

Historians' meeting 26 May 2023

Video: Ivy and David Butcher's walk around the village (Pt 2)

Lynne O'Dea chaired the meeting and Members watched the second half of Ivy and David Butcher's film of the village taken in the early 1980s.

This time the focus was on the Manor House and its grounds; the Manor was built in the 1720s. It was inherited by the Lane family later that century, when they set about enlarging the house and enclosing the grounds to create a deer park. This had been the main centre of the village, which included the school and the public house; these were demolished along with the dwellings. The school was subsequently re-built in its current position. The road, which originally ran in front of the Manor, was re-sited around the wall which enclosed the new deer park. Trees were planted, many of which still survive, and gardens, tennis courts and a bowling green were established. Also, three lodges were built, one on each driveway: Far Lodge (which later became the kennels), on Kings Bromley Lane, Middle Lodge (Whiteoaks) within the wall opposite Shaw Lane and Village Lodge which still stands in Manor Road.

We owe much of this information to Susan Ann Lane, who painted many views of the Manor and its surroundings.

By the 1920s the family had lost three male members, including the Lord of the Manor, JHHV Lane, and was beset by death duties. The house was finally demolished in 1928, as it had failed to reach its reserve price at auction in 1927.