

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL CANAL REPORT Canal Inspection May 2022

The replanting has already blended in and is surrounded by vegetation and looks like they are growing well. We need to decide when and where to install the plaque – possibly during the Jubilee Weekend? The new Cherry tree on the steep path has come into leaf.

Many ash trees are slowly coming into leaf but I think we need to brace ourselves for further felling next winter as there are many that look poorly- we will know more next month and then after the annual inspection in September (which needs to be approved and booked). There are mostly in the first third and on the back embankment away from the path and there are 2 on Back Lane.



There are 3 or 4 towards Hill Bridge that don't pose a threat currently but might need attention sooner.



On a positive note, the large Ash at Stoker Seat and the Back Lane wood look very healthy.

There is only 1 no cycling sign left (at the start of the easy path) The new one on the wooden plaque and all at Hill Bridge End have been stolen again – this needs reporting to the police again. I have two replacements to be installed but maybe we need to investigate more permanent signs. I feel if we have no signs, cyclists can claim they just didn't know it was a footpath. There is also a horse rider using it as a bridlepath.



Vegetation: The bluebells and wild garlic have been fantastic and are now dying back. The irises in the wetland are growing well.

Benches: The two older benches and the Stoker Seat are safe.

Paths: The paths are sound but have tyre marks and continued use will erode them quicker than just pedestrian use.

Boundaries, Walls and Fences: all look sound.

Usage: high levels of use.

CRT: The aqueduct steps are becoming very overgrown and needs weeding now before they grow any further.



The new sign and Jubilee Garden at the foot of the aqueduct look great.



The Village Green has been cut but is riddled with dandelions – but we are not responsible for weed control.

