

Feltham History Group Meeting

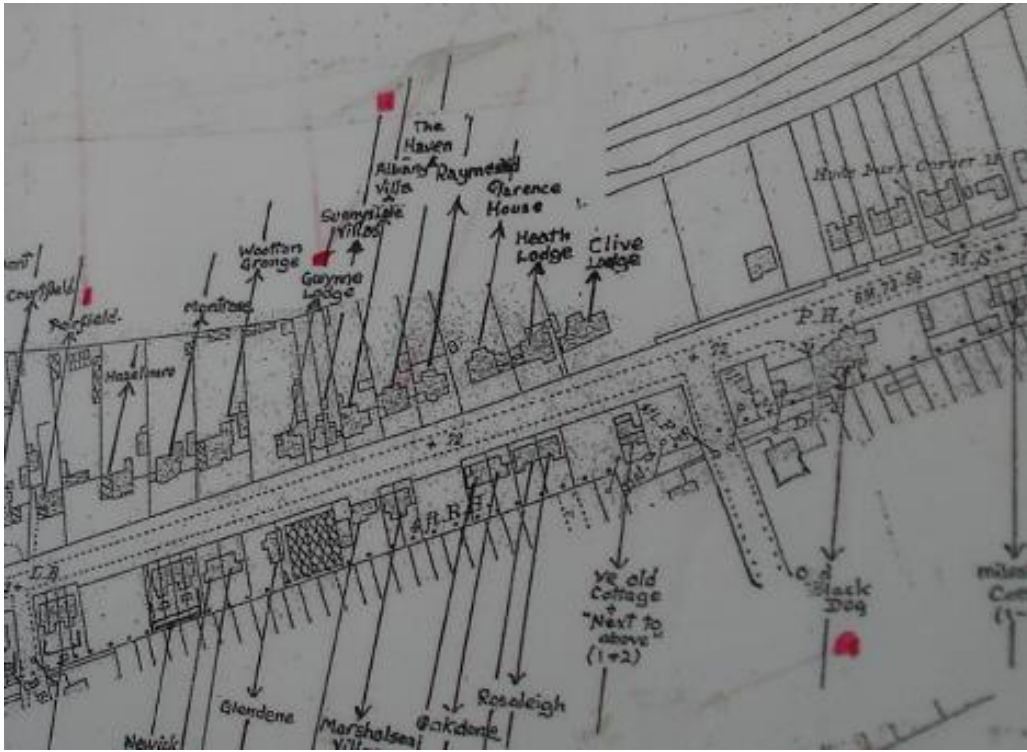
June 2022

In the absence of the Chair, the Treasurer, Tony Fredjohn, ably held fort for the last meeting before the Summer break.



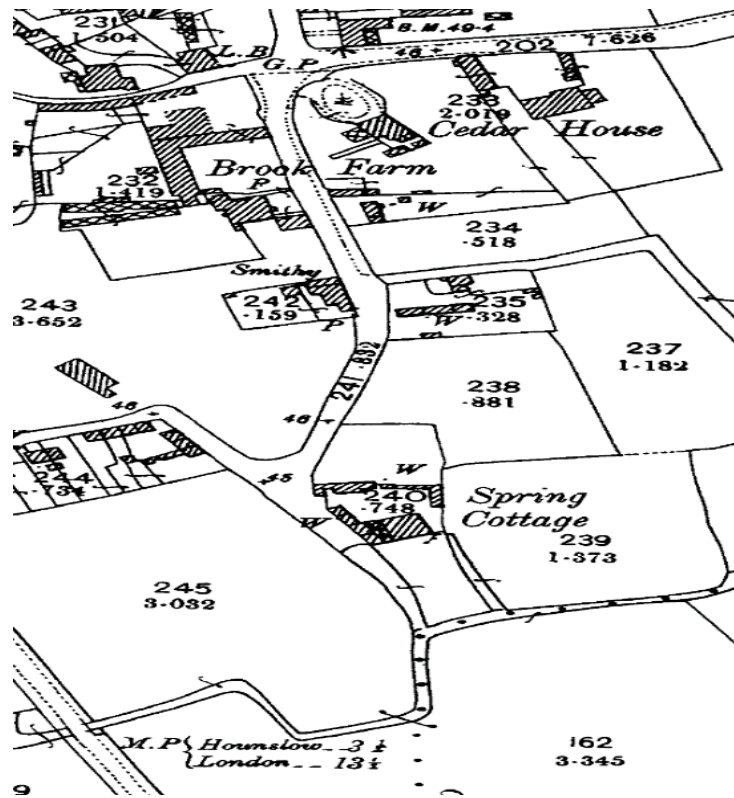
The acting chair began with a resume' of the attendance by himself, Assistant Treasurer Roger Griffiths and the Honorary Secretary at the funeral of long time history group member Dave Turvey for which a creditable number attended. The acting Chair continued with a thank you for everyone that helped at the Spring talks.

Under 'Items of Interest' 'in answer to' the Hon Secretary provided information on a house known as Albany Villas which was in Staines Road (northside) Bedfont somewhat near to the Black Dog, the second Black Dog and not the original which was situated on western side of Bedfont Green.



Albany Villas no longer exists, it amongst other mid 19century housing set out along Staines Road Bedford were replaced by a number of dwellings dating from the early 1960's. Whereas the group have images of some of the once pleasant villas along this ancient Roman Road we do not have one of the dwelling in question. Albany Villas was the earliest owned houses of AW Smith; he acquired it following his lease of areas of the 'Poor's Land' which was situated south of Staines Road, todays Burns Avenue, Shaftesbury, Shakespeare and Tennyson roads.

The next 'in answer to' concerned Rose Tree Cottage and Spring Farm/cottage.



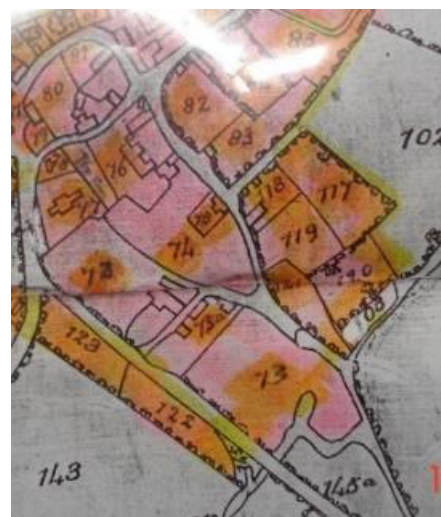
A section of the 1895 O/S map of Spring Road was displayed and detail was given of houses along the northern side of the road of which at that time, were 3 in number. The first was Cedar House, members may remember a history of the large dwelling at the western end of Spring Road was given recently. The next was Rose Tree Cottage and then Spring Farm and Spring Cottage.

Rose Tree Cottage is the oldest and is shown on the enclosure map and referenced as being an 'old enclosure' '118' and described under the 1909/13 Evaluations as "two cottages, gardens and orchard" – in 1800 it being the property of Mr William Shore.

The 1909 evaluations state that the property is "very old" – its description reads "brick timber and tiled cottage with small? (unreadable) poor? [on] Top floor it has 2 bedrooms, ground floor, Parlour and Kitchen, good garden at rear and as I have already said "very old"

Rentable value was not given but the assessment of the property, for sales purposes, at 15th December 1913 was given as £76.00. The occupant of the time of was Mrs Mary Anne Coleman – with the owner being Mr Robert H Smith, Mr Shore having died 1842. Mrs Coleman now spends her time in Feltham Cemetery.

The houses now occupying the particular Spring Road frontage and the western end of Hayling Avenue are of a ‘built date’ of c1935. It would appear that Rose Tree Cottage was removed not long after the 1909 assessment as it is not shown on the 1913 O/S Map – so it would seem the house ‘image’ below is a later build.



Spring cottage is not indicated on the enclosure map but is described and referenced ‘old enclosure ‘121’ and described “Cottage, Garden ayte?” the owner again being William Shore. It is however shown on the 1864 O/S map and named as Spring Cottage. The Evaluations detail is “cottage and garden etc...comprising 4 bedrooms 2 sitting rooms. Kitchen and Wash House, Dairy, Apple House, Brick Barn, loading shed and Cow Shed – and is further simply described as “all old” the owner and occupant is given as Jane Bryers. This building must have remained in position at least until 1935 as it is given, sometime

in 1913, a house number i.e. nr 3 Spring Road – this however does not tie in with the numbering system of today and certainly not the houses.



The next item was on Feltham Brook 'conduit'



At the May meeting there was an item on Feltham Paddling Pool which described the works that were in progress to clear the area and prepare it for a 'works site' for various Plant, Offices and other ancillary temporary buildings. Since that time excavations have been made to lay in 'cabling for electricity and a supply and water; the excavation for each was juxtaposition to the conduit that holds/conveys the waters of Feltham Brook. As can be seen (image) it is a sizable conduit 30inches or so in diameter 'remember' through which the brook flows in a

subterranean world. Whereas we have seen similar conduit for the conveyance of water 'Spring Road brook' for example but we have never before been afforded a view of the Feltham Brook Conduit at this position.



Under 'Forthcoming events' TF spoke of a Hounslow driven event 'Feltham Fete' this is scheduled for Saturday 25th June 12-4pm, (assistance to set up will be appreciated)

The second subject was 'Donkey Woods flora and fauna' detail of which was provided by Mike Dance the assistant Secretary (provisional visit date as below)

The acting Chair then appraised members of proposed Summer Walks, the first being a 'Border Patrol' of South Hanworth, beginning at Bunny Lane Hanworth through to Hatherop park/nature reserve and the fringes of Kempton culminating with a view of the convergence Hanworth Brook, Feltham Brook/Port Lane Brook. The second walk is a guide of the flora and fauna and history of Donkey Woods (north of Baber bridge). The third proposed walk will be amongst the long since deceased Felthamites at Feltham cemetery – this final walk will be within the confines of the cemetery and will be circulatory!

Please note all are fairly accessible as there is made pathways

and stopping points.

Under AOB there was an interesting item on Southville Church and in particular the commemorative 'stone' relating to the Drinkwater family and their contribution to the church. The provider of the piece (Ray Edwards) is in the process of constructing a history of the Drinkwater's in Feltham which will be given in the Autumn.

The 'Short Talk' was on a 'still' rural area of Feltham called Low Field and was given by the Hon Secretary

Low Field

Next meeting Tuesday 6th September 2022