



Farewell to 'Our Goose'

TRIBUTES have flooded in for a popular Goose who was a favourite among villagers. He was known variously as Mr Goose, Gordon Goose, Waldo and many other names besides, but was officially called Mussolini. The friendly giant had been a fixture of Linton for over 15 years. Concerns for his welfare were raised in September, and the RSPCA were called in to assess his condition. They removed him from the river and determined that he was suffering from acute malnutrition, and the decision was made to help him recover in their care. Sadly, his recovery never came about, and he was put to sleep in late October when they realised he was suffering from severe hip pain.

The large white bird was something of a father figure at Horn Lane Bridge (known more commonly as the Duck Bridge,) and acted as a protector to the many generations of ducklings that grew up there in his time. He was known to break up fights, raise the alarm when predators were about, and keep the more antagonistic ducks in order.

Placed at the river by the Bertrams in around 2005, Mussolini was an Embden Goose, who are known for their parenting skills and caring nature. He was believed to be around 17 years old at the time of his death, a premature age for a breed that is expected to live 20-25 years. Many villagers have been in touch through the Linton News and via village social media channels to share

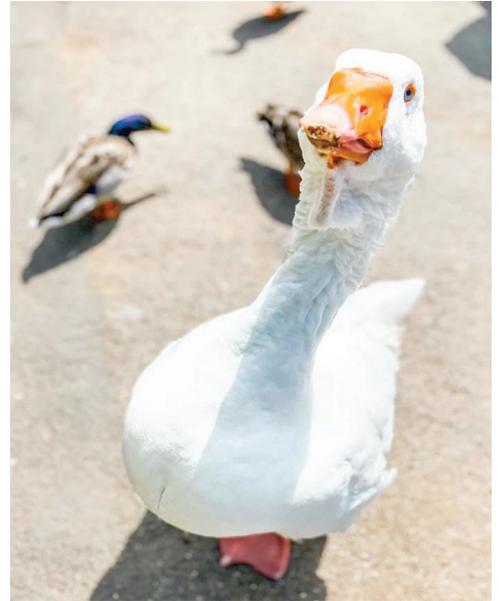
their memories and stories of his life. Jan Garden said: "I'm so sad to hear this. Very few villages have such an iconic resident and we have been fortunate and privileged to have had him for so many years. RIP, we'll miss you."

Highlighting the bird's comical nature, Alison Omand Lewis commented "Mussolini fly highyou brought so much pleasure to so many in Linton. Walks will hold great memories of your antics and the giggling this created."

Some commented that they remember the iconic bird being there for at least 25 years, but it is believed that another lone Embden goose lived on the river before him, which is where the confusion may lie.

Tarquin Bertram, previously of Linton House, said that he had been bought as an egg at Cambridge Market, and hand reared by the family. Although he still spent much of his time within the grounds, he had become fully independent by the time of his death.

At the time of writing, discussions are in place to have a permanent memorial to Mussolini placed at Horn Lane Bridge. More details to follow in time.



Linton News Team
Photo: Jessica James

Kind and comical: Mussolini in his element

Organiser blames villagers for washout event

THE organiser of a medieval re-enactment weekend has hit out at villagers in the wake of a controversial and poorly attended event that took place on the Village Green in September. Quentin Robinson, proprietor of the Plantagenet Round Theatre, blamed a "hostile" local council and "knucklehead attendees."

In a series of public Facebook posts, Robinson hit out at villagers, describing them (with heavy sarcasm) as the "good people of Linton," who were "Looking for any excuse to make complaints." The Plantagenet Round describes itself as "the world's first medieval round theatre, providing a medieval entertainment venue to the public, with music, drama, song, dance and plays from the period."

The two day event took place from the 25th to the 26th of September, and had been advertised to the village in a series of posts in online community groups, few of which gave tangible details of what was to take place. Constant rain did not help the success of the event, and several re-enactors (most of whom were unassociated with the Plantagenet Round) failed to make an appearance. The Plantagenet Round is now planning another event in Horseheath.

One Linton resident who does not wish to be named said, "For a group to come along, fence off half of our village green for four days, charge us to get into it and then insult us when we stay away, is quite incredible."

The Village Green has played host to several re-enactment events in the past, but to our knowledge, none of these has charged an entrance fee.

The Linton News is aware of at least two complaints that have been made regarding Mr Robinson's event. A Parish Council spokesperson said that they "would not be in a position to comment on the event held on Camping Close in September," but advised that any future events would "require permission from both the Parish Council and Cambridge County Council before taking place."



The entrance fee allowed visitors access to the site, much of which was trade stalls and concessions

Linton News Team

Chalklands a sea of poppies



THE public spaces of Chalklands have been decorated in a plethora of bright colours and patterns by talented local residents. Rainbows, hearts and flowers can be seen hanging from trees and adorning the shrubbery, with a particular focus on multicoloured poppies for remembrance day. The jewel in the crown however, has to be the creation that covers the post box (pictured.) A magnificent crocheted 'hat' that perfectly fits the top of the wrought iron structure, as well as complementing the colour scheme perfectly.

Remembrance Sunday takes place on the 14th of November and will be marked with a full service at St. Mary's Linton, followed by a ceremony at the war memorial in the Cemetery. Local groups including the Fire Service and the ATC will help to mark the occasion and the event is open to all.

Linton News Team

You shall go to the ball!



Dressed to the evelens: leavers finally got the party they had been waiting for

STUDENTS from the class of 2021 returned to LVC for a belated prom and awards evening in October. "It was so lovely to welcome them back to celebrate their achievements and see them enjoying reconnecting with their classmates," said Principal Helena Marsh, "We are so proud of their exceptional hard work and resilience, reflected in amazing academic outcomes." The combined prom and awards evening had been delayed due to Covid restrictions, and the extra time had clearly been used to great sartorial advantage, with an astounding array of dresses and tuxes on display. The hall at LVC is an excellent venue for these types of events, and can be booked via www.schoolhire.co.uk/cambridge/linton-village-college. All money raised through venue hire goes directly back into funding school facilities.

Linton News Team

Readers write...

Dear Editor,
 Hopefully, residents of Linton have noticed how much drier the pathway is going up the (Rivey) hill. Strangely, due to the heavy rain in July, the water has created its own channel.
 It would be helpful if we could all ensure this was kept as clear as possible to help the flow of water, perhaps parents especially could make sure children do not build dams across the stream!
 However much fun this is, it does cause the water to flood over the path making it more difficult to use this lovely local facility. Thanks
 Name and Address supplied

Something to say?
 Someone to thank?
 editor.linton.news@gmail.com

Send some joy in a box

ST MARY'S Church will once again be a collection point for *Love in a Box* Christmas shoeboxes. This appeal ensures that some of the poorest people in Europe will know someone cares at Christmas. Bring some joy into the life of a baby, child or pensioner in Romania by filling a shoebox with gifts, wrapping it in Christmas paper and delivering it to St Mary's Church between Friday 5th and Sunday 7th November. The small charity Children in Distress promise that every box will be in the hands of a child or elderly person by Christmas. You will need a leaflet available from Sarah Thorne at St. Mary's. You can find out more about the appeal here at www.childrenindistress.org/shoobox-appeal or by contacting Sarah on caf@stmaryslinton.org.uk

Sarah Thorne
 Child and Families Minister
 St. Mary's, Linton

'Mr Christmas' Jordan Cooper DOUBLES lights for 2021 display



Festive lights galore! A taste of last year's fantastic display

ANYONE happening to pass Fincham's Close at Christmas last year can't have helped notice the incredible light display created by Jordan Cooper and his family. This year, Jordan has gone one step further (or possibly three,) and intends to double the number of lights on display. Quite how this is possible we will all have to wait and see, as last year was such a dazzling collection that it hardly seems possible.
 As with last year, the Coopers are raising money for charity, this time in honour of Jordan's Grandfather who passed away in 2020. The Charity they have chosen is the Norfolk Zipper Club, founded by former patients who have had heart surgery at Papworth, and now raise money to buy additional medical equipment for the hospital.
 Jordan said "This charity meant a lot to Grandad, who had a lifesaving operation at

Papworth a few years ago. He would help out with collecting donations for the charity, which is run entirely by volunteers."
 The Coopers are planning the big switch on for Friday 26th November at 6pm, and invite people to come down and watch as they flick the switch!
 In addition, there will be daily 'naughty elf hunts,' as well as goody bag handouts just before Christmas. Jordan is also planning to open the rear garden at set times, where there is just as much of a wonderland to be found. The 2020 display raised £620 and Jordan hopes to smash that figure this year. More details can be found at www.facebook.com/CoopersChristmasLights

Linton News Team

Jazz band back with a Christmas bang



Horns at the ready: Band members in a festive mood

LINTON Jazz are holding a Christmas charity concert with all money raised going to Reach. The event will take place on Sunday 12th December 3pm until 5pm at Linton Village College. What better way to start Christmas than an afternoon of festive entertainment with our fabulous local jazz band. They will be playing foot tapping favourites along with some brand new Christmas music. Refreshments will be served and a fantastic afternoon of festive music is guaranteed to get you in the spirit of Christmas. Tickets are limited so the audience will have plenty of space. The tickets are £10 for adults and £2 for under 16s.
 They are available at www.lintonjazzchristmas.eventbrite.co.uk or go to the Eventbrite website and search Linton Jazz. If Covid regulations force us to cancel, then a full refund will be issued. Please join us for some Christmas fun and to help raise some money for the fantastic charity Reach. Reach Community Projects based in Haverhill have a drop in centre, offer financial advice and run a food bank. Volunteers help to lift people and families out of poverty by restoring dignity and reviving hope.

Karen Sanderson

A call to be kinder

WELCOMING the stranger is deeply embedded in the Jewish-Christian tradition, but we acknowledge that although we understand the principle, we are not always so good at putting it into action. The theme of the October Zoom hosted *Space for the Spirit Reflection*, focused on how we treat strangers and how we need to educate our youngsters to recognise the difference between strangers who are a threat, those whom we can trust, and those strangers we need to be better neighbours towards.
 With this last thought in mind, we have set up a group to raise money to help Afghan refugees and if this is successful, we'll extend it to other refugees. We have set ourselves a target of £1000 and so far we have raised about £300. Our next event will be on Saturday 20th November, 10am - 12 noon in

St Mary's Church and the pavilion. We will serve our usual coffee and tea and there will also be stalls selling second-hand books, home-made cakes, antiques and bric-a-brac, and in the pavilion second-hand children's games, jigsaws, books, etc.
 All money raised by this event will be given to Cambridge City Sanctuary whose aims are to build a culture of hospitality and welcome, and work together to build a tolerant, forward-looking, open, welcoming, warm, compassionate city and country.
 Date for your diary: Saturday 20th November 10am - 12 noon

Reverend Michael Wilcockson
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November..

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Sunday 7 th	Remembrance Day – Debi Hall	5 – 7pm
Wednesday 10 th	Quiz Night	7:30pm
Friday 12 th	Karaoke	8pm
Saturday 13 th	Live music – Jamie Humphries	8pm
Saturday 20 th	Live music – Kyle Chater	8pm
Wednesday 24 th	Rock 'n' Roll Bingo	7:30pm
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Gardening Club



A late autumn display

AT the club's October meeting, the AGM was followed by an interesting and informative talk from Jenny Marks, about the National Garden Scheme (NGS).

The NGS began in the early 1900s and has donated millions of pounds to nursing and health charities over the years. The money is raised by opening private gardens to the public. More information on the NGS and the dates the gardens are open can be found on its website www.ngs.org.uk, and in its yellow booklets which can usually be found at garden centres. In our own garden, the main growing season is coming to an end. The leaves are turning autumnal, the bushes are full of berries, and the dahlias, rudbeckias, fuchsias, cosmos and busy lizzies are putting on a final burst of colour. Tender perennials such as our canna plant will soon have to be brought indoors for winter. In our vegetable patch, all the raspberries and courgettes have now been picked but we still have leeks, parsnips and broccoli growing. We have bought some onion sets to overwinter in the ground as this was very successful last winter. We are now planning for next year, a gardener's work is never done! At the club's next meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th November in the Village Hall, Joe Sharman will be talking about *Grasses*. Annual membership is £10 and the visitor's fee is £2 per meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jim and Helen
893577

Linton Library

WE are very glad to see so many of you back at the library. For everyone's safety and comfort we currently continue to manage the numbers of people inside the library at any one time, and encourage you to wear a face-covering and maintain social distancing. Thank you to all the customers who shared their reflections on *What the library means to me* during Libraries Week in October. It was wonderful to hear your thoughts and feelings about libraries. In November, we will be highlighting non-fiction, so if you usually read mostly fiction, why not try stepping out of your comfort zone this month with a biography, a travel book, or some cookery or history? November is also Men's Health Awareness Month, and we have a range of books available to support you with your health and wellbeing, both mental and physical.

If you have a collection of items on a particular theme that you think would be of interest to library customers, and you would be happy for this to be housed in our display cabinet for a month or so, please pop into the library for more information.

Customer Services: 0345 045 5225
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library
Lindsay Healy and Ann King, Community Library Assistants, Linton Library

Community help team considers the future

THIS year, we have kept up a light presence in case of need in the village, but requests are few. We have been trying to help via the schools and churches. We work closely alongside Reach Foodbank and Age UK, as they are better equipped to help with matters like benefits, reducing bills and mobility. We also started the Creative Communities project with help from different volunteers each month. This was a six month project initially, with the intention to look at establishing a standalone Creative Wellbeing community group – possibly a monthly Crafty Café. However, most people it seems are back to being busy, so take up has been low recently. It really does seem time to wind up both the LCH Team and the Creative Project. If anyone would like to discuss this with a view to taking part or taking a volunteer/ lead role, please contact us.

If you or someone you know needs help with fuel costs this winter or short term financial support, please get in touch asap. We still have funds to help and treat all enquiries confidentially.

lintoncommunityhelp@gmail.com

THE LINTON NEWS Next publication 6th December 2021

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November bin collection dates (Linton)

Black bins: Monday 8th and Monday 22nd

Blue bins: Mondays 1st, 15th & 29th

Green bins: Mondays 1st, 15th & 29th

'The Cambridge Phenomenon'



THIS is the title of a book written in 2012 by our speaker, Kate Kirk, about the technological side of the city.

Bill Gates wrote the foreword. There are 3,500 tech companies within a 20 mile radius, a population of 25,000 people, and a 10 billion pound annual turnover.

There are 54 Nobel prizewinners from Oxford and 110 from Cambridge. The founding fathers were Cambridge Scientific Instruments (1881), Pye (1896) and Marshalls (1909). Later came Sinclair, manufacturing pocket calculators and computers, and Acorn, who at the time were the biggest computer manufacturers in the world.

Kate showed us how the first webcam came about on the internet in 1993. Every small phone in the world contains a chip from a Cambridge company called Arm. Raspberry Pi have sold 35 million tiny cheap computers to students to learn programming. The structure of DNA was discovered in Cambridge, and in 1977, Sanger came up with a method for decoding it.

The Human Genome Project took another 20 years to come about, and in 2005 Solexa ran the sequence for the genome which was 99.9% accurate. Illumina does all the genome sequencing around the world. The Plant Breeding Institute developed Maris Piper potatoes. The first test tube baby originated in a lab in Cambridge, the brainchild of Patrick Steptoe. He was assisted by a woman, a brilliant lab technician called Jean Purdy, a fact not widely known.

A company called Adair won an Oscar for audio equipment technology. Walking out of Cambridge train station down Station Road, one sees buildings for Amazon, Microsoft, Siemens and Apple, who came to Cambridge to produce Siri/Alexa voice recognition. Kate showed us the first delivery at a farm in Fulbourn for Amazon Prime Air drones.

Ladies, you are welcome to join us at our next meeting in the village hall on 2nd November at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Anna McMahon, her talk entitled *Libraries After Lockdown – Building Back Bolder*.

Sally Proberts

Balsham Picture House presents: 1917

BALSHAM Picture House began its new winter season of films with a screening of the Oscar winning Film *The Father* (12A) starring Anthony Hopkins and Olivia Colman. Anthony Hopkins is a mischievous octogenarian who is increasingly suffering from dementia, and his daughter Olivia Colman is endeavouring to provide support and help when she moves to Paris with her partner. The next film, to be shown on November 6th, will be *1917* (15). An academy award winning portrayal of the scramble to call off a doomed attack on the German lines during WWI. Doors open at 7.00 with the film at 7.30, and wine/ beer etc all available before from Dave's Bar for a small donation. Films are shown on the first Saturday of the month in the Church Institute which has a large screen and hi-res projector with full surround sound. All current memberships will be renewed in January and we will be delighted to welcome any one who would like to join our film club. Where else can you see 12 or more new films for just £12 a year in a social environment with friends and a glass of wine?! For more details contact Nigel Clark at balshampicturehouse@gmail.com.



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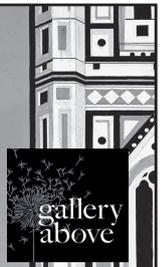
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News from the Infants

IT'S hard to believe October half term has been and gone and we are well into the swing of the autumn term. Routines are embedded, and everyone has settled into the school way of life. Some of our Early Years children are already leaving parents at the gates as they are so confident and happy coming into school!

We are already thinking about the intake for September 2022 as the admissions window is open, and we are pleased to be able to offer some small group tours on Tuesday 9th November at 4pm, Saturday 13th November at 9am, Monday 15th November at 4pm, and Thursday 18th November at 4pm. These tours must be pre-booked and we ask that only one adult attends who has taken a lateral flow test no more than 24 hours before coming along. You must wear a mask, and unfortunately no children are able to attend. To book a tour, please contact the school office on 891421.

The children all took part in a sponsored walk at the beginning of October to help me with my final preparations for the London Marathon, which I completed on behalf of the NSPCC. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us and to everyone who donated to the NSPCC. We can't tell you how much your support means to us all. It is no mean feat getting 166 pupils ready and walking together for just over two miles!

We are already entering into the Christmas spirit by designing Christmas cards and drawing self-portraits for gifts. The children's artwork is amazing!

Kelly Harries



Linton Infants walking to raise money for the NSPCC

Air Cadet adventures



Civilian Instructor Paul Orton on camp with cadets

WHAT a few months we've had! The Battle of Britain Duxford airshow was a huge success, bringing together over 60 cadets and staff on our camp, including local squadrons. The car parking was a breeze and the show managed to avoid the rain on both days, giving the cadets a chance to brush up on their aircraft recognition and photography skills.

With the darker evening for the September show, we like to run a film night. We fired up the generator, broke out the projector, dished out the popcorn, kicked back and relaxed after a hard day's work. Lots of new friends were made for staff and cadets alike. That's what being back face to face is all about.

At time of writing, Corporals Pevley and Newall are both on an annual adventure training camp along with CI Orton.

Corporal Vellacott and Cadet Spall both look forward to an annual camp at RAF Leeming in the coming weeks – so activities are back in full swing.

We continue to achieve on squadron, with cadets working through the classification syllabus, practice for Remembrance Sunday parade and shooting events to take us through the winter months.

2523 will return to the air with our first Grob tutor powered flying allocation in December.

If you are minimum aged 12 and in year 8, now is the perfect time to join our squadron.

Bradley Wright
Pilot Officer RAFAC
training.2523@rafac.mod.gov.uk
07943 873272

Camsight VIPs The Cambridge charity for people of all ages with low vision and blindness.

OUR October meeting was lively and great fun, with our auction conducted once again by Secretary June Hall. Members and volunteers brought personal and household items, and the successful sale raised funds for our group.



Also present was the new van (pictured,) containing samples of equipment to make life easier in the home. Our rural outreach team were there to advise and suggest which items would be beneficial. Our afternoon tea and raffle completed the day. We were delighted to welcome more new members as well as our new volunteers. The next meeting will be at 2pm on Tuesday 9th November at the Chalklands Centre, when we hope to enjoy some musical entertainment. If you or anyone you know would like more information about our group, please contact the Cambridge office on 420033, or on the number below.

Jean Mannion
01223 893595

Adult Learning at Sawston

IT has been lovely to welcome previous and new learners to our courses this term. We have had a good start to the term and we are delighted our new *Garden Design* course is fully subscribed. We plan to offer this again in January.

We have Saturday workshops planned for 27th November and some of these are starting to fill up. There are still places on *Classic Indian Delights*, *Creating Picturebooks*, *Drums for Beginners*, and *Right Plant, Right Place*. If you are interested in any of these, or indeed any of our courses, please visit our website, www.sawstonadulted.org, email community@sawstonvc.org or telephone 01223 712424.

Sue King, Adult Learning Manager



Learn how to prepare delicious dishes

Cooper Barnes Automotive to host charity car wash

COOPER Barnes Automotive are holding a charity car wash at their site on The Grip, on Sunday 21st November. The family run auto firm will be donning their overalls and soaping up motors from 10am - 2pm. Chestnuts Playgroup, Little Hands Playgroup and Friends of Linton Village College are the three organisations being supported, and the Cooper Barnes team have even arranged snacks, with tasty treats being

donated by Gemma at the Linton Kitchen. The price is a very reasonable £10 per car (and remember these are auto experts so a good job is guaranteed!) For those who don't have a car to bring, the team would welcome donations, which can be dropped off at their site.

Linton News Team

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We are delighted and very grateful to be celebrating our 20th Anniversary this year and would like to thank everybody for making this possible and such a pleasure.

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COUNTRY MATTERS

Guest written by Oren Thorne, illustration by Maureen Williams



Oren Thorne: why we should celebrate riverside rodents

I AM proud to say that the River Granta has some amazing gems hiding amongst the roots, silt and detritus. And my discovery of one of these gems, namely the water vole, would not have happened without the help of FROGS, a local group of exquisite people striving to help the nature of Linton. Water voles are a traditional part of English river life, as exemplified by Ratty in *Wind in the Willows*, but they are currently in danger of disappearing. Recently, FROGS contacted a member of the Wildlife Trust to come and talk about the fast-declining furry munchers. Soon enough we had all got into the river with each of us taking a good look along the riverbanks for these elusive creatures.

As water voles are semi-aquatic, they like dry areas where they can rest, but with easy access to a water source and vegetation in which to hide. They are not fussy eaters, and they will feed on anything from reeds to dead fish, but their main problems are habitat destruction and predation.

A water vole will never dwell on a concrete slope littered with plastic and they are preyed on extensively by mink, cats and other adaptable predators. Mink are especially hazardous, since they can get into water vole burrows. On this occasion we found evidence of at least one living muncher, judging by the half-cut vegetation aligned on some mud by a burrow. In truth, we couldn't have been happier.



Rats at the Duck Bridge

It seems that there are regular complaints about the rats that are in evidence at the duck bridge, often scurrying in and out of the undergrowth. While these are not water voles, they are a part of the natural river habitat and despite a common opinion, rats do not present any particular health or pest problem when not in houses or businesses. Even if it were necessary

that "something must be done" about these perceived unwelcome mammals, then would that mean putting poison on our riverbanks? Let's try to ditch some of these prejudices!

POT POURRI 197

All the same

I have eight counting numbers which have the mean, median, unique mode & range all being 8. What is the largest number that can meet these conditions?

Pot Pourri 196 - How many flowers were there?

Helen has 49 & Jim has 35 flowers, hence they have 84 flowers between them.

News from the Historical Society

AFTER a year and a half of disruption, we are pleased to say we have been able to commence our 2021/22 programme of speakers. We had a good attendance in September with an excellent talk from Geoff Heathcock on the *History of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution*, followed by an interesting question and answer session.

On Tuesday 16th November we welcome Mike Furlong who will talk on 200 years of Milling. We welcome you to join us at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane starting at 7.30pm. Parking is available in the car park opposite the hall.

Our list of talks in the following months include: *The Semi-pro 60's; History of the Dogs' Trust; Bygones Quiz; Horseheath Hall; 60 years of Aviation and Marie Curie.*

Naturally at this time of uncertainty, restrictions may once again come into operation.

Please email ldhscams@pobroadband.co.uk or telephone 893915 to check the situation.

Ian Creek (Chairman)
Frank Appleyard (Treasurer)

Christmas presents sorted with Cambridge Art Makers

CAMBRIDGE Art Makers invite you to join them for their Festive Open Studios Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th December from 11.00 – 18.00 each day.

A wonderful opportunity for some gift shopping and festive cheer. We will have a delightful array of pieces available to buy and information and vouchers for our courses.

To allow more space, we've kept exhibitors to our tutors only.

Pieces available will include textiles, jewellery, wooden homeware, paintings and more. There will be different tutors exhibiting each day, so please check our website for full details.

Exhibitors include: *The Lady Moth, Lovely Lydia, Natura & Lea, Helen C Walls, Hurdy Gurdy Glass, Oly Moses, Bobby Spooner, Pretty Little Mosaics, Rebecca Ilett, Janet Edwards, The Woodland Haberdasher and Clare Basel.* Please visit www.cambridgemakers.org/open-studios for more information.

Courses for November and December are filling up fast but do check on our website if you were looking to try something new or are looking for a lovely activity to do with a friend.

Susannah Bangham
www.cambridgemakers.org
cambridgeartmakers@gmail.com
890308



Festive candles from Natura & Lea

Coronavirus booster vaccines

THE Coronavirus boosters are being given by NHS vaccination centres in our area, and you will be contacted direct when it is your turn to book. The booster vaccine helps improve protection you have from your first two doses, and also helps give you longer term protection against getting seriously ill from COVID-19.

Who can get a COVID-19 booster vaccine?

Booster vaccine doses are available to those most at risk from COVID-19 who have had a second dose of vaccine at least 6 months ago.

This includes:

- People aged 50 and over.
- People who live and work in care homes.
- Frontline health and social care workers.
- People aged 16 and over with a health condition that puts them at high risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19.
- Carers aged 16 and over.
- People aged 16 and over who live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatic arthritis).

If you are pregnant and in one of the eligible groups listed above you can also get a booster dose. If you are a frontline health or social care worker you can book a booster dose appointment online you do not need to wait to be contacted by the NHS. For further information on coronavirus booster vaccinations please ring NHS 119 or go to www.nhs.uk

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District and County Councillors Report – October 2021

Call for Sites

FOLLOWING the release by the District Council of last month's preferred sites to be taken forward for potential development, we now have a date for the public consultation on these sites. This will run from November 1st for 6 weeks. As a reminder, the policy of the council has been to keep large development concentrated in the existing and forthcoming settlements – Cambourne, Northstowe, Waterbeach New Town etc – and leave the villages as they are. If you are supportive of this principle, please do say so in the consultation response, it will be very helpful.

Planning Updates - Linton

Bartlow Road – For those with their ear to the ground, you will have seen that the developers of Bartlow Road, Linton have begun work on the site without the correct planning permission. They were doing this on the assumption that the relevant permissions that they needed would be granted by the District Council's planning committee in September. This didn't happen, in no small part due to some excellent input to the process by the Parish Council as well as John, who all represented the welfare of the village superbly. The next challenge is to get the District Council to use their enforcement powers to either halt or at least temporarily suspend the work happening on the site, before too much irreparable damage can be done.

Horseheath Road – the final two planning conditions, relating to surface water and foul water, will be decided at the District Council's planning committee in November. Many will recall that these are the conditions that should have been agreed, and implemented, before any work started on the site. Had this happened the flooding that occurred in July might have been avoided. More to follow.

Afghan Families

South Cambs DC has responded very fast to the government's call to local authorities to find homes for refugees from Afghanistan who have been supporting us over the past 20 years. By the time you will read this, 8 families will be in their new homes and an agreement to find further homes has been made.

Visit South Cambs - Business Listings

South Cambs have launched a new business directory of businesses in the district. This is to try to boost local commerce now that we are coming out of Covid restrictions. Any viable, independent, business in South Cambridgeshire can apply to be listed on the website. It is essentially free advertising! - www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk

Business Growth Fund

This is still a live fund, with money still in the pot. Please do apply, and encourage local businesses to do so, if eligible. www.scams.gov.uk/business/growth-fund-grant-scheme.

New County Council Office

The County Council's new purpose-built offices are now open in Alconbury. All of their meetings will now take place there.

Are **you** a part-time student wanting hands-on experience to support a career in education, psychology or healthcare? Are you a parent looking for full or part-time work for a fixed period of time? Are you looking to take on flexible work that can fit around your other commitments? Join our supply bank of teaching assistants!

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Granta School in Linton is a highly successful, popular Community Area Special School, catering for pupils aged 3 to 19 years old

Please call 01223 896 890 to request an application pack or email assistantfinance@granta.cambs.sch.uk

BARTLOW 3 counties CHARITY WALK

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY MAY 1 2022

Very exciting news, the Bartlow Three Counties Charity walk is now set for Sunday 1 May. Please save this in your 2022 planners. A great day out is planned, for all ages.

This walk will be raising money for 3 local charities.

The Addebrooke's Robot Appeal
Granta Charitable Trust for Linton Health Centre
Bartlow Church Restoration Porch Appeal

The theme will be Robots
Past Present and Future

More details to follow in the new year

Duncan Ogilvy walk organiser 01223893644

Hetty Findlay 01223890353

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Construction of local convenience store with access, car parking & servicing Open for comment icon
20 Cambridge Road Linton CB21 4NN
Ref. No: 21/04543/FUL | Validated: Wed 13 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Demolition of existing garden wall and re-build garden wall including new garden gate Open for comment icon
16 High Street Linton Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS
Ref. No: 21/04516/LBC | Validated: Tue 19 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Conifer- Remove as excessive shading T2(in blue on sketch map) Silver birch- Crown lift to 4 m to balance up tree. Open for comment icon
1 Market Lane Linton CB21 4HU
Ref. No: 21/1345/TTCA | Validated: Mon 18 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Outline planning application for the erection of a single self-build dwelling (two storey, 3 Bedroom, 5 Person) with associated parking and amenity space, with all matters reserved - resubmission of 20/05250/OUT Open for comment icon
Land Adjacent 35 Balsham Road Linton Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB21 4LD
Ref. No: 21/04447/OUT | Validated: Thu 07 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Internal reconfiguration, front facade works, installation of new side door, door to external bin store area wall, front gates and roof lights to the East and West Elevation Open for comment icon
The Old Maltings Green Lane Linton CB21 4JZ
Ref. No: 21/04452/HFUL | Validated: Fri 15 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Internal reconfiguration, front facade works, installation of new side door, door to external bin store area wall, front gates and roof lights to the East and West Elevation Open for comment icon
The Old Maltings Green Lane Linton CB21 4JZ
Ref. No: 21/04453/LBC | Validated: Fri 15 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

T1 Crataegus laevigata removing to ground level and replacing with Alnus incana 'Aurea' Open for comment icon
80 High Street Linton CB21 4JT
Ref. No: 21/1288/TTCA | Validated: Mon 04 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

Two Storey Rear Extension and Single Storey Front Porch Extension. Resubmission of 21/03242/HFUL Open for comment icon
68 Bartlow Road Linton Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB21 4LY
Ref. No: 21/04367/HFUL | Validated: Fri 01 Oct 2021 |

Single storey rear extension, conversion of loft space, insertion of front rooflights and rear dormer Open for comment icon
23 Cambridge Road Linton Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB21 4NN
Ref. No: 21/04198/HFUL | Validated: Wed 06 Oct 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

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Martin French

Little Linton resident joins the Parish Council

I CAME to Linton over 22 years ago deciding to settle here because it seemed like a nice place to raise a family. We moved here for work and what a good decision that proved to be. Over the years I have seen Linton grow and change, sometimes for the better such as traffic lights at the top of the High Street and Granta Special School. Sometimes not so much. Who can ignore the flooding and the lack of understanding of the land surrounding the village envelope and our very particular geology and landscape? I couldn't, so I decided to join the fight.



Cllr Helen Lawrence-Foulds

Our Parish Council have worked tirelessly on behalf of the village, and I wanted to share the load. To that end, can you help? Since joining, to represent Little Linton in the first instance, I have found out there is no coherent plan of the drainage system of Linton and Little Linton. There are gaps in the information held by Anglian Water, responsible for foul water, and the County Council, responsible for surface water dispersal. How can decisions be being made if this information is not in existence or reviewed?

I will work to build up a village map of the drainage so that we can understand the weak points, but this will take some time. So this is where you come in. In the meantime, we need to keep an eye on what is happening with water build up in the village. Please keep an eye on manhole covers and drains near you. Anything bubbling up from the manholes, please call Anglian Water. If you see a blocked drain, call the County Council. Behind the scenes, we will work to collate the information. The more contact they receive, the quicker they respond. Many hands make light work and all that.

Cllr Lawrence-Foulds.

EPIC Appeal

THE PARISH Council has now started to set up an EPIC group of volunteers. If you are able to assist if there is an emergency in the village, please contact the Parish Council office on 01223 891001. The Village Hall will act as a central hub for communication and residents will be encouraged to call the office if they are in need of assistance. The team will then arrange for volunteers to attend. In the meantime, we strongly advise all residents to sign up for flood alerts and read the information on the websites below.

To sign up for flood alerts please use the link below.
<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

To sign up for adverse and extreme weather alerts please follow the link below.
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-warnings>

South Cambs District Council - Advice on Flooding and links to contact for reporting issues.
<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/environmental-health/flooding-and-drainage/>

Cambridgeshire County Council - Advice and Information
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/flood-risk-management> Clerk.

The Bowling Green your suggestions please!



Photograph courtesy of Eastern Daily Press

BEHIND the sports pavilion on the recreation ground is a large, hedged area that once was an artificial bowling green, but which fell into disuse several years ago. It is just under 40 metres square, and hence a valuable community space, currently used just for storing equipment. During a recent inspection with Kompan UK Ltd, who provided our new playground equipment, the Parish Clerk discovered that its present, damaged, surface is a removable carpet, and that the underlying base is in sound condition.

This is important, as it means that we are likely to be able to resurface the area for the benefit of the community without the expense of installing a new base, which would have cost tens of thousands of pounds. The Parish Council has received several suggestions for using the area, which could be marked out for tennis, badminton and basketball as well as for football training. It should also be possible to install a removable carpet for bowls, and a "trim trail" to provide exercise facilities for adults.

We are exploring the possibility of grants from Sport England, which might even extend to installing a roof. If you have any further suggestions that might help us to make best use of the space, please contact the parish office.

Cllr. John Bald.

Parish Progress

THIS MONTH we are able to inform you that the bench for Camping Close has arrived and will be installed as soon as possible. The additional repairs needed for the bus shelter will also be completed within the next couple of weeks. We are also pleased to report that we have been successful with the application for the Zero-Carbon Communities Grant, which will focus on planting an orchard area near the Cathodeon Centre and exciting improvements to the Leadwell Meadows, including tree planting, seating and a new notice board. We will be able to give an update next month but as always would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved with this project. During November, the Linton FROGs will be carrying out two days of restorative work on the River Granta with the Wild Trout Trust. The FROGs have just launched a Facebook page, do look them up!

Clerk.

Dates for your Diary

THE NEXT meeting of the Linton Parish Council will take place on Thursday 18th November 2021. The meeting will take place at the Cathodeon Centre. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend. If you would like to address the Parish Council but are unable to attend the meeting, please contact the office for further guidance.

Clerk.

Meeting & Planning Updates September 2021

Meeting updates

Environment - Water supply, river pollution and protection of our rare chalk streams are gaining publicity and support; the Granta was polluted from the Bartlow Road sewer. Information and meetings are available on-line from Cam Valley Forum, Chalk Aquifer Alliance, Plantlife, God's Little Acre and other groups. One meeting showed how to transform road verges into long, thin wildflower meadows...LPC have started by reducing mowing widths and changing timings. Time to plant wildflowers?

A1307 Parishes Forum - A meeting with Local Parish Councillors, County Councillor and GCP. Wide ranging discussion on A1307 works, improving bus services, integrated transport plans, Greenways, (get on your bike...), etc. Transport Hub at Linton was supported by GCP - review required. Changes to Back Road for non-motorised transport only, met with mixed responses. proceeding with an review, as much has changed since the original appraisal in 2007. This is the best way to protect our historic and significant buildings and surroundings. The report will feed into the Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide. Volunteers welcome, and also information on what you might like to be changed or included.

Planning Updates

Bartlow Road - Applications to approve conditions for Surface Water Drainage and change the wording for Foul Water Drain connections were refused by SCDC Planning Committee.

Well done to the LPC team and John Batchelor who reminded the committee that this site should never have been granted planning permission in the first place. This is good news, as the District Councillors were aware of the problems of surface water flooding using the Bartlow Road sewer pipe, and that the developers plans do not meet requirements. However, the expected enforcement to stop building has not materialised, though one application was a pre-commencement condition. What is going on? If built without approval the site will not be given its building certificate, that is, parts are agreed but overall, it does not have consent. Buyers beware!

SCDC say that they awaiting the appeal decisions of the Planning Inspectorate, and possible Judicial Review (JR) proceedings by LPC - shifting the responsibility - meanwhile building continues...

LPC considered a JR of the outline permission but did not have sufficient grounds. Grounds for JR on the current approval are strong, including access, unmet pre-commencement conditions, the tested effect on the landscape and that the approval is out of time. LPC's next steps will be considered at the next Council Meeting. The footway works should now be complete; this was done under a planning obligation, not as a planning application, so LPC were not consulted. The work includes widening of the path and installing utilities connections - we are watching that connections for a foul drain are not part of the work...that pipe must go to the manhole near Emson's Close, a newer sewer.

Horseheath Road - again, building continues without consents; the drainage issues remain and look set to continue unresolved. Our MP, Lucy Frazer, is aware of our problems and has had meetings with residents, CCC and LPC; she has made strong representation on our behalf. Her help is likely to have effect for the benefit of the village. Meanwhile LPC planning team continues to send considered comments and calculations - we have very well-informed residents, too - SCDC must listen; we are statutory consultees and better qualified to assess the situation than some of those advising the planning officers. Linton cannot be flooded again from these reckless developments; there was a good reason for setting limits to the size of Linton, flooding is just one of them. Listen to those who live here!

Cllr Enid Bald.



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ABBREVIATED minutes of the Meeting of Linton Parish Council held on Thursday 16th September 2021 at the Cathodeon Centre. Consideration of the application for Parish Councillor for co-optation from a parishioner.

Clr John Bald proposed that Helen Lawrence-Foulds be co-opted to the Linton Parish Council, Clr Kate Kell seconded. All Agreed. Consideration of the application for Parish Councillor for co-optation from a parishioner.

Clr John Bald proposed that Caitlin Seaward be co-opted to the Linton Parish Council, Clr Enid Bald seconded. All Agreed.

Chairman's Comment.

The Chairman was pleased to welcome two new councillors and also was pleased to see Clr Parker and Clr Gardner return to meetings. The Chairman also commented on the changes to the office structure. She advised that Kate Wiseman would be returning in October as Responsible Financial Officer and Compliance Manager, with Jenny Seaward being retained in the role of Clerk and Office Manager.

Open Forum for Public Participation.

The Chairman invited the public to address the Council.

Participant 1 spoke of the mental anguish, stress and anxiety experienced on Tuesday 14th September during persistent rainfall. They expressed the urgency for remedial action to be taken and queried the delay in clearing the drains in the village. County & District Councillor Henry Batchelor agreed to chase the work. The Clerk confirmed that a timescale had been requested from Highways on a weekly basis, but this had still not been received. Participant 2 spoke about the correspondence from Croudace outlining that relining was required for all gullies on the development following the flooding. They stated that the gullies were approximately a month old and if it was necessary for these it must be required for all gullies in the village.

Participant 3 spoke regarding bullying and anti-social behaviour at the Skate Park on the Recreation Ground. The Councillors will discuss CCTV at the Recreation Ground at the next available meeting. The Clerk explained that although incidents had been reported to the Police, they are unable to prioritise this type of crime at present. The clerk agreed to write to the local schools and to launch an awareness campaign through the Linton News and on social media pages. The Chairman expressed sympathy from the Parish Council regarding the situation and apologised that more could not be done to stop this type of incident happening. A member of the public left the meeting on this item.

To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th August 2021 and the Extra-ordinary Full Council Meeting held on 26th August 2021.

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th August 2021. Clr John Bald proposed, Clr Simon Hill seconded. 5 agreed with 3 abstentions. Agreed.

Extra-ordinary Full Council Meeting held on 26th August 2021. Clr Kate Kell proposed, Clr Enid Bald seconded. 5 agreed with 3 abstentions. Agreed.

Matters Arising/Clerks Report.

The Clerk updated the Council that a wreath and 50 memorial crosses had been ordered and were due for delivery in October. Clr John Bald offered to represent the Linton Parish Council at the Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 14th November 2021. Consideration of the District and County Councillors Report for September 2021.

County & District Councillor Henry Batchelor spoke of the Call for Sites and confirmed that there were no sites shortlisted in the area. He encouraged residents to support the public consultation which opens in October to voice their views on keeping development sites elsewhere to protect the village.

Cambridgeshire County Council have started the process of requesting to take on responsibility for parking enforcement and have put this in writing to the Secretary of State, to propose this is changed from a Police matter to a Civil matter so that it can be enforced locally.

Clr Henry Batchelor also requested to be informed of the decision taken later in the meeting on the Active Travel Scheme proposal and also requested a copy of the LHI submission for the Parish

to be sent to both him and District Councillor John Batchelor.

Planning. Bartlow Road.

Clr Enid Bald stated that delegated decisions on conditions are being made unlawfully. The Local Planning Authority were approving conditions under a new reference whilst the original application for the condition is at appeal with the Planning Inspectorate. All drainage conditions were to be heard by the Planning Committee due to the serious concerns raised following the recent flooding in July 2021.

For example there are three different landscape schemes, currently approved with no clear indication which one the developer will abide by. It is believed that pressure is being put on the Planning Officers to approve conditions and this is taking place without due diligence.

Update on the SCDC Planning Committee meeting held on 8th September 2021 in relation to the Bartlow Road Development. The meeting had to be abandoned due to audio failure to remote participants and has been rescheduled for Wednesday 29th September 2021.

Update on the status of the Judicial Review.

Clr Enid Bald updated the council that next steps regarding the judicial review can not be taken until SCDC Planning Committee decide on the outstanding conditions which are to be decided at the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 29th September 2021. If the conditions are approved, then the judicial review paperwork can be issued. If the Planning Committee decide against approving the conditions, then it was thought the developer would start an appeal.

Horseheath Road.

Clr Enid Bald updated the council that the flood issues continue. Updates are being received and the Planning Committee will respond.

Update on the visit from Stephen Kelly, Director of Planning at GSCP held on 23rd August 2021.

It was felt that Stephen Kelly, Director of Planning at GSCP did not fully appreciate the severity of the issues faced by residents. The residents questioned who is responsible for the damage caused by the flooding, especially as there is no guarantee that the developer, Croudace, will be made to pay. The extent of the insurance claim for an individual property has risen to £250,000.00. On 14th September the developer erected a flood barrier on the main site entrance, diverting the surface water towards Lonsdale and the village. The participant questioned why this was felt necessary if the developer had confidence in the revised drainage solutions.

Rainfall on the 14th September 2021 was not excessive, forty mm in nine hours, and yet the attenuation basin took over twenty four hours to drain.

A further meeting with Lucy Frazer (MP), the Parish Council and residents was scheduled for 28.09.2021 and all present at the Committee meeting were encouraged to attend.

Update on the SCDC Planning Committee meeting held on 8th September 2021 in relation to the Horseheath Road development. The meeting had to be abandoned due to audio failure to remote participants and has been rescheduled for Wednesday 29th September 2021. It was noted that the drainage system is not due to be adopted by Anglian Water and therefore they do not have an interest in the scheme. Anomalies have been highlighted in Anglian Water sewerage network plans, which are fundamental to the system working successfully. Clr John Bald offered to write directly to Lucy Frazer (MP) to request that the matter be raised with ministerial colleagues on behalf of the residents.

Finance

Consideration of the quote for additional office equipment from PC Specialist following the office restructure.

Clr Lee Gardner proposed that the quote from PC Specialist be accepted. Clr Chris Hine seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration of the recommendation from the Finance Committee for the adoption of the Investment Policy for Linton Parish Council. Clr Chris Hine proposed the Investment Policy be adopted. Clr Lee Gardner seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration of the quote received for the Energy supply for the Street Lighting as the current one-year plan is due to be renewed. Clr Chris Hine proposed that the 36-month contract with SSE be accepted unless Haven could guarantee a cheaper deal. Clr Lee Gardner seconded. All Agreed.

Traffic & Highways

Consideration of the Active Travel scheme proposal to create restrictions on Back Road to all traffic, between Woodlands and the Hildersham crossroads. Clr John Bald proposed that the Parish Council strongly object to the Active Travel scheme proposal due to the road being regularly used for agricultural traffic, a safety valve for the A1307 and alternative access route for emergency vehicles. Also due to extensive improvements on the cycleways and pedestrian walkways with the Greenways project. Clr Enid Bald seconded. All Agreed.

Consideration for a Street Licence application for LOL's pizza at Meadhaven Way, Linton. Clr Lee Gardner proposed to support the application. Clr Chris Hine seconded. All Agreed.

Meadow Recreation Ground

Consideration for a request to use a metal detector on the Recreation Ground.

Clr Enid Bald proposed to regretfully decline the request due to the site being of archaeological and historical significance therefore any excavation works would need to be carried out by an official body.

Trees, Biodiversity, River Care & Wildlife

Consideration for the quote from Rob Mungovan for two days work on the River Granta with the Linton FROGS.

Clr Chris Hine proposed that the quote from Rob Mungovan be accepted. Clr John Bald seconded. 6 in favour with 2 abstentions. Agreed.

Consideration for a parishioner's notification of the intention to carry out tree works at the rear of the Cemetery and request for access.

Linton Parish Council thanked the resident for the notification and requested that only the branches overhanging the property boundary are addressed. Access to the Cemetery was not permitted as all work can be carried out from inside the property boundary. Update on the Conservation Area walk-around on Tuesday 7th September 2021.

Clr Enid Bald gave an update stating it was very positive meeting and the project has clear direction to move forward.

Consideration for arranging a visit to Little Linton with the South Cambridgeshire District Council Conservation Officer and residents to discuss conservation requirements and protection of trees in the area.

The Council requested that the Clerk arrange a meeting with the Conservation Officer and residents to visit Little Linton and discuss all aspects of conservation.

Youth

Consideration to hold a meeting with Beacon Youth Trust to discuss the current SLA which expires in January 2022. Clr John Bald proposed the Clerk arrange a meeting with the representatives of the Beacon Youth Trust to discuss their requirements and plans for 2022-2025. Clr Lee Gardner seconded. All Agreed. Full Minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

Clerk.

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