

## **CORTON WOODS**

The small group of regular volunteers continue to meet for our work parties on Thursday mornings.

The past 12 months have been somewhat challenging from a weather point of view – long dry spells during 2023 and the very wet winter gave a few problems – particularly in trying to keep the paths passable. East Suffolk Council provide us with wood chippings so that we can keep the paths topped up, but unfortunately during the first part of 2024 none were available, and many of the paths remained very muddy. Fortunately we have now received a fresh supply of chippings, so path maintenance can recommence.

A further problem encountered is that we have recently been advised that several sycamore trees have sooty bark disease and must be felled. Gunton woods have suffered similarly and have lost quite a lot of sycamores to this disease. Dutch elm disease, ash dieback, sooty bark disease - I wonder what is due to hit us next!

We were fortunate to receive a large quantity of narcissi bulbs from East Suffolk Council last autumn, and they have given a lovely show this spring. We are hoping that they will spread in the coming years.

Thanks must go to all the volunteers who turn up each week and work so hard to maintain the woods – without their efforts the woods would soon become a much less hospitable place.