



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021 MEMBERS UPDATE

Ladies and Gentlemen, we hope you are still coping in these trying times.

Trees on The Green, Little Bowden – I had hoped to report that the trees had been planted, but unfortunately there has been a delay. Mr. John Kemp reported that he is trying to resolve the situation. I wrote to him again last week for an update as it was reported that trees had been planted opposite the Skate Park on Bellfields Lane.

Zoom Meetings – The Committee held their first Zoom Meeting on February 9th, and I can report it was nothing like the notorious Parish Council Meeting that received so much publicity prior to Christmas on Youtube!

During the meeting, the Committee discussed ideas for going forward once we can resume monthly meetings again. Vivien has a list of speakers willing to come forward as soon as we can.

I make no apologies for asking again if you have any ideas or would like to offer help, please contact me so I can distribute amongst the Committee.

Unfortunately, we only received two replies for having a general Zoom Meeting.

Park Bench on the corner of Rectory Lane – Kevin has replaced the seating bar on the bench, and Phil has reported that he has already seen the bench in use.

Fencing on the banks of the River Jordan, Scotland Road – The repairs to the fencing along Scotland road from the bridge was completed by Kevin and Anthony on Saturday morning. Phil reports he has dark oak stain for use when the replacement wood has seasoned.

Glebe Road Recreation Ground Lighting – It was reported to the Committee that some of the new lights had been vandalised. Anthony has written to Mr. John Kemp at HDC to report the damage with photographs, in case this had not already been done by the local Facebook Group, Little Bowden Residents UK.

AGM Update – Jean has advised that the finances have now been verified by Alan Wells as that all cheques had been cashed.

Request for help – I have received a request from a Janet Durbin who writes:

I am hoping that you might be able to help me or put me in touch with someone who can.

I am a volunteer at NT Polesden Lacey in Surrey.

I am writing biographies of people who signed the Visitor Book 1907 - 1942.

Mary 'Doods' Naylor was one of these. She was a great horse woman. Her father, Richard Christopher Naylor (1814-1899), owning a stud, a race course and Master of the Hounds at Pytchley .

She was at Polesden at the same time as Edward VII, with members of the Marlborough Set. I believe that it was her knowledge of horses that linked her with this set.

Mary married Alfred Straker in 1916, another horseman, based in Springfield Grange, Great Bowden and Knossington Grange, Cheshire.

In the 1901 Census, Mary Naylor was head of the household in Northampton Rd, Little Bowden, Leicestershire. She was 39 years, living on her own means and had seven servants.

Would you have any information for me on Mary Naylor, this house, or her involvement with the village please.

I have been able to provide some information for Janet, but if any of you with local history knowledge can help please get in touch with me.

Until we can meet in person, keep well, keep safe.

Regards, Anthony Cherrington, Secretary, 05/01/2021, tel: 01858 289487, 07730797658, email: awcherrington@gmail.com