

Local childminder wins prestigious award



JULIE Dixon of Julie & Jo's Childcare in Linton has been awarded *Childminder of the Year 2026* for the East of England by Coram PACEY, (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years) recognising her dedication, passion, and exceptional daily care. Julie has now been entered into the national Childminder of the Year award, where regional winners from across the UK will be considered for the overall title later this year.

She recently achieved a 'Strong' standard in all areas in her Ofsted inspection—a rare accomplishment. The report praised her highly reflective practice, excellent parent partnerships, and activities that rapidly accelerate child development. Ofsted also highlighted her leadership, noting that "all children benefit from a safe, inclusive and highly stimulating environment where they flourish."

Julie said the award "celebrates not only my work, but also the work of my staff, wonderful families, children, and local community who have supported and inspired me throughout my 30-year childcare journey." For enquiries or to join the waiting list, contact 01223 891051.

Linton News Team

Infant School fair



I WRITE this having just taken a call from Ofsted, confirming their inspection tomorrow. As you know, we are very proud of our school and pupils and are looking forward to sharing all the fantastic things we do in school.

A huge thank you must go to everyone who supported our summer fair. We raised a record-breaking £4,000! Thank you so much to the members of the Samba Band who kept us entertained in the evening. It really was a joyful event, celebrating our 150th birthday! Our school wouldn't be the place it is and be able to offer the opportunities it does without the support of our parents and the wider school community.

Thank you to the staff team who continue to work above and beyond, delivering good quality learning experiences to the children and thank you to our governors who continue to be a source of support.

We say goodbye to our Year 2 children who leave us to move onto the next stage of their education, they have grown and achieved so much during the last 3 years and we are proud of each and every one of them. Good luck to them all!

All that's left for me to do now is to wish you all a safe, happy and joyful summer break. We look forward to welcoming all of the children into school on Thursday 3rd September.

Kelly Harries

Mind where you park

MOTORISTS are urged to take care when parking their vehicles so they do not prevent our fire engines from attending potentially life-threatening emergencies.

Some areas around the county are notorious for motorists parking down both sides of narrow streets, and there have been times when fire engines haven't been able to get past at all. This of course can significantly delay our responding to emergencies where someone's life could be at risk and our attendance time is crucial.

This is a growing problem due in part to increasing car ownership, reduced or unused resident parking areas, traffic calming schemes and thoughtless parking by some motorists. The problem can be compounded at night and during school pick-up and drop-off times.

The average fire engine is 2.6 metres (9 feet) wide and 8 metres (26 feet) long – when you park your vehicle in a narrow street, always check you have left enough room for a fire engine to get past.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Festival of fictional fun!



There were so many highlights. Comedian James Campbell had everyone giggling, plus a magical Peter and the Wolf dance show entranced our younger visitors. The spectacular finale saw James Mayhew illustrating stories while world-class musicians Alex Redington and Siu Chi Li played violin and piano. Art met music in a breathtaking way.

We kept imaginations busy all weekend, with dragon-drawing, live magic, a giant mural, typewriting, bookish crafts, poetry, fantasy worlds and more. On Saturday, a real fire engine turned up with fantastic stories that were an absolute treat!

Did we mention this was our 20th birthday? It all started in 2006, with a few villagers who shared a love of reading and a determination to bring the wonder of books to local children. It is really amazing to see how far we've come. Thanks to Linton Village College for hosting, our local celebrity storytellers, the volunteers who gave their time – some who've been with us since that very first festival – and many fantastic LVC students who did their bit too. You are the heart of this.

Thanks also to our generous donors and funders who make it all possible.

Brian the Lion is already getting very excited about 2028...

Adele Watson

Linton Children's Book Festival

LINTON Children's Book Festival 2026 in May left everyone buzzing. Authors, illustrators, performers, musicians and live animals were packed into every moment.

Families from Linton and even as far afield as Durham attended, maximising the scope of our mascot Brian the Lion's inspiring work! The children's curiosity, questions, and absolute delight in discovering new books alongside the people who make them epitomised what the festival is all about.

Helping our community

WE reported in January's Linton News that the trustees of the Cathodeon Centre were looking for a new Trust Secretary. The Centre includes the Library, the Child and Family Centre, and community rooms used mainly by local organisations. For various reasons, the Trustees decided to delay the appointment until September.

The trustees are responsible for the management of the Centre, and the Trust Secretary is a key member of the team. As well as the formal role of Trust Secretary, you will supervise the overall running of the site and liaise with the organisations who use the Centre.

If you live in Linton, like meeting people and playing a part in our village, this could be right for you. There are no set hours, so flexibility is important. One week there will be very little to do. The next week could find you devoting several hours to the role.

The post is self-employed and reasonably paid for the number of hours required to carry it out. It won't make you rich, but knowing you are playing an important role in the community is part of the reward.

If this interests you, contact the Chair of Linton Cathodeon Community Trust (lintongore2@gmail.com) for more information.

Andrew Gore

Linton Camsight VIPs

IN June we held our summer lunch, the last of our meetings at Chalklands community hall. Sadly, we said farewell to the lovely room which has accommodated us for over 30 years, but our meeting was, as always, busy and jolly. We will still be meeting with our members on a regular but more informal basis in their own homes. Our lunch was salad with ham and new potatoes, strawberry trifle, wine or fruit juice, and tea or coffee and chocolate mints. Our members really enjoyed the lunch and the company, and we remembered the many people with sight loss who have been members during all those years.

We especially remembered Roy Petter and June Hall, who for many years headed the group with great fun and countless speakers, music and activities. Sight loss can be devastating and Camsight has also given friendship and advice when help was most needed.

I am personally indebted to the team who have given so much running the group with me and give them my heartfelt thanks: Helen



Trollope; Marian Mercer; Mary Chamberlain; Jean Whitby; Hilary Bradbury; Wendy and Dave Bohanna; Janet Hann; Mike and Jan Crofts; Trisha Bear; Yvonne Barlow; Maureen Williams and Tony Mannion.

Jean Mannion,
01223 893595

Readers Write

I RECENTLY had the pleasure of staying in Linton recently. What a delightful village with very pleasant people although the road system must try their patience at times.

A local gentleman pointed out to me that my nearside brake light was not working. Google told me there were a couple of garages at somewhere called The Grip and I found one called Cooper and Barnes. What a great independent outfit, reception so clean and welcoming. They not only replaced the bulb there and then, but said no charge!!

This small company deserves recognition for its can-do attitude: well done, praise where it's due.

Email address supplied

International piano duo come to St Mary's



MUSIC lovers are in for a special treat this July when acclaimed pianists Cédric Boyer (top left) and Rémi Furlanetto (bottom left) present an evening of four-hand piano music at St Mary's Church, Linton.

The concert, which takes place on Saturday 18th July at 7.30pm, will feature a varied and engaging programme of works by Schubert, Moszkowsky, Fauré and Prokofiev. Performing together at a single piano, the duo will showcase the rich textures and virtuosity of the four-hand repertoire.



Adding to the occasion is the instrument itself: an Erard piano built in London in 1890. Renowned for their craftsmanship and distinctive sound, Erard pianos were favoured by many of the great composers and performers of the nineteenth century.

The concert promises an opportunity to hear both exceptional musicianship and a historic instrument in the beautiful setting of St Mary's Church.

Tickets are £12.50 and are available from Sue Ellis on 01223 892257 or from Charlotte Dodd at events@stmaryslinton.org.uk.

Charlotte Dodd

Great art on show this summer

WE'RE delighted to invite you to the Cambridge Makers Summer Show. This year it will take place on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July at our studio in The Grip, and we'll be open from 10am-5pm each day. On show will be the incredible creations of our tutors and course participants; there will be tea, coffee and biscuits and opportunities to see and chat to us about our different



courses and to share and celebrate the joy of making. We hope you can come and join us!

Susannah Bangham

Headscratcher

Number 21

The acceleration due to gravity on Earth is 9.8 ms⁻². If on another planet the gravity is 50% greater and a ball is thrown vertically up at a speed of 14 ms⁻¹, how long will it take for the ball to return? Consider there is no atmosphere to cause any resistance.

Answer to 20

The angle the spider starts off at is 30°, the closest distance to the centre was 0.58 m and the total distance travelled was 6 m.

Aspasia

Friends' summer teas

THE Friends of St Mary's invite you to join them for traditional, fundraising afternoon teas, which will be served from 3-4.30pm in the following village gardens:

- Thursday, 16th July, Richard and Judith Tonry's, 10 Market Lane
- Thursday 30th July, Michael and Alison Wilcockson's, Queen's House, 16 High Street
- Wednesday 12th August, Brian and Margaret Cox's, Richmonds, 65 High Street

A plentiful variety of cakes, scones and sandwiches will be accompanied by freshly brewed teas. Weather permitting, the teas will be a chance to enjoy three of Linton's delightful gardens with new and old friends. Although there is no charge, donations to The Friends of St Mary's are encouraged.

These donations will contribute towards the upkeep of Linton's medieval parish church, which is the only Grade 1 Listed building in the village. The Friends of St Mary's have recently paid £30,000 towards the cost of two replacement boilers and are also committed to a further £17,000 for additional work recommended by the Church Architect.

For more information on The Friends please visit our website: friendsofstmaryslinton.org.uk.

Judith Tonry
info@friendsofstmaryslinton.org.uk

Balsham Picture House

THE film to be screened on Saturday July 4th is the academy award winning film *The Aviator* (12) starring Leonardo DiCaprio. It is the true story of the legendary rebel millionaire Howard Hughes, who grew famous for his Hollywood movies, aviation records including founding Trans World Airlines, and courting glamorous women. Stars include Cate Blanchett as Katharine Hepburn and Kate Beckinsale as Ava Gardner. Doors open at 7pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. You can get refreshments from Dave's Bar also from 7pm.

Richard Paden

What's on in Linton

VILLIO, a new events app for Linton and surrounding villages, aims to promote local organisations. Whether you are a charity, school, church, club or local business, you can add events free of charge. The more people who share events, the more useful Villio becomes for everyone. Discover local events and add yours at www.villio.co.uk.

Matt James

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July bin collection dates

Black: Wednesdays 1st, 15th, 29th

Blue: Wednesdays 8th, 22nd

Green: Wednesday 8th, 22nd

Village Diary

A round up of dates from this edition

For entries, email: diary.linton.news@gmail.com.

Please check with organisers before attending weekly events.

See <https://www.lintonvillagedirectory.com/events-calendar> or <https://www.villio.co.uk> for more details of village events.

JULY		
Thu 2	Linton Roots Film Showing, 7pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 4	Farmers Market, 9-11.30am	Village Hall
Sat 4	Summer Reading Challenge, 10-1pm	Library
Sat 4	Balsham Picture House, <i>The Aviator</i> , 7pm	Balsham Institute
Sun 5	FROG Motherama, 11-1pm	14 High St
Tue 7	Scrabble Club, 10-12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Tue 7	W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm	Village Hall
Wed 8	Coffee Morning, 10-12pm	Free Church Hall
Wed 8	Summer Hub, 1-4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Thu 9	Chestnut Playgroup Open Morning, 9.30-11am	Cathodeon Centre
Sun 12	Summer Lighthouse Family Fun, 3-4.30pm	Free Church
Thu 16	Friends of St Mary's Tea, 3-4.30pm	10 Market Lane
Fri 17	Daylight Readers, 10.30am and 2.30pm	Library
Fri 17	Mary's Community Kitchen, 12-2pm	Village Hall
Sat 18	Coffee Morning, 10-12pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 18	Piano Concert, 7.30pm	St Mary's Church
Sat 18	Cambridge Art Makers Summer Show, 10am-5pm	6 Lintech Court, The Grip
Sat 18	FROG Small Mammal Trapping Part 1, 6pm	Pocket Park
Sun 19	Cambridge Art Makers Summer Show, 10am-5pm	6 Lintech Court, The Grip
Sun 19	FROG Small Mammal Trapping Part 2, 8am	Pocket Park
Tue 21	Scrabble Club, 10-12pm	St Mary's Pavilion
Wed 22	Summer Hub, 1-4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Sat 25	Collection for Ukraine, 9-1pm	Abington Primary School
Sat 25	FROG Litter Pick, 2-4pm	Village Hall
Tue 28	U3A Summer Meeting, from 2pm	Ickleton Village Hall
Thu 30	Friends of St Mary's Tea, 3-4.30pm	Queens House, 16 High St
AUGUST		
Tue 4	W.I. Meeting, 7.30pm	Village Hall
Wed 5	Summer Hub, 1-4pm	Pavilion, Linton Rec.
Thu 6	Linton Roots, Tree Identification Walk, 6pm	St Mary's Pavilion
WEEKLY		
Mon	Mini Movers, 10-11.30am	Cathodeon Centre
Tue	Rhythm and Rhyme, 10.30-11am, (term times)	Library
Tue	Granta Bridge Club, 2-4pm	Village Hall
Tue	Knit and Natter, 2-4pm	Library
Tue	Linton Lionesses Kickabout, 7-8pm	LVC
Wed	Tots in Tow, 9.30-11am (term times)	Village Hall
Wed	IT Drop In, 5-7pm	Library
Wed	Let's Run Girls, 7pm	LVC
Thu	Stay and Play, 10-11.30am	Cathodeon Centre
Thu	Baby Group, 1-2.30pm	Cathodeon Centre
Thu	Games Afternoon, 2-4pm	Library
Fri	Lego/Duplo, 10-11am (1st 2nd & 4th Fri)	Library
Fri	Badminton Club, 7-9pm	Comm. Sports Centre, LVC
Sun	Church Services 8am and 10am	St Mary's Church
Sun	Church Service 10.30am	Linton Free Church

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Ukraine's continuing crisis - please help

A COLLECTION for the people of Ukraine will be held on Saturday 25th July at Abington Primary School from 9am until 1pm. Organised by Saffron Walden Rotary, this will be the 7th collection in Abington and the 25th overall that Rotary has organised since Ukraine was invaded.

According to the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission, relentless strikes have killed at least 15,850 civilians and injured nearly 45,000. An energy crisis is disrupting access to water, electricity, heating, healthcare, education and social protection. Over 2.5 million homes have been damaged or destroyed, leaving many Ukrainians in damaged homes or in buildings ill-prepared for freezing temperatures. As the war continues, humanitarian needs are multiplying and spreading, with around 10.8 million people needing assistance.

Donations, together with food and generators bought using cash contributions, are taken to UK-Aid, the local charity also known as Felsted Aid for Deprived Children. UK-Aid checks each item for suitability, cleanliness and quality before packing and weighing for customs.

Needed are tinned and dried food, toiletries, sanitary products, shoes and bedding in good condition (not pillows or duvets), mobility aids, toys, educational items, washing powder and other cleaning products, wet wipes, hand sanitizer and more. UK-Aid has also urgently requested generators, candles, torches and batteries, power packs, and solar panels or solar power packs, as Russia continues targeting power stations. As UK-Aid already has a large amount of clothing to process, it has asked that clothing not be donated for the time being.

Local Rotarian Tony Collett says, "The response to our previous collections in Abington has been truly heartwarming; I am hopeful it will be the same this time." Please help us. If you have any queries contact Tony tony.collett3112@gmail.com.

Tony Collett

News from the Heights

THIS summer, pupils in Years 4 and 6 enjoyed exciting residential trips, creating memories that will last for years to come.

For Year 6, this marked a significant change from previous years, as pupils to the PGL adventure centre in Lincolnshire for a four-night stay. The new venue offered a fantastic range of exciting outdoor adventure activities, including climbing, abseiling, raft building and team challenges.



LHJS Raft Building

Throughout the week, children were encouraged to step outside their comfort zones, work together and develop their independence. The residential gave pupils plenty of opportunities to strengthen friendships and build confidence ahead of their move to secondary school. From action-packed days to fun evening activities, the trip was a huge success.

Year 4 also embarked on their own residential adventure, spending two nights at Woodrow High House in Buckinghamshire. The visit provided an excellent introduction to residential life, with pupils taking part in activities such as archery, crate-stacking and problem-solving challenges.



LHJS Crate Staking

Many children experienced their first nights away from home and rose brilliantly to the challenge, showing resilience, enthusiasm and teamwork throughout their stay.

Both residential demonstrated the tremendous value of learning outside the classroom. Pupils returned with increased confidence, new skills and a wealth of stories to share with family and friends. A heartfelt thank you goes to all the staff who organised and accompanied the trips, taking time away from their own families to help to make these wonderful experiences possible for every pupil involved.

Caroline Webb

The Marsh Mail

LINTON Village College has just completed another successful Enrichment Week: a valued part of the school calendar that develops caring and independent learners. Students in Years 7 and 8 have enjoyed a range of activities and local trips, Year 10 have been on work experience, and Year 9 have had the opportunity to travel further afield on residential. Enrichment Week is an unforgettable highlight, offering a diverse range of opportunities to broaden horizons and support personal development.

This year students travelled far and wide, from the rugged landscapes of Cornwall to the cultural richness of southern Italy, the dramatic scenery of Iceland, and the outdoor adventure of Scotland. Each trip offered a unique blend of learning and challenge beyond the classroom.

In Cornwall, students explored the Eden Project, Tintagel Castle and the Minack Theatre, alongside wildlife encounters and coastal discovery. Meanwhile, those visiting Scotland embraced outward-bound activities including abseiling, bushcraft and water sports, building resilience and teamwork.



The Iceland trip provided a striking contrast, immersing students in geothermal landscapes, waterfalls and glaciers, while deepening their understanding of geography. In Italy, students experienced history and culture first hand, visiting Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast and Naples, alongside a memorable pizza making experience.

The students developed independence, confidence and connections beyond the classroom. For many, the week will have been truly life-changing.

The success of Enrichment Week reflects the tremendous planning, organisation and dedication of staff, whose energy ensured safe and enriching experiences for all. Their commitment is greatly appreciated by students and families alike.

Helena Marsh

Linton Library 2026 Summer Reading Challenge

FOR the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, *Read to the Beat*, the Reading Agency has partnered with Universal Music Group to reach even more young people and show them that stories and songs share the same power to inspire. To complete the challenge, children simply need to read six library books over the summer holidays and collect a sticker for each. Families can sign up in their local library for free from Saturday 4th July.

With the holiday season upon us, make sure you stock up on some reading matter to take with you. Travel guides, sci-fi, romance, audio books or large print. We have something for everyone (and if we don't, we can reserve an item for you for only 50p).

As part of a new scheme, we are now loaning blood pressure monitors for free. To find out more, talk to library staff.

Daylight Readers: Our book groups will meet on Friday 17th, one at 10.30am and the other at 2.30pm.

Rhythm & Rhyme: Tuesday mornings, 10.30-11am for 0-4 year-olds (term time only), followed by Duplo. We would love to see you and your little ones there.

Knit and Natter: Tuesdays, 2-4pm. Bring along any craft project you're working on.

IT Drop-in: Wednesdays, 5-7pm. Knowledgeable volunteers are here to offer help with information technology.

Games Afternoon: Thursdays, 2-4pm. Come and meet new people; board/card games provided or bring your favourite to share.

Lego/Duplo: Every 1st, 2nd and 4th Friday, 10-11am. Come along and entertain your 0-4 year-olds.

Vicky Anandraj and Ann King, Community Library Assistants, Linton Library
Opening hours: Tues 10am-5pm; Weds 4-7pm; Thurs 2-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm
Customer Services: 0345 045 5225

Typewriters galore

'TYPE-INS' are an opportunity to get hands on with typewriters.

During the Linton Children's Book Festival, by kind invitation of its organisers, I set up a drop-in stand with six manual typewriters. A big success attracting people of all ages, it was especially lovely to see the thoughtful expressions of curious younger people planning what they would write. It was also great to hear older generations share stories about typewriters.



Consequently, I would like to gauge interest in any future 'type-ins'. If you are interested, please do get in touch with this email: luis.arana@gmail.com.

I am happy to bring along my machines, so owning a typewriter is not a pre-requisite!

Luis Arana Tagle

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Hundred Parishes

LAST year's Royal Horticultural Society's *State of Gardening Report* revealed that gardens cover three times the size of the UK's National Nature Reserves. They support over 50 million trees and thousands of species, providing habitats for over half of the UK's butterflies, amphibians and reptiles and more than 40% of birds.

Many of the listed buildings within the Hundred Parishes are surrounded by a private garden, enhancing their setting and reinforcing their sense of place. They support a great variety of trees, shrubs and flowers, providing havens for assorted wildlife.

Gardens associated with such older properties will have been tended by many generations of residents, evolving over time as owners were influenced by fashionable trends. Initially, they were stocked with native trees and shrubs, selected for their ability to provide fuel, timber, fence posts or fruits, while vegetables helped feed the family.

increasing number of exotic species as plant hunters discovered them in various parts of the globe, and the precious seeds or small saplings were grown on in nurseries and then released for sale.

Engaging with a garden improves mental, physical and social wellbeing, with 77% of gardeners reporting positive impacts on their mental health. Local residents have access to wonderful, extensive gardens such as Easton Lodge, Audley End House or Saffron Walden's Bridge End Gardens, but enjoying a private garden brings a great deal of pleasure too.

Our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk includes an article on gardens and the What's On page shows dates of specific local open gardens.

Tricia Moxey

Have a cuppa to fight cancer

FOLLOWING the tremendous success of last year, which raised £675 from donations, Linton infants school and St Mary's will be jointly hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning at St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Linton on Friday 25th September.

We look forward to welcoming the children and adults from our school, together with their families and friends, to our regular Friday morning service with the usual refreshments at 9am. We will then enjoy further delicious bakes and beverages after the service ends, from about 10am-12pm. Many lives are impacted by the devastating news of a cancer diagnosis. With the latest Cancer Research UK figures stating the shocking statistic that one in two people are at risk of cancer in their lifetime. We hope to raise valuable funds for this worthy cause.

If you would like to help in anyway, please contact me.

Sue Filby sue.filby@stmaryslinton.org.uk

On behalf of Linton Infants School and St Mary's Church

Linton Warm and Summer Hub

ONCE again, we have had a very successful Winter Warm Hub at the Pavilion on a Wednesday afternoon from November to April with as many as 32 people on several days with lots of enjoyment and a large variety of entertainment.

This year, we raised money for Arthur Rank Hospice and on 20th May, 28 of us went to lunch and donated a cheque for £600 to the charity.

A very big thank you to all who supported the Winter Hub (and helped), we look forward to seeing you next November.

We have decided to run a Summer Hub again this year. We will meet at the Pavilion on the recreation ground every other Wednesday starting on 10th June

from 1-4pm until the end of September. We look forward to seeing old and new faces.



Sheila and Drew Wilson



Cedar trees at Hargrave



Horse Chestnut at Moyne's Park

From the mid-17th century onwards, non-native tree species began to appear such as cedars and horse chestnuts, initially within the estates of trend-setting wealthy landowners. By the mid-19th century, gardeners were able to source an

WI

MOST of us imagine the Anglia Air Ambulance at scenes of road accidents, riding events, or on farms. Surprisingly, a third of their calls are to victims of cardiac arrest, where time is of the essence.

When Simon de Laat came to talk to us at the June meeting, we heard that their fleet of five helicopters, as well as the eight critical care cars, are all fully equipped with the machines that we expect to find in a hospital A&E department. They also carry blood, plasma, and supplies of drugs to handle almost any emergency.

This amazing service is supported almost entirely by charitable donations. The pilots and trained medical staff are salaried from the NHS, but all the rest depends on public goodwill and volunteers.

Knowledge of the position, and use, of the seven defibrillators that we have in Linton could be vital in an emergency. The WI hopes to have a training session in these skills next year. Simon and his colleagues are booked up for months ahead.

Another interesting and informative meeting.

New members are always welcome. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors £5, including a cup of tea, and sometimes cake!

Pat Marshall

Summer fun at the Free Church

THE best selling book in the world is *The Bible*. With that in mind it was a pleasure to open the church during the recent book festival and give away free children's Bibles as well as copies for adults. Towards the end of term, we will also be working with GenR8 to distribute more bibles to children at Linton Heights. Here's a couple of events coming up in July.

Fun for children and families
We have our Summer Lighthouse on Sunday 12th July, 3-4.30pm. This is a fun afternoon for all the family. There will be bouncy castles in the garden, games and craft activities, stories and refreshments. All free and lots of fun!

Coffee Morning
This has now become an established regular event on the second Wednesday of each month, 10am-12pm in the church hall. It's free and open to anyone. Do come and join us. The next one is Wednesday 8th July. We won't be having one in August but will start again on the 9th September. More details of these and other events can be found on our website:

www.lintonfreechurch.org.uk

Ian Burns

Linton and District Historical Society

WE had a superb presentation for our final meeting of this season. Anne Stott shared the dramatic story of Princess Charlotte, Princess of Wales (1796-1817) heir presumptive to the British throne. Daughter of George, Prince Regent, and Caroline of Brunswick, even before she was born, her parents' marriage had already broken up. After a difficult childhood and adolescence, she became popular with the public and was determined to restore the grand name of the monarchy. She was guided by various tutors, and her letters throughout her life can be found in the archives. Charlotte was an accomplished musician, and we were able to hear *Quickstep*, a piece written by her. She finally found happiness which was cruelly cut short when she died in childbirth. This fascinating story held the audience captive.

Thank you to those who have supported LDHS. Some long-term members are now stepping down, so if you have enjoyed our meetings, perhaps you would consider helping out so the society can continue to run smoothly. We would welcome support with meeting and greeting speakers, posters advertising the meetings, reports of the meetings and refreshments. Contact us via email at ldhscamb@gmail.com.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane. Bill Franklin will share an illustrated talk entitled *A brief history of the enclosure of Linton*.

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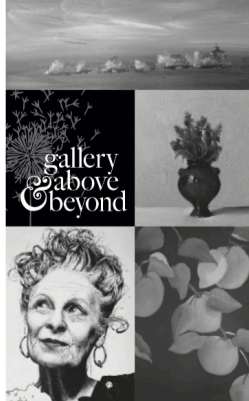
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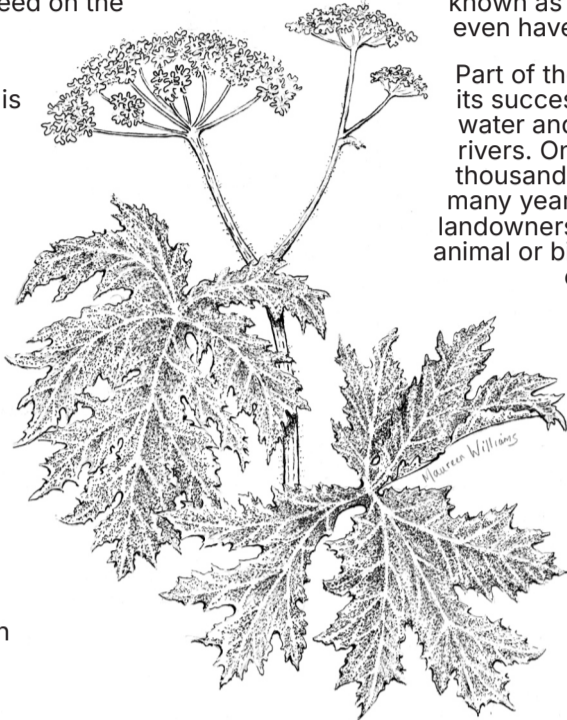
Country Matters

Text by Oriel O'Loughlin, illustrations by Maureen Williams

Caution: Heavy plant crossing

MY botanical correspondent down Mill Lane discovered three unwelcome garden visitors last month. Not the usual muntjac, rabbit or badger, but three young giant hogweed plants. This apparently innocent looking plant is included in the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981, making it illegal to plant, or knowingly allowing it to spread. It is an invasive species, meaning it prevents native plants from growing and is hard to control. Last year a local cross country cycle event was cancelled because of the possible presence of giant hogweed on the course. What is this monster?

Its Latin name is *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, which means it is a member of the cow parsley family, with a lot of white flowers growing in an umbrella sort of shape. In the same plant family are hemlock, wild carrot, angelica, wild parsnip, fennel, alexanders and your very own ground elder. My recent 2-day introduction to botany course at the Botanics meant that I could pretend I know how to distinguish between plant families, but in reality I have parked botany firmly in the 'too hard' drawer. However, the giant hogweed is one of those described as 'unmistakeable', and this is because it grows so tall. All of us could spot a plant growing by the river or along the verge which is over 2 metres high with flowerheads the size of dinner plates.



Giant hogweed was brought over from Asia and introduced by well-meaning Victorian gardeners, thinking they were rather decorative. It wasn't until children started to use the thick and hollow purple blotchy 10 cm-wide stems as peashooters, developing rashes and sores, that their danger was understood. The sap from the stems is phototoxic. This means that if you get it on your skin, and you then expose it to the sun, you can suffer severe burns and blistering, known as phytophotodermatitis. Do children even have peashooters these days?

Part of the story about the giant hogweed is its success in spreading. It often grows by water and its seeds are thus spread down rivers. One plant can produce tens of thousands of seeds which remain viable for many years. Eradication is very difficult, but landowners are legally required to control it. No animal or bird eats it, and sometimes you can't even get to it to control it. Glyphosate is the only weedkiller that is remotely successful. If you dig it up it must apparently be handled as controlled waste and carried by a registered waste carrier.

If you're a burnt-out hippy baby boomer you may remember a 1971 Genesis song, written by Peter Gabriel, called *The Return of the Giant Hogweed*. It is a darkly comic science fiction story about hogweed taking over Britain and threatening humanity. If you can't sleep tonight, I accept full responsibility.

Small mammal trapping at Leadwell Meadows

OVER the weekend of 18th-19th July, Linton FROG welcomes back Peter Pilbeam from the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group, who will lead us on a quest to find the small mammals that call our wild space, Leadwell Meadows (aka Pocket Park), home.

Peter helped us with our Bioblitz in 2024, finding three out of the twenty traps set sprung by field mice and voles. Will we find more this year? Might we catch that most feisty insectivore, the common shrew, this year?

To find out in person, please book your place for each event separately using the links below. Places are limited, so if you find you can no longer use yours, please cancel it on Eventbrite so we can offer the place to someone on the waiting list.

On Saturday 18th July at 6pm we will be baiting, setting and laying the humane traps, along with a moth trap.

Book your place for PART 1 by scanning this QR code:



On Sunday 19th July at 8am, we will revisit each trap, identifying any small mammals that camped overnight. If nothing takes our bait, we should at least have some interesting moths to look at from the moth trap!

Book your place for PART 2 by scanning this QR code:



These events have been made possible through Co-Op community grant funding.

If you are interested in joining Linton FROG as a volunteer, please do contact us.

Facebook: @LintonFROG
Email: lintonfrog@gmail.com
Telephone: 07812 988917
Linton FROG



Peter Pilbeam handling mouse in 2024

Gardeners take a break

AFTER a packed winter programme and record-breaking plant sale this spring the members of West Wickham & District Gardening Club are taking a well-earned break, out and about in the sunny summer weather.

Following a fantastic coach trip to RHS Wisley in June, we are looking forward to a private tour of two local gardens on Thursday 16th July, opened under the National Garden Scheme in Westley Waterless.

Our programme of talks begins again in September, alongside our increasingly popular Summer Fair. More information about these events will follow next month.

So, in the meantime, enjoy the summer and we look forward to entertaining you in September!

If you would like to hear more about the club and our activities, then we'd be very pleased to hear from you. Membership is £8 with new members welcome to join throughout the year. Contact...

Sally Collins on wwdgc@westwickham.org for further information about the club.

Janet Morris on jmmorris@jmmorris.plus.com for information about the club's Plant Heritage and RHS membership benefits.

Alice and Andy Mitchell on photo@westwickham.org for information about our summer photo competition and to send your entries.

Sally Collins

Know your trees?

HAVE you ever walked past an ash, elm or hawthorn without quite knowing which was which? You're not alone. Learning to identify the trees around Linton is easier than you might think, and it transforms your daily walks.

On Thursday 6th August, Linton Roots is hosting a guided tree identification walk for anyone curious about the green spaces we live among. Whether you're a complete beginner or someone who'd like to know more, this walk is for you. No botanical knowledge needed; just bring a willingness to look up!

We'll meet at St Mary's pavilion at 6pm and explore trees in this area of the village and along the river. Stephanie will share tips for identifying trees by leaf shape, bark and silhouettes.

The walk is free and family friendly. Just wear sensible shoes and clothing to suit the weather. Want to come? Simply email linton-roots@outlook.com to book your space. We'll keep numbers manageable, so everyone can enjoy learning about our beautiful trees.

Repair Café back by popular demand! Linton Roots is holding another Repair Café on Saturday 14th November. We need volunteers to help run this wonderful event. If you are interested in either helping with repairs or organising (e.g. publicity and refreshments), please get in touch.

Linton Roots
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District and county councillors' report for June

Kingsway Solar

The Kingsway Solar application has now been submitted to PINS, the government's planning department. This starts the process of the application being looked at and decided upon. The current stage is that the government need to decide whether to accept the application, or not. It's likely it will be accepted, which then starts the process of examination. An element of this examination will require people to give their comments and views on the proposal again. We'd encourage as many people as possible to engage with this when the time is upon us. You can register to comment on the application once the application has been accepted by PINS.

Food waste collection

You may recall from previous reports that due to a change in the law by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), all local authorities will have to collect food waste separately from other green waste, starting this year. This means we will all get a new separate food caddy in the coming months that all food waste must be placed in. This will then be collected every week alongside the usual bin. For most of us, this is on Wednesdays. We are expecting the new caddies to reach us by September, as the rollout is across the Greater Cambridge area, with our area being one of the last to receive them.

Zero Carbon Communities Grant

The popular Zero Carbon Communities Grant from the District Council is now open and accepting applications. Community groups and parish councils can apply for up to £19,000 for schemes that help reduce carbon emissions or promote more sustainable living. Full information can be found on the council website: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/climate-and-environment/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant>.

Local government reorganisation

We are waiting for the next step of the process in the government's move to try and streamline local authorities by merging all District and County councils in the country into Unitary Authorities. All local authorities in Cambridgeshire submitted their preferences earlier this year and we expect to hear back from the government what their preference will be. Once we have this information, we will be able to comment on this and, ultimately, prepare for life with one fewer council in our area.

John Batchelor, johnbatchelor23@gmail.com
Henry Batchelor, henrybatchelor89@gmail.com

Planning applications

From 13th May to 17th June

26/02219/HFUL and **26/02220/LBC** Single storey rear extension. 148-150 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JT. Validated: Wednesday 17th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/0566/TTCA Large walnut tree crown lift approximately 4m and canopy reduction approximately 1.5m to growth points. 30 Symonds Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HY. Validated: Monday 15th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/02138/HFUL and **26/02150/LBC** Alterations, repairs and thermally improving the dwelling. Replacement garage following the demolition of the existing garage. 71 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS. Validated: Wednesday 10th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/02163/LBC Replace 3 existing single-glazed windows with similar looking windows made of Toughened Vacuum Glass. 14 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS. Validated: Tuesday 9th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/0557/TTCA T1 - Sycamore (*Acer Pseudoplatanus*) - Crown reduce by up to 4 meters throughout the canopy. 73 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HS. Validated: Monday 8th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/02108/CLLB Certificate of Lawfulness under S26H of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 for the following works to a Listed Building 1. Repair roof of 1950/60s extension including Lift roof tiles, replace membrane, refix tiles and replace broken/damaged tiles with equivalent pan tiles. 2. Replace timber gable end boards, 3. External render of 1950/60s extension: repair and repaint. 4. Refresh rockwool-type insulation in attic as necessary and 5. Fit attic boards for access. 8 Horn Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HT. Validated: Thursday 4th June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/02039/LBC 1. Replace bedroom window with timber-framed double-glazed unit. Make good external render, interior window board and plasterboard. 2. Replace attic window above and 3. Remove existing solar thermal panels. 8 Horn Lane Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4HT. Validated: Mon 1st June. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/0533/TTCA Silver Birch (located in rear garden) - Remove Reason - severe cavity at base. 108 High Street Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JT. Validated: Wednesday 27th May. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/01916/CL2PD Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for the operation of a Childcare business as Use Category E(f). 1 Rivey Close Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4LJ. Validated: Wednesday 20th May. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/01891/HFUL First floor side/front extension and alterations to fenestration. 7 The Furrells Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JJ. Validated: Tuesday 19th May. Status: Awaiting decision.
26/01821/HFUL Two storey rear extension and changes to fenestration. 4 Green Hill Mews Linton Cambridgeshire CB21 4JN. Validated: Wednesday 13th May. Status: Awaiting decision.

Changes to local buses proposed

THE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is inviting residents to share their views on proposed changes to local bus services across the region.

The proposals aim to make bus services more reliable, better connected and better value for money. Depending on where you live, this could include changes to routes, new connections and improvements to existing services.

The proposals cover the following services in your area:

- 13B: Castle Camps – Linton
- 19: Burrough Green – Haverhill
- 18: Newmarket Park and Ride – The Wilbrahams - Newmarket

No decisions have been made, and your feedback will help inform any future changes.

Residents can review the proposals for their area and complete a short survey online.

The engagement is open until 5pm on Tuesday 28th July.

Find out more and take part at <https://cpca-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-network-review-engagement/> or use the QR code.



Charley Smith

Grantchester Meadows consultation

FROM wildlife and open space to tranquillity and beautiful views, Grantchester Meadows means different things to different people. Local charity Cambridge Past, Present & Future (CPPF) wants to hear what makes this much-loved landscape special to you.



The survey is being carried out as part of CPPF's partnership with King's College Cambridge to care for and improve Grantchester Meadows for the benefit of nature, the environment and local people, ensuring the meadows remain well cared for, accessible, and rich in wildlife for future generations.

The survey is open to everyone, including residents, students, walkers, cyclists, swimmers, dog walkers, nature lovers and visitors. Whether you visit every week or only occasionally, your views matter. Responses will help inform future plans for the Meadows and ensure the voices of those who know and value this special place are heard.

The survey takes just a few minutes and can be accessed online: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Ym481kJZlK-Y6SAp8yYmsqj3bOVau4dAqPNMCDP5OBtUMIRKQ1F1WUdOV1pUVEZPM01VT1o0T0FQVi4u&route=shorturl>.

Louise Palmer

Cambridge Past Present and Future

Summer Holiday Opening @ The Pavilion

The Sports and Social Pavilion will be open for hot and cold drinks, snacks and ice-creams, and toilets will be available

The Meadow Recreation Ground

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Parish Council matters



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

Planning update - July 2026



CURRENT Planning Applications:

Little Linton:

Land North of Cambridge Road 25/04541/OUT - Outline application for the erection of up to 230 dwellings including affordable and self/custom build plots, along with a new site for a doctor's surgery, open space, allotments, and associated infrastructure, with all matters reserved except access. Application recently amended with additional information submitted by the developer. Expected expiry date now 24th July. Public Comments can still be sent directly to the Case Officer: Nick Yager
LPC Comment: Strongly object and refer to SCDC Planning Committee.

Horseheath Road:

Land off Horseheath Road 26/00415/OUT - Outline application for the development of up to 100 residential dwellings along with associated infrastructure including provision of new site access, internal access roads, parking, drainage, public open space, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements and other associated works with all matters reserved except for the primary point of access onto Horseheath Road. Application recently amended with additional information submitted by the developer. Closed for public comments.
LPC Comment: Strongly object and refer to SCDC Planning Committee. Planning Decision has been referred to SCDC Planning Committee (8th July at 10am - tbc)

Back Road:

26/01304/OUT - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 75 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and Sustainable urban Drainage System (SuDS) and vehicular access from Back Road. All matters reserved except for means of access. Expected determination deadline 1st July. Closed for public comments.
LPC Comment: Strongly object and refer to SCDC Planning Committee.

Prospective Site:

Balsham Road:

Land off Balsham Road (65 houses) - Planning application yet to be submitted by the developer. Please look for updates via social media and in the next edition of the Linton News.

If you require any support or guidance on navigating the Planning Portal please contact the Linton Parish Council office on 01223 891001 or via email on enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk.

Clerk - Linton Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan update

OVERVIEW of the Neighbourhood Plan

A neighbourhood plan is a community-led statutory document that empowers local residents and parish councils to shape the development, use of land, and infrastructure in their specific area. Once adopted, it carries legal weight and must be considered when local authorities make planning decisions.

The Linton, Little Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan is being created by a group of volunteers with representatives from both parishes. Everyone is welcome, the working group is open to all members of the public who are passionate about the future of the village.

Communities choose to develop a neighbourhood plan for several key reasons:

Statutory Weight: It becomes an official part of the local planning framework. Planning officers and inspectors must consult and use its policies when evaluating planning applications.

Site Allocation: We can designate specific parcels of land for desired uses, such as identifying exact locations for new affordable homes, shops, or community centres.

Design Standards: We can outline specific aesthetic requirements (e.g., using local building materials, ensuring appropriate heights) to ensure new builds match the character of the existing area.

Protecting Green Spaces: We can designate and permanently safeguard vital local green spaces (such as parks, allotments, or sports pitches) from unwanted development.

Economic Boost: We can earmark land for businesses and employment, boosting the local economy and creating jobs.

Current Tasks:

Local Nature Recovery Strategy to be referenced and supported in the Neighbourhood Plan.

A village-wide survey to be completed in 2026 (previous one was 2020) - Please look out for the survey and complete it to share your thoughts.

A re-assessment of the landscape appraisal completed in 2025 and confirm next steps.

Mapping requirements to be determined with access to Parishes Online for reference purposes.

An update of policies where required in the new draft policy document.

Checking the status and updating of all links provided in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appeal to parishioners to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan as a community project.

If you can help in any way please contact the Linton Parish Council office on 01223 891001 or via email on enquiries@linton-pc.gov.uk.

Clerk - Linton Parish Council

Dogs - dangerously out of control

OVER time on social media there have been several reports highlighting out of control dogs causing problems in our village. Some of the reactions to these posts have been surprising to say the least. Suffice it to say that any parishioner, of any age should be free to walk the paths and open public areas without fear of being bothered or attacked by a loose dog.

Recently, right here in Linton, there has been an appalling incident where an elderly lady has been attacked by a large dog resulting in her being admitted to hospital with serious injuries. As bad as this is, it could have been much worse; the village could be trying to come to terms with a tragedy that started as a quiet walk and ended in a horrific death.

A dog is legally considered dangerously out of control if it injures someone or makes someone worried it might injure them. This issue has escalated into a severe public safety concern. Rising numbers of severe attacks highlight the urgent need for responsible ownership.

The consequences of failing to control a dog may be devastating. Victims have suffered life-altering physical trauma, permanent scarring, and profound psychological dread. Dog attacks have claimed the lives of vulnerable individuals, particularly young children and the elderly. Beyond human casualties, out of control dogs have attacked wildlife, damaged farmers crops and killed beloved family pets. For some this erodes the public sense of safety in shared spaces like parks and pavements.



Modern legislation places criminal liability directly onto the owner. If a dog causes injury or the fear of injury, owners may face heavy fines, bans on future ownership, and lengthy prison sentences. Courts may order the destruction of the offending animal. However, reactive laws do not heal injuries or reverse fatalities. True prevention requires a cultural shift toward absolute owner accountability.

If you are involved in an incident where you or someone with you is in anyway attacked by a dog or put in fear of such an attack you should treat the incident as a serious matter and report it to the police. Allowing a dog to be dangerously out of control is a criminal offence and the police will deal with the incident appropriately.

We are a nation of dog lovers and many dog owners treat their pets as members of the family and when out with them act responsibly. This is a simple plea to those very few dog owners that feel it is acceptable to allow their dogs to run free on paths where it is difficult for others to avoid them. Please take your responsibilities seriously and keep your dog on a lead.

Cllr Tony Smith

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Parish Council minutes



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

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21st May 2026 at the Cathodeon Centre.

Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman

Election of the Chairman and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Decision required. Cllr Sanderson proposed Cllr Gardner as Chairman. Cllr Cox seconded. 11 in favour with one abstention. Agreed. Clerk.

Election of the Vice Chairman and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Decision required. Cllr Sanderson proposed Cllr Kell as Vice Chairman. Cllr Cox seconded. 6 in favour with 6 abstentions.

Cllr Singh proposed Cllr Smith as Vice Chairman. Cllr Campbell seconded. 2 in favour with 10 abstentions. Motion carried for Cllr Kell to be Vice Chairman.

Chairman's Comment

The Chairman thanked the members for his appointment and expressed his hope to maximise the "worth" of the Parish Council and the office team, stating that on average a parish councillor spends three hours per week on parish council activity. It was noted that there is a need to be considerate and to utilise the knowledge each individual can offer to facilitate progress.

The Chairman invited all members to reach out if they have queries or concerns, especially new councillors, and requested three suggestions from each member on areas for improvement for the Parish Council, especially in relation to reducing workloads and improving working practices.

Open Forum for Public Participation

The Chairman invited the member of public present to address the council.

The member of the public advised they were present to observe only.

Clerk's Report. *Written report available.* For Information. In addition to the written report the Clerk provided an update on an environmental incident of "blue" water reported at the Rivey Bridlepath on 18.05.2026, advising the matter had been raised with the Environment Agency who are investigating.

External and Internal Meetings

Report of the meeting held on 15.04.2026 focusing on Nature Recovery. *Written report available.*

Report of the meeting held on 20.04.2026 between LPC and the Linton schools. *Written report available.*

Report of the meeting held between LPC and Beacon Youth Trust on 20.04.2026. *Written report available.*

Report of the meeting held between LPC and Beacon Youth Trust on 01.05.2026. *Written report available.*

District and County Councillors Annual Report. *Written report available.* For information.

In addition to the written report District Councillor John Batchelor added:

Congratulations to Cllr Gardner on his appointment to Chairman of Linton Parish Council.

The SCDC AGM was held on 21.05.2026, District Councillor Henry Batchelor is now Lead Cabinet Member for Planning with District Councillor John Batchelor retaining his post as Lead Cabinet Member for Housing. Cllr Mannassi raised a question in relation to the 5-year land supply which Bloor Homes had refuted in the recent planning application, and asked if SCDC would respond. Cllr Mannassi also queried the statistics on build rate which were also cited in the calculations.

District Councillor John Batchelor advised a response had been sent confirming the land supply currently sits at 5.6 years and that the authority is confident with the figures relating to both land supply and build rate.

Cllr Cox requested details of the final destination of food waste, following the allocation of the additional bins in September.

District Councillor John Batchelor advised the responsibility for food waste lies with CCC and the waste will go to a bio-digestion plant near Ely.

Planning

Consideration of the recommendation from the Planning Committee for additional comments to be submitted on planning application 26/01304/OUT (Land North West of 12 Woodlands, Back Road, Cambridge - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 75 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and Sustainable urban Drainage System (SuDS) and vehicular access from Back Road. All matters reserved except for means of access.) Decision Required.

Cllr Smith proposed the recommendation from the Planning Committee to continue to object to the application. Cllr Allen seconded. All Agreed.

Update following proposed changes to the village boundary as outlined in the emerging local plan and raised with DC Henry Batchelor. Decision required.

Cllr Chris Hine proposed to object in writing to SCDC and to also comment against the proposals in the next consultation phase for the emerging Local Plan. Cllr Mannassi seconded. All Agreed.

Finance

RFO's Report. *Written report available.* For Information. In addition to the written report the RFO advised that a payment of over £5,000 had been received by LPC which is believed to be the payment of the Bowls Club funds which has been outstanding since 2018. The RFO and Clerk were congratulated on their diligence and determination in securing the repayment over the past 18 months.

Financial Year End 2025/2026.

To review the end of the year accounts and sign the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) to be sent to the External Auditor for the year ending 31st March 2026.

Review of Section 1 and agreement for the Chairman to sign Section 1. Open discussion and Decision required. Cllr Smith proposed the acceptance of Section 1 of the AGAR to be signed by the Chairman. Cllr Williams seconded. All Agreed.

The Chairman signed Section 1 of the AGAR. Review of Section 2 and agreement for the Chairman to sign Section 2. Open discussion and Decision required. Cllr Sanderson proposed the acceptance of Section 2 of the AGAR to be signed by the Chairman. Cllr Singh seconded. All Agreed.

The Chairman signed Section 2 of the AGAR. Notification of the proposed dates for the exercise of public rights; Wednesday 3rd June and Tuesday 14th July 2026. For information. Noted.

Confirmation of the submission date for the external Audit as the Wednesday 1st July 2026. For information. Noted.

Quotes & Contracts

Quotes for PAT at the Pavilion. Decision required. Cllr Sanderson proposed the quotation from J. Tarrant be accepted. Cllr Smith seconded. Agreed with 4 abstentions.

Quote for bespoke Councillor Training in Linton for all councillors to attend. Decision required.

Cllr Sanderson proposed to arrange with CAPALC for training to take place in Linton, to be open to other parish councils, including training free of charge for two members with charges of £75.00 per additional councillor and cost of venue hire but negating travel expenses. Cllr Smith seconded. 9 in favour with two abstentions. Agreed.

Traffic & Highways

MSID YTD reports. *Written report available.* Request for a Letter of Support for Linton Infants re: road safety measures. Decision required.

Cllr Hine proposed a letter of support be provided to the Linton Infants to be delegated to the Clerk. Cllr Gardner seconded. All Agreed.

The Recreation Ground

Proposal for the provision of additional lighting at the Recreation Ground. Decision required.

Cllr Singh proposed the additional lighting be accepted if supplied and installed free of charge by GCP with LPC to be responsible for maintenance, post installation. Cllr Hine seconded. All Agreed.

Village Enhancement

Request for additional dog bins and signage in key areas of Linton. Decision required.

Cllr Gardner proposed an additional dog bin be investigated for the area at Borley Wood and labels be applied to all normal litter bins which are permitted for use for dog waste to increase the options for dog walkers. Cllr Hine seconded. All Agreed.

Annual Meeting of the Parish – Public Forum. Multi-Use Games Area – clarification of future plans to increase usage and confirmation of any additional expenditure in 2026/2027. Response required.

It was requested a summary be shared in relation to funds spent on the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). An S106 contribution restricted for the provision of outdoor sport to the value of £78,989.03 was received by LPC in 2022. £53,565.30 of the S106 funding, rather than "parish funds", has been spent developing the MUGA. The remaining balance, less other outdoor sports projects, is currently £7188.80.

LPC to provide support for local businesses in Linton & Cllr Hine's suggestion for a new working group to be formed. Response required.

Under Agenda item 15/26/27, Appointment of any new committees in accordance with standing order 4 and appointment of members. Decision required.

Cllr Hine proposed to establish new working groups for the following:

Business & Commerce and Agriculture. Cllr Singh seconded. 3 in favour with 4 against and 2 abstentions. Motion not carried.

The Clerk advised that SCDC have a dedicated Business Support and Development department and local businesses can be advised to approach SCDC.

Neighbourhood Plan – queries raised in relation to process and progress. Response required.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a community project, managed and developed by a working party, as opposed to a Parish Council project and as such should be led by parishioners. It was suggested appealing to the community for additional volunteers to assist with the project with the possibility of employing AI to assist with the progression of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Notification of incidents of untreated sewage discharge into the River Granta and request for monitoring of this by LPC. Response required. It was suggested that Linton FROGs be approached to request the data be monitored by a member of the volunteer group and information shared monthly with LPC.

Clerk

Full minutes and written reports are available on the Linton Parish Council website.

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