

**Kings Worthy, Path 502 / Path 501
Worthy Down Halt – Viewpoint Clearance
Sunday 19th November 2006**



A group of 10 willing volunteers including 2 children (and to be joined by 2 latecomers) met at the usual place near the vets at 1.30pm on a mild November afternoon. Jonathan introduced the task and ran through the safety briefing, during which it was decided that we were short of some warning notices for posting either side of our work. We could really do with 4 altogether to cover working in 2 areas.

The party then headed towards the disused railway line where the late Autumn sunshine set off the carpet of yellow leaves. We split into two groups. The smaller group, comprising Bruce, Maureen, Ruby and later, David were accompanied by Rosie the dog.



Before: view obscured by scrub and trees



Clearing scrub by the platform

They had the back-breaking task of uprooting dogwood from the wildflower glade which had previously been created on the bridge over the Hookpit Farm track.

The larger group, comprising Jonathan, Nick, Margaret, Lizzie, Martin, Morgan, Imogen and later, Charlotte set about removing undergrowth from a site on the east side of the shelter on the Worthy Down Halt platform.

Before long a pleasant view (despite the phone mast) towards a copse on Stoke Charity Road opened up. With some time to spare, before finishing at about 4pm, the group continued previous clearance work on the west side, exposing more of the brickwork to view.

All in all, this was another enjoyable and successful task. We look forward to seeing what the Spring will bring in terms of wild flowers and butterflies in the areas we have cleared.

Possible follow-on work:

There is still scope for yet more dogwood removal at the bridge glade site. The viewpoint on the east side of Worthy Down Halt was thought to be a suitable site for another of our famous benches.

Leader: Jonathan Smith 20th Nov 2006



**After: newly created viewpoint –
an ideal spot for a bench**