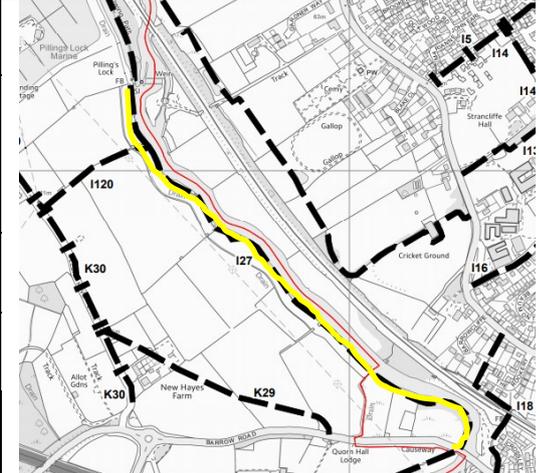


<b>Task #</b>	21-02	<b>Date:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> April 21	<b>Review Date:</b>	Mar 22
	<b>Meet:</b>	<b>Pillings Lock</b>			
	<b>Summary:</b>	Clear overgrown branches from trees alongside towpaths paths. Some litter Picking.			
	<b>Volunteers:</b>	6 Footpaths 2 Litter Pickers			
	<b>Time:</b>	10:00	12:00		
	<b>Weather:</b>	Overcast but dry			

Another lovely day to be out and about. Sometimes hot and sunny, then suddenly chilly as the wind became that bit stronger. But it stayed dry throughout. We also saw plenty of wildlife out on the river, and there were lots of people about either walking, both with and without dogs, cycling or running along the towpath, which was great to see.

We meet up at Pillings Lock foot bridge in order to clear the overgrown branches as we walked back along the ¾ mile of towpath towards Barrow. Liz and Pat from our Litter Picking group were also doing this stretch and intended to walk ahead to clear the path of litter before we cut back any branches. However, alongside where we meet up, there are so much litter that a deep ditch dive was required – luckily the ditch was dry (ish), and we had a builders bag with us – which we filled to the top. It was a long way back with this in the trolley!



Finally, we were able to get going with the cutting back of the overgrown branches that had been reported by runners and cyclists alike as being rather low – even before the trees came into leaf and started to drop.

There were also a few areas where there was a considerable amount of dead branches that just needed to be removed before they fell on some unsuspecting passerby.

Old and new growth was left on site to form habitat piles for the local wildlife.



Lots of the trees were just coming into leaf, and already showing signs of new growth. Where this was already encroaching on the towpath we were able to cut it back slightly to encourage new growth further back and prevent it becoming a problem for a year or two.

The Footpaths team caught up with the Litter Picking team just before the end of the towpath and they kindly gave us another few bags worth of litter they had collected along the way. Thanks to all the volunteers that came along today –it was hard work!

**Next Task:**

Week starting 12<sup>th</sup> April or 19<sup>th</sup> April  
(Date Still to be confirmed)

Location: Mill Lane

**Thanks everyone – great work.**



The builders bag full of rubbish from the ditch!