

Abbey Road Conservation Volunteers - NEWS

Conservation work carried out on 20th November

We had 6 volunteers at Abbey Rd yesterday. (Myself, Simon A, Simon K, Vanessa, Sheila and Brendan). Several others had other commitments but wanted to be kept up to date, so here is a quick summary of what we did.

- We cleared 2 large fallen/fractured Goat Willows, making space for some new trees to be planted, hopefully in the new year.
- A branch on one of the Narrow-leaved Ash trees had snapped and got lodged. This was cut in sections and removed.
- One of the large pond-side willows previously cut down, had sprouted 10' long shoots, and if left for many more years, would have grown back into a large tree. These were removed. Advice will be sought as to how we might safely kill the roots to prevent it regrowing.
- we scarified and sowed more Yellow Rattle seed in part of the meadow area.

As we were finishing, 2 local residents chatted to Simon A and myself. They were pleased with how the site was being managed, and congratulated us all. But they then said that their neighbour's cat had caught a Water Vole from the stream! If it really was a Water Vole, though tragic to lose a Water Vole, this is fantastic news if they are present. They eat stream side vegetation in a particular way, so we will look out for this in future.

Hopefully see some of you on 18th Dec for our last session of the year. Mince pies and spiced hot apple juice will be on offer!..

The Next Conservation work day will be 18th December 2021

