

Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook
Occasional Titbits, No. 41, December 2014
www.friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk

Please forward or print out and pass on to anyone else who may be interested.

November litterpick



A mix of regulars and new Burnside residents turned out on 9th November and between them collected just over 20 kg of litter, including a pillow case of what looked like stolen stuff (jewellery and a tablet computer with some clothes) which was taken to the police.



We had received a report of a blocked culvert at the Walpole Road end of Dawes Lane so three of the group investigated this but there were too many heavy branches blocking it. Subsequently one of our supporters contacted the Council and it was cleared very promptly.

Many thanks to Darren Gillings for these excellent photos.



Brook improvements The stand of bulrushes *Typha latifolia* in the brook along Burnside was removed by the Council in the first week of December. Although many of us enjoy the sight of these when their dramatic cylindrical seed heads are visible, the plants were much too large for the size of the brook in this location and both the Wildlife Trust and City Wildlife Officer advised removing them before they became too dominant. This was one of the actions in the plan to improve the overall flow of the brook and restore it to its original chalk stream appearance.

Winter wildlife Although water voles do not hibernate we have only had one report of a sighting since mid-October. I think they – and us – are staying in more, and the dark evenings limit sighting opportunities. There is nevertheless plenty of activity along the brook, with the grey squirrels noisily feeding on berries, the mallards beginning to pair up, and small birds twittering in the trees. The kingfisher has also been seen several times. Please continue to send us reports of sightings of wildlife.

With best wishes for the festive season and the New Year

JOIN US! See our website www.friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk for our aims and activities.

To be taken off this email list, please email membership@friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk

Monica Frisch (editor@friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk) 10th December 2014