Friends of St Mary's coffee morning 10.30 - noon on 2nd January in the víllage hall see p2

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



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Monday 4th January

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

Established 1987

A Happy New Year to all our readers S' Could you help the Helping Hands 2016

Aztecs have a new girls' football team



The girls' Under 13s showing off their new strip Photo supplied by John O'Brian

T was during the summer that we realised there was enough Linterest to form a new team to play regularly in a girls' football league. The humble beginnings came from Lynette Blackmore and Malcolm Peters (Chairman of Linton Aztecs). So thank you both for getting the team up and running. Without your help we would not be in the position we are now.

The girls' first game was at home to Burwell Tigers. They were nervous but excited and, although they lost, our team scored a great goal. I did not take over from Lynette until 14th November as Lynette is running the under 9 girls' team. So on that day we played Cambridge City who are at the top of the league. The girls played magnificently even though they lost. They gave me total commitment and, as a manager, I was very impressed with all of them.

I am fortunate enough to have Paul England as the head coach. He's very knowledgeable on tactics, and together we have made the team stronger and fitter.

It may be their first season but we have a great bunch of girls, playing exciting football and they are clearly enjoying themselves. I have said to them on many occasions that we are building up to be an awesome side. Watch out for next year.

Finally, I would like to say a big thanks to Suzi Smith and Sharon Hamilton from Cheffins for sponsoring us with lovely new kit. We are extremely grateful to them. For more details contact me on 07917 093127 or jaob@mrc-lmb. cam.ac.uk

John O'Brien, Manager of U13 Girls' team

Not a record but a lot of fun



Trying for the record – view from the stage Picture by David Donnan

DISAPPOINTINGLY Linton Youth Music didn't manage to beat the world record for the largest smartphone orchestra in

Linton News team? TO keep producing your paper we urgently need more help. So

can you help?

We deliver the paper free to all households and businesses in Linton. All the work is done on a voluntary basis. It is interesting, good fun and an excellent way to meet people.

To keep producing your paper we need more help in all areas. You need to have only a couple of hours free each month. It might not even be every month, it could be cover for illness and holidays. Maybe you could assist generally.

Briefly this is how the paper comes into being and at every step help is needed.

- Advertisers subsidise the printing of the paper.
- Our advertising manager gets the adverts in and prepares the advert layouts.
- Articles are sent in, usually by email and in Word, about what is going on at clubs or shops or other events.
- Sometimes we need to send a reporter to people to get their story. Sometimes we need a photo.
- Articles are emailed to editors and edited for grammar, spelling and style.
- The articles are loaded into a desktop publishing package on an Apple computer along with pictures.
- The technical manager takes care of the technical aspects of our Apple computers. He needs a deputy.
- The draft paper is proofread for grammar, spelling and layout and the corrections made.
- The final draft is given, in digital form, to the printer on the last Monday of each month. He prints the papers very promptly and they are delivered to the packing team between Wednesday and Friday of that week.
- The papers are packed in bundles for the 63 different delivery rounds, along with the details of the round. It takes one person about two hours each month.
- Packing is completed by Friday evening and the packs delivered by Saturday.
- Ideally the delivering would be done by a car driver and helper – petrol expenses are reimbursed.
- Home deliveries are usually made that weekend or early the following week.

We need help at all the stages from the first article to the final paper going through someone's door:

Please consider helping us. If you can help in any way, be it by reporting, taking photographs, technical, advertising, editing, packing, delivering, proofreading or just generally please contact the editor on lneditor@linton.info or 891517 Editor

Is your new year's resolution to exercise more?

LINTON folk are lucky that there are plenty of opportunities for exercising in or near Linton. We list just a few here.

You can go for one of the many walks round Linton as detailed in the book of Linton walks or do the Heritage trail walk from the book of that name.

Every third Sunday a group sets off at 11am from Church Lane to do a brisk walk with possibly a pub lunch. Contact Penny Bridge, 890784 or Mandy Jacob 892274

Wandlebury, just a few miles away, runs a healthy walk on Thursdays and Nordic walking on Wednesdays - see News in Brief on page 5.

YOU may have noticed in the last issue of the Linton News that Bruce Conochie has finally been able to retire as co-ordinator of our local Helping Hands. However the scheme is still up and running and we welcome new clients and new drivers in the Linton area. If you are in need of assistance getting to the surgery, the hospital, shopping, or any other appointment, and are unable to use the bus, please phone me and we will add you to our list of clients. Leave a message and I will return your call. You will then be sent the names of three drivers, and it will be up to you to phone one of them and arrange it directly. There is a charge for this service as follows:

Within Linton - £3 Haverhill Sainsbury's - £7 Saffron Walden - £8 Sawston -£8 Cambridge Station - £10 Brookfields, Brookside or Nuffield – $\pounds 10$

Abington - £4.50 Addenbrooks or Shelford - £9 Chesterton Hospital - £11

Spire Hospital, Impington - £16

If you know of anyone who might need this service but who may not read this paper or see the posters in the village, please phone me and I will contact the person.

Oriel O'Loughlin 891357 or 07932 405541

Coffee and Carols at the college



Senior citizens from Linton and elsewhere Picture supplied by Tony Kelly

ONCE again Mrs Jenny Pullin, head of food technology, supported Year 9 students in their Christmas community service project for the annual coffee morning at Linton Village College on 9th December. 140 people were invited to the college from the Linton catchment area, including a large contingent from Linton itself. Viceroy Coaches toured the villages to transport many of the guests, who were all welcomed by the Principal, Caroline Derbyshire, who also donated a bottle of champagne to the winner of the lucky number ticket - Eileen Ward from Nichols Court.

Tea and coffee were served by the students, who had made cakes, biscuits and mince pies for refreshments. Each guest received a Christmas cracker and an individual Christmas gift.

The students had organised different projects to raise funds for the event. There was a teachers' football match and a car wash which helped pay for some of the prizes in the enormous raffle. Other prizes were donated by families and the teachers.

The guests particularly enjoyed the musical entertainment when director of music Mr Chris Charlesworth conducted the school wind orchestra in a selection of Christmas music with guests joining in the carols. Mr Charlesworth also directed the senior choir. Assistant, Helen Jeckes, led the junior choir in a selection of different Christmas songs.

Judging by the happy hum of voices and cheerful greetings by the students, the morning was a great success.

December. We needed 234 people to participate and there were only around 60 of us.

Nevertheless, Linton children were involved in violin workshops and demonstrations in the afternoon and we all enjoyed a wonderful live looping concert by Steve Bingham that evening.

On the night, everyone with a smart phone/gadget had a lot of fun playing Jingle Bells together, and we are pretty confident we have broken the record for the largest Smartphone Orchestra in Cambridgeshire...and certainly (if there were one) for the largest in Linton.

Josephine Paterson for Emma Mason, 893582



Oh what fun! Linton residents playing Jingle Bells on their smart phones

Picture by Josephine Patterson

There are also several Pilates classes at the village hall, run by Body Design, contact number 07986 692334.

There are ballet and tap dancing classes in the village hall every Friday for children and tap for adults during term-time.

There are other clubs, such as indoor bowls, which advertise in the diary on page 3.

There are numerous sports clubs in the village - Linton Granta Football club www.lintongrantafc.co.uk and the Aztecs football club www.aztecsjfc.co.uk. Also the cricket club linton.village. cc@gmail.com, which is based on the recreation ground.

Alternatively you could take advantage of one of the many courses/clubs run at the Linton village College Leisure Centre. The facilities there range from the gym to floodlit tennis courts, an all-weather pitch and outdoor football pitches. There is the new yoga class that takes place there, this was detailed in last month's issue of the linton News. There are also tennis clubs there. For further details of clubs and classes at LVC leisure centre contact 890248 or www.lvc.org.

We have another gym in Linton – that of Triple J. You can contact them on 891164 or joe@triplejfitness.co.uk

Or if you fancy something different you can have Latin and ballroom dancing lessons at the Strictly Dance Studios, 07760 143901 or look at www.strictlydancecambridge.co.uk.

Or just look for our adverts for pampering or massage etc.

Too good for jumble...

A SMITHS Timeguard 24 hour times witch controller (as new) is now on offer as well as the child's blue Raleigh Magic bike, with 16in x 1.75in wheels, a black 19in Logik LCD TV model E19/13B with remote and instruction manual, a black 16in Ferguson LED TV with DVD, remote and instruction manual model F1604 LEVD, a chrome and black standard lamp with black shade, 5ft high and a revolving lightwood CD storage rack 13in x 13in x 13in.

Also available are a few black metal frame chairs/padded back and seats, the black glass TV unit in excellent condition 80cm long x 45cm wide x 53cm high with two shelves, a brand new large flat panel wall mount with tilt for plasma and LCD screen size between 37in and 61in, the Breville kitchen juicer, the set of golf clubs with a bag and balls, the TP trampoline, the materials and printer cartridges for 88XL HP Office Jet Pro series, a multipack for Epson TO487 Epson stylus photo printers and a pocket snooker table.

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.

Editor



IT wouldn't be Christmas the stars in Poland because without festive pupil performances. One of our Year 4s wrote:

"Yesterday, it was Year 4's Christmas play entitled Children of the World. The narrator told us that Gabriel and his angels had a very important job to do because they had to go and get children from different countries.

Altogether there were eight songs. They were: Gabriel calling, Alleluia, Little Star, Decorate the tree of light, Christmas Day on the Beach Boys, Come to the manger, Christmas candle, Kuyimba and Children of the world.

For each country that the angels visited there was a special, traditional dance. The featured countries were: Poland, China, Australia, Malawi. United States of America and Ireland.

Props were very important and helped us in our acting. Children from each of the countries gave gifts to Baby Jesus. Mrs Ashcroft, Mrs **Richardson and Mrs Rootes** made all the props apart from

Lily made those at home. The props for China were fantastic. The music monitors were Aline, Brendon and Ashton, who also did lighting.

Evervone's costumes were also great. I really liked all the angels' wings especially the feather wings. I really liked my glittery top which had hope written across it. All of the costumes were colourful and pretty and children (and parents) had spent a long time putting them together.

Even though Mr Waite wasn't at school during the day, the play went well. Mrs Webb said: "This play is brilliant." Mr Puxley said that our play was "outstanding" and Mrs Farr called it "fantastic". They also told us that lots of parents told her that our songs were really well sung.

In total we did two performances in the day and one in the evening. Everybody certainly slept well that night! Only 364 days until our Year Five play".

Year 4 student Linton Heights

It was lovely to see

A very big thank



Pfizer's Andy Atkinson with Year 8 students and John Taylor



Winners of the Dalehead Food Challenge

Come and celebrate with Friends of St Mary's

ON Saturday, 2nd January there will be the Friends' annual New Year Mince Pies and Savouries Coffee Morning from 10.30am to noon in the village hall, with a bring and buy stall and raffle. All are welcome.

Songs and Sonnets: An Evening of Poetry and Music with Malcolm Guite, will be the event at 7.30pm on Friday, 5th February in the church. Malcolm, the Rector's

husband, is a well-known and very entertaining speaker. The Friends staged a suc-

cessful quiz night in November and an enjoyable Christmastea, with festive food, at the beginning of December. These events raised about £500, which will be spent on repairs to St Mary's church deemed necessary by the architect's recent survey.

Margaret Cox 891231

Keep your family fire safe

HAPPY New Year. And why not make a New Year's resolution to help keep you and your family fire safe this year. Firefighters at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service are encouraging people to make three New Year's resolutions in 2016 – and stick to them.

- Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly
- Check that older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly.
- Make a fire plan so you and your family know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.
- To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check, call 0800 917 99 94.

NOVEMBER was a busy month with a host of special events. The Technology Department received a generous £800 donation from pharmaceutical company Pfizer, which enabled us to buy a new 3D printer. Andy Atkinson from Pfizer presented the cheque to John Taylor, Head of Design Technology plus Year 8 students Angharad and Oscar.

Successes for the College Enterprise Faculty

Year 9 students competed in the Dalehead Foods Challenge to create a Christmas stuffing for Waitrose. The winning team of Hattie, Ruby, Esther and Cameron are waiting to hear if their recipe will be chosen for production next year.

The Great Linton Bake Off returned on Friday 13th November, raising more than £200 for the BBC Children in Need appeal. Among the winners was Sirena. Well done to Mrs Landshoff and her team of judges.

LVC students Veronika and Shannon took on the challenge of creating a three-course meal in the Rotary Young Chef competition at Sawston Village College.

Congratulations to the Enterprise team and to everyone who took part in all of these events.





January 2016

Sirena and Bake Off Young cooks Veronika and Shannon winning cakes All pictures in this section supplied by Tony Kelly

Infant school looking for flight enthusiasts

HAPPY New Year to you all from Linton CE Infant School.

The last few weeks of the autumn term are always a hive of activity, more so than usual. I am writing this before the Christmas performance but I am sure that, as usual, the children dazzled and enchanted the adults with their singing and dancing as they performed Little Star's Story. With the added benefit of our new stage, the performances can't be anything less than spectacular. I can hear the rehearsals from my office and the singing is improving and getting louder daily.

The children were served a delicious Christmas lunch and then entertained by a pantomime, kindly organised by our PTFA. Even Father Christmas made time in his busy schedule to visit the children, bringing gifts for each class.

So, here we go into 2016, a new year and a new topic, which this term is Flight. Do you have an expertise or interest in this? Do you fly planes or helicopters; do you have racing pigeons or a collection of kites? If so, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office (891421).

The admissions window for children due to start with us in September 2016 closes on 15th January; any applications made after this date will not be processed until May 2016. Louise Clarke, Head Teacher





Granta playgroup says thanks

Santa and Master Hunter Picture by Roger Lapwood

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January 2016 **High spirits before** Christmas



Some of the members keen to try some of the English Distillery's products

Photograph by Roger Lapwood JOHN Walters from the English Spirit Distillery brought some seasonal cheer to the gardening club's Christmas meeting as he introduced the distillery he founded in Dullingham six years ago. Those watching the War on

Waste television series will be heartened to know that local over-quota sugar beet is being turned into vodka by John rather than being treated as waste.

After lots of scrubbing, 16 tonnes of sugar beet produce about 250 gallons of vodka, some of which goes on to become gin. The distillery is one of only three that produce gin in the country. Gin starts out as vodka but is then returned to the still with the botanicals that flavour it. This is the tricky part, as just like a good cup of tea can be ruined if it is stewed, so too can gin be ruined by spending too long with the ingredients intended to give it wonderful flavour.

John went on to describe some of his experiments with distilling carrots, to produce carrot brandy for a Danish carrot farmer. Apparently it tasted carroty in case you were wondering. However, the experiment when repeated with parsnips was a disaster; the juice disappeared back into the parsnips as soon as the pressure of the press was removed and the juice that they could extract oxidised virtually instantly. We are hence spared parsnip brandy this Christmas.

Ron Pitkin followed John's presentation with photographs of Kew Gardens. Ron had visited in the rhododendron season with magnificent results. The orchid and water lily houses were also showing off beautiful blooms. Thank you to Ron for sharing his trip with us.

On Tuesday 12th January it is quiz time with Wendy and Jim. We look forward to a fun evening to get our brains out of post-Christmas hibernation. All are welcome to join us at 7.30pm in the village hall

Kirsten Newble 892425, Igcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk



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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.

OUR THANKS

Dear Editor

THERE was a fantastic response to the Love in a Box Christmas appeal. Usually we send 60-70 boxes but this year we were able to send 214. We had boxes from the country churches as well as from St Mary's, a good number from the village, a big contribution from the Mormon Church in Cherry Hinton and over 100 from St Bedes in Cambridge.

Derek and I would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who took the time and trouble to contribute a box. I am sure that there were many smiling children and old people in Romania this year thanks to you.

Colleen Lockstone, Crosswavs



GRANTA Grapevine is a Talking Newspaper that has been providing an audio recording of the Linton News for the last 25 years. It is one of over 500 groups in the UK providing recorded news for 100,000 partially sighted listeners. The news items are a link to what is happening in the village for those who cannot read the newspaper for whatever reason. The recording also includes a magazine of mainly local features which is unique to the service.

In the last few years listeners have heard interviews with local professionals and business people such as a local councillor and a potter who has been in business for 50 years and tales from holidays in the UK and overseas ranging from St Petersburg to the Isle of Wight. The December edition included the news that the RNIB Talking Book service is now free of charge and ends with reminiscences of a childhood Christmas from one of the team.

The recording began in 1990 using cassette tape, and over the last few years has included the use of the computer USB memory stick and special players. This is now the preferred medium for Talking Newspapers and Talking Book services all over the UK. Some users still prefer the cassette but any new listeners will be provided with a USB stick and player if they don't already have one. The media are sent and returned free by Royal Mail for those who are registered partially sighted.

The recent AGM saw the introduction of a new logo signifying a change from the previous use of cassettes. Those present also heard that some of the team have been with the group for over 15 years, and our President Janet Conochie 25 years. Janet began helping the Elmbridge and Runnymede Talking Newspaper nearly 40 years ago. Next year these members will be presented with long-service certificates provided by the Talking Newspaper Federation.

If you know anyone who might like a copy of Granta Grapevine, get in touch with Roger Lapwood on 971797. If you would like to help us produce the recording, contact me on 893619 or for more information check our website www.grantagrapevine.org.uk. Mike Crofts

The 2016 Diary is now in the Post Office ALL village groups are asked to enter the date, time and venue of events in diary to avoid clashing dates.

If you don't enter the dates of your events you may not get your event in the diary. If you don't tell us when you cancel, people could be waiting in the dark and cold for an event that will not happen. Editor



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Family-centred care in Linton for aches and pains as a result of:

THE LINTON NEWS Next Publication 1st February 2016 **DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 11th January NEWS ITEMS Wednesday 13th January**

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

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

ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR

Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office Editor: Fran Armes email: 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	2
Chestnut baby/toddler group, 9.30-11.30am Mondays term time CC	2
Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilior	
Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)	
WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH	ſ
Linton Air Cadets Mon and Thurs7-9.30pm (07717801056) LVC	2
Scrabble Club, 10am-12noon alternate Tuesdays CF	
Linton Granta playgrp, 9am-12noon Monday-Friday LVC	2
Linton Granta Toddler grp, 9.30-11.30 Tuesdays term timeLVC	2
Linton Granta playgrp, 12.30-2.30pm Mon-Fri, NOT TuesLVC	2
Storytime, 2-2.30pm Tuesdays, term-time Library	
Granta Bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH	ſ
Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays VH	ſ
IT club-computer help, 7pm Tuesdays CC	2
Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays (893509) CC	2
Bellplate ringing, 7.45pm URC	
Tots in tow, 10-11.30am Wednesdays term time only VH	ſ
Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays URC	2
New Beginnings (with Baby Sensory), 1.15-2.45pm, Thursdays CC	2
Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays Library	/
Cricket club, 6-8pm Thursdays RG, LVC	2
Carpet bowls, 7.30pm Thursdays VH	
Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CF)
Stay and Play, Fridays 10am – 11.30am CC	2
St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm Fridays St Mary's	5
Bridge club, 7pm Fridays CC	2
For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890748	

For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

JANUARY 2016

2 Coffee morning Friends of St Mary's, 10.30am VH		
4 Camera Club, 7.15pm	CC	
5 WI, 7.30pm	VH	
6 Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)	
7 Linton Lunch Club, 12/12.30	Red Lion, Horseheath	
10 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon	URC	
11 Whist drive, 7.30pm	VH	
12 Bellplate ringing, 7.45pm	Green room, URC	
12 VIP group, 2pm	Chalklands	
12 Gardening club,7.30pm	$\mathbf{V}\mathbf{H}$	
13 Community Navigator, 10am -12nd		
15 Daylight readers, 10.30am	Library	
17 Walking group, 11am	Church Lane	
17 Messy Church, 2.30pm	St Mary's	
19 Historical Society, 7.30pm	VH	
19 Bellplate ringing, 7.45pm	Green room, URC	
20 Cambridge Hearing Help,9.30-12	HC	
20 Coffee morning, 10.30am	URC Hall	
21 Public forum for parents, 6pm	LVC	
21 Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm	CC	
25 Bookfest meeting, 8pm	Dog & Duck	
26 Bellplate ringing, 7.45pm	Green room, URC	
FEBRUARY 2016		
1 Camera Club, 7.15pm	CC	
2 WI, 7.30pm	VH	
3 Reading Group, 8pm	VH(upstairs)	
4 Linton Lunch Club, 12/12.30	Red Lion, Horseheath	
5 Songs and Sonnets, 7.30pm	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 villag	e college RG recre-	



Village College students in debate in Parliament

LINTON Village College students Sam Matthews and Arran Reedman took part on Wednesday 11th November in a Parliamentary Debating Competition at the House of **Commons organised by Lucy** Frazer, MP for South East Cambridgeshire.

Sam, 14, and Arran, 16, were selected for the final after competing in a preliminary debate at Linton. The other schools taking part were Bottisham Village College, Impington Village College, Soham Village College, Ely College and King's Ely.

The debate took place in the wood-panelled Lloyd George Room (Committee Room 15) of the House of Commons. Sam and Arran were speaking against the motion This house would decriminalise drugs.

Lucy Frazer MP praised the high standard of debate and said that the speeches were better than those of some of her colleagues in Parliament. She awarded the first



Sam addressing the debate Pictures supplied by Tony Kelly

interested in politics but see-

ing where the decisions which

affect our lives are taken

was really good. It also gave

me more confidence in my

debating skills. The best bit

was the tour of the House of

Commons chamber." Arran

Reedman added: "It was

fascinating to go inside the

Commons chamber and see

what I have only seen on TV.

It was much smaller than I

expected and there was a real

sense of history and tradition.

The debate was nerve-wrack-

ing but it was an enjoyable

experience to debate inside

the Commons with the eves

of great statesmen looking

Village College, said: "Ar-

ran and Sam did themselves

proud. They researched their

arguments well and were

confident in putting them

across in front of their peers.

The debate showed that

young people do care and

feel passionately about issues

that concern them. It was a

real highlight to be allowed

into the Commons chamber

where so many historic de-

bates have been held, from

the abolition of slavery to

Britain's entry into the Euro-

pean Union. Congratulations

to the winning team from

Bottisham Village College

and to all the students who

took part, and thank you to

Lucy Frazer MP for hosting

and adjudicating the debate.

We look forward to taking

contact Tony Kelly on 01223

For further information,

tonv.kellv@lvc.org

part again next year."

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down on us."

prize to Bottisham Village College but gave a special mention to Sam Matthews for his confident public speaking and intelligent use of questions. Afterwards she took the students for a private tour of the Commons chamber and showed them how MPs cast their vote.

Sam Matthews said: "It was a great experience which gave me a better idea of how the country is governed. A lot of young people are not



Arran, Lucy Frazer MP and Sam at the Houses of Parliament

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Glastonbury Thorn – what is it? properties with grand brick

facades hid penny-pinching

secrets and required steel inner

frames to ensure their futures.

On future visits to Saffron

Walden we will view the build-

7.30pm in Linton Village Hall,

Coles Lane, local speaker, the

Venerable Alan Clarkson, will

give a talk entitled *The Thorn*

and Presentiments about some

of the duties he undertook as

an archdeacon and his involve-

ment with the Glastonbury

Thorn. This was a legendary

tree in Somerset, which flow-

ered and fruited at the same

time. A small branch in flower,

from one of its descendants, is

sent to the Queen each Christ-

mas. Visitors and new members

Pat Faircloth, Programme

Secretary 893928

are very welcome

On Tuesday January 19th at

ings in a different light.

THE November meeting of the Historical Society started with a short presentation by Paul Poulter about the Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan. He encouraged people to participate actively in the consultations, to protect the natural and built environments of the area.

Mike Hibbs then described how his purchase of an old, unmodernised house in Saffron Walden led to a career change. Since qualifying as an architect, he has worked on many of the buildings around the historic centre of the town.

He spoke of the interesting finds, ranging from chamber tombs, cellar floors paved with stones from grander buildings, to a doll which resulted in a Bishop blessing a building before workmen would return. We also learnt that some of the

Adult education at LVC

OUR 10 week and five week courses cover a variety of interests ranging from arts and crafts to technology and health and fitness, with our 25 week language courses covering Spanish beginners and improvers.

A new addition to our programme is Computing for the over 50s. We also offer workshops as a great way of learning new skills in a day or two. These range fronm Sewing Bee and Floristry to Indian Head Massage and Tai Chi.

A full list of courses and workshops and enrolment forms can be found on our website www.lvccommunity.org.

For more details contact the |Community Business Office on 891233 ext 303 or email aduilt.education@lvc.org

Linton Adult Education Department

Sawston adult education

HERE at Sawston Village College we are very proud of the variety of courses that we have available for the local community.

Our Saturday Workshops start again on 23rd January; we are excited to offer Chocoholics, Family Pizza Making, Indian Street Food, Make-up for over 40s and Patchwork Techniques.

We would very much like to hear from you if there's something you can teach which you think might enthuse others. Also please get in touch if there is something you would like to learn which is not currently being provided.

If you have any enquiries or wish to make a booking please feel free to pop in at the Adult Education reception Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm during term. Alternatively telephone us on 712424 or email community@sawstonvc.org, or check out our website at www.sawstonadulted.org. Sawston Adult Education Department

Springfield House B&B 14/16 Horn Lane, Linton River views from bedrooms & guest lounge Tel: 01223 891383

January 2016 **2016 Bartlow Three Counties** charity walk

THE 2016 Bartlow Walk will be held on Sunday 1st May. The walk will support three charitable causes, sharing equally the net

funds raised. In 2016 these will be: Linton Health Centre Community Fund, Bartlow Church restoration and, as always, an Addenbrooke's cause - this time the Diabetes Team who have a great project which I look forward to describing in future bulletins as the walk approaches.

Walkers can select from several alternatives: the signature 13¹/₂ mile Three-Counties' Walk to the point that Cambridgeshire, Essex and Suffolk meet; the family-friendly 9-mile route that embodies much of the scenery but is a bit less taxing and a six-mile option that follows the 9-mile route but offers a bus home for those who cannot face those last three miles.

And finally the long-established and enduringly popular 1¹/₂ mile Nature Trail for the very young - and our senior citizens perhaps.

This year's big change: the walk will start and finish in the Bartlow Estates' farmyard on Ashdon Road, Bartlow. This will give us the opportunity to add an exciting farm open day to the event and, importantly, to offer our best guarantee of car park security to all participants.

The longer walks start between 10-11.30am and the junior nature trail anytime between 10.30-2pm There will be the usual hospitality en-route including an occasional loo.

There will be food and drink on offer in the paddock both before and after the walk and a real party atmosphere with activities for the kids, a bar for the adults and live music for all.

In subsequent articles we will add further details of our 2016 good causes and more about how to participate in the event.

Graham Howat, Walk Co-ordinator, 891732



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January 2016

LINTON COUNTRY MATTERS illustrated by Maureen Williams



POT POURRI 130

The Height of the teabag volume

A CERTAIN teabag consists of four equilateral triangles of each edge 6cm. If the teabag is filled half full, what is the height of the contents?

Solution to 129 – The maximum area

Area of polygon = 198.89 (to two decimal places).

Urania

Page 5

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mobility aids available.

IF YOU need help with mobility, or if you need some assistance at home, you are welcome to borrow items from the Red Cross in Cambridge.

We supply wheelchairs, rollators, three wheelers, zimmer frames, crutches, bathroom aids such as raised toilet seats and toilet frames, bath boards and shower stools. We also have perching stools, back rests, grabbers, urinals and things to help you to get your socks on after hip operations.

We are open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30am to 3pm and can be found at 511 Coldhams Lane, (the Cherry Hinton end behind Zeiss), Cambridge CB1 3JS. British Red Cross 868696

Hildersham news

IT'S Teatime Happy New Year, Hildersham village hall, at 3pm on Thursday 7^{th} January Note: There will be a new programme of Hildersham Lectures beginning this spring. Look out for:

- The London to Brighton Veteran Car Run: 50 years in the driving seat.
- History of the chair: bring a chair and learn it's story Ghost Stories by Candlelight

If you would like to know more please contact Cathy Myer on 892848 or email catherinemyer43@btinternet.com

Weekly walking events at Wandlebury

EVERY Thursday meet at the stable rooms for a weekly, healthy, sociable walk. Dates for January are 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th. Meet at 10am for a longer walk, 10.30am for a shorter walk. No need to pre-book but please arrive 10 minutes early to register the first time.

Further details can be obtained from bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 243830 extension 207 or visit www. cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

EVERY Wednesday from 6th January (but please ring ahead), Nordic Walking led by Wellbeing coach/Nordic walking instructor Oliver Gynn. Meet at 1pm for people with restricted mobility, 2pm for healthy lifestyle speed and 3pm for total beginners

Poles can be borrowed free of charge if required. Booking is essential – contact Oliver on 07947 835522 or email: info@ nordicwellbeing.co.uk



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It's a fungi old world WELL, as I write 2015 is nearly over and it's been a funny year. Spring came late and for most people the runner beans did not have a good year - except for Joan Swann who wrote in to say she had a runner bean plant 12ft tall climbing up her cherry tree. A late spring was followed by a hot, dry summer.

My lawn ended up a brown colour and my cosmos and bacopa plants hardly flowered all summer. Family and neighbours had a bumper crop of apples and much compôte and cider has been made. Farmers have also had a bumper crop of cereals. Daffodils have already started to flower in parts of nearby Suffolk and a neighbour has a Yucca plant coming into flower.

In the autumn temperatures dropped suddenly then became more mild and we had torrential rain. My cosmos and bacopa started flowering profusely and the conditions were ideal for the appearance of fungi.

When I lived up north I always used to go on fungi walks with the experts but although Wandlebury ran a fungi walk this year and the Essex Wildlife MWilliams Trust ran two, I have not managed to get on one since coming south. However experts from both

the Suffolk Naturalist Society and Wandlebury confirm it has been a good year for fungi

A mushroom or toadstool is only a small part of a much larger organism. Some fungus bodies can spread up to 15 miles across a woodland floor. Fungi come in endless colours and forms, some edible and delicious, some edible but not palatable and some

poisonous, all fascinating.

It is mostly advisable to look but not eat and to wash hands after handling fungi as there always seem to be varieties that look very similar but one is edible and the other poisonous, the difference only apparent under the microscope.

However I once went on a fungi foray with an expert, where we cooked the proceeds for lunch. We learnt that fungi grow-

ing on wood would be edible if not always palatable. Puffballs growing at the base of the tree were found to be delicious but the beefsteak fungus found in a crack at the base of the tree and which really looks like a beefsteak tastes - well, like wood.

Beech woods favour boletes (boletes have a cap with spongy texture not gills) including the very edible cep or penny bun known as boletus edulis. But be warned some boletes are poisonous.

We learnt to avoid amanitas with stalks having a bulbous base as they include some of the deadliest forms such as the aptly named death cap or amanita phalloides, the very beautiful destroying

angel or amanita virosa and the fairytale fly agaric or amanita muscaria which is red with white spots. Why this pretty mushroom is advertised to children in their story books is a mystery to me as it is hallucinogenic and mildly poisonous, although in some countries they do boil and eat it.

My New Year's resolution is to go on at least one fungi walk in 2016.

Fran Armes

It's official Symonds House is a good place to be

SYMONDS House is pleased to announce that, following a recent inspection by the Care Quality Commission, the home has been rated as Good. The directors and manager would like to thank everybody who has worked so hard to make Symonds House a fantastic place for our residents to live in. Please keep an eye open for forthcoming events and open days. Our door is always open for anyone who would like to join us on special occasions and events, or who would just like to visit to see the facilities that we offer.

Julie Cleland, Home Manager

PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

BETWEEN 26th and 27th November an unknown person went onto top of a garage roof in Rivey way and broke one of the asbestos roof panels.

Sometime between Friday 27th and Monday 30th November three outbuildings in Symonds Lane were broken into and tools and paint were stolen.

Between 30th November and 2nd December there was an attempted break in to a garage in Balsham Road. The offender snapped the lock but did not get any further.

Overnight on 4th December a property was broken into on Back Road. A purse containing cards and money, electrical items including IPads, HDMI cables, speakers and a television were stolen.

Also on 4th December, between midnight and 7am, a burglary took place in Back Road. Offender(s) entered via a rear door which has a cat-flap. A handbag and various electrical items were taken.

At approximately 8pm on Tuesday 8th December offender(s) forced entry into a van and stole various power tools.

PCSOs Chris Wiseman, Alice Tasker, Gary Kendall and Julie Hajredini, Sawston Police Station

The Crown Inn, Linton presents Monday Fish & Chips £5.95 Tuesday Rump Steak £8.95



From left to right: Julie Cleland, manager, along with staff Natalie Thake, Shani Bradley, and Joy Jeeveshanti.

Picture supplied by Julie Cleland

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January 2016



JANUARY marks a New Year and with it the tradition for fresh starts and resolutions. Those of us who are connected to schools are used to experiencing two of these a year: the formal start to the academic year in September, marked by crisp clothes and shiny, new stationery, as well as the beginning of a new calendar year in January.

This New Year holds particular significance for me as I start as Principal at Linton Village College and Executive Principal of the Chilford Hundred Education Trust. I have the privilege of leading a very special and successful school and a team of excellent staff and exceptional students across both LVC and The Meadow Primary School in Balsham.

During the interview process, and since being appointed to the role in September, many people have asked me about my leadership vision and what changes I want to bring about when in post. My answer has been a fairly simple one: to maintain what is great about the school and to create opportunities for the school and Trust to continue to grow and improve.

When starting as a new headteacher it is customary to instigate lots of changes; to quickly make your mark through bold, symbolic and often cosmetic gestures such as a new school logo, uniform, structure or rules. When taking over an underachieving school, changes such as these can help to rebrand and rejuvenate. However, I would rather prioritise colleagues' energies and expertise on the most fundamental aspect of school life: securing outstanding teaching, learning, achievement and care for all.

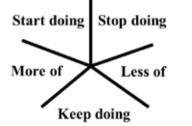
Having high expectations of all students and providing an inclusive, enriching and challenging curriculum and a supportive environment in which everyone can flourish and thrive is fundamental to my educational vision. I am keen to build on Caroline Derbyshire's legacy and the school's success and achievements to date with the core values of comprehensive, whole education at the heart of any changes that I initiate.

As with any New Year's resolutions, in order to make ambitions achievable and realised they need to be well considered and have buy in from those involved.

While taking the helm at Linton as an internal candidate gives me the advantage of knowing the school well, one of my priorities for my first two terms at the school is to listen: to take the opportunity to speak with the school community and to get a real sense of what all stakeholders value most about the school and what they would like to improve.

Over the coming months there will be formal opportunities for students, staff, parents and other members of the school community to voice their opinions about the school through consultation activities. The first public forum event for parents will take place at 6pm on Thursday 21st January at Linton Village College.

In addition to this I will be inviting members of the school community to meet with me personally: I will be holding weekly surgeries on Friday afternoons from 2-5pm. Please make an appointment with Elaine Clayton if you would like to speak with me (elaine.clayton@lvc.org). In addition, a parental survey will be issued this month to capture a wide range of opinion.



I would welcome any further correspondence from school stakeholders so please do get in touch with your experiences and views. The simple reflection tool above may assist with identifying specific aspects of school life that you wish to treasure and preserve and other aspects that you would like to draw attention to. Sometimes it is the smallest changes and tweaks to routines that can make the biggest impact, not necessarily the big, radical what is unnecessary or unhelpful.

tions in the future and by meeting more of you face to face.



The Way We Were by Garth Collard

Air Commodore Edward Maitland, local aerial pioneer EDWARD Maitland was born in Shudy

Camps Park, the son of a wealthy barrister. He went to Trinity College, Cambridge and joined the army to fight in the Boer War. By 1908 he was a convert to flight in balloons and flew 1,137 miles on a solo flight to Russia.

In the First World War he joined the Royal Flying Corps and initiated hot air balloon photograhic observation of German trench systems at the front. He also became an advocate of the use of parachutes and made the first ever jump from a moving balloon. As an Air Commodore, he commanded the small

Gamma airships and observation balloons at the 1912 army manoeuvres in East Anglia. He flew over Linton and Horseheath spotting the movement of troops and initiated the use of radio telephones to keep ground troops fully conversant with the aerial information.

From 1911 his interest turned to airships and he pioneered the building of British airships based on plans of the German Zeppelins. In the R32 he flew across the Atlantic where the American Navy registered their interest. They built two large airship hangers in New Jersey similar to those of Short Brothers at Cardington.

Australia, France and the USA all registered interest but the American specification was too demanding using Zeppelin construction methods. Maitland and Short Brothers experimented with lightweight steel for the airframe instead of heavy wood



Picture supplied by Tony Kelly

CHRISTMAS is a time for nostalgia so Linton Village College thought you would like this recently discovered photo of LVC in 1950. Perhaps you even recognise some of the people in the picture? Please let us and the college know if you do.





A Zeppelin in flight Picture supplied by Iona Pettit

and even heavier conventional steel. The new R38 airship had to be able to lift 83 tons, which was more than double the load for Zeppelins.

The British built the entirely new R38, which carried 60 tons of petrol in two tanks and was powered by six engines to give it a cruising speed of 60mph and a top speed of 70mph with a range of 3,000-4,000 miles. It navigated using radio to a ground base and carried a crew of 35-40 personnel. The Navy Flying Corps in America took over the project. Test runs in 1920 showed that the basic structure was too weak so the steel frame had to be strengthened. The

Americans insisted that all their specifications had to be met in trial runs. On the fourth of these on 23rd August 1921 there was a crew of 18 British and 16 Americans. The test flight was from Yorkshire across the Humber estuary to Norfolk and the airship passed the speed and fuel consumption requirements. Over the Humber estuary Maitland carried out zigzag flying to test the rudder. However, whilst making a third turn on full rudder, one of the lateral support beams snapped, hit a fuel tank and caused two loud explosions. The airship broke up in mid-air at around 6am on 24th August 1921. Its demise was witnessed by those on the ground and the severity of the explosion broke hundreds of windows in the city of Hull below. Miraculously five crew members and the pilot survived but Maitland and the rest of the crew were killed.

Years later the explosions in the R191 and the Hindenburg led to the abandonment of air ship production and the Cardington mooring hangers were abandoned.

Maitland became a national hero, largely forgotten in our local area.





Parish Council Matters Happy New Year - major planning application hearings delayed!

THE applications for major developments by the Diocese of Ely (Horseheath Road) and Pembroke College (Bartlow Road) will not now be determined by South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) until at least February. However, the smaller application at 1 Horseheath Road will still be decided in January. The reason for the delay is that SCDC planners are swamped with planning applications from landowners and developers submitting applications before the SCDC Local Plan (LP) is finalised. You may have read recently that SCDC now believe they are very close to meeting their government imposed target for new houses for the next 15 years from identified sites. If this is the case then major development applications outside existing settlement boundaries will stand very little chance of being approved. Of course, landowners are aware of this and hence the deluge of speculative applications for development on sites which have already been refused in the past.

This deluge is, it now appears, clogging up the system as SCDC planners are too overworked to deal with it - so a sort of poetic justice is at work. The delay means there is more time to prepare final submissions and also, hopefully, that both the SCDC LP and the Linton and Hildersham Neighbourhood Plan (L&HNP) will start to carry weight in deciding these applications. The latter was given a huge boost when over 40 residents braved a dark and damp night to attend a L&HNP consultation event on 12th December. The feedback is still being evaluated but it appears all of those who attended were supportive of the emerging L&HNP planning polices (developed by local residents) which favour smaller scale sustainable developments, especially those suited to local needs and existing infrastructure and which do not pose major risks for the natural environment, roads, drainage or our village way of life.



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

New Parish Clerk

MRS Marilyn Strand was appointed as our permanent Parish Clerk at the parish council meeting held on 10th December 2015, after covering the position as Interim Clerk for the last 18 months

Marilyn lives in Isleham and has two grown up children and two grandchildren. Prior to joining Linton parish council Marilyn spent two vears, with her husband, volunteering at a children's home in Thailand. Having

Marilyn at her desk

Picture by Anne Meeks dealt with many challenges already Marilyn is busy moving forward the ongoing village projects and is undertaking the Certificate in Local Council Administration training.

Parish council

Cllr Paul Poulter

Enjoying and improving our green spaces

of activity in and around our open spaces - the cemetery and churchvard, recreation ground and Leadwell Meadows.

The work on the recreation ground is to help ameliorate the effects of flooding - and by the look of the weather forecast, we could be due to have this tested. We have restored the river banks, created a sacrifice area and redug the drainage ditches. So, when the river floods, the water should remain away from the sports pavilion and housing, and help water to move past the village centre. The area has been seeded and another space has now been opened up for leisure use.

Similar work has also started on pocket park/Leadwell and overcrowded self-sown

YOU might have noticed a lot trees, scrub and brushwood, have been removed ready for the earth moving. Some wood from this might be available for sale, but much will be shredded to help restore footpaths and muddy areas creating better access for walkers. The pond will be redug and the drainage ditches restored. This will reestablish the area to its prime use as a floodplain, again helping to protect the village commercial centre and houses.

The area is surprisingly large, has abundant wildlife and is a major village asset. The improved drainage should help keep the paths accessible all year, the cutting of the open areas and future creation of more pathways should encourage more walkers, and make the Meadows. So far, several dead area more attractive for general recreation. The meadows will

look rather bleak until the work is complete, but will soon return to an area of natural beauty. The replacement of the boundary fences will define the area that the village owns, ensure we are not held responsible for highways trees, and add security for users and their companions.

I have taken considerable criticism for relaying the paths and roads in the cemetery, but these were crumbling, very uneven where tree roots had lifted the surface, and becoming dangerous - not for the occupants (this comment was noted!) but for the many who visit loved ones and use this green and rather beautiful area. The roads, in areas no longer used for burials, have been reduced to paths so allowing further areas for interment of ashes.

The large gates have been

unusable for some years, but have now been removed (many thanks to Merrie) ready for repair. The gates are listed and of historic interest and finding someone to repair them has been rather a problem - they are cast iron and brittle, so a specialist is needed, and these are hard to find!

The old pond (the space facing you as you come up Coles Lane) has been cleared, levelled and reseeded - another large area has been revealed, and is ready to be put to good use. Making a contemplative area is one suggestion (others would be welcomed), with planting and an art work to commemorate those buried without even their name; such is rural poverty. Again, drainage ditches have been redug here and on Rivey Lane, for management of rain/flood water coming from the Rivey (thanks for all the work, sensitively handled, Andy and Steven).

The churchyard, at the heart of the village, is another valuable space. The area is well tended by the Monday Club, and the improved kissing gate is now back in place, leading to Camping Close, now preserved for Linton as its vllage green. Over the years the walls have been repaired and rebuilt and this work is nearly complete. Since it took over responsibility for the maintenance of the area, the repair of the walls fell to the parish council. This took a lot of parish time to organise and to find a suitably skilled flint worker - and the cost to the village has been considerable.

As every space with potential is being used for infill housing, we must value and utilise our green and open spaces, and make the best use of them for the enjoyment of all the village.

Thanks go to Rob Mungovan (South Cambridgeshire district council environment consultant), Cllrs Ward, Cox and Manley, for their advice, ideas and hard work on these areas, to South Cambridgeshire district council for the grant and allocation of s106 money for Leadwell Meadows, and to Community Chest for the churchyard wall. The parish council tries to use your money to best advantage for the village, but our areas of responsibility are limited; the above are areas owned by the village and where we can really make a difference!

Cllr Enid Bald

Parish council office

Recreation ground working group - can you help? made immense improvements to the amenity.

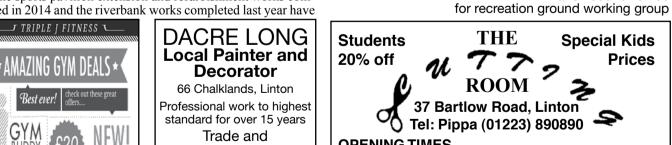
THE parish council is seeking volunteers to form a working group to look at improving all aspects of the recreation ground. This will include gates, footpaths, bowling green, containers, skate park and gym equipment area.

We will be contacting all the children's groups we are aware of, all four village schools and other village groups but please make contact with your thoughts and ideas. Many thanks to those of you who took the time to do so recently.



Our recreation ground is a wonderful village resource. Formal groups who use it include Linton Granta Football Club, Linton Village Cricket Club (juniors and seniors) and the Bowls Club. Lots of informal activities take place too and the play equipment already provided and maintained by the parish council is very well used.

The sports pavilion extension and refurbishment works completed in 2014 and the riverbank works completed last year have



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What could be added? What could be changed? How could

the accesses be improved? These are just some of the questions

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Page 8 January 2016 **Councilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutescouncilminutes**

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton parish council (LPC/ PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 15th October 2015.

Present: Cllr Mrs Enid Bald (chairman); Cllr Paul Poulter (vice-chair); Cllr Mrs Jan Bumstead; Cllr Simon Hill; Cllr Brian Manley; Cllr Graham Potter; Cllr Paul Richardson. Clerk: Marilyn Strand. District Cllr Henry Batchelor.

Apologies for absence: Apologies were accepted from: Cllrs David Champion: Dr Brian Cox: Merrie Mannassi: Nicola Miller: Amy Smith; Alison Walker; Beatrice Ward and district & county Cllr Roger Hickford.

Councillor vacancy: Mrs Jacque Wilson has tendered her resignation from the PC and the chairman thanked her for her contribution to the work of the PC over the last five years. Notification has been received from South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) that an election has not been requested by parishioners and that council may now advertise to co-opt a new member.

Councillors' declarations of interest: Cllr Hill declared a personal interest in the allotments item.

Chairman's comment: Ten of the largest pot holes in Symonds Lane have now been filled with tarmac. However, the lane is still in a very poor condition which is highlighted nicely by the new street lights recently installed.

Council Tax bills have been sent out and it is noted that both Cambridgeshire county council (CCC) and SCDC raised their precepts by 2% whilst LPC reduced theirs by 2.8%

Complaints have been heard that several cars have been broken into since a street light was removed in Tower View. Both CCC and SCDC need to reassess street light provision here and in other locations around the village.

Planning matters & consideration of minutes: Consideration of minutes of extraordinary planning committee meeting held on 10th September 2015. The minutes had not been approved by the planning committee as its meeting tonight had had to be cancelled. They will therefore be considered at the next meeting.

The chairman updated councillors on the PC's submission to SCDC regarding the proposed large developments at Horseheath and Bartlow Roads and thanked Corrie Newell for the splendid work she had done in putting these together. Councillors on the planning committee had also put a great deal of work into the submissions and the chairman thanked them for this.

District Cllr Henry Batchelor joined the meeting at 7:45pm.

Cllrs Bald and Poulter had attended the SCDC proposed changes to Scheme of Delegation consultation meeting and gave a brief report to councillors. The PC is concerned that the proposed changes will mean it loses its opportunity to comment on planning applications in the future. However, although SCDC is looking to reduce its current planning workload, it maintains that the proposed changes would mean it could spend more time considering larger or speculative applications which may not fit in with the Local Plan.

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

Cllr Hickford had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. Cllr Hickford was attending a City Deal meeting this evening.

Update on website: Cllr Poulter reported that the PC's new website had been launched the previous day (14th October) and had since received 1,366 views. The Facebook post advertising the launch had received 494 views and the Facebook page 'likes have increased by 22 to 272.

The website will be continually updated and suggestions for content include links to village clubs, community groups and amenities, the Heritage Trail and a more comprehensive set of pictures to showcase the High Street and shops. The chairman thanked Cllrs Miller and Poulter for their work to get the site up and running

Assets of Community Value: Cllr Richardson gave an explanation of Assets of Community Value (ACV), and provided a spreadsheet of properties in the village which might be nominated

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for this status. Further discussion will take place and the item brought back to a future meeting.

Update on recreation ground flood amelioration work: The work is now complete and has been approved by the Environment Agency. The Chairman thanked all those involved in taking this project through to completion.

Update on recreation ground future plans: Cllr Manley proposed to form a working group which would be tasked with looking into ideas for improving the recreation ground and its facilities including the gates, footpath, bowling green, containers, skate park and gym equipment area. Representatives from local children's groups, all four schools, and other village groups which may have an interest in which facilities might be provided, will be invited to be part of the group.

Update on Leadwell Meadows: Cllrs Bald and Cox had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted and discussed.

It was noted that the PC had done everything possible to obtain three quotations for these works but this had proved impossible due to the specialist nature of the work. It was proposed by Cllr Poulter to appoint AJ Prentice to carry out the PC's ground and flood works, and to accept their quotation of £36,324.17, and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Hill. All agreed. The finance committee had agreed at its meeting earlier in the day that it is possible to fund this using section 106 monies and the PC's reserves.

Update on the Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Poulter gave an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). NP working groups had met in September to look at the plan's policies and to make any necessary amendments. It is thought that the first public consultation will go ahead early in the new year. The PC is holding a meeting on 6th November to which representatives from other PC's, a member of the Community Affairs department and local MPs have been invited. Cllr Poulter will give a presentation on Neighbourhood Planning at the meeting. Cllr Bald thanked Cllr Poulter for the update and for his continued hard work in putting together the NP.

Update on allotments: A favourable soil analysis report has now been received and the PC would like to progress with its compulsory purchase order (CPO) on the land as soon as possible. An evidence pack is being collated by Cllr Richardson and Mrs Parry and this will be scrutinised by the Allotments working group before going forward to SCDC. Cllr Poulter reiterated that purchase of the land is subject to a Public Works Loan and that money for legal costs for the CPO had been set aside in the PC's budget. The chairman thanked Cllrs Richardson and Hill for their work on this project.

It was proposed by Cllr Richardson to procure the services of a consultant to assist in the preparation of the PC's CPO submission, up to a cost of £1,200 and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Manley. All agreed (two abstentions).

Local Handyman Services: It was proposed by Cllr Bumstead that the following repairs be carried out by the PC's handyman repair to churchyard gate; repair to Horn Lane bridge; overhanging shrubs in cemetery ahead of resurfacing; overhanging trees on Horseheath Road and Lonsdale. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Hill. All agreed.

Cemetery matters: Consideration of quotations for work on the old pond area & Rivey Lane ditch: It was noted that the PC had done everything possible to obtain three quotations for these works but this had proved impossible due to the specialist nature of the work. It was proposed by Cllr Hill to accept a quotation from AJ Prentice for £700 for the work on the ditch and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Bumstead. All agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr Poulter to accept a quotation from AJ Prentice for £1,910 for the work on the old pond area and the proposal was seconded by Cllr Bumstead. Councillors voted six in favour and one against and the proposal was carried.

It was also agreed that plans would be obtained for designs for the old pond area and ashes area up to a cost of £200; this would come from the cemetery budget.

A request from Ms M Draper to plant a small rose bush and

scatter ashes had been received: It was agreed that Ms Draper would be offered an ashes space in line with usual practice.

The Cemetery working group will meet to discuss and review cemetery fees.

Traffic matters: A report from the Traffic working group meeting held on 25th September had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. The PC has still had little response to its correspondence with Highways regarding various issues around the village; County Cllr Hickford has said that he will escalate this.

It was agreed to submit the PC's Local Highways Initiative application for safety gates and speed limit signs at the entrances to the village.

Cllrs Bald and Manley (LPC) and Cllr Kelly (Hildersham PC) had attended the A1307 Campaign launch at Culina. The group is lobbying to dual the road from Haverhill to Cambridge along the old Roman Road, LPC had not received an official invitation to the launch which should have come via County Cllr Hickford. SCDC had also not been invited. LPC has now alerted Lucy Frazer MP and SCDC, and both the PC and SCDC will be directly invited to future meetings to discuss the dualling. Cllr Poulter said that Cllr Bald had represented the PC very well and thanked her, and Cllr Manley, for attending.

Street furniture - benches for the elderly and less able: Cllrs Bald and Bumstead and Mrs B Griffiths will walk around the village to see where benches would be best placed and report this back to a future meeting.

Rights of Way improvement plan: Cllr Bumstead had sent a report which had been circulated before the meeting and this was noted. Cllr Bumstead highlighted the need to deliver greater access to the countryside to promote healthier lifestyles and said that this might be partly achieved by developing new circular walks and providing information boards showing maps of these. The Rights of Way working group and Dr Judy Rossiter will meet to discuss this further

Consideration of correspondence received: Essex County Council regarding Local Bus Service Network Review consultation September 2015 (closing date 21st October 2015). Councillors may respond individually to this consultation.

Zurich regarding play equipment inspection report: The clerk will arrange the necessary work as soon as possible.

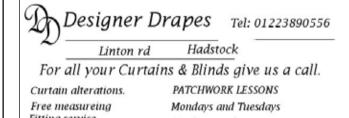
PKF Littlejohn regarding completion of limited assurance review for the year ended 31st March 2015. Noted.

Mr K Betts, Gt Wilsey PC regarding possible coalition of PCs in regard to development in Haverhill affecting the A1307. It was agreed that the PC would join a coalition and Cllrs Bald and Poulter will contact Mr Betts to discuss details of the PC's involvement

CCC pensions regarding invitation to Employers' Forum. 3rd November 2015. The clerk will be attending this training.

Wicksteed regarding playground inspection report. Noted. Note: Copies of the full minutes, reports and documents referred to above can be inspected at the parish council office.

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL The Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4JS Tel: 891001 **Clerk to the council** – Mrs Marilyn Strand Email: lintonpc@btconnect.com **Website:** www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/lintonpc Office open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am – 12noon, closed on a Thursday. *Or by appointment* Dates for full council meetings: 21st January and 18th February 2016 All meetings held at the Cathodeon Centre commencing at 7.30pm







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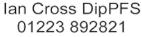
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