

NORTH WALSHAM & DILHAM CANAL TRUST

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject: Work-party at Swafield Staithe/Wharf winding area. (Day2)
Date: Thursday 4th Feb 2016.
From: C.J.B. Black, NW&DCT and EAWA

THE PLAN:

- To assist with the clearance of timber and brash from the winding area/wharf.
- To recover the useful timber for firewood and chip the brash.
- To cut up the timber and stack it on-site.
- To clear and chip the leaf litter and detritus.

WORK ACHIEVEMENT: The weather was dull and the wind light to moderate. 10 volunteers turned out today - again a good number considering this was another weekday work-party. The two volunteers who did not attend yesterday were given the safety briefing regarding the high reach 'cherry picker' on site and the hazard from falling branches and wood to anyone entering the hazard zone beneath the trees. They were told to obey the strict policy that all work-party members would remain in a designated 'safe area' until told it was safe to retrieve the cut branches.

The work continued with the cutting up of brash and branches cut from the trees growing in the centre of canal bed/winding area. These were chipped on site. The larger timber was cut up into manageable sizes then stacked/heaped on the growing site wood pile. Movement of the timber was made much easier and safer by the use of the hand log lifters

Lunch was taken at approx. 12.30

Work resumed after lunch but was spent attempting to move the 'cherry picker' of the site. The grass area was very soft and the 'cherry picker' got bogged down. Eventually it was pulled/driven out, but the grass area of Staithe Cottage was badly torn up. The work-party members managed to level and repair the damage but it will need to be re-seeded. The 'cherry picker' being on-site was used to clear out the cottage's gutter as a gesture of goodwill. We cleared the remaining detritus from the site and as no more work could be done decided to cease work.

Again the day was incident free, as all involved followed the instructions given by the work-party leader. I would like to thank all of those involved for making this a safe and rewarding two days.

Work ceased on-site at approx. 14.00.

Chris Black, Work Party Leader.