

Note of meeting with Loseley

Monday 30 June 2025

Alexander More-Molyneux

Stephen Mallet
Joanna Cadman

Alexander More-Molyneux has clearly taken the village issue very seriously and has listened to the concerns raised. That said, the village reaction did come as something of a surprise to him and his staff, having allowed the wood to be used, he felt, in a spirit of neighbourliness. He was also clearly very hurt by the aggressive attacks on him and his family.

He made a number of points about the felling operations:

- The removal of trees suffering from ash die-back requires large machinery because of safety issues for the crews.
- The overall operation needed to be large enough to pay for itself through the sale of timber, and was a 'cost covering exercise' rather than a profitable venture.
- No more than 25% of the wood in total has been felled.
- The alder has been coppiced so will re-grow.
- The overall aim is to replant in native broadleaf (later in the year) rather than some of the non-indigenous species that were there, while relying on some natural regeneration.
- They are planning a buffer area behind Spiceall to avoid the problems of large trees overhanging the gardens there.
- Young trees will be protected from deer in smaller pockets rather than trying to fence off the whole area.
- They did look at alternative access points into the wood that were offered, but decided these would cause more problems than they solved.

On the watercourses he was surprised there was still a problem and promised to check and follow up with the contractors.

We also discussed future relations with the village of Compton, which he expressed a desire to improve. He has a regular slot on the Artington parish council meetings where he updates the community on what is going on / proposed on the estate, and he is happy to do something similar for Compton. He will also provide a clear statement on immediate plans for the wood in the autumn.

SPM

10 July 2025