

Heritage Progress Report.

April 2016.

1. Volunteer Group

Coleorton Wood.

The group has now completed hedge-laying for the winter season. We have also completed the coppicing of the shrub areas required in both the management plan and the WIG. We have now started on a programme of work for the summer period.

New Lount Reserve.

Most of the time has been spent woodland clearing and burning off the brash. This work has now ceased until around September 2016.

The large round picnic table for LCC Country Parks has been installed at Market Bosworth Park. The workshop group is now manufacturing a range of items that can be sold at the Volunteer Group's plant sales in May 2016. (Saturday 7th May @ Coleorton Wood & Saturday 21st May New Lount)

2. Ashby Museum.

There has been a good response to the museum display on the topic of "Lount Then and Now" which incorporates the display on "Coleorton Pottery". This exhibition is due to finish at the end of April.

3. Lount Pottery Boards.- I have been in contact with Shelley Signs and at the time of writing I am awaiting their reply to the ongoing programme for this project. They have communicated to me that the board is ready for delivery, but I will only be able to arrange this when I am back from my holiday at the end of April. When they have delivered the finished board the Volunteer Group will install it. ***Does the council wish to organise any publicity for this project?***

4. Bird Feeders at both Sites.

There has been another incident at Coleorton Wood with individuals causing further damage to the bird-food safe container and taking away the keys to the bird table. These "attacks" are very puzzling as there appears to be no good reason for them; we have no idea of who is involved. The Volunteer Group is in the process of attempting to repair the bird-food safe container and re-installing it.

I have purchased three new bird feeders for the wood but we have held-back on installing these at this point in time. ***Is the Parish Council still OK with us going ahead and installing the new bird feeders?***

5. Notes relating to other Agenda Items:-

Coleorton Wood.

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

Report on activities. The Volunteer Group have completed all the necessary work for Angus Hancock to submit the WIG claims. We will only be claiming for the amount of hedge management that the group has accomplished (about 100m).

DOG WASTE:- We have had reports that dog walkers are picking up their dog's waste and then leaving the bags hanging on the ride gates, presumably expecting "someone" to remove the bags. There is still a general problem with dog waste despite all previous efforts.

6. **Newbold Heritage Group.**

Biffa Awards has awarded just over £7,000 to Newbold Heritage Group for the Industrial Heritage Trail Project at New Lount Nature Reserve. The project consists of 7 interpretation boards around the site outlining the history and heritage of the New Lount Colliery. In the November 2015 meeting the Parish Council kindly offered to contribute £270 toward the cost of this project; the cheque for this contribution should be made to Newbold Heritage Group. Once we have sorted the details with Biffa Awards we will have 12 months to complete this interesting local project.

The Newbold Group is holding a Photographic exhibition based on "Then & Now" on Saturday 30th April at Newbold School.

7. **School Log Book.**

I have returned the school log book and they were very impressed with the work carried out.

John Macdonald (April 2016)