



Woodsman

The Booker Common and Woods Protection Society
For the Common Good©

Registered Charity No.289871

Newsletter 97 Spring 2023

Tree felling in the woods has finished

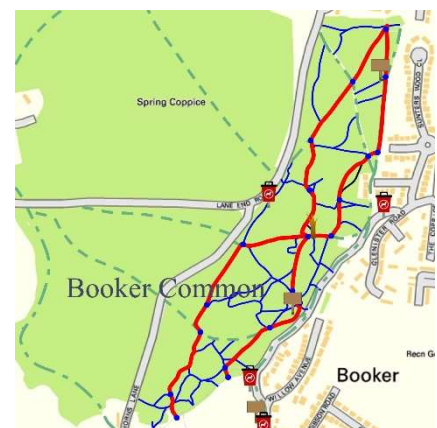
It's taken a couple of years but at last the current tree felling in the woods has finished and the final timber extraction will soon be complete. The work has clearly had a significant impact. A large number of trees have been removed and areas within the woods have been cleared. The work itself has also left its mark. Paths have been churned up by vehicle movements leaving deep ruts made worse by periods of heavy rain, and there are now piles of branches from the trees that were removed.

The loss of so many trees, particularly some of the larger mature trees, has been sad to see and in places the woods now look and feel very different. However, with time and a little help the woods will recover, despite how dramatic things now appear.

Restocking by West Wycombe estate is to be completed in April and once the work is done and the paths dry out, they too will be put right by the estate.

We will re-establish the route for the Woodland Walk, clearing any obstructions and installing new marker posts where needed. We will also support the restoration by adding to and encouraging existing plants and wild flowers. In particular taking advantage of areas where trees have been removed and light levels increased.

It will take time and the woods may look a little different but they will again be as inviting and accessible as they were before the work began.



Membership

Thanks to everyone who supports our work. If you would like to join, please visit our website, www.bookercommon.org.uk/join-us, or email us at contact@bookercommon.org.uk. We ask for a small annual subscription of just £4.00 per household which can be paid directly to our bank account.

Bank **Barclays**
Account Name: **Booker Common and Woods Protection Society**
Acc Number: **20177806** Sort Code: **20-40-71**

The funds raised are what keeps the grass on the common cut, pays for essential items such as wood and paint to repair and maintain the benches, covers the cost of replacing broken bollards and also the cost of insurance, essential for our volunteer work parties.

www.bookercommon.org.uk

2023 Annual General Meeting

8:00pm, Monday May 22nd
Booker Memorial Hall



Our 40th Annual General Meeting will be held in the Booker Memorial Hall on Monday May 22nd starting at 8:00pm. The AGM is open to members and non-members and we look forward to welcoming you to the meeting.

The AGM is an opportunity to meet other members, find out more about the society and give us your views. If you would like something specific included, please email me at chair@bookercommon.org.uk or come along and raise it during the meeting. Draft minutes from our last meeting are on our website, www.bookercommon.org.uk, and copies will be available at the meeting.

Guest Speaker

This year we are very pleased to welcome Richard Tennant-Eyles from the Woodland Trust as our guest speaker. His talk 'Standing up for trees' will describe the benefits of trees to people, discuss the state of woodland in the UK today and give a brief history and mission of the Woodland Trust. He will also dive into a few areas in more detail, namely: Ancient woodland, ancient trees (living legends) and a site study of the Ben Shildaig estate. There will be time for questions after the talk.

Election of the Committee and Officers for 2023/2024

We would be very pleased to welcome new members on to our committee. If you would be interested in becoming a committee member, please email chair@bookercommon.org.uk, call Brian on 01494 449035. We are particularly keen to encourage younger members to join the committee.

The following existing committee members are willing to continue for a further year if re-elected

Brian Tranter (Chair)
Sally Jay (Secretary)

Phil Stagg (Treasurer)
Tony McMahan

Ian Evans
Hedley Luxton

Jeff Harvey, a very active member for many years has decided to step down from the committee. His contribution to the committee will be greatly missed but we look forward to continuing to work with Jeff as we know he will remain an active member of the society.

Litter Pick



by everyone who uses and cares about the common.

Thanks to everyone who helped with our Spring Litter Pick and also everyone who regularly picks up litter as they walk on the common. Your help to remove it is appreciated

Commons Diary

(To be confirmed)

Monday May 22nd – Society AGM

Monday May 29th - Car Boot Sale

In aid of Booker and District Horticultural Society

Sunday October 24th – Autumn Litter Blitz