

The Linton News team wishes all our readers a happy and prosperous New Year

Over 2,350 copies distributed free in Linton, Hildersham, Hadstock & Bartlow

THE LINTON NEWS

January 2014
Vol. 27 No 10
Publication date
Monday 6th January

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

Established 1987

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Your vote could secure £100k for Linton



Above, work in progress at the pavilion and, below left to right: Paul Poulter (LPC), Alan O'Dell (LGFC Treasurer), David O'Dell (LGFC Secretary), Darren Ferguson (Manager Peterborough United), Robin Williams (LGFC Chairman), Graham Clarke (LGFC), Brian Manley (Cams FA) holding the cheque for £50k

Pictures by Roger Lapwood



BUILDING work has commenced at the pavilion, which will provide improved facilities for the village. The funding for this has been raised mainly from successful bids submitted by David O'Dell (Football Club Secretary) and Paul Poulter (Linton PC) to sporting organisations and funders. The most recent is an award of £50K from Budweiser, one of eight given by Budweiser to improve facilities and extend community use and we are the Eastern Region winners. We now go forward with seven other regional winners to submit a case to receive the one national award of £100K. This will be decided by votes on the FA/ Budweiser Facebook page. Please vote in February and cast your vote for Linton Granta football club.

If successful, the extra funds will be used to replace the existing grassed training area with an all-weather multi-use games area, completely enclosed, and improve the current floodlights. We would also explore the possibility of acquiring a mini-bus to provide transport for user groups and people unable to access the facility

by other means. The interior of the pavilion will be re-furnished and the inefficient heating system replaced to create a warm, friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

These improvements will benefit the current user groups including Aztecs Junior Football Club, the Linton Village Cricket Clubs and the Bowls Club. Other organisations such as ACE (Activities and Care For the Elderly) or the village playgroups may well be interested in using the new facility.

Let us all work together to maintain and improve the excellent community spirit that exists with most people in the village and welcome these new opportunities to enhance the facilities in the village.

Remember, vote for Linton Granta football club on Facebook in February. You will be reminded of the link to vote in the February edition of the Linton News.

For further details see the Parish council pages of last month.
Brian G Manley bg.manley@hotmail.com

Lottery money for Bartlow church

BARTLOW St Mary's church has received £29,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the restoration of its three unique medieval wall paintings.

The programme has been made possible by funds raised through the Bartlow three-counties walk which has provided the Bartlow funding contribution to enable the various grants to be made. Robyn Llewellyn, head of HLF for the East of England said: "We at HLF are delighted to support this project that will conserve these important and interesting wall paintings".

The deterioration and damage to the paintings has largely been caused by rainwater, earlier restoration work on the

church itself and efforts in some cases in the past to conserve the paintings. The church is now watertight thanks to restoration work over the past five years to the roof, the tower and the north buttress.

All three paintings are incomplete but are regarded by experts as being of considerable significance as they span a period of important architectural development in the church during the 14th and 15th centuries. St George and the dragon on the north wall of the nave has sustained the most damage compared with St Christopher and St Michael on the south wall.

The main structure of the church dates from the 12th century. It would have been

decorated with wall paintings from its earliest period. New paintings were often applied over existing paintings and an earlier picture is clearly visible under the one of St Christopher. We were lucky that the paintings survived the arrival of William Dowsing, one of Oliver Cromwell's most energetic lieutenants, and his men during the Reformation in March 1644.

Six weeks will be dedicated to the conservation of the pictures. The overall project will occupy 10 to 12 weeks during April and June next year and we are hoping to have an unveiling ceremony in July 2014.

Graham Howat, 891732
grahamhowat1@gmail.com
www.hlf.org.uk

Two helping hands retire so more are needed



Margaret, who has hung up her steering wheel after 25 years

Picture by Roger Lapwood

AFTER 25 years and journeys too numerous to mention, Margaret Clark, one of the founder members of *Helping Hands* has retired from the group. Margaret will be missed by the many people she has driven to hospital, dental and doctor's appointments, hairdressers and supermarkets when no other transport was available.

Pat Turner, another driver who has given many years of service to the community, has also hung up her hat so *Helping Hands* are now short of two drivers.

Helping Hands has been running in Linton and the surrounding area since 1985. All the drivers are volunteers and provide a local transport service to health centres, hospitals, dentists etc for people who do not have access to a car and who are unable to use public transport. This is not a cheap taxi service, nor an alternative to public transport. A contribution of 45p per mile is charged for each journey. If there is anyone out there who has a car, enjoys driving and would like to join this merry band of volunteers we would be very glad to hear from you. Please call or email Bruce Conochie 894460, BruCon@talktalk.net for more information.

Who knows, you may need this valuable service yourself one day.
Cynthia Paton, Secretary, *Helping Hands*

Linton Kitchen – a spectacular success

THE Linton Kitchen scooped one of the top prizes in the first ever Ready For Business Awards 2013 at a spectacular ceremony at The House of Commons in London in December to celebrate enterprise and innovation.

Ready for Business is an investment start-up scheme that supports new enterprises across England.

The Linton Kitchen, which was established in April 2013 by Gemma Whiting, used funding from the scheme to put her plans into action. Just seven months on, she was awarded Best Business 2 Consumer Start-Up in the Eastern Region (B2C).

The award was based on outstanding service to customers, providing an asset for the community and exceeding expectations by creating a number of jobs (Gemma now employs four staff from the local area) and by encouraging others in the locality to start up their own business in order to supply local

food produce to her shop.

Gemma's shop creates lunch specials and cakes from local and seasonal ingredients where possible, as well as stocking a range of local produce such as fresh vegetables, eggs, preserves and foodie gifts. In 2014 she is planning to organise more local markets and establish her outside catering service. Please call 894949 for more information or pop in.

Gemma Whiting



Gemma with her award

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Having an ACE time at Christmas

CHRISTMAS festivities started a little early for the ACEs, with a buffet lunch on 5th December, the tables festooned with holly (OK, I did my spring pruning a bit early.)

Jenny of Elite Catering fed us very nicely, with choices for all tastes and dietary needs - and such friendly service, fitting the mood of the gathering. The pavilion was packed with over 50 of us, and a few visitors, too; Leanne our PCSO gave an update on security, Mel and Venetia circulated with information on the Community Warden and other AgeUK schemes.

Sylvia (a welcome arrival to Linton) raised £27 for us with her delightful knitted decorations, Patricia Perry donated apples and we had plenty of raffle prizes - many thanks.

We are changing the scope of ACEs next year with fewer lunch meetings and more outings. This is in response to requests, as the bus pass will only get you so far, and well, we helpers are running out of energy and getting older, too.

The next event will be a coach trip to the fine city of Norwich in February - watch out for notices with the details, and sign up with me. All older residents are welcome to join us at all our events.

I hope you have all had a grand Christmas and are braced for the New Year.

Enid Bald 891069

Free microchipping for dogs

AN announcement made by the Government stating that microchipping will be compulsory for all dogs in England from 6th April 2016 has been welcomed by the Dogs Trust.

To help ensure that microchipping is accessible to all, the Dogs Trust, in association with Hildersham Parish Council, is offering free microchipping for dogs, at Hildersham Village Hall from 10am - 3pm on Saturday 18th January.

The Dogs Trust wants to reach as many dogs and people as possible who would normally not have the opportunity to use this service. This is a great opportunity to get your precious pet microchipped now ahead of 2016.

See www.chipmydog.org.uk and www.hildersham.org.uk/parish.htm for more details
Andrew Westwood-Bate

Too good for jumble...

THIS month's new items are two Bose speakers to act as sound enhancers for flat screen TVs and a brand new Collins Encyclopedia of the Universe. More items on offer are the new ladies green Matalan linen blend trousers size 16, a pair of unworn ladies Tu navy trousers size 16R, the Hewlett Packard Deskjet 930C printer with set up disk, a black plastic dustbin, two fireside chairs needing covers and the patio heater table model Hi-spot Minitec with refillable propane gas cylinder 19in high.

The Panasonic breadmaker raised £30 for Parkinsons research.

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

NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.



A new year and a new governor



WELL, Christmas has been and gone and we welcome 2014. A Happy New Year to you all from Linton CE infant school, I wonder what challenges this year will bring?

As predicted, the Christmas performances of Gabriel's Big Break were fantastic. All of the children worked hard and I am sure we will see some of them on the X Factor in years to come.

The children enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch followed by a party and we were lucky enough to have a special visit from Father Christmas, who delivered presents to each class and the children were delighted with the gifts. Thank you to our hard-working PTFA who organise these extra events for the children. We also welcomed some of the local Senior Citizens for Christmas lunch; I hope they all enjoyed the lunch as much as we all enjoyed having them visit our school.

Following our recent Parent Governor election, I am pleased to announce that Mrs Caroline Mumisa has joined our dedicated and active Board of Governors. However, we still have a vacancy as a Local Authority representative on our Board. If you think this is a role you may be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be able to help you. Being a Governor involves hard work and commitment but the rewards are tenfold.

So now to January and the new school term; there will be lots and lots of learning, all based around our themes of *Beneath our feet* and *Over our head* for the Foundation Stage children and *Bridge over the...* for Years 1 and 2. The focus of these themes includes lots of outdoor investigations so you are bound to see us out and about in Linton. Just a word of warning there could be a few trolls out too so be careful when trip-trapping over any of the local bridges.

We have shown many parents round recently, who have children due to start school in September. Please be reminded that the deadline for applications is 15th January. If you wish to apply for a place for September 2014 you can register online via <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/education/admissions.htm>.

Louise Clark, Head teacher

News from Linton & District WEA



This should be a first-class series of talks. We know Fiona is an excellent speaker and a good friend to Linton & District Historical Society, as she has spoken to us before on her other passion – the history of recipe books.

You are more than welcome to join us. We are an extremely friendly group coming from all the local surrounding villages and some from further afield. You can come along and see if the course is just right for you, with the first two sessions free as a taster. We are confident you will want to join us for the whole series, but if not you can leave without having to pay anything.

The 10-week course will start at 10am on Tuesday 14th January and will cost £45.30. It will include a course visit. To find out more contact me on 892430 or info@lintonwea.org.uk

Andrew Westwood -Bate

Su Matthews

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Bring on the books at Linton Heights junior school



The new library at Linton Heights School

THE beginning of this term saw the grand opening of the brand new library at Linton Heights. The money for this fantastic new space was raised through a combination of fundraising by the PTFA, a contribution from the school budget and donations from friends of the school as well as members of the community.

It is quite unbelievable how quickly the library has moved from a set of wonderful looking plans to the finished version. All staff and pupils at Linton Heights are extremely proud of the end result.

There is just one problem: there aren't enough books to fill the shiny new shelves. Unfortunately, attempts to gain funding to fill the library

with books have so far been unsuccessful, so the efforts of the school and the PTFA have now shifted to trying to fill those shelves as soon as possible. A parent working group, led by Year 5 teacher and literacy leader Marian Smelik, is currently formulating a plan to source books and the PTFA has come up with a schedule of exciting fundraising ideas. So with a bit of luck it won't be long until those bookshelves are heaving. If you would like to make a gift of money or books to help fill the Linton Heights library, then please contact the school or get in touch with the PTFA at ptfa@lintonheights.cambs.sch.uk.

Siobhan Godwood
894759

Correction

IN last month's issue the photograph in the article about the Cathodeon Centre, does not show Councillor Reynolds about to cut the cake as was stated. He is in the background behind the railings.

He did make a speech and cut the ribbon, as stated. The cake was actually cut by Dr Bruce Conochie.

Bruce and the young baby in the photo were chosen to demonstrate the age range of those using the facilities at the Centre.

Sue Mudge,
Honorary Secretary to the Trustees

Apologies

IN last month's issue we omitted Louise Clark's article for Linton Infant school.

My apologies, I do hope you will bear with my inexperience. My new year's resolution is to do better.

Thank you for your patience.

Editor

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Babies dress up for Halloween



All ready to party

Photo supplied by Debby Jepps

HALLOWEEN took place on a Thursday and a few mothers who came along brought the Halloween spirit to the Bumps to Babies group. I thought this photo of our Pumpkin babes would bring a smile to the Linton News readers.

Debby Jepps
debbym55@hotmail.com

Messy Church at St Mary's

WITH the start of the New Year, we have the start of a new time for Messy Church – 2.30 pm at St Mary's. This change is in response to feedback from families who attend.

Messy Church has been planned for 2014 and we look forward to welcoming you to join us for the service which lasts about an hour and includes a Bible reading, worship, songs and creative activities that are all linked to the theme for that month.

The next Messy Church is on 19th January and the theme is Jesus growing up

Messy Church is for adults and children to enjoy together, so why not come along to St. Mary's and see for yourself? We look forward to welcoming you and hope that you will enjoy the service and also share some refreshments with us. For more information, please contact Sarah Thorne on 891952.

Sue Filby, suef4rector@btinternet.com

Change of name for CAMTAD

FROM 1st January 2014 Cambridge CAMTAD (Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness) will be known as Cambridgeshire Hearing Help. There will be no change to our services.

We now run hearing help sessions in 42 venues in Cambridgeshire. At these drop-in sessions, volunteers offer advice on any aspects of hearing loss and maintain NHS hearing aids by distributing batteries, cleaning and "retubing" aids. There is also a service to housebound people and those living in residential care. It is not generally recognised that hearing aids need maintenance every few months to maintain the quality of sound. By keeping hearing aids in good condition with routine maintenance available locally, hearing loss becomes a minor inconvenience not a major barrier to communication. This helps to keep people sociable and makes a significant contribution to their quality of life. We also offer a telephone advice service, talks, training and information on hearing help assisting technology.

From 1st January our website will be www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk and we can be contacted by e-mail on enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk Our telephone number will remain the same 416141.

Until then please continue to use the website www.camtad-cambs.org.uk and e-mail admin@camtadcambs.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help Charity Registration No 1154071.

Cambridge CAMTAD Charity Registration No 278155
Frances Dewhurst, Director Cambridge CAMTAD

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for articles are 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 disaster averted

Dear Editor
On the afternoon of Friday 15th November – our intrepid correspondent helped to avert a major disaster in the High Street. A foul smell was rising from the drains and our correspondent called Anglia Water to investigate.

The Company was very helpful and a technician was on the spot within the hour and the blockage was soon cleared. Apparently, and not for the first time, an occupier had emptied a large amount of fat into the system which had of course solidified further down the High Street.

Many thanks to Anglia Water for their prompt and efficient response and no thanks to the person who caused the blockage. Name and address supplied

Parking issues

Dear Editor
Councillor Champion has set out his views for solving the traffic problems in Linton; these views need re-addressing.

Yes Councillor, there is a parking problem in Linton, usually at school dropping off and picking up times and fireworks night – much better this year. At other times it is generally possible to find a space although you may have a short walk.

You advocate a residents' only parking area. Very bureaucratic and involving new signs, new road markings and administration. This would cost money – our money and no doubt residents would soon be asked to pay an additional charge for parking.

We are fortunate that several new shops have opened in Linton.

These and the existing shops are dependent not only on local residents but also on shoppers from outlying districts. Let us not kill the shopping by a new restriction.

I am surprised that you claim there are people parking in Linton and catching a bus to go to work in Cambridge. I would have thought it was far easier to go to the extended Park and Ride where travel is cheaper and there are more frequent buses.

Let us be more practical and concentrate on solving the traffic problems at source – construct a roundabout at the Horseheath Road junction which would immediately take traffic away from Linton's centre and give more safety to both pedestrians and motorists.

MRK Holden

Lost scarf

Dear Editor
On Friday 29th November my favourite dark blue voile scarf blew off, un-noticed, in a gusty wind between the Co-op, Green Lane, Camping Close and Horn Lane. The scarf has great sentimental value as I used to wear it throughout my treatment, (chemotherapy at Addenbrookes Hospital). I would be grateful and reward its return.
Madeline Lines 892370

Into the new year



THERE is no report from the December party except that we had a lovely time.

The next meeting is on 7th January at the village hall, when Robert Burrige will give a talk entitled The Vikings.

Sally Proberts

Festive greenery graces tables



A WONDERFUL December evening with Lian Watkin inspired us all to have a go at making exquisite table centres for Christmas. The brave volunteers did exceptionally well under the calm guidance of Lian. Thank you to them all for a lovely festive and fun evening.

The club next meets on 14th January when Andrew Sankey will bring us the joys of Sissinghurst garden that lie beyond the laudable white garden. The meeting starts at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and all are warmly invited to join us.

Kirsten Newble

lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

District and County Council matters

Back Road between Linton and Hildersham.

THERE is much concern in Linton and Hildersham about the state of Back Road and its use by heavy commercial vehicles. HGVs damage the road edges and the protected verges, especially when two vehicles meet going in opposite directions.

A width restriction was considered but rejected after public consultation.

Linton already has a weight limit restriction of 7.5 tonnes for the High Street to Balsham Road and also Wheatsheaf Way but a weight limit for Back Road has recently been rejected by Linton Parish Council.

With a width and weight restriction being ruled out, I am now looking at road signs to advertise the unsuitability of Back Road for HGVs. These could be placed on the A1307 at both Abington and Hildersham junctions before HGVs turn off.

This will hopefully reduce the through traffic and rat-running of HGVs, caused by both the local knowledge of the drivers and also sat navs. Informative signage will mean HGV drivers are alerted to the unsuitability of Back Road before actually turning off and using the route.

What to do about pot holes?

Pot holes happen and have unfortunately become part of our driving experience (see letters in the last issue). However we can all do something about them.

Despite the financial cuts the County Council is committed to repairing the roads but it needs to know where the pot holes are.

The easiest way to report a pot hole is online www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes where you can track your report.

You can also contact me or the clerk at the Parish Council on 891001, who can report it for you. If a repair is not done within a week, please contact me so I can progress it.

Roger Hickford district & county councillor for Linton, 890770, www.RogerHickford.com, Roger@RogerHickford.com,

Walkers still going strong

APOLOGIES – we omitted to print the advertisement of the walking group lunch at the Crown on the 15th December in the December issue. We hope you had a good lunch.

The walking group meets every 3rd Sunday of the month at 11am in Church Lane. The next meeting is on 19th January.

Editor

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 3rd February 2014

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 13th January
NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 15th January

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER
Limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses

Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse
email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office

Editor: Fran Armes email: ineditor@linton.info

Phone 891517

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.

WEEKLY

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Conkers childrens' centre, 9.30am-12.30pm, Wed-Fri | CC |
| Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays. | VH |
| Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30am Mondays term time | CC |
| Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays | Pavilion |
| Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701) | |
| WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time | VH |
| Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays | CP |
| Linton Granta toddlers, 9.30-11.30am Tuesdays | LVC |
| Storytime, 2-2.30pm | Library |
| Granta bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays | VH |
| Table tennis club, 7.30pm Tuesdays | URC |
| 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 |
| Linton radio race car club, 6-10pm Wednesdays | VH |
| Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays | VH |
| Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays | CC |
| Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays | CP |
| St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays | St Mary's |
| Bridge club, 7pm Fridays | CC |
| For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248 | |

JANUARY 2014

| | |
|---|-------------|
| 2 Lunch club, 12.15pm | Red Lion |
| 4 Farmer's Market, 9am | LVC |
| 4 Friends of St Mary's coffee & mince pies, 10.30am | VH |
| 6 Camera club, 7.15pm | CC |
| 7 Scrabble club, 10-12noon | CP |
| 7 Linton WI, 7.30pm | VH |
| 8 Reading Group, 8pm | VH upstairs |
| 9 Parish council meeting, 8pm | CC |
| 14 VIP group, 2pm | Chalklands |
| 14 Gardening club, 7.30pm | VH |
| 15 CAMTAD, 9-12noon, | HC |
| 18 Granta playgroup jumble sale, 2.30-4pm | VH |
| 19 Walking group, 11am | Church lane |
| 19 Messy Church, 2.30pm | St Mary's |
| 21 Historical society, 7.30pm | VH |
| 23 Parish council meeting, 8pm | CC |

FEBRUARY 2014

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1 Farmers' Market, 9am | LVC |
| 3 Camera club, 7.15pm | CC |
| 4 Linton WI, 7.30pm | VH |
| 6 Lunch club, 12.15pm | Red Lion |
| 6 Parish council meeting, 8pm | CC |
| 8 Reading group, 8pm | VH |
| 11 VIP group, 2pm | Chalklands |
| 11 Gardening club, 7.30pm | VH |
| 18 Historical Society, | VH |

For Cathodeon Centre bookings contact Sue Mudge, 07765 369266
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.

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

Linton refuse collection: 13th and 27th January
Linton recycling collection: Tuesday 7th and Monday 20th January

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In your own time



Liz Hunt with some of her cakes

Photo by Sarah Hurcum

It's a piece of cake

HOW does Liz Hunt relax after a stressful day at the coal face of Addenbrookes? She has been working there since 1992 and is now associate director of operations for cancer. She has always enjoyed making cakes for the family but when a friend asked her to create a special occasion cake, she decided to learn how to do it properly and enrolled on an evening course.

Since then she has made a chocolate cake for her brother's wedding, a birthday cake on which the hosts were personified in icing as Abba and a five tier wedding cake which was decorated with exquisite cascades of leaves and flowers, all made with sugar paste. Liz has had to obtain more skills in order to make certain types of cake and has often done this either by attending courses or via the internet.

She likes to meet the client first to ascertain exactly the style they are looking for and to discuss colours and whether to use sponge or fruit as the base. A 14 inch fruit cake will feed 196 people.

Orchid and lily making is very painstaking as all the flowers are made in stages, drying in between. The petals then have to be textured, assembled and coloured. Liz even made her own birthday cake – a coffee and walnut sponge for her colleagues at the hospital. Lucky them.

At the moment she only takes orders from friends and family but she enjoys creating something that others will enjoy and finds it relaxing as it is so different from her day job.

She is indeed a multi-talented lady.

Sarah Hurcum

Wide open fields but they call it enclosure

THE Linton and District Historical Society talk for January will be entitled The Enclosure Business. It will feature a brief history of Enclosure, when the ridge and furrow field strips and small fields and hedge-rows were ripped out and swept aside and replaced by huge open fields. This had a dramatic impact on the agricultural labourer and did away with common land rights, but did introduce recreation grounds and allotments.

The talk will also detail where sources for the study of Parliamentary Enclosure in Cambridgeshire can be found, there are some beautiful maps of these awards. Locally the implementation of Enclosure is very varied. While most parishes enclosed in the early 1800s, the Enclosure award at Hildersham took place 125 years ago and was the last in East Anglia and one of the last in the whole country, with final enclosure not until 25th April 1889. There will be a display of the recent research work carried out at Hildersham (see more at www.hildersham.org.uk/history.htm).

Do come and hear this excellent talk with specialist historian Shirley Wittering. It will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st January in Linton Village Hall. There will be the monthly raffle and refreshments. All are very welcome.

Andrew Westwood-Bate

Alarm equipment



RESIDENTS are being reminded of a valuable community lifeline service run by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The service provides alarm equipment to help anyone of any age to feel safer, more protected and independent in their own home.

The equipment gives people peace of mind by offering the reassurance of 24hour emergency assistance at the touch of a button on a pendant or wristband.

When activated, the button raises an alarm and connects the user directly to trained staff who speak to them via a small unit installed close to their telephone. Those staff will instantly know the name, address and health details of the user, raise the relevant help and, where requested, notify friends, family or neighbours. The pendant and wristbands work within a 50 metre radius of the unit so are very effective within properties as well as gardens.

This equipment supports a host of additional telecare technology, including smoke detectors, fall detectors and bed sensors, and cost as little as £20 to install and £4.26 a week.

For more information visit www.scams.gov.uk/community-lifeline-service, email lifelines@scams.gov.uk or call 03450 450 500.

Sheila Sneezum, Community Telecare Coordinator



Adult Social Care issues

Stay independent, safe and well this winter

IF you, or someone you care for, needs advice about keeping independent, safe and well this winter, the County Council's adult social care websites Your Life, Your Choice: www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk and AskSARA online advice and equipment guide: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asksara provide information about keeping warm, preventing falls and the help that may be available to older and vulnerable people if they are unable to get out and about.

If you are unable to access the Internet, staff and volunteers in the library can help you to find the information you need or you can contact: Adult Social Care customer services on 0345 045 5202

Advice and help for children

AskSARA for children is a quick online guide for finding information about products and services to help children with daily activities in the home and when they are out and about.

Information and advice about funding, equipment and carer support is also provided. To visit the children's site, use the link www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asksara

Homecare workers required

THE County Council is recruiting compassionate and caring people to start a career in care.

They are doing this through a unique apprenticeship programme that enables them to earn while they learn by supporting them to get a job with a local homecare provider, whilst being paid the standard rate of a care worker. Age and background don't matter.

For more information contact Emma Laskey-MacRae, Apprenticeship Project Coordinator on 07917 615360, email Emma.Laskey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

We want to know what you think of the local pharmaceutical services

THE Cambridgeshire health and wellbeing board has been reviewing local pharmaceutical services – services that help you get and use medicines or medical equipment safely.

We are now asking for your views on the service during 4th December 2013 – 14th February 2014.

You can give us your thoughts by completing a questionnaire, either at your local pharmacy, dispensing doctor surgery, or online at www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/JSNA/PNA

Amanda Davies, Communications Officer, Adult social care quality and transformation team



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Guides look up to the stars

TWENTY two girls from 2nd Linton Guides visited the Institute of Astronomy in Madingley Road at the end of October to hear a half hour talk by Michael Parker on Rockets.

The speaker was aware that there would be children attending the lecture and as such presented it in a way which complemented both children and rocket enthusiasts.

Following a break for re-

freshments, the girls were taken to see a 150 year-old telescope by Amanda, a researcher at the Institute. Amanda has shown many youth groups around the telescopes and explained how they functioned and the intricacies of star-gazing.

The girls clearly engaged with the concepts described and asked relevant questions.

Unfortunately the wet weather precluded telescopic star gazing but many Guides determined to make a second

trip to the Institute, perhaps with their families, on any clear Wednesday evening before the clocks change to summer time.

Liz Masters

Below, the 150 year old Northumberland telescope



Picture supplied by Mike Crofts

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Linton Country Diary by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



Gone walkabout

AND where exactly do you live? Which particular space upon this unusually tiny blue planet have you chosen to fill with your mortal coil and possessions?

Well if, of all the geological places of interest, and of all the villages in all the world you chose Linton, then I believe you are beset by a certain amount of good judgement or fortune. Maybe both, either way Madame, Monsieur – may I say an excellent choice.

You see, being in easy reach of historical Cambridge, Ely, Saffron Walden and Haverhill, yet nesting and almost hidden in a little river valley amidst these flat lands, gives us that special island quality. This reflects upon we the people, who create amongst us a core community the like of which is growing rare in the evanescent rural England. Our place is where, if desired or not too careful, one can spend the whole day wandering, waving and saying "Hello".

Then, there's the environment itself with the source of our river a stones throw away, the water from which 'tis said ought be bottled and sold. Come rain or snow Rivey lane still leads us up hill, a glacial moraine peppered with artesian springs.

Intrigued? Well, in brief – precipitation takes place and water enters via a permeable area into a confined natural aquifer. This



is usually between layers of heavy clay. Where a break, man-made or otherwise occurs the pressure of the trapped water forces some to the surface, even at points near the top of a hill.

Our rare and lofty Cambridgeshire peak rises to 112m (367') and is for many a regular physical and spiritual elevating climb for a rewarding visual feast of rolling hills and stunning views. One may arrive strolling, or puffing and panting at the top but this is where in 1935/6 was built a tower of some architectural merit. The imposing monumental structure is a well known landmark seen for miles around.

I have long since advocated the installation of a cable car or recession-proof donkey and cart, yet in retrospect I think the walk will do most of us good. Just remember to

leave a Gone Walkabout note at home. Oh, and take a flask and sandwich – for you may find discovering where you live is addictive.

Although I have great faith in the increasingly accurate weather forecasts, the rather innocuous predictions for January are not what the berries say. Whilst whispering trees and sacred geraniums tell of storm, strong winds and deep snow, the birds sing of sun and fleeting cloud (anecdotal information and reference via the local sweet shop), such are the perks of a very valuable village life. A happy New Year to you all.

PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

AT around 1.57 am on 7th November a fuel station on the A1307 between Abington and Haverhill had 2000 litres of diesel stolen from an underground tank. We are appealing for witnesses in relation to this theft.

In the early evening on the 26th of November a silver BMW parked in the High Street near the Co-op had two tyres damaged.

On the 30th November two people were disturbed trying to break into a property in Beech Row, Hildersham. They had damaged the outside security light system. They made off on foot. One suspect is believed to be Asian and both were described in their late teens or early 20s. Another property was also broken into in Beech Row, Hildersham on the same day. If you saw these suspects please contact us immediately. Also on the 30th November between 11.45am and 6.55pm various items were stolen from a property in Fincham's Close. Sometime be-

tween 9am on 29th November and at 7am on 3rd December around 800 litres of heating oil was stolen from the rear garden in The Woodlands. At 2.30pm on 2nd December three people were seen breaking into a white Sprinter van in Symonds Lane. A large number of power tools and equipment were stolen. The offenders made off in a silver Galaxy.

If you have any information regarding any of the above crimes, please let us know as soon as possible. Any information you can give us would be greatly appreciated. If you see anybody acting suspiciously in your village please report this to us immediately. Ring 101 for non-emergencies and 999 for emergencies.

School parking

WE have a few concerns regarding parking and people's driving at dropping off and picking up times at the primary schools in Linton. If you are dropping off or collecting your children from either of these schools, please be mindful about where you are parking.

Are you parking on double yellow lines or on keep clear cross-hatched yellow lines? Are you blocking access to people's drive-ways? Are you blocking access for vehicles travelling through? Are you parking and causing an obstruction to the view of other drivers? Please think about where you park.

I and other officers will be conducting patrols over the next few weeks at all these schools. Tickets will be issued if offences are revealed. Please also consider your driving whilst near a school. Be mindful that children may wander into the road or walk out between parked cars. Remember to look when you are reversing. The last thing we want is for a child to be hurt. If it means parking further away and walking a short distance, this will alleviate some of the problems, please take some responsibility. Thank you. Many thanks for your continued help and support.

PCSO 7239 Leanne Fisher
Linton Safe Neighbourhood Team

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POT POURRI 106

How many parts?

WHEN a square is cut by its diagonals, we get four parts. Similarly if a pentagon is cut by its diagonals we get 11 parts.

How many parts are there if a hexagon, heptagon and an octagon are cut by their diagonals?

NB It is found that if the number of sides is a prime, any three diagonals do not meet at a point.

Solution to 105 - Next number?
The next number is 24. (Multiply the digits).

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hildersham News for January 2014

IT'S Teatime will take place from 3pm-4.30pm on Thursday 9th January at Hildersham village hall.

The Hildersham lecture will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 24th January at Holy Trinity Church. Cathy Myer will take a journey through poetry from lullabies to literature with the help of her poetry Coat. Tickets are £5 or £10 for a family ticket including refreshments.

Contact me for more details on 92848 or catherinemyer43@btinternet.com

Cathy Myer

January bulletin from CFRS

HAPPY New Year. Why not make a New Year's resolution to help keep you and your family fire safe this year.

Firefighters at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service are encouraging people to make three New Year's Resolutions in 2014 – and stick to them.

- Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly.
- Check older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly.
- Make a fire plan so you and your family know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.

Like our fan page on Facebook: www.facebook.com/camsfrs, follow us on Twitter @camsfrs.

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.

Leanne Ehren, Media and Communication Officer, CFRS, 01480 444558 or 07747113255.

The sky is the limit for cadets

Warrant Officer Gavin Tennison presenting the certificates and badges

Picture supplied by Duncan Keys

HAVING passed their first class exams, 11 new air cadets were enrolled into 2523 Linton Air Training Corps at the village college on Friday 6th December in front of friends and family.

They are now ready and able to take part in all the ATC has to offer – quite literally the sky is the limit as they are now eligible to fly with the air cadets.

Warrant Officer Gavin Tennison presented the certificates and badges after Squadron Padre Rev Duncan Keys had enrolled the cadets and said "These new cadets are a credit to the unit."

Anyone who wants to join the next training flight of this band of cadets should contact Sgt Young at training.2523@aircadets.org

The next opportunity is in January 2014.

To find out more log on to www.2523lintonatc.co.uk

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Little Hands is also at Bourn, Melbourn and Newton, visit the website at www.littlehands.co.uk



The Derbyshire Post



LVC is always a hive of activity and never more so than in the weeks leading up to Christmas. The last half term brought with it a host of events to enjoy.

While our staff and parents are conscious of the activities that they and their children are involved in, a head teacher has a unique perspective on the whole and how each level of enrichment meets the needs of different learners. This is because the head and possibly his or her deputies try to go to everything that time allows, whether it is watching a team compete in a tournament or soaking in the latest concert or dramatic performance. People often ask me whether I feel proud of the children when I see them involved in this way – and the answer is, yes of course – I can't tell you how proud. In many ways this is the best part of my job. It is also the quality and breadth of the different experiences on offer to students outside of the classroom that amazes: our teachers and support staff at the college really do go the extra mile.

In recent weeks we have welcomed back the class of 2013 to their certificate presentation evening (this year our guest of honour was Sir James Paice MP). We have been involved with the School's Shakespeare Festival by performing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Mumford Theatre in Cambridge and taken part in the District Cross Country Finals, in addition to numerous rugby, netball and hockey fixtures (the Under 16 rugby team is especially strong this season). We held a Children in Need Bake-off, staged an enterprise competition in association with Dalehead Foods and Waitrose (this year the challenge is to make and market a World Cup burger), we have hosted local pensioners for coffee and carols, given a wonderful Christmas concert in St Mary's church complete with professional soloists, launched Duke of Edinburgh bronze and the Arts Award with new year groups, entered teams for the National Maths Challenge, been visited by Dr Who and a supersized dalek in the Library ... and that's on top of the large number of revision clubs that the teachers offer at lunchtime and after school.

I strongly believe that it is this breadth of opportunities that make good schools great.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal



Local pensioners listen to the carols at LVC

Picture by Roger Lapwood

Do you play badminton and want to get fit in the New Year?...

If you would like to join a mixed badminton club please contact Sue Mudge on mudges.linton@btinternet.com. Sessions take place between 8pm and 10pm on Fridays.

If you would rather play in a ladies only group contact Jo Leggo on josephineleggo@talktalk.net for the Linton Ladies' badminton which meets between 8pm and 10pm on Tuesdays. Both sessions are held in Linton Village College Sports Centre.

A list of all sports activities held in LVCSC is available at lscsc@lvc.org or www.linton-sport-fitness.co.uk. This includes the Linton Tennis Academy.

...calling all sports clubs in Linton

THE Editor is trying to get a list of all the sports clubs in Linton, which would then appear in the updated Linton directory.

Would any club interested in being listed please contact me on lneditor@linton.info

LNT



The Way We Were

By Garth Collard

Linton's village green



The cottage on the Green. The Green was the site of a market and three day fair from 1246, granted to William de Say. There was a pillory located on the Green and the stocks were still there in 1754

IN mediaeval times the green in Green Lane was an open space used for grazing animals, holding village meetings, celebrations and for the punishment of criminals.

As Linton grew in importance the green was chosen as the site for a weekly market by William de Say. On 27th May 1246 he was granted a charter by King Henry III. The weekly Tuesday market provided income and raised adjacent property rentals paid to the lord. There were 49 market shops and stalls in 1279 with every trade represented.

At this time manorial lords assumed judicial functions, previously the prerogative of the king. In 1270 Simon de Furneaux and the de Says set up illegal stocks and pillories on the green and hanged Geoffrey the shepherd. Royal authority was soon reasserted by King Edward I. The stocks were dismantled but retained by parish authorities until 1754 when they bought new ones for £4.

The market was moved to Market Lane in 1281 and to the

cobbled market square around 1528.

By the 17th century the old green was surrounded by houses and cottages. In 1838 the Linton Enclosure Act abolished the strips system of farming and laid new boundaries for each property. The so called Old Manor House was awarded most of the green. It was owned

Picture from the Garth's Collection by the local millers, the Taylor and Kidman families.

At Enclosure, Green Lane was made into a public road.

In the 20th century conservation societies were established to protect the integrity of historic villages. In August 1938 Linton Rural District Council turned down an application to build a cinema on the green. Such

commercial greed was deemed inappropriate by the council.

The shortage of housing in 1945 led to government fears that villages might be ruined by inappropriate developments. The 1971 Town and County Planning Act resulted in plans specifying conservation areas and designated development sectors. Linton's conservation order covered historic housing in Green Lane.

There are draft plans* by the owners of Nos 14 and 8 Green Lane to build three dwellings on parts of the old green. I consider this proposal threatens the integrity of the principles of conservation areas. One of the major aims of the local history society which I founded in 1985 was to preserve our wonderful heritage. I fear that any successful applications may become a precedent for future encroachment on the conservation area. The site owners are merely temporary custodians for the coming generations.

*see Letters to the Editor in the December issue.

Dramawise successes

WE have had a fabulous term. It was such a joy to see the confidence of students taking their English Speaking Board Examination with topics ranging from rugby to cyber bullying.

All nineteen students who took the exam passed and thirteen gained a Distinction including three Linton students : Lauren Edwards, Alice and Oliver Kellar.

Our plans for a Dance Studio at the Free Church are going ahead with our taster session on Wednesday 5th February specialising in Street Dance and line dancing for adults. If your child wants to try, enrol them for the 5th February free taster session.

This year our festival play is *The Critic*, by the restoration author Richard Brinsley Sheridan.

For more information and to enrol for the dance taster session contact me on frances.wyse@btinternet.com.

Frances Wyse



Santa in his grotto

Picture by Roger Lapwood

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Parish Council Matters

Rights of way

AFTER a bit of persistence a couple of areas have been sorted out this year by Cambridgeshire county council. An example is the path at the back of the water works. It was completely rutted, the manholes stood proud of the surrounding ground and there was quite often puddles even when everywhere else appeared to be dry. After a meeting between the county council and Anglian Water this was rectified. The picture (on the right) shows the improvement. It certainly makes walking and cycling easier. (Of course it has a dog in the picture – they are the rescue dogs I got last December, that I was only going to foster but of course, I couldn't send them back to the kennels.)

Work on footpath nine, which goes past the former police houses site, bungalow and into the fields, has taken place. It was overgrown with brambles and nettles and the Ramblers Association volunteer group did a significant job in cutting this back and making the stile at the top more accessible.

A major piece of work, in terms of its visual impact, was carried out on the Roman Road by the electricity pylon, alongside the road that goes from Hildersham to Balsham. The bridleway there was heavily encroached with scrubby growth that harboured a large rabbit population and prevented the adjoining landowners from dealing properly with the bridleway side of their boundary hedges. The small area that allowed access was consequently heavily rutted and damaged in places as any vehicle was only able to drive in the existing two ruts. The encroachment of scrub meant that the available area to walk, ride or drive was subject to seasonal prickly growth coming in at face level, and that the narrow and rutted area available could not maintain safe headroom for its use. This was all dug up and cut back in the summer and hopefully it is now settling down and looking less traumatised.

A major tree survey has been carried out in our green spaces, identifying trees that need some management plus their species. It is amazing how many fruit bearing trees are around the vil-



Repaired: footpath behind Anglian Water works

Picture taken by Merrie Mannassi

lage and I often think it is a shame to see their harvests rotting on the ground. I would highly recommend the apple trees by the Cathodeon Centre for making spiced apple butter. There will be follow on work as some trees are pruned and cut-back.

Our new rights of way officer is Peter Gaskin. He covers a huge patch which includes most of South Cambridgeshire. The county council has made changes to its website to make access to its interactive maps and information easier so please do have a look.

Cllr Merrie Mannassi

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

Charity bags

WE get a lot of charity bags left in our letter boxes and recently we got one for the fire fighters charity. As we have one of their collection bins at the Linton fire station I was curious as to how the system works.

At the September Emergency Services show in Birmingham the fire fighters charity had a stand so I took the opportunity to find out.

For the fire fighters charity the bags are left and items collected by a limited company, not the charity itself. This company sells the items including all the clothing. Good clothes and other items are sold as they are. Clothing that is damaged, old etc is sold for rags. The company that has collected the items then makes a donation.

The fund raising organiser told me that they get £100 per tonne of clothing collected. However, if it is left in the

bins, like the one at the fire station, they receive £200 per tonne. This charity monitors the amount of income generated where they have bins and where bag collections are made.

To tell if a charity bag is legitimate, it should have a contact number and a registered company number (which can be checked on the Companies House website). If the bag says it is on behalf of a charity, you can check out the charity on the website of the Charity Commission or telephone them. If you want to know more I have found a whole website devoted to the subject – www.charitybags.org.uk that reveals lots of other facts about this area. One of the most useful tips is, if you think a collection is bogus in some way your local Trading Standards office is the place to report it.

Cllr Merrie Mannassi

Temporary village custodian

THE parish council's temporary village custodian, standing in during the long term absence of Colin, started work on Monday 9th December.

His name is Chris and you will see him about the village picking up litter, sweeping up leaves and, if necessary, gritting pavements. Please be patient as there are a lot of areas to be covered and work to catch up with.

Parish council office

Cam Valley Forum

THIS is a completely voluntary group comprised of people who have a real interest and knowledge of river systems and water as a natural resource.

The forum works to protect and improve the environment of the River Cam and its tributaries, one of which is the Granta.

They have established themselves over the last 12 years and are able to comment on major planning applications for development or other proposals that might affect the river and riverside land. They also care for riverside meadows, working with other organisations that help to keep them clear of litter, invasive plants (such as Himalayan Balsam) and non-native wildlife, such as mink. They encourage community projects, arrange walks

and talks and keep a watch on pollution.

Their website which gives lots more information about their activities is www.colc.co.uk/cambridge/cam.valley.forum

Linton parish council is an affiliated member to this voluntary organisation but, as can be seen on their website, they would also like individuals to join them.

Next September they plan to join with the Cam conservators and other organisations for a river festival to celebrate World Rivers Day. This is an international event that evolved from concerns about the threats to the world waterways and is now celebrated in over 60 countries each year on the last Sunday in September.

Cllr Merrie Mannassi

Linton needs you! To be a parish councillor

LINTON parish council now has four vacancies for councillors. The parish council relies on people who are prepared to stand as councillors to ensure that the views of local people are represented.

As a councillor you can be a voice for Linton, be part of deciding how the community is run and developed, help achieve real change and make a difference.

If you are interested in being co-opted (no election necessary) on to the parish council, and fulfil the following criteria, please contact the clerk on 891001, email lintonpc@btconnect.com or talk to any parish councillor.

A commitment to attend the regular parish council meetings is essential.

To become a parish councillor you must fulfil the following criteria:

- Be over 18 years of age.
- Be a British, Irish, Commonwealth or EU Citizen.

Additionally you must either be:

- A registered elector within the parish.
- Have occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises during the previous 12 months in the parish.
- Have had your principal or only place of work in the parish for the previous 12 months.
- Have lived in or within 4.8 kilometres of the parish for the previous twelve months.

Parish council office

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Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 7th November 2013.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), D Champion, Dr B Cox, S Hill, B Manley, G Potter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker and Mrs S Parry (clerk). Mrs K France (press) was also in attendance with three members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Dew and Wilson. Cllr Mannassi was also absent.

Declarations of interest: Cllr Hill declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest under the allotments update item.

Chairman's comments: It was clarified that leaves had caused the drain blockage at the Swan bus stop and the county council had quickly attended to the problem. Congratulations were sent to Alan Baker on completing 30 years service with the fire brigade.

Public participation: Gemma Whiting was concerned that many vehicles were not adhering to the 20mph limit in the High Street and she was fearful of an accident happening.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October: Under district councillor Bear's report item, Cllr Poulter reported that the following should be noted: 'Land supply for housing', as of July 2013, the South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) cabinet now agreed that it could accept an up to date report that confirmed that the council could identify the required amount of land.

Pavilion update: Cllr Manley reported that all was going well and was slightly ahead of schedule. New 5mph signs had been ordered to replace those stolen. Cllr Potter had arranged for the CCTV to be realigned. The contractors had reported that the grass had been damaged by an Anglian Water company vehicle. Clerk to contact Anglian Water.

Allotments update: The Allotment Association (AA) AGM report was noted and Cllr Poulter thanked the AA for its strong attendance at the meeting. More detailed information was required from the AA regarding its site selection criteria. A detailed site plan was also required. The chairman explained that once the compulsory purchase (CP) package was completed by these documents, it should be reviewed by a specialist legal advisor with CP experience, and asked for approval for this. Cllr Champion proposed the motion. It was seconded by Cllr Wakley and agreed by the meeting. Proposal carried.

To pass a resolution to sign the indemnity contract in respect of s106 monies due to the parish council: The clerk reported that following the development of land in Back Road s106 financial contributions of £14,915.67 (in lieu of on-site provision of public open space) and £2,465.16 (for off-site provision of community facilities) were due. Suggestions for spending should be sent to the clerk and SCDC advised in due course. Cllr Manley proposed that the indemnity contract in respect of s106 monies due to the parish council should be signed. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

Written reports: Trees, rivers and wardens – Cllr Bald. The natural world was as important as the built environment. Grants were available for flood plains etc.

Parking and traffic – traffic working group. A very constructive meeting had taken place with Mr Lines, policy and regulation engineer, local infrastructure and street management for the county council, to discuss issues highlighted in the report. A report on this meeting would follow.

Consideration of the introduction of a weight restriction on Back Road following consultation: Much discussion took place. Concerns were raised that if a weight restriction was placed on Back Road heavy traffic would be diverted through the village. These concerns had been discussed with Mr Lines from the county council. It was noted that the unladen weight could be the criterion, obviating the need for weighbridges for enforcement. Cllr Potter proposed that the parish council opposes a weight restriction on Back Road. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker. A vote took place with seven votes in favour and one abstention. Proposal carried.

The clerk would contact Hildersham parish council for confirmation of their stance on this and if they were in favour of a

weight restriction district councillor Hickford would be asked to write a report for public consultation.

Correspondence received for consideration: Gemma Whiting had put in a request to site bins and hold a Christmas Fair on the Market Square. Much discussion took place regarding bins being left on the Market Square. It was agreed to check the legality of bins being left on the pavement overnight before a decision could be made. Cllr Potter proposed that council supports a Christmas Fair on the Market Square subject to consent by the residents of 32 High Street. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and resolved by the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Cox would write a report detailing the situation regarding history, parking and access on the Market Square.

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
**Office hours: Monday 9am–12noon and
 4–5.30pm, Tuesday–Friday 9am–12noon**
Or by appointment
 Dates for full council meetings:
 9th and 23rd January, 6th and 20th February 2014
 All meetings held at the Cathodeon Centre
 commencing at 8pm

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 21st November 2013.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), S Hill, B Manley, Ms M Mannassi, G Potter, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs S Parry (clerk). District councillor Mrs T Bear, county and district Councillor Mr R Hickford and Mrs K France (press) were also in attendance with five members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Champion and Cox.

Chairman's comments: The chairman had laid the parish wreath at the war memorial on Remembrance Day, and asked that more parish councillors attend next year.

The fireworks display and the music society concert had been a great success.

Lack of enforcement on planning matters and some decisions made by officers have had an unacceptable impact on the village. Perhaps officers should be invited to come and see the results of their decisions?

The chair reported that Sally Dew had resigned from the council. She was thanked for all her work and input to the work of the council and would be missed.

Public participation: Mrs Fidler spoke of her concerns regarding the possible development of land at 3 Horseheath Road and its impact on Keene Fields. She reminded the council that Keene Fields was a private road, there was a lack of parking places and the road was often obstructed. She asked council to bear this in mind when considering any planning application.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November: Under the matters for future consideration item, the chair reminded councillors to submit their suggestions for use of s106 and over claimed precept monies.

Written reports from district councillors: These were noted and the two councillors thanked.

Concerns were raised over support services for the elderly and possible duplication of the community warden scheme. Cllr Bear assured the meeting that this was not the case as other services were short term and targeted. Cllr Hickford reported that the community navigator service was under review.

In answer to a previous question Cllr Hickford explained that the local enterprise partnership (LEP) website was a good source

of information and the portfolio holder was Matthew Shooter.

Regarding the terms of reference for the A1307, the parish council would be added.

Cllr Poulter asked for clarification of the land supply for housing provision. Cllr Bear confirmed that, although not yet official, government targets had been met.

Written report from county councillor: This was noted. Much discussion took place regarding the council's decision not to support a weight restriction on Back Road. Cllr Hickford suggested that an alternative was to signpost a weight limit on A1307 for Linton and Hildersham. It was agreed to discuss this more fully at the next meeting. Cllr Hickford would issue a report.

Cllr Hickford explained that the South Cambs transport strategy was due to be released in early December. This could be good news for the A10 and A1307 as funding should be available for improvements to junctions. Cllr Hickford was asked if Cambridgeshire had approved lorry routes. He believed it did but would check.

Pavilion update: Cllr Manley reported that all was going well and the roof trusses had been fitted. Following a press release he was happy to confirm that an award of £50k had been received from Budweiser, it would provide a new kitchen and realignment of the bar area. This was one of eight awards given by Budweiser to improve facilities and extend community use for grass roots clubs, and Linton had been selected as the eastern region winner. This was a tremendous honour for the club and meant that they now go forward with the other seven regional winners to submit a case to receive the one national award of an additional £100k. The chairman congratulated and thanked all involved.

Written reports: Cllr Bald had issued a report on a review of parish council working processes and procedures following a meeting with Ian Dewar of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough association of local councils. Councillors had concerns regarding the report and needed an opportunity to discuss and give their opinion on having a review. A decision was required as to whether the council should accept recommendations contained in the report. It was suggested that this be placed on the next agenda for discussion and decision.

Correspondence received for consideration: Cllr Wakley declared an interest as a member of Aztecs football club. The village college had asked the parish council to consider working with them on a bid and donating some funding towards the relaying of the astro turf pitch. Cllr Manley proposed that a meeting be arranged. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Poulter and agreed by the meeting. Cllr Manley agreed to meet with them and Cllr Potter would attend too if available.

Regarding the county council bus stop improvements it was agreed to support low level solar lighting at the Swan bus stop. **Note: Copies of the full minutes, reports and documents referred to above can be inspected at the parish council office.**

A1307 bus shelter



Picture taken by Sue Parry
 AS you can see the bus shelter on the A1307 was all but demolished following a road traffic accident on 20th November, thankfully no-one was injured. A claim for its replacement is with council's insurers, as soon as their approval is given it will be ordered.
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