

SEDGWICK PARISH COUNCIL CANAL REPORT

August/September 2026

Alistair Hearne, our woodland consultant has carried out his annual safety inspection and there are no short term issues to report.

- The ash trees are showing good resilience to ADB – any that are succumbing are on the opposite bank to the path and are dropping in situ rather than falling over. There is one small ash near the path that will probably need felling within two years and which should be continued to be monitored. The Stoker Seat Ash will need checking every few years with ropes and any loose branches removed like they were earlier this year.
- The elms along Back Lane are currently looking very healthy but we should be prepared to take action if DED strikes as deterioration can be quick. It will more than likely not effect every tree.
- The horse chestnuts have wleaf mior damage to leaves but the trees remain healthy.
- In our discussions with W&F Council regarding the path widening, we should ask to see their tree impact assessment – the path is very close to large trees at the southern end and roots are already exposed – any cutting into the verge could be detrimental. .



Other matters:

It is looking autumnal already.....it has been a great berry season – brambles, hawthorns, rosehips, elderberries and sloes - but most are past their best – still great for the wildlife.

Trees:. The dead elm has been removed opposite the Stoker Seat. Some goat willow needs to be removed in the annual cull, before they get any bigger

Paths: All good. The hedges have grown but are looking good.



Benches: All OK – the Stoker Seat could do with a clean when possible

Signage: All are sturdy but the way marker still needs a re-varnish.

Vegetation: the June cut was done later this year in July but the path is clear now.

Boundaries, Walls and Fences – the section of wall is still down - Mr Simpson needs informing.

Usage: very busy

CRT and W&F Issues

We have a site visit on 30/9/26 to discuss widening the path.