

## Summary

This was originally arranged as an extra work party, since we don't have one Christmas week, but in the event it acted as a replacement for the November work party, which had been cancelled due to foul weather. In truth, the weather was not much better today, the drizzle at the start developing into persistent rain during the morning. The path up the hill across the field was very slippery, but we managed to get the tools up there by just taking a couple of wheelbarrows with the minimum amount of equipment, rather than the trolley.

We first tidied some of the brash from the previous work party, and then continued thinning some of the sycamore saplings further south on the western path, culminating in the felling of a couple of larger trees previously marked by NWT. This produced a few new poles for path edging. In addition, Ian used a mattock to dig some small drainage channels in an attempt to improve one or two waterlogged areas.

Shortly after midday we moved round to the main path to target some Norway maple saplings, but here we were much more exposed to the strengthening south-easterly wind. This was on top of the unpleasantness of the rain, so we called it a day.

Thanks to those who braved the elements, and see you at the January work party. I am also hoping to hold an additional work party early in the new year to move the wood chip.