

Shelfanger Parish Council Meeting 4.12.23
Boyland Common Report

In mid October, despite the difficult weather conditions, Lyn Collett and Jen Celerier managed to cut back a lot of the invasive willow saplings from the ditches. This work, plus the controlling of the bramble invasion of the ditches is an ongoing job.

Ivan Lord continues to cut the paths when he can, and will be helping out with the coppicing of the willow trees opposite Poplar Farm when conditions allow.

On 20th October '23 Jamie Henry, Community Assets Manager for the District Council, emailed to say that the repair work to the gate posts had been completed, and aggregate laid at the gate entrances on either side of the road. He asked for a report on the work carried out and Pam Ross replied that, following a lot of rain, it looked as though a further load of aggregate would be needed to make the small northern car park area useable.

We are really grateful to both District Councillor James Easter and Community Assets Manager Jamie Henry for their involvement in getting this work done.

On 1.11.23, Pam emailed Chris Batey, our 'Owl Man' asking for advice on whether the branches encroaching on the inward flight path to the owl box needed trimming back. Chris has already advised that, for the present, the owl box itself was fit for purpose, however he felt that the trimming back of the encroaching branches would be advisable. We will be looking for help and advice as to how this might best be achieved.

The good news for 2023 was that two owl chicks had successfully fledged.

We will now be turning our attention to the production of a new information board for the Common. With the present day availability of internet links, a much more comprehensive presentation of both historical information, plus details of the significant flora and fauna to be found will be possible. We hope to get this completed for April 2024.

Pam Ross, Chairperson of the 'Friends of Boyland Common'