



## Linton Netball go from strength to strength



Netball is a great way to keep fit and meet new people

LINTON Netball Club was established in 2005. Since then, the club has grown and expanded by adding more adult teams and a junior section. We currently have three adult teams that play in the Cambridge District Netball League and two junior teams that play in the Junior Development Group League. This has been made possible by having the continued support of Linton Parish Council via grants over the years.

Additionally, this season, the club has been fortunate enough to receive sponsorship from The Dog and Duck pub, Linton, and Strategy Consultation towards new dresses. Anglian Leisure have been a big part of the netball club throughout our time and with the recent resurfacing of the netball courts, this has given the club a great place to train and play. Linton Netball Club would like to thank all those mentioned above for their support over the years and sponsorship for this season, as well as those who have been involved with the club, past and present. If you are interested in joining, please get in contact via email or our website. Both the adult and junior sections train on a Monday evening at Linton Village College, outdoor netball courts. The juniors (years 7-11) train 6pm-7pm and the adults train 7pm-8.30pm. Please be aware that there is a waiting list for U14 players (year 9 and below).



Sam, Julie and Adam of the Dog and Duck with players

Becca Free

Website: [lintonladiesnetball.weebly.com](http://lintonladiesnetball.weebly.com)  
Adult's Email: [lintonnetball@gmail.com](mailto:lintonnetball@gmail.com)  
Junior's Email: [lintonjuniornetballclub@gmail.com](mailto:lintonjuniornetballclub@gmail.com)



Residents of Harefield Rise are keen to find the owner of a Peacock that has been on the loose for months. Jan Newton said "He must belong to someone. I'm sure he would like to go home, and I'd like less (evidence of him) in my garden!" If anyone knows where his home is, please make contact via this paper. LNT

## Fireworks!

ATTENTION, Linton! The highly anticipated 007 Spectacular Fireworks Event is tomorrow (or tonight, or yesterday depending on how quickly your Linton News was delivered!) Gates open at 5pm. To make the most of this thrilling evening, we suggest arriving early to indulge in our Food Village, packed with local vendors offering everything from hog roasts and loaded fries to delicious pizzas and hot desserts. And fear not, for thirsty attendees – we've got a range of beverages both hot and cold, including alcohol, available for purchase at stalls run by local businesses and community groups. This event isn't just about the dazzling fireworks; it's a celebration of our tight-knit community. Last year, thanks to your incredible support, we raised over £10,000 for our schools. This year, we're thrilled to announce that we're expanding our reach and also raising funds for Granta School. Join in our James Bond-themed Guy competition, get creative with Bond, Bond girl, or villainous designs. This year it's predominantly a cashless affair, although a few food vendors will require cash so be prepared for both. Ideally, secure your tickets in advance at [lintonfireworks.co.uk](http://lintonfireworks.co.uk), or grab them at Sweet Talk News or Acorn Garage; prices go up on the gate (card-only). For everyone's safety, please leave fireworks, sparklers and pets at home. After the show, why not continue the adventure at the fire station's open evening? Kids can explore a real fire engine, adding an extra dash of excitement to their night. Let's make this evening enjoyable and memorable for everyone. See you there!

Alasdair MacBean  
Chair of Linton Fireworks Committee

## Local Doctor awarded for heroism

BENJAMIN Marriage, a Linton resident and London Air Ambulance doctor, was honoured with a national award back in September for the part he played in saving the life of a woman hit by a train. Sarah de Lagarde had slipped whilst stepping off a London underground train at High Barnet station, and ended up being struck by both the train she was disembarking, and another one that entered the station afterwards. Benjamin, who is a parent governor at Linton Heights Junior school, was one of the first on the scene, and along with colleagues who also received awards, managed to keep the critically injured Sarah alive long enough to get her to hospital. The *Who Cares Wins* awards were hosted by the Sun newspaper in partnership with NHS Charities Together, and the winning prize for the 999 Hero category was presented to Benjamin and his colleagues by James Corden, who became quite emotional when the brave medics dedicated it to their patient, who was at the ceremony despite having suffered life changing injuries in the accident. Benjamin was keen to point out that without the critical work of charity air ambulances (who are only 4% funded by the NHS,) odds-defying outcomes like Sarah's would not be possible.



Benjamin (left) with Sarah Lagarde and colleague Kevin Cuddon

Linton News Team  
Photo: London Air Ambulance

## Advent Windows 2023



FOLLOWING the success of the last few years, the Advent Window Trail will take place again in December. If you live on or near the High Street and would be willing to create a window, please email [cathy.watts@stmaryslinton.org.uk](mailto:cathy.watts@stmaryslinton.org.uk) or call 893689

Cathy Watts

## Open gardens

ON Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September three gardens in the village opened their gates to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS). With around 120 visitors, this somewhat smaller scale event was the second of its kind this year, showcasing an altogether different palette of late summer colour and edible produce. Tom Meeks of 20 Mill Lane said, "We are new to the NGS this year. We were nervous about opening our private space to the public but we ended the day feeling uplifted by all the wonderful conversations we had, and feeling fulfilled knowing we had helped raise several hundred pounds for so many worthy causes. Gardening folk really are the best!" The other two gardens, at the Old Guildhall and No 14 High Street, were wonderful in their different ways, and both of them offered tea and cakes.



Tom Meeks in his leafy domain

The success of these events is dependent on people willing to open their gardens. We have learned that volume creates value. The more gardens that open, the more money we raise. Some residents may remember an Open Day arranged about 30 years ago with a map and a whole variety of gardens open along the route, mostly small and mostly outside the central area. It would be wonderful if the community spirit so evident then could be harnessed again. It doesn't require the highest standards of gardening as "variety is the spice of life", though the nine people who have entered their gardens so far have all admitted that they thoroughly enjoyed rising to the occasion. In 2022 Linton raised a record amount of money for the NGS in Cambridgeshire. We would love to be able to say that again in 2024 so if you have an interesting, loved or planted space of any size and would like to join us next year, please contact Jenny Marks from the NGS by emailing [jenny.marks@ngs.org.uk](mailto:jenny.marks@ngs.org.uk).

Henry Bennett



"She just got on with life" - Wendy in her element at a garden centre

## A tribute to Linton News stalwart Wendy Foster

IT is with great sadness that we announce the death of Wendy Foster, who died on the 19<sup>th</sup> October in the Arthur Rank Hospice. Wendy had been unwell for some time, but had lost none of her get up and go attitude. Wendy was editor of this publication for many years, and helped the paper and her team of volunteers through many changes, updates and difficulties. She was always a force for good. Her expertise touched so many in the village and she was a very active member of clubs in Linton and beyond including the the Garden Club, WI, Granta Grapevine, Dementia UK, Health Walks, U3a in Haverhill and many more too numerous to mention. She had a wealth of knowledge on so many subjects and her 'little black book' was full of the details of speakers and helpers. If you were stuck for your club meeting, Wendy would always have someone she could contact. Her epic coffee mornings each year, held to raise funds for Dementia UK, took place in her garden which she adored. On her frequent trips to the garden centre, she could never resist buying yet another plant, or two! Wendy was a person who just got on with life, and she will be sorely missed by so many people.

Friends of Wendy Foster

# Readers write...

Dear Editor,

The AGM for Linton Village Hall will take place at the hall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. We are looking for volunteers to join the Village Hall Trustees Committee to help maintain the hall for use by all parishioners in the village. Please contact clerk@linton-pc.gov.uk  
**Jenny Seaward**  
 Parish Clerk

Dear Editor,

Julie, Steve and their families would like to join me in saying a big thank you to everyone for the kindness and support given to us since Mike died. We're very grateful for the numerous cards, letters, calls and offers of help that we've received. Also, our thanks to everyone who attended Mike's service at the church. We felt with so many friends supporting us, it really was a celebration of his long and happy life.

Jan Sheppard

Dear Editor,

Can anyone inform me who it was that authorised the construction of the roundabout to commence before the building of the development in Bartlow Road was completed? I cannot recall being informed that Bartlow Road was to be closed for four months until 9 February 2024. How can this be justified? The excessive closure I expect is due to the shorter daylight hours. We now have lorries of all shapes and sizes driving the full length of Bartlow Road to deliver materials. I am at a loss to understand why a roundabout is being constructed. If it is for safety reasons, they escape me. A much cheaper option (1) reduce the speed limit to 40 mph (2) install a speed camera (3) and install traffic lights. This alternative would cost a sixth of the price and less inconvenience to residents. A few years ago the suggestion that a speed camera be fixed on A1307 opposite the junction of Bartlow Road was rejected as the accident statistics did not meet the criteria for a speed camera. I ask the question what are these new safety concerns that requires a roundabout when the A1307 is full of pot holes, potential death traps.

Name and address supplied

Dear Editor,

Activities and Care for Elders (ACE) will be holding its annual pre-festive lunch at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 12.30 to 2.30. £7. All over 55s welcome – please come and bring a friend. If you're new to ACE, or would like transport for yourself or a friend, please ring me on 01223 891069. Please also ring if you or someone you know would like to use the ACE mobile warden service, operated by Age Concern. PS. If anyone can help with transport for some members with mobility problems on 23d November, please contact John.

John Bald, Chairman, ACE.

Dear Editor,

Following the success of the Warm Hub earlier this year, Sheila and Drew Wilson are starting up the Hub again on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November from 1pm to 4pm at the Sports Pavilion. We look forward to seeing you all for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat.

Drew and Sheila Wilson

Dear Editor,

May we say a very big thank you to all who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning event and those who donated cakes, raffle prizes (including local businesses), everyone who helped on the morning and Linton Granta FC for the use of the Sports Pavilion. We had a very successful morning and raised an amazing amount of £372.32 for a very good cause.

Lesley Williams/Sheila Wilson

Dear Editor,

My husband David and I were delighted to win 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the raffle at the Picnic in the Park this year. The prize was tickets for a safari at Woburn Park. We visited on a glorious sunny day last month. I was amazed how many animals including lions and bears we were able to see when driving through the park. We were also able to observe other animals on the *foot safari* including meerkats and squirrel monkeys and learn about them from their keepers. It was a wonderful day out. Thank you to the Parish Council for such a great prize.

Anne Parry-Smith

Dear Editor,

There is a teacher training day on 24<sup>th</sup> November. What to do with the kids? Families are welcome to Make Brunch in the church pavilion. There will be lots to keep everyone busy as we prepare our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival and a two-course brunch is also included. The cost? It's free! More info and to book your places contact Sarah, Children and Families Minister 07307 680 526 or cfm@stmaryslinton.org.uk

Sarah Thorne

**THE LINTON NEWS** Next publication: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
**DEADLINE FOR NEWS ITEMS:**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

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## November bin collection dates

**Black bins: Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Blue bins: Wednesdays 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Green bins: Wednesdays 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>**

## Village Diary

A round up of dates from this edition  
 For entries, email: diary.linton.news@gmail.com

### NOVEMBER

Wed 1	Tots in Tow, 9.30am - 11am	Village Hall
Sat 4	Linton Fireworks Display 5pm	Camping Close
Mon 6	Baby Steps, 10.30am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 7	WI meeting 7.30pm	Village Hall
Tue 7	Scrabble Club, 10am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Wed 8	Tots in Tow, 9.30am - 11am	Village Hall
Thu 9	Village Hall AGM 7.30pm	Village Hall
Sun 12	Sausage and Mash Lunch	Free Church
Mon 13	Baby Steps, 10.30am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Wed 15	Tots in Tow, 9.30am - 11am	Village Hall
Thu 16	Full Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm	Cathodean Centre
Sat 18	Coffee Morning + stalls, 10am-12pm	St.Mary's/Infant.S
Sat 18	Murder Mystery (Libya appeal) 5pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Mon 20	Baby Steps, 10.30am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 21	Scrabble Club, 10am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 21	Hist. Soc. Meeting	Village Hall
Wed 22	Tots in Tow, 9.30am - 11am	Village Hall
Fri 24	Make Brunch, 10am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Mon 27	Baby Steps, 10.30am - 12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Wed 29	Tots in Tow, 9.30am - 11am	Village Hall

### DECEMBER

Sat 2	X'mas Tree Festival, 10am - 5pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 2	Serenata Singers Concert, 7.30pm	St Mary's Church
Sun 3	X'mas Tree Festival, 1 - 4pm	St Mary's Church
Sun 3	X'mas Carols, 4pm	St Mary's Church

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**Martin French**

## Murder at St Mary's

WELL, not really! But we will be hosting a family-friendly super-sleuthing murder mystery on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November starting at 5pm. Clues are puzzle-based and are served between three courses of a meal. Bring a bottle if you would like a tippie.

Money raised will go to the Christian Aid emergency appeal for flood-stricken Libya. More than 11,300 people are known to have died after Storm Daniel burst two dams, flooding the port city of Derna. Families who have lost everything still need help and support with clean water and sanitation.

You could come along as part of a team of up to six people or just join a team on the day. Tickets are £15 per adult and children can come for free. At least £10 from each ticket will go to Christian Aid. Bring along some change to have a go at our raffle.

For tickets email Pam at - justpam24@gmail.com  
Pamela Richardson

## Jolly Holly Fundraiser at the Infant School

NOVEMBER is here, along with the darker mornings and evenings and the term is well under way. In fact, pretty soon we will be busy preparing for Christmas. We have already been busy designing Christmas Cards.

Our Harvest Festival service showed how generous and thoughtful the children (and parents) are. We requested non-perishable foods for Reach and weren't disappointed. Thank you again to all of those who donated.

We are already thinking about the intake for September 2024 as the admissions window is open and we are pleased to be able to offer some small group tours on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 10am, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10am and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm. The places on each session are limited so please phone the school office to book a place on 891421.

In October, all the children took part in a sponsored walk to raise some funds for school projects. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us; it is no mean feat getting 150 pupils ready and walking together for two miles. Please do join us at St Mary's for our Jolly Holly Fundraiser on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-12noon. On offer will be children's craft activities, a table-top sale, craft-stalls from local businesses along with the chance to buy some yummy Christmas treats.

Kelly Harries

## St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival and Wreath Workshop

JOIN us on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's Church for our Christmas tree festival.

The church will be open on Saturday 10am-5pm and on Sunday 11am-4pm for you to visit our display of decorated trees and vote for your favourite. Come and see how differently the trees are decorated. Refreshments and light lunches will be available throughout both days. There will be a Christmas hamper raffle which will be drawn at our monthly coffee morning on 16<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12noon and craft stalls. On Saturday evening there will be a seasonal concert by Serenata Singers at 7.30pm, tickets £12.50 (children £5) including refreshments.

On the Sunday afternoon we will be closing the weekend with Christmas Carols at 4pm.

Prior to that we will be holding a Christmas Wreath workshop on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 10.30am to 1pm. If you are unsure where to start, why not book a place. The cost is £20 and will include all materials.

Book your place and then drop in during the session to make your wreath where guidance and help will be given. Booking is essential for this event.

For further details and bookings please contact Charlotte Ellis on events@stmaryslinton.org.uk or Sue Ellis on 01223 892257.

Charlotte Ellis  
Chair of St Mary's Events Committee

## Award for local bodyshop



The team from Cooper Barnes bodyshop

ON the 28<sup>th</sup> September Linton based bodyshop and accident repair centre Cooper Barnes beat off stiff competition to be awarded *Medium Sized Bodyshop of the year* at the National Bodyshop Awards held at the Hilton Metropole.

From a record number of entries, Cooper Barnes got down to the final four before walking away with the trophy, presented to them at a glitzy black tie event hosted by the voice of F1 David (Crofty) Croft, in front of an audience of 600 from across the bodyshop and repair industry.

Sales and Marketing Manager Neil Hamilton-Meikle said "We are incredibly proud to receive this award as it celebrates excellence in our industry, and is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication from the entire team, without whom we would not be in receipt of this fantastic accolade".

Back in October, they also won the Cambridgeshire Live Business Awards Small Business of the Year 2023 hosted at King's College.

Linton News Team

## News from the WI Women on the Oregon Trail

KEVIN Boardman, our speaker, has a love of American history and has driven the route of the wagon train west. Independence, Missouri was the starting point for a hard and perilous journey, the many dangers included drowning, crossing rivers, disease, crushing injuries, gunshot wounds and snakebites.

Native Americans were not a problem in the 1840s. 20,000 people are believed to have died on the way. The trailblazers had six months to get to the mountains before the first snowfall. The government promised 640 acres of free land on arrival, half being in the wife's name.

After staking their claim, a log cabin was built and land cleared. Men with a good trade such as carpentry were important. Supplies were very basic, with bacon and beans usually being the main meal. There was plenty of flour for bread. Cooking was done in a Dutch oven (charcoal top and underneath dried dung). Most of what we know comes from the diaries kept by the women. Wagons were only for supplies and were only 12 feet long and 3 1/2 feet wide.

Oxen or mules had to pull them as horses were not hardy enough. We know of a family of seven children orphaned along the way who were adopted by strangers.

Women suffered terribly from the monotony, drudgery, loss and homesickness for loved ones left behind.

Kevin mentioned three heroes of the West - John Freemont, who mapped the area, Marcus Whitman, a missionary and Kit Carson, a mountain man.

Our next meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> November with Rita Boniface giving a talk on her hobby of flying.

We are always pleased to see visitors at our meetings and new members are welcome.

Sally Proberts (891021)

## News from Beacon Youth Trust

IN the heart of our village, a beacon of support and inspiration shines brightly in the form of the Beacon Youth Trust. This valuable organisation, which operates free and open-access youth clubs, is dedicated to empowering our local youth. Nestled in the drop-in centre at the rec, the Trust offers a safe haven where young people from year seven upwards can gather, learn, grow and have fun. Partnering not only with the community but also with local churches, Beacon Youth Trust stands as a testament to unity and positive change. Their engaging programmes ranging from educational activities to thrilling outings, create an environment where youngsters can discover their potential and build essential life skills.

This summer, Beacon Youth Trust orchestrated a whirlwind of fun for our village youth. From exciting trips to bowling alleys and the cinema to thrilling escapades at various aqua parks, the summer holidays were filled with laughter and adventure. Participants also had the opportunity to indulge in creative pursuits such as cooking, crafting, baking and engaging in various sports activities. One highlight was the delightful pizza making session led by Sophie from LOL's Pizzas. These activities not only brought joy but also encouraged teamwork and camaraderie among the participants.

As the school year kicks off, we urge all our young villagers to join the excitement. The afterschool and evening open-access youth clubs are welcoming all youngsters from year seven and above on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3.15pm to 4.45pm and 5.30pm to 7pm. Best of all, these clubs are absolutely free to attend, making them accessible to everyone.

For more information and to embark on this enriching journey, please contact Cynthia at 07821 797181 or simply turn up to one of the sessions. Let's continue to support Beacon Youth Trust in their mission to light up the lives of our youth, one activity at a time.

Alasdair MacBean  
Trustee of Beacon Youth Trust

## Co-op supports local charities

We're delighted that Tots in Tow has been chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund. The inflationary pressures on a small group like Tots in Tow means we have been struggling over the past year, but thanks to fundraising efforts by our families, and now being chosen as one of the local charities being supported by Co-Op members, we are optimistic as we look to the future. From Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Co-Op members can choose us as their cause and help us raise funds. From then, if they buy selected Co-op branded products and services, two pence from every pound spent goes to support Tots in Tow.

We really hope that people will visit the Co-op website or download the Co-op app and select us as their Local Community Fund cause so we can continue making a difference.

Sarah Thorne  
07307 680 526

## WHAT'S ON

High Street  
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CB21 4JT

## November.....

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz	7:30pm
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Karaoke	8pm
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day - Serena Grant	5pm
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rock 'n' Roll Bingo	7:30pm
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Live entertainment - Greg McDonald	8pm

Tuesday - Sunday Happy Kebab Burger van from 6pm

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## Appeal for Christmas gifts for refugee and foster children in Cambridgeshire

Many of us have started making plans for Christmas, when we will be able to celebrate with friends and family. But many children will be facing a very different reality. Please will you spare a thought for all the children who are looked after by social services who have experienced suffering and loss this year, and who will not be with their families. As reported in the Linton News last month by our Parish Council, Cambridgeshire are appealing for more foster carers because there is a growing number of children needing temporary or more permanent foster care. In addition, it is impossible to remain unmoved by the plight of those fleeing conflict and poverty from different parts of the world. The number of unaccompanied children arriving on our shores has increased and many are now looked after in Cambridgeshire. Social services were overjoyed that each child received a present through your generosity last year but the need is even greater this year.

The young people of Hildersham Children's Church Council, in conjunction with Love Abington and the Churches in Abington and Hildersham are leading this appeal. This year, we are delighted that Granta Park has generously offered to join in with the appeal, through their *Give a Gift* scheme and we hope to exceed the outstanding number of donations which you generously gave last year.

If you would like to choose a gift for children in care and unaccompanied refugee children, please remember that most of them are over 11 years old but there is also a need for gifts for very young children, and for young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 who are leaving care and often get forgotten. Joe Gilbert from Social Services says that gifts that are really appreciated include chocolate, gloves, scarves, toiletries, homemade jams, art and drawing ma-



Collecting gifts for children

terials, games and puzzles, magic tricks, craft kits, mugs, rucksacks.

Please imagine what a child or young adult of a certain age would like. Once you have bought a gift, do not wrap it. Please put it in a gift bag with a label on the outside saying whether it is for a boy or girl and approximately what age. If it is a gender neutral present such as colouring pencils and a sketchbook, please put 'for a girl or boy.'

Please bring your gift to St Mary's Little Abington (2pm-4.30pm) or Holy Trinity Hildersham between 2.30pm and 4.30pm on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December and join us at either venue for an Advent tea.

If you are unable to deliver your present on that day, please ring Rosemary Mead (891718) or Amanda Palmer (894316) to make other arrangements.

Thank you for your generosity. Many of you will have already supported the wonderful Christmas Shoe Box appeal organised by Jane Furlow, so I would like to thank you for your continued generosity and kindness. The foster and refugee children will be so delighted that someone is thinking about them.

Rosemary Mead and Amanda Palmer

## Debating at Linton Village College

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October I was part of a team of students comprising of five LVC students from Years 9 to 11 that took part in a debating event at the Cambridge Union organised by our Member of Parliament, Lucy Frazer.

The day started with a Question and Answer session in the main debating room to learn more about debating systems, events and customs. I learnt that votes are counted through clickers at doors labelled 'Ayes' and 'Noes', through which audience members exit dependent on their chosen view after the debate.

We were then assigned mixed-school groups and rooms to use for interactive debating games with a Debate Mate team member - this got very competitive very quickly! As the day progressed, we were taught basic debating skills, such as how a debate works, how long protected time is, and

how to use 'points of information' which proved very useful later when groups practised debating.

I thoroughly enjoyed arguing my point and challenging other peoples' arguments in such a systematic way and won a place to speak in the final debate. I spoke as the opposition's summary speaker on the topic 'This House believes that protest is the best way to bring about change', putting all my recently learnt skills into practice, and I'm proud to say the opposition won!

Events like these feed into others, including the possibility to win a place to debate in the Houses of Parliament through the schools debating competition. I'm very excited about what's to come.

Lilian Corbett  
Head Student  
Linton Village College

## Girlguiding Linton District

It's the start of a new term for us all in Linton District, one which has got off to a flying start. One of our Guides is cycling from Cambridge to Ely to raise money to go on an international trip to Sangam, our world centre in India. Whilst there she will take part in some community action, as well as meet Guides from around the world. There may also be time to see a few magnificent sights too.

Our annual Cambs East County Grafham Water activities weekend has happened, with a huge range of events such as kayaking, archery, raft building and of course the Grafham challenge, making lots of damp, happy and hungry Guides, meeting girls from all over our county of Cambridgeshire East. Some tried out a new challenge for the first time and some got better at a challenge they loved last time.

Our County Trefoil Guilds got together at Burwell for a celebration of the Trefoil Guilds 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was lovely to see one of our new county commissioners join us. Of course, no guiding event is a true guiding event without cake... a lovely one was made by one of our members with the 80<sup>th</sup> badge on and all the

trefoils through the ages. We found out that the Trefoil Guild was formed in 1943 by amalgamating various groups of 'Old Guides' and members find friendship here as well as supporting and getting involved in guiding in many different ways, trying new challenges and having their own adventures.

One of our amazing leaders has also just got married and we wish her and her family many years of happiness together. What a beautiful day filled with friends and family and of course cake... We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of unit leaders who give so freely of their time to encourage our girls to know they can do anything. In 1916, 90 Guides aged 14-16 worked at MIS during the First World War and some of them were taken to work at the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.

Come and join us and be part of what we do. There are some amazing opportunities in guiding, both locally and nationally. Share a skill or learn a new one.

www.girlguiding.org.uk  
lintondistrict@gmail.com  
Louisa 07711614328

## Library Latest

We were pleased to welcome Brian the Lion to help present the Summer Reading Challenge certificates and medals. Well done to everyone who took part in the challenge over the summer. Brilliant reading everyone!

As the nights draw in and the weather cools, find a warm welcome at your Library. Stop by to find out what's new, browse the shelves, sit and read, help with the jigsaw or use our free Wifi. Did you know that you can download thousands of books, audiobooks, newspapers and magazines in digital form from the library, for free?

Visit Linton library this November for...

**Storytime. Rhyme-time. Duplo-time** 10am - 11am, every Tuesday (in term time). Stories, songs and Duplo play for 0-4-year olds.

**Games Afternoon for adults.** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm - 4pm, meet new people and try new games (you can even bring your favourite with you for us all to try).

**Knit and Natter.** Bring along any craft project you're working on, 2pm - 3pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Daylight Readers.** Our Book Groups meet on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, one at 10.30am and the other at 2.30pm, and always welcome new members!

**Justine from Reach Community Projects** will be here to offer advice and help with debt/budgeting or applications and more between 3pm - 4.30pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Drop in if you have any concerns or worries.

If you have any spare indoor pot plants, we'd be grateful for any to help make the library a greener space.

Ann King and Melanie Symonds,  
Community Library Assistants  
Linton Library

Opening hours: Tuesday 10am-5pm; Wednesday 4-7pm; Thursday 2-5pm; Friday 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-1pm.

Customer Services (regular office hours):  
0345 045 5225.  
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

## Fincham's Christmas Charity Lights

Our 2023 light display will raise money in memory of my grandad who sadly passed away in 2020. We will be having a switch-on night on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. Please come and support this small event in Fincham's Close, Linton. The Charity we are supporting with this display is the Norfolk Zipper Club, ex-patients who have had lifesaving heart surgery and now raise funds to buy additional medical equipment for Papworth Hospital. 100% of your donations get spent on equipment. After attending the 40th anniversary meeting it was clear how much the donations meant to them.

The display this year is even bigger than last year's display with the back garden open from 5pm till 9pm, front lights on from 5pm to 10pm. There also will be plenty of giveaways throughout the month, and a naughty elf hunt every day! Our goal this year is to raise £1500. Last year we raised £1525 so it would be incredible to beat that! A big thank you from the Cooper family!

Please follow the Facebook page for all the latest updates!

www.facebook.com/CoopersChristmasLights  
Jordan Cooper



Visit the illuminations from 24th November

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**COUNTRY MATTERS**  
Text by Oriel O'Loughlin, illustrations by Maureen Williams



# Scottish Midges or No See Ems

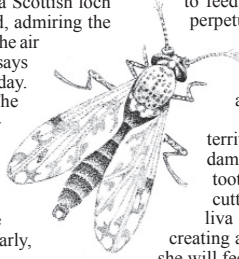
FOLLOWING a news story I started to write about bedbugs, but quickly changed the subject in case paranoia set in. In addition, there seems to be far more information available about midges, not sullied by endless adverts for products promising to get rid of them.

We can all picture camping or just sitting by a Scottish loch on a quiet summer evening, not a breath of wind, admiring the mountains and the heather and the deer. Suddenly the air is filled with midges, and whatever Visit Scotland says on its website, midges can certainly ruin your holiday. I have started to itch even thinking about them. The presence of midges has kept thousands of summer tourists away from Scotland for decades, and has apparently even kept the population in the Highlands down to very low levels. The Forestry Commission quotes 65 working days lost to midge attacks in some summers. People working outside in the summer are menaced regularly, even with the fancy head gear on offer.

So how does this tiny insect, *Culicoides Impunctatus*, weighing in at one 8000<sup>th</sup> of a gram, with a wing span of 1.4mm, cause so much misery? Is there anything to be said in its favour? Midges are found all over the world except in the dry permafrost and in deserts. In the USA they're called No See Ems. Birds and bats eat them, though they would find alternatives if we somehow found a way to eradicate them.

Midges mate and eggs are laid in boggy ground, hatching in just 24 hours. During the larval stage, they live as omnivores and

detritivores in the water films of the surface layers of the soil. They can practice bivoltinism, new word of the month, meaning a second or even a third generation in the same season. Non biting males emerge from their overwintering underground before the biting females. The first eggs are laid without needing to feed on blood, but any subsequent batches, and any perpetuation of the species, needs blood, your blood, or that of sheep, cows and deer. Numbers of batches depend on weather, and midges die off as autumn approaches. There will be more midges closer to animals in the damp, boggy and acidic peat soils.



In centuries past tying people to a stake in midge territory was used as a form of torture. Here's how the damage is done. The female midge mouth parts, fine toothed mandibles and maxillae, work like 2 saws, cutting through our skin. The midge then excretes saliva into the wound. This keeps it from coagulating, creating a pool of blood on which to feed. Left unswatted, she will feed for 3 or 4 minutes. What a vision. In response to this onslaught humans release histamine, which itself leads to itching and swelling.

Some people get big red lumps and others not. We're not yet sure who does and who doesn't but it is definitely not something that copious marmite eating prevents... There is a huge amount of data on midges, and numbers are forecast using data from biting midge traps and mini weather stations. There has been a midge control unit at Edinburgh University since 1952, and I feel sure its forecasts make fascinating reading.

# Linton Gardening Club Diary: November 2023

THE next talk at the Linton Gardening Club is on Tuesday 14 November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton. Prompted by increasing questions at his talks, Nigel Start will speak on the highly topical subject of "Coping with Climate Change" in our gardens and allotments. Whether it is too little rain, too much, heatwaves, storms, frosts (or lack thereof), Nigel will give us some pointers for successful growing in the future.

dinosaurs roamed the world. Illustrated were Cycads, the Maidenhair tree (Ginkgo), Wollemi pine, Dawn redwood, Monkey-puzzle tree, Magnolias and waterlilies, which had been photographed locally or in the Cambridge and some other botanic gardens.

In the borders the bright, zingy colours of zinnias, cosmos, roses and dahlias have been reinvigorated by the recent very mild conditions. While the soil was still warm, I planted out some herbaceous perennials and aim to finish planting spring bulbs by the end of November. I have taken cuttings of various tender and hardy plants to overwinter, indoors if necessary, in case we get more hard frosts. Dahlias in pots are under cover and drying-off prior to storing the tubers in a cool, dry but frost free place.

Contact Jim Linton Garden Club, [lgssecretary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lgssecretary@yahoo.co.uk), tel. 01223 893577



Coreopsis



Red zinnia

# Sturmer Village School History

Suitably attired as Victorian school-mistresses, Linda Bevan and Jo Porth spoke to us about the history of Sturmer village school, which opened in January 1877 until its closure in 1947. Now used as a village hall for various groups to meet, occasionally children are invited to spend a day to see how their ancestors were taught without the use of modern facilities and technology.

Many of us attending the meeting, although not from the Victorian era, could relate to some of the practices still around when attending school in the 40s and 50s.

A Heritage Trail has also been created around the village with information points telling the story of Sturmer. A most entertaining evening about history on your doorstep.

Our next meeting is on **TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21**

at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, (parking available in the public car park in the Health Centre opposite) starting 7.30pm, where refreshments will be on offer before we listen to **THE STORY OF GEORGE BREWSTER – an 11 year chimney sweep 'apprentice'**.

On a cold February in 1875 he was sent up a boiler chimney at Fulbourn Mental Asylum by his master. He sadly suffocated, nothing out of the ordinary for Victorian England, however, the story afterwards is remarkable. **Joanna Hudson** will tell us more, please come and join us. For further details about our society please contact us either by email [ldhscamb@gmail.com](mailto:ldhscamb@gmail.com) or telephone 01223 893915 or 01223 678835

Margaret Creek Linton Historical Society

# Linton Camsight VIPs

The Cambridgeshire charity for people of all ages with sight impairment or blindness.

OUR October meeting was greatly enjoyed by our members as they listened to a variety of recordings played by Mike Croft. Mike, one of our regular volunteers, is known to many in the village for running the Granta Grapevine, the talking newspaper for sight impaired people which is very much appreciated.

The recordings, just some of the many which Mike has collected over the years, included stories of childhood in times gone by, which brought back lots of memories. These were followed by our raffle and afternoon tea.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm at the Chalklands Community Centre. If you would like more information about Camsight please call the number below or the Cambridge office on 420033.

Jean Mannion 893595.

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# Announcement

Spring/Summer 2023  
(Date to be confirmed.)

# All-Day Speedwatch

(Locations throughout the village.)

Volunteers welcome!

Contact: Speedwatch Team



Grantchester Hotels supports Linton Speedwatch

# District and County Councillors' monthly report

## October 2023

### Greater Cambridge Partnership STZ update

The proposal by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) that we had put to us last year, offered vast improvements to our public transport network to be implemented now, with the caveat that it would eventually need to be self-funded. This was proposed to come in the form of road-charging in Cambridge City, coming into force in 2-3 years' time after the bus improvements. There was a very lengthy public consultation undertaken at the back end of last year and the results of which have formed an updated proposal, which was published at the end of August.

The Executive Board, who ultimately make the decision on whether to take the scheme forward or not, met in the last week of September. As there wasn't unanimity amongst the voting members of the board, the proposals were rejected, and the revised scheme won't be taken forward at this time.

We're uncertain what the next steps are now – the GCP will either have to come up with another revised version of the scheme, start the whole process again, or simply scrap the entire project.

On a related note, the scheme for a new travel hub (park & ride) near Babraham, along with the off-road bus route joining this to the new train station at Addenbrookes, has also been paused whilst the GCP try to find more money to fund this, as the project costs have increased exponentially.

### A1307 Works

The A1307 was closed for two weekends to facilitate the completion of the new roundabout at the end of Bartlow Road, Linton. The contractors undertaking the work did listen to feedback from the previous closure of the road in July and put up a lot more signs directing larger vehicles away from villages. The police also had a presence for a short-period of time. After this work is complete, the final elements of the upgrades to the road will be the remodelling of the Dean Road junction and then the completion of the 'Greenway' around Abington and joining up with the crossing over the A11. The work for this will start in November on Newmarket Road, Abington. For more up to date information go to the Greater Cambridge Partnership website [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/cambridge-south-east-transport/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-background/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-current-schemes](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/public-transport-schemes/cambridge-south-east-transport/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-background/cambridge-south-east-transport-phase-1-current-schemes)

### Mobile food hub

There is a mobile food hub that visits Linton Village Hall on Coles Lane every Tuesday between 1pm and 2pm. There is no registration required just turn up on the day. If any more information on the scheme is needed, this can be found on the Hope CIC (the charity running the scheme) website - <https://hopeag-airst.org/hope-cic-mobile-food-hub> or on 07474725477.

### Statement of Community Engagement

The District Council will be consulting on its 'Statement of Community Involvement' between October 18th and November 29th. This is a document that details how the planning service engages with various elements of the community during the planning process. This is quite important and planning is one of the authority's most public-facing services that affects everyone. More information on the current statement can be found here - [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/about-us/statement-of-community-involvement/](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/about-us/statement-of-community-involvement/)

### Free Electric Blankets

South Cambs District Council are offering a free electric blanket to those most in need, in the run up to the winter months. Those that qualify for these will need to be claiming Council Tax Support and also one of the following criteria:

- Attendance allowance
- Personal independence Payment
- Disability Living Allowance

Full detail of the scheme can be found here - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/free-electric-blankets-will-help-residents-most-in-need-this-winter/>

### Carbon Literacy Certificate

The District Council has been awarded a bronze award and is recognised as a Carbon Literate Organisation by the national body The Carbon Literacy Trust.

This follows on from the work done to tackle the climate issues our area faces and for the undertaking that the Council took to reduce its carbon emissions.

For full detail on what the Council has done to achieve this award, please follow this link - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/carbon-literate-certification-for-council/>

### RAACs

These have been in the news in recent months as some schools in the UK have been found to have Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) material used in them, which has been found to be dangerous.

The good news locally is that no schools in Cambridgeshire have this materials used in their construction, so no need for any major works being undertaken.

District Council – John Batchelor – [johndbatchelor23@gmail.com](mailto:johndbatchelor23@gmail.com)

District and County Council – Henry Batchelor – [henrybatchelor89@gmail.com](mailto:henrybatchelor89@gmail.com)

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5 Day notice only on:- T1 Mature Beech Tree - remove hanging limb to the collar to remove risk of further damage to this tree as per photo Not under 5 day notice T2 Mature Yew - remove 8 metres of the tree to remaining healthy growth - The deadwood is overhanging the neighbouring property as per photo 2

21 Green Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JZ  
Ref. No: 23/1249/TTPO | Validated: Wed 18 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Internal and external works.  
26 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS  
Ref. No: 23/03988/HFUL | Validated: Wed 18 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Installation of non domestic rooftop Solar PV  
Dalehead Foods Cambridge Road Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JD  
Ref. No: 23/03953/PRIOR | Validated: Wed 18 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

T1 ASH TREE - Fell Clear fungal infection Cavities Reseeding dead limbs  
8 Horn Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HT  
Ref. No: 23/1243/TTCA | Validated: Tue 17 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Submission of details required by conditions 3 (construction environmental management plan), 5 (surface water and foul water disposal) and 7 (ecological enhancement) of planning permission 22/01037/FUL

Land To The Side Of 16 Chalklands Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JH  
Ref. No: 22/01037/CONDB | Validated: Fri 13 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

New external timber doors and associated internal alterations.  
Open for comment icon  
36 Mill Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JY  
Ref. No: 23/03896/LBC | Validated: Thu 19 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Submission of details required by conditions 3a (details of fixings to brickwork), 3b (external cables) and 4 (external materials) of Listed Building consent 23/02868/LBC  
80 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JT  
Ref. No: 23/02868/CONDA | Validated: Thu 12 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

New external timber doors and associated internal alterations.  
36 Mill Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JY  
Ref. No: 23/03895/HFUL | Validated: Thu 19 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

First floor extension (Re-submission of 23/02792/HFUL)  
83 Chalklands Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JQ  
Ref. No: 23/03891/HFUL | Validated: Thu 12 Oct 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

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## Anti-Social Behaviour Please report it to the Cops!



FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> often brings trepidation to those of us who are superstitious, but our day in the office had started well. All good, until we opened the emails!

We received a report of anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Ground. Some youths had been making young families so uncomfortable they decided to abandon a play date at the park. The email to notify the Parish Council was distressing to read.

The youngsters were being confrontational, playing in the Under 8's play area and then proceeding to block all the equipment so that no one else could use it.

In addition to the anti-social behaviour, there was a report of graffiti in Coles Lane, on the Rivey bridlepath and on the footpath leading from Green Lane to Mill Lane. The graffiti was so offensive that it required immediate removal - our contractor was asked to attend and did his best to remove the red spray painted names scrawled on the road.

Despite trying various methods the graffiti would not shift. It was reported to Cambridgeshire County Council who attended as soon as they could to spray over the words in black.

On Sunday, another report was received regarding anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Ground again, this time a youth on a motorbike with no consideration for others was tearing around the park like a lunatic.

We ask ourselves, who does this sort of thing? Where are the parents? Why do these youngsters think they are entitled to run riot in our village? What can we do to stop this?

Further investigation and questions will be asked by the Cambridgeshire Police, who have received full details of the incidents from the office. We urge you to report any issues directly to Cambs Police on the online portal using the following address.

<https://www.cambs.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

The office has contacted the village college, the youth group and the Cambridgeshire Police. We have secured CCTV footage of the motorbike and will share this with the police.

Our local PCSO, Chris Wiseman, reiterated "If we aren't told we can't act" He advised that even if the police can't attend immediately, a record is made. Statistically the village moves up the priority list as multiple reports of anti-social behaviour are received. It is good to alert everyone on social media as this raises awareness, but please remember to report incidents to the Police as a priority.

Clerk

## Linton in Bloom First displays now in place

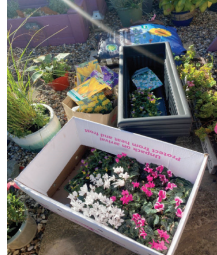
LINTON in Bloom has begun! The first planters were put in place in October and more are planned this autumn and into the spring of 2024.

The project aims to visually enhance many areas of the village using floral displays. It is hoped community groups will be inspired to become involved in making positive changes to the local environment through horticultural, environmental and community action.

This is a wonderful way of encouraging us all to make Linton a more beautiful place to live through planting, cleanliness and sustainability.

A working group has been set up, supporting the Parish Council to gradually carry out the planting programme. If you would like to be involved please contact the office.

If you are unable to join the team, an alternative way to help is to be "Proud of Your Own Patch" If you need any help or advice please get in touch, we have plenty of knowledgeable people on hand to guide you.



Preparation for planting

In addition to locations for planting, the Parish Council also recognise the efforts and dedication of businesses who have already taken the initiative to make a difference, especially on the High Street, notably The Dog & Duck, The Crown and The Linton Kitchen.



Beautiful floral displays at The Dog & Duck



J&S Hair - High Street

The first locations include J&S Hair Salon at the High Street, You Beauty in Balsham Road and the footpath between the High Street and Church Lane, commonly known as Dodger's Lane.

Next steps to include St Mary's Churchyard, the Fire Station, Boyz 2 Men and Chick Next Door.

The Parish Council is also looking towards floral displays at the village entrance signs on all approach roads. In these remote locations we will need volunteers to adopt the planters, this will include watering and light maintenance. If you would like to adopt a remote location, please let us know.

Linton in Bloom

## Planning & Meeting Update September/October 2023

### SURFACE WATER:

As I write, storm Babet is forecast to arrive within the next 24 hours. Some residents may be concerned about the possible effect of rainfall on their outdoor plans, but for those affected increasingly regularly by surface water flooding in the village it will be a particularly worrisome time. We hope that by the time this goes to press it will all have been a 'storm in a teacup' and that Linton will have been spared.

Cambridgeshire County Council have three infrastructure schemes planned for 2024 to resolve some of the issues with the surface water drainage network in areas of the village that have reported the worst problems:

- The pipework around Granta Vale is known to pass under buildings and through gardens, so CCC are currently planning to replace a section of this network. This will require extensive work in the road and hence a road closure, so careful planning will be needed. We will keep you updated as soon as we hear the timing and plans for this work.

- The section of the High Street from approximately Amy Hall to the Dog and Duck will also have a new scheme implemented. This will include both new pipework and raising the kerb on this section of the road. Highways and Stagecoach have requested that this work should take place after the Bartlow Road roundabout diversions have ended, and preferably over the summer holidays so that they have the least possible impact to those reliant on the road and bus network.

- The surface water sewer on Lonsdale and its 'downstream' network will also be investigated and improved following several recent occurrences of internal flooding to properties.

In addition to these works, the Lead Local Flood Authority is in discussions with local landowners about flood amelioration schemes on their land to reduce the run-off from the fields onto the roads. If you experience surface water flooding, please report this to the Lead Local Flood Authority and copy the Parish Council. If the flooding is from the river, this should be reported to the Environment Agency.

### Bartlow Road Roundabout:

The works on the roundabout are continuing ahead of schedule with the two weekends of closures now behind us. Bartlow Road will remain closed while the next phase of work is completed. If the weather and other factors remain favourable, this will take us through to February 2024. For those interested in data, the Speedwatch Team were out over both weekends and recorded approximately four times the usual traffic volume. Unfortunately some HGVs did not follow the signed diversion route, preferring to follow Google Maps. Three of these HGVs (including delivery lorries for Sainsbury's and Iceland) were turned around during one Speedwatch session and any others that were using Horseheath Road over the weekend of 7/8th October were recorded by the GCP team so feedback could be given to the companies concerned. We are aware that the GCP team were disappointed with some companies as they had contacted around 500 organisations in the lead up to the closures to inform them of the diversion and to ask them to arrange compliance with their drivers.

### Neighbourhood Plan:

The Neighbourhood Plan working group is meeting by Zoom every two weeks at 6:30pm on a Monday to ensure that the Plan is submitted as soon as possible for examination. Any residents of Linton, Little Linton or Hildersham who would like to join us would be most welcome. Attendance is not expected at every meeting, but if you have some spare time and would like to support this process, please reach out to the Parish Office enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk. The next meeting will take place at 6:30pm on Monday 6th November.

Cllr Kate

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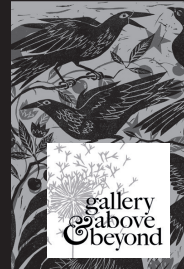
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Parish Council Matters is written, edited and published by the Parish Council with the support of the Linton News Team.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at the Cathodeon Centre.

**Open Forum for Public Participation**

Cllr Carl Cieluch gave an update on the recent meeting with representatives of the Linton Fireworks Committee on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August. It was advised that concerns were raised regarding the bonfire and subsequent issues with the grass area on Camping Close.

Representatives from the Linton Fireworks Committee addressed the council and recognised formally that the condition of the area after the event last year was below expectation. The representatives advised that an improved maintenance plan is in place this year, to include removing the turf and relaying it after the event. A dedicated team is now in place to oversee the care of the ground. The Linton Parish Council recognised the amount of work involved in organising the event, which raises much needed funds for the community and thanked the committee for their dedication and hard work.

Consideration of the request from the Linton Fireworks Committee to hold the Fireworks on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed permission be granted for the event to take place on Camping Close on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Cllr Paul Poulter seconded. All Agreed.

Participant 2 spoke regarding the double yellow lines in the village being ignored and the requirement for disabled bays in the High Street, especially at the chemist, the newsagents and the co-op. Cllr Kate Kell advised that the Parish council has no power over the highway and suggested that local businesses could be approached to investigate disabled bays near to their commercial premises. It was also stated that in relation to the parking on yellow lines, following decriminalisation of illegal parking, civil enforcement is due to be in place in the village in due course. The recent Local Highways Improvement (LHI) bid included marked bays at the Dog & Duck. It was verbally agreed that the Traffic Working Group suggest one bay could be designated for disabled parking.

**Matters Arising/Clerks Report.**

Update on the tree works on the Rivey Bridlepath. The Clerk advised the council that written confirmation had been received that funds had run out for proposed tree works on the Rivey bridgehead. Any tree works are the responsibility of the landowner. It was advised that there is ongoing confusion over the land ownership, following the sale of plots by SCDC. In future, property owners in Rivey Way will be advised to check the extent of their property boundary on their Title Deeds, in relation to the potential riparian duty of the watercourse which runs immediately adjacent to the bridgehead.

**District and County Councillors Report for September 2023.** In addition to the written report for September 2023 the following information was shared.

The 20mph speed limit application for the village has provisionally been approved.

The GCP Greenways cycle route through the grounds of Linton Village College is progressing well.

The changes to the refuse collection day in the village has been widely successful with one exception, six streets were missed due to roadworks but this had been resolved.

**Planning**

**Bartlow Road**

Update on the Bartlow Road development site. Ref S/1963/15/OL and S/2501/19/RM.

Cllr Kate Kell advised that the Planning Committee would be requesting an update on Condition 6 and the implementation of the replacement of hedges.

**Horseheath Road.**

Update on the land south of Wheatsheaf Barn, Horseheath Road development site. Ref S/4418/19/RM.

Cllr Kate Kell advised that the developer had not appealed that Enforcement notice and that the deadline for works is the end of November 2023. Cllr Kell also stated that the remedial work on the highways is proving difficult to resolve. It was noted that due

to the outstanding issues on the Horseheath Road development site, the allotments could not be adopted.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Kate Kell gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan and requested that fortnightly meetings be scheduled, commencing on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

**Finance, Risk and Compliance (FR&C)**

Update on the Wet Pour work required at the Recreation Ground. Decision required.

Cllr John Bald proposed that the quote from Sovereign Play to install edging and infill with wet pour, to include a five-year guarantee be accepted. Cllr Karen Sanderson seconded. 8 in favour with 2 abstentions. Agreed.

**Finance**

**Contracts & Quotes**

Consideration for the quotes for replacement play equipment of two flatbed swings. Open discussion and Decision required. Cllr Chris Hine proposed that the replacement for the flat bed swings be as quoted for by Reids Playground Maintenance of a steel frame swing at £3265.00. Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration for the quotes received for spiking and spraying of the Meadow Recreation Ground. Open discussion and Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed that the quote obtained through Chris Markham Home & Garden Service at £600.00 exc. VAT be accepted. Cllr Karen Sanderson seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration for the purchase of essential safety equipment required for work taking place adjacent to the Highway. Decision required.

Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds proposed the equipment be purchased. Cllr John Bald seconded. All Agreed.

**Grants & Funding**

Update on the Community Ownership Grant and the Cambridgeshire Priorities Grant Fund meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Verbal update from the Grants & Funding working group. For Information.

An update was given following the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023. It was advised that three Expressions of Wish will be submitted by the deadline as follows; Coles Lane Car Park improvements, Pavilion Building – Solar Panels, Heat Pump and Lighting at the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

**Funding projects for 23/24.**

An update was given that the mosaic project had been completed at the Linton Heights and Infants School. The Clerk advised that the Village Hall Trustee Committee had agreed to house a mosaic on the Village Hall building. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) advised that permissions would be sought in writing to enable release of the outstanding funding for the project.

Cllr Karen Sanderson advised that the Quilt Project had started and further updates will be given as the project progresses.

The Mind Mapping Project has started and an update will be provided once the programme is complete. Notification of the successful application by LPC for The One Hundred Parishes Grant. For Information.

The Clerk advised that 250 Heritage Trail booklets had been ordered in relation to the grant. The Heritage Trail Notice Boards, especially the one damaged in the recent fire are under review.

**Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)**

Consideration of the requirement of security measures for the MUGA following the reasons given for and against the locking of the facilities at the Recreation Ground. Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed that the MUGA facilities be open to the public and a review take place in three months' time. Cllr Paul Poulter seconded. 6 in favour, 1 against with 3 abstentions. Motion Carried.

Consideration of any payment arrangements for the use of the MUGA following the reasons given for and against the charging for the use of the facilities at the Recreation Ground. Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed no charge be made for the use of the MUGA

other than for exclusive access (i.e. an outdoor market or private party) Cllr Kate Kell seconded. 7 in favour with 3 abstentions. Agreed.

**Traffic & Highways**

**Local Highways Improvement Bid 2024/25**

Consideration for the recommendation from the Traffic Working Group to apply for traffic calming measures on entrance roads to the village for the Local Highway Improvement Bid 2024/2025. Open discussion and Decision required.

Cllr Kate Kell proposed that physical traffic calming measures on Horseheath Road, Back Road, Balsham Road and Hadstock Road be applied for in the LHI 2024/25. Cllr Carl Cieluch seconded. All Agreed.

**Events**

**Linton in Bloom**

The Clerk advised that plans to adapt the project to ensure it is manageable were taking place. The decision not to enter the Britain in Bloom Competition in 2024 would alleviate time pressures and village enhancement will still progress.

Consideration for delegation to the Clerk to purchase equipment and flowers required for the agreed locations for floral displays and to set an initial budget for the same. Decision required.

Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds proposed a maximum spend of £500.00 to purchase equipment and commence planting at specific locations. Cllr Carl Cieluch seconded. 8 in favour with two abstentions. Agreed.

Consideration for the financial contributions to locations in the village to maintain existing floral displays. Decision required.

Cllr Carl Cieluch proposed the following amounts be contributed. Dog & Duck £100.00, The Crown £50.00 and the Linton Kitchen £50.00 to include a letter of recognition and thanks for the ongoing dedication to the appearance of each business. Cllr John Bald seconded. 7 in favour with 2 abstentions. Agreed.

**Remembrance Sunday**

Consideration for the nomination of Parish Council representative at the Remembrance Service to be held at St. Mary's Church on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Decision required.

Cllr Kate Kell proposed that Cllr Merrie Mannassi represent the Parish Council at the Remembrance Sunday Service on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Cllr John Bald seconded. All Agreed.

**Open Spaces**

Consideration for the installation of litter bin at Paynes Meadow. Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed that the Topsy style litter bin be purchased and installed at Paynes Meadow. Cllr Lee Gardner seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration for the request to conduct moth recording sessions at Leadwell Meadows. Decision required.

Cllr Kate Kell proposed that permission be given to conduct moth recording sessions at Leadwell Meadows. Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds seconded. All Agreed.

**Youth**

Consideration of the monthly report for August 2023 from the Beacon Youth Trust. For information.

Cllr Carl Cieluch advised that all monthly targets had been met.

Full Minutes are available on the Parish Council website. **Clerk.**

The Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001  
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