

Barton Brook Working Party 2024 – Saturday 19th October 2024

Barton Parish Council are organising another Barton Brook Working Party this Autumn and a provisional date has been set for **Saturday 19th October**, with a 'fall back' date of Saturday 26th October if high water levels mean that it's not practicable to work on the 19th.



Provided levels are not too high on that day then anyone who wants to volunteer should meet up at **Collinson Road Park at 9.30 a.m.** and we will finish at lunchtime.



Depending on how many people volunteer we will split up to work on the following sections:

- Park Road to Brookside Footbridge
- Brookside Bridge to Wales Lane
- Wales Lane to Collinson Road
- Collinson Road to the footbridge in Collinson Park
- Collinson Park Bridge to St James Road
- St James Road to Efflinch Lane
- Efflinch Lane to Meadow Rise Footbridge/Holland Sports Club field gate to car park
- Holland Sports Club from Potters Way down to the 'metal bridge'

We will do what we can with the number of people available and will complete any priority sections first.

Most of the major issues were removed by the previous work party in Autumn 2023 so we anticipate that this will be lighter work to remove any brambles or saplings that have grown back. This maintenance work can be completed with hand tools such as secateurs, loppers or bow saws.

Material will be put into big Builders '1 tonne' bags and removed by trailer to skip or otherwise for disposal.

If you would like to help then you should:

- **Contact Ed Sharkey on 07973 151820**
- Wear old work clothes that you don't mind getting a bit damp and muddy (waterproof jacket, hat, cap, etc. depending on the weather on the day)
- Wear wellies (or waders if you have them)
- Wear work gloves capable of handling brambles/prickles
- Bring hand tools if you have them – secateurs, loppers, bow saws, garden rakes

Access into the brook may require a bit of climbing down banks or using ladders so you need to be reasonably fit, but there will be work loading and unloading bags 'on land' for anyone who doesn't feel able to help in the brook, or brewing tea... 😊

Please be aware that the brook water is NOT 'clean' so you need to make sure that you wash your hands before eating or drinking anything after you've been working. We'll see if we can get some 'brew making' facilities set up at the Park for a bit of a break part way through the morning and we'll have some clean water and wash bowls available for a brush up.

Until the Environment Agency are able to put in some flood protection measures upstream of the village then keeping the brook course clear is the best that we can do as a Community to provide some reassurance to those people in properties that are at flood risk that everything we can do is being done to keep people safe.

If you have a few hours spare on the 19 October then you'd be very welcome to join us. 😊