

# **BREDFIELD MEADOW AND ORCHARD**

## **REPORT ON RECENT WORK**

**FEBRUARY 2026**

### **Introduction**

At the BJMO Committee meetings in September 2025 and January 2026, it was agreed the hedges surrounding the meadow, especially on the northern side, should be trimmed back. The main purpose of this is to stem the encroachment of Blackthorn and Bramble onto the meadow. I was agreed that work should be completed by the end of February 2026.

Despite long spells of rain, resulting in water-logged ground, this work was completed as planned. Below is a detailed report.

### **Report**

The hedgerow was cut-back, approx. 2-4ft, along the full length of the northern side of the meadow, and in a small section of the southern side. The ground was strimmed to remove suckers, and loppers were used to take back the line of the hedge and remove over-hanging branches up to approx. 7-8ft. (See following two images.)





Brambles and Blackthorn were also removed in a strip nearer the ditch between the meadow and the property of the Trebilcock family, and also in the area behind the storage shed. The purpose was to allow light to penetrate into these areas and encourage some regeneration. (See following two images.)





All this work produced a large amount of cut branches and brambles. (See following two images.) What to do with this remains a problem to be solved. One plan is to construct a dead-hedge around the compost area in the top right-hand corner. This will be done, though it won't make use of all of the cut wood. Some of the thicker logs will be used for the planned construction of a beetle 'stumpery'. A large 'chipper' would solve much of the problem, but the cost would be high and, given the current water-logging, this may prove difficult and perhaps damaging to the meadow. For the time-being, the wood has been left in piles away from the pathway. These piles should be removed before the end of April 2026.





*Stewart Belfield*

28.2.2026