

Wellington Walkers are Welcome

Path Maintenance Team Organisers Report - AGM Sunday 18/08/24

Since the last AGM (06/08/23), we have worked on a total of 16 sessions, comprising circa 186 person-hours. During this period 10 sessions were cancelled - 5 due to adverse weather, 4 due to finding no suitable work, and 1 due to health problems. Our average attendance across all sessions was 3.8 persons.

On 3 of the 4 sessions cancelled due to no suitable path team work, we carried out alternate work installing waymark posts on the Telford Coronation Walks routes. This additional work is not included in the hours figures above.

The worked sessions covered a similar range of activities to previous years including:

- Cutting back overgrown vegetation
- Clearing stiles / kissing gates
- Clearing fallen trees
- Litter picking (supplementary to path clearing, along and around areas worked)
- Litter picking (sole activity - once)
- Maintaining way-marking of Rights of Way and designated routes / trails

During main 'growing seasons' our work is primarily clearance of undergrowth, outside of these times it has been dealing with fallen trees.

The sites we have worked on through the period, several of which we have visited more than once, include:

- Allscott - Shropshire Way
- Apley Castle – Home Farm to Apley Woods
- Christine Avenue boardwalk / M54 path
- Hutchison Way – Lawley
- Limekiln Woods - Boardwalk steps
- New Works (former coal site)
- Rushmoor Lane parallel path
- Sunnylands - Wrockwardine Road to Orleton Lane
- Tiddiecross - Old Shropshire Way, now one of the new TCW routes
- Wrekin Link (Admaston Allotments to Wrockwardine Road)
- Wrockwardine - clearing stiles around the village

Following our path sessions, photographs and comments have been posted on Facebook and on our website. This has resulted in numerous responses thanking us for our work, including emails from local councillors, and from the T&W Pride in the Community and Rights of Way Teams.

We continue to lobby T&W Rights of Way team to deal with issues that are beyond our capabilities, such as significant fallen trees, and stile / footbridge repairs or replacements.

Equipment expenditure has been a little more this year – in addition to petrol for the brush-cutter, we also had to replace brush-cutter head with a line trimmer attachment following advice received on a TGSP organised Power Tools training course.

Thanks again to everybody who has contributed to making the path maintenance team successful again this year. The impact of our work can be seen in the Path Team Galley on our website at: <https://www.wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk/path-maintenance-new>

We are open to new volunteers joining our email list, and to receiving reports of footpath issues that we may be able to assist with.

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Please contact us at: PathTeam@wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk