

Guides annual  
Jumble Sale in  
Linton Infant  
School hall Satur-  
day 25th March at  
2.30pm see page 5

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# THE LINTON NEWS

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

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## Village protests against plans for more houses on Back Road

THE meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February was convened by the Parish Council Planning Committee, chaired by councillor Paul Poulter with Planning officer councillor Enid Bald, to discuss the outline planning proposal S/0096/17/OL for 95 homes in the field off Back Road, extending from the BT building past The Woodlands, and to get residents' views on the matter. The planning proposal outline, given by the promoters Gladmans, was on display.

District Councillors Henry and John Batchelor were in attendance as was County Councillor Roger Hickford together with over 150 people making the hall full to overflowing.

Henry Batchelor stated that, because the South Cambridgeshire District Plan had been rejected by government and our Neighbourhood Plan was not in place, we could expect an increase in planning applications such as this and we would have great difficulty in refusing them.

Residents expressed concern over the unsuitability of Back Road to take more traffic due to its narrowness (it is not wide enough to allow two lorries to pass), its winding nature, its poor underlying construction, its designation as a safe cycle route (which it is not), lack of pavements and frequent use by the police as a diversion when the A1307 is blocked. It was suggested that it would be difficult to widen the road due to some verges being protected in view of the rare flora on them. The safety of children on the road was considered at risk due to there being no footpaths. Residents stated that there had been several near-misses with their children and three parked cars had been written off.

The housing in the plan appeared self-contained and far from, and not allowing easy access to, the centre of the village, thus either increasing parking in the centre or encouraging shopping outside the village.

The enclave was seen as likely to be attractive only to commuters as there are few business in Linton, many of them family businesses with little likelihood of extra jobs, this would increase the traffic problems of the A1307, the High Street, Back Road and Symonds Lane. Also of concern were extra traffic at the junctions

at Hildersham crossroads and the junctions with the A1307 at Hildersham and at Abington.

Residents were worried about effects of surface water drainage on the houses below Back Road – as the drainage solutions in the plan only considered drainage up to but not beyond Back Road. In the past there have been floods in the houses below back Road.

It was felt that the schools would be unable to take any more children as they already had a problem with intake and several Linton children have to be bussed out of Linton to other villages. Also of concern was the ability of the Health Centre to cope with more patients as there are only three whole time equivalent doctors and waiting times to get an appointment with your own doctor could be up to six weeks.

It was considered that, although including so-called affordable housing, first time buyers would not be able to afford them and young people of the village would be forced to leave.

It was pointed out by one resident that although the outline plan included 95 houses, this constituted 15 houses per hectare. Government guidelines allow 30 houses per hectare so there could be up to 190 houses on the site. As the development would be on higher ground, sounds from the A1307 would be heard.

The character of the village would no longer be an historic one in a conservation area.

Having discussed the matter the Planning meeting went ahead. The audience was asked if they would support the proposed plan or not and unanimously voted against it. After considering the matter the Planning Committee decided to oppose the planning application and asked as many residents as possible to comment on the application online or by post.

To comment on an application either go to the Council website [www.scams.gov.uk](http://www.scams.gov.uk) and follow the planning links or write to Karen Pell-Coggins, Planning Department South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA. In either case please send a copy to the Parish Council.

Reported by Fran Armes

## Do you remember up to 80 years ago?

LINTON Village College has been proudly educating students and serving our community for nearly 80 years. The school first opened its doors in September 1937 and since then generations of students have grown up through the college. Thousands of young people have gained essential skills and qualifications as well as forming lifelong friendships and memories during their time at LVC.



Next autumn the college will hold a celebration, LVC80, commemorating this landmark anniversary. Students and staff from across the decades will be warmly invited back to school to remember good times and to admire the school today, with a chance to tour the new buildings and facilities.

We hope to display photos, stories and memorabilia from 80 years of school life at LVC. Can you help? We'd love to hear from you as soon as possible so we can start preparing.

LVC also wants to celebrate its service to the wider Linton community. Henry Morris, who founded Cambridgeshire's village college system, aimed to extend opportunities to all by providing lifelong learning and community-use facilities. We'd love everyone who uses the college – for playgroup, continuing education or community activities – to come and show what you offer, in a community fair at our event. We hope it will be a great opportunity for you to sign up new participants and volunteers.

LVC80 will be an exciting event for all, young and old. Save the date, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017, and please follow us on Facebook: LVC80.

If you have LVC memories to share, or would like to get involved with the event, please contact: [lvc80info@gmail.com](mailto:lvc80info@gmail.com)  
Anna McMahon 892525

## Do you remember up to 30 years ago?

NEXT month the Linton News will celebrate 30 years of production.

Do you have memories or photos of businesses on the High Street that go back 10 to 30 years ago and are not there now?

Do you know anyone who was involved in the Linton News at that time?

If the answer is yes to any of these please get in touch.

Fran Armes, [lneditor@linton.info](mailto:lneditor@linton.info), 891517

## Come and Sing

THE next Come and Sing will be on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March at St Mary's Church and will be Stainer's Crucifixion. If you would like to sing, please contact David Parry-Smith to register. If you have never sung the work before, don't worry, we will learn it on the day. The Come and Sing rehearsal is from 2.30pm with tea at 5pm. There will be a performance at 6pm. The cost for singers is £5. Music copies will be available on the day if required. There is no cost for the audience, but there will be a retiring collection. The event is to raise funds for the Archdeaconry of Cambridge Church Music Society

David Parry-Smith, 894715 or [david@parry-smith.co.uk](mailto:david@parry-smith.co.uk).

Editor's Note: The Come and Sing is an event open to all. See the January issue of the Linton News

## Linton Post Office to stay

But it will move to the High Street – for more details see Page 5 Editor

## Too good for jumble...

NEW this month are a large metal preserving pan with jellybag and an almost new Easiyo 1Kg yogurt maker with instructions for making yogurts and recipes for use in ice cream.

The two computer desks are still available. One is a commercial desk 70cm high x 170cm at the wide end and 80 cm at the narrow end. The other desk is 80cm wide x 40cm deep on castors. Also still available are the white wood bathroom cabinet with double mirrored doors and two shelves (27in high x 22in wide x 10in deep), the Pro Classic 300 exercise machine in good condition, the Writers Bureau Course in ten sections with a punctuation and spelling guide and a quantity of oak and white wooden Spur shelving 1m or 80cm x 2.5cm.

To buy any of the above or if you have an item to profit a charity, please contact Kate France on 891602 or email [kfrance@profsoundconsult.com](mailto:kfrance@profsoundconsult.com). NB: The donor chooses the charity to receive the money.

## Linton couple, victims of fraud

PAUL and Nikki Turner, of Bakers Lane, uncovered a £1 billion fraud at HBOS Reading when they took out a business loan in 2003 to fund their music business, Zenith Cafe, which they started in 2000. Nikki, a former singer, and Paul, who had a lighting and production company, married in 1990 and moved to Linton in 1996. As their business grew they needed to expand and approached HBOS for a loan of £450,000 but within a short time their savings were plundered and they were left with nothing.



Survivors Paul and Nikki  
Picture by Sarah Hurcum

Lynden Scourfield, a senior banker at HBOS, forced customers to use a turnaround consultancy firm, Quayside Corporate Services (QCS) and then took control of their businesses, emptied their accounts and authorised huge loans, which they could never hope to repay.

The Turners found themselves caught up in a web of excessive payments, unfulfilled promises and a spiralling overdraft.

In January 2006 they finally decided to get QCS out of their business but their bank manager, Lynden Scourfield, continued to pay QCS from the Turners' account until December 2006.

In March 2007 Scourfield was suspended from the bank and later dismissed for gross misconduct but the bank decided to cover up the fraud, blame the customers and close the businesses down. In mid 2007 Paul and Nikki started to investigate what really happened at HBOS Reading. They very quickly identified many other victims of the fraud and over the following years they amassed over 100,000 documents evidencing the fraud. Unfortunately both HBOS and Lloyds Banking Group have repeatedly denied the fraud. Between January 2007 and August 2010 the banks tried to evict the Turners 22 times.

Last week, Scourfield and five other men were convicted at Southwark Crown Court of defrauding customers out of £245 million and now face lengthy terms of imprisonment.

As a consequence of their experience Nikki founded SME Alliance (SME = small and medium enterprises), an organisation that supports small businesses and lobbies in Parliament, and Paul has assisted many victims to remain in their homes.

However, according to Paul, this is just the tip of an immense iceberg. Watch this space.

Sarah Hurcum

## An invitation to all our voluntary groups, clubs and societies

THE gardening club is organising an introduction day for all volunteer-run clubs, groups and societies in the village who would like to attract more members and/or volunteers.

Each club will be able to bring club details, programmes etc, and be represented by a few of their members at the village hall on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 10am to 2pm. The hall will be open from 9am to allow clubs to set up.

All the gardening club asks is that each club contributes £5 in order to participate, as this will cover their share of the village hall fees and allow us to be able to offer free tea/coffee and a biscuit to members of the public who attend. Please let the gardening club know if your club wishes to attend by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to enable us to co-ordinate and publicise the event.

If you have already heard from us and have not yet replied, could you please do so as we need to know numbers.

For more information or to check if you are eligible to join us please contact:

Jim Forrest on [lgcsecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:lgcsecretary@yahoo.com)

## Cellophony returns

LINTON Music Society has great pleasure in welcoming back to Linton the astounding group of eight cellists Cellophony. Their all-English programme features Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis* and Richard Birchall's brand new narrated version of *The Wind in the Willows* with the young actor Neil Henry.



Eight cellists to delight

Picture supplied by Linda Bird

We guarantee that Cellophony will make the rafters of Linton Village College ring with their unique sound. Hear them at Linton Village College at 7.30pm on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March.

Tickets cost £12 for an adult, £10 for concessions, £2 for a student under 18 and £25 for a family of two adults and two children and are available on the door or in advance from Sweet Talk News. Telephone 893480.

Linda Bird

# Safer internet day

SAFER Internet Day was celebrated globally on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. At Linton Heights we believe being safe online is one of the most important things we can teach our pupils. Many of our pupils already use a wide range of websites and apps for home learning, to play games and to communicate with their friends. As technology continues to develop, it will inevitably be a huge part of their adult lives as well.

Our eSafety curriculum is tailored to fit the needs of our children and includes the opportunity to explore the difference between online friends and friends from real life, how to create a strong password and keep it safe and about reporting anything that makes them feel uncomfortable to an adult.

We also enjoyed hosting an eSafety evening for parents from both the Infant and Junior schools on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This allowed the important messages taught at school to be reinforced at home.

For more information about staying safe online for children and adults visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Caroline Webb, Computing Subject Leader and Deputy Headteacher



# Open days at Chestnut

CHESTNUT Playgroup has decided to change the way we do open days from this year. Instead of having one day when prospective parents can drop in we are offering one day per term where parents can book a visit to see the playgroup on a normal day. For this academic year these days will be Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

If you are interested in Chestnut Playgroup for your child we invite you to make a 30 minute appointment between 9.30 and 11am to come and meet our staff and see how much fun the children are having. You are very welcome to stay for a play after the official tour and

join in the fun activities with our current children. Please call our manager, Michelle, on 07817 069696 to book your appointment.

We understand these days may not be convenient for all parents so if you wish to visit another day please contact our administrator [admin@chestnutplaygroup.org.uk](mailto:admin@chestnutplaygroup.org.uk) 07342 900120.

The playgroup offers pre-school childcare for children age two years to school age, five days a week from 9am until 2.30pm. We accept early years funding for three year olds and eligible two year olds.

Wendy Hine on behalf of Chestnut Playgroup



# News from the Infant School



I AM writing this after a very successful Parent Event, which included a Bridge Building Challenge. Using newspaper and Sellotape, the children and parents were challenged to use their design skills to build a bridge strong enough to hold various weights. Trolls were made out of yogurt pots to hide under the bridges. One of my favourite designs included a boat and oar. When I asked the child why we needed a boat he said he knew the bridge wasn't very strong so people would need rescuing. Our topic of *Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?* has certainly sparked imagination.

As this goes to print World Book week should be in full swing and coincides with the official opening of our new library. We have lots of exciting events planned. A local published children's author visiting the school. A day dressed as our favourite book character and a bedtime story evening are happening during the week, as well as a special lunch menu based on book characters. The staff and kitchen team are working hard to encourage the children's love of books.

The governors are spending a day at school in March to really get an idea of how the school functions on a day-to-day basis, along with meeting the children and staff. They will be concentrating on various areas of the school development plan and a whole day will allow them to really focus.

We are currently collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers so please collect them for us. These vouchers really do make a difference to the equipment we are able to offer to the children. Kelly Harries, Head Teacher

## PLODDING ALONG An update on police matters

### A message from the Chief Inspector

I AM organising a spring community safety day at 9.30am – 12.30pm on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, at South Cambs District Council. This will be an opportunity for Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, Parish Councils or just concerned local residents to come and receive practical help and advice on a range of community safety issues – including:

- Speeding, parking and how to set up a Speed Watch Group.
- Neighbourhood Watch: how to run a successful scheme.
- Making the best use of social media.
- Protecting yourself and the vulnerable from scams, frauds and cyber crime.

The day will consist of workshops and information sessions on the above areas and it will be a great opportunity for you to meet senior officers from your local police, members of the community safety partnership, Neighbourhood Watch and County Council. Refreshments will be provided and most importantly – attendance is completely free.

I sincerely hope that every village and NHW scheme will be able to send a delegate. To reserve your place simply email me directly with your details:

[james.sutherland@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:james.sutherland@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

I AM aware from the email that I receive and from Neighbourhood Panel meetings, that parking is a constant concern in many villages.

I have set up an online web-page where you can report concerns about parking. The information that you give us will go directly to me and will help me build up a picture of the exact hot-spots for parking issues. I will then use this information on targeted crack-down days. The web page is live right now at <http://tinyurl.com/SouthCambs-Parking>

James Sutherland, Chief Inspector, South Cambridgeshire

### Local crimes

SOMETIME between the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> February, electric power tools and gardening equipment were stolen from a building site in Cambridge Road, Linton.

Please remain vigilant. If you see anything suspicious please call 101/999.

Take care and stay safe.

PCSO Chris Wiseman, Sawston police station

## Admiral Estate Agents



The Bowens are here to help locally

Photograph by Roger Lapwood

MERRYL and Geoff Bowen have lived in Linton for 17 years. For over 20 years they have run their family residential estate agent and property management business in Cambridge. Their services include lettings, property management, property maintenance, renovation and sales.

Until now they have had an office in Cambridge and an online service. They are now opening an office in Linton to offer a more local service.

The service is very flexible, for example you can visit them at their local office at any time, just call for an appointment. If necessary viewings can be done outside office hours.

They conduct all property viewings themselves (to meet prospective buyers and check out their position personally) and carry out detailed checks on prospective buyers' finances etc. They ensure that all the legal requirements of their customers are met for both sales and lettings.

Any problems with properties (eg burst pipes) are solved very quickly ensuring that owners can be confident in leaving their properties in Admiral's care.

They have a unique, password protected online registration for sellers and buyers. This allows prospective buyers and sellers to track offers in real time. Prospective buyers receive instant offer acknowledgement and there is the facility for negotiation until everyone is happy with the final offer.

Admiral supports the Emmaus charity, which works with the homeless. This dovetails nicely with their work as they often have furniture to dispose of for their clients which Emmaus can take.

For further information on selling or letting your property in Linton, please see Admiral's website: [www.admiralestates.co.uk/](http://www.admiralestates.co.uk/) linton or call Admiral on 891227 for an appointment.

Fran Armes

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**Call: 01223 891145** for an appointment or free assessment  
**Email:** [enquiries@lintonhealth.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@lintonhealth.co.uk)

## Readers write...

Post and email addresses and deadline for letters 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.*

### Reply to Another accident on the A1307

Dear Editor,  
May I comment on the letter in the February issue on the A1307 road and your comment: "It may be prudent to wait until we know the cause of the accident".

I am a retired Senior Police Officer. One of my less than pleasant tasks was to investigate traffic accidents resulting in a death. These are usually referred to as Fatal Accidents. When dealing with these accidents it is most important not to jump to a hasty conclusion. They must be fully and carefully investigated to find out the cause.

In my experience, fatal accidents are caused by  
(a) Dangerous, reckless or careless driving, speed, overtaking etc

(b) Drink and/or drugs

(c) Poor conditions, ice, fog etc

(d) Mistakes and lack of attention by pedestrians.

I never found that a road was the cause of an accident.

From what I know of the accidents in the last years on the A1307 most were caused by bad driving, some by drivers who had too much to drink, some by pedestrians walking on the highway and in two very sad cases of persons trying to cross the road from behind stationary buses.

All fatal accidents are a tragedy for the family and relatives concerned. It is also far from pleasant for the Police Officer concerned dealing with the accident, the relatives and its after effects.

It was interesting that in the same edition of the Linton News there was a letter complaining about parking on the yellow lines in the village. They are there for a purpose. It is also noticeable that very few drivers observe the 20mph speed limit in the High Street.

I regret to say that in most cases people rather than roads cause accidents.

Brian Wingfield [brian@wingfield.org.uk](mailto:brian@wingfield.org.uk)

### Help wanted

Dear Editor

Does anyone locally service electric lawnmowers? If so please would you ring 891602.



## Vegetable Varieties Today

MIKE DAY gave a very interesting illustrated talk on *Vegetable Varieties Today* at the Garden Club's February meeting.

Carrots come in many sizes from long, narrow, baby and round, to those grown to fit supermarket bags, all in delightful colours. Many are now resistant to carrot fly and other pests. Broccoli is very popular for its health-giving properties and is very rich in nutrients. Onions range from small spring onions to giant ones grown for the largest vegetable contests at shows.

The lovely bronze colour of the onion skin is achieved by longer storage. Leeks thrive in winter and are very versatile for cooking. They are also grown for show and can be a very competitive activity.

Cut-and-come-again salad plants can be grown in almost any container and are very useful. Chinese vegetables are very easy to grow. These include Pak Choi, Chinese Radish and Stem Lettuce the long stem of which can be sliced like cucumber.

Great fun can be had from growing some of the many varieties of squash with so many lovely colours and uses. The growing habit of squash could mean you have them climbing everywhere but the more the merrier.

The annual show this year will be held on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July. Schedules will be available in May. The four photography classes this year are: *Eyes, One or More Creepy Crawlies, Flower or Flowers and Night Time.* A maximum of three photos per class is allowed.

At our meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of March we will welcome Peter Jackson who will talk about Annuals. Do join us at 7.30pm in the village hall. Visitors welcome.

Anita Daws, 892113 or [lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lgcsecretary@yahoo.co.uk)

## William Morris, a renaissance man

OUR speaker, Fiona Rose, told of the great man's many talents which included designer poet, painter, environmentalist, philanthropist and political activist.

William Morris was born in 1834 into a wealthy family and developed the three main loves of his life as a child, flora and fauna, rivers and the medieval period which influenced his later work.

At Oxford University he met Edward Burne-Jones, who became a lifelong friend and he abandoned his plan to become a clergyman. Daniel Rossetti became their mentor. All three set up in business together and Morris designed the furnishings for their rooms in the medieval style.

His first home after marrying was at Walthamstow (now the Walthamstow gallery). It was designed with gothic arches, the gallery is open to the public.

His first textiles were launched at the 1862 International Exhibition and were hugely successful. He was commissioned to design the Green Room at the Victoria and Albert museum. His famous Willow Tree design was inspired by the garden at Kelm-scott manor where he moved in 1871 and which is now owned by the National Trust.

Aged 50 he became a committed socialist for the rest of his life and also set up the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. He founded a printing press using hand-made paper and binding books by hand.

William died in 1896 and is buried in the churchyard in Kelm-scott village.

At our next meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March Judy Anderson will speak on the remarkable story of Great Ormond Street. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Sally Proberts, 891021

**THE LINTON NEWS** Next Publication 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017  
**DEADLINES for ADVERTS Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March NEWS**  
**ITEMS Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**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](mailto:adds@linton.info)

**ITEMS FOR THE EDITOR**  
**Can be put in the Linton News Box in the Post Office**  
 Editor: Fran Armes email: [ineditor@linton.info](mailto:ineditor@linton.info)  
 phone 891517

**For distribution queries contact: Caroline Mulley**  
**07767 317709 or email [carolinemulley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carolinemulley@yahoo.co.uk)**

### 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](mailto:diary@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

Little stars SEN group, alternate Mondays 1.15-2.45pm CC  
 Netball, Monday evenings, 6.30pm junior, 7.30pm adult LVC  
 Linton Granta football bingo, 7pm Mondays Pavilion  
 Men's keep fit, 8-9.30pm Mondays LVC sports centre  
 Linton theatre workshop, Mondays (call Joe 01440 703701)  
 WEA, Tuesdays, 10am term-time VH  
 Linton Air Cadets Mon and Thurs 7-9.30pm (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 time LVC  
 Linton Granta playgrp, 12.30-2.30pm Mon-Fri, NOT Tues LVC  
 Storytime, 2-2.30pm Tuesdays, term-time Library  
 Granta Bridge club, 2pm Tuesdays VH  
 Granta duplicate bridge club, 2-4pm Tuesdays VH  
 IT club-computer help, 7pm Tuesdays CC  
 Linton chess club, 7.30pm Tuesdays CC  
 Belleplate ringing, 7.45-9pm, Tuesdays (971057) URC  
 Tots in tow, 9.30-11am, Wednesdays term time only VH  
 Jelly Beans playgroup, 9-11.30am Thursdays URC  
 Doodle Dots under 25s, Thursdays 10-11.30am, CC  
 New Beginnings (with Baby Sensory), 1.15-2.45pm, Thursdays CC  
 Computer buddies, 2-4pm, Thursdays Library  
 Cricket club, 6-8pm, Thursdays RG, LVC  
 Carpet bowls, 7.30pm, Thursdays VH  
 Parents, carers and tots Mocha house, 9.15-10am Fridays CP  
 Stay and Play, Fridays 10am - 11.30am CC  
 St Mary's church choir, 7-8.30pm, Fridays CC  
 St Mary's Bridgeclub, 7pm, Fridays CC  
 For sports centre courses please call LVC sports centre on 890248

#### MARCH 2017

**3 Friends of LVC Quiz, 7.30pm** LVC  
 4 Farmers' Market, 9am - 12 noon VH  
 4 Tot's Praise, 3pm St Mary's  
 6 Camera Club, 7pm VH  
 7 **WI, 7.30pm** VH  
 8 Community navigator, 10am to 12noon HC  
 9 **ACEs lunch and speaker, 12noon** CP  
 12 Lighthouse, 10.15-12noon URC  
 13 Whist Drive, 7.30pm VH  
 14 VIP group, 2pm Chalklands  
 14 **Gardening club, 7.30pm** VH  
 15 Cambs Hearing Help, 9.30am to 12noon HC  
 15 **EngAGE 2-3.30pm** Library  
 16 Linton Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm CC  
 17 Daylight readers, 10.30am Library  
 19 Walking group, 11am Church Lane  
 19 Messy Church, 2.30pm St Mary's  
 21 **Historical Society, 7.30pm** VH  
 25 **Come and Sing, 2.30pm rehearsal 6pm perf.** St Mary's  
 25 **Linton Guides annual jumble sale, 2.30pm** LIS

#### APRIL 2017

1 Farmers' Market, 9am - 12noon VH  
 2 **Concert Flanders and Swan, 3pm** St Mary's  
 3 Camera Club, 7pm VH  
 4 **WI, 7.30pm** VH  
 5 Reading group, 8pm VH upstairs  
 6 Luncheon Club, 12 noon Old Red Lion  
 10 Whist Drive, 7.30pm VH  
 11 VIP Group, 2pm Chalklands

**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 Reformed church, VH village hall.  
**Library times:** Mon closed; Tue 10am-5pm; Wed 4pm-7pm; Thurs 2pm-5pm; Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm.

#### New Bin Collection Dates

Linton refuse collection: Mondays 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March  
 Linton blue and green bin collection: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March

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# At the drop of a hat



Something to make us laugh

Picture supplied by Chris Morse

THE next event organised by the Friends of St Mary's will be at 3pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in St Mary's Church, when two versatile members of the Memphis Jazz Band (who entertained here two years ago) will be giving a light hearted concert of songs and music.

The songs, mostly from the London shows *At the Drop of a Hat* and *At The Drop of Another Hat* by Michael Flanders and Donald Swann will be sung by Pete Chapman accompanied by Mike O'Neill. No doubt they will include the famous hippopotamus song - *Mud, mud, glorious mud* - with audience participation.

Pete will also play the clarinet and Mike will entertain with some piano solos. Tea and cakes will be served in the interval.

Tickets at £10 are available from Chris Morse on 891616 and Margaret Cox on 891231.

## ACE is back in action

2016 was a very difficult year for many of us. ACE (Activities and care for the elderly) saw the end of it with a festive lunch - plenty of fine food and jolly company. Thank you to the ladies of the committee who worked so hard to prepare the food and served it in an appropriately festive style. Thanks too to Shirley for the much appreciated knitted angels, they do turn up in distinguished places.

Now we are organising this year's events - two coach trips, the annual garden party and four lunches.

ACE is self-financing; our Community Warden Scheme, which helps people to live in their own home for as long as they can, has again applied for funding from the parish and other councils to continue to

support 25 to 30 residents. As we know from the news, this is a key area for the NHS, so thanks to all who support us.

Our first event is a Fish and Chips lunch on 9<sup>th</sup> March, when Rev Spencer of Ashdon will tell us about his grandmother's life. She had 17 children, Richard's father being the youngest. He recalls singing into her ear trumpet. Sarah lived what might be seen as an ordinary life but with an extraordinary commitment to helping other people.

This might lead on to our own memories, and how life and times have changed. Perhaps we will find ourselves counting our blessings. Please gather at the Sports Pavilion for 12.30pm. Lifts available, or park at the Village College. Enid Bald 891069

# Cambridge Fire and Rescue Service

WE are committed to supporting the safety and wellbeing of residents in our communities. A Safe and Well visit will provide us with sufficient information to support you and, with your permission, refer you to selected partner agencies able to support you further. Our visit will last no longer than 60 minutes, is free of charge and will assess five key elements:

- Fire safety in the home, to include cooking, general safety and escape plans.
- Falls prevention - including simple remedial action such as replacing light bulbs or taping down loose carpet.
- Alcohol use - we can provide you with helpful information.
- Stay well and warm - can you afford to heat your home? Do you have access to a hot meal and are all the services available to you?
- Crime reduction - we can provide advice on making your home more secure and make you less vulnerable to scams or fraud.

We can also provide advice on promoting the health and safety of individuals with hoarding concerns, and information to care providers.

During March, we will be raising awareness of the fire risks associated with smoking which is one of many factors making someone more at risk of fire when combined with poor mobility, health problems or being elderly. Some tips for smokers:

- Never leave a lit cigarette or pipe unattended.
- Always use a proper ashtray and make sure the contents are cold before you tip it in the bin.
- Never smoke in bed and avoid smoking in a chair if you are likely to fall asleep.

Most importantly, fit a working smoke alarm and test it regularly. If you have an elderly or vulnerable relative, friend or neighbour, make sure they have a working smoke alarm. If they don't we can provide one as part of a Safe and Well visit. To find out if you are eligible for a visit inquire online at [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk). If you are unable to apply online or have a query about an enquiry form that has already been submitted, please telephone 0800 917 9994. Open weekdays 9am-5pm.

## News from St Mary's

AT St Mary's we aim to keep our doors open during daylight hours, to welcome in as many members of the local community as possible. There is always an opportunity to come and be quiet and perhaps light a candle or leave a prayer.

Once again St Mary's warmly invites babies, toddlers and pre-school children to join us (with their families) for Tots' Praise, at 3pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, when we shall be singing songs, sharing a Bible story, having some simple prayers and blowing out the church candles, followed by time for tea, toys and chatting. We'd love to see you, even if you've never been before - a simple introduction to being in church for small ones.

Looking further ahead, there will be a chance for keen singers who would enjoy being in a *scratch choir* to sing a Victorian classic - *Stainer's Crucifixion* - on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March: 2.30pm for rehearsal in church, 6 pm for performance (following tea for singers). There will be a £5 charge for singers towards the Archdeaconry of Cambridge Music Fund. The performance is free to the audience with a retiring collection for charity.

Another part of our preparation for Easter will be an exhibition in St Mary's during the week up to Easter (Holy Week, 9<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> April) of a series of paintings by local artist, Linda Richardson, entitled *Faces of Jesus*. This is a free, contemplative exhibition. Just come in and look.

Maggie Guite, Linton Team Rector, Tel 890273  
Email [margaret.guite@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.guite@ntlworld.com)

BARTLOW 3 counties CHARITY WALK



ON Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April why not dust off your walking boots for the 2017 Bartlow walk? Bring your friends, family and dogs. There will be music, a bar, hot food, a fantastic tractor and a bouncy castle.

Choose either a 13, nine or six mile route across beautiful countryside, through the three counties.

Access will be across private land which is not usually open.

Another option is a one mile fun history route for young and old. Learn the history of the famous Roman Tumuli,

Bartlow's beautiful church with murals, and pretty churchyard.

There are toilet stops en route for the longer walks, and refreshment stops for dogs and people. A great fun family day out.

It is all in aid of four brilliant charities; Addenbrookes, Dancing for Health, Linton Health Centre and Bartlow Church restoration fund. Tickets on line, at [www.bartlow-3countieswalk.co.uk](http://www.bartlow-3countieswalk.co.uk) (cheaper than buying on the day).

Duncan Ogilvy, walk co-ordinator, 893644



One of the seven Roman Tumuli at Bartlow

Picture supplied by Duncan Ogilvie

## The Portable Pint

LINTON resident Tony Kelly will launch his new business, *The Portable Pint*, with a pop-up pub evening on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March in Hadstock Village Hall. The bar will be open from 7pm and will offer cask ale from local breweries, together with local cider, lager, wine, soft drinks and snacks. And, as it is St Patrick's Day, there may even be Guinness as well.

Inspired by the growth of the micropub movement and the craze for craft beer and real ale, Tony's pop-up pub will provide a meeting place for villagers without a pub of their own. The villagers of Hildersham have been organising successful pop-up pub nights ever since the closure of the Pear Tree in 2013 and these have been instrumental in gaining support for the campaign to purchase and reopen the pub. The villagers of Hadstock have now been without a pub for a year and although the new owner has plans to redevelop the pub, in the meantime there is nowhere for locals to meet for a drink.

A recent study by academics at Oxford University found that people who regularly visit a small community pub enjoy greater health and wellbeing and a greater sense of social cohesion.

So what better excuse to switch off the phone, leave the TV behind and get down to Hadstock Village Hall for some old-fashioned conversation and ale? Tony is in touch with a number of other villagers and this could become a regular event in Hadstock and in other villages without a pub. You can get in touch with *The Portable Pint* on 892553.

Tony Kelly

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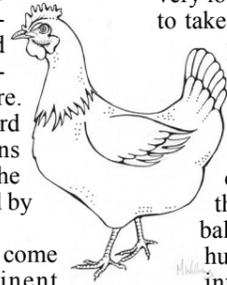
**Chicken Run 2017**

EVEN if you don't keep chickens, you may have heard that there is a government ban on allowing hens and other farm birds to roam outside currently due to last till the end of February. Imagine the scene in henhouses across the village. It must be like break time in a primary school with all the kids locked in a tiny room, not knowing when they will ever emerge.

The plight of the hens, and their owners, made me look further into the matter. There have been some deaths from bird flu H5N8 across the country, specifically a small number

of widgeon, swans, pochard, peregrine, three sorts of geese, a couple of gulls, a cormorant and a teal. At the time of writing there have been outbreaks on a turkey farm in Lincolnshire, a swanery in Dorset and a pheasant hatchery in Lancashire. A case in a backyard flock of chickens in Wales meant the ban was extended by another month.

The lurgy has come from the continent where 14 countries have suffered deaths of many species.



UK guidelines say people should keep them indoors or take appropriate action to keep them separate from wild birds. The risk to public health is very low but it is deemed wise to take every possible step to protect our domestic fowl and keep their food and water out of reach of garden birds.

One Linton resident reports running the gauntlet of her hens' baleful looks and having to hunt around for something interesting like wormy humus or old Brussels sprout stems to reduce cabin fever.

DEFRA advise "Free range hens will need entertainment if suddenly confined, such as branches for extra perching and vegetables hung up to avoid conflict." Let's hope that there are no more outbreaks or they'll be watching a pirate copy of *Chicken Run* to plan a break out.

So how are farmers able to offer free range or organic when no chicken is allowed outside? Apparently they are still classed as free range if they are housed for up to 12 weeks. So if the ban is not lifted soon, the industry will be in a very difficult position.

**EngAGE with Local Author at Linton Library**

WE are pleased to announce that our first EngAGE speaker at Linton Library will be local author Hilary Custance Green. She will be talking about her latest book *Surviving the Death Railway* which tells of her parents' wartime experiences through their own letters.

This free event will be held at Linton Library from 2 to 3.30pm on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Tickets are available from Linton Library or call 0345 045 5225. There will be light refreshments served free of charge but donations would be welcomed.

EngAGE is a partnership by Cambridgeshire Libraries and Community and Adult Services to develop new and useful opportunities for people over 50 years old.

Liz Cox, Community Library Assistant

**Lighthouse Sundays**

LIGHTHOUSE meets once a term at Linton Free Church hall from 10.15am -12 noon. The next meeting will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March and there will be an Easter theme. It is open to all children aged five to 11 and involves a bible story, games, snacks, crafts and songs. There is no charge and there is no need to book in advance. If you require further information please contact me.

Mandy Jacob, 892274.

**Spring is in the air at Wandlebury**

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**Local wildlife day**

THIS is a free drop-in event from 11am to 3.30pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March. As part of the Cambridge Science Festival, this free, fun day out gives the whole family the chance to make amazing discoveries about our wonderful local wildlife. Meet a live barn owl and learn about our local owls with an expert from the Hawk and Owl Trust. Chat with members of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group. Study our local amphibians with members of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Amphibian and Reptile Group.

All are welcome but children must remain accompanied. Donations towards the upkeep of the park are greatly appreciated.

**Healthy walking**

THURSDAYS from 10am (longer walk) or 10.30am (shorter walk). The walks end at around 11am with tea and coffee in the Stable Rooms. All are welcome, suitable for all different abilities. Free of charge and no need to book but please arrive 10 minutes early to register if it's your first time.

For more information on either of the above call 01223 243830 extension 207 or email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on

**Nordic Walking**

STARTING at 1pm, 2pm or 3pm on Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Enhance your wellbeing and fitness levels with this friendly Nordic Walking group at Wandlebury Park, led by Wellbeing Coach/Nordic Walking instructor Oliver Glynn. Don't worry if you've never tried it before – instruction will be given. There are three levels of walk, 1pm start for those with restricted mobility, 2pm for a healthy lifestyle speed and 3pm for total beginners.

Poles can be borrowed free of charge if required. Restricted mobility and healthy lifestyle walks free of charge, £15 per hour for total beginners.

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**POT POURRI 143**

**The Tower of Linton**

LINTON decides to build a residential tower so high that the top can be seen from the north pole. How high is the tower? NB: Use the nearest whole number for the radius of the Earth and latitude.

**Solution to 142 – What was the g force Father Christmas experienced?**

This problem involved looking for facts. Father Christmas would be travelling at 36363.64 m/s or just over 36km/sec and his g force would be 674 times. Blackout in mortals is from less than eight times.

Urania

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Post Office is to stay in Linton but move to the High Street**

The Post Office has made the decision to allow the Linton branch which is currently at 5 Balsham Road to move into Sweet Talk News, 77 High Street as one of the new style branches.

Ajay says that this is likely to take place in the first two weeks of June. For the reasons behind the decision and more details goto the

*Finding a closed consultation – Post Office website at https://www.postofficeviews.co.uk/closedconsultation.php or ask at the Post Office*

Editor

**Hildersham notes**

**Village lunch**

THE next village lunch will be at 1pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Doors open at 12.30pm and tickets cost £4. To book your place, contact Jill on 893596 or edheale@btinternet.com

**The Hildersham lecture**

THE Hildersham Lecture will be at 7.30pm on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Hildersham church

This will be on *Life under the ocean wave*. You may know Andrew as an historian but maybe not Andrew as Submariner.

Andrew Westwood-Bate will give an illustrated talk on the history of submarines – even back to Leonardo da Vinci – and his experiences as a submariner in the Royal Navy. Tickets including refreshments: £5, under 18s free

**Hildersham Arts Festival**

THIS will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June at Holy Trinity Church

**What do you do?**

Do you paint, draw, sculpt, model, sew, knit, photograph, turn wood, arrange flowers...sing, recite, play an instrument, play in a band...

**What do you do next?**

If you would like to take part contact me on catherine-myer43@btinternet.com or 892848

Cathy Myer

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## The Marsh mail



8<sup>th</sup> March marks International Women's Day, a calendar event more commonly celebrated in other European countries. While some may question the ongoing necessity of such a day, the fact that we still witness women being denied equal rights and opportunities on account of their gender suggests that there remain equality issues that need addressing.

This year's theme, *Be Bold for Change*, is a plea for action to quash and challenge practices, laws and customs that prevent women from living full and equal lives. While it may be easy to cite international examples in which women are the victims of unfair treatment, there are also causes closer to home.

Recent gender pay gap research confirms that despite girls traditionally outperforming boys in examinations and greater numbers of women entering higher education, after a short period in their early careers, pay and promotion are very unequal for most of women's working lives. Furthermore, Harvard Business Journal highlights that only 24% of senior management roles are held by women and only 5% of executive positions. These stark statistics seem quite incongruous in 2017, as does the concept that women are literally worth less in terms of an hourly pay rate.

The gender gap has dramatically narrowed at LVC. In 2016, boys' academic performance was equally matched to girls, unlike previous cohorts. Despite the results showing parity between the sexes, the profile of intervention groups appeared to confirm entrenched gender stereotypes: pockets of girls deficient in confidence and self-esteem and some boys lacking intrinsic motivation and work ethic.

Despite much progress being made in terms of gender equality, there is still work to do to counter fixed mind-sets and barriers, for the benefit of both sexes. Pervasive views about *laddish* and *girly* behaviours, excusatory phrases such as *boys will be boys* and notions of *girls' subjects* and career paths need tackling too.

While gender has become a more fluid notion in modern day society, the ambition for all people to have the opportunity to be happy and successful remains a central motivation for schooling and one that over 50 teachers meeting at LVC on 8<sup>th</sup> March will be championing.

Helena Marsh, Executive Principal

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**S/0096/17/FL**, Gladman Developments Ltd., **Agricultural land north east of Back Road, Linton** Outline planning application for the erection of up to 95 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system and vehicular access point from Back Road. All matters reserved except for means of access.

**S/0097/17/FL**, Mr Johnson & Mrs Rolfe, **12, Granta Leys**, To erect a white PVCu conservatory to the rear of the property

**S/0163/17/FL**, Mrs & Mrs K Head, **79 Finchams Close**. Proposed first floor rear extension.

**S/0173/17/FL**, Mr & Mrs Jerry Hall, **84 Chalklands**. Demolish existing garage and porch, proposed single storey front and side extension. Two storey and single storey rear extension.

**S/0266/17/FL**, Mulgrew and Khoo, **10 Meadow Lane**. Erection of second storey extension to rear of existing property. Removal of existing rear chimney. Replacement of windows and external side door. Removal of internal studwork walls.

**S/0290/17/VC**, Mr & Mrs M Hays, **9 Mill Lane**. Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission S/1735/16/FL (approved plans).

**S/0314/17/TC**, Mr Lindsay, **97 High Street**. Ash - Large Limb decayed at union with the tree - remove limb back to suitable point close to main trunk.

**S/0363/17/FL**, Burgess, **factory adjacent to 29 Cambridge Road**. Demolish the existing commercial building and replace with 2 new dwellings.

**S/0413/17/FL**, Mr Winney, **24 Hollybush Way**. Conversion of existing integral garage into living space.

**S/0433/17/TP**, Mr & Mrs Phillips, **7 Essex Gardens**. Lime tree - Reduce crown of lime tree by 30% due to overshadowing and overhanging property.

## Linton & District Historical Society

IN January Quintus Benziger entertained us with his talk on the development of musical instruments. Using his electronic keyboard he demonstrated the characteristics of the harpsicord, and its shortcomings. Around 1700, an Italian harpsicord maker invented the forte-piano, which used hammers rather than a plucking mechanism. It enabled variations in volume and length of notes. Numerous improvements and a name change followed, but it was the introduction of the compact upright piano in the early C19th that enabled ordinary households to make music.

Next Quintus described the difference between viols and fiddles. Renaissance musicians favoured the viol which came in various sizes and was played vertically, whilst sitting down. The fiddle was more suited to dance music and strolling musicians played by ear. King Louis XIV started a new fashion with his chapel band of 24 violinists. Greatly impressed, Charles II employed his own band for the Chapel Royal.

The recorder is a very old instrument but requires breath control and dexterity. The inventions of keys and a mouthpiece made the flute more fashionable and able to produce greater variations in volume and speed. Similarly, the addition of keys to the early trumpet or post horn made playing a tune possible.

The evening ended with a discussion about why people gave up learning to play an instrument.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March in the Village Hall, Coles Lane when Barry Young will give a talk on *Haverhill Through Time*.

Pat Faircloth 89392

### Come and join the cricket club

THE Junior section of Linton Village Cricket Club welcomes players from school year 4 upwards. Registration is on 23<sup>rd</sup> March at the Pavilion between 6.30 and 8.30pm.

If you are interested in taking part or to find out more, please contact us at juniorcricketinlinton@gmail.com or 07918705989

James Murray



## The Way We Were

By Garth Collard

### The good old days



HIGH STREET (CENTRAL) LINTON, CAMBS

The High Street as it looked 100 years ago

Picture from Garth's collection

**EVERYDAY** life in Linton 100 years ago was extremely fraught. The death rate was very high, largely because half the children born were dead within five years.

Cholera, influenza, typhoid and even measles were killer diseases. The lack of antibiotics meant that even small cuts could lead to sepsis and certain death. Domestic living conditions were dire and contributed to the high death rate.

From the early 1900s the government carried out surveys and inspections to ascertain the health of the nation. The Boer War 1899-1902 highlighted the seriousness of the situation when half the recruits to the army were rejected on health grounds. By the time of the Great War 1914-18 the statistics were just as alarming. County and rural district councils employed Medical Officers of Health (MOH) to write annual reports on the health of the local populace.

Poor quality housing was a major factor. An in depth study of Linton housing conditions was produced by the late Iris and Frank Jeffery in their book on Linton housing. Many local houses were crumbling and insanitary

because most thatched cottages leaked water, suffered from damp and harboured infectious rodents. Cottages only cost £50 to build and low rents of £6 a year meant landlords neglected repairs.

The Linton RDC minutes recorded numerous examples. In Linton one cottage had two males, aged 22 and 27 sharing a bedroom with two girls aged 12 and 13. Another crowded nine children in two bedrooms and yet another seven children in one bedroom.

Diseases rapidly spread because straw and feather mattresses were soaked in urine and excrement.

The only toilets were in outhouses and often 10 dwellings shared one toilet. Privies were emptied weekly and the contents dumped in the river or in gardens. The filth sank into the soil and often contaminated the shallow drinking water wells.

Wages for farm labourers averaged 80-90 pence per week and the breadwinner's illness or unemployment meant families were short of food.

Children went to school in rags and handed down garments. Poor diets led to rickets and vitamin deficiencies.

Horrible pictures of starving children in Africa provide us with a better idea of what Linton children looked like without their shabby clothing.

Annual school medical inspections make depressing reading. In July 1912 fifty per cent of Linton school children suffered from verminous heads with girls being five times as bad as boys. Thirteen-year-olds and five-year-olds were the worst age groups.

In addition dental inspections recorded eighty per cent of children with gum infections. The average weight and height of Linton children were well below national averages for their age.

Richard Holtum the grocer complained to the parish and district councils every year from 1900 about the smell and stench emanating from the river and gutters in the High Street.

Many households drew their water from the river and there was no mains water until 1936. Mains sewage did not come until 1953. Only the welfare state after 1945 providing free healthcare and better housing rectified the poor health of the working class.

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# Parish Council Matters

## Linton objects!

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

THE parish decision on the Back Road planning application? Unanimously negative!

This was the verdict of both the parish council planning committee and the packed public meeting. Not one hand was raised in support.

With our Christmas cards had come the brochure from development consultants Gladman on their application for up to 95 houses on Back Road - the third, and largest, of three major developments to hit us, which together could add over 200 houses to Linton. With the normal run of house extensions and infill housing applications, it has been a very busy time for those involved in planning.

Following detailed study of the planning application S/0096/17/OL, site and opinions from the public consultation, the result was five pages of comments. Our main objections are:

- This development would be very visible on the rising ground. It would cause disproportionate harm to the character of the landscape, the historic area and environment.
- The site is outside the village envelope. It was rejected in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and Local Plan as having no development potential (part of SHLAA site 197), and it is too far from local services, facilities and public transport.

- The type of housing is not what Linton wants - we need bungalows and smaller houses that we can afford. With limited employment in the village, the proposed houses would serve incoming commuters at the expense of residents and their families.

- There are serious traffic and safety issues on Back Road - a rat run with dangerous junctions and too narrow for today's vehicles.
- Our schools are filled to capacity, and cannot accommodate some of our own children. They take children from outside Linton, so places taken by new residents would have a knock-on effect on neighbouring settlements.

- The Medical Centre is under extreme pressure, linking with others in the area to spread the work of the area - and there is no public transport between the group surgeries. Figures given to the public meeting indicate that its patient load is more than double the national average per doctor.

- Building over open land will increase the surface water flooding downhill, and river flooding in our village and downstream. The developer's suggestions to deal with this are inadequate.

- The development would add to the traffic, parking and congestion problems within the Special Conservation Area of the village.

- There is grossly inadequate parking on site - and only one exit to Back Road

- Cumulative developments affect our utilities - water, sewage and foul water drains are already overloaded.

- Building here is not compatible with Linton continuing as a village community.

Linton parish council met the development team (as we always try to do). They have no personal involvement in the village; this is a commercial exercise for them. For us, it is the future of the village, its character and its community.

Cllr Enid Bald

### Your views matter - what can you do?

**WRITE:** As a resident it is important to ensure you share your views, otherwise they won't be heard. If you wish to get involved with an application you need to write to the case officer at SCDC and express your views and objections: South Cambs District Council, Planning and New Communities, Ms Karen Pell-Coggins Principal Planning Officer, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA. Tel: 01954 713230 email: karen.pell-coggins@scamb.gov.uk

Please also send a copy to Linton parish council to ensure it understands your views and objections. Also remember that a petition only counts as one letter, each member of a household can write with comments - every letter counts.

**THE PLANNING WORKING GROUP:** You can also join the planning working group of Linton parish council. This is a working group designated tasks from the planning committee in research, reports and acquiring additional, supporting information. All members of the public are not only welcome, but encouraged to join. If you wish to get involved please contact the parish council office.

**JOIN LINTON PARISH COUNCIL:** If you wish to get more involved the parish council currently has four councillor vacancies. If you wish to be co-opted onto the council please get in contact with the office.

Kathryn Wiseman, parish clerk

## The public consultation

LINTON parish council recently held a public consultation to allow residents the opportunity to openly discuss the recently received outline planning application for Back Road for up to 95 new residential dwellings. The council was overwhelmed by the turn out of residents that care about the village and there were some great points raised. Linton parish council would like to say

thank you to all those that attended and made the evening a success, with special thanks to those residents that assisted with the leaflet deliveries, you really helped make the evening successful.

Let's continue to keep the momentum going and ensure that we keep the community spirit, showing that Linton has a united front against unwanted and inappropriate development.

Kathryn Wiseman, parish clerk

## Update on the Horseheath Road and Bartlow Road planning applications

SO what is happening in relation to the **Horseheath Road** planning application? There are currently two applications for Horseheath Road. The original, (reference S/1969/15/OL) which was for up to 50 new residential dwellings and up to 30 allotments. The current application (reference S/2553/16/OL) which is for up to 50 new residential dwellings and allotment space of no less than 0.45 hectares.

So ... how are there currently two applications for the same bit of land?

The original application was submitted in August 2015, and heavily objected by Linton parish council on many grounds. Two of which were that an archaeological dig had not been carried out on the proposed site, the other that this development would affect the landscape of the village. These two objects were upheld by South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) and the application was rejected. The developers, Ely Diocesan Board of Finance, then addressed the archaeological aspect and resubmitted a new application, simultaneously reducing the number of available allotments in the new application.

The Diocese of Ely have also then submitted an appeal request to the planning inspectorate for the original application that was declined as a pressure tactic. The logic for this is that SCDC receive

a fine should the appeal overturn the original decision to reject the application. This applies more pressure on South Cambs to approve the new application to prevent the original ever reaching appeal. This effectively means that currently, there are two dates set that relate to the hearing of the Horseheath Road application:

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2017** - S/2553/16/OL - The current application for up to 50 new residential dwellings and no less than 0.45 hectares of allotment space. This will be presented to the full planning committee to review at SCDC.

**27<sup>th</sup> June 2017** - S/1969/15/OL - (appeal reference APP/W0530/W/16/3160756) - This is currently the date that the original application appeal is due to be heard by the planning inspectorate. Should the current application be passed, Linton parish council would imagine this would be withdrawn.

**Bartlow Road** planning application S/1963/15/OL. As residents will be aware, this application was passed by SCDC late last year. Both Linton parish council and an individual resident have submitted appeal requests to the Secretary of State, however these have been unsuccessful. The chair of Linton parish council planning committee is currently submitting an independent request, as a resident, for this to be reviewed by the Ombudsman.

Kathryn Wiseman, parish clerk

## Grass matters

THE role of the parish council often goes rather unnoticed, and the work that we do is overlooked unless you attend council meetings, read the minutes or check the website for the reports of the many meetings and groups that we are involved with. Just note the range of groups that some of us are involved with and report upon!

However, one area of responsibility that residents most notice is the grass cutting and general maintenance - especially when it is not done, or not done properly.

As we have had problems over the years, it was decided to reorganise the contracts, which a small group of us did late last year. This was to enable more specialist work to be separated and to encourage local contractors or smaller firms to become involved. Now we are asking for tenders for the work that we need to be done. The contracts have been split, some of which will need special equipment:

**Large Grass Areas** - including the Recreation Ground, sports pitches, Paynes Meadow, Camping Close, Parsonage Way and most of the Cemetery.

**Small Grass Areas and Hedge Cutting** - including smaller public open spaces, hedges that border these, some tree work and other tidying jobs, and areas that need extra care.

**Leadwell Meadows/Pocket Park/Hogsholme** - cutting pathways through the grass, annual sedge cutting and collecting. Also, keeping banks and edges properly managed to enable the river and surface water to spill into the natural grassland area and allow the floodplain to function.

**Road Verges** - These are mainly the verges alongside Cambridgeshire county council highways roads and paths.

Some areas of the village are owned by South Cambridgeshire district council, and remain its responsibility.

Please contact the parish council office if you are interested in any or all of these contracts. We can send you the specification (or you can collect them from the office), talk you through the work to be done and answer your questions.

We need to decide the contracts soon, so please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in working with us to keep our village tidy and well cared for.

Cllrs Enid Bald and Beatrice Ward

Is planning a party or club on your 'To Do' List?  
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# Council minutes council minutes council minutes council minutes

ABBREVIATED minutes of the Linton parish council (LPC/PC) meeting held at the Cathodeon Centre on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**Present:** Cllr Paul Poulter (chairman); Cllr Brian Manley (vice-chair); Cllr Enid Bald; Cllr Dr Brian Cox; Cllr Simon Hill; Cllr Amy Smith; Cllr Dr Beatrice Ward; Cllr David Champion. Clerk: Ms Kathryn Wiseman. District Cllrs Henry Batchelor and John Batchelor. Members of the public: three.

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Potter, Mannassi and Walker. County Cllr Roger Hickford.

**Councillors' declarations of interest:** Cllr Poulter declared a non-pecuniary interest in all the items relating to the Horseheath Road planning applications/S106 matters.

**Councillor vacancies:** The council considered the co-option application from Mr Hine. No comments/concerns raised. Proposed by Cllr Champion, seconded by Cllr Smith. All agreed.

Mr Hine was requested to leave the room throughout the duration of this item. Upon return the clerk provided Cllr Hine with all the relevant forms and welcome pack to complete and return to the office.

**Planning matters: Update on the South Cambridgeshire district council (SCDC) deferral decision on the planning application for Horseheath Road, S/2553/16/OL, outline for up to 50 residential dwellings and between 18-20 allotments:** The clerk addressed the council and advised that LPC had sent a letter requesting this meeting be deferred based upon the decision to amend the number of allotments included in the application. This was initially submitted as a non-material change, thus meaning that LPC was unable to pass comment. Upon receipt of the letter SCDC made the decision to defer this item to be heard at a later date to allow LPC time to comment. This application is now scheduled to be an item on the SCDC planning committee agenda on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

**Planning application amendment received for Horseheath Road, S/2553/16/OL, outline planning application with all matters reserved for up to 50 dwellings and allotments (not less than 0.45 hectares) - council to review planning committee recommendation and review consideration of any actions to be taken:** The planning committee were thanked for their hard work and especially the assistance of their external consultant, Corrie Newell from CN Historic who has provided excellent counsel throughout this application. Cllr Champion requested it be noted that he felt legal advice should be sought also. Planning committee's recommendation is that LPC object to this amendment. Agreement of this was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Manley. All agreed.

**Update on planning application S/1969/15/OL, Horseheath Road, outline application for up to 50 houses and 30 allotments appeal:** The clerk addressed the council and advised that in light of the deferral of the current application for Horseheath Road, S/2553/16/OL, until the 1<sup>st</sup> March, both LPC and SCDC as well as the developer had all requested this appeal also be deferred as the appeal hearing is scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> February. LPC had also spoken with the planning inspectorate team and advised that LPC did not receive any formal notification of the appeal in writing or otherwise, until the day before the deadline for comments by other parties (LPC). The parish council also advised that LPC had still not received the grounds of appeal and thus, were ill equipped to comment and disadvantaged. The planning inspectorate team advised that they had contacted SCDC to confirm if LPC was notified correctly and the correct protocol followed. Should the planning inspectorate team deem that protocol had not been followed there would be no choice but to delay the appeal hearing. The planning inspectorate team advised that they will investigate and ensure that they update LPC once a decision has been made regarding the date for the appeal hearing.

**District and County Councillors' reports & business:** District councillors' report: Noted. The district councillor noted that with regards to the planning, SCDC had now formally received the application S/0096/17/OL, for up to 95 dwellings on the agricultural land northeast of Back Road. In relation to the

five year housing supply target, there are four different ways in which fulfilment of this can be measured. Three of the four ways demonstrate that the district has hit the target, however the only one which is in current use suggests that the target for housing has not yet been reached. Cllr John Batchelor advised that he is attempting to appeal to have the ways in which this is calculated changed. The new housing development at Cambourne for a total of 2,350 houses has just been approved, and of these, 200 properties are expected to begin work within the next five year period.

Concerns were raised by LPC that it has been mentioned SCDC is at risk of being put into special measures and this was put to the district councillors to comment upon. It was noted to council that government targets suggest that for a district council to be working correctly, there should be a success rate of 75% of cases won by the district council when reviewing appeal outcomes. At present, South Cambridgeshire district council is winning approximately 60% of its appeal cases. This means that there is a threat that SCDC could fall into special measures which would relay all decisions back to central government. However, it was advised that no council has ever yet been entered into special measures within the UK so this is very much unknown territory and SCDC were unsure what to expect, however it was a risk.

Following this item district councillors John and Henry Batchelor left the meeting.

County councillor's report: Noted.

**Review of the proposed precept for 2017:** The recommended precept from the finance committee was reviewed. It was noted that although no further funds have been set aside for flood amelioration this year, there was £10,000 S106 money already reserved from flooding and Leadwell Meadows. The precept of £164,704.00, as recommended by finance, was proposed by Cllr Champion and seconded by Cllr Smith. All agreed.

**Section 106:** Review relating to the planning application S/3076/16/FL, 20 Cambridge Road, the demolition of an existing sales/workshop building and the construction of a three storey apartment development, containing 10 self-contained two and three bedroom units. All agreed.

S106 agreement relating to Horseheath Road planning application S/2553/16/OL: Noted.

'Terms in offer' relating to planning application S/2553/16/OL regarding allotment land lease: Council raised concerns that the definition of peppercorn rent requires clarification.

It was also noted that there had been no further progression with regards to compulsory purchase. Council advised they would like to know the terms of lease and would like to review this prior to agreement.

The question was raised as to whether the S106 agreement would allow purchase of the allotments on this application. Clerk to check if this is a viable option. Proposed by Cllr Champion and seconded by Cllr Poulter. Vote taken with four in favour of accepting the proposed 99 year lease and four against, wishing to check if this could come under the S106 terms. Tied vote led to chairman's casting vote which was in favour of investigating how the S106 can be used in relation to this application and the allotments.

The clerk proposed that should SCDC advise the S106 agreement cannot be used to secure the purchase of the land of the allotments on site, the council is to agree to accept the 99 year lease. Proposed by Cllr Bald, seconded by Cllr Poulter. All agreed.

It was also requested by council that the allotment association be contacted to see if they are able to assist with land acquisition.

**Developer meeting request:** Council voted to review planning committee recommendation in favour of a developer meeting as well as a public meeting. Two councillors abstained, the remaining seven supported. Both meetings will progress for February.

**Tree matters:** Report from Cllr Ward: Noted. To employ a professional tree surgeon to make sympathetic changes that will protect the garage at 2 Parsonage Way. Proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Bald. All agreed.

To employ a professional tree surgeon to address Paintin's Oak on the recreational ground, removing two low hanging branches

and a Lime tree by the white bridge which requires some attention to lower hanging branches. Proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Manley. All agreed.

The football club to replace the tree that they removed with a mature, viable standard to match the remaining tree to the right hand side and that they will resume responsibility for maintaining this tree. Cllr Manley advised that if the tree warden picks a tree then the football club will pay for this as previously agreed. However they will not resume responsibility for the maintenance of this tree.

SCDC's tree survey project. Cllr Ward proposed LPC participation, Cllr Bald seconded. All agreed.

**Traffic matters:** Traffic report: Clerk to contact Cambridgeshire county council (CCC) to discuss the progress regarding double yellow lines down Meadow Lane.

Council reviewed the recommendation of the traffic working group (TWG) to install bollards outside the dentist surgery at the top of the High Street to prevent unsafe parking. Proposed by Cllr Poulter, seconded by Cllr Manley. Agreed.

High Street and Green Lane parking issues. Noted and delegated to the TWG.

Haverhill Town Forum report: There is a lack of communications between Suffolk and Cambridgeshire County currently regarding the use of the A1307 which needs addressing. There has been the suggestion that a viable solution is to dual the A1307, however it has been confirmed that this would actually equate to double the cost of the creation of a new road.

**Consideration of correspondence received:** CCC passenger transport regarding bus service 29 Linton - Saffron Walden cancelled: Noted.

SCDC regarding confirmation of the legal order to divert part of public footpath no.24: Noted.

CCC regarding the reversal of the decision for part night street lighting/dimming: Noted.

Granta Medical Practices regarding the plan to merge with Barley Practice in April 2017: Noted. Concerns were raised regarding the impact of the travel upon patients. The practise manager has offered to attend a meeting to discuss. Clerk to arrange.

Mr V Harris regarding request to book Recreation Ground for Fun Fair 18<sup>th</sup> May - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017: All agreed.

CCC regarding gritting update and reinstatement of gritting routes to prior levels: Noted.

Post Office Ltd regarding decision to relocate the Post Office to Sweet Talk News premises: Noted.

Linton cricket club regarding potential solutions to cricket balls damaging property: It was noted that there is not much the parish council can do in this instance, however it shall continue to liaise. Residents have previously advised that they do not wish for a higher fence to be installed and the cricket club does have public liability insurance. LPC do not recommend the installation of a higher fence at this moment in time.

**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 – Ms Kathryn Wiseman  
Email: [lintonpc@btconnect.com](mailto:lintonpc@btconnect.com)  
Website: [www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk](http://www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk)  
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