

Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook: Occasional Titbits, No. 3, September 2009

Chairman: John Collins
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If you have items suitable for inclusion please let me have them as they arise. If you wish to be taken off this group email list, please let me know.

1. Progress has been made with regard to the **public right of way along the west bank of the Cherry Hinton Brook through the Sainsbury car park**. A meeting was held between representatives of the Cambridgeshire Highways Authority (based in Whittlesford), the Rights of Way section in Shire Hall, and Sainsbury. Before the matter of access was drawn to the attention of all three parties, they had no knowledge of the barriers which had been created, nor did they know who installed them, nor why.



The photograph shows three light-coloured planks which block the entrance to the right of way, at the end of the parapet of the bridge which takes Coldhams Lane over the Cherry Hinton Brook. About 20 metres or so upstream a gate in a bridge parapet is padlocked.

Within the last two weeks the Highways Authority cleared a large amount of vegetation and the entire length of the footpath is now freely accessible through two unlocked gates. However, it is not possible to walk from end to end because the two obstructions (described above) remain.

Two or three short stretches of the footpath are rather narrow and slope, somewhat, towards the stream. It could be argued that these stretches are unsafe and that the barriers should therefore remain in place. Now that the footpath has been cleared, the Rights of Way people are going to assess whether or not it is safe. If it is safe then the Highways Authority will remove the obstructions. If not then the pathway could be made safe, first.

2. A small group of stalwarts duly carried out **the afternoon litter pick along Dawes Lane on 15 September**. They cleared all the visible litter to their satisfaction, though by the next day, as expected, the busy thoroughfare was once again sullied by hungry, instantly-gratified schoolchildren.