


Task #	20-01	Date:	02 Jan 20	Review Date:	Jan 21
	Meet:	Cotes Road/Willow Road Roundabout			
	Summary:	Cut back overgrown bramble from corner			
	Volunteers:	6			
	Time:	10:00	11:45		
	Weather:	Dry and cold			

First task of the year and it felt a bit chilly at first, but not for long.

We got stuck into clearing the very overgrown patch of brambles on the corner of Willow Road and Cotes Road which had been taking over most of the pavement as well as the few trees that were trying to hold on.

As you can imagine there was also a substantial amount of litter within the mass of bramble and a fairly large collection of bottles soon emerged, including one bottle that was still full, but no takers today!



Before photo showing how dense and tall the brambles were becoming



The pavement was slowly getting covered with all the lateral bramble shoots

From the size of some of the brambles it was clear that the area hasn't been cut back for a long time, if ever. The new growth was already beginning to come through so it won't be long before new and vigorous shoots begin to come back in time for summer fruits for the local wildlife. The new growth should be much stronger, but, hopefully now a little more controllable for future years.

Some of the trees were completely covered in the bramble and look as if they may not be too healthy, but we've given them more light so a chance to recover. We also found a number of smaller trees under all the bramble too. These look quite small but healthy so should soon start to grow again after clearing the area all around them.

We found a road sign hidden in the hedgerow on the opposite side of the road which none of us knew was there. A small patch of hedgerow and bramble was cleared there too.



Bramble cut back and left in location to rot down Top team! You can see and use the pavement again.

The bramble was cut down into smaller pieces and left in location to start to rot down and decompose over time. It will also form habitat to small insects and mammals. Bramble can root after being cut so some may well start to grow again. We shall aim to come back to the area in about 12 months' time to see what the regrowth has been like and check progress with the smaller trees.