

Work in Progress: Ashlawn Cutting – Jolly's Field

What's the problem here?

Ashlawn cutting is an enjoyable linear walk, however the historical use and layout of the cutting means the line isn't as "straightforward" as it looks. Jolly's field was once a small meadow that drained into the reservoir pool to provide water for the steam engines that once ran along the cutting. Over the years this field has been lost with the scrub slowly encroaching, making it secluded and difficult to access. Also, the scrub shades out the grassland and makes the site less valuable to wildlife as wildflowers do not flourish and insects such as butterflies lose out.

What is being done?

The project here, part funded from a Warwickshire County Council - Rugby Areas Councillor fund, will cut down and remove some of the scrub to open a new woodchip pathway. Thus providing a circular access walk for people and further create open areas for grasses and wildflowers to recolonize. The scrub cut down will be chipped and used to create a new path surface and also at the same time some new pools and scrapes will be created along the main track to alleviate the flooding.

When will the work be taking place?

The plan is to spend a number of days cutting the scrub – starting in early February 2013 (subject to the weather).

Who is doing the work?

The work is being planned and overseen by the Rugby Group of the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust – and a local contractor along with Rugby Borough Council will be doing the work.

Health and safety

The walkway will remain open at all times and the work won't impinge on the use of the cutting. However please do avoid the felling area and observe any notices and directions given by the contractors at work.

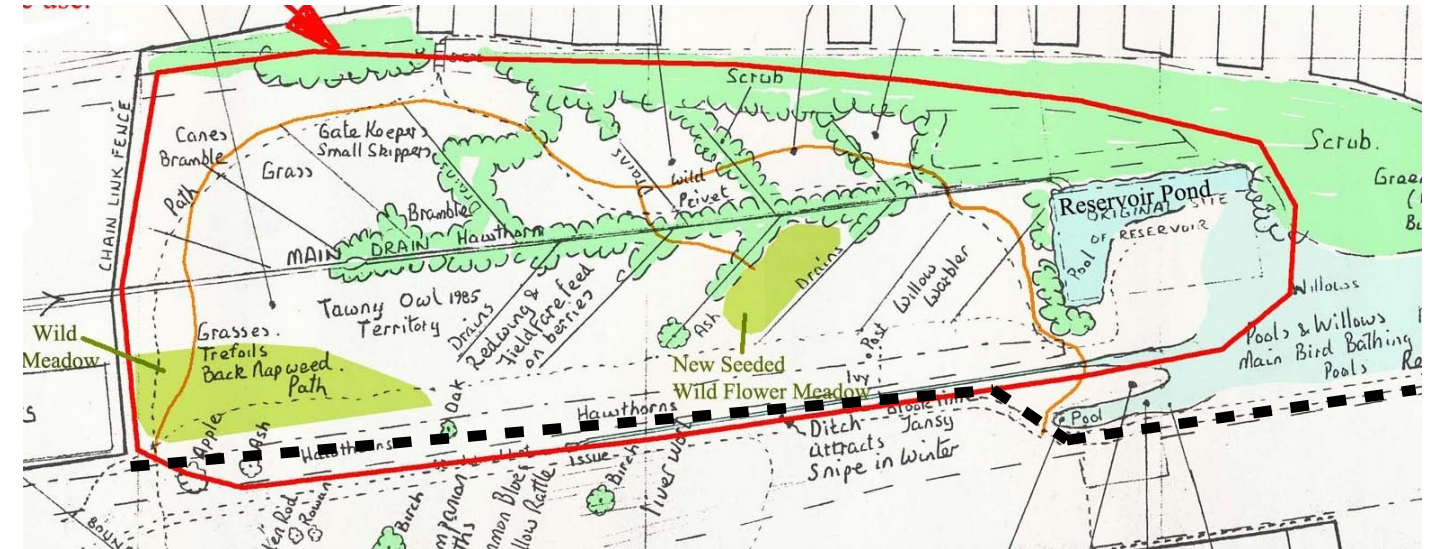
Further information and comments

The Rugby Group would be pleased to hear your comments. If you'd like to volunteer to help with looking after the Cutting, please do get in touch – conservation work is great fun, keeps you fit and you get to meet lots of people and make good friends whilst also doing a worthwhile job improving our local environment!

For further information or to send your comments on the project, please contact Karl Curtis at Warwickshire Wildlife Trust on 0247 6302912 or email enquiries@wkwtr.org.uk

Many thanks - *The Rugby Group of The Warwickshire Wildlife Trust*

Help support our work in the local area by becoming a member - please ring 0247 630 2912 to join or visit www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk



(The new path is highlighted in orange in the above plan of the area, current path in black)

