

## SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL CANAL REPORT

### Canal Safety Inspection November 2025

The recent windy and wet weather has seen most leaves fall and it all looks very late autumnal.

**Trees:** Alistair Hearne carried out his annual safety inspection in September and we have received his report. The woodland is in good condition and there are no safety issues. However, he would recommend some remedial work be carried out to attempt removal of a couple of dead limbs on the Stoker Ash. If they are dead, they will come away, if not they are not a hazard. I have met with our contractor to ask him to carry out this work as well as the usual annual removal of goat willow saplings in the basin, the removal of a skeleton midway along and trimming of the horse chestnut tree where it is growing over the beginning of the easy path.

**Vegetation:** The vegetation is dying back- no problems. It was a mast year for fruits and berries and the birds and blackberry harvesters have been very happy.

**Benches:** All OK



**Paths:** Lots of leaf mould turning to mud which is normal for the time of year.

**Boundaries, Walls and Fences** – the fallen wall will need rebuilding. I have chased up the Young Farmers who are under a new team and unfortunately, they are seeking larger projects now and cannot help. We should ask Mr Simpson as he may be able to help.



**Signage:** All looks ok.

**Usage:** Extremely busy.

The Millennium Field, Village Green and Bus Shelter Area has been cut at the end of September and is now looking a bit long – are we expecting another cut? Our Contractor has looked at the hedge and orchard in the Millennium Field and recommends that we give the saplings another year or two to see if there are gaps.

**C11** the aqueduct has been cleared

I have updated the Canal Management Plan in light of the Annual Inspection Report and action identified. (circulated earlier) The Annual Inspection Document was also circulated in October.

