Heritage Progress Report. January 2016.

1. Volunteer Group

Coleorton Wood.

The group is making good progress with hedge-laying. We have also cleared and coppiced a large area of shrubs as required in the management plan. We have also taken down a very large branch which was a hazard over one of the rides.

New Lount Reserve.

Most of the time has been spent woodland clearing and burning off the brash. The group has also carried out a litter pick across the site.

The large round picnic table for LCC Country Parks is now almost complete and will be installed at Market Bosworth Park. We have also completed the manufacture of a commemorative bench which will be installed at New Lount. This group has now started to manufacture wooden mushrooms which we will sell at the future plant sales.

2. Ashby Museum.

The display on "Coleorton Pottery" has now been set up in the museum. I am nearing the completion of cataloguing John Crocker's work. The museum has offered to catalogue and store the historic parish records.

3. <u>Lount Pottery Boards.</u>- All of the information has been given to Shelley Design Limited who have produced a second draft, which has been returned for final changes. I am hoping to have the final draft for the meeting.

4. Bird Feeders at both Sites.

The new bird feeding system has been installed at Coleorton wood and is working well.

5. Notes relating to other Agenda Items:-

Item 7. Coleorton Wood.

Coleorton Wood Advisory Committee – I have not heard anything about meetings being arranged.

Item 7. Report on activities. We are currently on schedule with all of the planned work from the management plan. We are progressing well with laying one of the hedges and are sourcing the required materials from the wood. We have completed one of the two areas of shrub coppicing and thinning and will complete the other before the end of March 2016.

Plunkett Foundation – "Making Local Woods Work" We were unsuccessful with our application to install disabled access at both Coleorton Wood and New Lount Reserve.

Item 7. Control of Grey Squirrels – The National Forest is organising an evening to discuss a local trial on the control of Grey Squirrels – on Monday 29th February. I will be attending this event. Item 11. Information Board at Lount – see 3 above.

6. Newbold Heritage Group.

I have applied to Biffa Awards on behalf of Newbold Heritage Group for funding to install an Industrial Heritage Trail at New Lount Nature Reserve, based on the previous New Lount Colliery. The project consists of 7 interpretation boards around the site outlining the history and heritage of the New Lount Colliery. I will know in February 2016 if we have been successful.

7. Local History Books.

Trevor Stewart has recently completed two small books, one on "The Coleorton Sherwins 1739-1887" and "A record of some of the fatalities that occurred in the Coal Mines of Coleorton and the Locality 1782-1957" .

8. School Log Book.

I have taken the School Log Book up to Scrivener's of Buxton and they have quoted a price of "no more than £180.00 to fully restore the book". I have therefore left the book with them. There is a 12 week wait on bookbinding so we will not get the book back until February/March 2016. Scrivener's will send an invoice when the book is ready.

John Macdonald (January 2016)