

Fire station founder Harold Mascall reaches his century

VENERATED fireman and long-standing local resident Harold Mascall turned 100 on the 5th of May. He started his fire-fighting career in Linton, with a rudimentary set-up of a trailer pump behind the now closed Swan pub.

As WWII loomed, he joined the navy in Portsmouth and was conscripted into the fire-fighting party on land. When a competition was held to test the mens' skills, it was Harold's team that won, and they went to sea and then to war.

Harold's passion for fire-fighting was tested during those years, but he returned at the end of the war and continued keeping Linton safe from the dangers of fire. In the early 1950s, Harold was a founder of the Linton Fire Station and remained sub-officer in charge until 1977 when he retired. He was 55, and had completed 23 years of service.



Harold behind the bar at the Swan



The original crew of the new Linton Fire Station

A committed fire-fighter, Harold was focused on fire hydrant location and ensuring they were maintained, both in Linton and the surrounding villages. He remained in touch with the Linton Fire Station, and enjoyed teasing the young firemen on drill night. He'd demonstrate his skill and dexterity on

the ladders and with hoses, which must be run out and rolled up meticulously. Harold's retirement was never boring. Chairman of the Sports and Social Club Committee, he ran the bar until it closed, and was also chairman of Linton Parish Council for many years. Together with the Women's Institute, they purchased and erected the Linton Village sign opposite The Swan pub by the bridge over the river Granta.

An asset to the Linton community and the fire service, we wish Harold many congratulations on his 100th birthday.

Yule Edwards

The Balsham Feast is back! And you are invited...



THE Feast is a biennial event bringing our wider communities and villages together with plenty of fun and activities for all ages.

After a gap in 2020, the Feast return on 2nd July. The village recreation ground will play host to donkey rides, crazy golf, inflatables, classic cars, raptors, teddy bear drops and many more activities.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day. A café will be serving cakes, tea, coffee, soft drinks and pizzas. Balsham scouts will provide a daytime and evening BBQ, and the Black Bull will run the bar.

Music includes the Haverhill Silver band, The Balsham Singers, the Cambridge University Ceilidh Band and Life and Soul are back to provide the evening entertainment. Get your dancing shoes on!

All major activities are free of charge. 12:30 -11PM Facebook - @balshamfeast

Alan Herron

Left: A taste of feasts gone by

Linton's Talking Newspaper

IN last month's Linton News, you may have read an excellent appeal by the Bishops Stortford Talking Newspaper for help. Linton has had its own Talking Newspaper for the last 32 years and is also in need of assistance and is 20 miles closer!

Granta Grapevine, a registered charity, provides a spoken version of the Linton News and an audio magazine every month for those who are visually impaired or have difficulty

reading the text for any reason. The group kept going during the Covid emergency following Government guidance but has lost some volunteers during the period. We need help in all areas, both technical, where we need skills in computing and audio recording, and non-technical such as administration and reading. We can provide training where necessary. Contact me for further information or if you know anyone who might like a copy of the recording on USB memory stick. Our website is at grantagrapevine.org.uk

Mike Crofts 893619

It's time to accept your fete



Artist Sonia Villiers' impression of the village green

THIS summer, after a two year break, the Hadstock Fete is back on Saturday 18th June 2022. The Fete attracts over 1,000 people and raises much needed funds for the Village Hall and St Botolph's Church, both beautiful assets in the village of Hadstock.

There will be the usual stalls of Welly Throwing, the Crazy Kitchen, Tombola, Bric-a-Brac, Face Painting and a Bouncy Castle. The Hadstock Silver Band, Maypole Dancing, Michael Prentice and his tasty burgers, Hadstock Teas and Cakes, Beer Tent, various Stalls, the Coconut Shy plus loads more including the newly introduced Dog Show, sponsored by Leaps and Bounds with categories for Handsome Dog and Pretty Bitch, Best Trick and Junior Handler and the Waggiest Tail.

The annual auction starts at 3.30 pm and this year we have fabulous auction lots such as a stay in Munich, a stay in Sweden and meals out, plus a heap of manure. We have something for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you from 1.30pm for an exciting afternoon of fun and activities for all the family. Please be sure to register your dog, on the day (behind the Church), in time for the first parade at 2pm. You can also follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/hadstockvillagefete

Karen Delamain

A tale of two crowns



Above left: The new crown complete with guards. Right: the stolen original

LINTON'S Karen Sanderson surely wins the award for dedication to the cause after having crocheted TWO incredible crowns to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee. Sadly, the first one was stolen from its location on top of the Chalklands post box, and a £50 reward for its safe return remains unclaimed.

Unperturbed, Karen set about making a replacement, which now serves as the centerpiece of Chalklands Community Garden. On Saturday June 4th Linton Jazz will play there

from 3pm (weather permitting). There will be a raffle, tombola, cake stall and refreshments. All proceeds will go to Cancer Research and the Community Room across the road will serve as the wet weather back up. Raffle tickets available from 15 Chalklands or Karen Sanderson on 07748917513

Linton News Team

Concert for Ukraine

LINTON Music Series will hold a concert at St. Mary's Church on Thursday 16th June at 7.30 in aid of Ukraine, to which cause all profits will be forwarded. The performer will be the celebrated pianist Vitaly Pisarenko who is himself from Ukraine. We hope you will welcome Vitaly back to Linton to play for us at St. Mary's. He has previously played at Linton Village College to great acclaim. For details and ticket prices see the website www.lintonmusicseries.co.uk

LNT

Readers write...

Dear Editor, friends and neighbours,

My family and I would like to thank everyone who sent condolence cards, messages, emails, letters and flowers or shown wonderful kindness and support following the passing of my dear husband, Brian Chapman.

There was an amazing attendance of family, friends, and acquaintances for our Service of Thanksgiving for which we are truly grateful. My family and I have taken huge comfort from the many heart-warming conversations and memories shared during that afternoon which we shall cherish for a long time. A most sincere thank you also for the many donations received in support of the Alzheimer's Society. Those closest to us will know that Brian lived with this cruel disease in recent years. We send our thanks and gratitude to you all.

Hilary Chapman & Family

Dear Editor,

I write in response to Geoff Freeman's letter featured in the May edition of Linton News. Thank you Geoff for noticing the clearance work, and for taking the time to express your appreciation. The long strip of young woodland on Balsham Road is commonly known as 'Millennium Wood' as it was planted around the year 2000. Two of our FROG volunteers, Liz and Neil, who regularly walk through the wood, noted the number of broken, redundant plastic tree guards littering the ground. There were too many to cart off in a few bin bags, so they set to work finding out to whom the land belongs (Pembroke College) and reminded them of their responsibility to maintain it properly! The managing agent, Bidwells, arranged for the tree guards to be removed from the site, provided they were first collected into piles. A few months, and many hours of FROG volunteers collecting and carrying the tree guards later, the site no longer resembles a neglected tip and makes for a much more pleasant walking experience! My thanks to all FROG volunteers who helped gather the tree guards, and to Karina who carted umpteen wheelbarrows-full of tree guards from one end of the wood to the road on the day the contractors arrived to dispose of them!

Helen Brookes, Chair

Dear Editor,

Some months ago my husband and I moved into the lovely village of Linton with its friendly and welcoming community. It is a wonderful place to live. At its centre, St Mary's Church offers a sense of permanency. Alongside there is a lovely 'Peace Garden' - a place to sit and just enjoy the moment and relax in its quiet solitude. The garden is for the whole community to enjoy. But it will only be a wonderful resource if the sanctity of the place is respected. Last month the Linton News featured vandalism in the garden. Sadly, since then, there has been more antisocial behaviour, with the hard work of others destroyed, including an arbour and a bench. Deliberately breaking or spoiling the property of others is a crime. Such behaviour does not make a person big - it is the opposite, it demeans them. Do not fall into that trap. Linton has much to offer and be proud of, please, let's keep it that way.

Dear Editor,

As residents of Green Lane for forty years, we would like to offer a different opinion from that expressed in your article "Green Lane residents vent frustration."

The Co-op offers an invaluable service to the village and we

fully appreciate the difficulties their delivery drivers face in parking lorries. In our view the main problem is the frequent thoughtless parking of cars on the yellow lines at the top of Green Lane. Could we suggest that the issue of illegal parking is addressed first before anything which is in any way punitive to the Co-op occurs?

The article also raised concerns about the footpath between Green Lane and Mill Lane which it suggests is poorly lit. These are country lanes and the last thing we need is any more light-pollution, which we would strongly object to.

Jonathan and Barbara Silverman

Dear Editor,

Please may I remind readers that Linton Granta Football Club will hold it's Annual General Meeting on Thursday June 30th at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

Robin Williams

Dear Editor,

Recent editions of your newspaper have mentioned the Hilder-sham crossing and associated cycle way. It is apparent that several mature trees have been felled to make way for this project. They have been replaced with "whips" which will take several decades to become trees. I trust the hordes of pedestrians and cyclists who will, no doubt, use the new crossing appreciate the "green" sacrifice.

Peter Wells

Royal reflections from the Historical Society

MAY 17th was the last meeting of our present season of talks. We welcomed Abby Lockett from Marie Curie who spoke to us of the wide range of support they give to people from all walks of life suffering with a wide range of illness as well as helping families when faced with end of life care for their relatives. Although attendance was low (maybe it was something to do with it being the hottest day of the year so far) an interesting question and answer session followed.

As the name Linton and District Society suggests, topics with a local theme are especially welcome. If you, or someone you know, is prepared to speak at one of our meetings, please get in touch. Let us hope we can enjoy a pleasant summer with some normality returning after two difficult years. On a historical theme - how many of us can remember the Queen's Coronation Day back in 1953?

As young children we were crammed, along with friends and neighbours, around a small black and white television (probably bought especially for this great occasion) watching the proceedings as the rain poured down!

Nonetheless, there was great excitement watching a flickering television screen, taking pride of place on a table in the corner of the living room with pictures coming all the way from London. How times have changed, almost anyone can now access any event worldwide.

The Queen, like so many others, has been through some difficult times of late. Let us hope she has a joyful day. If you, your friends and neighbours have planned a get together to mark this Platinum Jubilee, have a lovely day.

Margaret Creek
893915 Email: ldhscams@gmail.com

Inspirational Young Voices Return

Linton Heights' staff and pupils are pleased to be bringing school life back to 'normal'. But learning and being together as a whole school community, after such a long time of disruption and change, actually feels better than before. On 5th May, our school choir was finally able to enjoy a much longed for trip to the London O2 Arena where we sang in

the Young Voices choir with over 7,000 children, to an almost sold-out audience of parents and families. The event had been postponed many times, and seeing so many young singers all united through music was truly inspiring. This year's concert was made even more fantastic as we were all very aware of what the children had experienced and overcome in the last 24 months in order to get there. "I thought it would be good. But I didn't think it would be THIS

good!" (Alex, Year 4) summed it all up perfectly! We are so proud of our pupils for their resilience in coping with many disappointments and delays over the last few years, and my memory of the children who sang and danced for hours and hours at the O2 will last longer than any school closure or lockdown.

Emma Mason
Music Subject Lead

Think more about yourself...

SELF care... what is it? When we hear the phrase perhaps we automatically switch off. It's become a bit of a cliché to take some time out for yourself. Perhaps you have an internal voice that repeats 'I don't need or want that. It's too narcissistic or self indulgent.' That attitude might mean that you don't feel you deserve to be looked after. But you absolutely do. In the first step towards practising self care, when you next stumble across the phrase (maybe that means right now reading this column), linger a little longer over it. What actually is it? How can I do it for myself?

Let's approach it from a different angle. Think of yourself as a child or dear friend that needs looking after - someone who needs love, kindness and patience. You are probably very good at delivering these to others but slam the brakes on as soon as you think of something to give yourself. Many of us also say that 'we don't have time.' But self care doesn't demand a com-

plete overhaul of your entire life; that's way too big a task, but a convenient excuse. If we think it's insurmountable we will push it to the back of the priority queue of things we need to get to. Small steps work perfectly here.



So perhaps next time you have a few moments ask yourself, what can I do to be kind to myself? It is acutely personal so perhaps it might be as simple as taking half an hour to watch your favourite programme, planting some seeds or sitting in the garden you tend, treating yourself to a cream tea or booking a yoga class for the first time or perhaps just a walk with nature without your mobile phone. Enquiring of yourself what you need, rather than what you want, is a good start. Do I want that latest gadget or anti-wrinkle cream? Or is a walk in nature picking some wild flowers or cooking myself a nourishing meal going to serve the needs of my soul better? Turn inward and listen to the voice rooted deep within. The little steps all add up.

Gemma Speakman

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Entry through the gates at the

side of Gallery Above

WHAT'S ON June.....

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Thursday 2 nd	Race Night	7:30pm
Friday 3 rd	Disco	8pm
Saturday 4 th	Live Music - Back to the 80's Tribute	8pm
Wednesday 8 th	Quiz	7:30pm
Friday 10 th	Live Music - Jennifer Em	8pm
Saturday 11 th	Karaoke	8pm
Saturday 25 th	Live Music - Legends of Rock	8pm

Tuesday - Sunday Happy Kebab Burger van from 6pm

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News from the Gardening Club



Tender Petunias

AT the Gardening Club's May meeting, Wendy Overy from 'Fenland Flowers and Foliage' gave a delightful talk on 'Growing for Cut Flowers'. Wendy grows a selection of traditional cottage garden flowers and bulbs on her plot near the Lakenheath fens as sustainably as possible. She uses the no-dig method where the plants are grown in thick layers of mulch in either a polytunnel or outside and she waters them with stored rainwater. As well as showing us how she grows her plants she also gave the audience numerous tips on when and how to cut and prepare the flowers so that they look their best for the maximum time in vases. This was the last talk before the club's summer break. Our meetings will resume in September.



Ruffled White Iris



Purple Iris



Delicately shaped White Iris

Back in our own garden we have found that irises distract the eye away from all the withering spring bulb foliage and nicely fill the gaps until the summer border plants become established. Now all risk of frost has passed, tender plants can be planted out after hardening them off. "Hardening off" means gradually introducing your indoor raised plants to the outdoor conditions of harsh direct sunlight and blustery winds and rain. Simply pop them outside during the day for a week or so and they should then grow well when planted out.

If you do have any plants you would like to donate to the 'pop up' stalls we hold now and again (for club funds) please contact me.

Jim, Linton Garden Club, lgsecretary@yahoo.co.uk 893577

2523 Linton Air Cadets

WE have now had a full report from our cadets from camp. They had a fantastic time and a few of their activities included fieldcraft, abseiling, arms drill and flying in an RAF Chinook. Some amazing experiences, and our cadets with summer camp places eagerly await their turn.



Chinooks and Crannies

2523 continues to succeed, with Sgt Vellacott completing a Senior NCO course. This includes advanced leadership and drill, culminating in his silver leadership badge. Corporal Spall and Cadet Addison completed their bronze Cyber, and Cadet Macnamara passed bronze Radio. These are all fantastic skills for life and future employment.



A proud presentation

We were lucky enough to visit the British Model Flying Association 100th birthday event at Old Walden airfield. Eight Linton cadets got a private tour of the Shuttleworth Collection

museum, with demonstrations in drone racing, virtual reality drone flying and most impressive of all, model rocketry. The cadets were even able to be on launch control and launch the rockets themselves. "It was great to be able to have physical demonstrations of rocketry", said Sgt Norris. "We have theoretical space training, but seeing the rockets and launching them in person really makes the syllabus come to life.



Locked and loaded on the target range

We have an exciting schedule including powered flying at RAF Cranwell. We look forward to sector field day where cadets have been training to compete in leadership, first aid, drill and more. Our jubilee parade practice is underway and we look forward to parading the union and squadron standards at several events over the coming months.

Bradley Wright
Flying Officer RAFAC
training 2523@eafac.mod.gov.uk
07943873272

THE LINTON NEWS Next publication: 6th July 2022
DEADLINE FOR NEWS ITEMS:
Wednesday 18th June

ADVERTISING
Requests for adverts can be sent to:
Judith Rouse: adverts.linton.news@gmail.com

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR
Should be sent to Jack Glossop
editor.linton.news@gmail.com

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07905 384741 delivery.linton.news@gmail.com

Call 893619 for an audio version of the Linton News

June bin collection dates (Linton)

Black bins: Tuesday 7th, Monday 20th
Blue bins: Monday 13th, Monday 27th
Green bins: Monday 13th, Monday 27th

News from St Mary's

ALTHOUGH our search goes on to find a new Rector, St Mary's continues to operate in dynamic form. As advertised in the last edition of the Linton News, the stunning performance of 'Oswald, the Whiteblade' by the Hazelsong Theatre in May, was received with much enthusiasm by the audience. My lasting memory will be the expression of surprise and amazement of the little boy sitting in front of me at the entry and procession of the dragon down the church!

The Church has continued to provide lunches during the school holidays for those local families in need, as well as activities for children at Messy Church and mothers and their babies during the week at Tots in Tow.

We know that the pandemic is not over, but it has been very pleasing to see our Sunday congregations grow and to welcome new faces and welcome back those we have not seen for some time. It has also been a particular joy to attend and speak at our first joint youth worship service with the Linton Free Church, in what we are calling 'Linton Together for Youth'. These services are largely led by and for youngsters and meet on the last Sunday of every month, alternating between St Mary's and the Free Church.

Look on our websites and Facebook for more information or contact our youth worker, Cynthia Mukoko (cynthia.mukoko@romseymill.org).

The next service will be on the 26th June 5pm-6pm at the Free Church.

Revd Michael Wilcockson
associate.priest@stmaryslinton.org.uk

Exploring Ceramics

Various artists

2nd June - 2nd July 2022
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Trips, events and in-person visits are back!

AS always, these articles are written well before publication, and in this case, before our May half term. I hope the weather is kind to us and that everyone has the chance to recharge before the last half term of the year.

Year 2 had a great school trip to Colchester Zoo! These trips are so vital to the experiences the children have. From making their own packed lunch, to the coach journey, then the Zoo itself, the children had such a great time. Thank you to our PTFA who support these trips by helping to fund the coaches, keeping the cost to parents at a minimum. On 18th May we welcomed parents into school who have children joining us in September, one of our first in-person events for a couple of years now. It was nice to meet new parents and also, to see some familiar faces. We are looking forward to welcoming the children into school in September. Our PTFA are currently organising our popular Summer Fair, which is on Friday



Meeting the giraffes at Colchester Zoo

17th June, 5pm-7pm. As you can imagine, fund-raising has been difficult over the past couple of years and we really do rely on the support of our wider community, be that through donating raffle prizes, sponsoring a stall or simply by turning up and enjoying the evening! We look forward to seeing you there - everyone is welcome!

Kelly Harries

Library News

IN HiVIs Fortnight (6th-19th June) we highlight library services for people with impaired vision. We want everyone to enjoy books, even if reading print is a challenge, and we offer books in a range of formats including Large Print, audio and electronic.

If you have young children, come along to our Story and Rhyme times at 10.30am on Tuesday 7th and 21st.

We will be celebrating Carers Week with a Read A Little Aloud session on Tuesday 7th, 11.30am – 12.30pm. Join us to listen to readings, stories and poems on the theme 'Books that make you smile'. A member of the Caring Together team will also be there to talk about what that can offer. All are welcome!

Monday 13th at 2pm is our Engage session, Carol Frankl will talk about what it's like to have grandchildren with special needs. All welcome.

Our new Knit and Natter group will meet on Tuesday 14th and 28th at 2pm, just bring your latest craft project (knitting or otherwise).

Are you good with technology? We need a volunteer to be a Digital Buddy. Please call in for more details.

All libraries in Cambridgeshire offer a warm welcome to refugees. We have a welcome leaflet in various languages – please ask if you need a copy for yourself or to give to a new arrival.

Lindsay Healy and Ann King
Community Library Assistants
Linton Library

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

General library enquiries: your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Customer Services (regular office hours):
0345 045 5225

Marsh Mail

HIGHLIGHTS of the summer term so far have included an amazing Dance show. Following a fantastic performance of the Grimm Fairy Tales just before Easter, a large cast were involved in a spectacular range of dance performances. Students from all year groups were involved in stunning pieces, including original choreography inspired by Malala's campaign for education for girls, Amanda Gorman's inauguration poem, plus musicals including Matilda, Hair-spray and La La Land.

Our Year 11s were treated to a re-creation of another musical, as the staff of LVC dressed up as the students of Rydell High for the Leavers' goodbye video. Celebrations included a photo reel from Year 7, games on the school field, food and a visiting ice cream van.

GCSE exams have returned this year following two years of alternative assessment. Our students have started the exam series, which is more spread out than in previous years, with great maturity and focus. We wish them all the best and look forward to seeing them back at school dressed up in their finery to enjoy the Prom on 1st July.

Helena Marsh



Students performing in the dance show

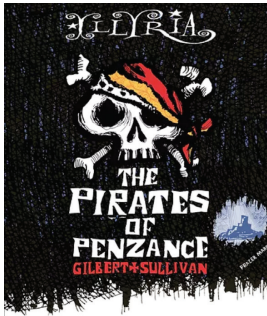
Pirates at Fulbourn Manor

ON July 3rd 2022, Fulbourn Manor will be opening its gardens for a stunning picnic performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's The Pirates of Penzance.

Award-winning Illyria Outdoor Theatre is celebrating its 30th anniversary, and to mark this milestone they are re-staging popular shows from their back catalogue. This will include an outdoor version of The Pirates of Penzance. Fulbourn Arts are privileged to be part of Illyria's celebration. Performed by a six-strong cast with specially-orchestrated



Illyria cast in a past production



nautical accompaniment, The Pirates of Penzance gets the complete Illyria treatment. Despite a reduction in scale, not a single word from WS Gilbert's libretto is cut, nor a single note or harmony from Sir Arthur Sullivan's score unsung. Whoever you are, a show like The Pirates of Penzance is a fantastic event for your calendar. It's funny, raucous, and the music is beautiful. The performance will begin at 6.30pm, but the gates will open at 4.30pm. Bring your chairs or rugs, a picnic or a bottle of prosecco, and enjoy the garden of this old manor house in the early evening sunshine.

Linton News Team

Further information: fulbournarts.org
Tickets on sale now from: illyria.co.uk

Where do they find the energy?!

WHAT a couple of months it has been. March saw our Rangers and Guides take part in an incident hike organised by Cambridge University Scouts and Guides, an event enjoyed by all who came. Our Trefoil members visited the fire station in Linton and had a really interesting evening. They also celebrated a 90th birthday with lovely cake and conversation. Our wonderful Jarman Centre in Newmarket had its annual bank holiday Easter fun day for families to enjoy and by the time you read this will have had its big boot sale on the 22nd of May.

The beautiful snowdrops outside our hut in Linton have now disappeared again until they reappear next spring. Our units are getting ready to have their pack holidays, overnights and summer camps and the Rainbows are getting ready to go wild in June.

There are 12 'counties' that make up our region of Anglia and ours is Cambs East. The county organised a huge county wide event called *Survive to Thrive* at the beginning of May and all our girls had a go at activities such as a silent disco, getting knotty and going on a picture scavenger hunt.

As you will see from the photos, the cream egg chicks made for Easter look yummy...

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



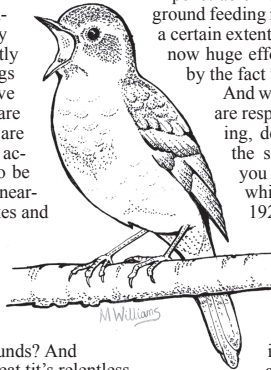
Ode to a nightingale

NO bird represents the voice of nature so much as the humble nightingale, the ultimate Little Brown Job, and the inspiration to poets and writers through the ages. It is easy to hear but hard to see, with an air of mystery, the Latin name of *Luscinia Megarhyn-cus*, and a lung capacity the equivalent of diving down to 10 metres. What makes it so special?

The nightingale is a member of the chat family, along with robins and redstarts. It is slightly bigger than a robin, predominantly brown, mostly grey/brown with a white-grey throat. Its wings and tail are light brown, with nothing distinctive till it opens its mouth wide and lets rip. They are very common on the continent, but numbers are dwindling here, down to less than 5000 pairs, according to which report you read. They are to be found mainly in the south of England, and the nearest known nesting sites to us are Lackford Lakes and Grafham Water.

Birders always advise people to learn a little more birdsong and a whole new world opens up. For many people a first encounter with nightingale song is a gateway to interest in the natural world. How is it possible for such a small critter to make such beautiful sounds? And why do they? I'm writing this listening to a great tit's relentless two tone tirade in the garden. What a contrast!

Nightingales arrive here in April, via France and Spain. In August the little balls of feathers, weighing between 17 and 24 grammes, fly all the way back to Senegal, Guinea and The Gambia. All that extraordinary effort and they usually live only two



or three years. A century ago people used to cage nightingales to listen to them, and the poor creatures dashed their heads against the cage bars desperate to migrate. The first nightingales were tagged in 2009, and one of the original 20 was recaptured just 50 metres from where it was tagged the previous year. They love impenetrable hedges of hazel, blackthorn and bramble scrub, ground feeding mostly on ants and beetles. Sadly muntjac and to a certain extent pheasant have spoiled some of their habitat, but now huge efforts are being made to maintain it, made easier by the fact they come back to the same spot.

And what about that famous song then? Unpaired males are responsible for the most explosive and loudest singing, desperate to attract passing females down from the sky. Any verbal description is inadequate, but you can listen to recordings online, a crescendo of whistles, trills and gurgles. The most famous is a 1924 recording of a nightingale singing alongside the cellist Beatrice Harrison. She received 50,000 fan letters after it was broadcast on the BBC. Males also sing in the daytime, and once paired up, carry on singing to defend their territory. They can make 1000 different sounds, and the bit of their brain controlling song is bigger than in other birds. Birds living in open areas like goldfinches have scratchy and jangly songs, whereas woodland and scrub residents, like nightingales, adapt their songs to carry further, with cleaner, longer and louder notes to get past all the trees.

If you have yet to hear a nightingale in the flesh, a male black cap in May comes a close second.

POT POURRI 204

Letters of a number

WHAT is the lowest number whose letters are in alphabetical order?

Pot Pourri 203 - How many regions?

With 2 pegs we get 2 regions, with 3 pegs we get 4, then 4 pegs gives 8 regions & so on (?). Not so with 6 pegs - we do not get a doubling from 5 pegs (16) but there are 31 regions with 6 pegs.

This shows that as far as mathematics is concerned, it pays not to assume.

Free Musical Instrument "Taster Morning"

WOULD you or your child like to play a musical instrument, but you aren't sure which one? Would you like to try out one or more instruments before making up your mind?

If so, Duxford Saturday Workshop Taster Morning is for you! At this event, experienced tutors and players will help you to have hands-on, practical experience of several instruments. They are available to answer your questions and to help you to decide which instrument is the one for you.

This is completely free. There is no need to book in advance, and you do not have to be a current member of the Music Workshop to come along - so just arrive and have a go!

Of course, if you decide to join us for the next Workshop year (beginning in September) you will be most welcome. Our current membership rate is only £20 per year, with a weekly attendance fee of just £2 for adults and £1 for children. If you need an instrument, items can often be borrowed from our hire stock for the year at low cost (currently £25 per year), meaning that it is possible to gain tuition and experience of playing, for a very modest outlay indeed.

Workshop takes place at Duxford School on Saturday mornings during term-time and is very much about enjoying music-making in a supportive and fun environment. All ages, abilities and experience levels are welcome, and we offer both ensembles and tuition to cater for a wide range of musical interests and tastes.

Instruments included in the Taster Morning are: *Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Guitar and Ukulele.*

When? Saturday morning 2nd of July, from 11.00-12.15

Where? Duxford Primary School, St John's Street, Duxford CB22 4RA.

For further info: www.duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk
email: director@duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk

Ashdon Open Gardens



Proceeds to All Saints Church, Ashdon
Tickets - £5 per adult, Children FREE
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Sunday 12th June 2022
11am - 5pm

Tickets from 'The Cart' (cash only) in the centre of the village on the bridge - **CB10 2ET**
and All Saints Church Rooms in Church Lane

Celebrations at Granta, and a call for recruits

THROUGHOUT the year, our students are supported with their personal development and cultural capital with a variety of celebratory and educational diversity events. Last year these included a Pride parade and poster competition. More recently the focus has been around Black History Month, Diwali and Ramadan. This year is particularly exciting as it is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. During the week 23rd-27th May, our students will be taking part in celebratory activities, learning about the history of the Queen's 70-year reign and finishing the week welcoming our families into school for a Jubilee family picnic! As we approach the end of this school year, we are actively looking for TAs and Mid-

day supervisors to join our wonderful school and be a part of our students personal development. Come, join us, and be a part of a great team. Further details can be found on our website.

Date for the diary: We are very pleased to announce we are going to be holding our annual Summer Fete this year. Please put a note in your diary for Saturday 9th July, 12-3.30pm. There will be a variety of stalls, BBQ, games and much more. We look forward to welcoming people from the local community as well as our parents and carers.

Ruchi Datta
Headteacher

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District and County Councillors' report May 2022

District Council Elections

South Cambridgeshire District Council held elections at the beginning of the May and we're very pleased to say that both Henry and John were re-elected to represent Linton, Abington, Hildersham, Bartlow, Shudy Camps and Castle Camps for another 4 years. Regardless of who, if anyone, you voted for, we represent everybody in the constituency on the District Council and are really looking forward to continuing to do so.

The full election results across the whole of South Cambridgeshire are:

Liberal Democrats – 37 councillors

Conservatives – 7 councillors

There are no other political parties represented on the council.

A1307 Upgrades

The next set of upgrades to be implemented on the A1307 is the safer crossing point at the Hildersham junction.

This involves putting in a crossing that all non-motorised users (pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) can use. This has begun already and will be fully completed in the summer.

Vaccination Centres

Some villages in South Cambridgeshire hosted mobile vaccination centres in May. These were facilitated by the NHS in conjunction with the local authorities.

District Council – John Batchelor – johndbatchelor23@gmail.com
District & County Council – Henry Batchelor – henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Single storey rear extension Open for comment icon
3 Bakers Lane Linton Cambridge Cambridgeshire
CB21 4NF

Ref. No: 22/02334/PRIOR | Validated: Mon 16 May 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

T1 - Sycamore, Remove. Open for comment icon
14 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS

Ref. No: 22/0564/TTCA | Validated: Fri 13 May 2022
Status: Awaiting decision

Submission of details required by condition 12 (Foul water drainage) of outline planning permission
S/2553/16/OL Open for comment icon

Land Off Horseheath Road Linton Cambridge CB21 4AY Ref. No: S/2553/16/CONDQ | Validated: Fri 13 May 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

Submission of details required by condition 4 (Materials) of planning permission 21/03323/LBC Open for comment icon

2 Church Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JX
Ref. No: 21/03323/CONDA | Validated: Tue 03 May 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

Linton Camsight VIPs The Cambridgeshire charity for people of all ages with sight impairment and blindness

AT our May meeting we were delighted to welcome Frances Wyatt, a volunteer from The East Anglia Children's Hospice who came to speak about their work. Frances gave a very moving and informative account of the wide range of ways in which they can help not only the patients, but also their siblings and families as they go through a very challenging and often sad time. She described how, despite the reasons for being at the hospice, they are very happy, positive places where children can play and enjoy activities provided by therapists and volunteers.

This was followed by our afternoon tea and raffle. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th June at 2.00pm at the Chalklands Centre when we shall welcome a speaker from the Pets As Therapy group. If you or anyone you know would like further information, please contact us at the Cambridge office on 420033 or on the number below.

Jean Mannion
893595

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The Council Conundrum ...who's who on the Team

WE START at the dawn of time with our most long standing councillor, Cllr Brian Cox (Dr). Brian has been a member of the Linton Parish Council for forty one years! Brian is on the Finance Committee and is very involved in the care of the Churchyard, along with members of The Monday Gang. Brian shares his love of history and extensive knowledge of the village with the team. He is an essential source of reference!

Cllr Merrie Mannassi, our current Chairman has been a councillor for twelve years and has held the position of Chairman for the past three years. Merrie is on every committee and often applies her knowledge of engineering and manufacturing to the discussions. Merrie is also passionate about all things canine, regularly helping residents with their pets.

Cllr Paul Poulter has ten years service with the Parish Council and is on the Finance and Personnel committees, he is also keen to promote sport and youth work and represents the Parish Council at meetings with the Linton Granta Football, Sports and Social Club.

Cllr Simon Hill has been a member of the Parish Council for nine years. Simon is the Council Representative for the Allotments Association and is directly involved with the Friends of the River Granta (FROGS) who undertake projects to preserve the health of our rare and protected chalkstream.

Cllr Chris Hine has lived in the village since 2001 and has been a member of the council for five years. Chris is on the Finance and Personnel committees and is currently actively involved in the redevelopment of the Bowling Green. Chris has children who attend the local schools and is keen to drive projects for the children and youth of the village.

Cllr John Bald is currently Vice Chairman of the Parish Council and is involved in many aspects of village life on behalf of the parishioners, including his first passion of teaching. John is available to help pupils with their learning, free of charge and invites you to get in touch if you need support.

Cllr Kate Kell is Chair of the Planning Committee and uses her extensive knowledge to assess and dissect planning applications. In recent years her experience has helped the Linton Parish Council to navigate the large developments. Kate is also on the Finance and Personnel committees and is the Tree Warden for the Parish. Kate has been with the Parish Council for five years.

Cllr Sharron Parker joined the Parish Council in 2020 and is interested in local history and community projects. Sharron is keen to promote sport in Linton.

Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds joined the Parish council in November 2021 and helps to represent parishioners of Little Linton. Helen is on the Planning Committee and is passionate about the conservation of the area.

Cllr Caitlin Seaward is the youngest councillor at just eighteen. Caitlin works at Julie & Jo's childcare in the village and is keen to be involved in all projects but especially those involving children and youth.

Cllr Guy Ennew joined the Parish Council in January 2022. Many of you will know Guy from his involvement with the Cricket Club. Guy brings a wealth of knowledge on sport and recreation, he is currently working on the Bowling Green project and hoping to redevelop part of the Recreation Ground for some practice nets for the cricketers in the village. Guy also sits on the Planning Committee.

Cllr Carl Cieluch is our newest member, joining the Parish Council in February 2022. Carl is an active volunteer with the Speedwatch Team and is determined to reduce the nuisance traffic in Linton. The Linton Parish Council has a total of over ninety years' experience and knowledge of our village, they volunteer their time to benefit us all and must be highly commended for the work they do.

Clerk

Parish Council Office New entrance & Opening hours.

THE PARISH Council office is a hive of activity, the purpose of the team is to support the Parish Council and to be the first port of call for all parishioners.

You may be aware of the restructuring of the office team in November 2021 so I would like to give you an overview of roles and responsibilities of the staff.

The role Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) to the Council has now been split between myself, Jenny Seaward and Kate Dyer. I look after the day to day running of the office and often deal directly with parishioner queries, delegating them to the relevant member of the team. In the role of Clerk I work with Kate to advise and support the Parish Council in all aspects of it's duties on behalf of the village, my days are certainly varied, one moment I'm ordering litter bins, the next organising events such as the Picnic in the Park. It certainly keeps me out of mischief!

Kate Dyer who is also Clerk and RFO to the Parish Council and focuses on all financial aspects of the role. Kate also takes responsibility for compliance and is regularly examining the rules and regulations that must be adhered to in order for the Parish Council to comply with the policies and procedures. Kate is also managing Risk Assessments for all areas of the village and may be spotted out and about with a tape measure and notebook in hand.

Maria French is Assistant Clerk to the Parish Council and has a wealth of knowledge on Planning. Maria spends much of her time on the planning portal, submitting essential comments on planning applications and supporting the Planning Committee in their work on new developments. Maria also helps enormously with the day to day running of the office, she is paramount to the efficiency of the organisation.

Nadine Wilson is our Administration and Burial Officer. In her role as Burials Officer, Nadine works with the local funeral directors to ensure everything runs smoothly for parishioners in the event of a bereavement. Nadine is currently updating the Cemetery records using new software which will streamline the data and preserve the information for the future. At times we lose sight of Nadine, eventually locating her under the mountain of paperwork that requires filing in the office!

Chris Filby is our Village Custodian, many of you know Chris well and see him out in all weathers, keeping the streets of Linton clean and tidy. Chris enjoys interaction with the residents and welcomes a quick chat or a cheery wave. I know he would appreciate a few more people picking up after their pets, your assistance would be much appreciated!

So that's us, your team, to call on if you have any questions or queries. If we can not help you directly we are always here to advise who to speak to which may be someone at District or County level and will endeavour to support you in any way we can to resolve any concerns.

I must mention the new arrangements for the Parish Council Office. We have our own door, the new entrance to the office is to the left hand side of the Village Hall. If you would like to visit the office to discuss any issues or gain advice please make an appointment by calling us on 01223 891001 or emailing enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk. Entry to the office from the Village Hall foyer will no longer be open.

We have a Ring doorbell installed which will alert us to visitors and we will pop down to let you in. For your information it will be recording all visitors and is activated via the doorbell and a motion sensor but this is simply for the purpose of identifying that we have a visitor and the footage will not be retained.

Clerk

Planning and Meeting Update April - May 2022

THE PAST two months have been busy ones for the planning committee. The deadline for our comments on the appeal for the variation of condition application for the foul sewer connection for the Bartlow Road development has now passed. Our submissions for APP/W0530/W/21/3287502 can be found on the Planning Inspectorate website.

The surface and foul water conditions for the Croudace Development at Horseheath Road were decided by the SCDC Planning Committee on 13th April, with the surface water condition being approved subject to additional infiltration testing and information regarding the structural integrity of the banking around the infiltration pond. Details of the changes to the site entrance to prevent water running directly into the site from the Horseheath Road were not considered as part of this proposal. This issue remains one of concern to all residents who were flooded last year and also to the Parish Council, as fast flowing surface water from the road has the potential to overwhelm the infiltration basin. As some of the residents affected by the flooding last year have still not had all the damage to their homes rectified (and are still living in temporary accommodation), we are keen to see this issue resolved as quickly as possible as the summer approaches and with it the potential for intense summer storms.

The foul water condition was refused, with SCDC Committee Members citing concerns about the very sharp bends in the uphill pipe from the sewer tank on site to connect to the village network in Lonsdale. They also raised concerns over the capacity of the foul network in the village. At the time of writing, LPC are awaiting a date for a meeting with South Cambs Planning Director, Anglian Water and Croudace to discuss the design of this system. We are keen to understand why it has failed twice this year with less than a quarter of the homes on the site occupied. As Anglian Water are not adopting this foul sewer network, it will become the responsibility of the homeowners on the Croudace site to pay for all repairs and maintenance work in the long term through their residents' management company.

As always, there have been a number of householder applications to review and comment on. Additional new houses have been approved on Chalklands and Rivey Way, along with a number of extensions and other alterations. Some applications have also been refused or withdrawn - withdrawal usually implying that the applicant has been notified that there are grounds for refusal, and rather than receive a formal decision to refuse they have withdrawn the application first.

We remain especially grateful to parishioners who contact us to discuss their thoughts and plans prior to submitting an application, and to those who come and talk to us at our Planning Committee meetings as it gives us the opportunity to properly understand their proposals before submitting comments to the Planning Authority.

We have just been notified that the application for the convenience store at the top of Joiners Road has been refused. The reasons for refusal were that the application was not supported by a Retail Impact Assessment as required by the current Local Plan, so insufficient information had been provided; and that the proposal failed to provide a form of development that contributes positively to its local rural character or represent high quality design. We wonder what will happen next with this site... will we see a return to the proposal for smaller residential apartments? Or another submission for a convenience store with a different design and additional paperwork? Or something else entirely?!

Cllr Kate Kell - Chair of the Planning Committee



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ABBREVIATED minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council held on Thursday 21st March 2022 at the Cathodeon Centre.

Chairman's Comment.

The Chairman expressed her sadness to lose Cllr Amy Smith who had resigned from the Parish Council due to personal reasons and thanked her for the extensive contribution over many years with the Parish Council.

The Chairman also thanked Cllr Kate Kell for her time and commitment in representing the Parish Council and the parishioners at the SCDC planning Committee meeting held on 13th April 2022.

Open Forum for Public Participation

The chairman invited members of the public to speak. The participant spoke of the opportunity for twinning Linton with the town of Orsogna, Abruzzo in Italy. They stated that Orsogna has a similar population to the village and that twinning could be beneficial to many by way of reciprocal visits.

Cllr John Bald offered to gauge interest in this amongst Linton residents via Linton News and social media.

Matters Arising/Clerks Report.

Update on the alterations proposed to the Churchyard gates. Cllr Merrie Mannass proposed to write a letter to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) that the Church would be liable if the gate is left open and an accident occurred. Cllr Paul Poulter seconded. All Agreed.

Update on the Linton Litter Pick held on Sunday 4th April 2022. The clerk updated the Full Council on the success of the Litter Pick and advised that the event would be held regularly throughout the year. The Clerk thanked SCDC for their support providing equipment and rapid collection of the refuse.

Update on the new entrance door and security measures at the Parish Council office.

The Clerk advised the Full Council that the new entrance door had been fitted and that a Ring Video doorbell had been ordered to monitor visitors.

Cllr Kate Kell advised that a sign is required to state that CCTV would be in operation and the Clerk agreed to display the signage.

Consideration of the District and County Councillors Report for April 2022.

County & District Cllr Henry Batchelor stated that there would not be a Planning Committee meeting in May 2022 and advised the Full Council that the Travel Hub at Babraham would be brought to the Cambridgeshire County Council in June/July 2022.

District Councillor John Batchelor stated that Ukrainian refugees were starting to arrive in South Cambridgeshire and 130 homes had been made available in the region, 20 families had arrived. Extensive checks were being carried out prior to arrival. Concerns that should a family become homeless due to a dispute with the host SCDC would be required to house them in council properties. Covid positive cases had fallen to 413 per 100,000 compared to 1832 at the beginning of the month.

Cllr Carl Cieluch raised question of the £15.7 million underspend at the County Council. County & District Councillor Henry Batchelor advised that highways, specifically potholes were being addressed and any remaining funds would be reallocated to next years budget.

Planning

Bartlow Road

Notification of Appeal of Planning condition ref APP/W0530/W/21/3287502. Planning Application reference 21/00629/S73 Variation of Condition (Foul Water Drainage) of OL planning permission S/1963/15/OL.

Cllr Kate Kell advise the Full Council that if the appeal was approved that it would overwrite the consent given on the original OL and RM. Cllr Kate Kell queried whether the LPA could request with the Planning Inspectorate this be considered as a public enquiry/hearing as it was an environmental issue. County & District Councillor Henry Batchelor advised that this could be investigated.

Consideration for recommendation from the Planning Committee for a budget to employ planning consultant, CN Historic to assist with the representation of Linton Parish Council.

Cllr Paul Poulter recommended that a specialist drainage consultant be found to assist with a foul water survey. Cllr John Bald proposed a budget of £1,000.00 to employ planning consultant CN Historic and a budget of £4,000.00 for a specialist drainage consultant. Cllr Sharon Parker seconded. All Agreed.

Horsekeath Road.

Cllr Kate Kell advised the Full Council that Surface Water drainage (Condition O) had been approved, with the alterations as proposed by the developer and that Foul Water drainage (Condition H) had been refused, primarily due the system being uphill with z bends.

County & District Councillor Henry Batchelor stated that he was surprised by the result and confirmed that in theory the result would mean further delays in building and occupation. It was noted that Croudace would probably appeal the refusal of the Foul Water drainage condition with the Planning Inspectorate, however there may be a delay as there are approximately four months backlog of appeals with the Planning Inspectorate.

No response had been received following the notification to the CEO of SCDC, Liz Watts and Stephen Kelly, Director of Planning that more houses on the development had been occupied since the confirmation of a solicitors agreement from Croudace that this would not occur from Stephen Kelly. The Clerk advised that the office would chase for a response.

Consideration of the response to the request for LPC to be involved in the review of procedures from the CEO of SCDC following the Planning Committee decision to refuse permission and the subsequent withdrawal of the application on Land adjacent to 35 Balsham Road. Correspondence item 111 refers. Open discussion and Response required.

The Assistant Clerk was requested to keep on file a copy of the minutes where the planning permission was refused in case of a future application on the same site. This would ensure that a copy of the minutes to then be submitted with LPC comments to ensure clarity on the previous refusal.

Finance

Consideration of the request from the RFO to transfer funds to the value of £5753.79 from the Unity Trust Deposit Account to the Unity Trust Current Account. Retrospective Decision required. Cllr John Bald proposed. Cllr Brian Cox seconded. All Agreed. Notification to repay credits received in error from HMRC for employment allowance from the financial year 2019-20 for the sum of £1441.24 plus interest at approximately 0.17p per day up to a maximum of £1450.00 to be repaid on 22nd April 2022. Supporting documents available in councillor packs. Open Discussion and Decision required.

Cllr Lee Gardner proposed that the payment to HMRC be paid. Cllr John Bald seconded. All Agreed.

Quotations

Consideration of the quote received from Kompan for repairs to play equipment. Cllr John Bald proposed that the quote be accepted. Cllr Lee Gardner seconded. Agreed with one abstention.

Funding Requests

Consideration for the grant application for the Beacon Youth Trust (BYT) for the Service Level Agreement (SLA) 2022-2025 following a review of the service level expectation. (SLE) Cllr Chris Hine proposed that the SLE be accepted. Cllr Paul Poulter seconded. 7 in favour, 2 against with 2 abstentions. Motion carried.

Consideration for the request for authorisation to pay Beacon Youth Trust the third quarter payment of 2021 at a reduced sum of £3,000.00 due to reduced service levels.

Cllr John Bald proposed the third quarter payment be made at the reduced sum of £3,000.00. Cllr Lee Gardner seconded. Agreed. Consideration for a charitable donation to East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH).

Cllr Lee Gardner proposed a charitable donation of £250.00. Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds seconded. All Agreed.

Traffic & Highways

Consideration for the location of

Speedwatch signs on entrance points to the village. Verbal update from Cllr Kate Kell

A decision was not taken on this item as a Public Funded Highways Improvement (PFHI) had been submitted and the Clerk was expecting to be advised on costs in due course. Further discussion on locations would be required once the cost of the project had been considered by the Full Council.

Notification of the data captured from the Mobile Speed Indicator Device (MSID) between 1st -21st March 2022.

Events

Platinum Jubilee

Update on the plans for the "Picnic in the Park" event planned to be held on Sunday 5th June 2022. Verbal update from Cllr John Bald and the Clerk.

Consideration for a budget to be set up to cover costs incurred for the event. Open Discussion and Decision required.

Cllr John Bald proposed a budget of £1,000.00. Cllr Chris Hine seconded. All Agreed.

Bowling Green.

Update on the Future use of the Old Bowling Green following a remote meeting held on Tuesday 8th March 2022. Verbal update from the Clerk. Open discussion and Action Required. This item was deferred to the next Full Council meeting scheduled for 19th May 2022.

Consideration for Samaritans signage to be installed on the Recreation Ground to raise awareness of support available. Open Discussion and Decision required.

The Clerk advised the Full Council that following discussions with the Samaritans, they had advised that posters be displayed in the village notice boards. Posters would also be distributed to the BYT and the Football Club for display in the hub and the Pavilion.

Linton News

Consideration of the statement in response to the article in the Linton News regarding the junction of Green Lane and the High Street.

The Full Council requested that the response be published in the May edition of the Linton News.

Correspondence items not pertaining to an agenda item.

Notification from the Linton Community Help Team (LCHT) advising of the closure of services and redistribution of excess funds to local charities. For Information. Noted.

Notification of an update to the Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Man Consideration for the information received regarding support for the Ukrainian refugees and the invitation to set up a support network of local villages. Open discussion and Response required. This item was deferred to the next Full Council meeting scheduled for 19th May 2022.

Notification of concerns raised by parishioners in relation to Gigaclear proposals to install internet cables in the village and confirmation of a meeting to be held with LPC on 26th April 2022 to discuss further details. For Information. Noted.

Matters for Future Consideration. None

The public section of the meeting closed at 9.58pm
The Confidential section of the meeting was opened at 9.59pm.

Market Square

The Clerk advised that there were no further updates and that a

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