flail.

John and Ross modified one of the potable water tanks to take a tap/hose coupling and tried it out in conjunction with a pressure washer and the generator. All seems to work correctly so ready for test on Weasel. Charles, who already has experience with tractors, was given an introduction to both the Kubota's operation and that of the scythe. (Mark Shopland, WP Leader)

Saturday 25th - Attendees were Frank B, Jonathan P, Terry W and Ralph G. We shovelled barrow loads of clay down the scaffold shoot and covered all the new brick work, this was then puddled in (like treading grapes).

We then cleared up the site removing old plastic containers etc. Meanwhile Ralph took the security fencing from around the rubbish/rubble pile ready for this to be pushed down the hole. He then took the fencing up to the Weasel site and put it around the massive wet goey hollow on the car park area. (Terry Willoughby, WP Leader)