

Proposed basic FOLK work party programme for October 2018 to March 2019

Note that, according to Natural England rules, scrub clearance and grass cutting should be curtailed between 1st March and 15th July (and tree removal between 1st March and 31st August). These restrictions do not apply to footpath maintenance or restoration work which can be done with caution.

Work carried over from previous period

- Raking up grass cuttings in Area 4/5 after cutting by contractor
- Burn gorse cuttings remaining at top of Windass
- Burn cuttings remaining at the limekilns and just along the Woodland Walk from here
- Annual cutting of Area 16 above Bridge Car Park (scheduled for 11th October 2018)
- Consider installing 'street signs' on historic quarrying inclines by the limekilns and possibly the sidings on the top of the Hill – Wayne/Geoff to develop proposals.

Routine work

- Remove temporary paddock from Daisybank Field when requested by Norths
- Gorse rotational cutting:
 - Continue cutting bank at top of Windass and above Cotswold Way (started in September 2018)
- Gorse cutting and chemical treatment:
 - Continue the clearance to the East of the top of Windass and below the Cotswold Way
 - Push back the edges of the gorse encroaching close to the Cotswold Way to the East of top of Windass and above the Cotswold Way
 - Remove on ledge just below top of CKC to the West of Windass that is used by hang-gliders
- Ash sapling removal and chemical treatment
 - Area 16 regrowth
 - Above the 'new' steps at the South end of the Woodland Walk (some remain above the path after the clearance done in December 2016). Some below the path could be removed depending on safety of access on steep slopes
 - On the banks alongside the West end of Hartley Lane
 - On the old quarry sidings at the top of the Hill

New work

- Open up butterfly flight path through hawthorn copse above Gallops and local to previous 'cattle enclosure' area – will require chainsaw work
- Remove low and overhanging branches on tracks leading from 5-ways that are interfering with horse riders
- Clear growth encroaching on cattle track through bottom of hawthorn copse near Shackleton
- Cut back new growth on track from Minotaur Barn to allow easier vehicular access
- Remove saplings and cotoneaster in Deadman's Quarry
- Clear saplings and growth at lower levels of slope above Woodland Walk and below Devil's Chimney
- Further clearance of saplings/trees/growth in Brownstone Quarry
- Possible joint work parties with Ravensgate

Management Plans

- Further development of site management plans and preparation of area specific practical forward work plans utilising the results of the drone photographic survey and QGIS software

Possible Work for other Volunteer Groups

- Gorse cutting and chemical treatment

Possible Work for Contractors

- Clearing a butterfly flight path through the wooded area between Cowslip Meadow and the South-Eastern extremity of Charlton Kings Common (Area 33)
- Gorse cutting and chemical treatment on steep slopes above Gallops
- Clear saplings/trees and growth at upper levels of slope above Woodland Walk and below Devil's Chimney
- Remove or reduce height of trees (in Area 9) starting to block views from the top of the West side of Leckhampton Hill

Geoff Holt

2nd October 2018