

Following recent publication of the Annual Report, a number of residents have enquired about the work and role of the Town Estates Charity. First and foremost, the Charity is custodian of land given in trust to the Parish of Misson, more of which will be explained in the October Newsletter. Misson Line Bank is jointly owned by TEC and Loveden Estates Ltd and managed for the owners under a Natural England agreement by the TEC. This is a bank of earth built in the early 17th Century to prevent flooding of low lying land beyond it. Undertaken by a contemporary of Cornelius Vermuyden, this bank was the work of another Dutchman, John Lyone.

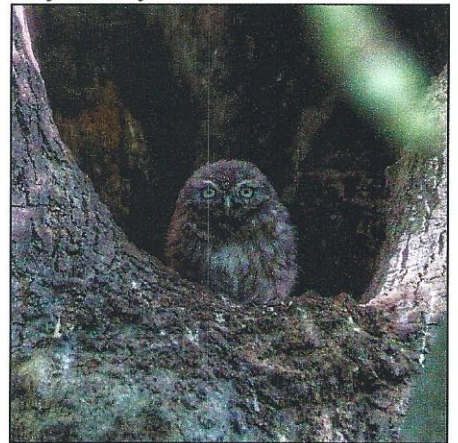
Originally known as Lyone Bank, and now known as Line Bank. Just beyond the flood bank (the area of woodland and ponds seen in this aerial photo) is an area designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). In the UK, an **SSSI** is a formal conservation designation that describes an area of particular interest to science due to the rare species of fauna or flora it contains, or because of important geological or physiological features that may lie in its boundaries. Ours is one of the best remaining examples of eutrophic open water, marsh, open water and base-poor fen communities in Nottinghamshire. Some weeks ago, Mick Hickman, an accomplished local amateur photographer made the following important report about the Owls who use our countryside as a habitat and breeding ground. Mick has agreed to share it more widely here.



Line Bank : To the north east of our Parish we have our own SSSI



“As many are aware, we are very lucky to have all 5 British owls (little owl, barn owl, short eared owl, long eared owl and tawny owl) living in close proximity to the village. Little owls are extremely feisty and use their claws to attack those who get too close, especially when they have young in a nest. We have this amazing wildlife around us and when out walking during the day on the lanes and tracks, if you stand still and listen when close to wooded areas, you may just hear the tell tale hiss of the little owls. Unlike the other owls which are nocturnal, they are



not, which means you will see little owls throughout the day. So far I know of around 20 different nesting sites for our smallest owl at around 8inch tall. I am extremely fortunate to be able to photograph such amazing wildlife and have an eye on one particular nesting site with two young, just a couple of weeks away from fledging. Hopefully, if all 20 sites have two successful Chicks, the population will soon grow”.

Grateful thanks to Mick for his report and beautiful photographs. We intend to share more about the responsibilities and work of the TEC in the months ahead.

Project 2020 Trees : This is a pilot initiative which aims to plant commemorative trees and/or hedging together with a bench in the Pinfold, and is a tremendously popular initiative. The original target was to raise £2000 to plant 20 trees around the Parish of Misson, then another £1000 was ambitioned to place a bench in The Pinfold. To date £2,281.33 has been raised, much from £100 donations for trees in memory of loved ones. If you would like to make a contribution please contact Sue Scott, TEC Secretary at dsm28@btinternet.com or tel : 01302 711887.

