

Summary

We enjoyed decent weather again today, despite the forecast of probable light rain. The main task was further attention to whips around the eastern perimeter. Many of these, planted about 30 months ago, were ready to have their canes and guards removed, and in some cases they were topped to encourage a more bushy shape and to prevent them bending over as a result of being top heavy. Some of the encroaching vegetation was also removed. Many of these whips, mainly blackthorn, dog rose and privet, should now survive without too much attention. Access to the whips was quite difficult in places, because of all the summer growth of brambles and so on. But these die back in the winter leaving the boundary vulnerable, and hence the value of the whips when they grow bigger.

In addition, the entrance to the pipe leading under the “swamp of doom” (installed by Notts County Council two years ago) was cleaned out, and a trench was dug near the outlet. A minor repair was carried out to the recently-installed palings at the southern end (for no apparent reason a wire had been cut). As usual, a quantity of litter was collected.