

*Ace ploughman's
lunch and talk
12.30pm
9th August
Church Pavilion*

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THE LINTON NEWS

www.linton.info e-mail lneditor@linton.info

**Aug
2012**
Vol. 26 N° 5
Publication date
Monday 6th August

E & E PLUMRIDGE
Design & Print
41 High Street
Linton
01223 891407

The Olympic torch is lit for Jess

A LINTON Village College pupil was chosen to carry the Olympic flame from Haverhill Market Square to the Arts Centre on Saturday July 7th.

When Jess Gower was diagnosed with primary bone cancer, her younger sister Issy wanted to do something positive to help. At 10 years old, with the support of teachers and pupils at Linton Heights including friends Bethany Wrenn and Franchesha Robb, Issy held a cake sale and organised a wacky hair day to raise £800 for the Little Princess Trust, the charity which made a wig for Jess, who was undergoing chemotherapy treatment.

Issy had just turned 12 when Jess died aged 14 in December 2010.

Trying to turn tragedy into something positive, parents Mick and Shirley Gower helped Issy with various other fund raising activities and they gathered a team to undertake a sponsored walk of the West Highland Way in May 2011. The team comprised eight adults, Jess's friend and village college student 14 year-old Katrina Bass and Issy. They trekked 96 miles over seven days in appalling weather conditions with constant rain and gale force winds, which the girls battled through without complaint. The walk raised £18,000 on Just Giving for the Bone Cancer Research Trust. Issy's own fund raising at the college raised £500. The team plan to walk part of the Pembrokeshire coast path this year.

"Mum applied for me to be a torch bearer last year but it wasn't until December that I knew I was definitely doing it. We weren't allowed to tell anyone. It became really exciting when the uniform arrived but it wasn't until two weeks beforehand that I knew I would be in Haverhill High Street," said Issy.



Issy lights the torch in memory of sister Jess

Picture supplied by Jess

Like other torch bearers she was concerned about the weather. Just before the start it was pouring with rain. "When we were driven round the course there was hardly anyone about but when we were dropped off at our starting places a great crowd had appeared and the sun came out," said Issy. She had just three minutes for her run, with the crowds, including her friends from the college, cheering her all the way.

Kate France

Linton gardeners triumph whatever the weather

IT seems that whatever the weather throws at us in Linton we can grow and create wonderful things. Despite all the rain, the village hall was filled with terrific exhibits from the 62 entrants to the 70th Annual Show. The children also made the most of things with four group exhibits and 17 individual entrants. There was even a star turn by Shaun the Sheep courtesy of Megan Harmer with the aid of some cauli-

flower and aubergine.

Brian Chapman, well known to many in the village and great helper at the show, presented the trophies. As a new entrant David Brazier was notable among those presented with cups as his fruit and vegetables excelled, bringing him three cups. Now all we need to know is his secret! Linton Infant School lunchtime gardening club won the Green Fingers Cup with a wonderful exhibit, so perhaps the secret to success is to devote lunchtime to the garden.

Susan Anderson calmly led the organisation of her last show as secretary, co-ordinating the efforts of many helpers. Thank you to everyone who helped in so many ways, to make the show happen. It wouldn't happen without you! Also a huge thank you to Susan for being Show Secretary for 12 years. We have had some truly memorable and enjoyable shows which have run so smoothly under her leadership. I am pleased to report that the show will go on – Helen Townsend has offered to take on the post of Show Secretary, so start thinking about next year's entries.

Kirsten Newble, 892425, lgsecretary@yahoo.co.uk



Karen Johnson receives her cup from Brian Chapman

Pictures taken by Wendy Foster



Everyone's favourite, Shaun the Sheep

Near record year for Bartlow three counties

WHAT happened on 6th May 2012?

The weather was kind, considering the preceding weeks of continuous rain. The word of the day was mud but that did not deter our hardy walkers as, despite this unpromising start, 520 walkers supported us this year – 10% more than the excellent weather attracted last year.

Between them and the generous support received from local companies, the walk raised £13,000 (£9,000 last year). This permitted us to present cheques for £4,333

to each of our three causes: Addenbrooke's Dementia and Delirium Unit, Linton Health Centre and Bartlow Church restoration.

Top fundraisers were Nigel May and Michael Nield of Bartlow, John Haine of Shudy Camps and five-year-old Grace Cannon, taking the junior prize for the second year. Total funds raised to date: £80,000.

Next year's Addenbrooke's cause will be the Prostate Cancer Robot Appeal.

We are so grateful to the Linton Village College Sports Leaders for help with

marshalling, to Barnardiston School for their ninth year of support and Saffron Walden County High School for making it a D of E walk. Thanks to the excellent bands, Karen and the Linton Jazz Orchestra and the young Not the Turkey Street Band for their entertainment and to our Walkers, Sponsors and Helpers for another great result.

2013 will be our 10th Anniversary and we plan a blockbuster event. May 5th 2013 - please put it in the diary and plan to join us to make it the best ever.

Graham Howat

A warning

HIGHLY convincing persons have been calling at doors. They tell you that they can offer you a great broadband deal due to BT reorganising or from talk talk etc. In order to offer you the deal they have to use your phone to confirm it.

This is a scam. They will use a premium number and you will get a very large bill. Three people have been described. The first is chubby, the second very tall, about 6ft 2 or 6ft 3 and the third is a black man. All were very smart indeed. They have no real ID if asked.

They were seen off by police but may well be around in the next few days.

I repeat that they are very convincing. Polly Wilderspin Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator

Successful weekend for St Mary's fête and flower festival

THE weather was kind, the preparations came together, families and friends converged on St Mary's church and Camping Close and the fête and flower festival provided a weekend of enjoyment for all.

The church opened on Friday morning to a glorious display of flowers. From the Greek origins to the modernity of the 2012 Olympic Park, every aspect of the Olympic theme had been covered with great creativity by volunteers ranging in age from three to 93.

On Friday evening Camping Close rang with the music of traditional country dances as nearly 150 people of all ages enjoyed the great barn dance, held, not in a barn, but in a large marquee generously donated by Trevor Page. A barbecue and bar provided excellent and much needed refreshment.

Saturday brought the traditional dog show and fête, with stalls, amusements, refreshment and entertainment for all. This would not have been complete without the teddy bear parachute jumps and, despite an unfortunate accident with,



Just a few of the many visitors to this year's flower festival

Picture taken by Ron Pitkin thankfully, no serious injury, many intrepid teddies enjoyed their moment of bravery.

In the evening *Linton's Got Talent* showcased some of our local musicians, singers and actors with a most entertaining free concert in the church. Linton truly has got talent.

After a service of thanksgiving on Sunday morning, the weekend concluded with the great Granta duck race as the rain, which had so kindly held off, started to fall again. A magnificent sum of approximately £3,800 was raised for the ongoing work of the church and a huge thank you is extended to everyone involved.

Gill Powell, 893664

Nelson Mandela day

LIKE students at Boepathutse school in South Africa, staff and students at the village college celebrated Nelson Mandela's birthday, each giving 67 minutes of voluntary service to improve the school environment and community.

A small group of local people were invited to tea and to see Linton in Layers, a film made by college students two years ago covering the history of the college, including interviews with the first students in 1937, some old film and pictures as well as the recent archeological dig in the college grounds prior to erection of the new building.

In the early days there was no school uniform. The girls and boys shared most lessons but the girls did needlework while the boys worked on the land.

"They were much more primitive then with no computers or technology," commented a present day pupil. On 18th July I saw both girls and boys working hard at manual tasks around the school and grounds with not a mobile phone in sight.

I was only sorry so few people were able to view this excellent film. I am sure it will interest a wide section of people in the local catchment area. Perhaps the college will arrange another show.

Kate France

Phone message

THE caller on the other end of the phone asked, "Are you 891602 and involved with the Linton News?" When I confirmed I was, the caller, whose name was Bev, replied, "I have a message for you on my phone number with similar digits, obviously left by mistake." She then cheerfully passed on the message about a change to the August delivery.

Thank you Bev. You made my day. I doubt if city dwellers enjoy such kind hearted service.

Kate France

Too good for jumble ...

APPROPRIATELY this month's new items are an inflatable three-man boat with oars, a Proline fridge to fit under the worktop in good condition (20in wide, 20in deep, 34in high) and a table model Hi-spot minic patio heater (19in high) with refillable propane gas cylinder.

The toner A30 cartridges for a Canon photocopier FC-1/2/3/5/22 or 6/7/11 are still available. Free: small quantities of polystyrene chips

The Kenwood mixer raised £40 for Alzheimers Trust, the tent raised £10 for 2nd Linton Brownies and a fold-flat metal bed frame raised £10 for St Mary's Church.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please phone Kate France 891602 or email kfrance@profsoundconsult.com

NB The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

Update from Linton Health Centre

NATIONALLY, practices are being asked to reduce A&E attendances by providing easier access to practice clinicians during normal working hours, particularly for minor injuries/illness. As always, finance lies behind this target for GP practices. An attendance at A&E starts with a minimum charge of £56, whether the patient waits to be seen or decides to leave the department without being seen. The charges increase considerably if x-rays or blood tests are taken or if a cut is glued or sutured. It is surprising how many attendances at A&E result in advice only, with no investigations or treatment whatsoever. These are the attendances that we are being targeted to reduce.

Here at Linton we have always been open from 8am-6.30pm on weekdays and we have always offered a minor injury service. Our local schools and local employers would generally think of us before embarking on a trip to A&E, but we wonder whether the wider practice population would think to call on us first.

There are certainly benefits to being seen at the practice. We have free parking for a start. Minor injuries are usually fitted in with a nurse in the first instance (as often happens at the hospital) but you will never have to wait up to four hours to be seen. Our nurses are highly trained and will be able to deal with many minor injuries themselves and the duty doctor can always be called if necessary.

www.linton.gpsurgery.net for more news
Please note: no drop-in Friday baby clinics in September. Booked appointments only.

One dream at the Mini Oscars

FOUR ordinary girls from Linton Heights (Olivia Hounsomes, Ruby Martin, Felice Jones and Lauren Nealis) were hoping to spin to glory when they entered the Cambridgeshire Young People's Film Festival with big hopes for the future.

Their exceptional work was called *The Blitz Show* and it took weeks of work to finish this outstanding nominated piece. It was not an easy task. They made storyboards, filmed the scenes in costume and edited it together using Windows movie maker. The girls commented: "When it came to editing we really gave it our all as movie maker didn't work the first time, but we managed to create a film with an individual soundtrack to enter into the festival".

This film was nominated to receive an award and the girls were invited to an Oscar-style award ceremony where they would meet Michael Rosen. So on 5th July they went to the Corn Exchange in Cambridge to see what fate had in store for them. Unfortunately they did not come first but felt lucky to have come as far as they did when it was the first time they had entered the competition. There were many other schools there with more experience who had possibly won before. As it was their first time, they have more hopes for the future.

Olivia Hounsomes, Ruby Martin, Felice Jones and Lauren Nealis Year 5



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AZTECS JFC Funday

ON Sunday 2nd September, Aztecs JFC will hold the annual Funday at LVC. This is a major fundraising event for the club, and will include a mini tournament for over 70 teams from the Cambridge area. There are also lots of other activities planned including a bbq, raffle and various stalls including a cake stall. Please come and join us on this Funday.

Aztecs JFC are pleased to announce that we have won a Grow the Game Grant from the Football Foundation. This grant will be used over the next three years to help fund the training of our mini soccer teams. We are also currently registering players for the 2012-2013 season and would welcome any boys or girls to join us. For more information please contact Jeanette Long, Club Secretary jeanetk@yahoo.com or Malcolm Peters, Chairman malcolm@instantemail.co.uk

Jeanette Long

Tenant open days

SOUTH Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) in conjunction with its Tenant Participation Group (TPG) is running three tenant led open days in September.

If you are a tenant or leaseholder of SCDC, please come along and meet your local housing team and local councillors and get advice on Housing, Benefits, Employment, young people's initiatives, ageing well initiatives, plus enjoy stands from contractors such as MEARS, Morrisons and Mitie.

Get involved in your housing service and help us to help you. After all it's your home – your service so come along and share your views with your fellow tenants and your landlord.

Free raffle entry to all attendees.
Juggling, circus skills and bouncy castle for the youngsters amongst us.
The dates are as follows
12noon – 4pm Saturday 8th September at Impington VC
12noon – 4pm Saturday 29th September at Melbourn VC
12noon – 4pm Saturday 20th October at Sawston VC

Long long ago in a far off land lived a boy called Joseph...

FOR the four Sundays of August you are invited to a family friendly 45 minute service to look at the life of Joseph. This gospel will look at his family and jealous siblings, being sold into slavery then becoming Pharaoh's right hand man in the land of Egypt.

Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams of a time of plenty and of famine and finally reconciliation with his lost family.

Activities will include sand and crafts, taste and smells, songs, prayer and headdresses for all. Come and see the famous coat.

A warm welcome will be given to all.

It starts at 10.30am at the URC Free Church Horn Lane, just over the bridge from the ducks, and finishes with coffee.

Julia Burdett

Health and wellbeing

THE Shadow Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board is currently consulting on priorities for a draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy which has been jointly agreed by the County Council, Clinical Commissioning Group and District Council representatives.

We are hoping to get as much feedback as possible from stakeholders and the public. The consultation period runs from 18th June to 17th September 2012.

For further information regarding the Health and Wellbeing Board or the draft strategy, and to complete the online questionnaire, please go to our website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/partnerships/health_and_wellbeing_board.htm.

If you require a hard copy of either the draft Strategy or an Executive Summary, please let Alex Parr know either by e-mail alex.parr@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk or by telephone 703259.

Dr Liz Robin, Director of Public Health for Cambridgeshire

PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

Elderly people targeted in distraction burglaries

POLICE are appealing for information after a spate of distraction burglaries over two days in South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire recently.

The following incident occurred in Linton shortly after 10am in Fincham's Close.

An elderly man opened the door to a man claiming there had been an explosion and water needed to be flushed in his pipes. The victim let him into his house but was suspicious. When he threatened to call the police the man left and nothing was stolen.

Detective Inspector Ian Simmons, who is investigating, said: "All of these offences are targeting vulnerable people and are despicable crimes. I would urge the community to look out for their elderly neighbours, be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour."

Anyone with information should contact DI Simmons on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111

Don't be fooled by this phone scam

THERE is a new charity scam on the horizon, whereby criminals cold call you pretending they are calling on behalf of a charity. They then request you sign up to a monthly donation direct debit to make regular payments. However, when asking them to confirm the name of the charity and its contact details the line goes dead – a clear sign you've been dealing with a fraudster.

While charities regularly cold call people to try to raise more money, unfortunately, fraudsters have been copying this method to try to take advantage of people's goodwill.

If you have been a victim of charity fraud, you should contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Whatever you do, don't give out your personal information and bank details to make a regular donation unless you are completely certain the charity you are talking to is genuine.

Wet weather

THE Rain God is active this year casting his crystal curtains over woods and beaches constantly strumming on leaves rooftops the ground with wet purposefulness playing his musical accompaniment to our daily round.

But I am supposed to have outgrown such anthropomorphic ideas become knowledgeable so I shall have to say that the climatic conditions are conducive to precipitation low pressures are dominating the country there is no room for the high heavy showers will continue

It is not nearly so satisfying as accepting that ancient Being the Rain God in person.

Barbara Joy O'Brien

Our thanks to Barbara for a very topical poem in view of the recent inclement weather. Editor

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters on this page. All letters for publication must have a full name, address or phone number to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited. Opinions are not necessarily those of the Linton News.

Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.

A response to last month’s letters

Dear Editor, ASanother Old Girl, I feel it unfortunate to have such negative and inaccurate responses to the Chairman’s report. It was part of a very positive, lively meeting, and not the Parish report but the Chairman’s report, containing (as ever) personal views of some of what has been achieved.

There might now be only three councillors from the 2002 election, but those putting themselves forward at the following election (15 stood for 15 places) were returned unopposed, and are legally elected councillors. It is no surprise that in 10 years there will be considerable turnover, especially noting the age of many of us at that time – some have died, left on health grounds, moved away, etc. A group left for political reasons - the Parish Council is no place for party politics.

The Parish Plan (PP) was an achievement and remains useful for local actions, but was not as influential as claimed. Far from being bedrock to the Local Development Frame-

work (LDF), it was a plan/wish for the village only. Had any notice been taken of it, we would not have been threatened with a wind farm (again the whole village was consulted), Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments developments, enclosure of Camping Close, etc. It was only the route of the one-way system that was decided by the PP; it was already decided that we were to have one.

The PP will now be re-addressed and developed into a Neighbourhood Plan which, unlike the PP, will have legal status. The District Council must take notice of that – it will have no option.

The PC has always been active in matters affecting the village; we now have the Localism Bill, and the extra responsibilities and opportunities that will bring. The role of parish councils is changing; we must change with it to be the voice of Linton that is needed and necessary.

Enid Bald, Vice Chair, Parish Council

Please note: we will be publishing no more letters on this topic. Editor

Introducing Cambridge 105

CAMBRIDGE 105 is your local volunteer radio station bringing community radio in the city and beyond. It brings you local news, weekend community programmes, evenings of specialist music and weekday breakfast and drive time shows.

Cambridge 105 has a growing audience of listeners, many via our internet website www.cambridge105.fm where you can find our full schedule of programmes.

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And the Air Ambulance to the rescue

Dear Editor, FOLLOWING my adventure on the church roof on the Saturday of the Flower Festival weekend, may I express my gratitude to all those who rallied round to patch me up and get me off the roof, not least the Linton Fire Crew and those who assisted in other ways. I appreciate especially all the kind offers of help my wife received at the time.

I hope that any children who did not get to see their toys parachute from the tower were compensated by seeing the impressive array of emergency vehicles and apologise to everyone else for the general disruption caused.

Finally, thank you to the mystery person who kindly undertook what must have been the unpleasant task of laundering my hat and who then returned it to me without ringing the doorbell and giving me the chance to thank her/him in person!

Andrew King
Palmers Close

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor, MAY I through your newspaper say a big thank you to all my wonderful family and friends for all the lovely flowers, cards and presents for my 80th Birthday with a party held at the new Village College hall. It was truly wonderful. A very special thank you to my nieces Sally and Lorraine who prepared the buffet.

Everyone enjoyed themselves. Donations of £600 collected by you all were sent



Mary celebrating her 80th birthday

Picture by Michelle Rhodes

to Macmillan Cancer Support Nurses. How kind everyone was.

Thank you again.
Mary Wright
Flaxfields

It shouldn’t happen to a vet

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN THE speaker at Linton WI in July was vet John Grieve. He decided in his early teens to become a vet, although coming from a medical background, father a doctor, mother a medical secretary. After five years at Edinburgh University he was thrown in at the deep end working for nine months on a farm in the Scottish Borders with 2,000 head of ewes. At lambing time a check had to be made every hour and the new lambs put with the ewes to bond.

Vets need a sense of humour. Visiting a dairy herd a colleague walking behind the cow stalls was drenched with the unmentionable when a cow coughed. On another occasion one person asked if their cat could be indoctrinated. One farmer jokingly complained, of a lamb born with five legs, that he wouldn’t get the price of three shoulders.

Valuable surgical experience was gained at the RSPCA Harmsworth Hospital, and work done by a medical research establishment.

In the early hours one Christmas morning John recalls delivering a calf – farm workers returning from church crowded the barns amidst the straw and manger. All that was missing was swaddled baby to make a truly biblical scene. He eventually opened his own practice here in Cambridgeshire and now caters only for small animals, which he prefers.

Our speaker on 7th August will be Dr Tim Wreghitt OBE on Making a stand for Chelsea, All welcome.

Sally Proberts

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THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 3rd September 2012
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Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse
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Can be put in the **Linton News Box** in the Post Office
Editor: Wendy Foster email: lneditor@linton.info
phone 891626
For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office, failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here.

You may also send an email with your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info.

Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News

Details of items in bold type may be found elsewhere in this edition.

Conkers children’s centre, 9am-12noon, Mon-Thurs call 07768 008919	CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays	VH
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am	Mondaystermtime CC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays	Pavilion
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays	CP
Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30-11.30am Tuesdays	LVC
Storytime, 2.15-2.45pm alternate Tuesdays (term time only)	Library
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509)	CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays	VH
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays	CC
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays, term time only	VH
Bowls roll-ups, 2pm, Wednesdays until October	Pavilion
Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays	VH
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays	VH
The karate club, 5.15-6.15pm, Thursdays	VH
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays	CP
Buffy bus, 11am-12.15pm Fridays	Ashdon Baptist church
St Mary’s church choir trebles, 6.30-7.15pm Fridays	St Mary’s
Full choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays	St Mary’s
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays	CC
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248	

AUGUST	
4 Farmers’ market, 9.30am	LVC
5 Look at the life of Joseph 10.30am	URC
6 Linton camera club, 7.15pm	CC
7 WI, 7.30pm	VH
7 Alzheimers Information Point 10am-1pm	HC
9 Ace ploughman’s lunch & talk, 12.30pm	CP
12 Look at the life of Joseph 10.30am	URC
14 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
15 CAMTAD, hearing help, 9.30-12noon	Health centre
19 Look at the life of Joseph 10.30am	URC
26 Look at the life of Joseph 10.30am	URC
26 Strictly dance studio opening, 3pm	The Grip
27 Family Barbecue 4.30-7.30pm	Richmonds

September	
1 Summer Fete/Car boot sale 1pm-5pm	Symonds House
1 Farmers’ market, 9.30am	LVC
1 Adult Education enrolment day	LVC
2 Aztecs JFC Annual Funday	LVC
6 Parish Council meeting, 8pm	CC
8 Tenant open day 12noon-4pm	See article

For Cathodeon Centre bookings contact Sue Mudge, 07765 369266

Library times: Mon closed; Tues 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.

Linton refuse collection: 13th & 28th August

Linton recycling collection: 6th & 20th August, 3rd September

KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall

Don’t forget

TO put all your events into the diary, which is held in the Post Office. Remember to put the event, date, time and venue. We have had several incomplete listings lately, if one of them is yours and it is not in the diary, we apologise but we are not psychic!
Editor

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Boyz 2 Men ten years on



Nina (front) and her staff

Picture by Jason, Elite Wedding Photography

BUSY mum of two, Nina Dye, recently celebrated a decade of running her successful men's hair salon with a complete decor make over.

The contemporary masculine style fits perfectly with the relaxed atmosphere and as there is no need for an appointment, you can chill out and read the papers with a complimentary coffee until your stylist is free. Her handpicked experienced team provide an excellent and friendly service. For younger boys there are toys and books to compliment the fantastic kid's corner decorated with scenes from Disney's Cars 2.

Imagine the excitement of sitting in your very own racing car chair complete with wheels and seat belt and, when your hair cut is finished, getting a treat from the goodie jar.

Nina also offers a hot towel wet shave with no need to book and a range of men's grooming products which include American Crew and Fudge.

Nina is also well known for her financial support of the under 14s Aztecs FC but she still finds time to play football herself and her team of Gt Shelford Ladies have just won their league and are moving into the premier division with sponsorship from her husband George.

Nina would like to thank all her customers for their continuing support and her team of Carl, Nicola, Laura-Jayne and Sue look forward to giving you a warm welcome when you next visit.

Apologies from The Linton News for the old ad which appeared last month by mistake. Below are the correct opening hours and you can log onto the new website to find out all you need to know at www.boyz2menbarbershop.co.uk.

LNT

ACEs undaunted by weather

THE weather report for the ACE (Activities and Care for the Elderly) Garden Party was not hopeful – rain, clouds, cold and winds were expected. Typical for a British Summer Solstice, in fact.... But nothing defeats the ACEs and we went ahead, with contingency plans including parasols to double as umbrellas, and stalls set up in the garage. In the end, we were lucky, and several people said that it was raining when they left home but not at the party. Someone loves us.

Melanie Murdoch, of AgeUK, was there to inform and advise on their services. We also welcomed back our community warden, Venetia. She reported that there were some places on the village care scheme, so if you know of anyone who needs some support to live independently in their own home, please get in touch.

The weather did affect numbers, but we still managed to serve cream tea with strawberries to over 40 people, including several welcome new faces. The raffle had some interesting prizes, although not the fish-net stockings of last year – sorry. The next event will be at 12.30pm on Thursday 9th August at the Church Pavilion. The speaker will be Mary Dicken on Suffragettes and their legacy. So that we show no bias to women, we will be having a Ploughman's lunch. Mary also runs a different ACE – find out more at the meeting. All are welcome, lifts available, if needed. Enid Bald, 891069

Linton playground upgrade project update

IN April I wrote an article in the Linton News outlining the project I had initiated, with the backing of Linton Parish Council, to fund new play equipment for the under-eights playground on Linton Rec. I am very happy to announce that we have been successful in raising the funds. So far a total of £14,953 has been raised.

This comprises generous donations from Linton Parish Council (£2,000), The Charles & Mary Anderson Trust (£850) and AmeyCespa Community Fund (£12,103), managed by Cambridge Community Fund (CCF). In addition, the Dangerous Dads cycling group of Linton carried out a sponsored bike ride. Close to a further £1,000 will be raised.

I wish to wholeheartedly thank these groups for their support (in particular Roger Hickford, Enid Bald and Sue

Parry from the Parish Council for their continued support of the project). We also had support along the way from Rev Dr Steve Griffiths of St Mary's Church, the Heads of the infants school, junior school and college, Chestnuts Playgroup and several individuals – many thanks to all of you.

The new equipment has been ordered and should be installed towards the end of August. We will have several new items of equipment: a roundabout, a truck (themed play), a bird's nest swing, balancing beams and a puzzle item for very small tots. Look out for posters around the village for details of a forthcoming opening day. Alternatively please check the Facebook page (Linton Playground Upgrade) or email lintonplaygroundupgrade@gmail.com.

David Walker

The Life of Things: Joanna paints from the heart

THE Life of Things is an exhibition of acrylic paintings by Joanna Harling inspired by the lyrical ballads of *Wordsworth* and *Coleridge*. It is showing at the Exchange Gallery, Saffron Walden Library from 14th August-6th September.

Joanna finds inspiration in her immediate surroundings: the fields and copses, her garden and kitchen at Rose Cottage, Radwinter. She enjoys capturing the energy and joy of the moment in nature – the abundance of wild honeysuckle, the Rose Cottage grape harvest, the blue haze of a bluebell wood.

Joanna was born and brought up in Linton where her mother Rosemary Harrison still lives. Her elder son goes to the Granta School and has *Fragile X syndrome*, which is a genetic fault

affecting the brain, causing learning difficulties and acute anxiety. She finds her art helps her overcome the stresses and strains on a mother of a child with special needs.

As a lover of literature as well as art, Joanna has found the poems of Wordsworth particularly relevant in her situation. They highlight the effect of the beauty of nature in helping to cope with life's anxieties and the unkind comments and criticisms of others. Wordsworth's poem, *The Idiot Boy*, illustrates the understanding of a mother's love for her disabled child.

Joanna has built her reputation through commissioned work, sales from her home and small exhibitions. Pictures can be seen at www.joannaharling.com

LNT

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Strictly comes to Linton

ON Sunday 26th August, the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing* stars Darren Bennett and Lilia Kopylova are coming to Linton to open the brand new Strictly Dance and Fitness Studio at the Grip.

Graeme Hein-Jones of Strictly Dance said: "They will be running four dance workshops before a barbeque and opening the studio". A band and bar will also be there at 3pm to welcome dancers and non-dancers.

Graeme started Strictly Dance five years ago and now teaches over 200 dancers in the local area. Starting in September, he is planning to run Beginners and Improvers classes in Ballroom and Latin. Classes will also include Zumba, Fitness, Pilates and other dance styles, all taught by specialist teachers. Friday evenings will be Ceroc or Salsa clubs, new and experienced dancers can all get into the Latin spirit. Saturday nights will be Strictly nights. Come and see *Strictly Come Dancing* on the big screen and then dance the night away. In the future Graeme also hopes to attract dance groups to provide cabaret evenings. Along



Lilia Kopylova and Darren Bennett strut their stuff

Picture supplied by Graeme Hein-Jones

with 70s and 80s evenings, Strictly Dance will be a great inspiration to those who think they have two left feet!

To register for the new term, simply come and join the party on 26th August or contact Graeme on www.strictlydancecambridge.co.uk/ and get involved. The studio will also be available for private lessons and private party hire. For further information visit the website.

Keeeeeep Dancing!
Graeme Hein-Jones

Help with pets



IT is now widely acknowledged that pets can positively benefit the well-being of elderly owners. For many elderly people living on their own, their pets are their reason for living. The Cinnamon Trust is the only national charity specialising in delivering care and assistance for elderly and terminally ill

people and their pets.

The Trust seeks to keep owner and pet together for as long as possible – but we can only do this with the help of volunteers nationwide. We have volunteers who visit housebound owners, to take dogs for walks, volunteers foster pets as one of their family when owners face a spell in hospital, they take pets to the vets, clean bird cages etc. We take any problems posed to day to day care of pets.

If you anyone needs the help of the trust all they need to do is call us on 01736 757900 or visit our website www.cinnamon.org.uk

Sherry Sanderson, 01736 758706, sherry@cinnamon.org.uk

A message from FOGS

THE Friends of Granta School summer fair at the end of June was a very successful day. For once the weather behaved itself and £1,300 was raised. Wonderful music was generously provided by the Linton Jazz Band and the Linton Fire and Rescue Service once again supplied a fire engine which proved to be a great attraction.

All the money raised will be used to provide the Granta students with equipment and opportunities which otherwise would be unavailable to them. We would like to thank everybody from Linton who supported us by attending the fair. We are very grateful for your support.

Paul Ilott, Chair and Treasurer FOGS

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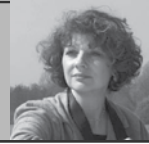
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Linton Country Diary by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



Conan Doyle and the mystery of Snail City ...

SETTING off like Arthur Conan Doyle characters, loaded to the teeth with lamps, supplies and cameras, with Jason Cole, natural world enthusiast investigator, was a treat to behold.

We sped, splashing through mud, puddle and twilight on trusty mountain bikes to the Pocket Park and the old pond. This glorious addition, once lovingly tended, now boasts a disturbingly burnt-out plastic vessel partly hidden by reeds.

Staring into limited visible water from overgrown banks, a couple of whirligigs (*Gyrinus substriatus*) spin while looking for prey. We noted their back legs shaped like short oars. An extremely cool summer so far may account for the relatively lifeless pool. Yet suddenly, a silver flash like a

spinning 10p piece caused by the air bubble of *dytiscus marginalis* renewed our interest.

The large, fearsome great diving beetle spends much time underwater. However, fly they do, especially on their journeys to colonise.

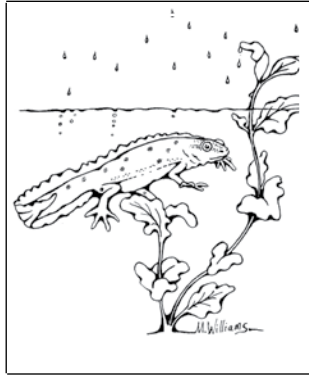
"And there," Jason points. Something stirs in the tangled mire of rotting leaves and twigs. It was the largest newt I'd ever encountered, then another and so on, until five or six wriggled and rolled in the torchlight.

Previous visits here revealed frogs and tadpoles in

abundance. Now, watching these fascinatingly beautiful newts, we are reminded

they are not the passive creatures we often imagine, for they are aggressive predators, not only of tadpoles, young frogs and larvae but their own kind too ... yes, cannibals.

Back on grassy tracks and deeper into the park, two resident deer sprang for cover, our quiet journey interspersed only by the haunting screech of owls until finally we came to rest by the weir and bridge.



Never too late to learn

IT'S never too late to learn a new skill or develop an old one and Linton and Sawston village colleges are just about to start enrolling students for the 2012/13 term.

LVC has several new courses planned for September, including English and Maths (GCSE accredited), homeopathy, beginners German, mosaics, and Indian/Pakistani cooking.

There will be an enrolment day at LVC on Saturday 1st September and general enrolments begin the following Monday (3rd) with courses starting on the 24th. We hope

to have our new brochures delivered to you from the third week of August and also our new Adult Community Website will be online later this month.

The college has also produced a new lettings folder detailing facilities available at LVC for hire ... if you ever need a meeting room or a space for a conference or a party, we can help.

For details, just email: lettings@lvc.org and we will be more than happy to call you back or meet you to discuss your requirements.

Steven Austin

Similar courses are available at Sawston village college.

Their 2012-13 programme will be available during the week commencing 6th August. Check out our website for an online copy.

There are lots of new and exciting additions, including Cake Decorating, Bricklaying, Web Page Design, Spanish Dancing, The Victorian Household, Kick Start Fat Loss to name but a few.

For details call 712424 or email community@sawstonvc.org.

Wendy Worby

Dynamic gymnastics celebrates 10 years

LINTON, Saffron Walden and Cambridge based Dynamics Gymnastics will be celebrating its 10th anniversary this September. Since 2002, the company has provided introductory gymnastics classes based on the British Gymnastics Proficiency Award Scheme (formerly BAGA awards). From this September, classes will run on Wednesday evenings at LVC from 5 - 7pm with the first hour aimed at Infant School aged children and the second hour for ages eight plus.

Dynamics Gymnastics also prides itself on offering paid trainee coach positions and mentoring anyone aged 14plus through the early stages of the British Gymnastics Coach Education Programme. Should you be interested in becoming a coach or wish to find out more about the classes, please visit the website at www.dynamicsgymnastics.co.uk or contact Viktoria Vadne Markovics on 07775 428820 or info@dynamicsgymnastics.co.uk

Diane Clark

POT POURRI 89

Right-angled triangle

IT is well known that a triangle drawn in a semicircle with the base as the diameter and the vertex touching the circumference at any point always results in a right-angled triangle. However, if this result was unknown, can it be shown very straightforwardly that such a triangle must always be right-angled?

Solution to 88 - Quadrilateral area.

Using Heron's formula and equating algebraic terms gives (after some effort), the following result: $A = 0.25 [4x^2y^2 - (a^2 + c^2 - b^2 - d^2)^2]^{0.25}$. The result can have other formats depending on one's method of working

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambridge opens its doors

FOR one weekend in September (7th-9th), Cambridge will open its doors and welcome everyone to share in its spectacular architecture, art collections, libraries and gardens. Open Cambridge features a variety of free pre-bookable and drop-in events. All activities are free, unless specifically stated. Advanced booking is essential on all tours, and is available online at: www.cam.ac.uk/opencambridge Bookings open at 10am on 23rd July. For information on accessibility and other inquiries, please check the event description or call us on 766766.

Come to our family barbecue

A FAMILY barbecue with musical entertainment will be held from 4.30 pm-7.30 pm on bank holiday Monday, 27th August, in the garden of Richmonds, High Street, Linton. Tickets are £6 (adult) and £3 (up to 11) and can be bought from Mrs Judy Nightingale, 891806. Free for under threes. Please buy your tickets before 21st August for catering purposes. Proceeds will go to the Friends of St Mary's.

Margaret Clark

Christmas ... and no presents?

AS a representative for Operation Christmas Child, I would appreciate the opportunity to give a short talk at any school, club or group about packing and sending shoeboxes of gifts to under-privileged children, many of whom live in orphanages and have never received a Christmas present.

Please contact me on 892203 or email prcook@talktalk.net. Thank you

Penny Cook

Join the Symonds House fête

SYMONDS House in Linton is holding a summer fête/car boot sale from 1pm-5pm on Saturday 1st September to raise money for our residents' activities fund. Pitches will be £5 and you can book by calling Shani, Natalie or Sue on 891237. There will be many stalls, tombola, bric-a-brac, hook a duck, cake stall and much more.

Shani Bradley

Arts and crafts on show

THE Saffron Walden art society annual exhibition will be at the town hall from 9am-5pm Friday on 26th October, 9am-5pm Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sunday. Local artists' paintings and crafts will be on sale, including artists from Linton. Hot lunches, snacks, teas and coffee available all day. Admission free. For details please contact me:

Sara West 892449

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The Derbyshire Post



THE 18th July is Mandela Day in South Africa and when we visited our link school in Soshanguve Township a year ago, our arrival coincided with the marking of it. The day celebrates Nelson Mandela's birthday, but instead of requiring holiday feasting from his people, the great man has made it a working day in which he expects South African citizens to do 67 minutes of community service. The 67 is important because each minute represents a year of service that Mandela gave to his country in his fight against apartheid, in his years of imprisonment and in his work as the first black South African President.

When our own LVC students were in the Township, we joined Boepathutse School in the community work and as we did this, it struck us that the 67 minutes could become a part of our College's tradition. This year, we have made it just that. For 67 minutes, each of the students in the school has taken on community work on the afternoon of 18th July. 650 students can get a lot done in that time, so we have weather-proofed fences, weeded flower beds, read stories, picked up litter, buried a time capsule, helped younger children with their learning, cleared out cupboards and made a film. 67 minutes is not long enough for anyone to get really fed up with anything, but it is long enough, it seems, to make a difference.

Caroline Derbyshire

Students learn languages with community help

STUDENTS at Linton Village College (LVC) are learning a range of modern foreign languages thanks to an innovative Language Futures programme.

Instead of the traditional approach where everyone learns the same language, Language Futures offers students the opportunity to learn whichever language is most relevant to them. Using modern technology such as I-Pads, students learn skills which they apply

to a specific language of their choice with the support of community mentors who are fluent in the chosen language.

The college is currently recruiting voluntary community mentors to support students in French, Spanish, Italian, Mandarin and Russian.

Anyone who is interested should email Tina Rice at Tina.Rice@lvc.org.

Tony Kelly, 891233
Ext 344
tony.kelly@lvc.org

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/0284/12/FL** Linton Parish Council, **Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Meadow Lane**, Extensions and alterations to pavilion.
- S/1242/12/FL** Mr & Mrs R Ashcroft, **River Cottage, Horn Lane**, Triple garage.
- S/1319/12/NM** Camstead/Yelcon Ltd, **12 Back Road**, Non-material amendment to planning permission S/1870/05/F (Plots 1-5)
- S/1320/12/NM** Camstead/Yelcon Ltd, **Land r/o 12 Back Road**, Non-material amendment to planning permission S/0042/10/F (plot 8)
- S/1321/12/NM** Camstead/Yelcon Ltd, **16&18 Back Road**, Non-material amendment to planning permission S/1212/06/F (plot 7)
- S/1333/12/LD** Mr Simon Daly, **31 Parsonage Way**, Lawful development certificate for proposed rear extension.
- S/1341/12/FL** Mr N Kotschy, **26 Mill Lane**, Erection of oak framed garden room following demolition of existing outbuildings. New roof to existing bathroom
- S/1364/12/DC** Mr Graeme Hein-Jones, **Unit 12B, The Grip, Industrial Est.**, Discharge of Condition 4 (Cycle Parking) of Planning Consent S/0573/12/FL
- S/1375/12/FL** Mr & Mrs P Dark, **5 Granta Vale**, Extension.
- S/1454/12/FL** Mr & Mrs C Harris, **19 Granta Vale**, Single storey rear extension.

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The Way We Were by Garth Collard

Finchams Farm



Finchams Farm before redevelopment

Picture supplied by Garth Collard

to take place.) The couple had three children, Abraham junior, Edward and Thomas.

By 1840 when both parents were dead, Edward was the owner. His two brothers were left two dozen bolsters and pillows. Edward ran into debt and was forced to sell the farm to Pembroke College for £500. He had asked for £1,000 but the college replied that it was

a ridiculous sum.

The farmhouse reverted to two cottages and was let to farm labourers.

From 1857 Pembroke let Finchams Farm either as a part of the Rectory/Church farm or as part of the Great Barham estate. Until the mid 19th century the fields sloping down to the river were known as Lamb Fair Close, named after the

annual lamb fair held on the site when upwards of 1,000 sheep were sold. Two ancient barns on the farm were burnt down in 1910.

The Fincham family kept their link with Linton by renting small areas of land from the college. South Cambs Rural District Council demanded the neglected farmhouse be restored at a cost of £100 but the college refused and demolished it in 1933. When this took place Dr Palmer found the date 1711 inscribed at the base of the chimney stack.

The Cambridge Antiquarian Society took a picture of the farmhouse in 1910 and it can be seen in photographs of Bartlow Road taken in the 1920s. Finchams Close was built in about 1964.

LVC netball champions

ON Tuesday 10th July Linton Village College year 7 netball team (Lauren Murphy, Zoe Harrow, Ellie Harris, Rachael Attwood, Hannah Hill, Charlotte Kiddy, Maddy Foy, Holly Bowie and Katie Little) went to the county netball finals as part of the School Games at St Ives, having come second to Chesterton Village College in the district tournament.

At the finals we had to play nine other teams including Chesterton who had beaten us in a friendly the week before. We won all of our games and when it came to Chesterton we were very nervous as they had beaten us twice before, but when we got on court, we all played the best we could and won 2-1 after a seven



The victorious team

Picture supplied by Tony Kelly

minute game. As a result we won the whole tournament and at the presentation at the end of the day were rewarded with first place and a medal each. We also received a trophy to take back to Linton from England netball star Lindsay Keable who was pictured with us holding our trophy. We are now the county netball champions of 2012.

Zoe Harrow and
Katie Little of 7RL, LVC

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Parish Council Matters

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

Emergency planning meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd October in the village hall

ON the 13th June tragedy struck when arsonists attacked Chilford Hall and razed it to the ground. The feeling this provoked in both the young and old members of the village was one of devastation. The importance of the venue and the love that the village felt for the historic barns is something that the Alper family should be very proud of and I know many of us were very frustrated that there was nothing they could do. Later the same month members of the village were left very concerned after an accident at the flower festival. Thankfully for both incidents the village was supported by our wonderful emergency services that did an excellent job for which we are all incredibly grateful. What would we do without them? This may be a question that none of us want to think about, but what would happen if they couldn't get to us – we are very lucky because we do have a local fire engine but in a serious incident they would

need the support of the local community.

Therefore the village needs to produce an Emergency Plan. Many years ago we had the Emergency Planning in the Community (EPIC) plan but this needs updating and modernising to suit society today. We need to make plans for different types of emergency, both local and national. Obviously we need to consider flooding which we know has happened before. Should the parish council purchase a supply of sandbags? If so a suitable place to store them needs to be found. But there are so many other considerations. If the village flooded on a weekday just how would we get the children home from the village college? There are many scenarios that need to be looked at for all kinds of emergency. We need to keep records of medical experience and the skills of people in the village who would help in an emergency. We need to look at any specialist equipment

such as tractors, dinghies and although we all have mobile phones if these all went down does anyone have any form of radio communication?

We are therefore looking for people to help with the formation of the village Emergency Plan and to be plan holders who could react and help in the

event of an emergency. We are holding a meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd October in the village hall and would like to invite members of the village, and closest surrounding villages, (young and old) to help formulate a plan that would protect us in the event of an emergency.

Cllr Esther Cornell



High river water levels in February 2009

Picture by Sue Parry

To di-verge ...

HOW many times have we driven past a road verge full of wild blossom, or glimpsed a shy flower as we walk past, only to find on the next day that it has been mown flat? The wildflowers have not had a chance to set seed, and gradually the rarer plants disappear, to be replaced by more invasive species.

Currently the highways department cuts most verges three times a year for safety/visibility reasons. Unfortunately they tend to cut at just the wrong time – in wildlife terms. However, road verges can be designated as 'Protected Road Verges' (PRVs) if they hold particularly interesting or rare plant species. These are marked with colour-coded posts in red or blue: you might have seen some. These are cut twice a year, the timing of the cuts aiming to control the more vigorous/weedy species and to allow the rare plants to flower and set seed before they are cut.

In Linton, we have a PRV along Back Road, designated

because it contains indicators of chalk grassland, such as Common Knapweed and Lady's Bedstraw. But there are other plants that we might see - Meadow Crane's-bill, Eye-bright, Orchids, Ploughman's-spikenard, Adder's-tongue Fern, Drop-wort – such names! But no Ditherydods here – that is special to Durham.

If you could produce a record of the plant species on a particular verge that you think might qualify, do let the parish clerk know. Or, it could be a good reason to get out and have a closer look and try to identify some plants. It might be that there are verges in Linton which could qualify to be added to the PRV list. Then just think – you could help save all those rare plants that add so much to our splendid countryside.

This site has information on designation of a PRV and the species of interest: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/natureconservation/default/roadverges

Cllr Enid Bald

Fly tipping

FLY tipping is the illegal dumping of any waste and can range from a sack of domestic rubbish to loads of commercial waste. It's not only anti-social but can pollute your environment and be dangerous to children. Please report any instances of fly tipping to the environmental health department at South Cambridgeshire district council on 03450 450 063.

Cambridgeshire county council provides nine recycling centres. They operate free of charge for members of the public to dispose of their household waste, so that as much as possible can be recycled.

The nearest household waste and recycling centre is located at Thriplow: Gravel Pit Hill, Thriplow, Cambs SG8 7HZ. Telephone 01223 839001.

It is open 8am-5pm from 1st April to 30th September and 8am-4pm from 1st October to 31st March.

Entrance gates are shut 10 minutes before closing times.

The site is open at weekends and most bank holidays.

Parish council office

Dog fouling

THERE have been a number of complaints made recently regarding dog fouling on our village pavements and verges.

Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 it is generally an offence for anyone in charge of a dog to allow it to foul unless they clear it up. If there is a persistent problem with dog fouling in your area there are a number of options:

South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) can:

- investigate, issue warnings, fixed penalty notices or even

prosecute persons in charge who fail to clear up after their dog, providing you know who that person is, have witnessed the incident and are prepared to give a statement and possibly go to court.

- assess whether there are adequate facilities for the disposal of dog mess in the vicinity.

- arrange for ad-hoc clearances of heavily fouled areas.

Contact the SCDC environmental health department on 03450 450 063.

Parish council office

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk to the council – Mrs Sue Parry
Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

Website: www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 7th June 2012.

Present: R Hickford (chairman and district councillor), Mrs E Bald (vice Chairman), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Dr B Cox, Ms T Hunt, Ms M Mannassi, D Penfold, G Potter, P Poulter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) and Linda Browne, South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) community liaison support assistant were also in attendance together with three members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Dew, Manley and Wilson.

Disclosure of interest: Under the allotments item Cllr Walker declared a personal interest as an employee of Camgrain of which Mr C Fairey was a director.

Chairman’s comment: The chair commented that he felt disappointed the Linton News did not report on the recent local elections. This was not from a personal point of view, but that it was a major event within the village, with major village participation. Recently Linton had a great tradition of high turnouts and interest, and just because something was political did not automatically make it a taboo topic.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17th May: Under the council representatives item, Cllr Potter withdrew from his position on Linton Granta football sports and social club as only two representatives were required. Cllr Penfold agreed to be a reserve for this committee.

Under the vehicular access to the recreation ground item, Cllr Potter asked the chair why he had not declared an interest. The chair replied that he had acted on advice received from the monitoring officer.

Under the vehicular access to the recreation ground item, the clerk confirmed that keys and parking permits had been issued. No problems had been encountered. A key safe had been purchased to be sited in the pavilion to hold the key to the village college gate. Cllr Penfold reported that a resident had complained to him of four cars driving too fast after leaving the pavilion on a Monday evening.

Public participation: Linda Browne, SCDC community liaison support assistant, spoke on the need to update the community led parish plan.

Reports from co-ordinators: Open spaces and environment: Cllr Bald reported that some verges were being over cut. It should be reduced to two cuts per year so that plants could seed. It was important to identify verges that should be protected. Cllr Bald also commented on the quality of work undertaken by council’s grass contractors. Particular concerns were the quality of cutting on Camping Close and in the cemetery where there had been some damage by a strimmer to rowan trees. Hedges were also not being cut as per the contract. The clerk would contact CGM Ltd.

Recreation ground: Cllr Penfold reported that he had been seeking advice regarding the upgrading of the CCTV system. Consequently he would be obtaining quotations.

Cemetery: Cllr Bald reported that a meeting was being arranged to discuss the testing of headstones to identify any that were unsafe and also future works and long term planning.

Venture playground: The clerk confirmed that the cradle swings were due to be replaced during the week commencing 16th July. Cllr Potter confirmed that he had undertaken a visual risk assessment on 3rd June and had removed some wire and debris from around the skate ramp.

Churchyard: Cllr Cox reported that permission had been received to remove the self sown walnut tree and council was seeking quotations for this work.

A1307, traffic and recreation ground parking: Correspondence from the county council had been received showing the route of the proposed 20mph speed limit. It was agreed to comment that the area around the junction of Back Road and Balsham Road opposite the Post Office was still 30mph and motorists should be mindful that this was a safer routes to school crossing point. The same applied to the area at the junction of Granta Vale and the High Street. Some concerns were raised regarding possible extra signage in roads leading off from the High Street but Cllr

Cornell replied that signage would be minimised. It was agreed to request a plan of current and proposed signage and whether any redundant signs could be removed.

Cllr Cornell asked what considerations SCDC were taking to factor into the growth of Haverhill on the A1307. District Cllr Hickford would investigate.

Allotments: Cllr Champion reported on a very well attended and successful meeting on 22nd May when an Association had been formed and a constitution agreed.

Correspondence received for discussion and decision: Further correspondence had been received from SCDC regarding the future of its garage site at Chalklands, stating that the site was now being considered for the development of affordable housing (rather than a sale on the open market subject to planning permission for residential development). It was agreed to contact SCDC to confirm that council supported this and would much prefer more affordable housing.

Matters for future consideration: The chair reported that he had received a response to council’s letter dated 23rd May from Keith Miles, planning policy manager at SCDC, regarding the lack consultation. The letter would be scanned and emailed to all.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 21st June 2012.

Present: R Hickford (chairman and district councillor), Mrs E Bald (vice chairman), D Champion, Ms E Cornell, Mrs S Dew, Ms M Mannassi, D Penfold, G Potter, P Poulter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs A Meeks (assistant to the clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance together with three members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Cox, Hunt and Manley, county Cllr Batchelor, district Cllr Bear and Mrs S Parry (clerk).

Disclosure of interest: Under the allotments item, Cllr Walker declared a personal interest as an employee of Camgrain of which Mr C Fairey was a director.

Under the promotion of local business item, Cllrs Mannassi and Hickford declared personal interests as local business owners.

Chairman’s comment: The chairman recorded thanks to Cllr Cox for removing the graffiti from the Swan bridge bus shelter. The impact of the new turbines at Wadlow Wind Farm had been noticed. Much regret was expressed at the loss of two impressive barns in the fire at Chilford Hall and it was hoped they would be up and running again very quickly.

Public participation: Mr David Walker gave a brief update on the play equipment project. He advised that the result of the AmeyCespa grant bid was awaited and if successful full funding would be achieved. The chairman thanked Mr Walker.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June: Under the cemetery item Cllr Bald detailed problems with some of the lime and other trees identified at her meeting with the South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) tree officer, Roz Richardson.

Under the open spaces and environment item the response from CGM Ltd was noted. It was agreed that Cllr Bald would liaise with the clerk to word a further letter to be sent to CGM Ltd.

Report from police and consideration of policing, safety and security issues: It was noted that Cllr Batchelor had stated at the recent police panel meeting that the A1307 steering group was to meet twice a year.

Cllr Champion detailed various thefts and fires, including a wheelie bin set on fire in Rivey Close and evidence of fires in Rivey Woods. The police were working with the fire service to identify suspects.

Cllr Champion had attended the Neighbourhood Panel meeting on 19th June and reported the following: From March to May 2012 there were a total of 25 anti-social behaviour incidents, an improvement of 12 by comparison with the same period the previous year. The reported crimes for the same period had increased by 7 to 40 from 33. The police would be actively targeting drivers who park inconsiderately. Road safety was also a priority with special attention being given to speeding traffic on the A1307.

On 15th November elections would be held to elect a total of 41 police and crime commissioners. The appointments would last for four years and start on 22nd November.

There had been several reports of distraction burglaries in the area including an unsuccessful one in Finchams Close. The increase in anti-social behaviour in the village recently - a lot of graffiti and damage to vehicles - was discussed. Cllr Champion would speak to the police.

Report from the county councillor: Cllr Batchelor had given a written report detailing the changes to the 19 bus service.

Report from the district councillors: Cllr Bear had given a written report detailing the July start of the public consultation on how SCDC progresses plans for housing and development in the area up to 2031. Difficult strategic decisions have to be made, for example - what to do with the Cambridge green belt, where should most new housing be placed and should it consider a new settlement or add more housing to the villages? The parish council will be putting forward its views and she urged parishoners to respond to this consultation. Recent appeal decisions seemed to be taking more account of the views of local residents so it was important that they were expressed to SCDC. Cllr Hickford added that there would be a meeting on 28th June for SCDC to decide how to go forward and parish councils would be consulted fully.

Cllr Hickford said district councillors had been issued with the report from officers on the strategic housing land availability assessment (SHLAA). At present the only one being taken forward as suitable in Linton was the Station Road site.

To formalise the arrangements made between the chair and the village college regarding parking: Cllr Potter had requested that council ratify the agreements made between the chairman and the village college (LVC). Cllr Potter declared a personal interest having been a recent council representative for the football club sports and social club. Cllr Champion proposed that the agreement between the chairman and LVC on parking be formally between the full parish council and LVC. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley. A vote took place with 10 votes in favour and one abstention. Proposal carried.

To promote local business in the village: Cllr Mannassi talked about the number of empty shops on the High Street, the empty sites on The Grip and Cambridge Road and the number of unemployed people in the village. She would like to get more economic activity in the village. More shops and other businesses would create more footfall in the High Street and would improve the village community. Cllr Mannassi would like a meeting to be arranged with businesses to find out what their constraints were. She would be prepared to visit all businesses on The Grip to persuade them to join in. It was agreed that council would create a Local Business Committee which would organise a structured meeting inviting all businesses.

To consider the purchase of a dog bin in Kingfisher Walk in conjunction with council’s wish list: SCDC had now waived the cost of emptying a bin as there was no alternative place to site it. Cllr Wakley proposed that a dog bin be purchased at a cost of £456 and be installed in Kingfisher Walk. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved by the meeting

To consider the setting up of an Emergency Planning Committee: Cllr Cornell discussed various scenarios that needed to be planned for, especially having four schools and the River Granta flood risk. An Emergency Planning in the Community (EPIC) group had run well in the past and she would like to reintroduce this. It was agreed to arrange an emergency planning meeting with the fire service and interested residents, to create a local plan that would work and be effective. Hildersham and Bartlow residents would be invited.

Note: Copies of the full minutes, reports and documents referred to above can be inspected at the parish council office.

Finance committee update

FOLLOWING the meeting on 21st June, council’s finance committee now consists of: Cllrs Potter (chair), Poulter (vice-chair), Cornell, Cox, Hickford and Wakley.

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