

NAUNTON DOVECOTE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT TO NAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

May 2017

The Trustees of the Naunton Dovecote Trust are very sorry to report the loss of one of their number, a long-standing Trustees and supporter, Corrinne Powell, who died in February of this year.

We had just requested Rosemary Parker to be a new Trustee at that time, and we are therefore still five in number.

We have continued to work on progressing the project on which we have been working since 2009, i.e. the repair of the turbine shed, re-instatement of the turbine mechanism in situ, not as a working mechanism, but so that it can be viewed by visitors to the site. In addition, we are at the same time undertaking routine maintenance to the Dovecote building and major restoration of the lean-to addition on the south elevation, to include re-roofing the existing asbestos with welsh slate, as shown in all our earliest images of the building.

After some disappointment with refusals received for two Grant applications, we are pleased to report a successful Grant application to The Pilgrim Trust for £10,000 – just notified in early May. This means that, together with existing funds ear-marked for this project and fundraising from local people and other supporters, we have sufficient funds to proceed with starting the project in August/September of this year.

We also hope to raise some further funds to allow us to add mains water supply and a simple kitchen and WC at the site (in the stable block) to enhance the site for use by the general public.

It is sad to see that the resident dove numbers have dwindled sadly this year – probably as a result of a take-over by the local jackdaw populations. We hope to address trying to find a solution to this anomaly after the building works have been completed, as any resident birdlife is bound to find having the builders in a bit disturbing.

P. Hanks
Chairman