

Midsummer
Musical Picnic
20th June
see page 2

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All change at the Co-op

STUDENTS from Linton Village College Theatre Group, dressed in Bugsy Malone costumes took centre stage at the unveiling of our new-look Co-operative food store which re-opened on 1st May following a £330,000 investment.

The store had previously supported the theatre group at LVC in their production of Bugsy Malone. The students cut the ribbon and declared the store open, having been closed since 18th April.

Many of us had missed it during that time and were keen to see the new look. The improvements include an enhanced in-store bakery range, and a focus on fresh, healthy foods and essentials. In addition, new refrigeration has enabled the store to extend its range of dairy and chilled produce making the displays more easily seen and the aisles wider.

Naomi Brown, store manager said: "We are delighted to have made such a significant investment in our Linton store and to have a fantastic new-look shop with which to serve the community. It is an exciting time for the whole team.

With the combination



The LVC students (l to r):- Grace Darvill, Tom Harper, Sasha Petty, Maddy Parr, Travis Parr, Olivia Newey. Staff: Naomi Brown, Nick Mele, Alison Cassidy, Claire Buckle, Mike Tennick, Diana Heffer and Tracy Barnes

Picture supplied by Tony Kelly

of our redefined store, innovations in our own-brand Loved by us range, and the Co-op's commitment to lowering prices on hundreds of everyday essentials, I am confident we will provide the convenience of picking up delicious food to create inspirational meals at home. There are offers and promotions in and around the store to mark its re-launch.

The Co-operative is a

community retailer, and we are committed to playing an active role in village life, embracing the area's community spirit. The store will be a hub for the local people and customers will be able to find out what is going on in the neighbourhood, and learn about how The Co-operative can benefit local groups."

Nick Mele, a member of the store team, has a role as community pioneer in which



One of the new aisles

Picture by Roger Lapwood

he works to foster involvement in community activities. This ranges from local fund-raising initiatives to helping to understand and develop solutions to meet community needs.

The initial focus of in-store fund-raising will be the Linton Heights Junior School – with money being raised for outdoor play equipment, and the Granta School.

LNT

Support Linton walk for Alzheimer's research

WE the charity Alzheimer's Research UK, which is based in Granta Park, are holding a charity walk on Sunday 12th July. The event will be starting in, passing through and ending in Linton.

This is the fifth year of our charity walk and this year has been renamed the *Defeat Dementia Walk*. We have three mile and ten mile routes designated for walkers and are hoping to sign up 750 people to help us raise £50,000.

We are currently looking for helpers with the event, including setting up a Water Station en route for thirsty walkers. In the past, volunteers have used their front gardens to man a table of bottles of water which are supplied by us.

We are also looking for a group to help provide a cake stall at Linton Village College for hungry walkers once they return.

Alzheimer's Research UK is the country's leading research charity aiming to defeat dementia. We power world class studies that give us the best chance of beating dementia sooner. Our pioneering work focuses on prevention, treatment and cure. Together we have the power to defeat dementia.

You can read more about the event on www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/event/defeat-dementia-walk/ and, of course, if you'd like to sign up to take part, please do.

Jessica Hiscocks, 07789 006929 Office: 0300 111 5777

Festival volunteers needed

LINTON Children's Book Festival takes place every two years and our next big celebration of books and stories will be in May 2016. The festival's continued success relies on community support and we welcome everyone who wants to be involved.

We are currently compiling a list of volunteers to help between now and next May. Our immediate focus is to raise funds for this popular project, so if you have expertise in grant applications, securing sponsorship or fund-raising and are able to assist us we would love to hear from you. However, we also need many other volunteers and if you have that most precious commodity of all, time, and you have skills that you think we could use, please get in touch. If you are interested in getting involved in this very special festival please contact me on 07970 758512 or email adelesavage@aol.com.

Adele Watson

More houses for Bartlow road site ?

Letter from Bidwells estate agents

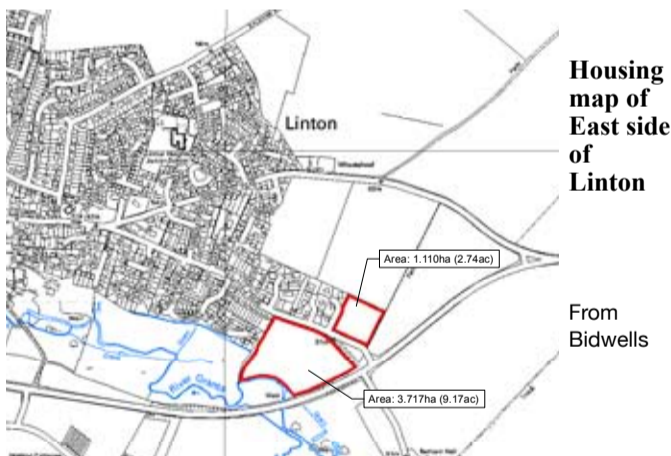
ON 27th April Tim Havers, planning officer with Bidwells Estate agents, wrote as follows to the Parish Council re the Bartlow Road site:

"I write to provide an update to the Parish Council with regard to the above land.

As you are aware, the land in question was put forward for consideration for residential-led development as part of the ongoing South Cambridgeshire District Council Local Plan consultation process. A number of surveys have now been completed as part of this process to establish the suitability of the land for residential development.

Following the successful outcome of these surveys the landowners have instructed Bidwells to progress toward a formal planning application.

As the first stage of this process, a request for pre-application advice has been



made to the Planning Department at South Cambridgeshire District Council. Following this, the intention is to consult with the Linton community to enable those views to inform the design and masterplanning process and to ensure that all have the opportunity, without prejudice to the final outcome of any application, to constructively engage with the planning process.

I enclose a copy of the

(red) line site boundary for clarification. As you will see the application site consists of two land parcels, the larger being situated to the south of Bartlow Road and the smaller to the north.

Should you wish to discuss the above please do not hesitate to contact me but I shall keep you updated as a matter of course".

Tim Havers,
Principal Planner

Editor's comment on the Bidwell letter

SINCE the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan is under review, Linton is vulnerable to planning applications of this kind.

If we refer to the Strategic Housing land availability (SH-LAA) assessments* for the Linton area which identify possible sites for housing in the area it seems that we might see a planning application being put in for 112 houses on the two sites on Bartlow Road.

If you look at all the sites on the SHLAA for Linton you will see that sites for a total of 6000 houses round Linton could be vulnerable. Therefore we might expect many more planning applications for our area before a Local Plan is confirmed – see Parish Matters.

*[https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/www.scambs.gov.uk/files/documents/25_Initial SA - Annex 2 Linton.pdf](https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/www.scambs.gov.uk/files/documents/25_Initial%20SA-Annex%20Linton.pdf)

This year's Chilford 10K and Fun Run is now cancelled

It is with great regret that the Friends of Linton Village College (FLVC) announce that they have been forced to cancel the Chilford 10K and Fun run on 21st of June.

They found that the date clashed with that of another major run and most of the possible runners have chosen the other race.

In addition FLVC they have not had enough offers of help with the marshalling of the event.

The Linton News team offer their sympathy to the Friends in making this difficult decision.

LNT

Masquerade Ball for Guides



Who can these young ladies be?

Picture by Linda Robinson.

SUPPORTED by her parents, seventeen-year-old Megan Till, a trainee guide leader, designed a special evening for 2nd Linton Guides.

With the help of young leaders Catalina Hyden and Chelsea Reilly, each guide and unit leader received a personal invitation to a Masquerade Ball on 27th April at the Abington Institute. The evening was for dressing up in party best with a mask for

disguise.

Twenty eight guides and their leaders were welcomed to the softly lit hall with music and a drink before enjoying a delightful meal prepared and cooked by Christine and Simon Till with Claire Edwards, Rachel Hampson,

Rosalie Campbell, and Sarah Green working as waitresses and kitchen staff.

The meal was followed by some light-hearted games ending with an extraordinary fun raffle for everyone to take part.

Kate France 891602

Too good for jumble...

A sunlounger in good condition with a metal base that folds into an S shape with a 6 cm mattress, a 19 inch ACE flat screen computer monitor with mains and computer connecting lead and a 1 seater futon (used twice) with removable mattress + cover 2 ft 6in wide, 6 ft long are newly on offer this month.

Still available is the Hitachi FM/AM tuner in perfect working condition with 16 presets, a mattress 1.9m long x 0.9m wide x 0.19 m thick (only used for a guest bed) and a computer desk/dressing table 97cm long x 48 cm wide x 66 cm high, the materials and printer cartridges for 88XL for HP Office Jet Pro series, multipack for Epson TO487 Epson stylus photo printers and a pocket snooker table, which I have previously mistakenly described as a child's snooker table.

The computer work station raised £10 for St Mary's church and the tonne of chunky rocks are being included in a re-designed garden.

To buy any of the above or to offer an item to profit a charity, please contact Kate France on 891602 or email kfrance@profsoundconsult.com NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

Well done Eliza

ELIZA WREN spent the day at Denny Abbey on Saturday 2nd May with her parents and sisters. She said she had a really lovely day and was very happy when she saw her picture on display with her name underneath.

Eliza had won second prize in the Abbey textiles competition and was invited to attend the official opening of the Festival of Textiles at the farmland museum.



Eliza with her certificate and poster



Second: Eliza Wren

The prize-winning artwork
Pictures supplied by Linton Heights and awarded a certificate and a textile pack of assorted materials as her prize for the school.

At Linton Heights we run an art and craft club on a Monday lunchtime and the children were asked to produce a picture using textiles relating to the theme of animals or farmland machinery that could be entered in the textile competition.

Eliza made a picture of a ladybird using fabric, plastic flowers and glitter and was

Linton Heights



LH swimming pool in shape for summer

QUITE literally blood, sweat and tears were shed by the dedicated task force of parents and helpers, who took on the unenviable challenge of restoring our long unloved swimming pool to its former glory.

Not only had numerous types of weeds infested the pool area, but the plaster work in the pupils' changing rooms had eroded severely during winter. The fence panels had faded and were desperately in need of a revamp. None of the above proved too daunting for our committed DIYers and gardeners and by bacon bap time, work was very much under way.

Although, after seven hours of hard labour, the work in the pool area has not been completely finished, it is a stark contrast to its former dilapidated state. The finishing off will be completed prior to the pool's commissioning at the end of May.

Harry Holroyd, one of our Year 4 pupils, made an interesting comparison of the changes that had taken place:

"The swimming pool area before was disgusting, the paint in the changing room was peeling off. There were weeds growing through the cracks in the concrete. Everywhere looked drab and dreary. Swimming each week was not a very pleasant experience."

"The pool now is so much better. The fence has been painted bright blue and changing rooms have been re-plastered. The weeds have all been removed and even the spiders have gone. I cannot wait for our swimming sessions to start later in May. Thank you to the parents who have transformed our pool."

As well as the community members who assisted us on the day, I would also like to thank the Parish Council who generously donated £650 to the project and to the Nationwide which donated £100.

James Puxley,
Headteacher

Pre-loved children's books wanted

"A book is a dream that you hold in your hand"

DO you have any unwanted children's books in good condition? If so, the pupils at Linton Heights Junior School would love to add them to their growing library collection. Fiction or non-fiction, it doesn't matter.

Donations of books can be dropped off at the school reception on Wheatshaf Way. If you cannot get there during school hours, please leave them well wrapped up in plastic bags at the reception door. The pupils will be very grateful.

"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray,

Go throw your TV set away,

And in its place you can install,

A lovely bookshelf on the wall."

Roald Dahl, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

James Puxley,
Headteacher

Minions keep children busy at Linton Infant School

AS you read this, the children will be enjoying a half-term break before starting their final seven weeks at school until the summer holidays. There is always a lot to fit into this last half-term.

The theme of *My World, Minions and Me* is proving very popular with the children; those Minions keep leaving banana skins everywhere around the school. The tank of tadpoles is proving to be a distraction to those walking along the corridor as we all learn about

different habitats.

The Foundation Stage children had a school trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park where they found out about the habitat of many animals; in particular the tigers. The Minions have found a tiger that needs help and they asked the Foundation Stage children to carry out some investigations on their school trip.

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 had a visit from Box Clever Theatre concerning road safety. The performance

explored topics such as enjoying walking to school, caring for the environment, taking exercise and travelling safely.

On 19th May we held our Open Evening for the parents of children due to join us in September. It was great to see some familiar faces but equally nice to meet parents who are new to our school. Later in the term we welcome the children into school to spend time in their new classroom with the staff and their peer group.

Louise Clark, Headteacher

All the fun of the fair at Granta

THE Friends of Granta School (FOGS) are holding their annual summer fête from 1pm – 4pm on Saturday 20th June at the Granta School; a special needs school on the same site as Linton Village College.

This will be a traditional school fête with all the usual stalls including barbeque, cakes, home-made jams, tombolas, white elephant, secondhand toys and books, lucky dip and raffle.

Linton Jazz have kindly agreed to come along and will be playing during the afternoon. We are also delighted to have received a signed authenticated England football shirt which

will be auctioned during the afternoon.

All money raised will be used to provide the students with equipment and activities which would not be available to them from the school budget alone. We are currently working with the students to provide more playground equipment, a project which has been greatly helped by the recent generous donation of £400 from the Anderson Trust.

We look forward to welcoming you.

For further information please contact me on 01799 528107, or on onziebust@tiscali.co.uk

Annette Leeman

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Music for a summer's day picnic

FOLLOWING the great success of last summer's event, Linton Youth Music is delighted once again to invite you to our Midsummer Musical Picnic, this year with extended hours.

The LYM musical picnic will take place on Camping Close on Saturday 20th June from 2.30 to 8pm. It will feature a host of musical talent from in and around the village.



Last year's musical picnic

Pictures by Josephine Paterson



A young man with rhythm

There'll be something for everyone; instrumental, wind band and brass band, choral, classical, pop and rock. All music types will be represented by performers which include adults and young people. The event will close with a set from popular Linton band *The Accelerants*.

Come along to enjoy live music in a friendly and relaxed setting. Picnics can be pre-ordered from The Linton Kitchen and Jigsaw Bakery, or bring your own snacks and treat yourself to a cream tea. An Ashcroft barbecue, drinks including Black Bar beer and ice creams will also be available.

For programme information please check www.lintonmusic.org.uk and follow the Linton Youth Music page on Facebook to keep up to date with what's happening.

Emma Mason

lintongrantaplaygroup
Pre-school and toddler group
Linton, Cambridgeshire

May Day celebrations bring rewards

WITH the end of this academic year fast approaching we have been working hard with the pre-school children to get them ready for their transition to school. The activities include practising registers and getting changed for PE. They will have their very own graduation ceremony on Wednesday 22nd July.

We held a very busy May Day picnic where we danced around the maypole. The winners of our May Day King and Queen Crown competition were Calum Yates and Isobelle Davies. We raised some much needed funds at this event by raffling a lovely cake kindly donated by Rebecca Jacklin, Jimi's Mummy.

Our sponsored goal kick, where all children regardless of ability were encouraged to take a turn, managed to raise in excess of £160 which will be put towards our new communication drawers.

We have planted vegetables in our vegetable patch and all the keen gardeners amongst the children are doing a fantastic job of nurturing them. If you have any spare time and would like to help us develop our garden even further, please contact us as we would be most appreciative. Tea and biscuits will be provided.

We are now taking bookings for September 2015. We are open mornings 9am-12noon M-F, lunch 12noon-12.30pm M-F and afternoons 12.30-2.30pm M, W, Th, F. Please contact us on 07806 744864 to enquire about spaces and availability, or email office@lintongrantaplaygroup.

Karen Thompson, Playgroup Leader
and Janine Polley, Deputy Leader

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Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for articles are on this page. All letters for publication must have a full name, address or phone number to enable us to check authenticity. Letters may be edited. Opinions are not necessarily those of the Linton News. *Anonymous letters will NOT be published but names and addresses may be withheld if requested.*

Street lighting hazard

Dear Editor
May I express my concern about what I believe to be a safety issue with our new street lamps. Whilst travelling along Bartlow Road, by car and on foot, I find that, at certain points, glare from these momentarily dazzles me and distracts my attention. This could easily result in my failure to see potential dangers, eg. obstacles in the road or footpath, a person or animal emerging from a shadowed area into my path, with disastrous results. I suspect that this problem is not limited to Bartlow Road.
Cambridgeshire County Council owns these lamps and is liable for ensuring that they present no danger to the public. Therefore, I have tried, albeit in vein, to get CCC to act on the matter. Their response is that as the lamps comply with British Standard 5489-1, which does not specify how much glare is permissible, there should be no problem, so at this moment they will take no action.
However, BS 5489-1 does indicate how, if necessary, lamp glare may be reduced. Therefore, if readers believe action is required to alleviate this potential hazard they should complain directly to CCC's Strategic Projects Manager, Alan.Hitch@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or via our local CCC representative, Roger.Hickford@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.
Whatever you do, please be aware of the problem and take care on roads where new mercury vapour (HID) lamps have been installed.
Jim Foster, Emsons Close

Good samaritans abound

Dear Editor
As well as my hearing from bicycle mechanics, Linton Guides were delighted to receive an offer of help from an ex-Guide who is a qualified life saver, for supervising a swimming session.
Is there anyone who is good at re-threading beads and properly finishing them off to the clasp?
Kate France 891602 kfrance@profsoundconsult.com

Mr Mole goes walking

Dear Editor
Mr Mole, who normally lives outside our front door, has gone AWOL; probably the result of a Friday night prank.
Mr Mole is made of chalk, is about 12 inches tall and quite heavy. And much loved by children on their way to and from school.
If he turns up in an unexpected place could you please let us know and we will come and bring him home again.
Gill and Nick Kotschy, Mill Lane, Linton, 971076

OUR THANKS

OUR thanks to everyone who contributed to the cake sale in aid of the Disasters Emergency Committee Nepal Earthquake Appeal, held on Friday 8th May in the Linton Free Church.
Liz Munday and Loraine Herbert kindly hosted the sale at their Rhyme-n-Rhythm baby music session. Friends and neighbours donated baked goods, and families attending bought cakes and gave generously.
The £150 raised will go to help survivors of the disaster, which has affected millions of people in Nepal.
Yasmin Marsh 894934

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Are you a hairdresser or a butcher?



Geoff Hodge, our speaker, showing Jim Forrest where to make the cut

Picture by Roger Lapwood

 MOST couples who garden together seem to have one of each in the pruning team according to garden writer and broadcaster Geoff Hodge. The hairdresser pruner is slightly timid, not wanting to damage a precious plant and takes off a little here and there to be safe but keep things tidy. The butcher pruner by contrast takes things back much harder or even to the ground when they get going. Surprisingly a well informed butcher, who prunes to a bud at the right time of year on the right plant, is the better option to give strong healthy growth. Crucially both must remember to feed the plant afterwards to aid its recovery.
Other advice offered during Geoff's lively talk, as bits of shrubbery scattered in all directions, was to sharpen your secateurs after every use, a 10 second job that reaps huge benefits but that we all forget. Crushed, rather than cut, stems welcome disease entry that can be avoided.
Our next event is the 73rd Annual Show at 2.30pm on Saturday 25th July in the village hall. Schedules giving full details on how to enter are now available from 9 Balsham Road (near the post office) and 3 Mill Lane. There is a wonderful range of classes to enter, so do come and join in the fun. Entry is open to everyone.
Thank you to everyone who generously gave their time, plants and produce to make this year's plant sale such a success. Without this fund raising effort the Annual Show would not be possible.
Kirsten Newble
lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk

A safari but no elephants

THE Friends of St Mary's are holding one of the popular Safari Suppers in Linton on Friday 19th June.
The evening will start at 6.30pm at Richmonds, 65 High Street for Pimms or a fruit cup, then everyone sets off to one of five houses where the host-ess will serve a starter. Half an hour later it is off to another home in the village for the main course, served with wine. For the last course everyone moves again with five more hostesses offering summer desserts and finally it is back to Richmonds for coffee.
Tickets are sold in pairs and everyone stays with their partner for the evening. At each venue there will be a total of five couples including the hosts. The idea is that as people move from venue to venue they meet different people. An enjoyable evening with delicious food, good wine and excellent company is guaranteed and it is hoped the weather will be kind too.
Tickets at £17 (limited to 50, ie 25 couples) are available from me, 891231 and Rose-mary Read, 892005. Profits go towards essential repairs to Linton's beautiful parish church, St Mary's.
Margaret Cox

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THE LINTON NEWS

Next Publication 6th July 2015

DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 15th June

NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 17th June

ITEMS FOR ADVERTISING MANAGER

Limited space on waiting list for Linton businesses

Changes to ads can be sent to: Judith Rouse

email: adds@linton.info

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

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

Editor: Fran Armes email: lneditor@linton.info

Phone 891517

For distribution queries contact: Kate France 891602

LINTON DIARY

For entry in this list, ensure that your event is written into the diary in the Post Office, failure to do so could mean non-entry to the diary here. You may also email your event details to diary@linton.info, or use the form on www.linton.info.
Call 971797 for an audio version of the Linton News.
Details of items in bold type may be found in this edition.
WEEKLY
Seedlings Alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm CC
Whist drive, 7.30pm Mondays. VH
Chestnutbaby/toddlergroup, 9.30-11.30amMondaystermtimeCC
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilion
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)
Play & Stay, Alternate Tuesdays, 9.30-11am CC
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH
Linton Air Cadets Tue and Fri 7.30-9.30pm (07717801056) LVC
Scrabble club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays CP
Linton Granta playgrp, 9am-12noon Monday-Friday LVC
Linton Granta Toddler grp, 9.30-11.30 Tuesdays term timeLVC
Linton Granta playgrp, 12.30-2.30pm Mon-Fri, NOT TuesLVC
Storytime, 2-2.30pm Tuesdays, term-time Library
Granta Bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509) CC
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays VH
IT club, 7pm Tuesdays CC
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time only VH
Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays URC
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays Library
Cricket club, 6-8pm Thursdays RG, LVC
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH
Bumps to babies, 1.15-2.45pm Thursdays CC
Table tennis club, 8-10pm Thursdays term time only URC hall
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CP
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays St Mary's
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248
JUNE 2015
1 Camera club, 7.15pm CC
2 **WI, 7.30pm** VH
3 Reading Group, 8pm VH(upstairs)
4 Lunch club, 12noon Red Lion
6 Farmers' Market, 9am LVC
9 **Coffee Morning, 10.30am** Symonds House
9 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands
10 Community Navigator, 10-12noon HC
11 Library Friends, 7.30pm Library
12 Linton Infant School Summer Fair, 5pm LIS
13 **Village Fête, 1.30-4.30pm** Hadstock
14 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon URC
16 Historical society, 7.30pm VH
17 Cambridge Hearing Help, 9.30-12noon HC
18 Parish council meeting, 7.30pm CC
19 Daytime Book Group, 10.30am Library
19 **Friends of St Mary's Safari Supper, 6pm** Richmonds
19 **National Care Homes Day** Symonds House
20 **Granta School Fete, 1-4pm** Granta School
20 **Midsummer Musical Picnic, 2.30pm** Camping Close
21 **Chilford Fun Run, Cancelled** LVC
21 Walking group, 11am Church Lane
21 Messy Church, 2.30pm St Mary's
25 **ACE Coach trip to Southwold, 9.30am** D&D
27 Granta Playgroup Teddy Bear Trail, 2pm CP
28 **Cow Pat Day, 12 noon** RG
JULY 2015
1 Reading Group, 8pm VH(upstairs)
2 Lunch club, 12.30am Red Lion
3,4 & 5 **Flower festival** St Mary's
KEY: CC Cathodeon centre, CP church pavilion, D&D Dog and Duck, HC health centre, LH Linton Heights school, LIS Linton Infant school, LVC Linton village college, RG recreation ground, URC United Reform church, VH village hall.
Library times: Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.
Linton refuse collection (black bin): 8th and 22nd June.
Linton recycling collection: 1st, 15th and 29th June.

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Bartlow walkers smile through the rain



Happy young walkers
Picture supplied by Duncan Ogilvy

DESPITE the rain on 3rd May a good crowd turned up to hear Dr Keith McNeil, Chief Executive of Addenbrooke's, set walkers on their way. Mercifully the sun came out later and a good time was had by all.

It appears that the rain did not daunt the walkers as there seemed to be almost as many as usual. They were all happy and smiling despite the weather (especially the thunderstorm) as the late finishers arrived back.

Everyone commented on how much they had enjoyed the walk and how well it was organised. Even the many dogs were still wagging their tails at the finish. One white greyhound was totally exhausted though; I have never seen a dog quite so relaxed and out of it for so long.

Unfortunately some cars parked in the car park were broken into during the walk. What sort of person does that during a charity event?

The organisers have assured us that security will be tightened next year.

Duncan Ogilvy and Wendy Foster

Join the Cowpat Challenge



THIS summer Linton Village Cricket Club's main fund-raising event, Cow Pat Day, is taking place on the recreation ground on Sunday 28th June starting at 12noon.

Local farmer Sam Taylor from Little Linton has generously agreed to lend one of his beautiful Red Poll cows for the afternoon. A grid of 20 squares will be marked out on the football pitch each containing 100 smaller squares. The cow will be fenced in but free to roam within the enclosure. We are selling tickets for £2 each and the ticket matching the square closest to where she deposits her pat will win the first prize of £1000! £200 will be shared between the next nearest misses.

The bar will be open in the pavilion. There will be a BBQ, face painting and cake stall.

Tickets are available to buy in person from Sweet Talk News, the Post Office, Boyz2Men, Spotted Giraffe and Esther Cox (esther.cox01@gmail.com)

Come along and support your local club while having a fun day out!

Esther Cox

By George! He's English

AS it was St George's Day, we had an English theme (no apologies to the Scots who were there) with our national flag as table covers and a few to wave, a ploughman's lunch and a humorous talk on the perils and joys of being a Brit abroad.

John Duncan was a *Middlesex Englishman at the Court of Walt Disney*. Living and working in California, he found his accent, vocabulary and general attitude to life was often at odds with the Americans, particularly his sense of humour. Americans don't do irony and they have some odd quirks of vocabulary. The lifestyle, being on a grander scale, suited John's personality.

John worked in engineering, electronics and as a film extra; this barely scratching the depth of his talents. He wins prizes for public speaking, too, being part of the Cambridge Speakers Club and Toastmasters.

Next, we are off to the seaside, a coach trip to Southwold on 25th June (note change of date), leaving at 9.30am from the Dog and Duck. The cost will be around £15. Call me to book a place.

ACE events are for older people and all are welcome.

Enid Bald 891069

Cambridgeshire tales

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

OUR speaker Malcolm Busby has lived in Cambridgeshire nearly all his life; the stories he tells being passed down from his father and grandfather.

Idle Jack, supposed to be crow scaring for a wealthy farmer, fell asleep. On awakening, he saw a hare and thought if he could catch it and sell it to the butcher he could buy a pig which could have piglets and enable him to buy a calf. He daydreamed of marrying the farmer's daughter but when he jumped up and clapped his hands the hare flew off and with it his hopes of easy riches.

In the thirteenth century a monk wrote a history of East Anglia and this particular story tells of a tax collector called Osbert Fitzhugh who went on a moonlit night to an Iron Age fort (Wandlebury) and jousted with a ghostly black knight on a black horse. Osbert unhorsed the black knight, who vanished, but Osbert's leg was injured and, so the story goes, every year the wound opened and bled.

For centuries in East Anglia a tale circulated about a huge devil dog called Black Shuk whose bark was enough to make the blood run cold. If you heard him you would do well to cover your eyes and pray to God, for it meant someone you love would die within a year. On an archaeological dig at Leiston the bones of a dog, at least eight feet long, were found.

In the 1890s a woman went to view a house for sale in Trumpington Street little knowing it was said to be haunted. While awaiting the owner she saw a painting of a hideous woman but when the owner, pointed out it was just an ordinary landscape painting she realised she had seen a ghost.

Malcolm urged us to tell everybody these stories, as they are in danger of dying out.

Our next meeting is on 2nd June when the speaker will be David Palmer on Life as an Auctioneer.

Sally Probets 891021

Blocking the drains

SEWAGE is not a fun subject, especially if your home happens to be near a sewage pipe that gets blocked.

On the morning of 23rd April I could hear the toilet bubbling and thought: "Oh not again." As soon as I opened the kitchen door I could hear fast running water outside, only it wasn't water – raw sewage was pouring out of the manhole cover and across the patio of my neighbour's garden.

As my neighbour was not at home I called Anglian Water emergency service. Twenty minutes later an emergency worker was on site, by which time there was also sewage flooding around the front and back of my home. I learned that after clearing a blockage to the east of us, the cause of the blockage had again jammed further along the sewage pipe.

Anglian Water says: "Only the 3 P's should be put down the toilet – Pee, Poo and Paper." All wipes, sanitary products, cotton buds or floss should be wrapped up and put in the black bin, the same as fat, oil and grease, preferably in a solidified state. Please do not put any of them down the drain. They don't disappear and can cause a serious problem; not just for me but for you as well. We are all linked together.

Kate France 891602

Open studios exhibition



John Graham Hall – Linton artist

Picture supplied by Amanda Hall

SOME readers may remember our father, John Hall, who lived in The Grip, Linton for over fifty years until shortly before his death in 2006.

As well as being a much loved and respected art lecturer at the Cambridge College of Arts & Technology, and designer of many of the sets and costumes for productions at the Mumford Theatre, John was a very talented artist. During his life he produced a wealth of drawings and oil paintings, many of which depict scenes in and around East Anglia – a landscape for which he felt a great affection.

To commemorate the impressive body of work John left, we are holding a retrospective exhibition as part of Cambridge Open Studios, during the weekend of 4th and 5th July (11am to 6pm) at The Shadowhouse, 71 Cromwell Road, Cambridge CB1 3EB. His daughter, illustrator Amanda Hall, will be exhibiting her own work at the same address.

For further details and samples of work visit Cambridge Open Studios website (www.camopenstudios.co.uk) or pick up a Cambridge Open Studios Guide. (Ref: Hall, John – 60b; Hall, Amanda – 60a).

You are warmly invited to attend.

Martin, Tina, Rachel and Amanda.

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Linton Country Matters by Frances Armes
Illustrated by Maureen Williams



Try to protect our beautiful English bluebells

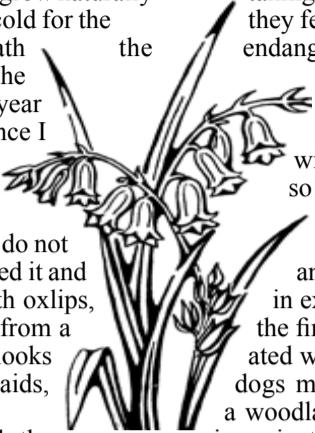
WHEN I lived in Yorkshire we were surrounded by beech woods, which were established to provide timber for bobbins used in the wool and cotton spinning mills. Beech trees do not grow naturally in the North of England, as in most years it is too cold for the nuts within the beech masts to ripen. Underneath the beeches drifts of bluebells grew plentifully in the clay soil and the humus from the trees. So every year we made a pilgrimage to see the bluebells and since I came to Linton I have missed that.

This year I found out where there is a woodland (Lower Wood near Weston Colville) with clay soil in our sea of chalk and limestone as bluebells do not grow well on chalky soils. My husband and I visited it and it was a wonderland of bluebells interspersed with oxlips, wood anemones, water avens and that mutation from a cross between water avens and wood avens that looks like a rose. Round the edges there were milk- maids, greater stitchwort, bugle and dogs mercury.

The bluebells were true English bluebells with the delightful scent, dark colouring, white anthers and long slender bells all on one side of the stalk. A few of the bluebells were

white. The Wildlife Trust tell us that the introduced Spanish bluebell is taking over our wild English ones as they interbreed and they fear that soon the English bluebell will be yet another endangered species. They advocate that we dig out all the Spanish bluebells from our gardens, especially if we live near woodlands having the true English variety. The Spanish bluebell has a paler, more open flower with the bells on both sides of the stalk and blue pollen; so as well as digging up my lawn I now should dig out all the Spanish bluebells (see last month).

We tried to see if the wood could be classed as ancient woodland. Ancient woodland has to have been in existence continuously from 1600 (about the time of the first maps). There is a definitive list of plants associated with ancient woodlands which includes the bluebell, dogs mercury, wood anemones and greater stitchwort. If a woodland has five of these plants then it is likely that it is ancient woodland. We also visited Hayley Wood which is classed as ancient woodland, where we found bluebells, oxlips, dogs mercury and a large group of early purple orchids.



Pennies from heaven?

ON 6th May, the children at Linton Granta Playgroup helped lay out all the coins collected at Playgroup, Sweet Talk News and the Post Office, during the last couple of months, to spell out the name of their pre-school. They had great fun in the process and managed to raise £82.71. Many thanks to all those who donated.

The money will go towards communication drawers for the children. Our next fundraising event will be a Teddy Bear Trail on Sat 27th June from 2pm to 4pm at the Church Pavilion. Please come along and support us and have some fun.

Helen Boffey



The children spell it out

Picture supplied by Helen Boffey

Rail from Haverhill to Cambridge?

DO you want a bigger, wider A1307? Do you want a new road? Do you want a guided bus? If your answer to all these questions is *No* then please support our campaign.

More than 28,000 people in Haverhill, 4,000 in Linton and 7,000 in Sawston and hundreds more in between, are deprived of a railway which would link into the national rail network safely, at speed, and would be kinder to the environment.

Rail is a valued means of commuting to work or for leisure. Please sign the petition to support the reopening of the railway at www.railhaverhill.org.uk/petition

We can also be found on Facebook (Campaign for Haverhill railway. C2CRP) and twitter (RailHaverhill).

Alternatively please contact our secretary Mr D K Edwards, 13 Longleaf Drive, Braintree CM7 1XS or email davidedwards@phonecoop.coop

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Hadstock village Fête

ONCE again the biggest day in the village returns, a tremendous amount of fun and laughter for all the family as Hadstock does what it does best with funfair rides, stalls, games and refreshments. Hadstock village fête is from 1.30pm until 4.30pm on Saturday 13th June on the village green

There is a grand draw and an auction to finish off the afternoon, with the Hadstock Silver Band playing throughout the day

The Kings Head is open all day and will also be serving pulled pork and beef brisket rolls, with a beer tent on the village green to avoid queuing in the pub. As usual the day will culminate with a party at The Kings Head in the evening with everyone welcome.

For more information visit the Hadstock village fête page on Facebook.

David Taylor

Update from the Health Centre

WE have been running our rapid access clinic for six months now. The rapid access team, doctors and a nurse practitioner work together to see all the urgent cases booked on the day, including visits and telephone enquiries or consultations.

How is it working?
Visits are being undertaken much earlier in the day. This is good for patients, especially for those that may need admission to hospital.

Telephone call backs are usually dealt with quickly and, in some cases, save the patient a trip to the surgery. The feedback in this respect has been very positive.

The access for those patients wanting an urgent, on the day appointment is definitely much improved and appreciated by our patients. Inevitably, there are times when emergencies occur and the clinicians run behind, but our reception team try to keep everyone informed and the feedback from those using the rapid access clinic has been very positive.

Prime Minister's Challenge Fund – once again Sawston and Linton practices submitted a joint bid for funding to extend their opening hours but once again we were unsuccessful.

Relate Cambridge are delivering a counselling service from the health centre on Wednesday afternoons starting. The relationship counsellor will work with individuals or couples. For more information, or to make an appointment ring Relate Cambridge on 357424 www.relatecambridge.org.uk

Sheila Griffiths

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POT POURRI 122

What are the children's ages?

FIVE mathematicians were discussing their children's ages. If each child's age was raised to the 5th power and then the resultant sum added, it came to a 4 digit number whereby each digit in the sum was different.

The childrens' ages are...?

Solution to 122-How many Cuts?

There were seven straight cuts.

NB. 1 cut = 2 areas, 3 = 7, 4 = 11 and so on until 7 cuts.
Urania

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hildersham News

IT'S Teatime. The next Teatime will take place on Thursday 4th June when all proceeds from the tea will support the work of the Multiple Sclerosis society.

Midsummer Ceilidh. Welcome in the summer and dance arm in arm to Ceilidh Band *Arm in Arm* on Saturday 20th June at Manor Farm Barn, Hildersham. This event has been especially designed to appeal to all ages so dancing begins at 6pm with a break for a Hog Roast Supper. There will be a licensed bar. Tickets costing £15 for adults, £5 for children are now available from Kate Huntsman on 894862 or email katehuntsman@btinternet.com

The Hildersham Lecture on 26th June will be *The King in the Car Park*. Dr Mathew Morris, lead archaeologist at the scene uncovering King Richard III in a car park in Leicester will speak about this extraordinary discovery.

All lectures take place in Hildersham church at 7.30pm. Tickets £5, family tickets £10, including refreshments, payable on arrival.

For any queries please contact Cathy Myer on 892848 or at catherinemyer43@btinternet.com

Wandlebury – Here Comes the Summer

Wildflowers at Wandlebury at 11am –1pm on Sunday 7th June. Meet at the stable rooms for an introductory talk then head out into the park to search for and identify the colourful blooms. This event is for adults only; there is a charge and booking is essential

The History of Wandlebury at 7–8pm on Thursday 18th June, meeting in the car park for a guided walk around the park with stories about the people who lived and worked at Wandlebury. This event is aimed at adults and older children; there is a charge and booking ahead is essential.

For more information and prices email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 243830 extension 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

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The Derbyshire Post



LAST month, this letter went out to parents and students at the college announcing my departure in January 2016.

Dear Parents and Students

I have to advise you that Caroline Derbyshire, our Executive Principal, has been offered the position of Executive Principal of Saffron Academy Trust and Principal of Saffron Walden County High School and has accepted. Needless to say we will be very sorry to lose her, but I am sure you will all want to join with me in thanking her for the outstanding contribution she has made to LVC and Chilford Hundred Education Trust over the last ten years and wish her every success in her new job.

This will leave the Trust Board with the difficult task of finding a replacement to step into Caroline's shoes. Fortunately, Caroline will not be taking up her new position until January 2016, so we have time to make a thorough search.

Caroline has built a strong management team around her and I am confident that the high standards that we are all so proud of will be maintained.

I will keep you informed of our progress over the coming months in our recruitment for an exceptional person to be our new Executive Principal.

Yours sincerely

John Batchelor

Chairman Linton Village College Governors
and Chilford Hundred Education Trust

January is a very long way off and it is really not the time to think about that yet for me, although the Trust Directors are already setting about the task of recruiting my successor. I am going to be sad to leave LVC and the Chilford Hundred Education Trust, but there are very many things I am keen to see achieved in the next few months: a new Astroturf for the school, completing the restoration work on the listed building, getting a really excellent Ofsted report for The Meadow School, achieving great GCSEs for the class of 2015 and writing a new improvement plan which ensures the ongoing success of the college.

It is important to me that I leave a job I have enjoyed and a school that I have loved in the very best shape possible for our community, and I will endeavour to do just that.

Caroline Derbyshire Principal

A winning streak for the Air Cadets

LINTON cadets have been busy with inter-squadron events over the last month. The Sector Field Day was held in Ely. This consisted of squadrons competing against each other at drill and initiative exercises. The squadron achieved a commendable third place in the overall competition and was successful in winning the drill competition.

Last weekend the squadron took part in the Wing Athletics Competition at Peterborough. The senior girls' team came third overall with Cpl Coston, Cpl Godfrey, Cdt Longland

and Cdt Heath winning the 4x100 metres relay. Junior Girls won medals in the discus and 800 metres whilst in the junior boys, Cdt Sloat gained a brace of silvers in the 100 and 200 metres. The squadron Commanding Officer was quoted as saying: "Well done all round, an excellent result for a young team. This bodes well for the future."

If you would like more information about joining 2523 Linton Squadron as a cadet or adult volunteer please contact Flt. Lt. G. Tennison email: oc.2523@aircadets.org.

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Linton Flower Festival

Transform a children's story into an arrangement

WITH the flower festival fast approaching we would like to remind you that this year's theme is *Children's Story Books*.

The floral arrangements can be viewed on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th July from 10am to 6pm, and on Sunday 5th July from 11.30am to 6pm.

Saturday 4th July

We will have the stalls placed conveniently behind the church selling plants, books, jewellery, cakes and bric-a-brac, along with the Friends of St Mary's stall and a bottle stall. There will also be musical interludes

throughout the day. In addition there will be a dummy bell tower where you can try your skill at bell ringing.

Sunday 5th July

10am Morning service led by our new rector, the Revd Canon Dr Maggie Guite

3pm Teddy Bear (or your favourite toy) Jumps from the church tower. Parachutes will be provided.

4pm A Teddy Bears' picnic with story telling and music in the churchyard glade.

5.30pm The Duck race on the river Granta with the finishing line at the Horn Lane



A past display

Picture supplied by Nanette Bridge.

All ducks are numbered so you can come and choose your duck anytime throughout the weekend.

Refreshments (hot and cold) will be served over the whole

weekend, so do come and join us, especially to partake in our cream teas on the Sunday afternoon.

To finalise the day, we will draw our Grand Raffle in the church pavilion at 6pm. The first prize is a large hamper, and there will be many other donated prizes.

If you require any further information, I can be contacted on 891111 or by email: nanette1@hotmail.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming you all to this important event in our church's year.

Nanette Blackmore

PLODDING ALONG

An update on police matters

BETWEEN 4pm on 28th April and 8am on 29th April a catalytic converter was stolen from a Mercedes Sprinter Van in a unit on The Grip, Hadstock road. Another premises on Cambridge road, had a metal container broken into and various hand and power tools were stolen. Enquiries are ongoing.

Previously at around 12.15pm on 25th April, a silver Grand Cherokee jeep with blacked out windows was seen acting suspiciously on The Grip Industrial Estate.

On Saturday 2nd April during the night a vehicle was parked on the highway in Horn Lane in the residential area. In the early hours a rowdy group was heard shouting followed by the sound of breaking glass.

Six vehicles were broken into at Bartlow on 3rd May whilst the annual walk was taking place. The vehicles had their rear windows smashed.

Please be reminded that if you are attending any events over the summer, do not leave anything valuable in the vehicle. It is thought that the offender(s) are parking up at these locations and then watching and waiting for people to leave the vehicles.

If anyone has any information regarding any of the above incidents, please let us know.

As always, please remain vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to the Police on 101, or 999 if something is happening there and then.

PCSOs Leanne Fisher and Chris Wiseman

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/0863/15/AD. Co-operative Food Store, **106 High Street.**

Reposition existing sign and two additional signs.

S/0977/15/FL. Mrs Donna Searle, **26 Balsham Road.**

Installation of external wall insulation front, left and rear of property.

S/1081/15/FL. Co-operative Group, **106 High Street.**

Installation of new condensing unit and replacement of two air conditioning units on flat roof to rear and colour variations to shop front.

S/1033/15/DC. Dr Raj, **Clock House, 2 High Street.**

Discharge of Condition 5 (Traffic Management Plan) of Planning Consent S/0226/14/FL for change of use from dwelling to Dental Practice.

S/1091/15/FL. Mr Stuart Belsom, **68 Finchams Close.**

Installation of two rooflight windows in the side facing roof slope of the approved two storey front extension.

Caring for our elderly

SYMONDS House is a focal point in Linton. I have recently joined the home as Care Home Manager and am very keen to involve more local people in the excellent activities that are taking place. The home cares for over 50 elderly people from Linton and the surrounding villages. There is also an excellent Day Centre facility. This is open three days a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and provides an opportunity for people to socialise, participate in a variety of activities and enjoy a delicious three course lunch.

A warm welcome is assured for all newcomers. If there are any people in the local area who would be interested in helping us with fundraising events to provide our residents with extra outings and entertainment we would be very grateful to hear from you.

Forthcoming activities for June include *Money Spinners* at 10.30am on Tuesday 9th June; a visiting clothing sales company combined with a coffee morning, and Friday 19th June is National Care Homes Day when the home will be open to visitors to see our services and enjoy refreshments.

Please contact our Activities Organiser, Shani Bradley, on 891237 or email manager@symondshouse.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Julie Cleland

Your paper needs you

WE have around 80 volunteers to help us edit, proofread and distribute the Linton News.

However, people retire, are ill or need a holiday so we are always on the lookout for those who can help spread the load.

We especially need more people to train as proofreaders, subeditors, contributors to the country diary and need more general help for our distribution, advertising, IT and production managers.

If you think you can help please email me on lneditor@linton.info or ring 891517

Helping on the paper is a good way of getting to know the village and what is going on.

Fran Armes, Editor

Have a go at rural activities

THE Horseheath Country Fair is at 10am on Sunday 5th July at Horseheath racecourse. This year the event will be in aid of the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

There will be a Family Dog Show open to all, equestrian events, East Anglian Hound Show, a competition clay shoot, a Terrier and Lurcher Show, gun dog scurry and a chance to try fly casting with an instructor on hand to guide you through the basics.

Refreshments from tea tent, beer tent, Pimms tent (alcohol from 12noon) and a hog roast, BBQ, cakes and ice cream.

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Parish Council Matters Chairman's annual report

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

THIS has been a difficult and complex year. There have been several contentious planning applications and changes in the way we work as a council. Many projects have been initiated and some older ones are now seeing progress. Enforced changes in staffing have added to the stress and workload.

We said farewell to two newer councillors - David Lissemore, who will be working abroad, and Keiran Wakley. We wish them well in their new roles in life. We now have vacancies for two councillors, and would appreciate volunteers. We need Linton parish council (LPC) to have a fair representation of all areas of the village and a range of interests and skills. Parish councillors are all volunteers with working, professional and family lives, so the burden needs to be spread more widely among those who have the interests of the village at heart. Thank you to all the councillors who have contributed so much to the council and the village.

We said goodbye to Colin Tofts who has unfortunately had to retire. Chris Filby has taken his place, with extended duties, and Linton is again looking tidy. Thank you both for all your good work. Susan Anderson stood down as tree warden after decades of hard, creative and excellent work. She remains on our tree team, with the new tree warden, Beatrice Ward and myself, so our tree works and planting schemes continue in good hands.

We have been without our clerk, Sue Parry, for almost a year, but she is now working with us again. I would like to thank the clerks of neighbouring villages who stood in, and Anne Meeks, admin assistant to the clerk, who diligently carried so much of the burden until we found a solution. We now have an excellent interim clerk, Marilyn Strand. I thank all the ladies for such impressive work in a difficult situation.

We also welcome Ian Blackman - our village handyperson, who has already completed much work on our behalf. This is another innovation; he is not employed but is the preferred contractor. This means we do not have to have three quotes for every minor matter and can actually achieve a lot with minimal delay.

In our working lives we have regular reviews of our working procedures and processes - and have carried this practice into most aspects of the parish council. The style of meetings is changing - we have more reports from working parties, which look at issues and potential improvements, then present solutions or proposals. This cuts down on time taken up in meetings, as those interested in the particular issue should be part of the group reporting back. We hope to make the meetings shorter and our work more effective and efficient. A major part of this is communicating with you on what we do. I would like to note that the LPC website is being

redesigned, and that we are now present on Facebook. Thanks are due to Cllr Miller.

We have begun to take action to improve flood defences, beginning with work that is about to start on the recreation ground, to protect the village centre and sports pavilion. We are working with the Environment Agency, South Cambridgeshire district council and knowledgeable residents on Pocket Park/Leadwell Meadows, to return the floodplain to its proper use - and a scheme to stop floodwater before it reaches the village. This might be costly, so we are storing funds for this.

Speaking of funds - the village precept has been reduced by 2.76%. By good financial management (thank you Cllr Potter and the finance committee) we also have funds to complete many long overdue repairs, renovations and improvements.

One overdue task includes confirming ownership and rights of access on Market Square. To define the parking rights and to protect a listed building, oak posts will soon appear. Meanwhile markets have again been held here - a popular addition to village activities.

There will be repairs and landscaping at the cemetery (with a memorial to WW1), we hope to have a community orchard (after consultation with residents), renovation of the area at Horn Lane Bridge and by the Swan Bridge (the new sub-station is much less visually intrusive). On the recreation ground, the under-used tarmac area might be converted to a Skateboard and BMX park, and (for the adults) we have plans for a 'Trim Trail'. The northern edge can be improved, probably to include seating areas.

Allotments have still not been secured. Negotiations continue with the owner, and following the will of the public meeting, compulsory purchase is being pursued.

We have a new lighting scheme, which was introduced with very limited time for decision and before we could have proper consultation. It was decided not to go for heritage lights in the conservation area because of their extremely high cost. However, problems of over or under-lighting continue - please refer concerns to Balfour Beatty and Cambridgeshire county council (CCC), including any safety issues you might have.

Traffic issues remain topical. We did not obtain funding for the remaining issues in the disability access and safety scheme, so we have decided to complete this ourselves - once we have input and advice from CCC highways. We are also actively seeking to remove excess street signs and Cllr Manley is making grand progress with the Speedwatch scheme. Parking and access issues at the Clockhouse, at the junction of the High Street and A1307, seem destined to cause lasting problems, despite the concerns

we raised.

The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan was submitted and is under review. This means that Linton is again vulnerable to planning applications beyond the village envelope, and we have already seen preparation for this (surveyors have been seen, and archaeology has already been done on some fields). We have new housing at The Rookery - the design being heavily amended following meetings with the parish council - which have addressed real village needs. We were not so successful with plans for Newdigate house, although we did achieve some changes. The plan for a minimarket at the Cambridge Van Centre site has been rejected mainly on highways issues, although we raised many more reasons for it to be rejected. The planning committee will continue to raise objections to developments that affect our boundaries, our conservation area, historic buildings, neighbouring houses, etc - and we will certainly oppose to the limits of our power any building that affects the flood plain.

It seems illogical that the very sensible South Cambridgeshire Local Plan should be under review, when the St Edmundsbury Local Plan has been approved, despite it being so manifestly unsustainable. Haverhill is not planning to improve its own infrastructure - access to the A14 to the north, and A120/M11 to the south - so is sending its traffic past the villages on the A1307, badly affecting us. As we know from the strategic housing land availability assessment results, improving the A1307 would leave us open to substantial and unsustainable development. Any new roads would have to be funded by extensive development in our area. Similarly, development at Saffron Walden is destined to send its traffic through Hadstock and the Grip onto our A1307. We are opposing any plans that threaten this. We should not have to take the pain for the expansion of other areas.

The parish council will work with anyone else who is willing to help in order to protect our village.

The City Deal will give some improvements in public transport, but we await news on exactly what is proposed - no doubt we will have comments on this.

The Neighbourhood Plan is now underway, led by Cllr Poulter. We are linked to Hildersham in this and the groundwork has been laid, including gaining professional help. We now need the input of the residents with all their views and range of skills. It is your plan and the content will be based on your decisions. This Neighbourhood Plan has legal status - it will give direction and force to the decisions the villages make on their future.

It is your neighbourhood, your village, and your voice counts. Thank you.

Cllr Enid Bald

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Linton Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton,
Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001

Clerk to the council - Mrs Sue Parry

Interim Clerk to the council - Mrs Marilyn Strand
Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com

Website: www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

Office open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and
Friday 9am - 12noon, closed on a Thursday.

Or by appointment

Dates for full council meetings:

18th June and 16th July 2015

All meetings held at the Cathodeon Centre
commencing at 7.30pm

Speed stickers for wheelie bins

SPEED stickers for wheelie bins - 20mph, 30mph or 40mph, depending on the speed limit for your road - have been purchased from South Cambridgeshire district council by the parish council.

Support for this initiative, which is also in conjunction with Cambridgeshire Constab-

ulary, would be appreciated. It is an extra weekly reminder to vehicle drivers of the speed limits throughout the village. The picture on the right shows a stickered wheelie bin in the High Street.

Stickers are available from the parish council office.

Parish council



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Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton parish council (LPC/PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 16th April 2015.

Present: Cllr Enid Bald (EB)(chairman); Cllr Simon Hill (SH); Cllr Brian Manley (BM); Cllr Graham Potter (GP); Cllr Jan Bumstead (JB); Cllr Beatrice Ward (Dr)(BW); Cllr Alison Walker (AW); Cllr Brian Cox (Dr)(BC); Cllr Nicola Miller (NM); Cllr Merrie Mannassi (MM). Clerk: Marilyn Strand. District councillor Henry Batchelor; District & county councillor Roger Hickford; One member of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Paul Poulter; Cllr Jacque Wilson; Cllr David Champion. Kate France has stepped down from her role as reporter to the local press. The chairman thanked her for reporting on the PC’s meetings over many years and wished her well for the future.

Councillors’ declarations of interest: SH declared a personal interest in the allotments item. EB and BW declared a non-pecuniary interest in correspondence item Caring for God’s Acre.

Councillor vacancies: There are currently two vacancies for councillors to be co-opted onto the PC.

Chairman’s comment: We welcome the new rector at St Mary’s Church, Mrs Maggie Guit. The chairman hopes to meet her soon.

The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is progressing well. The PC held a stall on the Easter Market and this had afforded the opportunity to talk with members of the public and hand out information on the NP process. It is expected that there will be more public consultation in the near future. Hildersham PC is holding a meeting the following week with its residents who have volunteered to get involved in the NP.

Open forum for public participation: Roger Hickford thanked the PC for its efforts to ensure that the gates to the recreation ground remained shut at all times and reported an improvement in this regard. The chairman said that the PC is looking into the possibility of installing new gates with a better locking system which should help further improve the situation.

Matters arising from 19th March meeting/clerk’s report: The finance committee has now considered the Magpas request for funding and concluded that there may be money available from the PC’s s137 allocation for 2015/16.

Under street lighting matters BM asked if there had been any response from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) regarding the possible upgrade of its street light on Dolphin Close and the clerk reported that no response had yet been received.

The clerk circulated a list (provided by Balfour Beatty) of streets in which lights should be dimmed overnight. Cllr Hickford stated that dimming of lights was already saving a great deal of money, and that the lights may in the future be turned off altogether between midnight and 6am. PCs would be consulted as to whether certain lights should remain on. This would be at cost to the PC.

Cllr Hickford had been contacted regarding some lights causing dazzle; the chairman was aware of this and asked that all problems be reported to Balfour Beatty, copying Cllr Hickford.

It is not yet certain when all of the new lights in the village will be fully operational or the old lights removed. Please email the clerk if you require contact details for Balfour Beatty.

Under the community orchard EB reported that weeds and brambles had been cleared from the area. EB and BW, together with Rob Mungovan (SCDC environment officer) and two local families, have now sown wild flowers on the site. The PC would like to continue working with SCDC to improve the area further, and public consultation will go ahead once council has more information on the next steps to be taken.

Under cemetery matters EB thanked BW for her work in progressing improvements at the cemetery.

EB asked councillors to bring any matters for the handyman to the attention of the clerk.

District and county councillors’ reports & business: Cllr Henry Batchelor had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. Cllr Batchelor drew attention to

the Community Chest grant which has been reopened and asked councillors to pass this information onto any community groups which might be interested.

Cllr Roger Hickford reported the following three items of interest to the meeting:

The Linton community warden scheme has been awarded funding. EB thanked them for this.

The public libraries consultation period has been extended by 10 days and now finishes on 10th May. Individuals are invited to respond and the PC may also do so if it wishes.

Linton village cricket club are planning to hold a fundraiser, Cowpat Day, on 28th June on the recreation ground and it is hoped that the PC will fully support this.

BM asked Cllr Hickford whether the house on Dolphin Close (which used to house the caretaker of Linton Heights junior school but has been empty for two years) is owned by Cambridgeshire county council (CCC). He said that this seemed a waste when there is such demand for housing in the village. Cllr Hickford will investigate and report back.

Cllr Hickford confirmed that he is not aware of any appeal taking place on the planning application at 20 Cambridge Road.

EB said that the PC has several highways projects which it would like to progress including parking issues, excess street furniture, safety & disability access scheme and white-lining, but that it needed the input of the highways department before being able to proceed with them. Cllr Hickford said that Nicola Burdon should be the PC’s first point of contact and a meeting with her should be arranged as soon as possible.

Social media policy and Facebook page: A draft Social Media Policy had been circulated to councillors for comment. NM proposed to accept the Social Media Policy and launch the PC’s Facebook page for a three-month trial period. This was seconded by JB. All agreed.

Website overhaul: It was agreed that a small working group would seek to obtain final tenders for the new website and bring accurate costs for this back to the PC for consideration. NM, GP, AW, PP and MM will serve on this group.

Recreation ground - flood amelioration works: It was proposed by JB that council goes back to one of the companies to ask for a more detailed quotation which would be on more level terms with the other two, and this was seconded by AW. All agreed (BM and GP abstained).

Trees: Following Hayden’s tree reports three quotations for their recommended works had been received. It was proposed by BC to accept the quotation from Atlas Tree Surgery Ltd for £5,370+VAT and this was seconded by BM. All agreed. The finance committee will consider which budget this will come out of at its next meeting.

Local handyman services: It was proposed by BM to accept the quotation from Local Handyman Services for £488 for work to the hedge between Rivey Lane and Paynes Meadow, and this was seconded by NM. All agreed (AW abstained).

The highway near the Lady Bridge at Horn Lane has partially collapsed and it was agreed to consult with CCC highways to decide on a way forward to repair it.

A report from BW on this area was circulated at the meeting. BW proposed to carry out the repairs as stated in the report and this was seconded by AW. Councillors voted nine in favour and one against and the proposal was carried.

Cllr Roger Hickford left the meeting.

Cemetery matters: (a) BC gave an explanation of the repair needed to the gate and MM offered to contact the Welding Institute for a list of companies that may be able to quote for the work.

(b) The clerk gave an update from Mrs Sue Parry (SP) on the use of cemetery software. Other local PCs had been contacted for their opinions on its use but only one PC is actually using it. Advice from Ian Dewar at CAPALC stated that this software should ideally be installed at the beginning of the financial year and should run in conjunction with the PC’s paper records for at least the first three months of use. It was agreed to seek the opinion of Mrs Anne Meeks (AM) as to whether the software would be

suitable for LPC and defer a decision until later in the year.

Traffic matters: It was agreed that a meeting of the traffic working group should be arranged as soon as possible to include Nicola Burdon at CCC and Chris Wiseman, Linton’s PCSO.

The clerk asked councillors to be mindful to reply to requests sent out for working group meeting availabilities even if they are unable to attend, or it is not an aspect of the PC’s work in which they wish to be involved.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP): PP had sent a report which was circulated at the meeting and this was noted.

SP had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted.

It was agreed to write to local landowners asking them to meet the PC for talks regarding land use etc. EB stated that the proportion of Hildersham residents willing to get involved in the NP process was currently considerably higher than Linton.

Update on allotments: SH explained the business plan put forward by Linton allotment association and councillors briefly discussed its details. A meeting of the allotments working group will be called to discuss the business plan in more detail in order to consider the next step forward.

AW left the meeting.

Parish council matters pages (Linton News): The next month’s article will be the chairman’s report for the annual parish meeting. It was agreed to ask AM for a report on how the PC matters pages are working and whether there are any problems in putting them together.

Consideration of correspondence received: (a) Mrs Cox regarding the Swan Bridge open noticeboard. With the addition that items should not exceed A4 portrait size, it was proposed by BM to accept Mrs Cox’s offer to look after the noticeboard and this was seconded by NM. All agreed (BC abstained).

(b) Caring for God’s Acre regarding a Beautiful Burial Ground conference on 10th June. It was proposed by BM that Cllrs Enid Bald and Beatrice Ward should attend at a total cost of £30 and this was seconded by NM. All agreed (EB & BW abstained).

(c) CCC request for library Summer Reading Challenge funding. It was proposed by NM to give the same as last time (figure not available at the meeting) and this was seconded by MM. All agreed (GP abstained). The finance committee will investigate the amount given last time and report back to the PC at its next meeting.

(d) Zurich regarding their play equipment inspection in March 2015. It was agreed that all necessary work should be carried out and this will be progressed by the clerk in conjunction with the venture playground working group.

(e) Cam Valley Forum notice of annual membership renewal. It was proposed by MM to renew membership to this organisation at a cost of £10 and this was seconded by BC. All agreed.

(f) CAPALC regarding clerk’s CiLCA training and councillors’ training. It was proposed by MM to allow the interim clerk to begin this training, whilst she is working for LPC, at a total cost of £420 and this was seconded by JB. All agreed. Councillors will check to see if there are any courses they wish to undertake and report to the clerk to be tabled on a future agenda.

(g) Mr J Taylor regarding CCTV and a shop watch scheme. Mr Taylor’s comments were noted.

(h) Bidwells regarding Bartlow Road fields. Noted.

(i) Relate Cambridge request for funding. It was proposed by NM to give a donation of £250 from the PC’s s137 allocation and this was seconded by JB. All agreed.

(j) Hundred Houses regarding adoption of The Rookery. It was proposed by BC not to adopt the public open space at 9-15 Cambridge Road and this was seconded by GP. All agreed.

(k) Wicksteed regarding a weekly inspection of the cableway trolley. GP will continue to monitor the playground equipment each week, including the cableway trolley.

Matters for future consideration: Village hall (GP). BMX track/trim trail (BM).

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

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