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School

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THE LINTON NEWS

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

March
2014
Vol. 27 N° 12
Publication date
Monday 3rd March

E & E PLUMRIDGE
Design & Print
41 High Street
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Villagers rally round as Linton floods

A COMMUNITY spirit reminiscent of wartime was present in Linton High Street on the morning of Friday 7th February when the river Cam burst its banks and flooded the Meadow, Camping Close, the Mill and Horn Lane. Residents of Meadow Lane were the worst affected.

Iona Pettit said: "We had a phone call from our landlord about 9.30am to say that Meadow Lane was flooding and that the drains were overflowing".

Dave Cheeseman who lives across the lane from the Dog and Duck said: "After surviving the floods in 2001 we all knew what to do so we rallied round each other".

Ian Billson said that he had had a good quick response from the (District) council providing sand bags.

Sam, the landlord of the Dog and Duck, called Yole Farm butchers in Balsham who not only took all the pub's food for safekeeping but also brought five tons of sand.

Sandbags were obtained from Ridgeons and everyone pulled together to fill them and barricade the doors along the High Street. Most of the Meadow Lane residents have already got their own flood barriers at their doors so it was just a question of moving the cars onto the main road.

In fact, the only place to let in water was the toilets at the pub so everyone breathed a sigh of relief. They are all now keeping their fingers crossed that the river will subside.

If you are worried about flooding you can log on to the Floodline website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk for information and advice. If you believe your property to be at imminent risk of flooding contact Floodline on 0845 988 1188 (calls are charged at local rate).

Sarah Hurcum



Left, the river reaches just below floor level at the Dog & Duck

Picture taken by David Champion

Right, the ducks take advantage of the high water level at the bottom of Church Lane

Picture taken by Sarah Hurcum



Left, the pavilion feels the effect of the high water and right, the playground also suffers.

Pictures taken by Brain Manley and Mike Judge



Arctic Star Medal for war hero Reg Albon



Reg proudly displays his well earned Arctic medal

Picture taken by Julian of Elite Wedding Photography

LINTON resident Reg Albon is approaching 93, yet it was only last year that he received the Arctic Star Medal from the British government for his service to his country during World War II, guarding the Russian convoys. A lot of the delay in receiving the medals was put down to the effects of the Cold War.

As a young man Reg lived in Castle Camps but wanted to see the world so, in May 1939, just before the war began, he joined the navy where he trained as a signalman using semaphore with light, Aldis lamps and flags.

For the first 18 months of duty Reg, nicknamed Blondie, was based in Freetown West Africa. In 1942 he returned to Scotland and joined the destroyer the Matchless in Glasgow.

The Matchless became part of the escort to the Russian Arctic convoys, which carried vital supplies through the Barents Sea to the Russian ports of Murmansk and Archangel in a voyage Winston Churchill described as the worst journey in the World.

The enemy attacked them with aircraft, U-boats and surface craft. The weather

was as cold as the inside of a freezer, yet at first the sailors were given no special clothing and the signalmen worked on a flag deck open on both port and starboard sides. In addition there were hurricanes and icebergs to deal with. In winter it was dark all day and in summer light all night. The conditions below deck were very cramped and basic. The life was very hard and when on shore leave they would play hard and drink hard.

Reg was aboard the Matchless when it, and other destroyers in the Arctic fleets, managed to sink the German gunboat the Scharnhorst. They picked up a few survivors but had to leave many more in the freezing water at night. They were ordered to leave in case the enemy blew Matchless up, resulting in the British crew joining the Germans in the water. The memory of their cries has haunted him ever since.

Reg completed 13 escorts of Arctic convoys before the war was finally over and in 1946 left the navy.

Our congratulations Reg, on at last receiving your medal. We all owe our freedom to men like you.

LNT

Linton lad names new fire engine

LINTON'S fire engine has a new name following a successful competition launched in the Linton News.

The on-call fire fighters appealed for children to name the new engine at the end of last year and were overwhelmed with the creative entries they received.

The winner was eight year old Wesley Kelleher with the name Vulcan, after the Roman God of fire. The fire fighters went to surprise him at Linton Heights junior school in February. Wesley and his family then attended a drill night at the fire station to see the crew in action before he was presented with a certificate.

Lee Allen, Watch Commander, said: "It's great to have had so many entries and we would like to thank everyone who entered. Having nearly 40 entries made choosing a winner even more difficult, but after much discussion we all decided that Wesley's entry of Vulcan was the winner. The name Vulcan seemed to win



Picture of Wesley supplied by Leanne Ehren

over the station crew and will show pride of place on the front of our new engine for many years to come".

The fire station is currently looking for new fire fighters to join its ranks. For more information about becoming an on call fire fighter at Linton, pop in on a Wednesday drill night 7-9pm, or call 01480 44500.

Leanne Ehren, Media and Communication Officer, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

A new bus stop

IF you are wondering why there are road works near to the Parsonage way bus stop, it is because the county council is improving the bus stop by making a layby facing towards Bartlow Road and providing a real-time information system.

The layby will allow a clear road for traffic from Horseheath Road, Granta Vale, Bartlow Road, Balsham Road and Parsonage Way.

Moving the stop, shelter and pavement has meant that the underground services had to be adjusted.

All this is being done because the council have received funding from central government, to ensure smaller communities around Linton can access buses serving Linton on the Haverhill - Cambridge route by improving bus stopping areas and minimising the impact on other traffic.

LNT



The new bus stop, work in progress

Picture taken by Roger Lapwood

Computer buddies

COULD you do with help using a new PC or laptop, Kindle, ipod, tablet? Or perhaps you need advice on the use of different programs such as excel, email, or mailmerge. Do you know how to design an advert or find your cheapest power supplier? Perhaps you could do with a confidence boost for searching the internet or buying an item on ebay or just writing a job application?

If you're over 50 and would like some one-to-one help on any of the above, there is a free Computer Buddy scheme at Linton Library on Thursday afternoons from 2 to 4pm. You only have to visit the library to make an appointment or call 0345 045 5225.

The library staff would also be glad to hear from volunteers willing to give time as Computer Buddies on Thursday (and possibly other) afternoons. Whether asking for help or volunteering, there's a good chance that you will meet new friends.

LNT

Too good for jumble...

A NEW item on offer for this column is a futon in good condition with reversible covers - it sits on a 6ft wide pine frame to make a sofa.

Items still available are the gents bike Incisor Virus, 26 x 1.95 wheel, good condition; a child's table tennis table plus balls and net; a small snooker table on a frame; eight stacking metal chairs with black padded back and seats; a high chair (converts to low chair) in bright coloured plastic in good condition; a pair of 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 and a black plastic dustbin.

A metal storage cupboard raised £15 for the friends of Linton Library.

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.



Linton Heights Year 4 blogs



THIS half term in Year 4, we have been blogging every Tuesday or Friday. A blog is where you write about what you have been doing over the past week. Here is an example:

Dear Reader,
Ever wondered what Year 4 pupils at Linton Heights get up to? Everybody in Year 4 wants to tell you about our learning. In ICT we are making usernames and passwords for *readformyschool* and we are writing blogs. Different types of poems are our focus in literacy lessons like: haikus, cinquains, clerihews and a song called *Corinna Corinna*.

Our topic lessons have involved us designing our own robot controllers and household robots. In art, we are enjoying drawing *Robots and Donuts* by Eric Joyner. In PE, we are doing gymnastics and we are being challenged with the new Change for Life Club. The Big Oak and Elimination are our



Year 4 bloggers

Picture by Jamie Wilson

games for archery practice. Finally, in maths, we tested our homework games on multiplying.

Here are some top tips if you want to write your own blog:

Start off with an opening that will hook your reader, for example a rhetorical question.

Write about what you have been doing for the past week.

Make it interesting because you don't want your reader to fall asleep.

Alice Wren, Finnian Clark, Grace Crewe, Jacob Leighton, Anna Ward, Ben Stratton and Gracie Watkin

Check your child's eyesight

IT'S that time of year again when I start to worry about all the children starting school without having had their eyes checked by an optician. Professor Brian Holden told us at conference in 2012 that the only way to stop undiagnosed eye problems was to ban children from starting school unless they had a letter from an optician confirming that their eyes had been checked. No government is going to pass that rule but they do pay for an eye test.

Personally I agree, as I often have to deal with uncorrectable lazy eye. Lazy eye must be detected very early, around age four to five. The eye's visual pathway (path from eye to brain) is fixed for life at the age of seven. A lazy eye at age seven is a lazy eye for the rest of the child's life.

It's the parents and grandparents who are responsible for their children's health, not teachers. Please have your child's eyes checked by an optician, even if there is no family history of eye problems. It's free to all under-19s in full time education. We all take our children to the dentist to have their teeth checked, but only about 50% of children are taken to the optician to have their eyes checked. Older, children must also have regular eye checks. Lots of 10-14 year olds start to go short-sighted but so slowly they don't notice for the first year or two. Regular checks after starting upper school are therefore essential. Book your child's eye check soon.

Ian Billson FBDO
www.billsonopticians.co.uk

Singing workshop

COME and sing songs from *Yanomamo*.

The newly formed Linton Youth Music society will be running an afternoon workshop for eight to 13+ year olds on Sunday 23rd March. Singer and choir director Rachel Godsill will work with participants on songs from *Yanomamo*. This is a musical based on themes from the rainforest. Workshops will take place between 2-5.15pm in Music Room 1 at Linton Village college.

For more details and to book a place visit www.lintonmusic.org.uk

Rachel Godsill

Please see music article on page 4

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News from Linton Infant School

WELL, February has been and gone and, although the shortest month of the year, it sped past at a rate of knots. All the children, staff and parents have enjoyed half-term and we begin the run up to Easter.

We have had lots of visitors to school recently, all of the four-legged variety. Goats, rabbits and one very special dog called Eva. Eva is training to become a hearing dog. As I am sure you are aware, hearing dogs need to experience all sorts of different situations and so a trip to foundation stage was a perfect opportunity. Billson's opticians also spent some time in foundation stage talking about the importance of early eye tests. The big bear was a great hit and has made a trip to the opticians far less scary. Linton is such a great place to live and learn as it has so much to offer. I think the old saying "it takes a whole village to bring up a child" is spot on.

The *Help I'm a parent not a teacher* programme was well attended and I am led to believe the group of engaged parents got a lot from it. The course covered the importance of talking to children and participating in active dialogue using questions to develop better thinking and enquiring minds. I hope there is adequate interest to run the sessions again in the summer term. We have added Facebook and Twitter to the ways we communicate with our parents and the Linton community. I hope you will 'follow' us and find out about the exciting things that are going on in our school and how you can support us.

Our PTFA is very active at the moment, helping us to raise the necessary funds for developing our outside environment. A recent Quiz and Chips evening was a great success and in March a clothing collection has been arranged. If you have textiles you wish to donate please pop into the office. We will be happy to give you a sack. Every tonne of fabric gives valuable pounds to the school.

On Saturday, 15th March we are holding a Helping Hands morning. We invite adults and children to come into school to help with all those jobs that help to brighten the school environment for the children. Previous Helping Hands mornings have seen the playground lines painted, a shed built and leaves swept up. If you are able to come along and help we would love to see you. No previous experience is required, just a willingness to help.

Louise Clark

News from the bell tower

THE Cambridge district ringers' AGM in January was significant for two reasons. Firstly, the results of the Gipson Trophy ringing competition were announced and Linton came second. This is our highest ever placing and is a testament to the effort all our ringers have put in over the last year to improve the quality of their ringing.

Secondly, Catherine Richardson from Linton was elected as Cambridge district secretary, the youngest ever we believe. She has really made an impact on the ringing community in the few years she has been ringing and we wish her well in her new post.

Our young ringer, Jason (10) and his mum Karen, are making good progress and Jason has attended several

of the Young Ringers' events held once a month. It's a great opportunity for him to meet other young ringers and it's fun. It would be even better if we had more young ringers learning in Linton, so if you fancy giving it a go (young or old), do get in touch.

The last Wednesday in January, 12 of us finished ringing early and went to the Dog and Duck for a fish and chip supper, along with a few non-ringing friends. It was a really good evening and it was suggested perhaps we could do it more often - maybe every Wednesday?

We meet each Wednesday at 7.30pm in the bell tower and all are welcome.

Jackie Latham
jackielatham@hotmail.com
890898

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Increased access to your medical records

Editor's Note: Since going to press the government has now deferred this directive for six months.

GP practices will soon be required to allow the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) to extract patients' medical data. This will include family history, diagnoses, referrals, pathology results and prescription details. This programme is called *care.data* and all households will have received a leaflet through the post entitled *Better information means better care*. The information extracted will be collated with hospital and other secondary care data and may then be used by researchers and policy makers. Individual patients have the right to opt out and you can write to us or pick up a form from reception.

There are now three very different forms of data sharing, the *care.data* model as described above, the *Summary Care Records* scheme (SCR), and the *Enhanced Data Sharing Model* (eDSM), which applies to users of the SystmOne Clinical System only.

The SCR only records information on medicines, allergies and adverse reactions for each patient on the national database. This information is then available to others in the NHS, such as A&E. Only staff with the relevant NHS smartcard access rights will be able to access the record and patients will be asked for permission on each occasion when access is requested. New patients are asked about access as they register with us. Linton Health Centre is due to go forward with the SCR upload in March 2014.

eDSM is again a very different sharing model. This allows other users of SystmOne clinical system, who are involved in the patient's care, to have access to their full medical record. This is a relatively new development and we are asking patients whether they are happy to share their records in this way. The out-of-hours service, 111 and Community Services all have access to SystmOne. Patient permission is sought at each organisation so control remains with the patient. Some of the doctors at Linton work for the out-of-hours service and they have found it very useful to have access to patients' records in this way.

Dr Wheeler & Partners

Linton Granta school went to the panto

THE whole school went to see the pantomime in Cambridge. We saw Robin Hood. It was good and very funny - it made us all smile. In the show there was a bad guy. Some of the cast came to visit the school and did a lot of singing in our school assembly. It was a good time out and we all had fun.

Many thanks to the Friends of Granta school who helped us to go to the panto by raising some of the money at our school fêtes, and also for the support from the local community.

Chloe George
Chair of the school council

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Playgroup jumble sale



Bargain hunters

Picture by Roger Lapwood

ON Saturday 18th January members of Linton Granta Playgroup were amazed by the queue that had formed in readiness for their jumble sale. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who donated jumble, we managed to fill the hall with clothes, bric-a-brac, toys and games and we also served drinks and homemade cakes.

After weeks of hard work and planning we were thrilled to find that we raised an amazing £250, which will go towards equipment for the playgroup.

Thank you to all who came and we are pleased to tell you that we plan on this being an annual event in our fundraising calendar.

Harriet Allen
Linton Granta Playgroup

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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.

Dear Editor,
LINTON Beware! Hildersham has suffered a major blow in the loss of its only pub. This was through the actions of its owner who spotted a weakness in the planning system. The parallels with Green Lane Linton should be a clear warning to all of us.

The old thatched cottage in the medieval market site in Green Lane has been bought, not for owner occupation but specifically for redevelopment, as advised by Carter Jonas. This is therefore a head-on challenge to the planning laws on which we rely to protect the Linton and the England we love. Government policy seeks to increase housing levels, and that might be the loophole they seek to use.

A large number of email addresses have already been gathered to show the strength of people's feelings and to help them communicate if this threat becomes real.

This is a strong and heartfelt plea to the owners to leave this special area alone. It cries out to be loved by an owner occupier who will respect its current beauty and its 768 year history. The right person will pay a lot for that privilege. Please spare us from all this worry.

This site is a key part of the Linton Conservation Area. Its loss would be a devastating blow to the village and a signal to developers and to ordinary householders that preservation of any kind is a lost cause.

ProtectGreenLane@gmail.com (to register your concerns)
Name and address supplied

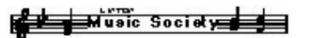
OUR THANKS

Dear Editor,
CAN I please thank everyone for their kind thoughts and best wishes during my recent illness.

I was most pleased and cheered to get so many cards from so many people. I will shortly be back in the shop.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped during the recent flood alert and those who kindly put the sand bags against the doors of the shop, a job which I couldn't have done myself. Brian Pettit, Small Gifts

ConBrio Chamber Orchestra comes to Linton


JOIN Linton Music at 7.30pm on Saturday 22nd March at Linton village college for an evening of music for all the family.

Come and hear the Con Brio Chamber Orchestra with their charismatic director Steve Bingham, featuring everything from Bach to Bartok and from Mozart to Mendelssohn. Fantastic folk dances, miniature trumpets, burbling bassoons and frenzied fiddlers will all

be hear to delight and amaze you.

Tickets available on the door or from Sweet Talk News, 71 High Street, Linton, 893480, or from Linton Post Office. They are also available from Saffron Walden Tourist Information Office (Tel. 01799 524002 or saffrontickets.com)

For more information contact me on lindabird@waitrose.com or info@cambridgesummermusic.com

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Bears and salmon



OUR speaker for January, Geoff Evans, gave an excellent account with slideshow of his visit to Alaska, the best place in the world for brown bears and salmon fishing, his main reasons for going.

On a journey to view bears catching salmon leaping up the falls, his group was advised to make as much noise as possible and, if confronted, to stand together to seem bigger and scare the bear off. Food, as the smell might attract the bears, was not allowed in the cabins or on the trails. Luckily salmon were plentiful that day; otherwise there would have been no bears and no stunning photography.

Another journey took Geoff by train and inflatable raft to a mountain range with an ice shelf and several glaciers from which enormous chunks of ice had broken off into the river.

On a hike to catch salmon, Geoff had to be accompanied by a guide with a rifle, as there was no viewing platform. Salmon fishing or *combat* fishing can be a risky business. One man lost an eye when a fisherman in front of him caught him with his fishing hook.

It can be warm in Alaska in summer and Geoff showed some gorgeous displays of flowers in Anchorage where he was based.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on 4th March in the village hall, when our speaker will be Mrs Gail Stuart, the talk entitled *Life with my Father* - Eric Morecambe. This is an Open Meeting and non-members of both sexes are welcome.

Sally Proberts

Not so new gardening fashions

 RODNEY Tibbs recently brought his fascinating collection of images of gardening throughout the centuries to life in his talk *Gardening then and now*. The gardening programmes often try to tempt us to add raised beds or water features to our gardens yet these, like other fashions, have merely come full circle. Egyptian pharaohs liked plenty of water features, preferably with ducks and medieval folk loved to cavort around fountains.

Plans for London from 1559 were spookily familiar with gardens organised around the use of raised rectangular beds. Raised beds are seen from the 14th century through to 1637 when they transformed into more decorative knot gardens. Rodney showed how everything from garden dining to woven fence panels proved popular over the centuries.

He also gave a fascinating insight into the evolution of activities such as mowing, hedge maintenance, watering and digging. Seeing a lady in all her finery following the fashion by taking exercise with one of the earliest push-along mowers as her husband watched from his seat raised several smiles. Imagine too the time taken to get the boots on your horse before it pulled the mower, to ensure that the lawn was not destroyed by its hooves.

On Tuesday 11th March, David Coop will endeavour to tell us all we need to know about compost in a single evening. Come prepared with any queries about the brown gold for your 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

Children's book festival in May

 WINDOWS on the Past is the theme of this year's festival. Visit our website at: www.lintonbookfest.org for the latest information about authors, programmes, booking information etc.

Ron Ragsdale Chair, Linton Children's Book Festival

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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 in this edition.

WEEKLY

Conkers childrens' centre, 9.30am-12.30pm, Wed-Fri	CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays.	VH
Chestnut baby/toddler group, 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, 8pm Thursdays term time only	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
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays	Library
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

MARCH 2014

1 Farmer's Market, 9am	LVC
3 LVC sports centre user/non user meeting, 6pm	LVC
3 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC
4 Scrabble club, 10-12noon	CP
4 Linton WI, 7.30pm	VH
5 Reading Group, 8pm	VH upstairs
6 Lunch club, 12noon	Red Lion
6 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
8 Linton Guides jumble sale, 2pm	LI
9 Lighthouse, 10.15am - 12noon	URC
10 LVC All weather pitch meeting, 6pm	LVC
11 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands
11 Gardening club, 7.30pm	VH
12 Community Navigator drop in, 10am-12noon	HC
12 Police surgery, 12noon-2pm	Police office, Fire station
15 Helping Hands, morning	LI
16 Walking group, 11am	Church lane
16 Messy Church, 2.30pm	St Mary's
17 Adult education user/nonuser meeting, 6pm	LVC
18 Scrabble club, 10-12noon	CP
18 Historical Society, 7.30pm	VH
19 Cambridge Hearing Help, 9.30-12noon,	HC
20 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
22 Linton Music, 7.30pm	LVC
23 Singing workshop, 2-5.15pm	LVC
24 Playgroup and Out of School club meeting, 6pm	LVC
29 Easter craft and puppet event, 2pm	URC

APRIL 2014

1 Scrabble club, 10-12noon	CP
1 Linton WI, 7.30pm	VH
2 Reading Group, 8pm	VH upstairs
3 Lunch club, 12.15pm	Red Lion
3 Parish council meeting, 8pm	CC
7 Camera club, 7.15pm	CC

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, LI Linton Infant 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: 10th and 24th March

Linton recycling collection: 3rd and 17th March

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Feet simply continue to grow



Michelle and Mary outside the shop

Picture supplied by Michelle

THE demand has grown and grown since Mary Fenner opened Simply Feet Chiropody in May 2012. Mary initially opened all day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but is now offering alternate Fridays as well to meet demand. Evening and weekend appointments are available on request.

Mary wishes to thank all of her new and existing patients for their continued support. She has been offering a limited home visit service on Mondays but due to continued demand she has welcomed Michelle Rhodes, a newly qualified foot health professional, who is a resident of Linton, to join her. Michelle will offer a home visit service for housebound patients. Whilst studying, Michelle has helped in reception and watched Mary at work. She said: "Mary has inspired me and I am grateful for her support and the opportunity to work with such an experienced chiropodist". Mary's sister Katie works on reception.

Please call Simply Feet Chiropody on 892602 or for more information go to www.simplyfeetchiropody.co.uk
Michelle Rhodes

Linton Youth Theatre at LVC

HERE at Linton Village College, we strive to stage excellent and entertaining theatrical productions, and 2014 will be another high point.

We want all sections of the school community, local businesses and our supporters to enjoy the musical *The Little Shop of Horrors* in March, a Shakespeare production later in the year and much more.

While we already enjoy wonderful support, we are asking you and those you know to offer us help in cash or kind to subsidise the costs of the performing rights, scenery, props, costumes and professional services.

We have different sponsorship levels to find out more and to sign up to one of our sponsorship levels, contact me for a form.

Do something positive if you can or kindly pass this message on to a friend. Thank you.

Gerry O'Keefe, Development Unit,
LVC Gerry.OKeefe@lvc.org

Rediscovering Lent

FOR many, the purpose of Lent is a mystery. There is no right way to observe this period. Some fast for 40 days. Others give up chocolate or coffee or watching TV. Some Christians take on an activity. Others ignore Lent altogether. Given the range of approaches, what do we make of this season?

Christianity uses symbols that hold meaning for us: the cross, water, fire, bread and wine, and so on. Symbols convey truths that go deeper than words. Similarly, the season of Lent is a symbol, reminding us of our need to develop self-discipline. For 40 days, we resist temptation in one area of our lives; a sign that we are serious about developing as mature human beings. Observing Lent helps us discover our own authenticity. As we abstain from certain activities, we learn more about ourselves. We see what is good within us and what is not so good. We comprehend our potential and our limitations with greater clarity.

We all want to become better people. That will not be achieved by giving up chocolate for 40 days. But that is not to belittle our efforts. Whilst we may not be transformed into saints during Lent, our efforts act as a symbol of our desire to become more authentic people.

I encourage you to observe Lent this year. What you choose to give up is immaterial. The motivation that you are symbolically enacting is far more important. Why not try it this year and see what you learn about yourself.

Editor: Lent begins on 5th March Rev Dr Steve Griffiths

Lent lunches to benefit Emmaus

EVERY year in Linton we hold a series of Lent lunches on a Wednesday during the seven weeks of Lent leading up to Easter. The lunches are held in various houses and consist of bread and home made soup followed by coffee. All people are welcome. It provides a pleasant opportunity to meet up with friends and have a chat. There is a plate for a collection to raise funds for a charity. This year the charity we are supporting is Emmaus of Cambridge.

The lunches take place between 12noon and 2pm on Wednesdays as follows:

- 5th March at Rosie and Richard Read, 8 The Furrells
- 12th March at Colleen and Derek Lockstone, 1 Rhugarve Gardens
- 19th March at Gill and Lawrence Powell, 7 Harefield Rise
- 26th March at Judy and Keith Nightingale, 11 Mill Lane
- 2nd April at Leslie and Andrew Gore, 38 Symonds Lane
- 9th April at Joan and Maurice Smith, 10 Symonds Lane
- 16th April at The Pavilion at St Mary's – Monica Clarkson plus helpers.

At the last lunch there will be a representative of Emmaus who will tell us something of their work and will receive our charity gift.

Derek Lockstone 891931

Youth music membership offer

BE a founder member of the newest special youth group. Join as a member and receive these great benefits in this our first year. We're looking for families and children to help build a fantastic group of enthusiastic music lovers, following the success and positive feedback received from our first ever event. A chance to hear children oriented concerts, be part of workshops and many other fun events during the year, as well as gaining free entry to some brilliant concerts.

Our special launch offers membership of 18 months for the price of 12, if you buy before March 23rd, the date of our next event *Singing Workshop* with Rachel Godsill. For an annual child membership fee of £30 per child each will receive priority booking, plus many more perks. For a family membership fee of £90 per family of two adults and up to three children, the family will receive all of the same benefits as above.

If you like the idea but are not sure whether you want to commit right now, then allow us to convince you. Join as a *mini-member* for the rest of the season, (end of October), £15 child or £45 family.

Josephine Paterson 893582, lintonyouthmusic@gmail.com

An invitation to join the camera club

ON my travels around the village I often meet people carrying cameras and I always ask them why they don't come to the Camera Club. Invariably the response is: "Oh I wouldn't be good enough for that". Well, I am here to dispel that myth.



We are a Camera Club – not a Photographic Society. We don't spend all our time talking about shutter speeds, focal length and depth of field. We meet every month for a friendly social evening where we can share our pictures, learn new techniques and solve our photographic problems.

Not everyone has a super duper expensive camera with a huge telescopic lens. Lots of us have small pocket cameras which have the capacity to take excellent pictures.

Our meeting on 3rd March is an open forum where ideas for future topics can be discussed so why not come along and give it a go. Bring your camera if you wish and if you have any questions about its functions there will be someone there

Not hanging on a wall but hanging on a tree

Picture by Sarah Hurcum

who can advise you. If you are a complete beginner there is also help with using the computer to download and enhance your photos.

We have a theme each month and each person can bring up to four pictures on a memory stick to show. The theme for March is Hanging on a Wall.

Do come and meet us at 7.15pm on 3rd March at the Cathodeon Centre – we even provide tea and cake. The charge for visitors is £3 but this is deducted from the subscription fee of £20 should you decide to become a member.

Sarah Hurcum

Tony's marathon for Joliba Trust

I WILL be running the London Marathon on 13th April to raise funds for the Joliba Trust. This is a huge challenge for me as I have never run a marathon before. Some of you will know me from my work as a cover teacher at Linton village college and my involvement with Linton village cricket club and the Friends of Linton Heights

Joliba Trust works in Mali, one of the three poorest countries in the world. The focus of its work is with small farmers and cattle-herders in the Dogon communities of central Mali. Joliba lends money to farmers to buy donkey carts or animals to enable them to start small businesses. The charity also builds and repairs wells to bring water to isolated villages.

My aim is to raise enough funds to supply water to a village school. Water is essential to human life, yet many children and families in Mali do not have access to safe, clean water for drinking, washing and cooking. Please help me to provide this.

The best way to sponsor me is to visit my fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/tonykellylondonmarathon. You can pick up a postcard with the details at local shops including the Linton Kitchen, Jigsaw Bakery and Ashcroft & Sons. Donating via Just Giving is quick and easy. If you are a taxpayer, remember to claim Gift Aid, which adds 25% to your gift. Please give whatever you can. Every little helps. In Mali, a small amount of money makes a big difference.

Thank you for your support.

Tony Kelly

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LINTON COUNTRY DIARY by Darryl Nantais

Illustrated by Maureen Williams



Farewell

IT is with regret that I report that Darryl Nantais our talented Linton artist is stepping down from writing the country diary after 13 years – an incredible achievement. On behalf of all the Linton News Team I thank you Darryl for all your hard work, we shall miss your poetic musings on the countryside and we wish you all the very best in the future.

We hope to have a different countryside article in the near future together with Maureen's beautiful illustrations.

Editor

Raising money for firefighters' charity and ladies driving challenge

EVERY year, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service raise thousands of pounds for the Fire Fighters Charity – and we couldn't do it without you, so we would like to say a big thank you.

This month, fire stations across the county will be holding car washes, so visit www.cambsfire.gov.uk or our social media channels to find out what stations are taking part near you.

Registration is now open for the annual Ladies Driving Challenge on Sunday 11th May at Alconbury airfield. More than 300 women will get behind the wheel of super-sized vehicles and if you want to take part sign up quickly. For more information and to register, email ldc@bedsfire.com or call (01234) 845130.

Finally, a huge thank you to all who supported our clothing bank challenge in January to see which station could collect the most unwanted textiles to raise cash for the charity – we're eagerly awaiting the results.

Make sure that fire safety still stays at the forefront of your mind in March – and don't forget to test your smoke alarm.

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
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

A year of success

ON March 6th Julie and Sam celebrate one years trading at the Dog and Duck. This hard-working duo has turned around the fortunes of this much loved village pub by offering fabulous food and great service all day every day.



Julie and Sam behind the bar
Picture by Julian

They, and the rest of the team, wish to thank Linton for helping make their first business venture so successful and for the warm welcome they have received.

Building on their success they have forged links with trusted local suppliers, so they can offer the very best seasonal produce from locally butchered beef to fresh seafood delivered daily.

Their Wednesday fish special and Sunday roast are now so popular that booking is required to avoid disappointment.

This cosy village pub has fast become a community hub with a range of ales and lagers complimented by a fine selection of wines that can be enjoyed in the bar or the snug.

With live jazz from Linton resident jazz pianist Robin Phillips usually on the first Sunday of the month, you can listen

to top class music free by renowned singer and bandleader Robin who has the residency at The Savoy on Friday nights. Check out his new release CD at www.robinphillips.co.uk

Book early for Mothering Sunday on 30th March where you can be assured of a great welcome

The Dog and Duck team were amazed by the local support they received from their neighbours during the flooding on 7th February and they in turn came up trumps by supplying residents at risk of flooding with sand bags filled by all the team, including the chefs.

The Linton News team wishes Julie and Sam fair weather and continued good fortune.

Save the Children

OVER the years the people of Linton and surrounding villages have given us a great deal of support for which we are very grateful. It is therefore with optimism that we ask for help and further support in our fundraising.

Save the Children works in 120 countries including the UK. We save children's lives and fight for their rights. When disaster strikes, our teams respond quickly delivering food, water, health-care and protection to millions of children and their families. We do not know what the next emergency will be, but we will be ready.

If you would like to become a supporter, or just help with some of our events, please ring me on 894237 for more information. Many thanks.

Lynne Taylor (Linton and District Branch)

Linton Children to experience slum life

TO challenge the negative perceptions and treatment of street children around the world, a group of young people and members of the Beacon Trust in Linton are going to have a taste of slum life by taking part in the *I am Somebody Slum Challenge* on 4th, 5th and 6th April in solidarity with the Amos Trust run Street Child World Cup ahead of the FIFA world cup.

The young people of Linton will spend a weekend experiencing something of what it is like to live in slums. They will be looking for individual sponsorship to raise money to help those who have no home and no hope. For more information, please visit <http://streetchildworldcup.org/> or Contact me on 07572 529817 for more information.

Barry Easton, Lead Youth Worker

Get on your bike.....

JOIN The Velo Festival and be part of the celebration of the Tour de France which is coming to Cambridgeshire on 7th July.

To qualify as part of the Velo Festival which runs from May to September, an element of your event should promote or celebrate cycling or elements of French culture.

For more information or to obtain a registration form email thevelofestival@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call Zoë on 715502.

.....and support for local events

IN addition there is a cycle legacy small grant (up to £500) fund to support local community activities or events linked to and inspired by cycling or Le Tour. The applications round dates left are, 7th March and 11th April.

For further information and to download the grant guidance and application form, please go to: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/cycling/cycle-legacy.htm

THE Linton News would love to hear of any events planned for the village as part of the festival.

Please contact the editor. Contact details on page 3.

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POT POURRI 108

What are the values of x and n?

$$\sqrt{x+\sqrt{2x-1}}+\sqrt{x-\sqrt{2x-1}}=n$$

LET n = 0, 1 and 2 respectively. What are the real values of x? Further if x=0 find n.

NB. Only non-negative real numbers are admitted for square roots.

When x has been determined, do enter the value for the equation to ensure the correct value of n is found.

Hint: It pays to watch the square roots.

Solution to 107 – The radius of a sphere is?

Radius = 18, Area = 1296 and volume = 7776.

Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bartlow walk is coming

WATCH out for the Bartlow walk on Sunday 4th May 2014

The Bartlow walk has been going since 2004 and raises money for local causes. There are 3 levels, 13½-mile, 9-mile and 6-mile option and a 1½-mile Junior Nature Trail for under10s

For details visit: www.bartlow.org.uk, ask at Linton Health Centre or call me on 891732.

Graham Howat, Walk Organiser

Linton Free Church hall for hire

WE have just had our church hall refurbished and it is absolutely fabulous.

All we now need is for groups, clubs, and societies to use this delightful building with toilet and kitchen facilities.

If you are interested in a viewing for potential use, please contact John Pearson on 892197 or hello@lintonfreechurch.org.uk for a discussion on competitive rates.

Julia Burdett

Hildersham news in brief

IT'S Teatime from 3pm on March 6th, in Hildersham village hall. Leanne Fisher, PCSO with the local policing team, will be available to answer questions.

THE Hildersham Village Hall Trust Quiz Night will be held at 7pm on Friday 14th March, tickets £8 to include a chilli supper. Please bring your own drinks. Join a team or bring your own team of up to eight people. For tickets, contact Jill on 893596 or edheale@btinternet.com. It's always a great night – come and join in the fun.

THE Hildersham Lecture is at 7.30pm on March 28th in Holy Trinity Church, entry £5, including refreshments. Scilla Latham, Former Church Buildings Support Officer for the Diocese of Ely, will speak about Cambridgeshire Churches.

For further details of any of the above please contact me on 892848 catherinemyer43@btinternet.com

Cathy Myer

Hildersham bake off

WHO will be the Hildersham Star Baker?

Hildersham Children's Church Council is holding this event at 3pm on Saturday 29th March in the village hall to raise funds for new play equipment at the village hall playground. Everyone has the chance to compete in various categories. The cost is 50p per children's entry, or £1 per adult's, or just come on the day to taste for yourself.

Entries must be delivered to the Village Hall by noon. Entry forms may be obtained from Cathy Myer 892848 or Kate Huntsman 894862 or at Teatime on 6th March.

Henrietta Newble, lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

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I TELL any teacher who is interested in working at LVC that we have always been more than a school. As a Village College we are a hub of community activity: an 11 – 16 school, a playgroup, an out of school club, a sports centre, an adult education centre and a venue for a vast range of different activities from local fairs and markets to high quality concerts. Henry Morris' vision for the college is very much alive in our ethos.

The person who manages this on a day to day basis is our Community Business Manager, Matt Bailey, who began working with us in September. Matt has already made his mark at the college and would like to introduce himself and his ideas here:

"Since September I have been working hard on many projects to increase the functionality of the behind the scenes aspects of the college with some immediate successes.

I am now looking for your help to assist me in the continual improvement of the services I manage. I have put together a series of user/non-user meetings for you to come in and meet me to go through my ideas and to listen to yours."

Monday 3rd March – Sports Centre user/non-user meeting
 Monday 10th March – All Weather Pitch meeting to discuss purchasing a replacement surface and sponsorship opportunities/partnerships

Monday 17th March – Adult Education user/non-user meeting

Monday 24th March – Playgroup and Out of School Club user/non-user meeting

All of the above meetings will start at 6pm.

Please can you email me at matt.bailey@lvc.org or call me on 891233 if you would like to come along to any or all of the meetings.

Caroline Derbyshire, Principal

Plodding along - bike found

A BIKE appears to have been abandoned in Linton since November 2013. It is a child's mountain bike in silver with black writing. If you know anyone who has lost or had this bike stolen, please contact me. I have details of the make and model which I will need the loser to identify. I have checked crimes and lost property, but nothing matches this bike.

Please call and leave a message for me on 101, or email me on leanne.fisher@cambs.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Leanne Fisher

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- S/2734/13/FL Mr & Mrs John Organ, 20 Crossways, Side extension to dwelling and replacement shed.
- S/0103/14/FL Mr Richard Tonry, 10 Market Lane, Single storey front and rear extensions.
- S/0127/14/LD Mr & Mrs Thomas McKenzie, 17 Granta Vale, Proposed LDC for garage conversion.
- S/0207/14/FL Mr Howard Kent, Unit 7, The Grip, Building with office use B1(a) Office, B1(c) Light industrial, B2 General industrial, B8 Storage/distribution.
- S/0220/14/DC Hundred Houses Society, Former Police Station, 9 to 15 Cambridge Road, Discharge of conditions 3 (Materials), 4 (Landscaping), 7 (Ecology), 9 (Pedestrian ramped footways and refuse), 13 (Surface water drainage), 14 (Traffic management plan), 15 (Lighting scheme), 16 (Energy audit), 17 (Water conservation strategy), 19 (Noise mitigation/insulation scheme), 20 (Archaeology), 21 (Fire hydrants) for application S/2420/12/FL for 18 affordable dwellings.
- S/0224/14/FL Dr Raj Wadhvani, Linton Dental Practice, 108 High Street, Change of use from dental practice to a dwelling.
- S/0224/14/FL Dr Raj Wadhvani, Clock House, 2 High Street, Change of use from a dwelling to a dental practice.

A country railway station

THE Linton and District Historical Society talk for March 2014 will be A Country Railway Station.

It will feature a brief history of the railway in the life of Shelford, and how it nearly went up in smoke at the hands of a Suffragette Bomb, and the shocking accident that showed the possible dangers of the railways. While this is the story of the railway at Shelford, it has many parallels to the experience at Linton railway station, and also a connection with the railway line from Haverhill that opened in 1865 and serviced Linton railway station, which then joined the London Liverpool Street line in Shelford. The Haverhill line was closed in 1967.

If you would like to hear more, come and listen to this fascinating talk with historian Helen Harwood from Shelford Oral History group, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th March in Linton village hall. All are very welcome.

Andrew Westwood-Bate

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The Way We Were

By Garth Collard

Linton ice cream

I ENJOYED some delicious ice cream served at the Dog & Duck a few weeks ago and was pleased to hear that the ice cream was made in Linton by the Maras company on The Grip industrial estate.

Children at the 1890 flower show bought ice cream from a passing salesman operating from the Dog & Duck car park, who used polluted water from the river. Twenty to thirty children under the age of 15 contracted typhoid and around 10 died including the salesman's daughter. The culprit was prosecuted and fined.

In the 1930s, the Linton Pure Ice Cream company owned by Mr F Bassett, produced ice cream from his premises at The Lindens in Hadstock Road. He used a small fleet of motor cycles with sidecars to sell the ice cream in Linton and most of the local villages. The picture shows one of the vehicles and provides a list of prices. In September 1938 one of the salesmen, George Andrews of Horseheath, had parked his motorcycle combination at Bardfield End Green when the sidecar was hit by a motor car and tossed into the air, covering the road with ice



The Eldorado ice cream salesman

Picture courtesy Don Coxall

cream. The main witness had just purchased an ice cream. The offender was fined 21s 6d. In that same month Mr Bassett sold up and left the district.

Most Linton grocery and confectionery shops sold ice cream and sellers were licensed by the RDC. Health inspectors rated the premises and the ice cream on a scale of one to five, and in the 1920s the best ice cream could be purchased at the Green Hill café, or Stanley Coxall's shop in Townsend Alley (called Tudd by the locals) next to 129 High Street.

After WW1, the top of the

High Street and Cambridge Road were often blocked by up to a dozen coaches and cars parked by people buying the ice cream and cream teas produced at the Greenhill café by Mrs McIver and Leonard Casbolt. Mr Casbolt also sold ice cream from his Hillside café housed in the wooden hut opposite the Crown, now a hairdressing salon.

Stanley Coxall sold Eldorado ice cream locally from his shop in Tudd Alley, collected from Cambridge on his bicycle. He also made his own ice cream in his cellar. Stanley's son, Don Coxall, recalls that each day arriving home after school, he spent two hours stirring the ice cream until it was thick enough to sell.

At 70 High Street from 1931 to 1975, the Colvilles sold ice cream, fizzy drinks, sweets and 1/2d ice lollies. The shop was famed for its soda fountain and beloved of the primary school children.

Other shops selling ice cream in the 20s and 30s were the Co-op, Holtumms, Sweetie Smiths at her Hillside café and Annie Rowe from her cottage at 114a High Street.

Could you volunteer to help Aztecs JFC ?

AZTECS Junior Football club is looking for a willing and enthusiastic volunteer to manage and coach the U6 team.

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aid and safeguarding children as part of the FA Coaching Level 1 courses.

If this is something that may interest you please contact Malcolm Peters on 07860863723 or by the contact page on the club website <http://www.aztecsjfc.co.uk/club/contact>.

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Parish Council Matters Assets of community value

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

THE parish council is considering the village's assets of community value and would like your input on what to include.

The community right to bid is one of a raft of new initiatives introduced in the Localism Act 2011, it allows communities and parish councils to nominate buildings or land for listing by the local authority (South Cambridgeshire district council for us) as an asset of community value. An asset can be listed if its principal use furthers (or has recently furthered) their community's social well-being or social interests (which include cultural, sporting or recreational interests) and is likely to do so in the future. When a listed asset comes to be sold, a moratorium on the sale (of up to six months) may be invoked, providing local community groups with a better chance to raise finance, develop a business plan and to make a bid to buy the asset on the open market.

How the community right to bid works

The legislation: This is set out in the Localism Act and regulations. Local authorities must keep a 'list of assets of community value', the legislation sets out in detail the process they must enter into and what information they must include.

The legislation also outlines the definition of an asset of community value, what groups can legitimately nominate, the appeals process for land owners, timescales for groups interested in buying land or property on the list, and compensation available to the owners of land or property on the list.

What is an asset of community value? A building or other land is an asset of community value if its main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social well-being or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future. Examples could include:

Education, health and well-being or community safety

- Nurseries and schools
- Health centres, surgeries and hospitals
- Day care centres, residential care homes

Sport, recreation and culture

- Parks and open green spaces
- Sports and leisure centres
- Libraries/theatres/museums or heritage sites

Community services

- Community centres/youth centres
- Public toilets

Any economic use (eg a business such as a shop)

Village shops - which also provides an important local social benefit which would no longer be easily available if that service should cease

Pubs

The regulations list a number of situations where land or buildings are exempted from inclusion on the list. These include homes, hotels, assets being transferred between kindred businesses, and Church of England land holdings.

Who can nominate assets of community value? A number of community organisations can nominate land and buildings for inclusion on the list:

- Parish councils
- Neighbourhood forums (as defined in Neighbourhood Planning regulations), unconstituted community groups of at least 21 members

Not-for-private-profit organisations (eg charities)

Community organisations also have to have a local connection, which means their activities are wholly or partly concerned with the area, or with the area of a neighbouring authority.

Decisions and appeals: If a community organisation nominates land or buildings that meet the definition of an asset of community value, and the nomination process was undertaken correctly (ie came from a group entitled to nominate), then the local authority must include the asset on its list. Assets will remain on the list for at least five years.

If the local authority decides that the nomination doesn't meet the criteria, then they must write to the group who nominated the asset and provide an explanation.

They must also keep a list of unsuccessful nominations for at least five years.

Landowners can ask local authorities to review the inclusion of an asset on the list, and this triggers an internal review process. If this review upholds the listing an appeal to an independent body,

called a first tier tribunal can be pursued by the landowner.

Moratorium periods: The community right to bid does not give the right of first refusal to community organisations to buy an asset. What it does do is give time for them to put together the funding necessary to bid to buy the asset on the open market.

If an owner wants to sell property/land that is on the list, they must tell the local authority. If the nominating body is keen to develop a bid, they can then call for the local authority to trigger a moratorium period, during which time the owner cannot proceed to sell the asset.

There are two moratorium periods. Both start from the date the owner of the asset tells the local authority of their intention to sell:

The first is the 'interim moratorium' period, which is six weeks, during which time a community organisation can decide if they want to be considered as a potential bidder.

The other is a 'full moratorium' period, which is six months, during which a community organisation can develop a proposal and raise the money required to bid to buy the asset.

If a sale does not complete then there is an 18 month 'protected period' (running from the date the owner notified the local authority of an intention to sell) during which the owner is free to dispose of the property without further moratoria.

The community right to bid and permitted changes of use:

Where planning permission for a change of use is required, the asset of community value listing will be treated by the authority as a material consideration with the appropriate weight given in each individual case. However, there are permitted development rights which enable an owner to change the use of land/buildings without the need to seek specific planning permission for that change of use. Where an owner is legally entitled to change the use without seeking planning permission the asset of community value listing has no bearing - the community must be mindful of the limits of the legislation in protecting community assets.

Please let us have your opinion on which village assets of community value should be put forward for listing.

Parish council

Bus service timetables

AS a member of the public transport committee I have recently become aware that some local residents are unhappy with the bus timetable. I have forwarded on all comments received to Stagecoach

and will continue to do so if required. However I wish to make it clear the parish council and its sub-committees have no say in the timetabling of the buses and any comments and/or complaints must go straight

to Stagecoach, or the relevant bus provider. What is being done is improving the local infrastructure with more modern and more village friendly bus stops, such as the works the county council organised at the

Swan bridge bus stop and the works currently underway next to Parsonage Way. The parish council is responsible for the upkeep of the shelters at our bus stops.

Cllr Keiran Wakley

Transport questionnaire

CAMBRIDGESHIRE future transport have produced a transport questionnaire. This is a short survey to help them understand how the local community uses bus services and how the services could be changed to better meet your needs. The county council has less funding available to subsidise buses, therefore this is an important process in deciding what your local transport will look like in the future.

The transport questionnaire is available to complete online at <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CambsFT2> or by downloading from www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cft or in paper copy form from your parish council office.

Please make time to complete this questionnaire, as many responses as possible are required. The deadline for responses is 28th March 2014.

Community event drop-in sessions will be held in key locations during March.

Completed paper questionnaires should be returned to the CFT Team, Cambridgeshire Future Transport, Cambridgeshire County Council, Shire Hall CC1301, Cambridge, CB3 0AP or to your parish council office (who will forward them on your behalf).

After the deadline, all responses received by the Cambridgeshire future transport team will be collated and a report prepared. The report will be shared with you via a working group meeting. More information about the working group will be sent in due course, including its role and date for a first meeting (likely to take place at the end of April 2014).

Cambridgeshire future transport
Cambridgeshire county council

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:

6th and 20th March, 3rd April 2014

All meetings held at the Cathodeon Centre commencing at 8pm

Flooding information

ON Friday 7th February South Cambridgeshire district council delivered sandbags to homes in the village which were in immediate risk of flooding. The website link, with important information on flooding issues, is online at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/flooding>

Has the recent flooding affected you? Please let us know.
Parish council office

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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 9th January 2014.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), D Champion, Dr B Cox, S Hill, B Manley, 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: Cllrs Mannassi, Potter and Wilson.

Chairman's comments: The chairman congratulated Gemma Whiting on the Christmas Market which had been a great success. Major changes to staffing in the district council, especially in the conservation and planning departments, were likely to impact greatly on parish councils. Following the closure of The Pear Tree, Hildersham, the council should be identifying buildings in Linton to be listed as community assets. Congratulations to the Church and associated groups for their *Living Nativity*, especially the sheep which were such a feature. Congratulations too to Prof Juliet Compston for her work on osteoporosis and her OBE.

Public participation: Beatrice Ward, Dave Lissemore and Nicola Miller introduced themselves as prospective parish councillors.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2013: Under the consideration of spending options for s106 and precept monies item, Cllr Bald suggested that the footpath to the sports pavilion be upgraded.

Cllr Manley reported that positive feedback had been received and Mr Filby was to be thanked for his work as temporary village custodian.

Pavilion update: Cllr Manley reported that work was going very well. The roof was on and all work was now undercover. The governors of the village college had given permission for a direction sign from the college to the pavilion to be erected. Cllr Manley would be requesting that the footway lighting from the recreation ground to the college car park remain on until all cars had left the car park following bingo on a Monday evening.

Consideration of the recommendations, following the report from the processes and procedures meeting: Cllr Bald had issued a report. Cllr Walker proposed that the parish council accepts the work and scope of the areas of focus contained in the report and proceeds with the review. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hill and resolved by the meeting. Cllr Poulter proposed that the first area of review be financial operations, as this would serve as the model for other areas. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

Grass maintenance contract 2014-2017: To consider and agree the draft grass maintenance contract, the closing date for the receipts of tenders and the date of the meeting when the contractor would be appointed.

Cllr Manley was concerned that the northeast corner of the recreation ground might require more than two cuts per season. It was agreed that extra cuts could be requested, or added to the work of the community payback team.

Cllr Poulter proposed that the council accepts the draft contract. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved by the meeting. Cllr Hill proposed that the closing date for the receipt of tenders be 10th February and the contractor to be determined at the meeting on 20th February. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and resolved by the meeting.

Written reports: Police panel meeting on 10th December 2013 - Cllr Champion had issued a report. He added that following Operation Oaklands, an anti-burglary initiative in the village, 70 vehicles were found to have been left unlocked.

Correspondence received for consideration: Ms Beatrice Ward had applied to be co-opted to the council. Ms Ward was asked to leave the room and discussion took place. Cllr Cox proposed that Ms Ward be co-opted to the council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and resolved by the meeting.

Mr Sackin had written regarding the use of Market Square. Cllr Cox would submit a written report regarding ownership.

The formation of a multi-academy trust between Linton village college and the Meadow school, Balsham, was noted.

The clerk confirmed that the bus stop shelter on the A1307

had been replaced following a traffic accident.

Mr V Harris had requested permission to use the recreation ground for his annual funfair from 15th to 18th May inclusive. Cllr Cox proposed that permission to use the recreation ground for the annual funfair be granted. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved by the meeting.

Mrs M Cox had requested refurbishment of the notice board at Swan bridge. It was agreed to ask Mr Watkins to replace the cork backing. A small notice advising against the use of staples and the size of posters to be A4 portrait maximum would be displayed.

Invitation to Cambridge future transport meeting on Monday 3rd February, 5-6pm at Newmarket Memorial Hall. It was agreed that Cllr Wakley and possibly Cllrs Manley and Hill would attend. It was hoped that the possibility of re-establishing rail/guided bus links between Cambridge and Haverhill could be raised.

Matters for future consideration: Cllr Cox reported that the village sign was in need of refurbishment. He would take it down and thoroughly clean it before seeking a quotation for refurbishment.

The clerk confirmed that Steve Jackson would be painting the electricity sub station when the weather improved. Cllr Bald requested that a paint colour sample be provided prior to commencement.

Cllr Champion asked for an update on emergency planning procedures.

ABBREVIATED minutes of the meeting of the parish council held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 23rd January 2014.

Present: Mrs E Bald (chairman), P Poulter (vice chairman), D Champion, Dr B Cox, S Hill, B Manley, Ms M Mannassi, K Wakley, Mrs A Walker, Dr B Ward, Mrs J Wilson and Mrs A Meeks (admin assistant to the 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: Cllr Potter and Mrs S Parry (clerk).

Welcome of Beatrice Ward to the council and to witness the signing of her declaration of office form: Dr Ward was welcomed and her declaration of office form was signed.

Chairman's comments: Tree works had commenced in the village. The logs, branches and trunk pieces left were the property of the parish council (except for the churchyard where it was the PCC) and had been earmarked for various projects. The community payback team would be working in the village over the next four to five weekends. They had tasks for the cemetery and Leadwell Meadows, any further ideas for work should be sent to the clerk. Well done to all those involved for the impressive pavilion works.

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January: Under the matters for future consideration item, Cllr Cox advised that Darryl Nantais would be willing to undertake a complete refurbishment of the village sign.

Under the matters arising item, Cllr Wakley discussed the poor state of the recreation ground footpath. It was agreed to follow this up on completion of the pavilion works.

Under the correspondence item county council minor highways improvement initiative, Cllrs Bald and Manley had made a personal presentation to support council's application but with 54 applications in total felt there was little chance of success.

Written reports from district councillors: Noted. Councillors were thanked for their reports. Consideration of buildings in Linton to be added to the community asset register: This register aimed to allow time for communities to respond (by considering community purchase, raising funds etc) to endangered businesses etc. A list of buildings and structures which were felt to be valuable community assets would be compiled, in consultation with residents. This would then be presented to the district council. Strict eligibility criteria would be applied. All suggestions to be sent to the clerk. (See main article overleaf).

Written report from county councillor: Noted. Cllr Hickford had arranged an A1307 meeting for parish councils for 13th

February at 7.30pm in Linton village hall. Cllr Hickford advised that there was a potential for obtaining money from the City Deal, most of which would go on public transport but road junction improvements were a possibility. The long term project was for a new road in this area. Traffic counters were to be put on all routes east to west, which would show how much traffic does not use the A1307 but avoids it by going through the villages causing further localised problems.

It was agreed to refer the Cambridge future transport questionnaire to the traffic working group to respond.

Consideration and agreement of the precept total for 2014-15: Cllr Poulter proposed that the precept be set at £159,850.00. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

Pavilion update: Cllr Manley reported that the kitchen, toilets and new reception area were nearly finished and the whole project was due to complete on time. Two minor additions, including re-providing an outside plug, would be made.

Written reports: Consideration of the draft letter to the district council regarding a joint application by Hildersham and Linton parish councils for the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr Poulter explained that this was the starting point by outlining the case for Linton and Hildersham to combine. Grant funding had also become available again. A map showing both village boundaries would be sourced as part of the application. Cllr Wakley proposed that the letter be sent. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and resolved by the meeting.

Churchyard management working group report - Cllr Cox had reviewed the situation at present. Estimates were being obtained for works to the western boundary wall. It would be expensive and grants would be applied for. The kissing gate problem should be resolved by the tree works and grinding out of the tree root. Underground pipes and tanks had made some tree replanting difficult.

Correspondence received for consideration: It was agreed that organising the maintenance of the Hales' family graves was not the council's responsibility. A letter would be drafted to Davies and Partners requesting that the executors arrange this with HJ Paintin, and again requesting details of to whom the Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial should be made.

Mrs Nicola Miller - to consider her application to be co-opted to the parish council. Mrs Miller left the room while discussion and voting took place. Cllr Cox proposed that Mrs Miller be co-opted to the council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley and resolved by the meeting.

Mr Sackin of 32 High Street (which abuts the Market Square) expressed his concern that his permission had not been sought for the holding of the Christmas Fair in December. He had a 1984 document regarding his vehicular right of way on the right hand side of the council owned Market Square. Archive council paperwork referred to a solicitor's error when colouring ownership plans. Cllr Poulter proposed that council sought further advice to clarify the legal rights of both parties in order to reach an amicable settlement of the issue. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved by the meeting.

It was agreed to refer the request for a speed awareness sign in Hadstock Road to the traffic working group.

Mr David Lissemore - to consider his application to be co-opted to the parish council. Mr Lissemore left the room while discussion and voting took place. Cllr Champion proposed that Mr Lissemore be co-opted to the council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Wakley and resolved by the meeting.

The Beacon Community Trust annual report was noted. It was agreed to commend them on their report and the large amount of work they do. Cllr Hickford said praise should also go to the council for taking the bold step of supporting and giving three years funding - creating a model for other parishes to consider.

It was agreed to refer the district council village services and facilities study, review and update, to the planning committee.

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

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