

Heritage Wardens' Progress Report.

March 2013.

1. Local Volunteer Group

Coleorton Wood.

Since the last meeting the group has burnt all the waste material in the Post Office Field, which has significantly tidied up this area of the wood.

The group has also put up a dozen bird nesting boxes that the group made during Workshop Sessions at Snibston. A map of the locations of these nesting boxes has been handed over to Angela Dixon who will monitor them through the breeding season.

We have also cleared the area in the car park where it is intended to plant the Royal Oak sapling behind the Fields-In-Trust QEII Plaque.

Angus Hancock has presented his draft management plan for Coleorton Wood. Angus requires to submit this plan to the Forestry Commission before the end of March 2013 in order to meet the FC's end of Financial Year requirements. It is proposed that members of the Coleorton Wood Advisory Committee will initially approve this plan so that the timescale required can be achieved. Other members of the Parish Council will be able to review the plan, and if required the plan can be amended after it has been submitted to the FC. The Volunteer Group will carry out a small amount of woodland management before the spring, but the management plan will now have to wait until autumn this year before starting on the proposed work.

The group is proposing to make two long benches for the Coleorton Wood picnic area, and would like the Parish Council to fund the cost of the wood for this project. Proposed design:-



2. QEII FIT Plaque.

We are awaiting an update report from Paul Brader on the brickwork for this plaque. It would be good to have this work completed before the Annual Parish Meeting in the Wood.

3. Volunteer Group Tools.

The bulk of these have now been received. There are a small number of items which will be sourced separately. The group has set up a specific storage facility for all its tools and has introduced a system to monitor and control these tools.

4. New Lount Reserve.

The group has now completed the new path at the reserve and this was officially opened on Saturday 9th February by Peter Lewis, Chairman of LCC.

The area of mounds of waste material (often referred to as the "BMX Bumps") has had all the tall vegetation removed to re-establish the habitat that originally existed in this area.

The group will maintain this habitat to encourage new species.

A large number of bird nesting boxes (produced by the group at Workshop Sessions) have been put up around the reserve and a map produced showing their location. It is hoped that members of the group will be able to monitor these boxes throughout the breeding season.

The group has also set up a large bird feeding table in the bird feeding area and this is being well used by small birds.

The group has started on extensive woodland management at the Melbourne Road end of the site as well as tidying the frontage along the Melbourne Road.

5. Social Events.

The group's AGM was held on Friday 1st February and was well attended. This was followed by, what turned out to be, a very competitive Beetle Drive, with tea and cakes supplied.

The next social event will be a Darts Night at The Robin Hood, Swannington on Wednesday 13th March.

6. War memorial Project.

This project is progressing well, with a target date of 31st August for completion of details for all the individuals to be included in the book.

John Macdonald (March 2013)